

# City of Greensboro

## North Carolina

Date: August 20, 2008

To: Political Candidates  
Campaign Workers

From: Zoning Enforcement Office

Re: **PLACEMENT OF POLITICAL SIGNS**

This memorandum is written to acquaint you and your workers with local zoning requirements for the placement of political signs within the City of Greensboro. We hope you will use it as a guide when selecting possible sites. During an election year, a great number of signs are erected. Unfortunately, many of these signs are not in conformance with local codes.

One responsibility of the Zoning Enforcement Office is to enforce the sign regulations of the Development Ordinance. This includes the erection and placement of political signs.

Political signs may be placed on any private property *if* authorized by the legal property owner and provided that:

- 1) There are no more than six (6) signs per zone lot.
- 2) No one sign shall exceed six (6) square feet in area or six (6) feet in height.
- 3) Signs shall not be illuminated
- 4) No commercial message shall be displayed on any sign erected in residential, office, or public and institutional zoned areas.
- 5) Signs are removed within seven (7) days after the election.

Political signs exceeding six square feet in size *may not* be placed on private property without securing a sign permit. If you plan to install such a sign, please contact the Zoning Enforcement Office to discuss the requirements for a sign permit.

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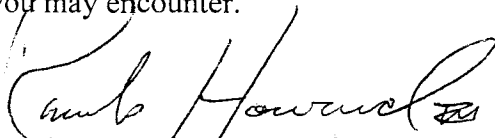
Political signs may **NOT** be placed:

- 1) Within a street-right-of-way (which usually includes the grassed area ten feet behind the curb).
- 2) In median strips on divided streets.
- 3) On power and utility poles.
- 4) On governmental sign poles and/or signs.
- 5) On trees and other natural features.
- 6) On underpass columns or supports.
- 7) On traffic control boxes.
- 8) On vacant lots without the owner's written permission and without proper permits, if required.

When noted by our enforcement staff, political signs placed improperly will be removed and disposed of. A person found erecting signs illegally may be charged with a criminal offense or civil offense under the City Code.

Some campaign workers may become over-zealous in their attempt to get their candidate's name before the public. Please advise your workers of the City regulations on signs so that you obtain what you consider to be the best coverage and stay within the requirements of the ordinance.

Should you notice political signs that appear to be in violation of the code, it would be appreciated if you would call Enforcement Officer Jeff McClintock, Barry Levine, Chris Marland, or Ron Fields at 373-2660. We will be glad to discuss any sign problems that you may encounter.



Rawls Howard, AICP, CZO  
Planning Manager