

STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN SIGN REGULATIONS

Texas Department of Transportation:

- 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.
- Cities and counties may have their own time restrictions for political signs, however TxDOT does not enforce any timing restrictions.
- 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 > Do Business > Right of Way)

Texas Election Code, Chapter 259: Political Signs

Sec. 259.001. NOTICE REQUIREMENT ON POLITICAL ADVERTISING SIGNS. (a) The following notice must be written on each political advertising sign: **"NOTICE: IT IS A VIOLATION OF STATE LAW (CHAPTERS 392 AND 393, TRANSPORTATION CODE), TO PLACE THIS SIGN IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY OF A HIGHWAY."**

(b) A person commits an offense if the person:

- (1) knowingly enters into a contract to print or make a political advertising sign that does not contain the notice required by Subsection (a); or
- (2) instructs another person to place a political advertising sign that does not contain the notice required by Subsection (a).

(c) An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

(d) It is an exception to the application of Subsection (b) that the political advertising sign was printed or made before September 1, 1997, and complied with Subsection (a) as it existed immediately before that date.

(e) In this section, "political advertising sign" means a written form of political advertising designed to be seen from a road but does not include a bumper sticker.

Sec. 259.002. REGULATION OF DISPLAY OF POLITICAL SIGNS BY PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION. (a) In this section, "property owners' association" has the meaning assigned by Section [202.001](#), Property Code.

(b) 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 candidate or measure 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.

(c) 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 measure.

(d) 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;

(8) or is accompanied by music or other sounds or by streamers or is otherwise distracting to motorists.

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

Sec. 259.003. REGULATION OF POLITICAL SIGNS BY MUNICIPALITY. (a) In this section, "private real property" does not include real property subject to an easement or other encumbrance that allows a municipality to use the property for a public purpose.

(b) A municipal charter provision or ordinance that regulates signs may not, for a sign that contains primarily a political message and that is located on private real property with the consent of the property owner:

- (1) prohibit the sign from being placed;
- (2) require a permit or approval of the municipality or impose a fee for the sign to be placed;
- (3) restrict the size of the sign; or
- (4) provide for a charge for the removal of a political sign that is greater than the charge for removal of other signs regulated by ordinance.

(c) Subsection (b) does not apply to a sign, including a billboard, that contains primarily a political message on a temporary basis and that is generally available for rent or purchase to carry commercial advertising or other messages that are not primarily political.

(d) Subsection (b) does not apply to a sign that:

- (1) has an effective area greater than 36 feet;
- (2) is more than eight feet high;
- (3) is illuminated; or
- (4) has any moving elements.

Transferred, redesignated and amended from Property Code, Section 202.009 by Acts 2019, 86th Leg., R.S., Ch. 824 (H.B. 2554), Sec. 3, eff. September 1, 2019.

COUNTYWIDE CAMPAIGN SIGN REGULATIONS

Walker County Early Voting Location(s):

- In addition to the size of political signs stated below, **no canopies, tents, tarps, etc. are allowed to be erected in the 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. In multi-purpose facilities with limited parking availability, we must keep the safety of all citizens a number one priority. *(Excerpt from official Walker County correspondence documented 05/16/2016; Updated 08/13/2021)*
- **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. Signs cannot be hazardous to public safety or obstruct a clear vision. Please join us in keeping the citizens safety first. *(Excerpt from official Walker County correspondence documented 10/23/2012; Updated 08/13/2021)*
- Posting of campaign signs **at the Walker County Early Voting location(s) is prohibited before 5:00pm the Friday prior to Early Voting.** All signs shall be removed within 10 days following Election Day. *Texas Property Code Sec. 202.009(a)(2)*
- Any posted campaign sign(s) posted that are not in compliance will be removed by Walker County Elections staff members, and placed on the ground where it was originally posted. Candidates will be able to repost signs accordingly. Candidates will not be contacted regarding sign compliance.

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE CAMPAIGN SIGN REGULATIONS

City of Huntsville, Texas:

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.