

## POLITICAL SIGNS

The placement of political signs is subject to regulation by the City of San Buenaventura, County of Ventura, and State of California. This information is provided as a courtesy to all candidates:

- Signs may not be placed on private property without the permission of the property owner or their designee. This includes all vacant lots.
- A sign on the property is not permission for your sign to be added; you must also receive permission to add your sign to the property.
- Placement of all signs must not constitute a traffic hazard or create a hazardous condition.
- Signs may not be adhered to a crosswalk, curbing, hydrant, tree, fence, enclosure or building, or upon any telegraph, telephone, or electrical lighting pole, without first obtaining the permission of the owner, agent or occupant thereof.
- Candidates will be contacted by City Staff if signs violate the San Buenaventura Municipal Code and will be required to remove the signs.
- City staff has the right to remove signs located in a public right-of-way or on city owned property if in violation of the San Buenaventura Municipal Code.

### City of Ventura Regulations

#### **Temporary Political Sign**

Temporary political signs shall not be installed more than six months prior to any national election or more than three months prior to any other election and shall be removed within ten days of the completion of the subject election.

Temporary political signs identifying campaign headquarters shall not be subject to Sections 24.420.100 through 24.420.250.

Temporary political signs located on private property shall have the permission of the property owner. Temporary political signs may be located in a public right-of-way, such as within treewells, sidewalks, or parkways but **not within medians or roadways**. No temporary political sign on private property or in a public right-of-way shall be located in a manner that may constitute a traffic hazard or create a hazardous condition for persons using the public right-of-way.

*(Excerpt from Municipal Code, Chapter 24.420.050, Paragraph 10)*

**The entire Sign Regulations (Chapter 24.420) of the San Buenaventura Municipal Code may be view at:**

[https://library.municode.com/ca/san\\_buenaventura/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances?nodeId=DIV24ZORE\\_CH24.420SIRE](https://library.municode.com/ca/san_buenaventura/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=DIV24ZORE_CH24.420SIRE)

**All local candidates may place temporary political signs up three months prior to the election and all must be removed 10 days after the election. Please note those dates.** Please help to keep the City of Ventura beautiful and remove your signs.

<b>PLACEMENT OF TEMPORARY POLITICAL SIGNS</b>	
Election signs may be posted beginning three months before the November 3, 2020 Election	<b>August 3, 2020</b>
Elections signs must be removed by 10 days following the November 3, 2020 Election	<b>November 13, 2020</b>

### **Owner's Authorization**

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to post, stick, stamp, paint or otherwise affix, or cause to be done by another, any notice, placard, bill, poster, or advertisement to or upon any sidewalk, crosswalk, curbing, hydrant, tree, fence, enclosure or building, or upon any telegraph, telephone, or electrical lighting pole, without first obtaining the permission of the owner, agent or occupant thereof.

*(Excerpt from Municipal Code, Section 18.220.010, Paragraph E)*

### **Handbills**

It shall be unlawful for any persons, either directly or indirectly, to distribute, deposit, place, throw, scatter, or cast, any handbill in or upon any public thoroughfare, park, ground, or other public place within the city or upon any private yard, grounds, walk, porch, steps, mailbox, vestibule, house, residence, building, or any other private property.

*(Excerpt from Municipal Code, Section 18.220.010, Paragraph A)*

### **County of Ventura Requirements**

The Ventura County Ordinance regarding Signs, Standards and Permits has been duplicated for your information and guidance. The Ventura County Ordinance only regulates signs placed in the unincorporated areas of the county. You are encouraged to read it and if you have any questions relating to political signs, the staff of the Planning Department of Ventura County will be happy to assist you. They can be reached at (805) 654-2488 or (805) 654-2451.

### **County Signs - Standards**

**County of Ventura Planning Code, Chapter 8, states:**

#### **§8110-6.8 - Political Signs**

The purpose of this section is to prevent damage to Public property, protect the integrity of the electoral process and prevent the erosion of aesthetic quality and historic values within the County. It is specifically recognized that if temporary political signs on private property are not

removed after the election is held, the deteriorating signs and accumulating debris become a blight, defacing the landscape. It is therefore an intent of this Article to make provision for the erection and removal of such signs after the election which they publicized has been held.

#### **§8110-6.8.1 - Political Signs on Private Property**

No temporary political sign face shall exceed thirty-two (32) square feet in area. The aggregate area of all temporary signs placed or maintained on any lot in one ownership shall not exceed ninety-six (96) square feet.

#### **§8110-6.8.2 - Political Sign Registration**

In order to keep track of the placement of temporary political signs to assure removal subsequent to an election, such signs shall be registered with the Planning Department by the candidate or his or her registered agent, or, when a ballot proposition is involved, by an authorized agent of the group or organization sponsoring the signs, prior to the distribution of such signs for the attachment or installation on any property. Registration of political signs shall be on forms available in the Planning Department and shall be accompanied by an agreement signed by the candidate or his or her authorized agent, or when a ballot proposition is involved, by an authorized agent of the group or organization sponsoring the signs, that within ten calendar days after the election all political signs shall be removed, and a certified statement by the registrant that consent will be obtained from each owner of the property on which a sign is to be posted.

#### **§8110-6.8.3 - Location**

Political signs may not be affixed, installed, or erected within 100 feet of a polling place or historic site, nor within the right of way of any highway, nor within 660 feet of the edge of a "Scenic Highway" or landscaped freeway, nor in any location where the sign will impair sight distance or create a hazard to traffic or pedestrians, nor on any telephone pole, lamppost, tree, wall, fence, bridge, bench, hydrant, curbstone, sidewalk or other structure in or upon any public right-of-way, nor upon any other public property.

#### **§8110-6.8.4 - Time Frames**

Temporary political signs shall not be posted sooner than 90 days prior to a scheduled election administered by the County Elections Department. Said signs shall be removed within 10 days after the election.

#### **§8110-6.8.5 - Enforcement**

Except for signs remaining posted after the post-election deadline, any political sign not posted in accordance with the provisions of this Article shall be deemed to be a public nuisance and shall be subject to removal by the candidate, property owner, or, when a ballot proposition is involved, the authorized agent of the group or organization sponsoring the sign or, upon their failure to do so after reasonable attempt at notice by the County, by County officers or zoning inspectors. Any political sign which is not removed within the specified period following an election shall be subject to summary removal and confiscation by the County.

### **State Requirements**

The State Department of Transportation, political signs within view of State or County highways are subject to the provisions of the Outdoor Advertising Act. The Division of Highways is prepared to answer questions about state regulation of campaign signs, call (916) 654-4790.