



# Election Signage

## Information Guide for Political Participants

With preparations underway for the 2025 Calgary Municipal Election, The City of Calgary is answering frequently asked questions to help candidates ensure that their election signs are legally placed on public property and do not pose a safety risk to pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

### How is election sign placement on sidewalks and boulevards regulated in Calgary?

The rules for election signs are set out in the [Temporary Signs on Highways Bylaw 29M97](#) which regulates temporary signs placed along streets and roadways.

### What is considered an election sign?

An election sign is defined as any sign used to promote a candidate or local political party during an election. Signs that do not support a candidate directly are not considered election signs and are subject to the general provisions for temporary signs in the bylaw.

### What are the general guidelines for placing election signs on sidewalks and boulevards?

- Signs on a boulevard must be placed at least **2 metres** back from the curb or edge of the roadway
- Election signs must be placed a minimum distance of **30 metres** from an intersection and at least **10 metres** from any crosswalk that is not at an intersection. Smaller election signs (less than 0.6 square metres) must be placed a minimum distance of **15 metres** from an intersection
- Signs cannot be placed within 2 metres of a driveway crossing or entrance to private property
- There must be a minimum **20 metre** space or buffer between signs from the same candidate
- The **date** the sign was placed, as well as the **name**, **address** and **phone number** of the person who owns the election sign must be legibly stated on some portion of the sign

### Are there any special rules for election signs?

There are some allowances that apply during the Election Period which runs from the period starting as soon as nominations close on **September 22, 2025 at noon** and ends after the polls close which will be **October 20, 2025 at 8:00pm**. These allowances include:

	Prior to Election Period	During Election Period (September 22 - October 20, 2025)
Maximum Surface Size	0.6 square metres (2 feet x 3 feet)	3 square metres (4 feet x 8 feet)
Maximum Height from the Ground/Grade	0.92 metres (3 feet)	2.5 metres (8 feet)
Maximum Width	N/A	3.05 metres
Display Period	14 consecutive days in the same location	Can be in the same location for the entire Election Period
Distance from Intersections	15 metres	15 metres if smaller than 0.6 m <sup>2</sup> 30 metres if larger than 0.6 m <sup>2</sup>
Rules for Sign Removal	Must be removed after 14 consecutive days on display	Must be removed within 72 hours after voting stations close



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### Are there locations where candidates are NOT allowed to put up election signs?

Election signs are not permitted in the following locations:

- Along any Prohibited Roadway (see attached list)
- City of Calgary Parks and Pathways
- Playground zones
- On any traffic island or median

Elections signs must also not be affixed to any of the following:

- Streetlight and traffic signal poles
- Sound attenuation walls
- Plus 15 bridges
- Any Calgary Transit sign poles or structures

For complete details on where and how election signs are permitted to be placed, please see the Temporary Signs on Highways Bylaw 29M97.

### How long can election signs stay up?

During the **Election Period (September 22 - October 20, 2025)**, signs can be displayed at the same location for the entire election period, or any portion of it, but must be removed no later than **72 hours** after the polls close.

Before and during Election Period, signs that advertise a scheduled event must be removed within **24 hours** of that event concluding.

### Can sign owners participants be fined if their signs do not comply with the bylaw?

Failure to comply with the regulations may result in the owner of the sign(s) receiving a penalty of up to \$1000 per sign, as well as any costs associated with damage caused by the signs and the cost of sign removal.

### What happens to election signs that are removed?

Peace Officers, Bylaw Officer and City staff are authorized to immediately remove and impound election signs that are in contravention of the bylaw. Signs are held at a municipal Impound Lot and can be recovered at the owner's expense. Any election sign that impedes or interferes with the work of a City operation can also be removed and disposed of without giving notice to the owner. Please contact 3-1-1 for further information and guidance on how to retrieve impounded signs.

### What are the rules for signs on private property?

Signs on private property are considered Class A signs under the Land Use Bylaw 1P2007. See Section 77 (Rules Governing Class A Signs) and Part 3, Division 5, Section 75 (Maintenance of Signs) for more details.

### What laws are there to prohibit defacing election signs?

Defacing of election signs may be a criminal matter that could be investigated by the Calgary Police Service. If this type of property damage is seen, please contact the police non-emergency line at (403) 266-1234.

Election signs must comply with the rules for size and placement set out in the Temporary Signs on Highways Bylaw 29M97. **Infractions could be a \$300 fine.** Learn more at [calgary.ca/electionsigns](https://calgary.ca/electionsigns)

## All signs must be:

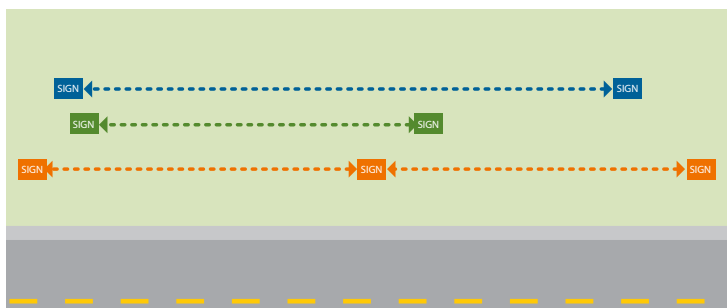
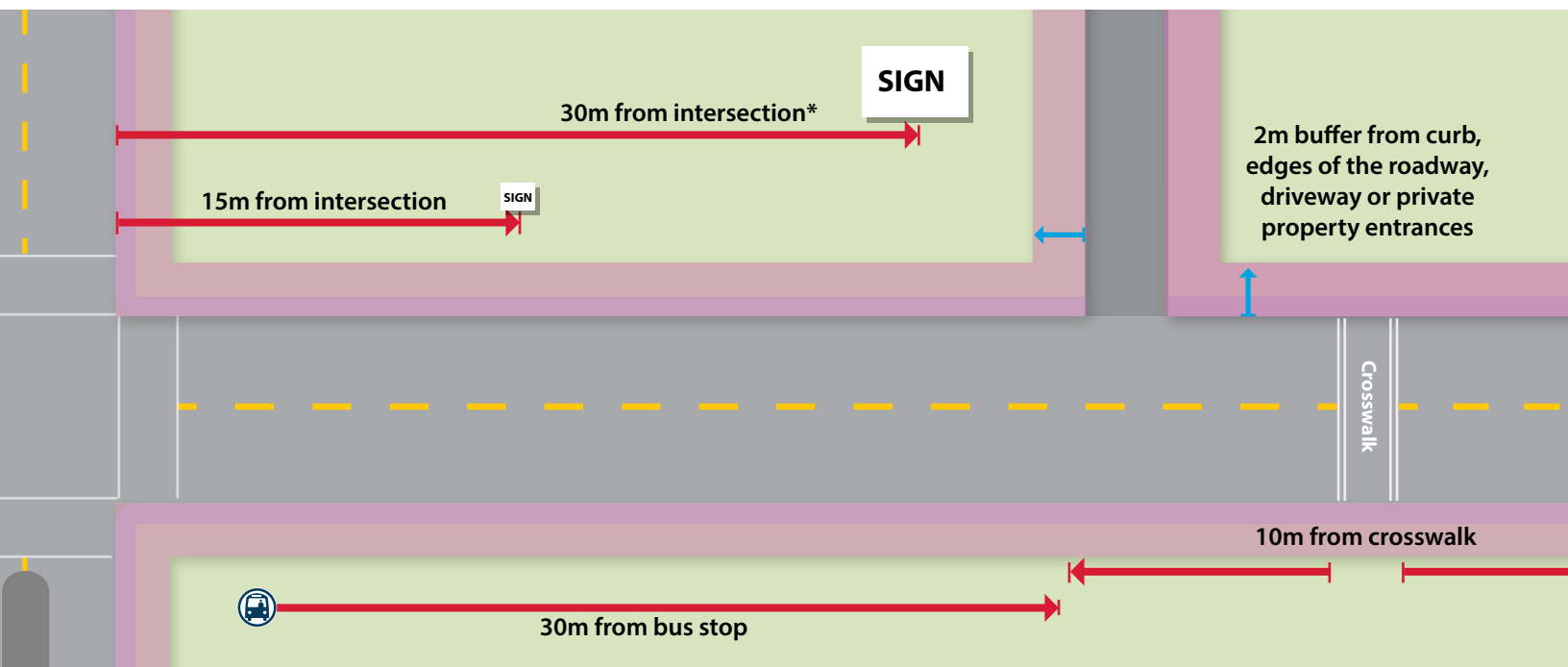
- 2 metres back from the curb or edge of the roadway,
- 2 metres from driveways or private property entrances,
- 10 metres from any crosswalk that is not at an intersection,
- 30 metres from a bus stop.

## Small signs (less than 0.6 m<sup>2</sup>) must be:

- 15 metres from an intersection.

## Large signs (over 0.6 m<sup>2</sup>) must be:

- 30 metres from an intersection, *only used during election period.*



There should be a minimum 20 metre buffer between signs from the same candidate

## Signs can not be placed:

- in parks,
- on pathways,
- in playground zones,
- along prohibited roadways,
- on any traffic island or median.

## Signs can not be attached to:

- street light poles,
- traffic signal poles,
- sound attenuation walls,
- Plus 15 bridges,
- any Calgary Transit sign poles or structures.



## (March 21, 2025) PROHIBITED ROADS – MOBILE COMMUNITY SIGNS AND OTHER TEMPORARY SIGNS

The Mobility Business Unit places public safety as the highest priority in all its actions to sustain and enhance all forms of mobility for its customers. The Traffic Engineer has the authority to establish some of Calgary's roads as "Prohibited" from the use of temporary signs when it is deemed that signs may impact safety, sustainability or the mobility of Calgarians, no matter what form of mobility they choose.

Here is the current list of Prohibited Roads which the Traffic Engineer has banned the use of temporary signs. Please also refer to the map for additional guidance. Though this list is comprehensive, you can contact the Traffic Engineer at [communitysigns@calgary.ca](mailto:communitysigns@calgary.ca) for the most up to date list. A map version is available using this [link](#).

PROHIBITED ROADS LIST TEMPORARY SIGNS ON HIGHWAYS BYLAW 29M97		
ROAD	FROM	TO
3 Avenue NW	32 Street	37 Street
11 Street East	Complete Roadway	
14 Street West	Complete Roadway	
16 Avenue/Trans Canada Highway	Complete Roadway	
17 Avenue South	Complete Roadway	
24 Street East	Glenmore Trail	Deerfoot Trail
36 Street East	Memorial Drive	McKnight Boulevard
37 Street SW	Spruce Drive SW	Grey Eagle Drive SW
52 Street SE	130 Avenue SE	17 Avenue S
61 Avenue SW	Complete Roadway	
64 Avenue NE/NW	Castleridge Boulevard NE	Norfolk Drive NW
85 Street NW/SW	Complete Roadway	
96 Avenue NE	Complete Roadway	
112 Avenue NW	Complete Roadway	
114 Avenue SE	Stoney Trail	Barlow Trail
130 Avenue SE	Complete Roadway	
144 Avenue NE/NW	Complete Roadway	
154 Avenue SW	37 Street West	Tsuu Tina Trail SW
162 Avenue SE	Complete Roadway	
194 Avenue South	200m East of Macleod Trail	Train tracks, West of Macleod Tr
210 Avenue South	East Limits	Train tracks, West of Macleod Tr
Airport Trail	Complete Roadway	
Anderson Road	Complete Roadway	
Barlow Trail	Complete Roadway	
Beddington Trail	Complete Roadway	
Bow Bottom Trail	Canyon Meadows Drive	Deerfoot Trail
Bow Trail SW	Complete Roadway	
Blackfoot Trail SE	Complete Roadway	
Canyon Meadows Drive SW	Bow Bottom Trail	Lake Fraser Drive
Country Hills Boulevard	Complete Roadway	
Country Village Road NE	Complete Roadway	
Cranston Boulevard S	Stoney Trail to Cranston Drive	
Crowchild Trail	Complete Roadway	
Deerfoot Trail	Complete Roadway	
Elbow Drive	Anderson Road	4 Street SW
Fish Creek Boulevard SW	Tsuu Tina Trail SW	Everridge Drive SW
Glenmore Trail	Complete Roadway	
Harvest Hills Boulevard	Beddington Trail NW	96 Avenue NW
Harvest Hills Boulevard	Country Hills Boulevard	Stoney Trail
Heritage Drive SE	Complete Roadway	
Heritage Drive SW	Blackfoot Trail	Deerfoot Trail
Heritage Meadows Way S	Complete Roadway	
James McKeivitt Road SW	South Extension of Somerside Park	Spruce Meadows Green SW
John Laurie Boulevard	Complete Roadway	
Macleod Trail	Complete Roadway	
McKenzie Lake Boulevard S	Complete Roadway	
McKenzie Towne Boulevard S	Complete Roadway	
McKnight Boulevard	4 Street NW	East City Limits
Memorial Drive	36 Street SE	Centre Street North
Metis Trail	Complete Roadway	
Mount Royal Gate	Crowchild Trail	Richard Road

Nose Hill Drive NW	Country Hills Boulevard	Tuscany Hill
Ogden Road S	17 Avenue S / Blackfoot Trail	(South of) Millican Road SE
Old Banff Coach Road	West City Limits	73 Street SW
Old Banff Coach Road	Coach Hill Rd (south intersection)	Bow Trail
Peigan Trail S	Complete Roadway	
Richard Road SW	Complete Roadway	
Richardson Way SW	Complete Roadway	
Richmond Road SW	Westhills Way	45 Street SW
Richmond Road SW	37 Street SW	24A Street SW
Sarcee Trail NW & SW	Complete Roadway	
Seton Boulevard S	Complete Roadway	
Shaganappi Trail	Complete Roadway	
Southland Drive	Complete Roadway	
Spruce Meadows Trail S	Complete Roadway	
Strathcona Boulevard SW	Complete Roadway	
Stoney Trail	Complete Roadway	
Sun Valley Boulevard S	Macleod Trail	Sunpark Drive/Midpark Boulevard
Sun Valley Boulevard S	Sikome Road	Stoney Trail
Symons Valley Parkway NW	Symons Valley Road	Sarcee Trail
Symons Valley Road	Stony Trail	North City Limit
Tsuut'Ina Trail SW	Complete Roadway	