

May 13, 2024

Dear Candidate:

The District of Columbia Department of Public Works (DPW) wishes to take this opportunity to provide guidance to political candidates concerning the placement of campaign signs, advertisements and placards within the District, and rules governing their removal. District Municipal Regulation (DCMR) §24-108 and the Litter Control Administration Act govern the use of campaign signage on all streets, highways, and roads within the District of Columbia.

As such, placement of campaign signs in public spaces is permitted with strict adherence to the following guidelines:

- No person shall affix a sign, advertisement, or poster to any public lamppost or appurtenances of a lamppost.
- Signs, advertisements, and posters shall be affixed for no more than one hundred eighty (180) days. Candidates must remove all campaign materials affixed to lampposts or appurtenances of a lamppost within this timeframe.
- Each sign, advertisement, or poster shall be affixed to surfaces securely to avoid being torn or disengaged by normal weather conditions, including lawn signs.
- Signs, advertisements, and posters shall not be affixed by adhesives that prevent their complete removal, or that cause damage to a fixture upon removal.
- No more than three (3) versions or copies of each sign, advertisement, or poster shall be affixed on one (1) side of a street within one (1) block.
- All signs, advertisements, or posters related to a specific event shall be removed from public spaces no later than thirty (30) days following the event to which it is related.
- Candidates may not display material on any tree or in any tree box space on public space.
- Candidates may not use public litter or recycling cans to discard campaign trash. Candidates may not post promotional or advertising materials on public litter cans, streetlights, traffic control boxes or any government buildings.

Additionally, DPW advises all candidates to seek approval from individual property owners before placing campaign signs, advertisements, placards and other postings on private property. This will ensure proper placement of campaign materials along appropriate and lawful property lines.

DPW expects candidates for public office to observe the laws and regulations enacted to limit waste on public roads and to preserve the beauty and cleanliness of the District. Pursuant to the District's Litter Control Administration Act, all campaign materials must be discarded in proper



trash receptacles **within thirty (30) days following the related event**. Violators may be subject to citation and fines of up to \$2000.

If you have any questions about the placement of campaign signs within the District of Columbia, please contact the Department of Public Works at (202) 673-6833.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,


Timothy W. Spriggs,
Director