

# Fact Sheet



## Election Signage

All election candidates are responsible for ensuring their Election Signs are displayed appropriately and in appropriate locations. The City often receives complaints from the community at election time regarding issues such as the number of signs installed, the location of signs hindering vision at intersections, signs being placed on Council land and buildings and signs installed on private property without the owner's consent. Printing and publishing of electoral material must comply with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1995 (WA)* (s. 4.87 and s. 4.88) and the *Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997 (WA)*.

### What Is An Election Sign?

An 'Election Sign' means a sign or poster which advertises any aspect of a forthcoming Federal, State or Local Election. This includes any sign, notice, structure, banner or other similar device used for the purpose of advertising or promoting any goods, services, person, body or other thing, or for displaying information about the same.

### Election Signs on Local Government Property

#### **Note : Local Government property includes road verges**

Clause 8.5 of the *City of Belmont Consolidated Local Law 2020* states that local government permission is required to erect or place an advertising sign, post any bill or paint, place or affix any advertising sign, or place any other sign whatsoever, on local government property (land or buildings).

If the City gives permission for a sign, then it must be installed or placed in such a way to comply with clause 8.5(2) of the *City of Belmont Consolidated Local Law 2020*, which states that the sign must:

- (a) be erected at least 50m from any intersection; and
- (b) be free standing, and not affixed to any existing post, sign, light or power pole or any similar structure; and
- (c) not create a nuisance or interfere, obstruct, impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or any access to a place by any person; and
- (d) be kept clean and free from unsightly matter including any offensive words or representations; and
- (e) be securely installed and maintained in a good condition; and
- (f) not be placed within 100m of any works on footpaths; and
- (g) have a maximum of 2 facing sides; and
- (h) be erected so as not to be moveable by wind or natural forces; and
- (i) not be –
  - i. illuminated, rotating, flashing; or
  - ii. incorporate reflective or fluorescent materials; or

- iii. displayed on a carriageway, median strip or roundabout; or
- iv. attached to any street furniture or natural feature including trees; or
- v. attached to or obstruct any other sign; or
- vi. in any other location where, in the opinion of local government, the sign is likely to obstruct lines of sight along a street or cause danger to any person using the street.

Election and advertising signs must not be placed on existing City of Belmont signs, public land or property including verges and parks without approval (clauses 8.4 & 8.5 Consolidated Local Law). They also cannot look like any sign used by the City of Belmont. Any signs placed on or attached to Council property or public land will be removed by City of Belmont Rangers. You may receive an infringement notice of \$200 for each offence if the above conditions are not followed.

## **Election Signage On Private Property**

If you wish to install or place a sign on private property, then you must comply with the City's *Local Planning Policy 12 – Advertisements* guidelines:

- A sign shall only be placed on private property where permission is given for the display by the owner or occupier. This applies to a commercial arrangement with an advertising provider for advertising on private/non-City of Belmont infrastructure (for example, bus shelters)
- A sign must not pose a threat to public safety or health and shall not have any sharp or pointed projections below a height of 2.7m from ground level.
- A sign must not be placed so that it compromises the safety of the travelling public by obscuring the view of drivers, pedestrians, or cyclists.
- A sign is not permitted in or on a commercial vehicle, trailer or caravan parked at the same location for more than twenty-four (24) hours.
- A sign must not be illuminated (internally or indirectly), move, flash, rotate or reflect so as to be an undue distraction to drivers.
- A sign must not be self-adhesive.
- A sign must not be affixed under any circumstances to trees, shrubs, or other plants, or erected on power poles or towers carrying transmission lines.
- A sign must not compete with or reduce the effectiveness of other signs and traffic control devices, resemble a traffic control device, or be mistaken by road users as a traffic control device.
- The final height of the sign must not be any higher than 6 metres from the ground level.
- The person or party responsible for the election sign must maintain the sign and ensure that safety is maintained while the sign is being installed or removed.

Under the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 (WA)* election signs must:

- not be placed any earlier than 36 days before the relevant election ( that is one week after the close of nominations) and
- must be removed by 48 hours after the election.

## Further Information

### Further information can be obtained by:

- visiting the City of Belmont website [belmont.wa.gov.au](http://belmont.wa.gov.au)
- Telephoning the City's Compliance Administrator on (08) 9477 7211.

## Reference Documents

[City of Belmont Consolidated Local Law 2020](#)

*Local Government Act 1995 (WA)*

*Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997 (WA)*

*Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015 (WA)*

[Local Planning Policy 12 - Advertisements](#)