## Will political sign regulations be enforced by the city?

Yes. Political signs that do not comply with the regulations set forth in the CMC will be removed by the city. Signs removed by the city will be kept for retrieval at the city operation and maintenance facility (17852 SE 256th St. (253-638-1439)) for a period of seven days. Any sign not picked up within this period will be properly disposed of. THE CITY WILL NOT CONTACT ANY INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP WHEN REMOVING OR DISPOSING OF POLITICAL SIGNS THAT WERE NOT PLACED COMPLIANT WITH ADOPTED CITY REGULATIONS.

## Who can I contact if I have questions regarding political signs?

If you have any questions regarding political sign regulations, or for retrieval of signs removed due to non-compliancy, please contact City of Covington Associate Planner / Code Enforcement Officer, Brian Bykonen at 253-638-1110 ext. 2272 or bbykonen@covingtonwa.gov.


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**City of Covington**
**Mission Statement**

"Covington is a place where community, business, and civic leaders work together with citizens to preserve and foster a strong sense of community."

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# Political Sign Regulations for the City of Covington

(Effective April 2009)

City of Covington
Unmatched Quality of Life

## What is a political sign?

A political sign is a temporary sign advertising a candidate or candidates for public elective office, a political party, or signs urging a particular vote on a public issue decided by ballot in connection with a local, state, or national election or referendum. [CMC 18.55.040(55)]

## Why did the City Council pass political sign regulations?

It was the intent of the Covington City Council to establish political sign regulations that are clear, understandable, user-friendly, easy to administer, and cost-effective to enforce. As a result, the newly adopted political sign regulations:

- Establish regulations for the size, location, and duration political signs can be displayed in the City of Covington.
- Allow the placement of political signs without permits or fees.
- Restrict political signs in areas that pose safety concerns. + more effectively.

## Will I need a permit for political signs?

No. Political signs are exempt from permits and registration. [CMC 18.55.050(3)(b)(xxii)]

## Where are political signs allowed?

Political signs are allowed in all zones within the city. They can be displayed on private property with permission of the property owner, and on certain public rights-of-way (ROW). Public ROW areas generally include planter/parking strips (the area between the sidewalk and roadway), and undeveloped public ROW between the sidewalk and the adjacent property line. Please see below for certain areas that political signs can not be displayed. [CMC 18.55.050(3)(b)(xxii)]

## Where are political signs prohibited?

The placement of political signs is not allowed within, on, or attached to the following areas and structures:

- Electric utility poles
- Traffic signals
- Traffic signs
- Lampposts
- Sidewalks
- Stormwater facilities
- Critical areas
- Public buildings
- Guard rails
- City owned fences
- Street medians
- Roundabouts
- Any area that will limit sight distance for pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.

[CMC 18.30.240 and 18.55.050(3)(b)(xxii)]

## Is there a size limitation on political signs?

Yes. Political signs are limited to six (6) square feet in size. [CMC 18.55.050(3)(b)(xxii)]

## Is there a number limitation on political signs?

No. There is not a maximum number of signs allowed per candidate, political party, or issue in the city limits.

## When can political signs be displayed?

Political signs in connection with a local, state, or national election or referendum can be displayed for candidates or issues at any time prior to elections.

All political signs must be removed no later than seven (7) calendar days after the final election. [CMC 18.55.050(3)(b)(xxii)]

## Could I be held liable for damages caused from political signs?

Yes. An individual or group that causes damage to landscaping, public structures, irrigation systems, or other underground utilities from the placement of political signs within public ROW could be held liable for repair or replacement costs.