



January 16, 2024

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
2662 Riva Road Annapolis, MD 21401

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING  
2664 Riva Road Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Candidate:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information regarding County regulations that apply to campaign signs.

According to § 18-1-101(127) (iv) of the Anne Arundel County Code, campaign signs are classified as temporary signs and in accordance with §18 3-306(a) are allowed in all zoning districts. A permit for the sign is not required. The sign must:

- 1) Be located on private property with the permission of the property owner and may not be located in County rights-of-way;
- 2) Be posted no more than 60 days before the election and be removed within seven days after the conclusion of the election;

*While the County encourages candidates to remove signs from private property beginning seven days after the primary election and until sixty days before the general election to reduce damage to signs and to eliminate clutter, please note that the County does not begin active enforcement unless signs are displayed beyond seven days after completion of the general election.*

- 3) Not exceed 12 feet in height above grade level; and
- 4) Not exceed a maximum sign area of nine square feet in a residential district and 24 square feet in all other districts.

As noted above, temporary signs are not allowed within County rights of way. As a general rule, the County right-of-way usually extends about one foot behind the utility pole line or sidewalk. More specific right-of-way information may be available from the Department of Public Works Drafting, Records & Research Division at (410) 222-7049. You should be aware that the County may remove and dispose of any sign posted in a County right-of-way that is not permitted by Code and may impose the costs of removal and disposition on the person or entity responsible for the sign (§18-3 303(d)).

Any signs which present any obstruction to County roadways, sidewalks, or rights-of-way (including visibility blockage) may be removed in accordance with §§ 13-1-105 and 18-3-303(d).

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We believe these guidelines will allow for the placement of campaign signs while reducing the chance of creating traffic hazards. We also ask that this information be passed along to your campaign aides and supporters so that they too will be familiar with the regulations. If you have any questions regarding these guidelines, please contact the Department of Public Works Traffic Engineering Division at (410) 222-7331 or the Office of Planning & Zoning, Zoning Enforcement Division at (410) 222-7446.

The City of Annapolis and the State Highway Administration have separate regulations. You may wish to contact those jurisdictions for more information (City of Annapolis Department of Public Works: (410) 263-7949; State Highway Administration District 5: (410) 841-1000).

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:



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Karen Henry

Director

Department of Public Works

DocuSigned by:



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Jenny B. Jarkowski

Planning and Zoning Officer

Office of Planning and Zoning