



Council Policy #C43

ELECTION SIGNS

Approved by Council Resolution #12/08/20

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure a safe and standardized process that limits aesthetic impacts of the design, placement, and timelines of election signs during election periods within the community.

2. POLICY STATEMENT

An Election Signs Policy is a straightforward approach to providing direction on how and where election signs can be placed within the community during any kind of election period. This policy is pursuant to the Traffic Safety Bylaw 834-14 (Section 10.09) and Land Use Bylaw 944-19 (Section 4.4.4) in that it provides the guidelines for how and where the placement of election signs can be permitted in the Municipality.

3. DEFINITIONS

Election sign: Federal, provincial, municipal, and/or school board election signs as may be regulated by the *Elections Canada Act* or *Local Authorities Election Act*.

Elements such as crosswalk, highway, intersection, roadway, playground zone, school zone, traffic control device shall take their meaning from the Traffic Safety Bylaw.

4. GUIDELINES

The design of election signs shall meet the following requirements:

1. Each sign shall have a maximum surface area of 0.6 metres².
2. Each sign shall have a maximum height of 1 metres.
3. Signs shall not be designed to resemble, or intended to resemble, a Traffic Control Device.

The timelines for when election signs can be placed shall align with the following requirements:

4. For Provincial and Federal elections, signs are only permitted from the date the election is called until three days after the election.
5. For Municipal or School Board elections, signs are only permitted from the date that is 30 days in advance of the election date until three days after the election.

The placement of election signs on public property along roadways meet with the following requirements:

6. There shall be at least 15 metres separating the signs of one candidate.
7. Signs shall not be placed within 15 metres of the intersection of two roads or a crosswalk.
8. Signs shall not be placed within 1.5 metres of the curb of the road.
9. Signs shall not be placed within playground zones or school zones.
10. Signs shall not be placed within an active construction zone.
11. Signs shall not be placed on highway vehicle travel lanes (including paved shoulders), centre medians, traffic islands, or traffic circles.
12. Signs shall not be placed on any highway structures such as guardrails, retaining walls, or concrete barriers.
13. Signs shall not be placed such that it interferes with the safe and orderly movement of pedestrians or with the sight lines between pedestrians and/or vehicles.

The placement of election signs on public property not along roadways shall meet the following requirements:

14. Signs shall not be placed on public property located outside of areas along public roadways. In other words, election signs shall not be placed within public parks, along multi-use trail corridors, or beside public parking lots.

The placement of election signs on private property shall meet the following requirements:

15. Signs shall not be placed within 1.5 metres of the curb of the roadway, or edge of a public sidewalk.
16. Signs shall not be placed with 1.5 metres of the edge of a driveway.
17. Signs shall not be placed such that it interferes with the safe and orderly movement of pedestrians or with the sight lines between pedestrians and/or vehicles.

5. SCOPE/APPLICATION

This policy applies to any individual placing an election sign on public or private property within the City of Beaumont.

6. AUTHORITY/RESPONSIBILITY

The Chief Returning Officer or designate shall be responsible for ensuring the effective administration of this Policy.

Policy Record

Adopted by Council: December 8, 2020

Council Resolution: # 12/08/20

Cross Reference: Traffic Safety Bylaw 834-14, Land Use Bylaw 944-19

Administrative Responsibility: Chief Returning Officer

Next Review Date: June 2024