

8

COUNCIL POLICY ON ELECTION HOARDINGS

The Waikato District Council's guidelines on the erection of election hoardings/signs for an election, by-election or referendum are as follows:

Specific District Plan Requirements

- The Waikato District Plan classifies signs for public elections as being a Permitted Activity, except in Recreation Reserves and along State Highways.

Conditions for Election Signs

- Signs can be erected up to three months prior to election day.
- Signs must be removed prior to election day.
- Signs must not flash or be illuminated, or have moving parts.
- There is a limit of one sign per site.

Traffic Safety

Signs must not:

- Contain reflective material
- Obscure the vision of drivers
- Be animated by means of moving parts or illuminated by means of flashing, "blinking or moving" lights, or other means such that traffic safety is jeopardised
- Be lit so as to constitute a nuisance or hazard to traffic and/or pedestrians
- Mimic official road signs used to control, direct or warn traffic
- Fall into a state of disrepair.

Height of Signs

- In all zones, signs must not exceed the maximum height permitted for buildings. The following table lists the maximum height permitted for buildings in the various zones in the Waikato District.

Zone	Maximum Height Permitted for Signs
Residential	7.5 metres
Rural	10 metres
Business	10 metres
Industrial	15 metres
Reserves	7.5 metres

Signs Intended to be read by Road Users

- The following minimum letter heights apply:

Approach Speed	Minimum Lettering
Less than 70kph	124mm
70kph or greater	160mm

Note: That all signs are limited to 40 characters or six symbols.

Area of Signs

- The following table lists the maximum area permitted for a sign in each zone.

Zone	Maximum Height Permitted for Signs
Residential	0.72m ²
Rural	3m ²
Business	Not limited
Industrial	Not limited
Reserves	3m ²

Note: That for all areas the vertical measure of a sign must be greater than the horizontal measure.

General District Plan Requirement

- Signs that exceed 4.0m² in area or that, in Council's opinion, are likely to pose a danger to pedestrian or vehicular traffic, require a building consent.

Maintenance of Signs

- The owner of a sign is responsible for ensuring that it is well maintained. If a sign is poorly maintained, Council may require its removal, especially if it has an adverse visual effect on the area within which it is located.

Siting of Signs in Landscape, Coastal and Ridgeline Protection Policy Areas

- Signs should not intrude above the skyline or disrupt significant views. When erecting a sign, use the landform or existing vegetation to form a natural backdrop.

Signs on State Highways

- Subject to the Transit New Zealand Bylaw 1987/3, no sign may be erected on any part of a State Highway (including the State Highway road reserve), unless written consent is first obtained from Transit New Zealand. This bylaw does not apply to 50kph speed zones and the bylaw itself is not part of the Waikato District Plan. For further information regarding the bylaw contact:

Regional Highway Manager
Transit New Zealand
354 Victoria Street
P O Box 973
Hamilton
Phone: (07) 957 1610 Fax: (07) 957 1437.

Signs on Waikato District Roads

- No sign may be erected on any part of a Waikato District Council road (including the road reserve), unless written consent is first obtained from Council's Roding Group. Contact the Roding Group at:

Waikato District Council
Private Bag 544
Ngaruawahia 3742
Phone: (07) 824 8633 Fax: (07) 824 8091.

For more information or assistance, please contact the Council's Duty Planner at the above address.