



The Corporation of the Town of Orangeville

By-law Number 2026-012

A by-law to manage and regulate election signs and election campaign advertisements within the Town of Orangeville

Whereas subsection 11(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001 c. 25, as amended, authorizes the Town to pass by-laws respecting highways over which it has jurisdiction and to pass by-laws respecting signs; and

Whereas subsection 63(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, c. 25, as amended, authorizes the Town to provide for the removal of any object placed on a highway in contravention of that by-law; and

Whereas Section 425 of the Municipal Act provides that a municipality may pass bylaws providing that a person who contravenes a bylaw of the municipality passed under the Act is guilty of an offence; and

Whereas Section 434.1 of the Municipal Act authorizes a municipality to require a person to pay an administrative penalty if the municipality is satisfied that the person has failed to comply with a bylaw of the municipality passed under the Municipal Act; and

Whereas section 88.3 and 88.9 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended, establish requirements respecting election campaign advertisements by Candidates and registered third party advertisers; and

Whereas the Council of the Town of Orangeville deems it necessary to regulate election signs and campaign advertisements in the Town of Orangeville.

Now therefore be it resolved that Council for The Corporation of the Town of Orangeville hereby enacts as follows:

1. Title

- 1.1. This bylaw may be referred to as the Election Sign Bylaw.

2. Definitions

- 2.1. **"Boulevard"** means that portion of a highway, paved or unpaved, between the Town's property line and the curb line, but does not include a sidewalk.
- 2.1.1. For the purposes of this bylaw, the **median** is not considered a boulevard.
- 2.2. **"Campaign Office"** means a building or portion of a building used by a **candidate** or an agent of a **candidate** as part of an election campaign;
- 2.3. **"Candidate"** means a person who is running or has expressed an intention to run in a municipal, provincial or federal election, including a person seeking to influence other person(s) to vote for or against a **candidate** or any question or bylaw submitted to the electors;
- 2.4. **"Display"** means to show, place, post, affix, install, erect, exhibit, maintain, or otherwise cause to be visible to the public;
- 2.5. **"Election Sign"** means a **sign** advertising, promoting, supporting, opposing or taking a position with respect to:
- 2.5.1. A **candidate** or political party in an election under the Canada Elections Act, Election Act (Ontario), or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 or any other election legislation;
- 2.5.2. An issue associated with a person or political party in an election under the Canada Elections Act, Election Act (Ontario), or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 or any other election legislation;
- 2.5.3. A question, law or bylaw submitted to the electors under the Canada Elections Act, Election Act (Ontario), or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, or any other election legislation.
- 2.6. **"Highway"** includes a common and public **highway**, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct or trestle, any part of which is intended for or used by the general public for the passage of **vehicles** and includes the area between the lateral property lines thereof;
- 2.7. **"Illuminated"** or **"Illumination"** means the lighting of a **sign** by artificial means;
- 2.8. **"Lot"** means a parcel of land which is capable of being legally conveyed;

- 2.9. “**Median**” includes the centre boulevard and traffic island;
- 2.10. “**Officer**” means a police **officer**, bylaw enforcement **officer**, or any other person appointed by bylaw to enforce the provisions of this bylaw;
- 2.11. “**Official Sign**” means a **sign** erected pursuant to any statute, bylaw, regulation or other directive of any federal, provincial or municipal government or agency, board, or commission thereof;
- 2.12. “**Owner**” means:
- 2.12.1. The registered **owner** of a **lot**, including a person managing or receiving rent from the **lot**, whether on their own account or as agent or trustee;
 - 2.12.2. A tenant, lessee or occupier of the **lot**;
 - 2.12.3. A person who owns, erects, places, displays, authorizes, or has care, custody or control of an **election sign**; and
 - 2.12.4. The **candidate** or **registered third party** to whom the **election sign** relates.
- 2.13. “**Person**” means an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, limited partnership, trust, corporation, and an individual in their capacity as a trustee, executor, administrator, or other legal representative;
- 2.14. “**Public Authority**” means any department, appointed agency or commission of the Government of Canada, Province of Ontario, County of Dufferin or **Town**, any governmental body, commission, committee, school board, department or agency, conservation authority or local hydro utility;
- 2.15. “**Public Property**” means property owned by or under the control of the **Town** of Orangeville or any of its agencies, boards or commissions. This includes, but is not limited to, **highways**, road allowances, public facilities, buses, bus shelters, benches, municipal garbage containers, or other structures located on a **highway**. Property owned by the **Town** of Orangeville and leased to another **person** or entity shall not be deemed to be **public property**.
- 2.16. “**Roadway**” means the part of a **highway** that is improved, designed or ordinarily used for vehicular traffic, and includes the **median** but does not include the shoulder;

- 2.17. **“Registered Third Party”** means an individual, corporation or trade union that is registered under section 88.6 of the Municipal Elections Act to incur expenses for a third-party advertiser.
- 2.18. **“Town”** means the corporation of the Town of Orangeville and its land within the geographic limit of the **Town** as the context requires;
- 2.19. **“Sign”** means a device, structure, medium or **vehicle** that uses any colour, form, graphic, **illumination**, symbol or writing to convey information of any kind;
- 2.20. **“Sign Area”** means the area of one side of a **sign** where copy can be placed;
- 2.21. **“Sign Height”** means the vertical height of a **sign** from the finished grade to the highest part of the **sign**;
- 2.22. **“Sign Face”** means the surface area of an **election sign** that contains or is intended to contain a message, symbol, logo, image, or other display intended to be visible to the public and includes each side of a double-sided or multi-sided **sign** displaying such message.
- 2.23. **“Vehicle”** includes a motor **vehicle**, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor, road-building machine, bicycle and any **vehicle** drawn, propelled or driven by any kind of power, including muscular power;
- 2.24. **“Voting Place”** means a **lot** and any common elements and that part of the untraveled portion of a **highway** immediately abutting the **lot** where electors cast a physical ballot or which has been deemed to be a voting place for the casting of electronic ballots as determined by the Clerk.

3. Application

- 3.1. This Bylaw shall apply to federal, provincial and municipal **candidates** or third-party advertisers as it relates to **election signs**.

4. General Provisions

- 4.1. No **person** shall affix, erect, **display**, or permit or cause to be affixed, erected or **displayed**, an **election sign**:
- 4.1.1. prior to the issuing of a writ for a provincial or federal election,

- 4.1.2. no earlier than forty-five (45) days prior to the day of a municipal election,
- 4.1.3. on the **boulevard** of a **highway** other than an arterial and collector class roads, as classified by the **Town**. Arterial and collector class boulevard placement is only permitted where the boulevard is separated from an abutting lot by a sidewalk, unless permission is granted by the abutting lot owner,
- 4.1.4. on a **roadway**,
- 4.1.5. on an **official sign** or **official signpost**,
- 4.1.6. greater than 1.5m² (square metres) in area, or greater than 2 metres in height,
- 4.1.7. on the same **lot** as a **voting place**,
- 4.1.8. on the **boulevard** of any abutting **lot** to the **lot** of a **voting place**,
- 4.1.9. within 1 metre directly in front of or behind the **sign face** of another **election sign** so as to obstruct, impair, or interfere with the visibility of that **election sign**,
 - 4.1.9.1. for greater certainty, nothing in subsection (i) prohibits the placement of **election signs** immediately adjacent to one another in a side-by-side configuration, provided that no **sign face** obstructs, impairs, or interferes with the visibility of another **sign face**,
- 4.1.10. within ten metres of another **election sign** promoting the same **candidate** or **third-party advertiser** on any **boulevard**,
 - 4.1.10.1. for the purpose of this subsection, distance shall be measured in a straight line between the closest points of each **election sign**.
- 4.1.11. that bears the **Town** logo, crest or seal,
- 4.1.12. on a tree, pipe, telephone pole, hydro pole, light standard or any other utility infrastructure,
- 4.1.13. that is animated, contains any video **display** elements or **illuminated**,
- 4.1.14. on public property, except in accordance with 4.1 (c),
- 4.1.15. without the consent of the **owner** of the **lot**,

- 4.1.16. three (3) days after the day of the election, or
- 4.1.17. that is not in accordance with provincial or federal legislation.
- 4.2. No **person** shall affix, erect, **display** nor permit or cause to be affixed, erected or **displayed**, an **election sign** where it interferes with the safe movement or visibility of any **vehicle** or pedestrian traffic or where it is a general hazard to public safety including traffic site lines, traffic control devices (such as signals, regulatory **signs**) and or impede the free access of emergency personnel to any part of a building, including any emergency water connection or fire hydrant.
- 4.3. No **person** shall **display** an **Election Sign** at a **Campaign Office** unless the **candidate** has filed a nomination in accordance with the applicable election legislation and the nomination has been certified where required.
- 4.4. Every **sign owner** shall ensure the **election signs** are maintained in a state of good repair, free from damage or defects.

5. Exemptions

- 5.1. An **election sign** placed within a **Campaign office** is not subject to the **sign** area and **sign** height restrictions of this bylaw.
- 5.2. An **election sign** on a **vehicle** is not subject to the **sign** area and **sign** height restrictions of this bylaw, nor is it subject to section 4.1(d).

6. Removal and Storage

- 6.1. An **Officer** may remove, or cause to be removed, without notice, an **election sign** that does not comply with this bylaw.
- 6.2. The **Town** shall recover the costs of the removal and storage of an **election sign** from the **candidate**.
- 6.3. The **Town**, upon removal and storage of an **election sign** that does not comply with this bylaw, shall notify the **candidate** by email at the email address provided on the nomination form or on an **election sign**.
- 6.4. Where the candidate does not claim an election sign within 7 days after the election, it becomes the property of the **Town** and may be destroyed.

- 6.5. The **Town** may issue administrative fees against a **person** to recover the costs payable for the removal of an **election sign**.

7. Enforcement and Penalties

- 7.1. The enforcement of this bylaw shall be conducted by an **officer**.
- 7.2. An **officer** may enter on land or a **lot** at any reasonable time for the purpose of carrying out an inspection to determine whether or not:
- 7.2.1. The bylaw is complied with;
- 7.2.2. A direction or Order made under the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, c.25, as amended, or this bylaw is complied with.
- 7.3. Every **person** who contravenes any provision of this bylaw, including failing to comply with an Order made under this bylaw, is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine, and such other penalties, as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33*, as amended, and the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended.
- 7.4. Any **person** who is charged with an offence under this bylaw or an Order issued pursuant to this bylaw, or every director or **officer** of a corporation, who knowingly concurs in the contravention by the laying of an information under Part III of the *Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33*, as amended and is found guilty of the offence is liable pursuant to the *Municipal Act, 2001* as amended to the following:
- 7.4.1. On a first offence, to a fine not more than \$50,000.00; and
- 7.4.2. On a second offence and each subsequent offence, to a fine of not more than \$100,000.00
- 7.5. No **person** shall hinder or obstruct, or attempt to hinder or obstruct, an **officer** exercising a power or performing a duty under this bylaw.
- 7.6. Every **person** who is alleged to have contravened any of the provisions of this Bylaw shall identify themselves to an **officer** upon request; failure to do so shall be deemed to have hindered or obstructed an **officer** in the execution of their duties.
- 7.7. Upon conviction, any penalty imposed under this bylaw may be collected under the authority of the *Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33*, as amended, and the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended.

- 7.8. If a **person** is convicted of an offence under this Bylaw, the court in which the conviction has been entered and any court of competent jurisdiction may, in addition to any other remedy and to any penalty imposed, make an order prohibiting the continuation or repetition of the offence by the **person** convicted.
- 7.9. Sections 4 and 7.5 of the bylaw are hereby designated as parts of this bylaw to which the Administrative Penalty Bylaw applies.
- 7.10. Any **person** who contravenes any designated provision of this bylaw shall, upon issuance of a penalty notice in accordance with the Administrative Penalty Bylaw, be liable to pay an administrative penalty and all associated administrative fees.
- 7.11. A **person** shall not be subject to both an administrative penalty and prosecution under the *Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P. 33*, as amended for the same contravention.

8. Severability

- 8.1. That in the event any provision of this bylaw is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be without effect under Section 14(1) of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, as amended, such provisions shall be deemed to be severed, and the remainder of this bylaw shall remain in full force and effect.
- 8.2. This bylaw shall apply in addition to the provisions of any other **Town** bylaw and the *Municipal Act, S.O. 2001 c.25*, as amended, provided that in the event of conflict, the provisions of any other **Town** bylaw or the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25*, as amended, paramount over this By-law, provided such provisions are not contrary to law.
- 8.3. Whenever any reference is made in this bylaw to a statute of the Legislature of the Province of Ontario, such reference shall be deemed to include all subsequent amendments to such statute and all successor legislation to such statute.
- 8.4. That it is hereby recognized that this bylaw may be revoked and repealed at anytime.
- 8.5. That nothing in this bylaw shall limit any other statutory or common law rights or powers of the municipality or any **officer** to enter on land.
- 8.6. Schedules A and B attached hereto are provided for reference related to s. 4.1.3 only and may be changed or updated as needed.

9. Enactment

9.1. This bylaw shall come into effect upon approval by the Council,
subject to section 284.11 of the Municipal Act.

Read three times and finally passed this 23rd day of March, 2026.



Todd Taylor, Deputy Mayor



Raylene Martell, Town Clerk

Schedule A

Arterial and Collector Class Roads

The following roads are designated as arterial and collector class roads in accordance with Schedule E of the **Town's** Official Plan as of the date of passing this bylaw. **Election signs** shall only be permitted within the geographic boundaries of the Town of Orangeville, and where a roadway forms a boundary with an abutting municipality, **election signs** shall only be placed on the portion of the **roadway, boulevard**, or property located within the Town of Orangeville.

Arterial Roads

- County Road 109 / Riddell Road
- County Road 16

Collector Roads

- Ada Street
- Alder Street
- Amelia Street
- Blind Line
- Broadway
- Buena Vista Drive
- C Line
- Centennial Road
- Centre Street
- College Avenue
- County Road 23 / County Road 136 / Caledon East Garafraxa Townline (Orangeville side only)
- Dawson Road
- Diane Drive
- Elizabeth Street (from Ada Street to First Street)
- Fifth Avenue
- First Street
- Fourth Avenue (from Third Street to Hwy 10)
- Hansen Boulevard
- John Street
- McCannell Avenue
- Montgomery Boulevard
- Oak Ridge Drive (from Hwy 9 to Clarke Avenue)
- Parkinson Crescent
- Rolling Hills Drive
- Spencer Avenue
- Third Street
- Town Line

Schedule B

Map of Arterial and Collector Roads

Legend:

Collector Roads: Blue

Arterial Roads: Yellow (major) and Green (minor)

Outside Municipality (Prohibited): Red & Grey

