

The Corporation of the City of Richmond Hill

By-Law 126-23

A by-law to amend by-law 52-09, being the City of Richmond Hill Sign By-law

Whereas on November 9th, 2009, Council (“Council”) of the Corporation of the City of Richmond Hill (the “Corporation”) enacted by-law 52-09, the City of Richmond Hill Sign by-law (the “Sign By-law”) to regulate advertising devices within the City of Richmond Hill;

And Whereas public notice of Council’s intention to pass this by-law was given on June 7, 2023 in accordance with the provisions of By-law No.12-20;

And Whereas on December 13, 2023, Council adopted the recommendations with respect to revisions to the Sign By-law as set out in Staff Report No. SRCS.23.21;

Now Therefore The Council Of The Corporation Of The City Of Richmond Hill Enacts As Follows:

1. That the Sign By-law No. 52-09, as amended, be further amended as follows:

(a) By repealing the following definition from **Article 1 – Definitions**:

“Election Sign Fee” means a non-refundable fee as set out in the City’s Tariff of Fees by-law.

(b) By repealing and replacing the following definitions to **Article 1 – Definitions**:

“Portable Sign” means a free-standing *Sign* located, erected, or displayed on but not permanently anchored in the ground and includes, but is not limited to, *Signs* commonly referred to as A-frame, T-frame, sandwich board, bag *Sign* or *Signs* erected temporarily with stakes, but shall not include an *Inflatable Sign* or a *Mobile Sign*

(c) By removing *Election Sign* from **Table A – Signs Not Requiring a Permit**

(d) By repealing Section 6.6 **“ELECTION SIGNS”**

(e) By adding the below as Section 7.14:

7.14 ELECTION SIGNS

Election Sign Permit

7.14.1 No *Person* shall erect, or display an *Election Sign* unless an *Election Sign Permit* has been issued.

General Prohibitions

7.14.2 No *Person* shall erect, or cause to be erected an *Election Sign* in front of, beside, or on *Private Property*, without first obtaining permission from the *Property Owner*.

7.14.3 An *Election Sign* shall be *Non-Illuminated*.

7.14.4 A *Person* shall not at any time on any *Voting Day*, or day of advance election voting, locate, erect or display, or cause to be located, erected or displayed:

- (a) an *Election Sign* on or within 45.72 metres (150 feet) of any *Lot Lines* of a *Lot* on which a *Premises* is used as a voting place for elections, and
- (b) an *Election Sign*, poster or placard in or on a vehicle that is parked on any *Premises* used as a voting place for elections if the *Election Sign*, poster or placard is visible from the outside of the vehicle.

7.14.5 In the case of a municipal election, a *Person* who is neither a *Candidate* nor a *Registered Third-Party Advertiser* shall not be permitted to place an *Election Sign* on either *Private Property* or *Public Property*.

Location of Election Signs

7.14.6 No *Person* shall erect, or display an *Election Sign* or cause to be erected or displayed an *Election Sign* on *Public Property* save and except for in the portion of the *Street* that is the municipal boulevard directly adjacent to *Private Property* provided that the *Sign* is on the private property side of the sidewalk and a minimum of 1.0 metre from the sidewalk, or in cases where there is no municipal sidewalk, the *Sign* is a minimum of 2.0 metres from any edge of *Street* pavement, *Street* curb or ditch.

7.14.7 An *Election Sign* may not be placed on *Public Property* if there is an *Election Sign* on the adjacent *Private Property*.

Election Sign Size

7.14.8 No *Person* shall erect, or display an *Election Sign* or cause to be erected or displayed an *Election Sign* in a residential *Zone* unless:

- a) it is in the form of a *Portable* or *Window Sign*;
- b) it has a maximum *Sign Area* of 0.36 square metres and a maximum *Height* of 1.00 metre.

7.14.9 No *Person* shall erect, or display an *Election Sign* or cause to be erected or displayed an *Election Sign* in a commercial or other *Zone* unless:

- a) it is in the form of a *Portable* or *Window Sign*;
- b) it has a maximum *Sign Area* of 1.20 square metres and a maximum *Height* of 1.20 metres;

Number of Election Signs

7.14.10 No Person shall erect, or display or cause to be erected or displayed more than one *Election Sign* per candidate per *Private Property* in the form of a *Portable Sign* save and except for in the case where the *Private Property* has both front and side lot frontage in which case there may be one *Sign* positioned relative to each frontage.

7.14.11 In cases where there is more than one *Premises* on a single *Property* an additional 1 *Election Sign* per candidate per *Premises* is permitted in the form of a *Window Sign*.

Timing

7.14.12 No Person shall erect, or display or cause to be erected or displayed an *Election Sign*, save and except for at a *Campaign Office* as set out in subsection 7.14.13. below, unless:

- a) a writ of election has been issued for a federal or provincial election;
- b) it is erected, displayed, or caused to be erected or displayed, within the 28 day period prior to *Voting Day* for a municipal election; and
- c) the *Sign* is removed no more than 72 hours following *Voting Day*.

7.14.13 *Election Signs* in the form of a *Wall Sign*, *Window Sign*, or *Ground Sign* may be located, erected or displayed on *Campaign Offices* in accordance with Table C: Provisions for Signs in a Commercial Zone, once the *Candidate* has filed his or her nomination papers and obtained a *Permit*.

(f) Section 7.8.7 regarding *Mobile Signs* be repealed and replaced with the following:

7.8.7 A *Mobile Sign* shall only advertise for the *Premises* to which the *Permit* was issued.

(g) That the reference to the “Building Section of the Planning and Development Department” in Section 13.1 be replace with “Community Standards Division”

(h) That the following be added to **Section 13 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT**, and the remainder of the section be renumbered alphanumerically:

13.2 In the case of an *Election Sign Permit*, an applicant shall submit the form as prescribed by the *Commissioner*, providing all information requested thereon, including payment of the fee as outlined in the Tariff of Fee By-law, as amended.

2. Except as herein provided and as required to give effect to the amendments in this By-law No. 126-23, the provisions of the Sign By-law No. 52-09, as amended, continue in full force and effect without amendment.

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By-law 126-23

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Passed this 13th day of December 2023.

David West
Mayor

Stephen M.A. Huycke
City Clerk