



CITY OF LAUDERHILL

OFF-SITE NON-COMMERCIAL AND POLITICAL SIGN REQUIREMENTS

The City of Lauderhill amended the political sign requirements in November 2022. Below are important changes to the political sign requirements.

- A two-hundred dollar (\$200.00) non-refundable sign bond must be filed with the Finance Department prior to posting a non-commercial or political sign.
- Failure to post a bond shall result in a citation being issued for fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day against the candidate for political signs, or against the applicant for off-site non-commercial signs.
- No political sign shall be displayed, erected or installed:
 - On **non-residential property** more than **sixty (60) days** immediately preceding the election that is the subject of the political sign.
 - On **residential property** more than **ninety (90) days** immediately preceding the election that is the subject of the political sign.
- No more than one (1) political sign per candidate per residential property; unless property is on a corner lot, then two (2) signs may be permitted.
- Political signs shall not be placed within ten (10) feet of any City of Lauderhill permanent sign.
- Political signs shall not be placed within 150 feet of any polling site building entrance.
- If City removes improperly placed political signs, the city shall deduct the cost and expense for removal from the sign bond.
- Political signs must be removed within seven (7) days from the date of the election or event.
- After issuance of a notice of violation for a political sign violation, compliance must be achieved within forty-eight (48) hours. If compliance is not achieved, a civil citation may be issued by a City of Lauderhill Code Enforcement officer punishable by a forfeiture of the bond and a \$50 fine per violation. Each sign and each day is a separate violation.
- Any and all outstanding fines for violating the political sign policy must be satisfied prior to qualification to run in any future City election.
- All off-site non-commercial and political signs must comply with the dimensions set forth Schedule I. Section 8.0. (a) (3).

Sec. 8.0. Specific sign requirements.

(a) *Temporary permits.*

3. *Off-site noncommercial and political signs.*

- a. Temporary off-site noncommercial signs or signs advertising a candidate for public office, or a political campaign, measure or issue scheduled for an election are only permitted subject to the following requirements:

(1) *Standards.*

- (a) *Residential Zoning Districts.* On property zoned residential district, the maximum sign size is three (3) square feet or eighteen (18) inches by twenty-four (24) inches. The height of said sign itself shall not exceed eighteen (18) inches and the width of said sign shall not exceed twenty-four (24) inches. The maximum sign size in residential zoning districts does not apply to magnetic signs temporarily affixed to the door of a passenger automobile. No more than one (1) sign per candidate, event, meeting, or election per residential property shall be allowed, unless the property is on a corner. Corner properties may have up to two (2) signs per candidate, event, meeting, or election. Double-sided signs shall be considered as one (1) sign.
 - i. No sign in a residential district shall be placed on public property such as a swale area, right of way or park.
 - ii. No sign in a residential district shall be placed on fence, tree or hedge.
 - iii. No sign in a residential district shall be installed more than ninety (90) days prior to the election that is the subject of the political sign.
- (b) *Nonresidential Districts.* On property zoned non-residential, the maximum sign size is restricted to twenty-four (24) square feet. No more than one (1) sign per candidate, event, meeting, or election per nonresidential private property shall be allowed, unless the property is on a corner. Corner properties may have up to two (2) signs per candidate, event, meeting, or election. Double-sided signs shall be considered as one (1) sign. No sign shall be posted in a manner such that the top of the sign stands more than eight (8) feet in height above the ground beneath it. No sign in a nonresidential district shall be installed more than sixty (60) days prior to the election that is the subject of the political sign.
 - i. *Placement of Signs.* On property zoned non-residential, no sign, poster, banner or placard of any type shall be affixed, painted, tacked, or nailed to any utility poles, trees, fences, or buildings, or otherwise displayed, placed or located on any state, County or City rights-of-way and/or median strips within the City limits. See Florida Statute 479.11(8).
 - ii. No sign shall be placed within one-hundred fifty (150) feet from any polling site building entrance. Any sign so placed is subject to immediate removal. See Florida Statute 102.031(4)(a) and (b).

- iii. No sign shall be placed within ten (10) feet of any City of Lauderhill permanent sign.
- (2) *Prohibited Signs.* No sign shall be attached or otherwise applied to trees, shrubs, utility poles, bus benches, trash receptacles, sidewalks, crosswalks, curbs, hydrants, bridges, traffic signs or lights, street signs or any other unapproved supporting structure.
 - (3) *Illumination Prohibited.* Signs shall not be illuminated or constructed of a reflective material and shall not contain any signs, streamers, movable items, fluttering, spinning, totaling or similar attention attractors or advertising devices.
 - (4) *Location of Signs.* No sign shall block corner visibility or be located in a required sight visibility triangle. All signs shall be placed and erected in a safe and appropriate manner.
 - (5) *Enforcement Procedures.*
 - (a) *Application.* With the exception of signs erected by the City, any candidate, individual or organization that intends to post a political sign or noncommercial sign, must first file an application with the Finance Department before signs are erected, providing name, address, and telephone numbers of applicant.
 - (b) *Bond.* Every applicant, who wishes to display off-site non-commercial or political signs on real property located in the City of Lauderhill must post a non-refundable cash bond in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) with the City of Lauderhill before posting any signs in the City of Lauderhill. Failure to post a bond shall result in a citation being issued for fifty dollars (\$50.00) per day against the candidate for political signs or against the applicant for off-site non-commercial signs. If the sign bond is depleted as a result of repeat violations, the candidate shall be required to post a new sign bond in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00).
 - (c) *Removal of Improper Political Signs and off-site noncommercial signs.* Political campaign signs and off-site noncommercial signs not posted in accordance with these regulations shall be subject to removal by the candidate, the property owner, or the City. If the City removes the sign, the City shall deduct the cost and expense of removal from the posted cash bond.
 - (d) *Date of Installation.* No political sign or off-site noncommercial sign shall be displayed, erected or installed on nonresidential property prior to sixty (60) days immediately preceding any election, event or meeting which is the subject matter of the sign.
 - (e) *Date of Removal.* Each and every sign posted by an applicant, a candidate, or his/her supporters must be removed within seven (7) days from the day of the event, meeting, or election in which the candidate's victory or defeat is determined. If a candidate participates in a run-off and has a general election to follow, the signs may remain up until the general election is complete, with no further sign bond required.

- (f) *Responsibility for Removal.* For purposes of this Section, each political candidate is responsible for each sign advertising his or her candidacy, regardless of who posted the sign or whether the sign is posted with authorization from the political candidate. The person or persons posting a political candidate's campaign sign shall be regarded as an agent of the candidate. The applicant is required to remove any non-political off-site non-commercial sign.
- b. *Violation; Penalty.* For signs on commercial property only.
- (1) The person(s) to be charged with violation of this Section shall be the candidate(s) or person or entity whose name(s) appears and is advertised on the prohibited sign, poster, banner or placard or the campaign treasurer and sponsors of any other type of political campaign or issue which campaign or issue appears and is advertised on the prohibited sign, poster, banner or placard. Notice shall be given to the person(s) described herein of violation of Schedule I, Section 8. After notice is given, compliance must be achieved within forty-eight (48) hours. If compliance is not achieved within forty-eight (48) hours, a civil citation may be issued by a City of Lauderhill Code Enforcement Officer.
 - (2) In addition to the bond forfeiture specified above, violation of any of the provisions of Schedule I, Section 8 shall be punishable by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per violation. Each prohibited sign shall constitute a separate offense. Each day that a violation is permitted to exist shall constitute a separate offense.
 - (3) Any and all outstanding fines for violating this section assessed against a candidate must be satisfied prior to his or her qualification to run in any future city election.

**PLEASE POST SIGN BOND WITH THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF CITY HALL, 5581
W. OAKLAND PARK BOULEVARD, LAUDERHILL, FLORIDA 33313.**

PHONE NO. (954) 730-3030