



PUBLIC WORKS

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To: All Municipal Candidates and Municipal Candidate Offices

FROM: Imran Khalid, County Engineer/Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: **Erection of Election Signs along County of Huron Road Allowances**

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The Municipal Elections Act, 1996 or Municipal Act, 2001 does not regulate the municipal candidate election signage. The County of Huron regulates erection of Municipal Election Signage on County Road allowances in accordance with County of Huron Bylaw 53-1989 - A bylaw of the Corporation of the County of Huron to Regulate the Erection of Signs or Overhanging County Road Allowances.

In reference to the upcoming Municipal Election, election signage shall be placed in accordance with the following:

- 1) Small election signs placed by, or on behalf of, a candidate or a political party and signs designated to encourage citizens to vote, may be placed on the right-of-way of a county road, but must not be placed closer than the outer edge of the gravel shoulder for roadside maintenance purposes. Larger signs (e.g. greater than 1.2m X 2.4m) generally requiring two posts for support shall be placed at the outer limits of the right -of-way, generally 15m from the centreline of the paved roadway. Any signs interfering with maintenance operations will be removed.
- 2) An election sign must not be affixed to a permanent or an official sign or to the guide rail or other highway structure or facility and must not be placed where it may interfere with an official sign or with traffic signals or other safety devices. If the above occurs, the election signs will be removed.
- 3) Locate information must be obtained by the candidate to ensure that no damage occurs to any underground utility.
- 4) All Municipal, Provincial and Federal Laws, Acts, Regulations and Standards must be obeyed, including, but not limited to the most current versions of the Ontario Health and Safety Act and Regulations and the Ontario Traffic Manual Temporary Conditions (Book 7).
- 5) Portable read-o-graph sign trailers are prohibited on the right-of-way of a highway. Such read-o-graph sign trailers may be utilized providing they are erected on private property and meet the requirements of the Ministry of Transportation for portable read-o-graph signing. No lights are permitted with these signs.
- 6) Candidate committees, or workers shall be allowed three (3) working days after Election Day in order to remove candidate advertising (election signs)

from the right-of-way. Signs not retrieved by this time shall be picked up by the County patrol forces.

The County Public Works Department has some concerns related to potential driver distraction, visibility, roadway safety, and the ability to carry out routine roadside maintenance activities such as grass cutting and shouldering. The County of Huron Public Works respectfully asks that all candidates be mindful of these considerations and follow the applicable election signage requirements.

To help support public safety and reduce risk during the election period, Public Works staff may remove any signs that do not comply with County requirements or that may interfere with visibility, roadway safety, or maintenance operations. These signs can be picked up at the local County Yards in Auburn, Wroxeter and Zurich.

Please contact County Public Works at 519-524-8394 ext. 3504 should you have any questions or require further information.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation and making our County Road network safer for all.

cc: Meighan Wark, CAO
Susan Cronin, County Clerk
Municipal Clerks