

No Signs in Roundabouts

With election season upon us we have seen an increase in the amount of signs providing information about Candidates and Ballot Measures around Town.

Although we urge citizens and citizen groups to get involved and get their message out about these important issues, you will need to follow temporary political sign regulations.



Placing signs inside roundabouts can be dangerous for the people placing those signs and for motorists who attempt to read them. The Town has also expended resources on roundabout and roadside landscaping that can be damaged or destroyed by placement of these signs. Town staff is requesting that everyone follow the Town regulations regarding political sign placement: no sign placement in roundabouts, and no signs in any landscaped areas in the Town right-of-way along the roads and sidewalks.

Town regulations provide that temporary political signs may be posted 60 days preceding the election and shall be removed within 14 days following the election and may be located within the Town right-of-way, as long as they do not create site distance conflicts or other safety hazards for motorists, bicycles, or pedestrians. You will need to get the property owners permission before you post political signs in the right-of-way in front of their property.



There are some additional regulations regarding placement of signs. The Public Utility Commission requires signs not be placed on power poles. Town and other jurisdictions prohibit signs from being attached to snow poles, street signs, or other jurisdictional facilities. Caltrans prohibits signs in Caltrans right-of-way.

Thank you for observing these regulations about the proper placement of political signs to help keep our community safe.

POLITICAL SIGNS

Town of Truckee Street Right-of-Way

The subject of political sign placement often causes controversy during political campaigns. The Town has sign standards for political signs and total allowable square footage per parcel in its zoning ordinance. The primary concern with placement of these signs is to not cause sight restrictions that might create a safety hazard for motorists, pedestrians, or bicyclists using the street right-of-way.

The Public Works Department will coordinate the size and number of signs allowed per parcel with the Planning Department. The public right-of-way frontage of a parcel will be considered the same as the property line for the adjoining private property. For sight distance or right-of-way obstruction, the candidate will be requested to relocate the sign. Failure to relocate will result in removal of the offending sign by Town staff. The campaign will be notified of this action.

Temporary political signs not exceeding sixteen (16), square feet total (if double sided it is eight (8) square feet per side) for each property in residential zones and thirty-two (32) square feet total for each property (if double sided it is sixteen (16) square feet per side) in non-residential zones, provided that campaign signs are not posted more than sixty (60) days preceding the election and are removed within fourteen (14) days following the election. (Town of Truckee Zoning Ordinance, 6/18/95)

Signs/Advertising on Power Poles

It is a misdemeanor for any person to place or maintain any signs or other advertising upon the power poles with the district. (Penal Code Section 556.1)

Caltrans Sign Posting Requirements

No political signs may be placed within the right-of-way of any highway or within 660' of the edge of and visible from the right-of-way of a landscaped freeway.

Temporary political signs are signs which meet the following criteria:

1. Encourages a particular vote in a scheduled election.
2. Is placed not sooner than 90 days prior to the scheduled election and is removed within 10 days after that election.
3. Is no larger than 32 square feet.
4. Has had a Statement of Responsibility filed with the Department certifying a person who will be responsible for removing the sign.

The law directs the Department of Transportation to remove signs that do not comply with the regulations before an election and to bill the responsible party for removal costs after the election.

Any other signs placed adjacent to and visible from an Interstate or primary highway may only be placed on property zoned primarily for commercial or industrial activities, must be within 1000' of a commercial or industrial building or activity, and must not be closer than 500' from another billboard visible to a freeway or 300' from another billboard visible to a conventional highway. (Section 5405.3 of the State Outdoor Advertising Act) If you have further questions please call the State Department of Transportation at 916 654-6473.