



CITY OF BURNABY ELECTION OFFICE

INFORMATION SHEET - POLITICAL AND ELECTION SIGNAGE

The “Burnaby Sign Bylaw 1972” (Bylaw No. 6163) regulates political and election signs on private and public properties. The Burnaby Sign Bylaw is available on the City’s website for review: <https://bylaws.burnaby.ca/media/Consolidated/6163C.pdf>. This information sheet provides an overview of its provisions relative to political and election signs for general use and consideration.

Temporary Signs

‘Schedule No. 1’ of the Sign Bylaw outlines that temporary political or election signs are permitted on private and public properties on the following basis:

(9) Temporary signs pertaining to campaigns, drives or events of political, civic, philanthropic, educational or religious organizations with the following exceptions:

(i) no such signs shall be erected or placed on park land under the jurisdiction of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, on public property in front of a flower or shrub bed or along the 60 m portions of Nelson Avenue and of Imperial Street fronting on the Cenotaph located at the northwest corner of their intersection;

(ii) no such signs shall be erected or placed on public boulevards without prior the consent of City Council and the written agreement of the applicant to remove the signs within three days after the campaign, drive or event has concluded; and

(iii) no political or election temporary signs, or temporary signs relating to a public referendum, shall be erected or placed on any public property except as otherwise permitted in this Bylaw.

As indicated, and underlined for reference, Section 9 (iii) specifically allows for the display of political or election temporary signs which are lawfully permitted under the Burnaby Sign Bylaw. This permitted signage includes a number of opportunities for temporary signage during an election. It is important to note that temporary signs are permitted on private property for an election, provided that they conform to federal and provincial legislation and City’s bylaws.

Temporary and Changeable Copy Non-Accessory Signage on Public Infrastructure

The Burnaby Sign Bylaw includes provisions for the approval of temporary, changeable copy non-accessory signage on bus shelters, bike racks and kiosks.

The Engineering Department's street furniture installations program, including bus shelters, bike racks and kiosks, has been approved utilizing relevant sections of the Sign Bylaw to incorporate advertising display areas. This includes the ability to accommodate political or election temporary signs. These advertising opportunities are managed by a contractor on behalf of the City. Portions of the advertising space are allocated to the City for advertising its public programs only, with the remaining spaces available to the general public to purchase advertising space. These advertising spaces can be purchased for political or election advertisements, provided that they are in compliance with the contractor's standards, including the standards established by the Association of Canadian Advertisers.

Enforcement of the Burnaby Sign Bylaw

The City of Burnaby ensures that information regarding the Burnaby Sign Bylaw is provided to all candidates in their nomination packages. During the campaign or election, City staff monitor and act on any complaint or violation of the City's bylaws.

For more information, please contact:

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