



## City of Laredo, Texas

### Regulations Pertaining to Political Signs

June 1, 2022

Dear Candidate:

The purpose of this letter is to remind political candidates about existing local regulations governing the placement of campaign signs within the incorporated limits of the City of Laredo. Generally, political signs are permitted on private property in any zoning district so long as they are placed with the owner's consent, however there are exceptions provided in Texas Local Government Code §216 and §259. Pursuant to these exceptions, the City of Laredo has enacted ordinances which regulate political signs as outlined below:

1. Signs shall not exceed 36 square feet in area;
2. Signs shall not exceed 8 feet in height;
3. Signs shall not contain moving parts;
4. Signs shall not be illuminated so as to cause a hazard or nuisance
5. Signs shall not create a visibility hazard for motorists.

In addition, the following prohibitions are applicable to all signs:

- **Signs on the Rights-of-Way.** Signs cannot be placed on the public right-of-way. Although the width of a right-of-way may vary throughout the city, street curbs are not considered to be the edge of the right-of-way. To ensure a sign is properly placed outside the right-of-way, a general rule of thumb is to place it at least 20 feet in back of the curb or raised edge of the pavement and behind any fire hydrant, utility meter, light pole or sidewalk.
- **Signs on Structures.** Signs cannot be placed on trees, fire hydrants, telephone poles, towers, or within any public owned property, including but not necessarily limited to, parks, municipal facilities, drainage or utility easements,
- **Signs that are a Traffic Hazard.** Signs cannot be placed in any visibility triangle, or in such other location, so as to obstruct the area necessary for the clear view by the driver of a motor vehicle or a bicyclist of oncoming cross-street, motor vehicle, bicycle or pedestrian traffic.
- **Signs on Parked Vehicles.** Signs cannot be attached to an automobile, truck, trailer, skid, or similar mobile structure and parked at the same location for extended periods of time where the apparent intent is for purposes of advertising.

- **Signs Painted on Walls or Fences.** No sign shall be painted on a fence, railing or wall, whether or not situated on the property line.

The City intends to continue to strictly enforce its sign regulations against all candidates and will not act as referee to resolve disputes between campaigns regarding the use of signs. Candidates, who presumably have the best interest of the City in mind, are being asked to observe these laws enacted to protect public safety and promote aesthetic enhancement. Additional information on the City's sign regulations can be found online at the following link : [https://library.municode.com/tx/laredo/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances](https://library.municode.com/tx/laredo/codes/code_of_ordinances).

Any questions on the city sign ordinance should be directed to the Building Development Services Department at (956) 794-1625.

Very truly yours,

City Attorney's Office