



# City of Palm Springs

## Office of the City Clerk

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May 29, 2024

### **Subject: Temporary Sign Regulations**

Please accept this letter as notice of the City's regulations regarding the placement of temporary signage. The City is operating under a content-neutral sign ordinance (Ordinance No. 2020). Political signs represent one of the many forms of "temporary sign," regulated under the Palm Springs Municipal Code (PSMC) Section 93.20.09. Please note that this section provides for dimensional, locational, scope, logistic, and zoning-driven restrictions. Your review of the regulations for placing your temporary signs in the community will help avoid problems during this election season.

1. **Residential Zones:** Allowed without a City permit but only with the express permission of the property owner, number and size are limited as follows. Each property may have:
  - a. up to two (2) signs of up to eight (8) square feet, *or*
  - b. a single free-standing temporary sign of up to sixteen (16) square feet, *and/or*
  - c. a single-window sign of no more than four (4) square feet.
2. **Commercial and Industrial Zones:** Allowed without a City permit, but only with the express permission of the property owner, number and size are limited as follows. Each property may have:
  - a. up to two (2) temporary signs of up to ten (10) square feet, *or*
  - b. a single temporary sign of up to twenty (20) square feet may be maintained on any commercial or industrial property.
3. **Vacant Properties:** Allowed only with a City permit from the Planning Department upon submission of an application, written property owner authorization, an exhibit depicting the sign's size, design, and location on the property, and an application fee of \$39. To avoid the removal of permitted signs, the Planning Department will notify the Code Enforcement Division of approved applications. Each vacant property may have:
  - a. up to two free-standing temporary signs of up to eight (8) square feet in size, *or*
  - b. one (1) free-standing temporary sign of up to sixteen (16) square feet in size.
4. **Temporary Signs in Right-of-Way:** Temporary signs shall not be installed or maintained on any public right-of-way or on any public property, including without limitation:
  - a. trees planted on public property,
  - b. public utility poles,
  - c. street signs, *or*
  - d. traffic lights

However, nothing herein shall be interpreted as prohibiting any person from carrying or holding a temporary sign within a public right-of-way as allowed in Section 11.28.050 of this Code.

5. **Exception to Rule Regarding Temporary Signs in Right-of-Way.** The owner or resident of a property in a residential zone, or an authorized agent thereof, may place temporary signage on the right-of-way provided:
- a. there is no sidewalk located in the right-of-way in question,
  - b. the right of way in question is landscaped or otherwise improved, *and*
  - c. the property in question extends up to a hedge, fence, wall, or other boundary located five (5) feet or less away from the curb or roadway surface.

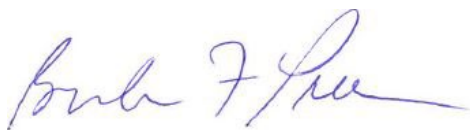
In the event that an owner or resident of a residential property places any temporary signage, that signage shall be placed as close to the hedge, fence, wall, or other boundaries of the property as possible, *and* in no event less than three (3) feet from the curb or roadway surface.

The City's Engineering Department is available to assist you in determining appropriate places for temporary signs within the right-of-way. If you have a question about whether an area in public property, please contact the City, and ask. Please note that the City has verified that neither Caltrans nor the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians has given any campaign any authorization to place temporary signs on any property and that each of them will notify the City if those changes.

This letter is effectively a "courtesy notice." The first (1<sup>st</sup>) temporary sign of each campaign thereafter that violates the City's Code will be addressed by the issuance of an administrative citation with a penalty in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100). The second (2<sup>nd</sup>) and third (3<sup>rd</sup>) citations issued will be subject to penalties in the amounts of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) and five hundred dollars (\$500) respectively. Each subsequent citation shall occasion an additional penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500). Please note that each individual temporary sign represents a separate violation that will be subject to a separate citation. Temporary signs placed in the right-of-way will be removed by City staff and stored at the City Yard located at 425 North Civic Drive until three (3) days after the election, at which time they will be destroyed. You may contact the Department of Maintenance and Facilities about retrieving your temporary signs removed by the City at (760) 323-8167.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (760) 323-8204.

Respectfully,



Brenda Pree, MMC, CERA  
City Clerk