



Electoral Signage Guidelines – Council Elections – 26 October 2024

The following guidelines are provided for the placement of electoral signs within the Colac Otway Shire Municipality.

WHERE SIGNS CAN BE PLACED (PRIVATE LAND)

Electoral signs can be placed on or affixed to private property without a planning permit provided the property owner's permission is obtained **and** the following requirements are observed:

- Only **one** sign is displayed on the land.
- The sign does not exceed an area of 5 square metres.
- It must not be animated or internally illuminated.
- The sign must not be displayed longer than 14 days after the election is held or for a total period of 3 months, whichever is sooner.
- The sign is limited to publicising the election, potentially including information about an election candidate.

If election related signs do not meet all of these criteria, permission can be sought from Council through the lodgement of a planning permit application. Persons seeking signage outside of these criteria are encouraged to contact the Shire's Planning Department on Ph 5232 9400 to discuss the process with a planning officer.

WHERE SIGNS CANNOT BE PLACED ON COUNCIL LAND & PUBLIC SPACES

Electoral signs **are not** permitted on roads, on municipal buildings, reserves or Council land, including any structures such as bus shelters, power/light poles.

Definitions are listed below, however in general terms no electoral advertising is permitted on roads, parkland or council owned or managed land.

The following conditions apply to the placing of electoral signage in accordance with Council's Local Laws, the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme and the Environment Protection Act 2017:

1. No signage can be placed/erected on any Council road, reserve, parkland including Regional Roads Victoria roads or reserves.

2. Mobile billboards (Trailer types and signs that are placed in or on a vehicle) are not to be left standing/stationary in areas as per point 1. This type of signage must be mobile at all times.
3. Vehicles (other than trailers) that are permanently sign written may display signage, provided that they meet the parking legislation requirements including time limits etc.
4. The Environment Protection Act 2017 prohibits the placing of any form of advertising on the windscreens of vehicles anywhere (Public & Private land)
5. Banners and flags are also prohibited as in (1) and are not to be attached to any fixtures located on or any of the roads as in (1).

AUTHORISATION OF ELECTORAL MATERIAL

A person must not print, publish or distribute or cause, permit or authorise to be printed, published or distributed any electoral material unless the name and address of the person who authorised the electoral material is clearly displayed thereon.

Authorised by <Name>, Address [can be a street address or PO Box].

REMOVAL OF SIGNAGE

Candidates are encouraged to comply with these guidelines, as any electoral signs placed in a manner contrary to these guidelines will be impounded by Council Officers without reference to the Candidate.

Uncontrolled when printed

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