



## Political Signs

### “In the right place at the right time”

Citizens can promote their political preferences by displaying political signs. The City recommends citizens review the political sign requirements in Chapter 16, Land Development Regulations, Section 16.40.120 before displaying political signs.

The basic requirements are outlined here.

#### How many signs are allowed and where can they be located?

- No more than one political sign per candidate or issue can be placed on a lot.
- Corner lots may have two (2) signs per candidate or issue, one (1) sign per street facing.
- A sign may also be placed in the right-of-way provided it...
  1. is at least 6 feet back from the curb, or
  2. if there is a sidewalk, it is located on the inside of the sidewalk away from the street.
- No part of any sign can be located on or extend over any portion of the sidewalk.
- Signs may not be located in traffic medians or parkland.

#### Size limits for a single-family residential property and other residential zones:

- Signs must not exceed 6 square feet in area and 8 feet in height.



#### Size limits for non-residential zoning districts:

- Signs must not exceed 32 square feet in area and 8 feet in height.



Municipal Services Center Building – 3rd Floor  
One 4th Street North St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
To report a violation in St. Petersburg: 727-893-7373



### **The following apply to all political signs:**

- Signs must not be illuminated.
- Sign placement must be approved by the property owner.
- The ordinance does not restrict a property owner or tenant occupant from removing signs from the private premises and the adjacent rights-of-way.
- Signs must be removed no later than one week after the election.
- Regardless of who created or installed the sign, the property owner or tenant occupant is responsible for compliance of their property and the adjacent rights-of-way with these regulations.
- Signs may be removed by the City from rights-of-way if they do not comply with City ordinances.

### **Political candidates need to do their paperwork!**

Political candidates or representatives of referendum issues may distribute signs for placement within public rights-of-way, but must comply with the City ordinances and must also file a "hold harmless" agreement defending and holding the City and its employees harmless from any and all claims, liability, costs and expense resulting from the existence of or erection of the sign. The agreement must be filed with the City Clerk prior to the distribution or erection of signs. The agreement requires removal of all signs within one week after the election.

### **Election day exceptions:**

- Between 4:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., political signs not exceeding six square feet can be placed in the right-of-way abutting polling places between the curb or edge of the street pavement and the sidewalk.
- For primary election days, each candidate or issue may have one sign for each street side of a polling place. For general election days, each candidate or issue may have two signs for each street side of a polling place.
- No part of a sign should be placed within four feet of any part of another sign.
- No part of a sign should extend over any portion of the right-of-way that is within two feet of the closest part of the curb or if there is no curb, the pavement or portion of road designed or used for vehicular traffic.
- Polling place signs may be removed by the City if they exceed the height requirements of Chapter 16, Land Development Regulations, Section 16.40.160 while located in the visibility triangle or if they violate any of the provisions of the ordinance.



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This article is provided for informational purposes only. Readers should consult the complete City Code before taking any action affecting property in St. Petersburg.