



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: General Purposes Committee
From: David Weber
Director, City Clerk's Office and
Chief Election Officer

Date: May 16, 2018
File: 12-8060-20-9887

Re: Update to Election and Political Signs Bylaw

Staff Recommendation

That Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 8713, Amendment Bylaw No. 9887 be introduced and given first, second and third readings.

David Weber
Director, City Clerk's Office and
Chief Election Officer
(604-276-4098)

REPORT CONCURRENCE		
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Law	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Community Bylaws	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 	APPROVED BY CAO

Staff Report

Origin

An amendment to the Election and Political Signs Bylaw is recommended in order to bring the Bylaw into alignment with the language in the Sign Regulation Bylaw regarding generally prohibited sign types.

The deadline for the adoption of any bylaws that apply to the 2018 General Local and School Election is July 9, 2018.

Analysis

In 2011, Council adopted Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 8713. The Bylaw was adopted as a stand-alone Bylaw separate from the Sign Bylaw that was in effect at that time. Subsequently, the regulation of signage in the City underwent a review which resulted in the adoption of Sign Regulation Bylaw No. 9700 in July 2017. Because election and political signs were already regulated by a stand-alone bylaw, a clause was included indicating that the new Sign Bylaw did not apply to signs regulated by the Election and Political Signs Bylaw.

As part of the Sign Regulation Bylaw adopted in 2017, a number of sign types were prohibited, including flashing signs, inflatable signs, and signs located on rooftops, vehicles and shipping containers. These prohibitions were intended to apply City-wide and in all circumstances, however, due to the above noted bylaw wording, it could be interpreted that these prohibited types of signs would not apply to election and political signage.

For clarity and to remove all doubt concerning the use of generally prohibited signs, an amendment to the Election and Political Signs Bylaw is recommended to bring this bylaw into alignment with the general prohibitions in the Sign Regulation Bylaw.

Financial Impact

None.

Conclusion

An amendment to the Election and Political Signs Bylaw is recommended to bring the Bylaw into alignment with generally prohibited sign types as defined in the adopted Sign Regulation Bylaw. This amendment would ensure a consistent approach and would avoid confusion during the upcoming civic election period.



David Weber
Director, City Clerk's Office
And Chief Election Officer
(604-276-4098)



**Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 8713,
Amendment Bylaw No. 9887**

The Council of the City of Richmond, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. *Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 8713*, as amended, is further amended by deleting the word “nor” from the end of subsection 1.1.2(a);
2. *Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 8713*, as amended, is further amended by adding the following after subsection 1.1.2(b) as new subsections 1.1.2(c) through (g) and renumbering the remainder of the bylaw:
 - “(c) that is a container sign, being a **political sign** of any type displayed on a shipping container that is placed primarily for the purpose of displaying the **political sign**;
 - (d) that is a flashing sign, being a **political sign**, other than a **changeable copy sign**, that incorporates an intermittent or flashing light source or effect whether actual or simulated;
 - (e) that is an inflatable sign, being a gas-supported three dimensional device anchored or attached to land or a **building**, that displays a **political sign** or attracts attention to the property;
 - (f) that is a roof sign, being a **political sign** erected on the parapet or roof of a **building**, or attached to the wall of a **building** and extending above the roof line; or
 - (g) that is a vehicle sign, being a **political sign** of any type displayed on a vehicle, including any truck trailer, that is parked or stored primarily for the purpose of displaying the **political sign**.”
3. *Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 8713*, as amended, is further amended at Section 4.1 by adding the following definition in alphabetical order:

“CHANGEABLE COPY SIGN means changeable copy sign as defined in the City’s *Sign Regulation Bylaw No. 9700*.
4. This Bylaw may be cited as **“Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 8713, Amendment Bylaw No. 9887”**.

FIRST READING
SECOND READING
THIRD READING
ADOPTED

CITY OF RICHMOND
APPROVED by <i>DW</i>
APPROVED by Manager or Solicitor <i>BJS</i>

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER