

September 11, 2019

Dear Candidate:

Re: Placement and Installation of Election Signs within the City of Surrey

The City of Surrey (“the City”) understands the need for candidates to reach voters through signage during the election campaign. The temporary placement and installation of election signs is regulated by the City under its Bylaws.

This letter serves to provide notice to all candidates of the 2019 Federal election of the City’s provisions for the temporary placement and installation of election signs.

Conditions

Election Signs may only be placed or installed starting at 12:01 am September 11, 2019 and must be removed by the candidate within 14 days following General Voting Day of October 21, 2019 (no later than 11:59 pm November 4, 2019). Failure to comply may result in financial penalties along with removal of the sign(s) by the City. Please refer to the “Penalties for Non-Compliance” section of this correspondence.

As per Section 7.1 of the City of Surrey Sign Bylaw, 1999, No. 13656, as amended:

(1) Neither a *sign* permit nor an inspection is required for a *political sign* located on private property provided that:

- a) the *sign owner* obtains consent from the private property owner(s) to erect a political sign on their property;
- b) the *sign area* does not exceed 3 sq. m [32 sq. ft.];
- c) the *sign* is removed within 14 (fourteen) days after the election; and
- d) the *sign* does not restrict sightlines of vehicle drivers, bicycle riders and pedestrians in the vicinity of the *sign*.

(2) Notwithstanding Section 7.1(1), the *sign owner* and the *owner* of the *lot* or *premises* upon which the *sign* is located shall ensure that the *sign* is in compliance with all applicable provisions of this By-law.

(3) No *political signs* shall be erected or placed on any public property.

For example, no political signs are permitted anywhere within the City’s road rights-of-way, including medians, sidewalks, boulevards, nor on any City property including, but not limited to, City parks, all City facilities or City-owned lots).

In addition to the above, on the General Voting Day of October 21, 2019 election signs must not be placed or installed within a 100-meter radius of a voting location.

Penalties for Non-Compliance

It is the sole responsibility of each Candidate and/or their Political Party to comply with the above noted requirements. Penalties for non-compliance include the issuance of fine(s) to the candidate and/or the property owner hosting the sign. In addition, the City reserves the right to remove any signs that do not comply with the City bylaw.

Please be advised that, should the City exercise its right to remove a non-compliant election sign, the Candidate and/or their respective Political Party will not be notified that their sign has been removed. Subsequent to removal, the signs will be disposed of by the City. To this end, the City is not obligated to store any signs it retrieves nor is it responsible for maintaining an inventory of election signs it retrieves, or otherwise. In addition, the City's full costs associated with sign removal and disposal may be charged to the Candidate and/or to their Political Party responsible for the placement of the sign.

Any election sign that is not removed by 11:59 pm on November 4, 2019 (14 days following the October 21, 2019 election) will be removed by the City and promptly disposed of. The City's full costs associated with sign removal and disposal in this regard will be charged to the Candidate and/or to their Political Party and/or the property owner hosting the sign.

Removal of Signs Following the Election

The City supports the recycling of election sign materials, and as such will provide recycling bins following the completion of the election. Separate bins will be provided for the various components of the signs including wood, plastic (including coroplast), and metals at the City of Surrey Operations Centre located at 6651 – 144 Street.

The drop off bins will be accessible from October 22, 2019 to November 4, 2019 inclusive during the following hours:

- Weekdays: 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m.
- Saturdays: 10:00a.m. to 4:00p.m.

City Contacts

If you have questions regarding the above, please contact the following:

- For questions regarding the City's bylaws pertaining to the placement of election signs, please contact the office of the City Clerk at 604-591-4132 or by email at Clerks@surrey.ca
- For questions regarding the recycling of your election signs, please contact Harry Janda at 604-590-7208 or via email at HSJanda@surrey.ca
- Further information on Federal Election political signage can be found on our website at Surrey.ca.

Sincerely,



Rob Costanzo,
General Manager, Corporate Services