

Election Signs

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Fact Sheet

Election signs

Logan City Council supports freedom of communication in regards to political or government matters by candidates and political parties which includes the exhibition of election signs for local government, state government and federal government elections.

This fact sheet is provided to assist candidates and other persons involved in elections to reduce impacts that may be caused by the exhibition of election signs.

An election sign is a sign of any kind that publicises a matter in relation to an election.

An election sign may only be exhibited in a manner prescribed under Council's local laws.

No licence or permit is required under Council's local laws for the exhibition of an election sign.

Prescribed criteria for election signs

An election sign must comply with the following criteria:

- The election sign must be kept in good order and repair
- The election sign must not be exhibited on Council property
- The election sign must not be exhibited so as to constitute a risk to public safety, road safety or obstruct the use of a road
- The election sign must have a surface area not exceeding 1.1m², unless the election sign is displayed on an approved advertisement.

Election signs on private property

Council officers can take action when the exhibition of the election sign:

- is considered a risk to road safety; or
- is considered a risk to public health or safety; or
- exceeds 1.1m² (unless the election sign is displayed on an approved advertisement).

Consent for the exhibition of an election sign on private property is a matter between the candidate and/or party and the property owner.

Election signs on Council property

Note: Council property does not include a road.

Council officers can remove immediately any election sign that is placed on any Council property or a Council asset.

Council property means trust land, a reserve, or premises of which the local government is the owner or occupier (e.g. council land, a council building, a park or a depot).

Council asset means a fixture, chattel, material, plant, animal, thing or other tangible property of which the local government is the owner or occupier (e.g. a fence on council property, council machinery, council signs and playground equipment).

Election signs on roads (including road reserves)

Council officers can remove immediately any election sign on a road that:

- is considered a risk to road safety; or
- is considered a risk to public health or safety; or
- exceeds 1.1m² (unless the election sign is displayed on an approved advertisement).
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Note: Examples where an election sign exhibited on a road can be removed are provided on the following page.

Election signs on vehicles

Council does not regulate election signs on vehicles parked on roads. However, a vehicle exhibiting an election sign on a road must be parked in accordance with the requirements of the *Queensland Road Rules*.

Vehicles displaying election signs are not permitted to be parked on Council property.

Examples of road safety and public health & safety risks on roads

Examples where an election sign exhibited on a road can be removed are when it is:

- exhibited on street furniture, power pole, light pole, guard rail, traffic sign, road sign, parking sign, machinery, tree, plant or landscaped area
- exhibited unsecured or unattended on the carriageway of a road. (A carriageway is a sealed section of road between kerbs or unsealed road shoulders)
- exhibited so that it obstructs, or is likely to obstruct pedestrian or bicycle movement on a paved footpath, walkway, bikeway or nature strip
- positioned in a way that obstructs or hinders access to private premises when exiting a road, or obstructs or hinders access to a road when exiting private premises
- positioned in a way that does not provide clear sight lines for drivers of vehicles or pedestrians at road junctions, vehicle access ways or pedestrian crossings
- exhibited in a way that creates a traffic problem or increases an existing traffic problem
- not weighted, anchored or affixed so as to ensure stability and avoid falling or blowing into the path of a pedestrian or vehicular traffic
- exhibited on a traffic island, median strip or the centre of a roundabout. (A traffic island is an isolated separation island within the carriageway other than a median strip. A median strip is a separation island or reservation between opposing traffic (on the same road) and between different roads (e.g. Service road) or road user types such as buses and cyclists etc.)
- exhibited at a bus stop or in a school zone in a way that interferes with passengers entering or exiting a bus or another vehicle
- exhibited in a way that obstructs a pedestrian crossing or a school crossing
- rotating, audible, illuminated, or incorporates reflective or fluorescent materials and is likely to cause a distraction to a driver

- exhibited within an intersection controlled by traffic lights or within the intersections with one or more major roads. (An intersection is where two or more roads meet extending as far as any carriageway widening directly associated with the intersection, and includes the entire road reserve, nature strip and footpath, up to a property boundary)
- exhibited in a way that the election sign is in close proximity to an official traffic sign which is likely to hinder or obstruct a driver from seeing, reading or understanding the official traffic sign. (Close proximity to an official traffic sign would be considered within 20 metres)
- for rural areas where the speed limit is 80 km/h or less, exhibited less than 3.5 metres from the edge of the nearest traffic lane
- for rural areas where the speed limit is greater than 80 km/h, exhibited less than 6 metres from the edge of the nearest traffic lane
- any other situation an authorised Logan City Council officer determines is a risk to road safety or a risk to public health and safety.

Candidates are encouraged to value amenity in our City

Council asks that each candidate remove each election sign within a 7 day period after the date of the election.

Penalties for non-compliance

Elections signs are regulated under *Local Law No. 9 (Licensing) 1999*.

Council requests that all candidates and persons involved in the exhibition of election signs comply with the local law for the health and safety of the community.

Non-compliance may result in the removal of election signs, the issue of a compliance notice or the issue of an infringement notice with a maximum penalty of 50 penalty units.

For more information

Phone **3412 3412**

Visit logan.qld.gov.au

Email council@logan.qld.gov.au

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