

## **POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNAGE DURING GENERAL ELECTIONS**

THE FOLLOWING EXCERPTS ARE TAKEN FROM THE TENNESSEE FREEDOM OF SPEECH ACT OF 2017 AND THE CITY OF GALLATIN ZONING ORDINANCE AND PERTAIN TO TEMPORARY SIGNS, WHICH INCLUDE POLITICAL SIGNAGE.

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For 60 days prior to the next general election until the day after the election, the Tennessee Freedom of Speech Act (Public Chapter 294) applies as follows:

- Owners or legal residents may have one political campaign sign or poster per candidate, issue, or subject
- Signs on residential property may be up to 16 square feet in size
- Signs on commercial property may be up to 32 square feet in size
- *Lessors and HOAs are limited in regulating political campaign signs. Specific details can be found in Tennessee Code Annotated Title 2, Chapter 7.*

More than 60 days before an election and two days after a general election, reference the City's rules for all temporary signs, including political campaign signs, below:

- Temporary signs shall be located on private property only.
- Maximum sign area for signs in all Zoning districts is 6 square feet per side for a total of 12 square feet.
- Maximum height for signs is 6 feet with a setback of 5 feet.
- Signs are not allowed in the public right-of-way. Signs placed within the public right-of-way will be removed and discarded. Usually, signs located behind public sidewalks or the utility lines, are outside of the public right-of-way.
- Signs placed in medians or on utility poles will be removed.

In addition, the following types of signs are prohibited in the City of Gallatin at all times:

- Bench signs on public property.
- Freestanding canopy signs.
- Government imitation signs.
- Inflatable animated characters or similar balloon type devices that require tethering when located in a commercially zoned district. Does not include typical latex balloons less than eighteen inches in diameter.
- Moving signs: A sign or device which swings, undulates, or otherwise attracts attention through the movements of parts or through the impression of movement and includes flashing, fluttering, moving,

pennant, revolving, rotating, streamer, windblown, or similar signs or devices. This includes vertical or horizontal wind banners.

- Noisy mechanical devices.
- Parked vehicle signs: Signs placed on or affixed to vehicles and/or trailers that are parked on a right-of-way or on public or private property so as to be visible from a public right-of-way
- Roof signs.
- Searchlights.
- Signs erected in a public right-of-way will be removed.
- Signs interfering or blocking the sight of directional, instructional or warning signs or attached to.
- Signs on natural features, such as trees or other living vegetation and rocks.
- Trailer signs.
- Trash receptacle signs.
- Any sign not specified in the sign ordinance.

The sign ordinance is part of the City of Gallatin Zoning Ordinance which can be found online at <http://www.gallatintn.gov>. Please remember to remove political signs as soon as possible after the election.