

## ELECTION SIGNS

Please be advised that the City of Greater Sudbury Sign By-law 2007-250 regulates the erection of signs including election signs within the City boundaries. Election signs are defined as "a sign advertising or promoting the election of a political party or candidate for public office in a federal, provincial, municipal or union election" and may be erected without a permit however there are rules which govern election signs.

In an effort to ensure all Election candidates have fair and equal access to sign placement within our community we are asking all candidates to be familiar with the City of Greater Sudbury Sign By-Law. Below is a summary of the Sections that pertain to the erection of Election Signs.

Sections 12, 15, 17 and 35 of the By-Law outline restrictions for the placement of election signs. Election signs must be erected in a location which is completely within the limits of private property and are restricted from any location erected on City property.

### **Section 12**

No person shall erect a sign overhanging any City property, including without limitation, any street, sidewalk, right of way or bridge, or on any pole, tree, hydrant or structure located on any City property, including any street, right of way or bridge, other than a federal, provincial or City signs, or signs erected in order to comply with any street work project, without the prior written consent of an authorized City official, and in accordance with the terms and conditions of any such approval.

### **Section 15**

No person shall erect a sign in a manner or in a location such that the sign:

- (a) obstructs the view of any pedestrian or motor vehicle driver so as to cause an unsafe condition;
- (b) interferes with or obstructs the view of an authorized traffic sign, traffic signal, or official sign or any sign capable of being confused with such a traffic sign, traffic signal or official sign;
- (c) is within a sight triangle;
- (d) constitutes a fire or safety hazard;
- (e) impedes the movement of vehicular or pedestrian traffic;
- (f) obstructs any window, door, skylight or fire escape in a building or prevents the free access of fire fighters to any part of the building in case of fire; or
- (g) constitutes a safety risk

### **Section 17**

- (1) No person shall erect a sign on a vehicle unless that sign is:
  - (a) required by law
  - (b) in transit from one location to another; or
  - (c) incidental to the use of the vehicles and such vehicle's normal driving use is as a means of transportation.
- (2) No person shall erect any sign on a vehicle or trailer which is parked or located for the primary purpose of displaying the sign.

### **Section 35**

- (1) No person shall erect an election sign within 50 metres of the exterior main entrance to the polling station or the front façade of the building which contains the polling station, whichever is greater.
- (2) No person shall erect an election sign except during an election.
- (3) No person shall fail to remove an election sign within forty-eight hours immediately following 11:59 p.m. on the day of the election.

The City of Greater Sudbury Sign By-Law does not restrict the use of vehicle wraps, vehicle window graphics, bumper stickers, window sticker decals, and vehicle magnets. Please note, the *Municipal Elections Act* prohibits any person from attempting, directly or indirectly, to influence how the elector votes while an elector is in a voting place. 1996, c. 32, Sched., s. 48 (1). Without limiting the generality of subsection (1), no person shall display a candidate's election campaign material or literature in a voting place. 1996, c. 32, Sched., s. 48 (2).

As per Section 47 of the By-law, any person who contravenes any of the provisions of this By-law is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a fine as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act*. The maximum fine is \$5,000.

Under Section 49, where a sign is erected in contravention of this By-law, or where a sign is not removed when required to do so pursuant to this by-law, the Manager may immediately pull down or remove the sign or cause the sign to be removed at the expense of the sign owner.

If a sign is deemed to be a hazard to pedestrians and/or motorists, particularly in intersections, traffic islands and anywhere else that impedes vision, the By-Law Enforcement Officer will immediately remove the sign without notice to the candidate. If complaints are received regarding the placement of a particular sign the responding officer will conduct an inspection and if the sign does not comply with the By-law, they will contact the representative for the candidate and provide 24 hours notice to remove or relocate, unless the sign constitutes a hazard. The By-law does not restrict the size of election sign. However, if a complaint is received Building Services may be asked to determine if the sign structure poses a safety risk and whether a permit is required for its erection. Sign removal and follow up of all complaints will be recorded.

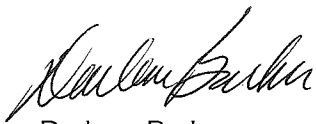
Any sign removed as provided for in this section shall be stored by the City or an independent contractor for a period of not less than thirty days. During this time, the sign owner or his or her agent is entitled to redeem such sign, upon completing a signed acknowledgement and release on the prescribed form and upon making payment satisfactory to the City of the amount set out in the City's Miscellaneous user Fee By-law then in effect.

Miscellaneous User Fees By-law 2013-288, Schedule G&D-F;  
Removal of Sign \$118  
Storage of Sign \$10/day

Set Fine Penalties for Offences above are \$150 + \$30 victim surcharge and costs. Below are the set fines that may be imposed.

Section 12	Erect a sign overhanging City property	\$150.00
Section 15(a)	Erect sign obstructing view of pedestrian or motor vehicle driver	\$150.00
Section 15(b)	Erect sign obstructing view of traffic sign	\$150.00
Section 15(c)	Erect sign in a sight triangle	\$150.00
Section 15(d)	Erect sign constituting fire or safety hazard	\$150.00
Section 15(e)	Erect sign impeding movement of vehicular or pedestrian traffic	\$150.00
Section 17	Erect sign on parked vehicle or trailer for display purposes	\$150.00
Section 35(1)	Erect election sign within 50 metres of main entrance to polling station	\$150.00
Section 35(2)	Erect election sign when no election	\$150.00
Section 35(3)	Fail to remove election sign	\$150.00

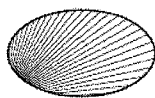
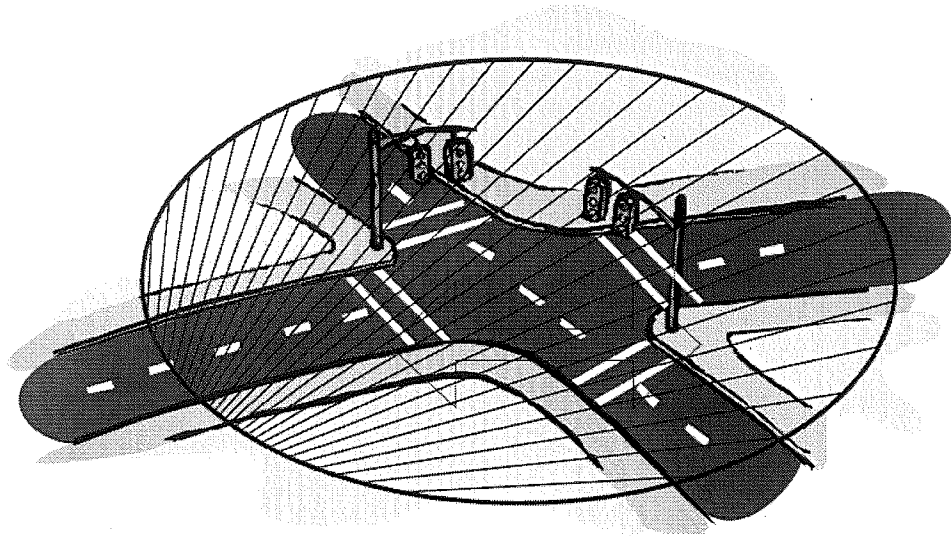
Please contact our office for more information, questions and concerns.  
Regards,



Darlene Barker,  
Manager of Compliance and Enforcement  
705.671.2489 ext. 4281  
705.671.0871 fax  
[darlene.barker@greatersudbury.ca](mailto:darlene.barker@greatersudbury.ca)

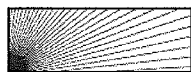
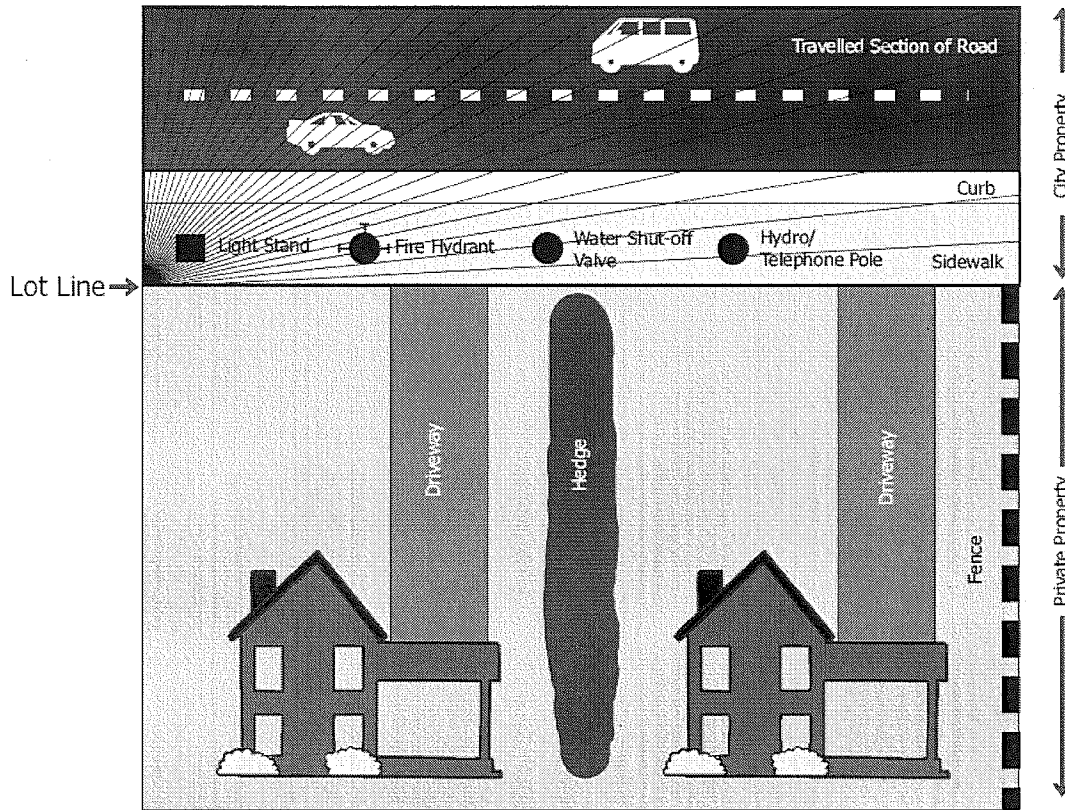
Attachment;  
Election Sign Location Sketches PDF

# Election Sign Location



Election signs **must not be placed**  
within the shaded area at city intersections

# Election Sign Location



Election signs **must not be placed** within the shaded area on city property