

1. Election Signs

(Pursuant to Chapter 832 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code - Signs)

Public Election Signs

Public Election Signs are exempt from a sign permit provided they:

- (i) do not exceed 2.9 metres (9.5 ft.) in width and 2.3 metres (7.5 ft.) in height;
- (ii) are a “temporary sign”;
- (iii) not be erected more than 60 days prior to the election date to which it pertains; and
- (iv) are removed within 48 hours following the election.

Chapter 832 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code defines a “temporary sign” as a sign that is not permanently displayed and not permanently affixed to the ground or a building or structure and does not fall within the definition of mobile, banner or sandwich board sign.

Where are Public Election Signs Permitted?

Such signs shall:

- (i) not be erected within 3 metres (9.84 ft.) of the edge of a roadway, unless erected on or within a building. A “roadway” means the part of the road allowance that is ordinarily used for vehicular traffic, but does not include the shoulder. For example, the edge of the curb would be the edge of the roadway.
- (ii) not be erected on public property except a municipal road allowance and provided the sign is not:
 - (a) on, or overhanging the roadway or a sidewalk;
 - (b) in breach of the set-back requirements described in (i);
 - (c) adjacent to any public property including parks;
 - (d) where a road allowance includes a sidewalk adjacent to a roadway, on the portion of the road allowance between the sidewalk and the roadway;
 - (e) where a road allowance includes two (2) or more separate roadways, on the portion of the road allowance between each roadway; or

- (f) erected without first having obtained **consent** of the owner or occupant of the property immediately adjacent to where the sign is intended to be erected.

Public Election Signs are also prohibited in the following locations:

- On public property that is within 10m (30 ft.) of an intersection.
- in a required parking space;
- within a sight triangle, unless the sign face has a minimum clearance of 2.4 metres (8 ft.) excluding the required structural support, or is attached to a wall, and complies with next bullet;
- at a location which obstructs the vision of vehicle drivers or pedestrians entering or exiting a property or obstructs or detracts from the visibility or effectiveness of any traffic signal on public property;
- entirely or in part on the roof of a building or structure;
- on a utility pole;
- obstructs or impedes any required fire escape, fire exit, door, window, scuttle, skylight, flue or air intake or exhaust or so as to prevent or impede free access of emergency services to any part of the building;
- painted on, attached to or supported by a tree, garbage can, planter or telephone booth;
- attached, affixed or displayed on a vehicle or trailer which is parked or located for the primary purpose of displaying said sign or advertisement.

Is there a limitation on Number of Public Election Signs Per Property?

There is no limit on the number of election signs permitted on private property.

Other Relevant Prohibitions

Chapter 832 prohibits an election sign:

- that is flashing;
- that is lewd or indecent in any word, picture, symbol or the like;
- with a light source that is not shielded and which is visible from off the property;
- that is moving;
- that creates noise;
- which make use of the words "STOP", "LOOK", "ONE WAY", "DANGER", "YIELD" or any similar words, phrases, symbols, lights or characters in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead, or confuse traffic;
- that in any manner constitutes a public safety hazard or impedes pedestrian traffic.

Enforcement

- The City may **remove and dispose** of any sign erected on, or over City property in contravention of the provisions of Chapter 832 without notification to the owner of the sign.
- Where a sign has been removed by the City, no retrieval of the sign may be made without payment of either a care and storage fee of \$100 or the actual cost of removing the sign, whichever is greater. Where such sign has been stored by the City for a period of thirty (30) days and has not been retrieved, the sign may be immediately destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the City.

Please also note that any person who contravenes any of the provisions of Chapter 832 is guilty of an offence and upon conviction is also liable to a fine or penalty as provided for in the Provincial Offences Act.

Questions?

If you have any questions with respect to Chapter 832, please feel free to contact:
Jeff Rogers in the By-law Enforcement Division at 705-325-2313, or jrogers@orillia.ca.