
City of Greater Geraldton
4.23 ELECTION SIGNS

SUSTAINABILITY THEME

Governance

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this policy is to establish controls for electoral signs and public electoral material on local government property, during Federal, State and Local Government ordinary and extraordinary elections of Council.

POLICY STATEMENT

This policy is to be read in conjunction with the City of Greater Geraldton Local Laws, *Local Government and Public Property Local Law 2014*, and *Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2011*. This policy precludes the placement of electoral signage or material, on or within local government property.

POLICY DETAILS

1. Signs - General

1.1. *Local Government and Public Property Local Law*, clause 10 :

10. Activities requiring approval

A person shall not on or from any local government property, without having first obtained a written approval from the local government to do so---

(p) *erect or display any sign.*

1.2. *Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2011*, paragraph 3.2:

3.2 Advertising signs and portable direction signs

(1) *A person shall not, without a permit—*

(a) *erect or place an advertising sign on a thoroughfare;*

(b) *post any bill or paint, place or affix any advertisement on a thoroughfare.*

2. Election Signs on Facilities or Land Owned or Controlled by the City

2.1. There is a risk that election signs, or election material, placed on, or in City of Greater Geraldton (the City), local government property, may be interpreted as being endorsed by the City.

2.2. The City considers that the proliferation of election signs during election campaigns may cause an unacceptable level of visual pollution.

2.3. Development and implementation of a formal system for administering election advertising, on City property, would place an additional burden on City resources.

2.4. The City will therefore not approve an application to erect or display election signs, or display electoral material, on, or in City property, including property belonging to, or under the care, control and management of the City, including a thoroughfare.

- 2.5. Electoral signs or electoral material placed on, or in, City property will be removed by the City.
- 2.6. The City will confiscate and retain signs until a payment of \$20 is made to the City, to retrieve the sign.
- 2.7. This provision will not apply to City property that is used as a polling place on the day of an election. A sign may be displayed on City property that is used as a polling place on the day of an election.

KEY TERM DEFINITIONS

Electoral material means any advertisement, handbill, pamphlet, notice, letter or article intended or calculated to affect the result of an election but does not include an advertisement in a newspaper announcing the holding of a meeting.

Sign includes a notice, flag, mark, structure or device on which may be shown words, numbers, expressions or symbols, anything which presents a visual message, and the surface or structure on which the message is located.

Thoroughfare has the meaning given to it in the Act, but does not include a private thoroughfare which is not under the management or control of the local government.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Manager Corporate Services is responsible for implementing this policy.

WORKPLACE INFORMATION

Local Government Act 1995

City of Greater Geraldton Local Laws:

- *Local Government and Public Property Local Law 2014.*
- *Activities in Thoroughfares and Public Places and Trading Local Law 2011.*

POLICY ADMINISTRATION

Directorate		Officer	Review Cycle	Next Due
Corporate and Commercial Services		Manager Corporate Services	Biennial	January 2019
Version	Decision Reference	Synopsis		
1.	CCS264-27 June 2017	New Policy		
2.		Policy Review		