CITY OF BURLINGTON
CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Political Signs: Signs that are erected in connection with elections or political campaigns provided that:

Such signs shall not be placed out earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the beginning date of "one stop" early voting and are to be removed within ten (10) days after the primary or election day.

Signs placed in the City or State right-of-way must be placed in compliance with the following:

a. No sign shall be permitted in the right-of-way of a fully controlled access highway.
b. No sign shall be closer than three feet from the edge of pavement.
c. No sign shall obscure motorist visibility at an intersection.
d. No sign shall be higher than 42 inches above the edge of the pavement of the road.
e. Such signs shall not exceed 6 square feet in sign face area.
f. No sign shall obscure or replace another sign.

Signs placed on individual lots must be placed in compliance with the following:

a. No sign shall be taller than five feet above adjacent grade.
b. No sign shall have a sign face larger than 32 square feet.

Additionally:

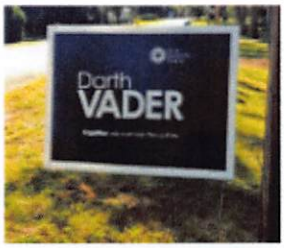
Political signs may not be placed on utility poles or traffic control devices.
Political signs may not be illuminated.
Political signs shall not be placed within required sight distance triangles or in locations that obstruct the safe movement of vehicles and pedestrians.

Signs found to be in violation of this section 30 days after the period prescribed herein may be removed by City of Burlington Code Enforcement Officers. (Amendment adopted November 1, 2019)

Chris Marland CZO, CHCO, CEP
Chief Code Enforcement Officer
City of Burlington
Cmarland@burlingtonnc.gov

TABLE 5.6.I: SIGN STANDARDS BY SIGN TYPE

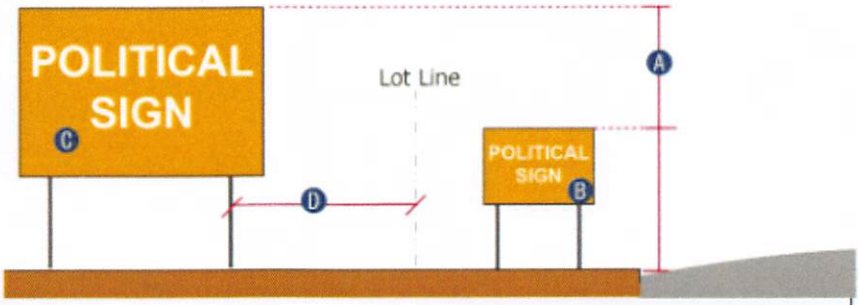
7. Political Signs





LEGEND

- (A) Maximum Height = 60" Above Adjacent Grade When on an Individual Lot; 42" Above Pavement of Adjacent Roadway when in a Street Right-of-Way
- (B) Maximum Sign Face Area within ROW= 6 sf
- (C) Maximum Sign Face Area on a Lot= 32 sf
- (D) No Min. Setback from Lot Line



a. Definition	Any sign that advocates for a particular political candidate, party, position, or political action that is made available for view by the public before and during the portion of a calendar year when elections are underway as described in Section 136-32 of the North Carolina General Statutes. Political signs are also referred to as "campaign" signs or "election" signs. Signs of a political nature that are placed on private property outside the period of time when elections are underway shall be considered as an incidental sign.

b. Zoning Districts Where Permitted	RESIDENTIAL & CR	MX & PD	OI & COI	NB	GB & CB	CBD & PDD	INDUSTRIAL & CI
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

c. Dimensional Standards

Maximum Number of Political Signs Per Lot	6 [1]	
Maximum Height	In a right-of-way	42 inches above the edge of the pavement of the adjacent roadway
	On an individual lot	60 inches above adjacent grade
Maximum Sign Face Area	In a right-of-way	6 square feet per sign
	On an individual lot	32 square feet per sign
Minimum Setback from any Lot Line	None	
Minimum Separation between Political Signs	[2]	

NOTES:
[1] There is no limit on the number of political signs that may be placed within the right-of-way in front of a lot during the portion of the year when elections are underway provided the owner of the sign obtains the consent of the lot's owner to place the sign in front of the lot.
[2] No political sign may be placed in any manner that obscures another sign from view.

d. Additional Standards

i. Political signs shall not be placed within required sight distance triangles or in locations that obstruct the safe movement of vehicles and pedestrians.
ii. Political signs may not be placed on utility poles or traffic control signal poles.
iii. Political signs may be placed in the right-of-way only during the period of time when elections are underway as identified in Section 136-32 of the North Carolina General Statutes.
iv. Political signs may not be illuminated.
v. Political signs found to be in violation of these standards or the applicable standards in Section 136-32 of the North Carolina General Statutes may be removed by the Zoning/Subdivision Administrator.

§ 136-32. Regulation of signs.

(a) Commercial Signs. - No unauthorized person shall erect or maintain upon any highway any warning or direction sign, marker, signal or light or imitation of any official sign, marker, signal or light erected under the provisions of G.S. 136-30, except in cases of emergency. No person shall erect or maintain upon any highway any traffic or highway sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial or political advertising, except as provided in subsections (b) through (e) of this section: Provided, nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the erection or maintenance of signs, markers, or signals bearing thereon the name of an organization authorized to erect the same by the Department of Transportation or by any local authority referred to in G.S. 136-31. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The Department of Transportation may remove any signs erected without authority or allowed to remain beyond the deadline established in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Compliant Political Signs Permitted. - During the period beginning on the 30th day before the beginning date of "one-stop" early voting under G.S. 163-227.2 and ending on the 10th day after the primary or election day, persons may place political signs in the right-of-way of the State highway system as provided in this section. Signs must be placed in compliance with subsection (d) of this section and must be removed by the end of the period prescribed in this subsection. Any political sign remaining in the right-of-way of the State highway system more than 30 days after the end of the period prescribed in this subsection shall be deemed unlawfully placed and abandoned property, and a person may remove and dispose of such political sign without penalty.

(c) Definition. - For purposes of this section, "political sign" means any sign that advocates for political action. The term does not include a commercial sign.

(d) Sign Placement. - The permittee must obtain the permission of any property owner of a residence, business, or religious institution fronting the right-of-way where a sign would be erected. Signs must be placed in accordance with the following:

(1) No sign shall be permitted in the right-of-way of a fully controlled access highway.
(2) No sign shall be closer than three feet from the edge of the pavement of the road.
(3) No sign shall obscure motorist visibility at an intersection.
(4) No sign shall be higher than 42 inches above the edge of the pavement of the road.
(5) No sign shall be larger than 864 square inches.
(6) No sign shall obscure or replace another sign.

(e) Penalties for Unlawful Removal of Signs. - It is a Class 3 misdemeanor for a person to steal, deface, vandalize, or unlawfully remove a political sign that is lawfully placed under this section.

(f) Application Within Municipalities. - Pursuant to Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes, a city may by ordinance prohibit or regulate the placement of political signs on rights-of-way of streets located within the corporate limits of a municipality and maintained by the municipality. Any such ordinance shall provide that any political sign that remains in a right-of-way of streets located within the corporate limits of a municipality and maintained by the municipality more than 30 days after the end of the period prescribed in the ordinance is to be deemed unlawfully placed and abandoned property, and a person may remove and dispose of such political sign without penalty. In the absence of an ordinance prohibiting or regulating the placement of political signs on the rights-of-way of streets located within a municipality and maintained by the municipality, the provisions of subsections (b) through (e) of this section shall apply. (1921, c. 2, s. 9(b); C.S., s. 3846(r); 1927, c. 148, ss. 56, 58; 1933, c. 172, s. 17; 1957, c. 65, s. 11; 1973, c. 507, s. 5; 1977, c.

464, s. 7.1; 1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 1030, s. 39; 1993, c. 539, s. 981; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 2011-408, s. 1; 2017-6, s. 3; 2018-146, ss. 3.1(a), (b), 6.1; 2019-119, s. 1.)

201 South Main Street |Graham, NC |336.570.6700 |www.cityofgraham.com

City of Graham Development Ordinances
Article X. Signs
Section 10.393 Exemptions
The following signs are exempt from regulation and permit requirements under this article, provided
such signs comply with the provisions of Section 10.397 General Limitations:
(8) Temporary political yard signs advertising candidates or issues, provided such signs do not exceed
one sign per candidate per zoning lot or sixteen (16) square feet in area per display surface, are not
erected prior to forty-five (45) days before the actual election day and are removed within seven (7)
days after the election.

I. Temporary political yard signs advertising candidates or issues, provided such signs do not exceed one sign per candidate per zone lot or 4 square feet in area per display surface, are not erected prior to 60 days before the appropriate election, and are removed within 4 days after the election. No sign shall be attached to utility poles, traffic regulatory signs, or other publicly-maintained structures.

104 S. WILLIAMSON AVE. • P.O. BOX 595 • ELON, NC 27244
P (336) 584-3601 • F (336) 584-5334
elonnc.com

§ 136-32. Regulation of signs.

(a) Commercial Signs. – No unauthorized person shall erect or maintain upon any highway any warning or direction sign, marker, signal or light or imitation of any official sign, marker, signal or light erected under the provisions of G.S. 136-30, except in cases of emergency. No person shall erect or maintain upon any highway any traffic or highway sign or signal bearing thereon any commercial or political advertising, except as provided in subsections (b) through (e) of this section: Provided, nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the erection or maintenance of signs, markers, or signals bearing thereon the name of an organization authorized to erect the same by the Department of Transportation or by any local authority referred to in G.S. 136-31. Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor. The Department of Transportation may remove any signs erected without authority or allowed to remain beyond the deadline established in subsection (b) of this section.

(b) Compliant Political Signs Permitted. – During the period beginning on the 30th day before the beginning date of "one-stop" early voting under G.S. 163A-1300 and ending on the 10th day after the primary or election day, persons may place political signs in the right-of-way of the State highway system as provided in this section. Signs must be placed in compliance with subsection (d) of this section and must be removed by the end of the period prescribed in this subsection.

(c) Definition. – For purposes of this section, "political sign" means any sign that advocates for political action. The term does not include a commercial sign.

(d) Sign Placement. – The permittee must obtain the permission of any property owner of a residence, business, or religious institution fronting the right-of-way where a sign would be erected. Signs must be placed in accordance with the following:

(1) No sign shall be permitted in the right-of-way of a fully controlled access highway.
(2) No sign shall be closer than three feet from the edge of the pavement of the road.
(3) No sign shall obscure motorist visibility at an intersection.
(4) No sign shall be higher than 42 inches above the edge of the pavement of the road.
(5) No sign shall be larger than 864 square inches.
(6) No sign shall obscure or replace another sign.

(e) Penalties for Unlawful Removal of Signs. – It is a Class 3 misdemeanor for a person to steal, deface, vandalize, or unlawfully remove a political sign that is lawfully placed under this section.

(f) Application Within Municipalities. – Pursuant to Article 8 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes, a city may by ordinance prohibit or regulate the placement of political signs on rights-of-way of streets located within the corporate limits of a municipality and maintained by the municipality. In the absence of an ordinance prohibiting or regulating the placement of political signs on the rights-of-way of streets located within a municipality and maintained by the municipality, the provisions of subsections (b) through (e) of this section shall apply.(1921, c. 2, s. 9(b); C.S., s. 3846(r); 1927, c. 148, ss. 56, 58; 1933, c. 172, s. 17; 1957, c. 65, s. 11; 1973, c. 507, s. 5; 1977, c. 464, s. 7.1; 1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 1030, s. 39; 1993, c. 539, s. 981; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 24, s. 14(c); 2011-408, s. 1; 2017-6, s. 3.)G.S. 136-32

TOWN OF GIBSONVILLE

129 WEST MAIN STREET
GIBSONVILLE, NC 27249

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER PHONE (336) 449-4144

(A) Certain temporary signs conforming to the provisions of Table 6-1-1. Other types of temporary signs may be allowed by permit based on the provisions of Table 6-1-2 and 6-1-3. Allowed without a permit are:

1) Temporary holiday decorations
2) Temporary real estate, event and construction signs which are removed within seven (7) days of the end of the event, completion of construction, or sale of property.
3) Temporary yard sale signs which are posted for no longer than three (3) days per sale.
4) Temporary political signs located on private property which are removed within seven (7) days after the election.

TOWN OF GREEN LEVEL

Campaign/Political Signs are allowed in all zoning districts without a sign permit if they meet the following guidelines:

a. Each sign shall not exceed more than 18 square feet in area

b. All such signs shall be removed within seven (7) days after the election for which they were made

c. No sign shall be placed upon any right-of-way, on any telephone pole or any street sign, or on any public property

d. No sign may be posted earlier than 45 days before the appropriate election date

Town of Haw River Political Sign Ordinance

§ 155.161 TEMPORARY SIGNS LIMITED.

(A) *Temporary signs permitted without a permit.* The following temporary signs are permitted
without a zoning permit in all zoning districts, but shall be in conformance with all other requirements
of this chapter:

(1) Campaign or election signs shall be permitted provided that:

(a) Individual signs shall not exceed 16 square feet in area or six feet in height.

(b) All signs shall be removed within two days after the election for which they were made; and

(c) No signs shall be permitted in the public right-of-way.

MAYOR
HENRY CARROUTH
MAYOR PRO TEM
DREW SHARPE

TOWN CLERK
AMY ALBRIGHT

TOWN OF SWEPSONVILLE

2747 Darrell Newton Drive
Graham, NC 27253
(336) 578-5644

Town Council
TRAVIS SAPP
WILBUR SUGGS
JOHN ANDREWS

Section 6-4. Signs Not Requiring A Permit

The signs listed below shall not require a permit from the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

However, all signs using electrical wiring and connections shall require an electrical permit.

CHAPTER 6

SIGNS

H. Political Campaign: Such signs are regulated by G.S. 136-32 and must be removed by the end of the 10th day after the primary or election as provided by G.S. 136-32 as written or hereafter amended.