



Quick Glance Campaign Signs

SUMMARY

To provide information concerning City regulation of campaign signs.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- 1. May a property owner place a campaign sign on their own private property?**
Yes, a property owner may place a campaign sign on their own private property so long as the sign is no higher than eight feet, not illuminated, contains no moving elements, and does not have an effective area greater than 36 feet. [El Paso Municipal Code Sec. 20.18.510]
- 2. Is a property owner limited by the number of campaign signs they can put up on their own private property?**
No, a property owner is not limited to a certain number of campaign signs that can be placed on their own private property.
- 3. May a person place a campaign sign on private property the person does not own?**
Yes, a person can place a campaign sign on private property the person does not own if the person gets permission from the private property owner.
- 4. May a person place a campaign sign on city property or city right of way?**
No, a person may not place a campaign sign on city property or city right of way unless the sign meets certain criteria, in which case it may only be placed on the city parkway during certain hours. [El Paso Municipal Code Sec. 15.08.120 (H)(12)]
- 5. What type of signs can be placed on the city parkway?**
The City code allows certain types of free-standing signs without requiring staking into the ground and that do not contain any lighting. [El Paso Municipal Code Sec. 15.08.120(H)(12)]
- 6. Do the free-standing signs placed on city parkway have to be constructed in a certain way?**
Yes, the City code requires that the free-standing signs must be portable two-sided, single panel style or two connected sign panels ("A-frame" or "tent style") with a total sign area no greater than nine square feet. The sign face must be constructed of wood, metal, plastic or hardboard material and be no larger than five square feet. The sign itself cannot exceed thirty-six inches in height in any direction. [El Paso Municipal Code Sec. 15.08.120(H)(12)]
- 7. Once I place a campaign sign on a city parkway, can I leave the campaign sign up until the end of the campaign?**
No, the City code only allows a campaign sign to be displayed between the hours of 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM. The sign must be taken down on a daily basis. [El Paso Municipal Code Sec. 15.08.120(H)(12)(i)]

- 8. Do I need to get a permit or permission to place a campaign sign on the city parkway?**
No, if the sign is constructed as required under the City code, then no City permit or permission is needed, but the sign can only remain displayed between the hours of 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM. [El Paso Municipal Code 15.08.120(H)(12)(i)]
- 9. Can I put a campaign sign up on the city street median?**
No, the City code does not allow a campaign sign to be placed on the median of a city street. [El Paso Municipal Code 15.08.120(H)(12)(f)]
- 10. Can I place a campaign sign up in front of a city building?**
No, the City code does not allow a campaign sign to be placed in front of a city building unless the campaign sign is placed in the parkway in front of the City building. [El Paso Municipal Code 20.18.140 - Prohibited signs.]
- 11. Can I place a campaign sign up at a polling place?**
- Pursuant to the Texas Election Code Sec. 62.013 Unauthorized Posting of Signs Prohibited:**
(a) An election officer commits an offense if the officer knowingly posts at a polling place, including the area within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may enter the building in which the polling place is located, a sign, card, poster, or other similar material that:
(1) is not authorized or required by law; or
(2) is in a form or contains information that is not authorized or required by law.
- (b) A person other than an election officer commits an offense if the person posts a sign, card, poster, or other similar material at a polling place, including the 100-foot area described by Subsection (a).
- (c) An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.
- 12. What is the parkway?**
The parkway is the area located between the curb of the street and the property line, if there is no curb, then the nearest edge of street paving.
- 13. What will happen if I place a sign on City property, other than the parkway, or if I forget to take the sign down during 8:00 PM to 6:00 AM?**
The Code Compliance Officers will be going out daily during the campaign season to remove any free standing signs on the parkway that remain up between 8:00 PM to 6:00 AM or that are located on City property other than the parkway.
- 14. What happens to the signs that are picked up by the City?**
The Code Compliance Division will store election signage removed due to violations throughout the end of the day as a courtesy to the candidates; signs will be disposed of at the end of the day.
- 15. Can I be fined if I do not comply with the City code?**
Yes, you can be cited and potentially fined for a violation of the City code.
- 16. What happens in the case of a Run-Off Election?**
The same rules apply including the display of campaign signs between the hours of 6:00 AM and 8:00 PM. The sign must be taken down on a daily basis. [El Paso Municipal Code Sec. 15.08.120(H)(12)(i)]