



WASHOE COUNTY
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Planning and Building Division

1001 EAST 9TH STREET
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Dear Political Candidate:

Congratulations on your decision to pursue elected public service. As you conduct your campaign, you may want to erect campaign signs, and this letter is to inform you about provisions within the Washoe County's Sign Code that may affect your approach to posting your campaign signs.

As a starting point, election period signs may be placed on private property only and you must always obtain a property owner's permission before posting any sign.

The Washoe County Sign Code, Article 505 of the Washoe County Development Code, regulates the duration, size and location of signs during an election period, but only within the unincorporated area of Washoe County. Please adhere to the following rules as they pertain to your campaign signs:

Duration and Permitting: An election period begins the first day of filing for, and ends ten days after, any general election conducted under federal, state, county, or city laws or ordinances in which residents of Washoe County are entitled to vote. A sign permit is not required for any election period sign which otherwise complies with the Washoe County Sign Code.

Number and Size: There is no limit to the number of election period signs placed on a property; however, each sign is limited to 128 square feet in size.

Prohibited Signs: The following election period signs are prohibited:

- Illuminated signs and digital signs
- Signs which constitute a hazard to traffic, motorists or pedestrians
- Signs that block visibility from any intersection or driveway
- Signs which produce odor, sound, smoke, flame or other emissions
- Strobe lights or any moving beam of light
- Signs on public property or public rights-of-way
- Moving signs, including wind signs and signs moved by forced air
- Vertical sail signs

Hand Held Signs: A permit is not required for hand held signs.

Sign Removal: Any sign unlawfully erected on property, easements or rights-of-way owned by a public agency or a privately owned public utility will be removed by either the Sheriff's Office or the Community Services Department. No advance notice of removal will be given, but the signs will be stored for 30 days to allow the sign owner to retrieve the sign.

If a sign is placed on property in violation of the Washoe County Sign Code (see WCC Section 110.505), the County will normally contact and may take action against the property owner where the sign is located.

If you have any questions, please contact: Community Services Department, Planning and Building Code Compliance staff at (775) 328-6106.

Very truly yours,

David Solaro
 Assistant County Manager

