

From the Code of Ordinances – Chapter 14 Zoning Ordinance

(p) *Political signs.*

(1) It is the intent of this section to provide minimum regulations regarding the posting, maintenance and removal of political signs. Political signs are permitted in all zoning districts, subject to the restrictive provisions of this section. Although political signs are temporary signs, temporary sign permits do not have to be obtained. The provisions of this section do not apply to billboards [which are subject to [Section 7\(m\)](#)] or to political signs inside of a building, even if visible outside the building.

(2) For the limited purposes of this section, a political sign is a temporary sign announcing, supporting or opposing a candidate or issue in connection with any national, state or local election.

(3) Political signs are prohibited on all public property (real and personal), which shall include, but not be limited to, public right-of-way, buildings, fences surrounding public property, sidewalks, crosswalks, curbs, curbstones, fences, walls, playground equipment and/or facilities, street lamp posts, traffic light poles, guy lines, horizontal struts, City barricades, hydrants, trees, shrubs, tree stakes or guards, railroad trestles, poles for electric light or power or telephone or telegraph or trolley wire or upon any fixture of the fire alarm or police telegraph system, bridges, drinking fountains, street signs or traffic signs, planter strips and in City facilities such as parks, City Hall, library, fire stations, and corporation yards.

(4) Political signs may be placed on private property with the consent of the property owner (or person entitled to possession) or their authorized agent, subject to the following:

(i) Political signs shall not be placed in a manner that creates a hazardous condition to or obstructs either vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or obstructs or restricts safe visibility of a vehicle driver or pedestrian.

(ii) Political signs located on corner lots at street intersections shall not be over three (3) feet high if located within fifteen (15) feet from the lot corner at the street intersection and extending fifteen (15) feet in all directions, except if placed upon the signage portion of a lawful billboard or lawful business sign.

(iii) Except for lawful billboards and the political signs described in paragraph (ii) hereinabove, no political sign shall exceed a total of thirty-six (36) square feet, be more than eight (8) feet in height, be illuminated, or have any moving elements.

(iv) Political signs shall be removed within ten (10) days after the election. In the event that the election is a primary election, or similar preliminary election, the successful candidates for the later election, including a run-off election, may leave their signs in place to be removed within ten (10) days after the general or run-off election.

(v) Should a political sign be erected in a manner or location in violation of this ordinance or exceed the size limitations or be permitted to remain longer than [than] the time period provided for herein, the City may, either at the expense of the advertised candidate or at the expense of the property owner, or both, immediately cause such signs to be removed. If a candidate is to be charged a removal fee, the City shall provide the candidate three (3) days prior notice before removal by the City.

**Editor's note**—Ordinance 5165, sec. 2, adopted 9/2/03, enacted a fee schedule for removal of political signs, which is on file in the office of the city clerk.