

TO: CITY MANAGER

2002 October 16

FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING

OUR FILE: 02.250.7

SUBJECT: ELECTION CAMPAIGN SIGNS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY UPCOMING  
MUNICIPAL ELECTION

PURPOSE: To provide for permission to place campaign signs on public property during the course of the 2002 municipal election.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. **THAT** Council approve the erection of political signs on public property by all participants in the upcoming municipal election subject to affected parties or associations signifying in writing that such will be undertaken in compliance with Clause (9), Schedule No. 1 of the Burnaby Sign Bylaw and this report.
2. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to all participating political associations and independent candidates in the City, once these candidates make themselves known to the City.

**R E P O R T**

Appearing on the Agenda for the 2002 October 21 meeting of Council is a letter requesting permission for the placing of campaign signs on public property in Burnaby.

The Burnaby Sign Bylaw 6163 includes provision for elections signs under Clause (9) of Schedule No. 1 which reads as follows:

*"Temporary signs pertaining to campaigns, drives or events of political, civic, philanthropic, educational or religious organizations. Provided that if an applicant shall obtain the consent of Council and shall agree in writing to remove such signs within three days after the campaign, drive or event has concluded, such signs may be erected upon public property in the possession or control of the municipality, except public property designated for parks purposes and under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Commission."*

In past election campaigns the practice has been that Council has authorized such signs on public property during the campaign and the various political organizations have typically placed their signs on the boulevards within public road allowances, directed toward passing traffic on the streets. No such signs should be placed in flower or shrub beds but should be restricted to turfed areas of boulevards. The specific location of any signs should also be approved by the City Traffic Engineering Division to assure that any signs are not located where they could be considered a safety hazard of obstruction for pedestrians or vehicles and not detrimental to directly fronting commercial uses.

In view of the provisions of the Sign Bylaw, and the past practice of accepting political signs of all participating candidates on an equal basis, it would be appropriate to pass a motion consenting to the erection of such signs by all participants on public property other than that designated for parks purposes and under the jurisdiction of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission, subject to compliance with the requirements for removal.



J.S. Belhouse  
Director Planning and Building

KI:tn

cc: Director Engineering  
Director Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services  
City Clerk

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