

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF BIGHORN No. 8

POLICY

Name: ELECTION SIGN POLICY

Number: P-9

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PURPOSE AND INTENT

This policy is intended to establish municipal rules for signage associated with federal, provincial and municipal elections. The policy works in conjunction with the MD of Bighorn's Land Use Bylaw which also has rules for election signage. However, the rules existing in the Land Use Bylaw focus on signs erected on private land. This policy focuses on lands owned or under the care and control of the municipality, particularly road allowances, that does not have property titles, as well as establishing broader election signage policy. It is intended to be used in combination with the Land Use Bylaw.

POLICY

A. PRIVATELY OWNED, TITLED PROPERTIES

1. The regulations contained in the Municipal District of Bighorn's Land Use Bylaw shall apply for erection and removal of election signs on titled parcels of land in the Municipality. In particular, the "Development Permits Not Required" section of the Land Use Bylaw should be noted.
2. Notwithstanding those regulations, the MD of Bighorn reserves the right to remove any elections sign if it is deemed to be causing a safety hazard for vehicular traffic. The property owner shall be contacted first in this regard. An effort may be made to contact the sign owner as well.
3. The Municipality takes the position that it is the responsibility of the person putting up a sign on private property to obtain the land owner's permission to do so.

B. MUNICIPAL RESERVE, ENVIRONMENTAL RESERVE AND OTHER MUNICIPAL LANDS

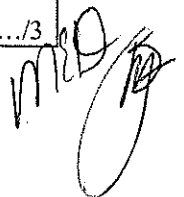
1. Titled properties owned by the Municipal District of Bighorn shall be dealt with in the same manner as privately owned land. Consequently, municipal (land owner) approval is needed prior to any election signage being erected and the Land Use Bylaw regulations apply.

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2. The CAO of the MD of Bighorn shall be responsible for approving, conditionally approving or denying the placement of election signage on titled MD of Bighorn properties such as municipal reserve lands.
3. The MD of Bighorn reserves the right to remove any signage placed on its land without notice to the sign owner.
4. An exception to the foregoing authority shall be made for those properties leased by the Municipality to other parties. In such cases it shall be the lessee's decision as to whether or not to allow election signage on the property.

C. ROAD ALLOWANCES, PLANS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY

1. Election signs will be permitted along municipal roadways for all federal, provincial and municipal elections without the need of municipal approval provided the rules set out in this policy are followed.
2. Signs will be permitted from the date of the election writ or declaration until seven (7) days after the election.
3. The maximum sign size is one square metre for signs located within the road right-of-way.
4. Election signs may be placed such that the edge of the sign is no closer than two metres from the edge of pavement or, in the case of graveled roads, no closer than two metres from the shoulder of the road. It must be recognized that during winter conditions there is a high probability that signs closer than four metres from the road will be either covered with snow or damaged during snow removal and sanding operations. The MD of Bighorn shall not be responsible for any signs damaged for any reason.
5. No election signs are to be mounted on municipal road signs or sign posts. Any signs so mounted will be removed immediately without notice.
6. No election signs are to be located within 250 metres of construction zones.
7. Election signs located in such a manner that they restrict sight distances or create safety concerns shall be removed immediately and relocated by the sign owner if requested by MD of Bighorn staff. If not moved by the sign owner within a reasonable period, Bighorn staff or its contractors will remove the offending sign.

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8. The following types of signs shall not be allowed:
- any signs that display an intermittent, flashing or rotating light;
 - any signs which are flood lit in such a manner as to cause interference or create a hazard to the motoring public;
 - any yard lights, area lighting or other lights that, in the opinion of the Municipality, are excessively distracting to the public or create a traffic hazard.
 - any signs that have moving or rotating parts; and
 - any signs that bear a legend giving a command such as "Stop, Stop Ahead, Caution" etc., or any legend that in any way imitates a standard or commonly used traffic control device.

D. CROWN LAND

1. Election signage placed on land owned by the Provincial or Federal Governments shall generally fall under the authority of those Governments. In particular, there are regulations established by Alberta Transportation regarding signage along highways.
2. In the case of Crown Land that is leased to a person or company, the rules that are set out above for privately owned land shall supply.

Date Approved June 7, 2004

Motion No.: 228/04

CAO

Rescinds Policy No.

Reeve

*** - Denotes change
Motion No.**

MCD

