

# Election Signage

## Council Policy



Policy Name	Election Signage		
Type	Council Policy		
Owner	Elected Members		
Responsible Officer	Director Community Development		
Decision Number	22348	Approval Date	27/09/2022
Records Number		Next Review Date	2024

### 1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to waive the requirement to obtain certain permits from the Alice Springs Town Council relating to the placement and removal of election signage on ASTC-controlled areas. This policy also serves to advise candidates as to the requirements for such signage.

### 2 Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Term	Definition
<b>ASTC</b>	Alice Springs Town Council
<b>ASTC-controlled area</b>	Areas within the municipality of Alice Springs that are under the care and control of the Alice Springs Town Council
<b>Authorised Person</b>	A person authorised pursuant to section 183 of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i>
<b>Election</b>	Federal, Northern Territory Legislative Assembly, and Alice Springs Town Council Elections/By-elections

### 3 Policy Statement

The ASTC dispenses with the requirement to obtain permits for activities specified in by-laws 23 and 24 of the *Alice Springs (Management of Public Places) By-laws 2009* where such activities directly relate to the advertisement of a candidate contesting an election. This dispensation is subject to the following conditions:

#### 3.1 Sign Display Period

Signs may be displayed:

- Six (6) weeks prior to a fixed election date (Northern Territory Legislative Assembly and Alice Springs Town Council Elections/By-elections).
- From the date of public notice by the Australian Electoral Commissioner of receipt of writ to conduct an election (Federal Elections/By-elections)

Signs must be removed no later than seven (7) days after an election.

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### 3.2 Sign Details

Signs should be 1.5m<sup>2</sup> or less in area, and be displayed on corflute or a similar material. Electronic signage of any kind is not permitted.

### 3.3 Sign Placement and Accountability

Signs should be positioned with regard to the following:

- Signs must be at least 1m clear of:
  - Power poles
  - Irrigation systems or sprinklers, and positioned so as not to impede the operation of such systems.
  - Street lights
  - Trees, shrubs, or garden beds
  - Roads, footpaths, and cycling paths.
- Signs must be at least 5m away from any road sign, speed display sign, or any other traffic control device.
- Signs must not be positioned in a way that obstruct the view or flow of traffic or pedestrians (including being placed in bus stops or on roundabouts).
- Signs must not be placed in a way that damages ASTC infrastructure.
- Signs must not be placed on ASTC assets, including buildings or fences.

Candidates are responsible for the timely removal of any damaged or unsecured signage. Candidates must also ensure that any rubbish generated as a result of their election signage (zip ties, broken posts etc) is removed as soon as possible.

It is the responsibility of each candidate to maintain a record of the location of all election signage displayed on ASTC-controlled areas (this does not include signs displayed on private property). This record must be provided upon request to an Authorised Person.

No election signage is to be applied or affixed to private property without the consent of the owner or occupier of that property.

The use of star pickets, wooden stakes or similar items to display election signage on ASTC-controlled areas is prohibited. For the purpose of displaying election signage low strength or frangible stakes must be used, such as lightweight fence droppers.

### 3.4 Breaches of this Policy

Candidates will be afforded a reasonable amount of time (usually 24 hours) to rectify any issues of non-compliance with this policy. Failure to rectify such issues within the time period allowed will result in the offending signage being removed.

The return of removed signage will be subject to confirmation, in writing, that a candidate understands this policy and will comply with all requirements of the policy. Further breaches may result in compliance action, pursuant to the *Alice Springs (Management of Public Places) By-laws 2009*.

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Any sign that presents a road safety issue will be immediately removed by an Authorised Person.

Signs that are not collected within the required time following an election may be removed. The ASTC may also take further action, pursuant to the *Alice Springs (Management of Public Places) By-laws 2009*.

## 4 Sign Content

The content of election signage is dictated by the various relevant acts and regulations and is not managed or enforced by the ASTC. This policy in no way removes any requirement to adhere to relevant legislation. Further information regarding the content of election signage can be found here: <https://ntec.nt.gov.au/publications-and-reports/Information-sheets>

## 5 Areas controlled by other Authorities

### 5.1 Roads controlled by the Northern Territory Government

The following roads are under the control of the Northern Territory Government:

Roadway
Stuart Highway (Telegraph Terrace)
Larapinta Drive
Undoolya Road
Sadadeen Road
Ross Highway
Stott Terrace
Stephens Road (from South Terrace to The Links, including Casino causeway)
South Terrace (from Gap Road to Stephens Road)
Gap Road (from Stuart Highway (Telegraph Terrace) – to Acacia Street)

Any complaints regarding election signage adjacent to these roads should be directed to the Northern Territory Department of Infrastructure, Planning, and Logistics. More information, including their election signage policy and contact details, can be found here: <https://dipl.nt.gov.au/policies/election-signage-and-mobile-roadside-booths-policies>

## 6 Related Documents

- *Local Government Act 2019*
- *Alice Springs (Management of Public Places) By-laws 2009*

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## 7 Version History

Title/Version	Date	Approved by
Version 2.0	29/09/2022	Council

## 8 Communication and Training

Will this policy be communicated through internal communications?	Yes
Where will this policy be available?	Council Website
Will training needs arise from this policy? If yes, who will be responsible.	Yes, Manager Rangers