

Election Signs By-law Proposed Amendments

Public Meeting Presentation

November 15, 2021

Timeline

Council directed staff to review and update the Election Signs By-law in 2021

On November 15, 2021, a public meeting is held to receive feedback on the proposed amendments

On October 18, 2021, staff presented Report CPS-2021-073, Election Signs By-law Update to Council

On January 10, 2022, staff will report back to Council on the feedback received. Council to decide on the proposed amendments to the Election Signs By-law

Background

- Current Election Signs By-law was adopted in 2013 and has not since been amended
- The proposed updates seek to:
 - Provide residents, candidates, and third-party advertisers with information that is clear and easy to understand
 - Improve compliance
 - Be reflective of staff resources available for enforcement

Proposed Updates

Proposed Updates

	Current	Proposed
Definitions	11 Definitions	21 Definitions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New definitions for clarity• Enhanced existing definitions
Signs can be erected within any Zone	Permitted in any zone	Unchanged
Sign dimensions permitted	<p>On Public Property (municipal road allowance):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.5 metres squared in sign area• 2 metres in height <p>On Private Property:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 metres squared in sign area• 2 metres in height	<p>On all permitted properties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1.5 metres squared in sign area• 2 metres in height

Proposed Updates

	Current	Proposed
Display type	None established	Prohibited use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Town logo, crest, seal, or public property• Animation, containing video display elements or illumination
Placement date	None established	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signs cannot be erected earlier than nomination day• Prior to the issuing of a writ for a provincial or federal election
Display Locations (prohibited)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signs which impede pedestrian or vehicular traffic, as determined by Director of Public Works• Placement of signs in municipal parks or other municipal properties• Without the consent of the property owner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On a highway that interferes with the sightlines and safe movement or visibility of a vehicular traffic, cyclists or pedestrians• Without the consent of the property owner• On Public Property <p>Additional Prohibited Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roadway (includes medians and areas used for vehicular traffic)• On any Official Sign (traffic sign or government regulated sign)• On a tree• At a voting place

Proposed Updates

	Current	Proposed
Removal & Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clauses and/or provisions established a framework for removal and storage not included in the By-law	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Signs are to be removed within three (3) days after the day of an election• Officers may remove a sign without notice• The Town will recover costs for the removal and storage of signs.• Candidates may retrieve the signs free of charge within three (3) business days of being notified by the Town. A fee of \$25.00 per day will be charged thereafter.• The Town will store the signs for sixty (60) days after their removal. Following that period, the signs will become the property of the Town and may be destroyed.• The Town may recover the costs payable for the removal and storage of election signs.
Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None established	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A section included in the By-law outlining the process for an Officer to make an Order with respect to a contravention of the By-law

Proposed Updates

Enforcement and Penalties	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be carried out by a municipal officer (municipal by-law enforcement officer, police officer, the Clerk or any other person authorized)• Any person who contravenes any provision of this by-law is guilty of an offence and on conviction is liable to a penalty not exceeding \$5,000 for each offence, exclusive of costs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To be conducted by an Officer (a police officer, by-law enforcement officer, or any other person appointed by by-law to enforce this by-law)• Addition of clauses with respect to the powers of an Officer in the enforcement of this by-law (including access to land or lot and records, and inspection powers)• Penalties: Every person who contravenes any provision of this By-law or an Order issued pursuant to this By-law, and every director or officer of a corporation, who knowingly concurs in the contravention by a corporation is guilty of an offence and upon conviction is liable to: (a) on a first offence, to a fine not more than \$50,000.00; and (b) on a second offence and each subsequent offence, to a fine of not more than \$100,000.00
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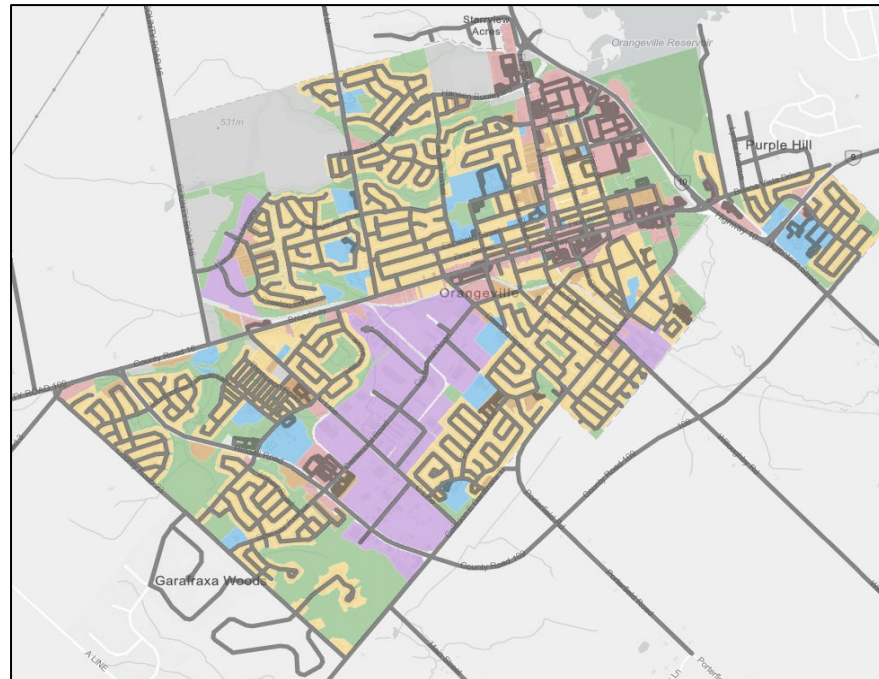
Additional Considerations

In consideration of Report CPS-2021-073 at the October 18, 2021 meeting, Council requested further information regarding the following:

- Prohibiting election signs on public property, with a particular focus on boulevards in residential areas
- Number of signs per designated area
- Restricting the number of days that election signs may be erected for municipal elections

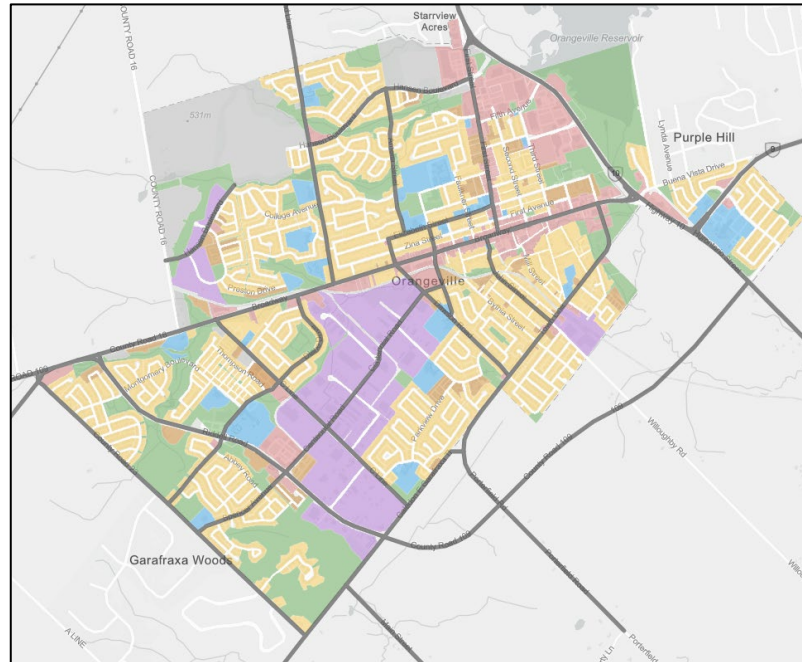
Prohibiting election signs on public property

Option #1: permits election signs on the right-of-way (including boulevards) of any Town-owned road.



Prohibiting election signs on public property

Option #2: Election signs only permitted on the rights-of-way of Town-owned arterial and collector roads.



Number of signs per designated area :

Recommendation that no limits be imposed on the number of signs that may be erected on public or private property.

Restricting the number of days:

Recommendation that the permitted period for the erection of signs begin on nomination day