

## Election signage

**Election signage on council roads promoting candidates for Local, State & Federal elections is managed by Sunshine Coast Council.**

Sunshine Coast Council is committed to providing a well-managed region that promotes and attracts visitors while ensuring a safe and healthy environment.

Election signage is regulated where the sign poses risks and hazards to the public.

### Defining election signage

An election sign is any portable, self-supporting sign or other advertising device publicising an election, a candidate for an election, a referendum or the subject of a referendum.

### General guidelines for placing election signage

Council may address election signage where the placement or structure may present a risk to the community.

To mitigate risks created by the placement of signage council provide the following guidelines:

#### Construction guidelines:

On public land the election sign must:

- be no greater than 0.6m<sup>2</sup> in size
- be made of a material that is designed to be easily broken
- not rotate or be illuminated
- not use reflective or fluorescent materials

On private land the election sign must:

- have a building approval if the structure for the sign is more than 2m in height and 1.2m in width

#### Location guidelines

The election signs must:

- not be located so as to distract motorists, restrict sight distances on approaches to intersections, obstruct the

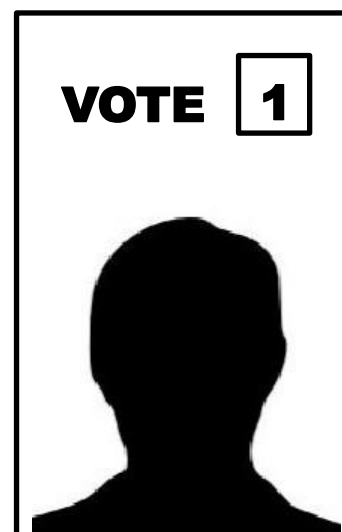
view of traffic signs or otherwise impact on safety

- not be within 3.5 metres from the edge of the nearest traffic lane where the speed limit on the road is 80km or less
- signs must not be within 6 metres from the edge of the nearest traffic lane where the speed limit on the road is more than 80km
- not be on roundabouts or within 20 metres of the approach to a roundabout;
- not be within 10 metres of an intersection
- not be on medium strips and
- not interfere with pedestrian access

#### Placement guidelines

On public land the election sign must:

- not be attached to vegetation
- not be attached to Council infrastructure (e.g. trees, vegetation, road signs, guard rails etc.)
- be located as practical as possible to the property boundary
- not hinder the flow of traffic, protrude over the road or interfere with the road's operation
- not obstruct pedestrians, cyclists or people using a mobility device



## How do I report election signage placed on council and state-controlled roads?

You have several options for reporting election signage placed on roads that do not comply with the conditions for placing election signage:

- Go to council's website and select 'request a council service online' from the 'Contact Council' page
- Send council an email
- Contact us via phone

When you contact us with your request please ensure you have the following information: a description of the sign including the name of the candidate. We will also need the specific location of the sign to assist us in locating it for investigation.

## What will council do about an election sign that does not comply?

Council will assess the sign against the relevant guidelines and any other identified safety risks.

Officers will address the sign with the relevant candidate and request the sign be relocated to a safer position.

Where the candidate does not or cannot relocate the sign, or there is an immediate risk to the community, council will impound the sign and return it to the candidate's nominated local address.

Impounded signs which cannot be returned to the candidate will be held for 28 days to allow the candidate, or their authorised representative to collect them. At the end of 28 days any signs not collected will be destroyed.

Current as at July 2020

**Sunshine Coast Council**

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