

**COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
RIGHT OF WAY**

**UNLAWFUL SIGN PLACEMENT IN COUNTY RIGHT OF WAY**

Under California Streets and Highways Code Section 1460 no device shall be placed in the County right of way without authority of a written permit. If a sign is placed there, County staff would pick up the sign and you would be liable for the costs incurred by the County in removing the sign and any other damages caused by the encroachment (§1480.5). Furthermore, if an encroachment is not removed after the notice pursuant to Section 1481, a penalty of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) per day for each day the encroachment continues may be assessed (§1483).

If the sign is placed in the right of way a second time, you would be in violation of Streets and Highways Code Sections 1460, 1480 et seq and Penal Code Sections 556, 556.1, a misdemeanor. Every offense declared to be a misdemeanor is punishable by imprisonment in the County jail, not exceeding six (6) months, or by fine not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1000), or both.

## **CAMPAIGN SIGN RULES IN THE CITY OF ARCATA**

**Rules governing campaign signs in Arcata are limited to the following excerpt from Title IX of the Arcata Municipal Code—Land Use Code.**

### **Section 9.38.050(B)(2)**

**Political, social issue, or special event signs.** These non-illuminated signs are allowed without a sign permit and shall not be prohibited by any other development restrictions (i.e. CC&R's), provided that the signs:

- a. Are placed on private property with the property owner's consent
- b. Shall not exceed a total aggregate area of 12 square feet on a site within a residential zoning district, and 32 square feet within a non-residential zoning district.
- c. Are not placed within 15 feet of a fire hydrant, street sign, or traffic signal, or interfere with, confuse, obstruct, or mislead traffic;
- d. Are not placed unlawfully. The placement of a sign in a public right-of-way in violation of this Chapter or any other provision of the Municipal Code is a nuisance, and any sign so placed may be removed summarily and disposed of by the City; and
- e. Political and special event signs are placed no more than 60 days prior to the event and are removed within 10 days after the conclusion of the political campaign or event to which they relate. A sign that is not removed will be removed by the City at the expense of the political candidate or organization involved.

**Please note that campaign signs may not be posted on utility poles or in the public right-of-way.**

# CITY OF BLUE LAKE

Post Office Box 458, 111 Greenwood Road, Blue Lake, CA 95525  
Phone 707.668.5655 Fax 707.668.5916

The City of Blue Lake utilizes the Zoning Ordinance Article VI General Provisions and Exceptions Section 612E Schedule of Sign Regulations as regulated under the Real Estate sign section for political signage in the city limits of Blue Lake.

612. SIGNS. The purpose of this regulation is to set standards which will permit a reasonable use of signs to give information, directions and to advertise goods and services while affording protection to the peace, comfort, safety of the general public, and the visual amenity of the community.

## E. Schedule of Sign Regulations

Type of Sign	Location Permitted	Maximum Size	Illumination Permitted	Additional Requirement
Real Estate Sign	Attached or free-standing temporary, minimum 10' from property line.	6 sq. ft.	None	Maximum 3 months unless application for permit for longer period approved.

For more information contact the City of Blue Lake (707) 668-5655  
January 30, 2014

# Eureka, California Code of Ordinances

## Political Advertising

131.00

(C) *Posting prohibited.* No person shall paint, mark, or write on, or post or otherwise affix, or erect, construct, maintain, paste, nail, tack, or otherwise fasten or affix, any temporary sign on any sidewalk, crosswalk, curb, street lamp post, pole, bench, hydrant, tree, shrub, bridge, electric light or power or telephone wire pole, or wire appurtenance thereof or upon any street sign or traffic sign, or upon any other object located within the public right-of-way which is not maintained for the purpose of communications by temporary signs by the general public. ('63 Code, §§ 4-15.03)

155.00

- (4) *Temporary political signs.* Temporary political signs shall:
- (a) Pertain to a candidate, ballot measure or issue to be voted upon **within 90 calendar days** of posting; and
  - (b) Be removed **within 10 calendar days** following the election.
  - (c) Be no larger than 16 square feet (e.g., 4' x 4').
  - (d) Not be placed within the public right-of-way.
  - (e) Not be placed so as to obstruct a motorist's clear view of vehicular or pedestrian traffic, traffic-control signs or signals; impede a pedestrian's free use of the sidewalk; or otherwise represent a hazard to vehicular or pedestrian traffic.



## Political Sign Guidelines\* – 2014 Election

### General Guidelines

Political signs:

- Do not require a Sign Permit or Design Review Permit.
- May not be illuminated.
- May not exceed a total area of 12 square feet per parcel in a residential zone, and 32 square feet in a nonresidential zone. All temporary signs on a parcel, except banners or pennants, count towards this total.
- May be posted no earlier than the official announcement of candidacy for a public office or announcement of a ballot initiative/proposition.
- Must be removed within 48 hours of the election.
- Any sign found in violation may be removed by the City at the expense of the political candidate or organization.

### Location Guidelines

Political signs:

- May be placed only on private property with the property owner's consent.
- May not be placed in any City right-of-way.
- May not be placed within 15 feet of a fire hydrant, street sign, or traffic signal, or interfere with, confuse, obstruct, or mislead traffic.
- May not be attached to or suspended from a vehicle or other movable object unless it is permanently affixed to the vehicle.

**\*This is a summary of City regulations pertaining to political signs. Other regulations may apply. Please refer to the City of Ferndale Sign Ordinance (available online and at City Hall).**

# City of Fortuna

## Chapter 17.51 Citywide Regulations

### 17.51.60 Signs.

A. General Provisions. The purpose of this section is to establish standards to regulate the height, size, location and appearance of signs, in order to safeguard and enhance property values; to protect public and private investment in buildings and open spaces; to preserve and improve the appearance of the city as a place in which to live and work and as an attraction to nonresidents who come to visit or trade; to encourage sound signing practices as an aid to business and for the information of the public; to prevent excessive and confusing sign displays; to reduce hazards to motorists and pedestrians; and to promote the public health, safety and welfare of the city.

#### D. Permitted Signs

1. Signs Not Requiring a Sign Permit. The following signs do not require a permit:

a. Real Estate Sign

b. Political. One political campaign sign on private property not exceeding four square feet in area or four feet in height. These signs shall be removed within 10 days following the election. Such signs shall not be erected prior to 30 days before the election.

# **Rio Dell Municipal Code**

## **Political Signage Ordinance**

City of Rio Dell

Specific Use Regulation 17.30.270 –Signs

(3) Election Campaign Signs. Temporary campaign signs relating to Federal, State, County, City, school district, special district, or other governmental agency elections are permitted in all zones subject to the following regulations:

(a) Signs may be displayed up to 60 days before a scheduled election and must be removed within 10 days after the election;

(b) Signs shall be limited to four square feet and 48 inches in height. No more than four signs shall be allowed on any one parcel;

(c) No sign may be placed on private property without the consent of the property owner;

(d) Signs may be freestanding or attached to existing buildings or fences. However, they are not permitted on street signs, trees, shrubs, bus stops, power poles, utility cabinets or other public appurtenances;

(e) Signs may not be placed within 15 feet of any fire hydrant, street sign or traffic signal, or interfere with, confuse, obstruct or mislead traffic;

(f) Signs may not be placed within a public right-of-way, nor within 30 feet of an intersection and no closer than three feet from the curb. Where no curb exists, signs shall be at least five feet from the edge of the pavement;

(g) Homeowners are allowed to place political signs in the windows of their property;

(h) Signs may not be illuminated, including motion and/or flashing lights, but may be placed where existing lighting may permit them to be seen at night.

[Ord.289 code 1, 2012; Ord. 279 code 4, 2011.]

For more information contact the City of Rio Dell (707) 764-3532

January 21, 2014

# **TRINIDAD MUNICIPAL CODE**

## **A Codification of the General Ordinances of the City of Trinidad, California**

City of Trinidad

Specific Use Regulation 17.56.160 - Signs

Political campaign signs and posters, not exceeding two square feet, shall be permitted in all zones provided such signs and posters are removed not more than 30 days after the date of the election.

For more information contact the City of Trinidad (707) 677-0223.

January 21, 2014



**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
DIVISION OF TRAFFIC OPERATIONS  
OUTDOOR ADVERTISING PROGRAM



Dear Candidate or Committee Member:

As a candidate or campaign worker for either office or a ballot measure, this reminder about State law governing campaign signs should be helpful to you.

Section 5405.3 of the State Outdoor Advertising Act exempts the placing of Temporary Political Signs from normal outdoor advertising display requirements.

A Temporary Political Sign meets the following criteria:

- A. Encourages a particular vote in a scheduled election.
- B. Is placed no sooner than 90 days prior to the scheduled election and is removed within 10 days after that election.
- C. Is no larger than 32 square feet.
- D. Has had a Statement of Responsibility filed with the Department certifying a person who will be responsible for removing the sign (Attached).

A completed Statement of Responsibility must be submitted to:

Division of Traffic Operations  
Outdoor Advertising Program  
P.O. Box 942874, MS-36  
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001

Temporary Political Signs shall not be placed within the right-of-way of any highway, or be visible within 660 feet from the edge of the right-of-way of a classified "Landscaped freeway".

State law directs the Department of Transportation to remove unauthorized Temporary Political Signs and bill the responsible party for their removal. We are calling these provisions to your attention to avoid possible embarrassment or inconvenience to you and your supporters. Please share this information with those assisting in your campaign.

Should you have any questions, comments or need additional information, please call (916) 654-6473.

Enclosure

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
DIVISION OF TRAFFIC OPERATIONS  
OUTDOOR ADVERTISING PROGRAM



**STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR TEMPORARY  
POLITICAL SIGNS**

Election Date: \_\_\_\_\_ June \_\_\_\_\_ November Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Office sought or Proposition Number: \_\_\_\_\_

County where sign(s) will be placed: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of signs to be placed: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESPONSIBLE PARTY:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (Include Area Code) \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned hereby accepts responsibility for the removal of Temporary Political Signs placed pursuant to Section 5405.3 of the Outdoor Advertising Act for the above candidate or proposition.

It is understood and agreed that any Temporary Political Signs placed sooner than ninety (90) days prior to the election and/or not removed within ten (10) days after the election, may be removed by the Department and the responsible party will be billed for any associated removal costs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE PARTY

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

**Mail Statement of Responsibility to:**

Division of Traffic Operations  
Outdoor Advertising Program  
P.O. Box 942874, MS-36  
Sacramento, CA 94274-0001