



GREENSBORO
NORTH CAROLINA

PLANNING

DATE: January 22, 2020

TO: Candidates for Local, State and Federal Offices covering all or portions of the City of Greensboro

FROM: Mike Kirkman, Zoning Administrator
City of Greensboro

SUBJECT: Reminder of Rules for Placement and Duration of Temporary Campaign Signs

With numerous Local, State and Federal elections occurring during 2020 the City of Greensboro would like to remind all candidates and persons supporting their campaigns of the rules related to the placement of temporary campaign signs in Greensboro's jurisdiction. Please find enclosed a brochure outlining the City's requirements related to temporary campaign signs.

An electronic copy of this brochure is available at <http://www.greensboro-nc.gov/index.aspx?page=1770>, under Zoning Administration.

A link to this brochure is also available from the Guilford County Board of Elections website at <https://www.guilfordcountync.gov/our-county/board-of-elections/info-on-political-sign-placement>

Like other types of signs, temporary campaign signs may not be placed in any public rights-of-way, be attached to utility poles, trees, bus shelters or other permanent structures or have any type of windblown attachment such as balloons or streamers. This is intended to limit potential sight obstructions along roadways and at intersections and limit potential safety hazards from such signs being located too close to the roadway and sidewalks.

Important: As with all other signs improperly placed in Greensboro, temporary campaign signs will be removed by City enforcement staff and will not be returned to the candidate. Please familiarize yourself with this information and pass it along to your supporters for their reference.

Temporary campaign signs do not require a permit from the City but must adhere to the following standards:

- Limited to a maximum of 6 square feet in size and a maximum height of 6 feet in residential zoned areas and a maximum of 36 square feet in size and 8 feet in area in nonresidential zoned areas. Information on the zoning of a particular piece of property can be confirmed using the City's GIS zoning viewer at <http://gis.greensboro-nc.gov/GSOMapGallery/> (Zoning Districts)
- Have no lighting of any sort
- May only be placed on private property with the permission of the property owner
- Must be removed within 7 days after the election associated with the campaign sign.

Please contact the City's Planner of the Day line at 336-373-4340 to report any issues of improperly placed signs. For other questions or concerns related to the City regulations for temporary campaign signs you may contact me at 336-373-4649 or mike.kirkman@greensboro-nc.gov

Attachment – Temporary Campaign Sign Brochure

Temporary Campaign Signs

The City of Greensboro regulates signage as a means to limit potential hazards to pedestrian and vehicular traffic. It also preserves property values by preventing unsightly and cluttered development, while providing adequate business identification and advertising opportunities.

This brochure is intended to be a quick reference guide for persons running for office and those supporting these candidates. You will find sign standards in full on the City's website www.greensboro-nc.gov/ldo. Article 30-14.



Example of an illegal sign

City of Greensboro
Planning Department
PO Box 3136
Greensboro NC 27402-3136

Address Correction Requested



Temporary Campaign Signs in the City of Greensboro



Planning Department

"Promoting Quality Growth throughout Greensboro"

Phone: 336-373-4340
www.greensboro-nc.gov

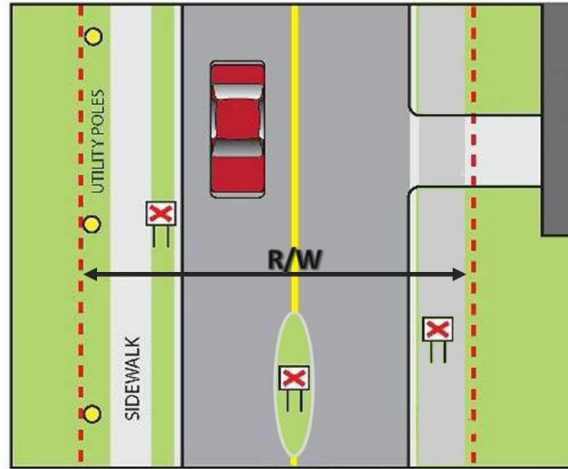
Temporary Campaign Signs

Most signs require a sign permit, with some exceptions, including temporary campaign signs. Temporary campaign signs must be located outside the public street right-of-way and not be placed in a way as to be a sight obstruction. Compliance with the following standards is required.

Temporary Campaign Signs do not require a sign permit but are subject to the following standards:

- Must be located on private property with the property owner's permission.
- Must be removed within 7 days after the election.
- May not exceed 6 square feet in area or 6 feet in height in residential zoned districts and 36 square feet in area and 8 feet in height in nonresidential zoned areas.
- May not be illuminated.

Any sign installed on public property or in public rights of way will be removed.



Prohibited signs in the Rights of Way



Signs not visible from a public right-of-way and certain other types of signage are exempt from sign regulations. See Section 30-14-5 of the City's Land Development Ordinance (LDO).

If you would like to file a complaint about a sign, please call the City's Contact Center at 336-373-CITY (2489).

Where are Public Rights-of-Way?

Rights-of-way are public property dedicated to and controlled by the City for the purpose of maintaining public infrastructure. Private utility easements, such as for power lines, function similarly to public rights-of-way, although the City does not have responsibility for this land. Rights-of-way limits vary depending on the road but can generally be determined by looking from the edge of the road or curb:

- Back edge of the sidewalk
- Utility pole
- Fire hydrant



Prohibited signs

The following signs are prohibited citywide.

- Windblown signs/devices
- Balloons
- Moving signs
- Portable signs legible from public rights of way
- Signs attached to or painted on a vehicle in view of the public rights of way
- Signs on trees or rocks
- Strobe or flashing lights
- Series of 2 or more signs with same message
- Signs that cause a sight obstruction

