

CITY OF CAMARILLO

SIGN REGULATIONS DURING ELECTION PERIODS AND OTHER TIMES

This handout summarizes the City of Camarillo’s Sign Code¹ provisions regarding “noncommercial signs”² that may be posted with campaign or political messages. Some noncommercial signs are permitted at any time, and other sign opportunities are only provided during an “**election period**,” which is defined as “the period commencing 90 days before any national, state, or local election in which city electors may vote up through the date of the election.”³

Temporary Noncommercial Sign Opportunities on a Parcel during an Election Period

<u>Residential Zones</u>	<u>Non-Residential Zones</u>
8 temporary freestanding noncommercial signs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 sq. ft. area/face • 4 feet max. height above ground • 3 feet max. height atop a rear yard wall • Non-illuminated • Must be removed 7 days after the election 	8 temporary freestanding noncommercial signs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32 sq. ft. area/face • No more than 4 feet high at the bottom of the sign • 10 feet maximum height • Non-illuminated • Must be removed 7 days after the election

The Sign Code also provides the following noncommercial sign opportunities at all times.

Temporary Noncommercial Sign Opportunities on a Parcel at All Times

<u>Residential Zones</u>	<u>Commercial Zones</u>	<u>Industrial & Agriculture Zones</u>
2 temporary freestanding noncommercial signs (which may be for campaign messages) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 sq. ft. area • 4 feet height • Non-illuminated 	N/A	N/A
1 temporary window sign (which may be a noncommercial/campaign sign) is permitted on each building frontage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 sq. ft. in area or 25% of the window area of any single window, whichever is greater 	No more than 25% of the window area may be utilized for window signs, which may include noncommercial/campaign signs	1 temporary window sign (which may be a noncommercial/campaign sign) is permitted on each building frontage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 sq. ft. in area or 25% of the window area of any single window, whichever is greater

In addition to the above opportunities, and subject to the consent of the property owner, a noncommercial message of any type may be substituted for all or part of the commercial or noncommercial message on any sign allowed under the City’s Sign Code. No special or additional approval is required to substitute a noncommercial message for any other message on a permitted sign, provided the sign structure is already approved or exempt from the City’s sign permit

¹ Camarillo Municipal Code (CMC) Chapter 17.04.

² CMC §17.04.020 (Definitions) defines a “noncommercial sign” as “a sign that does not name, advertise or call attention of a commercial or industrial business, commodity, product, good, service or other commercial or industrial activity for a commercial or industrial purpose.” This definition include signs with political or campaign messages.

³ CMC §17.04.020.

requirement and no structural or electrical change is made. (CMC §17.04.040.D.)

General Time, Place and Manner Sign Code Regulations Affecting Noncommercial Signs

Please note that:

- No sign may be placed or erected on private property without the full knowledge and consent of the lawful occupant or, if there is no lawful occupant, without the full knowledge and consent of the property owner. (CMC §17.04.040.B.)
- No sign may be placed in a manner that impedes, obstructs, denies or impairs the sight distance for safe pedestrian or vehicular traffic. If a residential property abuts a non-residential road, please make sure the sign is located on the private property and, if possible, set back at least 10 feet from the public road. (CMC §17.04.070.A.3; §17.04.130.M.)
- Signs may not be placed on any public property or in the public right-of-way, which includes, but is not limited to, any street, sidewalk, walkway, parkway, floodway, wall, or other city-owned structure. Signs also may not be posted in such a manner as to hang over or into a sidewalk or walkway area. (CMC §17.04.070.A.1.)
- Signs may not be attached to any other sign including any traffic sign or be posted in any way that would create a hazard for pedestrian or vehicular traffic. (CMC §17.04.130.M.)

Any sign not in compliance with the regulations above or other applicable provisions of the Camarillo Municipal Code may be removed by the City. Nothing prohibits the removal of any sign that is determined by the Public Works Director or Director of Community Development, or their designees, to be an immediate danger to persons or property. Additionally, any sign may be removed with the property owner's authorization. (CMC §17.04.140.) If a sign is removed by the City, it will be stored in the Community Development Department at City Hall. It is the candidate's responsibility to reclaim the sign.

If you have questions, including where temporary noncommercial signs may be placed, contact Jamie Avila in the Code Enforcement Division at (805) 383-5357.