

## STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN SIGN REGULATIONS

### **Texas Department of Transportation:**

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- It is illegal to place any signs on or within the right of way. This includes posting signs on trees, telephone poles, traffic signs and other objects on the right of way.
- Campaign signs along Texas roads can be placed on private property with the owner's permission. Signs must be made of lightweight material and be no larger than 50 square feet.
- Campaign signs may be posted as early as 90 days before an election (no earlier) and must be removed within 10 days after the election.
- Before placing a sign inside of incorporated city limits, check with the city for applicable ordinances.
- Sign Removal: If you've placed your sign in the right of way or it's posing a traffic hazard, we will remove it without prior notice. All costs associated with sign removal will be paid by the sign owner.

*Campaign Signs (Home > Inside TxDOT > Divisions > Right of Way)*

### **Texas Property Code (Sec. 202.009):**

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Sec. 202.009. REGULATION OF DISPLAY OF POLITICAL SIGNS. (a) Except as otherwise provided by this section, a property owners' association may not enforce or adopt a restrictive covenant that prohibits a property owner from displaying on the owner's property one or more signs advertising a political candidate or ballot item for an election:

- (1) on or after the 90th day before the date of the election to which the sign relates; or
- (2) before the 10th day after that election date.

(b) This section does not prohibit the enforcement or adoption of a covenant that:

- (1) requires a sign to be ground-mounted; or
- (2) limits a property owner to displaying only one sign for each candidate or ballot item.

(c) This section does not prohibit the enforcement or adoption of a covenant that prohibits a sign that:

- (1) contains roofing material, siding, paving materials, flora, one or more balloons or lights, or any other similar building, landscaping, or nonstandard decorative component;
- (2) is attached in any way to plant material, a traffic control device, a light, a trailer, a vehicle, or any other existing structure or object;
- (3) includes the painting of architectural surfaces;
- (4) threatens the public health or safety;
- (5) is larger than four feet by six feet;
- (6) violates a law;
- (7) contains language, graphics, or any display that would be offensive to the ordinary person; or
- (8) is accompanied by music or other sounds or by streamers or is otherwise distracting to motorists.

(d) A property owners' association may remove a sign displayed in violation of a restrictive covenant permitted by this section.

*Added by Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. 1010 (H.B. [873](#)), Sec. 1, eff. June 18, 2005.*

## COUNTYWIDE CAMPAIGN SIGN REGULATIONS

### Walker County Annex:

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- In addition to the size of political signs stated below, **no canopies, tents, tarps, etc. are allowed to be erected in the Annex parking lot by any candidate, campaign, or party during Early Voting or on Election Day.** Also, we ask that you be respectful of the others when it comes to occupying parking spaces for campaigning. Due to the Courthouse Annex being a multi-purpose building with limited parking availability, we must keep the safety of all citizens a number one priority. *(Exert from official Walker County correspondence documented 05/16/2016)*
- The Walker County Courthouse Annex, located at 1301 Sam Houston Avenue, is the Early Voting site for all elections held in the County. **Candidates on the ballot may display standard size yard signs with wire stakes, approximately 18" x 24" in size,** outside the posted distance marker of 100ft from the poll place entrance(s). As you can imagine, joint election agreements between the county and other governing entities have increased the number of candidates on the ballot at one time generating even more candidate and political signs at the Early Voting site. In addition, due to the proximity of the Annex, we must remind all candidates that signs cannot be hazardous to public safety or obstruct a clear vision. Please join us in keeping the citizens safety first. *(Exert from official Walker County correspondence documented 10/23/2012)*
- Campaign signs **cannot be posted at the Walker County Annex before 5:00pm the Friday before Early Voting begins.**

# **CITY OF HUNTSVILLE CAMPAIGN SIGN REGULATIONS**

## **City of Huntsville, Texas:**

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### **8.300 EXEMPT SIGNS**

The following signs are exempt signs, which means that they are not counted as signs for purposes of determining the number of signs or amount of signage on a lot. These exempt signs do not require a sign permit unless they are illuminated, in which case they do require a sign permit and review for compliance with applicable codes.

#### **8.304.C Campaign Signs**

Temporary campaign signs are allowed only on private property and only with the consent of the subject property owner. In NC districts campaign signs may not exceed 8 square feet in area.

### **8.400 SIGNS IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY**

#### **8.401 General Prohibition**

With the exception of signs lawfully permitted or erected before June 16, 1981 or as otherwise expressly stated in this article, signs are prohibited on a public street, public sidewalk, public right-of-way, public curb or other public property without the express consent of the City Council.

#### **8.402 Temporary Signs in the Public Right-of-Way**

The City Planner is authorized to allow the placement of temporary signs in public rights-of-way when all of the conditions of this subsection are met.

##### **8.402.A Permit Required**

Any person or entity desiring to place a temporary sign in the public right-of-way must obtain a permit to do so from the City Planner.

##### **8.402.B Size, Type and Number**

1. A temporary sign placed in the public right-of-way must be freestanding and may not exceed 6 square feet in area.
2. No more than 2 signs may be permitted per intersection, and no more than one sign is allowed per block.
3. A maximum of 50 signs may be located within the right-of-way within the City limits at any one time.

##### **8.402.C Duration and Location**

1. A temporary sign may be placed in the right-of-way for a period of up to 21 days with a limit of 2 permits per year (per individual or organization) with a minimum of 45 days between permit periods. Removal of the temporary signs must be accomplished by the responsible person, as noted on the permit, before the 22nd day from the date the permit was issued.
2. Temporary signs are not allowed on IH-45 or State Highway 19 rights of way.

#### **8.403 Removal of Signs in the Public Right-of-Way**

The City Council authorizes the seizure and removal of any unlawful sign found within a public right-of-way. The Building Official, street department employees, and police department employees are authorized to impound any unlawful signs found on a public right-of-way and to store them for up to 30 days, except that any developer, political, real estate, garage sale or other similar stake-type signs constructed of cloth, wood, paper or similar lightweight materials may be disposed of immediately.