



CP4.12 | Electoral Activities and Signage

Objective

To establish the City of Perth's (the City) position in relation to the activities and signage that may occur during the weeks leading up to a Federal, State or Local Government election.

Scope

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

Election signs installed on private land must comply with the City's policies related to signs, the *Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015* and any other legislation related to signs.

Signs or activities in public places that fall outside the scope of this policy must comply with the City of Perth's standard approval and compliance processes for signage and activities in public places.

Some thoroughfares within the district of the City are controlled by Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA) under the *Main Roads (Control of Advertising) Regulations 1996*. Please refer to the [MRWA guidelines](#) before erecting an election sign on or near [a road managed by MRWA](#)

Please contact MRWA if you have any questions related to election signs on or near a road managed by MRWA.

Policy statement

The City allows flexibility in relation to election signage and activities. Provided the guidelines outlined in this policy are met, election signage and small public activities do not need approval from Council.

Guidelines

1. During the period of election activity, formal approval will not be required for signs in public places which:
 - a. Do not contain fluorescent or reflective materials.
 - b. Are immobile, static, non-illuminated displays.
 - c. Are no higher than 1 metre above natural ground level or exceed an area of 1m² on any side.
 - d. Are freestanding (i.e. not attached to road structures such as parking, street or traffic signs or their supports, bridges, bus shelters, lighting/power poles, or trees), and securely installed, but not supported with star pickets.
 - e. Contain clear and legible writing or symbols and be designed to display a whole message. (Signs are not permitted if they display segments of a whole message and are designed to be read sequentially in order to comprehend the whole message).



- f. In the case of mobile advertising vehicles or trailers, comply with the parking regulations and/or signs applicable to that parking area and must not pose a safety risk.
 - g. Do not resemble or may be mistaken by road users as a traffic control device.
 - h. Are installed with posts to a maximum depth of 300mm which supports the sign or banner safely and posts are capped with protective covers on their ends where they protrude above the upper edge of the sign.
 - i. Are constructed so that they are able to be broken into pieces easily; so will not cause injury or major damage if struck by a vehicle.
 - j. **Are not** placed:
 - i. on a carriageway, median strip, traffic island, or a roundabout.
 - ii. within thirty(30) metres of a signalised intersection, pedestrian activated crossing or roundabout.
 - iii. within six (6) metres of an intersection or junction, or in any other location where they will obstruct driver's view or pose a risk to road users, including e-Ridable users, cyclists and pedestrians of adjacent road carriageways, cycleways, and footpaths.
 - iv. within any road reserve where the speed limit of the road is 80 km/h or more.
 - v. within twenty (20) metres of a roadwork site.
 - vi. so as to restrict the sight distance of other signs and traffic control devices.
 - vii. within 100 metres of a guard-controlled children's crossing.
 - viii. on a park or reserve.
2. During the period of election activity, formal approval will not be required for election related activities in public places which in the opinion of the City of Perth administration:
- a. Have been approved by the official candidate.
 - b. Are considered to be small activities.
 - c. Are inclusive and welcoming.
 - d. Are providing information that is clear and accurate.
 - e. Are not causing a safety hazard or obstruction to pedestrians or road users.
 - f. Are not held within 100 meters of a guard-controlled children's crossing during school crossing times,
3. Signs must only be installed within the relevant electoral boundary.
4. 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.
5. The person or party responsible for the sign or activity and any persons acting on their behalf:



- a. Accept full responsibility for any personal injury, damage or loss in any way arising out of, or as a consequence; and
 - b. Must ensure that all signs are removed within 48 hours of the close of polls.
6. For Local Government Elections, electoral material must be in accordance with the Western Australian Electoral Commission guidelines.

Polling day

7. Signs may be placed on the grassed area in front of Council House on polling day.
8. Signs may not be placed within 6 metres from the entrance to the main doors of a polling place.

Removal of signs

9. Signs that, in the opinion of the City of Perth administration:
- a. Do not comply with this policy; or
 - b. Pose a risk to public safety; or
 - c. Cause an obstruction to approved activities; or
 - d. Are not removed in within 48 hours of the close of polls
- may be:
- a. Relocated, where considered appropriate in the opinion of the City of Perth administration, to a complying location within 10 metres of its original location; or
 - b. Removed, which may result in any costs or expenses being recovered from the person or party responsible. These costs may include both the removal and/or destruction of offending signs.

Definitions

Carriageway - has the meaning given in the *Road Traffic Code 2000*

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

Period of election activity- commencing 8 weeks prior to the election and ending 48 hours following the close of the polls

Public places –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 and City buildings

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* regarding the authorisation of electoral signage.

Small Activity— meets the requirements of a ‘Social Gathering’ as outlined in the City’s [Event Guidelines](#) and on the City’s [Website](#).

Document control

Policy context

Legislation, standards & external guidelines	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i> <i>Local Government (Elections) Regulations 1997</i> <i>Planning and Development (Local Planning Schemes) Regulations 2015</i>
Policies and procedures	Nil
Strategies, plans and frameworks	Nil

Document custodian

Alliance	CEO Alliance	Service unit	Governance and Executive Services
----------	--------------	--------------	-----------------------------------

Review management

Next review due	July 2027	Document management ref.	EDRMS-1702538566-11567
-----------------	-----------	--------------------------	--

Document management

Version	Adopted by	Adoption date	Synopsis of changes
1.0	Ordinary Council Meeting	1 July 2025	Council Policy 4.12 adopted