BYLAW NO. 26-08
OF THE TOWN OF STRATHMORE
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

BEING A BYLAW TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS CONCERNING MUNICIPAL AND FEDERAL ELECTION SIGNS IN THE TOWN OF STRATHMORE.

WHEREAS pursuant to Sections 7 and 8 of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. c. M-26, Council may pass bylaws for municipal purposes that regulate matters affecting the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property, or in relation to people, activities and things in, on or near a public place that is open to the public;

WHEREAS Council deems it desirable to regulate election signage in order to balance the need for promotion and expression with safety and aesthetics; and

WHEREAS preventing election sign proliferation helps to reduce visual clutter and allows for more effective communication of information for all sign users; and

WHEREAS regulating the size, location quantity, and duration of placement of election signage ensures equitable application and enforcement amongst candidates and political parties, and ensures the safety of motorists, pedestrians, and municipal property is maintained.

NOW THEREFORE, the Municipal Council of the Town of Strathmore, in the Province of Alberta, duly assemble, **HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. PURPOSE AND TITLE

1.1 This Bylaw may be cited as the "Election Signs Bylaw".

2. DEFINITIONS

Except as otherwise provided for in this Bylaw, the terms used in the Act, where used or referred to in this Bylaw, shall have the same meaning as defined or provided in the Act.

2.1 "Candidate" means an individual who has been nominated to run for election in a municipal, provincial, or federal government, or as a school board trustee.

2.2 "Chief Administrative Officer" or "CAO" means the person who manages all the Town's daily operations, finances and policies, who is appointed to the position by Council, in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*.

2.3 "Election Sign" means any temporary physical placard (in a material that is able to abide by the guidelines set out in this bylaw), promoting a Candidate and/or Political Party during a federal or municipal election, or by-election held pursuant to the *Local Authorities Election Act,* Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter L-21 and amendments thereto.

2.4 "Election Period" means

2.4.1 For a federal election or by-election, the period starting from the issuance of the writ and ending after the close of the polls; or

2.4.2 for a municipal election or by-election, or school board election or by-election, the period starting from the close of nominations and ending after the close of the polls and shall be in accordance with the Local Authorities Election Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter L-21 and amendments thereto.

2.5 "Minimum Penalty" is the initial amount owed for a first offence.

2.6 "Specified Penalty" is the amount owed if not paid during the specified amount of time.

2.7 "Town" means the Corporation of the Town of Strathmore in the Province of Alberta, and where the context so requires, means the area of land within the corporate boundaries thereof.

2.8 "Violation Ticket" means a ticket issued pursuant to Part 2 of the *Provincial Offences Procedures Act,* Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter P-34 and any amendments or regulations thereto.

3. ELECTION SIGNAGE

3.1 Election signs for municipal candidates may be erected up to 60 days prior to the Election Day and must be removed within seven (7) days after Election Day.

3.2 Election signs for federal candidates may be erected the day the writ of election is issued and must be removed within seven (7) days after Election Day.

3.3 Election signs for federal and provincial candidates must consult relevant regulations for their election.

3.4 Municipal election signs on provincially maintained roadways must follow provincial guidelines.

3.4.1 Schedule 'B' and 'C' include examples of provincial roadway locations where signage is not permitted.

3.5 Areas outside of the Town of Strathmore limits must consult with Wheatland County for relevant regulations.

3.6 Election signs may not exceed 1.5 m^2 in total sign area and cannot be higher than 1.0 metre above ground level, as measured from the ground to the bottom of the sign.

3.6.1 Exceptions for distance from ground level will be given when displayed in a window or on a balcony/deck of a multi-unit residence.

3.6.2 Signage may be attached to a fence if permission is given by the property owner and the total sign size does not exceed 1.5 m^2. The sign must be securely fastened to the fence and may not exceed the height of the fence.

3.7 Content Guidelines must be adhered to:

3.7.1 Signs may be an announcement or in support of a Candidate.

3.7.2 Signs must be respectful and courteous, they may not contain vulgarity, discrimination, hatred, violence, or racism.

3.7.3 No person shall display the Town's logo, in whole or in part, on an election sign.

3.7.4 Signs must not imply endorsement by the Town. This includes any branding elements that are the property of the Town of Strathmore.

3.7.5 Signs must not resemble common traffic signs in any way.

3.8 Election signs may not be illuminated.

3.9 Elections signs may be posted on public property, subject to the following conditions to ensure both election integrity and traffic safety is not impeded:

a. Signs cannot be placed between the curb and the sidewalk unless the space between the curb and sidewalk is greater than 1.0 metre or, if there is no sidewalk, signs cannot be placed within 1.0 metres of the curb or edge of the pavement.

b. Signs cannot be placed within 15 metres of an intersection as measured from the outer points of the curb radii.

c. Signs cannot be placed within 15 metres of a pedestrian crossover (i.e. crosswalk), as measured from the outer edge of the crosswalk.

d. No sign owner shall cause, permit, or allow an election sign or other poster to be placed on a highway, median, road, sidewalk, mailbox, garbage/recycling receptacle, tree, street-light standard, pole, traffic control device or traffic island.

e. Signs cannot be located on, or adjacent to, a voting place or any Town owned and operated facility (Municipal Office, Family Centre, Civic Centre, Aquatic Centre, Sports Centre, & Fire Hall). Signage cannot be located on, or adjacent to, offices of provincial or federal officers or buildings associated with government departments.

3.10 Election signs must be more than 1.5 metres from any other sign (election or otherwise). All signs that are not 1.5 m apart will be removed. If the Town receives a complaint about sign placement violations, the signs will be removed and subject to penalties in Schedule "A".

3.11 The placement or installation of election signs must be secure enough to prevent potential hazards to pedestrians, motorists and surrounding areas but must also be easy to uninstall or remove without causing damage to public property. Any damage caused arising from the placement, installation or removal of election signs shall be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of this Bylaw on Damages (4.0).

3.12 Election signs that penetrate the ground shall not interfere with underground utilities as marked by Alberta One Call and shall not occur within 1 metre of all flag/painted markings. Fines for the disturbance of markings or damage to underground utilities may apply. Any damage to public lands or underground utilities as a result of election sign placement will be the responsibility of the candidate.

3.13 Election signs may be posted on private property subject to the following conditions:

a. Signs are posted with the consent of the owner or occupant of the property.

b. Signs may not be more than 1 metre above ground level unless the signs are displayed indoors.

c. Signs may not be placed on or affixed to a tree(s).

d. It is the responsibility of the property owner to ensure the signs are within their property line and not on public land such as

medians, boulevards, and utility right or ways. Any damage to underground utilities as a result of election sign placement will be the responsibility of the property owner.

e. Private residences located at intersections must ensure signage does not block lines of sight for traffic safety and be a minimum of 3 metres back from curbs.

4. DAMAGES

4.1 The Town is not required to give notice for the removal of an unlawful election sign.

4.2 Election signage that is not maintained in a reasonable manner and poses a public safety risk will be removed and disposed of by the Town.

4.3 Any signs removed will be stored at the Town's maintenance facility. All election signs shall automatically be disposed of if the candidate or their agent fails to pick up the election signs within ten (10) days from the conclusion of the election without incurring any obligation to compensate any party.

4.4 No person shall deface or willfully cause damage to a lawfully erected election sign. Violators could face penalties under *Criminal Code R.S.C., 1985, c. C-46.*

4.5 Those found to have damaged property may be held responsible for any repair costs (removal and restoration) incurred by the Town.

4.6 Penalties will be assessed for offences as per Schedule 'A'.

5. SEVERABILITY

5.1 If any section or part of this Bylaw is found in any course of law to be illegal, or beyond the power of Council to enact, such section or parts shall be deemed to be severable and all other sections or parts of this Bylaw shall be deemed to be separate and independent there from and be enacted as such.

6. REPEAL

6.1 Bylaw No. 24-19 is hereby repealed.

7. ENACTMENT

7.1 This Bylaw comes into full force and effect upon third and final reading.

READ A FIRST TIME THIS 7th day of October, 2026.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 7th day of October, 2026.

READ A THIRD AND FINAL TIME THIS 7th day of October, 2026.

MAYOR

DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Schedule 'A'

SECTION	OFFENCE	MINIMUM PENALTY	SPECIFIED PENALTY
3.5	Oversized/over height election sign	$100	$200
3.6	Election sign content violation	$100	$200
3.7	Use of an illuminated election sign	$100	$200
3.8	Election sign placement violation	$100	$200
3.9	Unsecured sign/safety hazard	$100	$200
4.4	Vandalism of Election Sign*	$100	$200
4.5	Damage to Public Property	$100	$200

*May be in addition to any charges under *Criminal Code R.S.C., 1985, c. C-46.*

Schedule 'B'

Link to map of Highway 1 Road Right of Way - No Election Signs permitted on areas shaded in red. These areas are provincial highway property and not service road property.

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c4909321b4d2433cb0cd856c0a4472ef



Schedule 'C'



