

## **Election Signs in the City of Colfax.**

Political signs are protected under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and State of California Government Code Section 5405.3. This Q&A addresses some of the top topics related to campaign, political or election signs:

### **Does the City of Colfax regulate campaign or political signs?**

Yes, political signs are regulated in the Colfax Municipal Code Chapter 17.112.180 (I). Political Signs are permitted under the following conditions:

1. Signs shall be on private property only, with property owners' consent. Written consent is suggested.
2. Election campaign signs shall be prohibited within any public right-of-way.
3. Property Owner Consent Required. The placement of election campaign signs shall only occur with the permission of the owner of the property where the sign is to be placed.
4. Removal Required. Election campaign signs shall be removed from public view no later than twenty-one (21) days after an election to which they apply.
5. Enforcement. If an election campaign sign is in violation of the provisions of this section, notice shall be given by the planning director to either the property owner or manager and/or the candidate and/or organization for which the sign was placed, that directs removal of the sign within seven days of the date of the notice. Failure to remove the sign shall be punishable as provided in Section 17.112.270. (enforcement).

### **Are political or campaign signs or other non-commercial signs permitted on public property, including along any public right of way adjacent to a roadway?**

No. Political or campaign signage are not allowed on publicly owned property. Publicly owned property means any property owned by the City of Colfax (even if open to the public) including sidewalks, streets, landscape areas/medians, light poles, electric poles, traffic signals, parks and along any public right of way etc.,

### **What are the Sign Size Restrictions?**

6. Maximum Sign Area. Thirty-two (32) square feet.

### **Is there a fee for Election Signs?**

Yes, there is a fee deposit required, with a form that is filed with the City Clerk:

7. A Guarantee Removal: Refundable Deposit
  - a. Deposit must be made to the City prior to posting any sign
  - b. Must be removed no later than twenty-one (21) days after the elective. If not removed in this time, the city has the right to assess a fine against the property owner in the amount of \$50.00 per day until sign is removed.