

TO: CITY MANAGER 2005 April 12
FROM: DIRECTOR PLANNING AND BUILDING
SUBJECT: **ELECTION CAMPAIGN SIGNS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY
UPCOMING PROVINCIAL ELECTION**
PURPOSE: To provide for permission to place campaign signs on public property during the course of the 2005 provincial election.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **THAT** Council approve the erection of political signs on public property by all participants in the upcoming provincial 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.

REPORT


A provincial election has been called for 2005 May 17.

The Burnaby Sign Bylaw 6163 includes provision for election 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. 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. Signs should not be located where they could be considered a safety hazard or obstruction for pedestrians or vehicles or 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 sign removal.



J.S. Belhouse, Director
PLANNING AND BUILDING

KI/sla

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

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