

SUBJECT: ELECTION SIGNS ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY	
DATE OF ISSUE: JANUARY 4, 2000	ORIGIN: LEGISLATIVE
AMENDED: SEPTEMBER 19, 2005	DIVISION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2008	
AUGUST 22, 2014	
APRIL 14, 2017	

In order to protect public safety and public amenities in the District of Saanich, yet allow a candidate or political organization in a local, provincial, or federal government election campaign to place signs for election purposes, the following policy applies:

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Sign permits are not required.
- Signs must not be visible from any voting place.
- Signs must not be illuminated, animated, rotating, flashing or have moving lights or other electrical features.
- Signs must meet the requirements of the *Local Election Campaign Financing Act*.
- Elections signs for municipal or school trustee elections or by-elections are permitted only within the municipal election period, beginning with the first day of the nomination period.
- Election signs for provincial or federal elections or by-elections are permitted only within the respective election period, beginning from the time the writ of election is issued.
- Election signs for the purposes of a federal, provincial, local government or school district referendum are permitted beginning thirty (30) days before the date of the referendum vote.
- Signs must be removed with four (4) days after the election or referendum vote.

GENERAL PROHIBITIONS

Signs are prohibited on:

- Medians and traffic islands, and in planting beds;
- Boulevard trees, or within one (1) metre of a boulevard tree;
- All Saanich facilities or structures, parks, and playing fields, including the adjoining boulevard area.

Signs are prohibited on public or private property that:

- Are within one (1) metre of a fire hydrant;
- Obstruct or detract from any traffic control device or signage;
- Obstruct the line of vision at an intersection; or
- Are placed in a manner that may constitute a hazard to pedestrians, cyclists or vehicles.

GENERAL ENFORCEMENT

- Signs installed in prohibited areas will be removed by Saanich staff if not removed or relocated within 24 hours notice to the applicable candidate or campaign office.
- Where there are immediate safety concerns or damage to municipal property, Saanich staff will immediately remove the signs and then contact the candidate or campaign office.
- Saanich will assume no responsibility for any damage to election signs where they are removed by Saanich staff in prohibited locations.

ADDITIONAL CANDIDATE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Persons installing signs on municipal property must be aware of the risk of damage to underground utilities. A call must be made by the candidate or their agent to **1-800-474-6886** at least 48 hours in advance of the installation in order to confirm that the location chosen is safe. Any damage to underground utilities or services as a result of election signs being placed on municipal property is the responsibility of the candidates and their agents.
- Candidates and their agents are liable for any damage done to Saanich property in placement of election signs on municipal property.
- Candidates and their agents should also reference applicable Provincial and Federal statutes and regulations for additional restrictions or requirements.