



Council Policy

Electoral Activities and Signage



Electoral Activities and Signage Policy

Policy scope

This policy establishes the City of Fremantle's position in relation to the activities and signage that may occur during the weeks leading up to a Federal, State or Local Government election.

It will be acceptable to hold small informal activities and erect election signage, in most instances, without the obligation to meet compliance requirements ordinarily imposed by the City, provided such signage and activities are safely conducted.

Policy statement

The City allows flexibility in relation to election signage and activities, removing the need for electoral candidates to apply for approval, provided the guidelines outlined in this policy are met. The guidelines are in accordance with the City of Fremantle Activities and Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law.

1. Guidelines:

- 1.1 During the period of election activity, commencing 10 weeks prior to the election and ending 48 hours following the close of the polls formal approval will not be required for signs in public places which are:
 - a. not illuminated in any way;
 - b. no higher than 1 metre above natural ground level or exceed an area of 1m² on any side;
 - c. freestanding and, therefore, not attached to any structure, post or tree.
 - d. containing clear and legible writing or symbols.
 - e. in the case of mobile advertising vehicle or trailers, comply with the parking regulations and/or signs applicable to that parking area and must not pose a safety risk.
 - f. not placed on a carriageway, dividing strip, traffic island, or roundabout, within thirty (30) metres of a signalised intersection or pedestrian activated crossing.
 - g. not placed within six (6) metres of an intersection or junction, or in any other location that may pose a safety hazard or obstruction to pedestrians or road users.
 - h. not erected within 100 meters of a guard controlled children's crossing.
 - i. not attached to any street name, traffic direction or parking sign or to the associated pole.



- j. not placed so as to cover any City signs or markings.
- k. not placed so as to restrict the sight distance of other signs and traffic control devices.
- l. Not placed so as to obstruct or impede the vision of a driver of a vehicle entering or leaving a thoroughfare or crossing.
- m. not to resemble or be mistaken by road users as a traffic control device.
- n. are securely installed.

1.2 During the period of election activity, commencing 10 weeks prior to the election and ending 48 hours following the close of the polls formal approval will not be required for signs on private property which are:

- a. displaying non-commercial messages and clearly displayed for election purposes only.
- b. not erected on heritage listed properties in a way that may cause any damage to any structure.
- c. in the case of mobile advertising vehicle or trailers, compliant with the parking regulations and/or signs applicable to that parking area and must not pose a safety risk.
- d. not more than one towable mobile advertising trailer per car park
- e. not placed within six (6) metres of an intersection or junction, or in any other location that may pose a safety hazard or obstruction to pedestrians or road users.
- f. not erected on private property, unless they are safely and securely erected on property that is not considered to be of heritage importance and with the approval of the property owner.
- g. not placed so as to restrict the sight distance of other signs and traffic control devices.
- h. not placed so as to obstruct or impede the vision of a driver of a vehicle entering or leaving a thoroughfare or crossing.
- i. not to resemble or be mistaken by road users as a traffic control device.

1.3 During the period of election activity, commencing 10 weeks prior to the election and ending 48 hours following the close of the polls formal approval will not be required for activities in public places which are:

- a. considered to be small activities.
- b. inclusive and welcoming.
- c. providing information that is clear and accurate.
- d. not causing a safety hazard or obstruction to pedestrians or road users.
- e. not held within 100 meters of a guard controlled children's crossing during school crossing times.



2. The person or party responsible for the sign or activity must ensure that public safety is not compromised while signs are being installed or removed or activities are being undertaken and there is no disruption to traffic or pedestrian movement during the process.
3. The person or party responsible for the sign or activity and any persons acting on their behalf, accept full responsibility for any personal injury, damage or loss in any way arising out of or a consequence.
4. Signs not removed within 48 hours of the close of polls may be removed and destroyed.
5. Removal of non-compliant signs, by or on behalf of the City, may result in any resultant costs or expenses being recovered from the person or party responsible. These costs may include both the removal and/or destruction of offending signs.
6. Signs and activities that do not fit within the guidelines of this policy are subject to the usual approval and compliance organisational requirements.
7. For Local Government Elections, electoral material must be in accordance with the Western Australian Electoral Commission guidelines.



Definitions and abbreviations

Election – periodic and general elections and includes referenda and other public votes.

Land – all land under the care, control or management of the City but excludes a road where part of the road is a nature strip or footpath.

Road – the definition under the provisions of the *Land Administration Act 1997* and *Main Roads Act 1930*.

Election Signs – a notice on public display which encourages a person to vote for a particular political candidate or gives information or instructions in a written or symbolic form for a candidate or party in the election, and that complies with the requirements of section 187 of the *Electoral Act 1907* in regard to the authorisation of electoral signage.

Small Activity – less than 5 organisers/representatives involved in the organisation and/or running of an informal activity/event.”

Responsibility and review information	
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