



# ALPHARETTA ELECTION INFORMATION

## POLITICAL SIGNS DURING ELECTION CYCLES

While campaign signs are a traditional and important means of messaging during election periods, they are subject to the same regulations of the Alpharetta Unified Development Code as are other temporary signs. This is because, in accordance with legal precedent and First Amendment protections, the City's regulations with respect to signs are "content neutral," focusing instead on size, height, number, design characteristics, spacing and location.

The City's regulations with respect to signs are compiled in their entirety in [Section 2.6 – Signs of the Alpharetta Unified Development Code](#).

### NUMBER AND SIZE ALLOWED:

The number and total size of temporary signs allowed is determined at the property parcel level. Each parcel is allowed:

- One (1) size totaling twelve (12) square feet, OR
- Up to four (4) signs with a total aggregate square footage of not more than twelve (12) square feet.

All temporary signs located on a parcel are counted when calculating these numbers. This includes campaign, real estate, garage sale, and other temporary signs.

### LOCATION:

The placement of signs in the public right-of-way by anyone other than a government agency is not permitted. Signs that are placed in the right-of-way or on City of Alpharetta property (e.g. parks, fire stations, etc.) will be removed by City of Alpharetta Codes Enforcement.

Within the Downtown District, signs must be placed a minimum of five (5) feet behind the sidewalk. Outside of the Downtown District the minimum distance behind the sidewalk increases to ten (10) feet. For a map and definition of the Downtown District as applicable to sign regulations, please reference [Appendix C – Downtown Overlay District of Unified Development Code Article II](#).



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### PROPERTY OWNER PERMISSION:

The placement of signs on private property requires the permission of the property owner. Please note that a tenant or renter does not have the authority to grant permission for placement of signs on private property.

### OTHER PROHIBITIONS:

Section 2.6.8 of the Unified Development Code provides a list of prohibited signs and devices. These include, but are not limited to:

- Balloons, pennants, streamers, feather signs, air or gas filled figures, or similar attention-getting devices
- Signs which purport to be, or are an imitation of, or resemble an official traffic sign or signal
- Signs painted on or attached to utility poles, trees, rocks or other similar objects
- Signs attached to any street signs or traffic control devices, or to any pole supporting same, or any sign attached to any utility pole
- Signs projected on a building
- Any sign that is structurally unsound, or is a hazard to traffic or pedestrians

### Permit:

For permitting purposes, the City of Alpharetta classifies campaign signs as “standard informational signs.” As a result, they are exempt from permit requirements under our regulations.

### QUESTIONS AND POINT OF CONTACT:

If you have questions concerning types, locations, or quantities of campaign signs, they should be directed to the our Codes Enforcement Manager, Bret Schroeder, at [bschroeder@alpharetta.ga.us](mailto:bschroeder@alpharetta.ga.us) or 678-297-6088.