

***2015  
POLITICAL  
SIGN  
REGULATIONS***

**CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**Includes:**

**City of Battle Ground**

**City of Camas**

**City of La Center**

**City of Ridgefield**

**City of Vancouver**

**City of Washougal**

**Clark County**

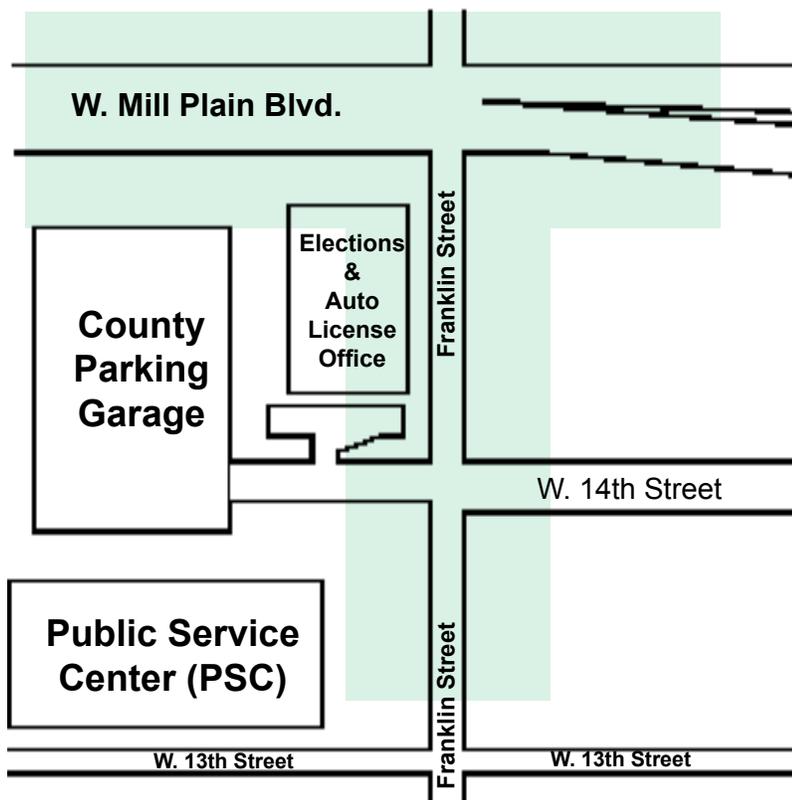
**Washington Dept. of Transportation**

## INTRODUCTION

Washington State law prohibits campaign signs from being placed within 300 feet of the entrance to a polling place.

With the change to all mail ballot voting, the Elections Office is Clark County's only polling place. Campaign signs should not be placed within 300 feet of the Elections Office. The diagram below illustrates the area near the Elections Office where campaign signs should not be placed.

***Twenty Day No Campaign Sign Zone***  
*(300 feet from Elections Office entrances - shaded area)*





## **POLITICAL SIGN GUIDELINES**

The City of Battle Ground's Sign Ordinance identifies election-oriented signage as temporary signage, which are generally exempt from signage regulations and standards specified in Battle Ground Municipal Code Section 17.139. However, as per BGMC 17.139.120 (D) does require the candidate, promoters and opponents of ballot measures of their campaign committees to complete and submit a volunteer compliance form for placement and removal of signs. Removal of these signs shall be within 15 days of election. Election-oriented signage shall not be located within the public right-of-way, and may be located on private property with the property owner's authorization only. Any election-oriented signage that it located within the public right-of-way will be removed and signage will be discarded.

Further questions regarding signage regulations in the City of Battle Ground should be directed to City of Battle Ground Community Development Department at 360-342-5047.

### **CHAPTER 17.139: SIGNS**

Subsection 040.7.z. "Temporary sign" means any sign or advertising display constructed of cloth, wood canvas, light fabric, paper or other materials with or without frames intended to be displayed for a limited time only as determined by the planning director, and not permanently mounted. Temporary signs include special event signs that advertise civic events such as street fairs, community festivals, parades, farmer's markets charity benefits, signs attached to external window surfaces and that are readily removable, lettering or symbols painted directly onto of flush mounted magnetically onto an operable vehicle, garage sale signs, pennants, reasonable temporary and seasonal decorations, construction signs, election-oriented political signs and new business/location signs or other such similar signs as determined by the Planning Director.

To: City of Battle Ground  
Community Development Department  
109 SW 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite #127  
Battle Ground, WA 98604

File No: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

**VOLUNTARY PLEDGE TO COMPLY**  
**WITH**  
**BATTLE GROUND POLITICAL SIGN GUIDELINES**

WE THE UNDERSIGNED, hereby voluntarily pledge to comply with the City of Battle Ground political sign guidelines as outlined in BGMC 17.139.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate number of signs: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate size of signs: \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF PERSON RUNNING FOR OFFICE OR BALLOT MEASURE:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**CONTACT PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR REMOVAL OF SIGNS (Within 15 Days of Election)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**STAFF ENTRY ONLY**

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# CITY OF CAMAS

## Political Sign Regulations

### Camas Municipal Code § 18.15.040 - General definitions and regulations

#### B. Sign Types

20. "Temporary sign" means a sign that is used in connection with a circumstance, situation, or event that is designed, intended or expected to take place or to be completed within a reasonably short or definite period after erection of such sign; or is intended to remain on the location where it is erected or placed for a short period of time (Refer to additional requirements in Section 18.15.100 CMC). "Temporary signs" include, but are not limited to the following examples:

- a. Political signs advocating political candidates or political issues;
- b. Real estate signs advertising property for sale or lease;
- c. Construction signs identifying the builder of a structure or the developer of a residential, commercial or industrial development;
- d. Special event signs or banners advertising grand openings, fairs, carnivals, circuses, festivals; or
- e. Community events, garage and yard sale signs, and any other sign of a similar purpose.

### Camas Municipal Code § 18.15.050 Signs controlled by zoning district

The following table identifies signs by zoning district as permitted (P), prohibited (X), or only allowed with a Conditional Use Permit (C). All permitted signs are subject to the requirements of this chapter, and any other applicable sections of CMC. If dimensions of a sign vary by zone, then it is noted in this table.

**Table 1 - Signs controlled by Zoning district**

(Excerpt of Table - Full Table available online at <http://www.ci.camass.wa.us>)

Sign Types as defined in this chapter	Residential and Multi-family Zones	Commercial and Industrial Zones	LI/BP Zone
Temporary sign (e.g. construction signs, real estate, banners, and other sign types as defined in this chapter)	P <sup>1</sup>	P <sup>2, 3</sup>	P <sup>2,3</sup>

#### Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> Sign may not exceed six square feet in area per lot unless approved with a Master Sign Permit.
- <sup>2</sup> Sign may not exceed ten percent of the size of the wall area in combination with all other permitted signs on the same plane and visible from public view unless approved with a Master Sign Permit.
- <sup>3</sup> If lot is vacant, then sign is limited to ninety-six square feet.

### Camas Municipal Code § 18.15.100 Temporary signs

A. Temporary signs are exempt from permit requirements as described in this section. Although no permits will be issued, compliance with this chapter is required. Temporary signs may be permitted with a Master Sign Permit as described in this chapter.

- 1. Number. One sign per lot, per candidate, issue or event.
- 2. Size. Refer to "Table 1" of this chapter for sign dimensions per zoning district and bonuses as allowed with a Master Sign Permit.

3. Consent. If displayed on private property, the responsible party must obtain consent of property owner.

B. Temporary signs may not be illuminated.

C. Removal. Temporary signs shall be removed by sign owner within ten days after occurrence of the event. For example, political signs should therefore be removed within ten days following an election, real estate signs should be removed within ten days following sale or lease of the property, constructions signs should be removed within ten days following issuance of the certificate of occupancy for the building, special event signs should be removed within ten days after occurrence of the special event, and yard and garage sale signs should be removed within ten days following the sale.

D. Confiscation. The city or property owner may confiscate signs installed in violation of this chapter and dispose of it. The property owner is not responsible for notifying owners of confiscation of illegal sign. (Ord. No. 2600, § II, 11-1-2010)

**Camas Municipal Code § 18.17.030 - Vision Clearance**

On all corner lots no vehicle, fence, wall, hedge, or other obstructive structure or planting shall impede visibility between a height of forty-two inches and ten feet above the sidewalk or fourteen feet above the street and ten feet above the street.

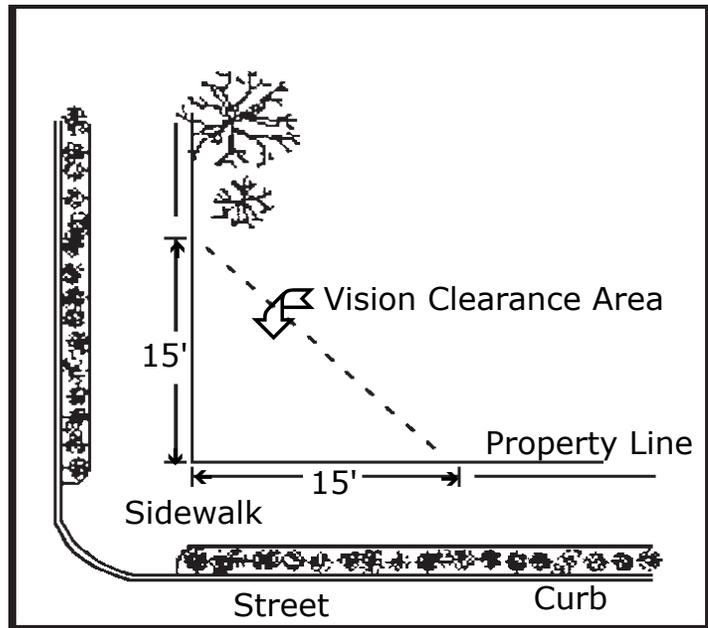


Figure 18.17.030-1 Vision Clearance

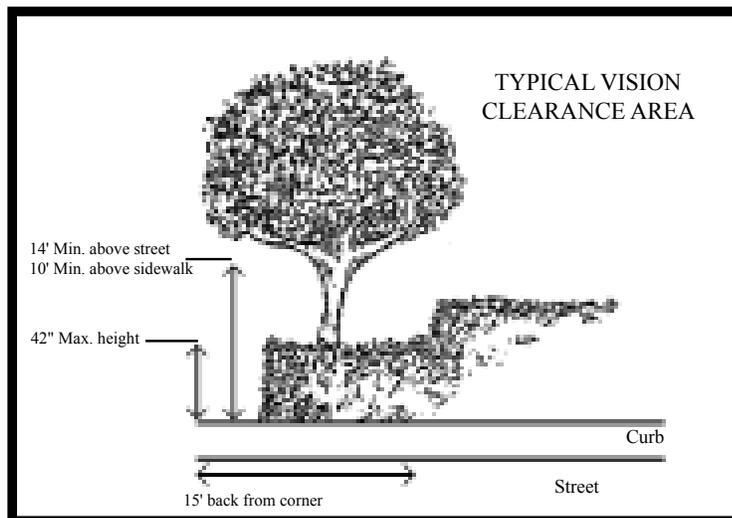


Figure 18.17.030-2 Vision Clearance Area



## **POLITICAL CAMPAIGN SIGNS**

City of La Center Ordinance No. 2014-01, Chapter 18.275 Sign Regulations  
(Effective March, 2014)

Political campaign signs are considered temporary signs and do not require a permit so long as they meet all criteria for a temporary sign. The information below is a summary of the local sign regulations related to political campaign signs.

Temporary Signs mean an unlit sign that will become obsolete after the occurrence of an event or series of events. To qualify as a temporary sign, the sign area shall not exceed four square feet, have no part of the sign higher than three feet above ground level and have no more than two faces. The sign may not be located on a sidewalk or in the vehicle travel portion of the right-of-way. The sign must be removed within 14 calendar days after the event to which the sign pertains or within 120 days from when the sign is erected, whichever occurs first.

Temporary Signs do not require a permit. With property owner consent, it may be placed on private property but may not be attached to a building, utility or governmental pole/post. It may be placed in the public right-of-way so long as it does not obstruct or interfere in any way with the public's ability to clearly view governmental signs, traffic, visibility or passage within the public right-of-way, including vehicle travel lanes, sidewalks and bike lanes.

There is no limit on the number of temporary signs so long as they do not create or exacerbate an existing traffic or pedestrian safety hazard and all signs comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 18.275 of the La Center Municipal Code.

Please be responsible and respectful when placing and removing signs. If sign placement requires a locate request (call before you dig) the individual installing the sign assumes all responsibilities under RCW 19.122.

Contact information: La Center Public Works Department, 305 NW Pacific Hwy., La Center, Washington 98629. (360) 263-7665. To view the municipal code in its entirety, visit [www.ci.lacenter.wa.us](http://www.ci.lacenter.wa.us).

# CITY OF RIDGEFIELD

For the purpose of endorsing political candidates or ballot propositions, temporary political signs are permitted without a sign permit or fee subject to all of the following provisions:

**1. Size of Signs.** Political signs located in the public right-of-way as set forth in subsection 3 shall be limited to a maximum surface area of 5 square feet with a maximum height of 5 feet. The maximum square footage shall be based upon one side of the sign. Signs may be two-sided.

**2. Signs on Private Property.** Political signs may be erected upon any private property with the permission of the property owner, resident, or respective agent. In cases of vacant property, or where there is no occupied structure on the property, political signs may be placed thereon with the written consent of the property owner or his agent.

**3. Political Signs on the Public Right-of-way.** For purposes of this section, the public right-of-way shall mean that portion of the public right-of-way located next to a street between the roadway and the adjacent private property open to the public for general pedestrian passage, including the buffer/planting strip. Political signs may be posted preceding a primary, general or special election within the public right-of-way only if the signs do not create a traffic obstruction or hazard or impair or impede pedestrian thoroughfares and comply with all requirements of this section. Political signs located in the public right-of-way shall only be attached to a self-supporting wood stick(s), metal post, or other such devices, shall not be attached to any other structures and shall not be erected in any manner which would damage the surface infrastructure in which the sign is located.

**4. Unauthorized Signs on City Property.** Unauthorized signs of any nature located on City-owned or maintained property are prohibited and shall be immediately removed unless specifically authorized by law. City-owned or maintained property shall include all property held in the City's name or controlled by easement or other legal devices, including all adjacent portions of the public right-of-way.

**5. Erection and Removal of Signs.** Political signs may be posted preceding a primary, general or special election. Political signs shall not be displayed longer than 15 days after the date the election was held for which the sign was intended. In cases where a general election follows a primary election, those signs for candidates whose names will appear on the ballot in the general election may be displayed during the interim period and up to 15 days after the date the general election is held. It shall be the responsibility of the property owner or occupant, if the sign is located on private property, or the respective candidate, if the sign is located on the public right-of-way, to have the signs removed. Signs that have not been removed within 15 days of the election will be subject to the enforcement actions under RDC 18.395.



415 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St. • P.O. Box 1995  
Vancouver, WA 98668-1995  
[www.cityofvancouver.us](http://www.cityofvancouver.us)

March 18, 2015

Dear Candidates and Committee Members:

Every political season generates considerable citizen comment regarding the number, construction and placement of political signs during election campaigns. I am writing to familiarize you with Vancouver's sign regulations and policies regarding political signs. I am also writing to urge you to make a voluntary pledge to comply with a program to minimize the visual blight that the political season can engender, especially in some of Vancouver's most beautiful and historic areas.

Vancouver sign regulations prohibit<sup>1</sup> the following:

- Posting of any signs on trees, structures or installations upon a public street. This includes no posting of signs on telephone poles, utility cabinets, fire hydrants, streetlights or parking meters.
- Posting of any signs on any property (including abutting parking strips) without the consent of the owner or owner's agent.
- Posting of any signs on City owned or leased property without the consent of the City. (See the attached policy regarding "Political Signs on City Property")
- Placement of any sight obscuring object, including but not limited to signs, within any required yard area between 30 inches and 10 feet above the street grade within the triangular vision clearance area as shown in the attached diagrams.
- Signs and sign support structures that are not constructed to resist being overturned by wind.

I believe that there is widespread community support to go beyond these minimum legal requirements to keep Vancouver's street rights-of-way and public areas free of the clutter of unlimited political signs. You are also no doubt aware of court decisions which limit the ability of the City to prohibit this unsightly clutter along our City streets.

We are therefore requesting that all candidates, promoters and opponents of ballot measures and their campaign committees to voluntarily pledge to abide by Vancouver's voluntary guidelines for political signs and to limit the use of political

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<sup>1</sup> This list is meant to provide a short synopsis of what is contained in Vancouver's ordinances. It is not meant to be exhaustive, and any discrepancy between this list and the text of the Vancouver Municipal Code is resolved in favor of the Code.

signage in street rights-of-way, medians, traffic islands, and circles and in particular to keep political signs out of the street rights-of-way in Vancouver's most scenic and historic areas. We ask that no signs be placed in the historic or scenic areas such as Officer's Row and Vancouver's National Historic Reserve a portion of which is also subject to federal restrictions as described in the attached policy.

Also enclosed is a pledge form we are asking you to sign as your promise to Vancouver and its citizens that you will abide by these voluntary guidelines. Please file this form with the City Clerk's Office, 415 W 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Vancouver, Washington, 98660.

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Turner, Land Use Manager, at 360-487-7883 or via email ([greg.turner@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:greg.turner@cityofvancouver.us)).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric J. Holmes". The signature is stylized with a large initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Eric J. Holmes  
City Manager

Encl: Political Sign Guidelines  
Pledge Form  
WSDOT Letter re: Signs on Overpass

cc Carrie Lewellen, Deputy City Clerk  
Chad Eiken, Director of Community and Economic Development

# **City of Vancouver Political Campaign Sign Regulations and Guidelines**

## **City Ordinances prohibit:**

- Posting of any signs on trees, structures or installations on a public street. This includes no posting of signs on telephone poles, utility cabinets, fire hydrants, streetlights, or parking meters.
- Posting of any signs on any property (including abutting parking strips) without the consent of the owner or owner's agent.
- Posting of any signs on City owned or leased property including City parks without the consent of the City. (But see "Political Signs on City Property" below.)
- Placement of any sight obscuring object, including but not limited to signs within any required yard area between 30 inches and 10 feet above the street grade within the triangular vision clearance area as shown in the attached diagrams.
- Signs and sign support structures that are not constructed to resist being overturned by wind.

## **Political signs on City Property:**

RCW 42.17.130 provides that public facilities may not be used, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of assisting a campaign for election of any person to any office or for the promotion of or opposition to any ballot proposition.

Washington courts have held that the First Amendment and the State Constitution's freedom of speech provisions limit local governments' authority to regulate political speech in a "traditional public forum" such as city rights of way.

In keeping with the statutory prohibition but respecting First Amendment issues, political signs may not be posted or placed on any City owned or leased property except as follows:

- As part of a political demonstration or similar political event held in a traditional public forum on City-owned or leased property. These locations would include those portions of City parks or other City properties which are traditional public forums. (e.g. The plaza in front of City Hall.) This would not include any City building or facility is not a traditional public forum, such as the interior of City Hall, Marshall Center, and other City offices and work facilities. All signage must be promptly removed following the end of the event.
- Political signs may be placed within City right of way such as parking strips, medians, traffic islands, traffic circles and other roadside areas; provided there is no triangular vision clearance or line of sight problem as described herein created by placement of the sign and that such placement does not create traffic safety issues or damage to irrigation lines for vegetation maintenance. Improperly placed signs, and signs that are placed in an area where road maintenance needs to be performed, may be removed and are available for pickup at the Operations Center for thirty (30) days.
- To identify or direct participants to a political function in a rented City facility which is generally made available by the City on a content-neutral basis to private or non-profit entities – e.g. rented meeting or banquet rooms at Luepke Center, Marshall Center or Firstenburg Center. Signs shall

be subject to the terms of any lease or use agreement for the specific facility and shall bear a notation stating that the event is not sponsored or endorsed by the City of Vancouver.

#### Voluntary Candidate Guidelines:

The City of Vancouver believes, based on citizen comments, that there is widespread community support for minimizing the clutter of political signs in the public right of way. Citizens generally comment that a proliferation of signs obstructs their view of traffic and pedestrians at intersections, makes the community look cluttered and interferes with public travel and convenience when they walk or must maneuver to avoid signs posted in parking strips.

In addition to compliance with the City ordinances and state laws described above, the City of Vancouver asks for the voluntary commitment of candidates, supporters and opponents of ballot measures, and their campaign committees to follow these guidelines:

- To ensure that political signs will not be placed in street rights-of-way on or near:
  - o Parking strips in areas where members of the public frequently enter and exit vehicles.
  - o Medians, traffic islands, and traffic circles.
  - o Scenic or historical areas such as Officers' Row, the Vancouver National Historic Reserve area, and City parks and recreation areas. Signage of any kind is prohibited in City parks. (Those areas of the Historic Reserve which are federal property are governed by different regulations and questions regarding such regulation should be directed to the Department of Defense or National Park Service).
- To not display political signs that resemble traffic control devices. If such signage is deemed to be a traffic hazard or distraction, it will be removed.
- To remove political signs from street rights-of-way within fifteen (15) days after the election. (e.g. by making certain that each campaign committee has a master key map of locations and a schedule for picking up signs within that time frame.)

Attached is a pledge form, which the City asks candidates, committee members, and promoters or opponents of ballot propositions to sign as a voluntary agreement to abide by these guidelines. Please fill out this form and forward it to the City Clerk's Office.

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Turner, Land User Manager, at 360-487-7883, via email ([greg.turner@cityofvancouver.us](mailto:greg.turner@cityofvancouver.us)) or visit his office at 415 W. 6th Street, Vancouver, WA.

Thank you.

**To:** City Clerk's Office  
610 Esther Street  
PO Box 1995  
Vancouver WA 98668

**File No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date Received:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Voluntary Pledge to Comply with Vancouver Political Signs Guidelines**

**WE THE UNDERSIGNED, hereby voluntarily pledge to comply with the City of Vancouver political sign guidelines.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate number of signs:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME OF PERSON RUNNING FOR OFFICE OR BALLOT MEASURE:**

\_\_\_\_\_

### **PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR REMOVAL OF SIGNS**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_

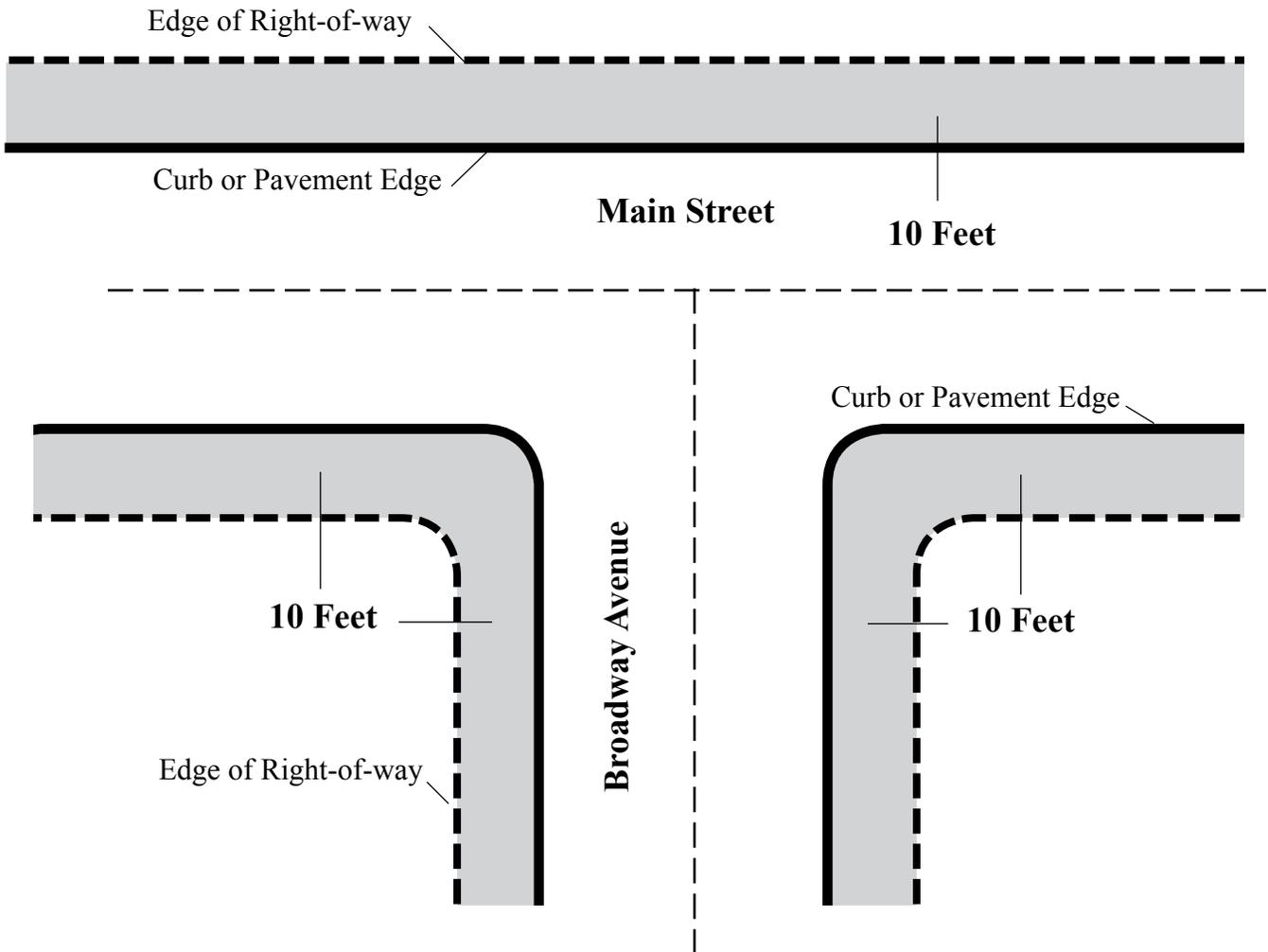
**Received by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **this** \_\_\_\_\_ **day of** \_\_\_\_\_ **2010.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

***CITY OF VANCOUVER***  
***Voluntary Compliance Guideline Diagram***

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*Please do not place signs within the shaded areas.*

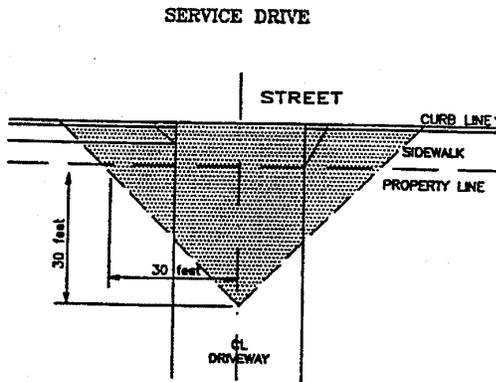
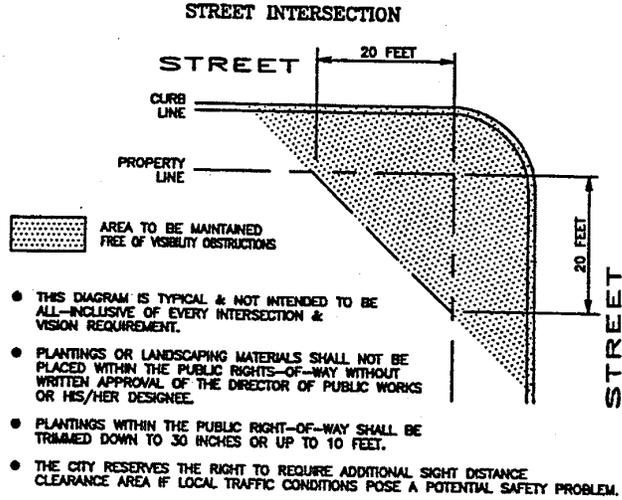


# CITY OF VANCOUVER

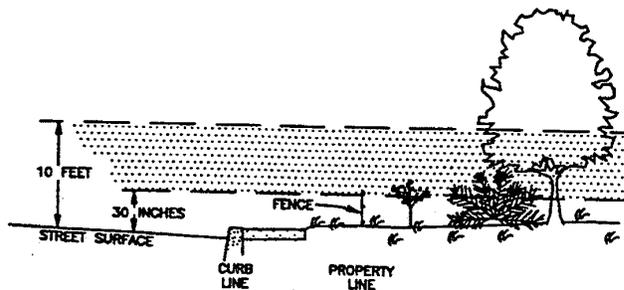
## Triangular Vision Clearance Area Diagrams

VMC 20.985.020 disallows any sight obstruction at a street intersection or service drive interfering with the view of the operation of motor vehicles on the streets to such an extent as to constitute a traffic hazard.

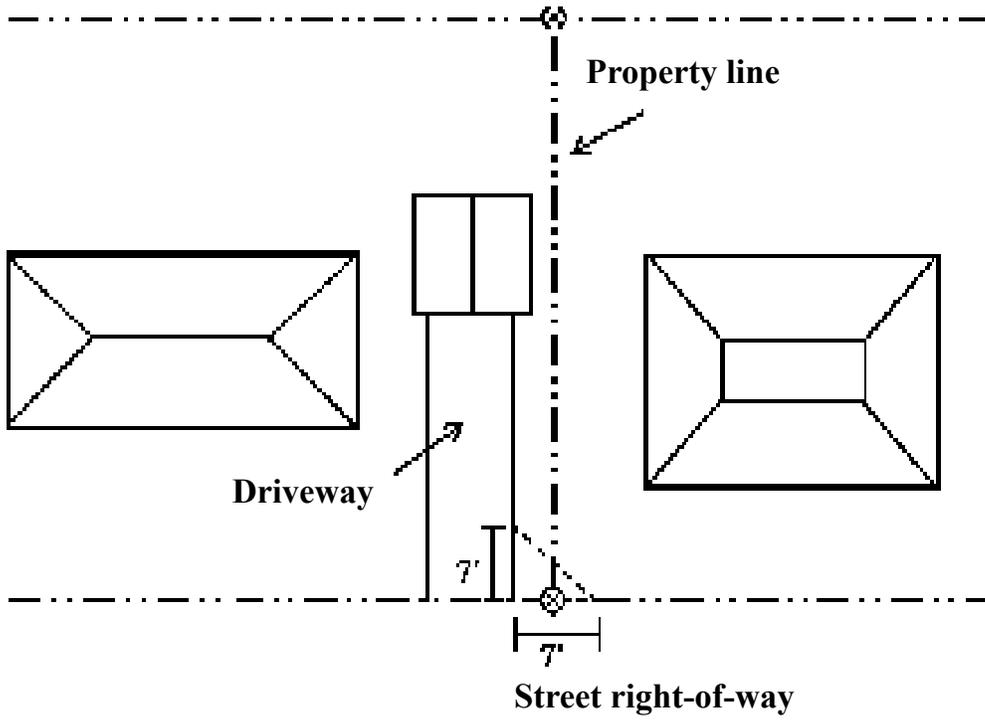
VMC 20.960.030 categorically prohibits any sign that substantially obstructs free and clear vision of exit, traffic intersection entrance, traffic sign or signal, or constitute a traffic hazard.



AREA TO BE MAINTAINED FREE OF VISIBILITY OBSTRUCTIONS



Vancouver WA Zoning Ordinance



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**Vision clearance requirement for private driveway**

(M-3701, Amended, 05/02/2005, Sec. 37; M-3643, Added, 01/26/2004)

**CITY OF WASHOUGAL  
POLITICAL SIGN PLACEMENT**

**NAME OF PERSON RUNNING FOR OFFICE OR REFERENDUM NUMBER:**

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**APPLICANT:**

---

Name Phone

---

Address

---

City State Zip

---

Approximate number of signs to be placed within the city? E-mail Address

**PERSON REMOVING SIGNS (If not the same as APPLICANT):  
(Signs shall be removed within 10 days following the election to which such sign is directed)**

---

Name Phone

---

Address

---

City State Zip

---

E-mail Address

---

Signature of Applicant Date

---

**Approval by the Community Development Director:**

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Signature Date

1701 "C" Street  
(360) 835-8501 Phone

Washougal, WA 98671  
Fax (360) 835-8808

## POLITICAL SIGN CRITERIA

“**Political** sign” means a sign which announces, promotes or advertises the name, program or political party of any candidate for public office, or an opinion regarding a public referendum regarding some political issue in an upcoming election.

“On-premises sign” means a sign which carries only advertisements strictly related to a lawful use by the occupant of the premises on which it is located, including signs or sign devices indicating the business transacted, services rendered, goods sold or produced on the premises, name of the business, and name of the person, firm or corporation occupying the premises. “On-premises sign” also means a sign, which contains religious, **political**, social and other noncommercial messages.

**Political** signs shall not exceed one per abutting street on any given lot. Signs shall be removed within 10 days following the election to which such sign is directed.

Sight lines for the safe travel of vehicles and to traffic control devices (signs, signals, etc.) shall not be obscured by **political** signs.



proud past, promising future

CLARK COUNTY  
WASHINGTON

## BOARD OF CLARK COUNTY COUNCILORS

Tom Mielke • David Madore • Jeanne E. Stewart

March 4, 2015

Dear Candidates and Committee Members:

Election season often prompts questions and concerns about placement of political signs in unincorporated Clark County. With this letter we would like to ensure that you are familiar with local regulations, policies and practices, which reflect widespread voter support to keep right of ways clear of clutter.

Requirements are as follows:

- A special registration must be submitted to place political signs in unincorporated Clark County. A registration application is included, following this page. Registrations are also available at no cost from the Department of Community Development, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, WA 98666 in their 1st Floor Permit Center. Completed registrations are accepted 8am-3pm Monday to Friday.
- Signs may not be placed in locations that would constitute traffic hazards. If you are advised by county staff of hazardous placement, please remove the sign immediately.
- Political signs must be removed within 15 days after the election. Campaigns with a master map of sign locations and pickup schedule will find it easier to comply.
- Displaying political signs that resemble traffic control signs is prohibited (CCC 40.310 (D) 5).

In addition to these requirements, it is our custom to request that candidates and promoters of ballot measures voluntarily commit to keep signs out of right-of-ways. A diagram showing recommended placement along roads is enclosed to assist you in complying with this request. A copy of the commitment form is also included. Please file this form along with your registration application.

If you have any questions, please call the Department of Community Development at 360-397-2375 extension 4998, or visit their office at 1300 Franklin St, 1st Floor, in Vancouver.

Thank you for your cooperation and I wish you the best of luck on all your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

David Madore, Chair

Enclosures

- Registration application
- Right-of-way agreement
- Diagram of sign placement

Submit to:  
Department of Community Development  
Permit Services Division  
1300 Franklin Street  
Vancouver, WA 98666-9810  
(360) 397-2375

File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

### APPLICATION FOR POLITICAL SIGNS PERMIT

**WE THE UNDERSIGNED**, hereby make application under the terms of Section 18.409.040 (F), Clark County Code, to erect political signs.

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate number of signs: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PERSON RUNNING FOR OFFICE OR BALLOT REFERENDUM #  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR REMOVAL OF SIGNS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

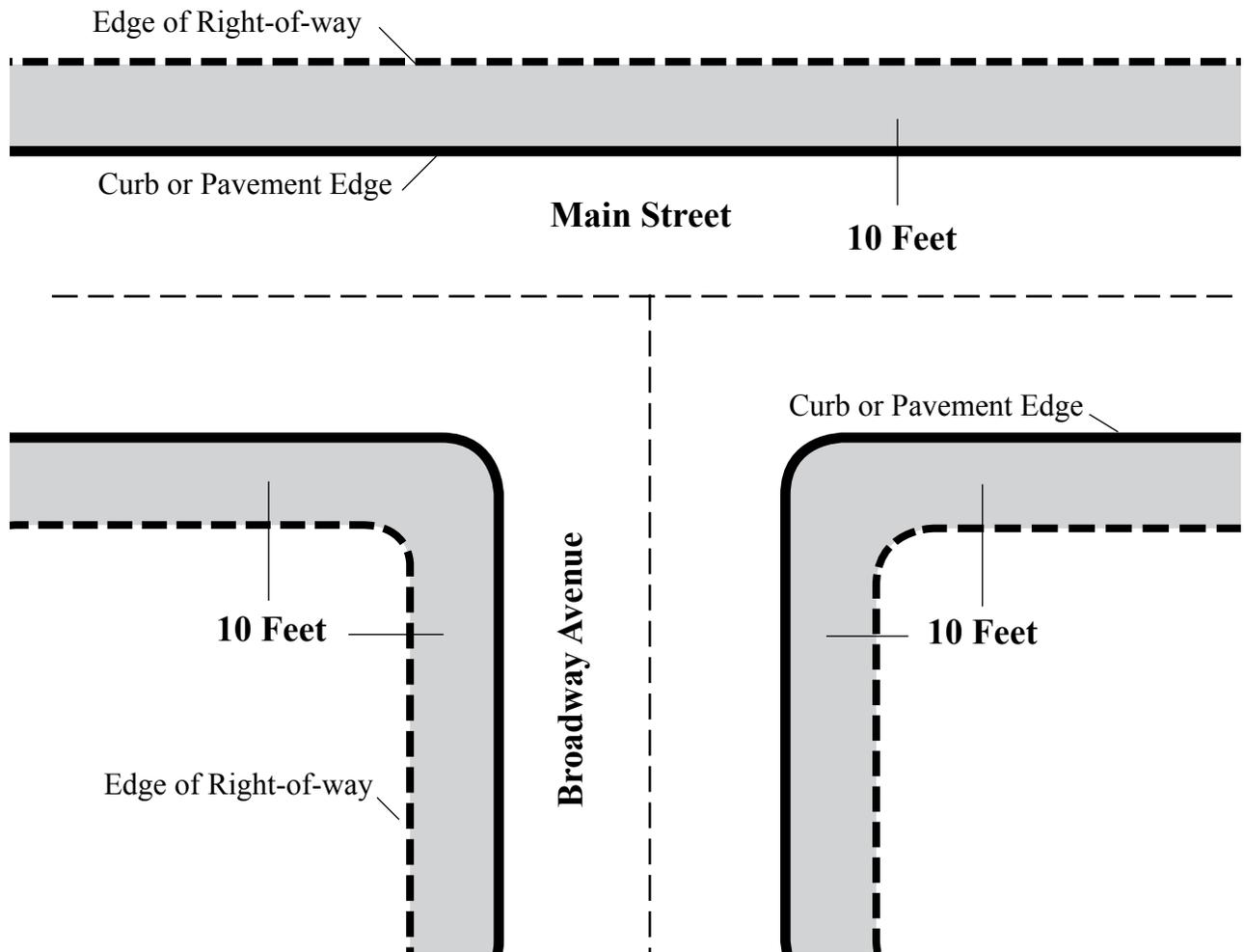
Approved by the Director of Planning this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# CLARK COUNTY Placement Diagrams for Political Signs

*We discourage the placement of signs over 3 feet in height upon public property. CCC 12.05A.250 prohibits placement in such a manner as to obstruct the vision of motorists. Removal of all political signs is required after the election.*

**Diagram #1**



**SIGN PLACEMENT COMMITMENT**

**The undersigned candidate or committee official hereby agrees that best efforts will be employed to ensure that political signs of such candidate (or ballot propositions) will not be placed within road rights-of-way.**

**Name of candidate / ballot proposition:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**\_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:**\_\_\_\_\_



**Washington State  
Department of Transportation**

Lynn Peterson  
Secretary of Transportation

Transportation Building  
310 Maple Park Avenue S.E.  
P.O. Box 47300  
Olympia, WA 98504-7300  
360-705-7000  
TTY: 1-800-833-6388  
[www.wsdot.wa.gov](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov)

Dear Candidate:

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) wishes to take this opportunity to advise political candidates about the placement of campaign signs and placards along state highways.

Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 47.42, the Highway Advertising Control Act, regulates signing on Interstate highways, Primary highways, and highways that are part of the Scenic and Recreational System. Signs erected on private property adjacent to these highways must comply with the Highway Advertising Control Act, rules contained in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 468-66, and applicable local agency sign codes.

In accordance with WAC 468-66-050, ***Sign Classifications and Specific Provisions***, temporary political campaign signs are identified and regulated as a type of on-premise sign intended to express a property owner's endorsement of a political candidate or initiative. Prior to placing signs, WSDOT recommends checking with the property owner for approval, and to determine property line locations. Campaign signs are allowed under the following regulations:

- 1) Temporary political campaign signs are limited to a maximum size of thirty-two square feet
- 2) Temporary political campaign signs must be removed within ten days following the election
- 3) Sign installers must have permission of the underlying property owner prior to placing signs
- 4) Temporary political campaign signs are subject to all other applicable provisions of RCW 47.42 and WAC 468-66 that pertain to Type 3 on-premise signs

In addition to the above restrictions, **the erection of temporary political campaign signs within the right-of-way of all state highways is prohibited. Accordingly, signs placed within the right-of-way of any state highway are subject to removal by the Washington State Department of Transportation.**

Also, RCW 47.36.180(1) states in part that it is unlawful to erect any structure, sign, or device visible from a city street, county road, or state highway that simulates any directional, warning, or danger sign likely to be mistaken for such a sign. Therefore, a campaign sign cannot be designed in a manner that resembles an official traffic control sign.

If you should have any questions about the placement of campaign signs along state highways, please contact Pat O'Leary at (360) 705-7296 or [olearyp@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:olearyp@wsdot.wa.gov)

We sincerely hope that candidates for public office will observe the laws and regulations enacted to limit driver distraction and protect and preserve the roadside beauty of our state. Thank you in advance for your courtesy in this matter.

***Washington State Department of Transportation***