

POLICY

Resource Management

POLITICAL HOARDINGS ON COUNCIL LAND AND BUILDINGS

1 Introduction

Local authorities are responsible for regulating when, where and how signs or signage, including election signs may be displayed.

The *Electoral (Advertisements of a Specified Kind) Regulations 2005* permits election signs to be erected up to 9 weeks before polling day and requires such signs to be removed by midnight the night prior to polling day.

The *Electoral (Advertisements of a Specified Kind) Regulations 2005* also has restrictions on the size and structure of lettering to ensure that an advertisement of a specified kind does not endanger the safety of road users through reflection or dazzle, or that the sign looks like a road sign. The Electoral Act 1993 also specifies that signs shall be no larger than 3m².

The Electoral Act 1993 and *Electoral (Advertisements of a Specified Kind) Regulations 2005* provisions override Waimakariri District Plan rules for signs that apply to general election signs.

However local body/government election signs are not covered by the *Electoral (Advertisements of a Specified Kind) Regulations 2005* and *Electoral Act 1993* and as such these signs are required to comply with the Waimakariri District Plan signs rules, which are maximum area of 3m², maximum height of 2m, and maximum period of erection of eight weeks prior to the election date and is taken down within one week after that election date. If these requirements cannot be complied with, a resource consent would be required for the sign.

Signs on state highways need New Zealand Transport Agency approval.

2 Policy Context

The Council receives requests from candidates to erect political signage on road reserves and Council owned land or buildings. Council must be fair and impartial to all candidates and therefore declines all requests for political signage on Council owned or leased buildings or land including the road reserve.

3 Policy Objective

The objective of this policy is to not have any political signage on Council owned or leased buildings or land including the road reserve.

4 Policy Statement

Requests for the use of Waimakariri District Council land, buildings or road reserve for the erection of political notice boards will be declined.

This includes any political signage on, or connected to, an immobilised vehicle or parked trailer that is on the road reserve. An 'immobilised vehicle' is defined as any vehicle that

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cannot be moved on its own because it is mechanically not able to be moved or has a wheel or wheels missing from the vehicle.

5 Links to legislation, other policies and community outcomes

Electoral Act 1993

Local Electoral Act 2001

Local Electoral Regulations 2001

Electoral (Advertisements of a Specified Kind) Regulations 2005

NZTA Guidelines for Managing Electioneering Signs on State Highways (SM012 State Highway Control Manual)

NZTA Traffic Control Devices Manual Part 3 January 2011 (Parliamentary electoral advertising)

Waimakariri District Signage Bylaw 2012 (under review)

Waimakariri District Parking Bylaw 2007 (under review)

Waimakariri District Plan (under review)

6 Adopted by and date

Adopted by Council 6 August 2019

7 Review

Reviewed every six years or by Council resolution.