

Political Signs

1. Maximum Size Limit

- a. Non-residential zoning: eight (8) square feet
- b. Residential zoning: four (4) square feet

2. Maximum Number

- One (1) per frontage on a public roadway erected for each candidate for public office, for each side of any issue to be decided in a duly called referendum, or for each side of any given general issue or topic on any parcel, or contiguous parcels, of real property under the same ownership. There shall be a minimum separation between political signs of five feet (5') unless the parcel frontage is insufficient to allow the placement of all desired signs. In that event, the maximum separation possible shall be achieved.

3. General Requirements

- a. **Bonding.** Prior to the erection of any political sign, other than one which is within the parameters of Paragraph 4 of the definition of "Political Sign," a \$150 cash or a surety bond shall be posted by the candidate or his agent; the obligation of said bond shall be compliance with all of the applicable regulations of this Article, including removal in accordance with paragraph "f" below.
- b. **Time Limit.** No political sign, other than one which is within the parameters of Paragraph 4 of the definition of "Political Sign," may be erected until a person becomes a "candidate," as such term is defined in Section 106.011, *Florida Statutes*, for the office to which the sign relates, or until a referendum has been duly called if the sign relates to an issue which is subject to a vote of the electorate, rather than a political office.
- c. **Location.** No political sign shall be placed on or over any public property or public right-of-way; no political sign shall be placed on private property without the prior consent of the owner or of an occupant with the authority to give such consent. Political signs may be placed on existing nonconforming billboards/off-site signs.
- d. **Interpretation of Number, Area, and Spacing of Signs.** For the purposes of Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Subsection, if two (2) sign faces are placed on one (1) or more poles in a "back-to-back" manner, or if two (2) or more sign faces are placed on poles which provide a common point of connection as, for example, a "v" type of placement or a "_/" type of placement, such placement shall be considered to be one sign; if there is no common point of connection for the separate sign faces, then such placement shall be considered to be separate signs.
- e. **Removal Prior to Election.** Any sign placed on any public property or public right-of-way shall be subject to immediate removal. In all other cases, the Chief Building Official, or his designee, shall provide notice of such violation to the contact person listed on the permit application. Such person may, within 24 hours of receipt of such notice, request a hearing before the City Manager, or his designee, which hearing shall be held by the City Manager or designee (who may not be the Chief Building Official) within 24 hours of the request. If a hearing is held, the decision of the City Manager, or designee, shall be final. If no hearing is requested, or if a violation is determined to exist following such a hearing, the sign shall be immediately removed by the permit holder. Failure to do so will

authorize removal by the Chief Building Official, with \$5.00 being deducted from the bond for each such sign removed.

- f. **Removal after Election.** All political signs which relate to the election of a candidate or to an issue decided at a referendum must be removed by the permit holder no later than ten (10) days following the election.