

## POLICY

<b>TITLE:</b>	Election Signage		
<b>DIRECTORATE:</b>	Council Policy		
<b>ADOPTED BY:</b>	Council Resolution:		
<b>DATE OF ADOPTION:</b>	Day May 2024	<b>DATE OF REVIEW:</b>	Day May 2027
<b>LEGISLATIVE REF:</b>	Local Government Act 2019 BRC (Management of Public Places) By-laws 2021		

### 1. INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to waive the requirement to obtain certain permits from the Barkly Regional Council relating to the placement and removal of election signage on BRC-controlled areas. This policy also serves to advise candidates as to the requirements for such signage.

#### 1.2. Scope

This policy applies to areas under jurisdiction of the Barkly Regional Council. Including any other assets under the care of the Barkly Regional Council.

#### 1.3. Policy Objectives

To advise candidates and the public on the current policy for the placement and removal of election signs prior to and after Federal, Northern Territory Legislative Assembly and Northern Territory Local Government elections.

### 2. POLICY STATEMENT

#### 2.1 Sign Display Period

In accordance with bylaw 5 of the Tennant Creek (Control of Public Places) 2021, BRC dispenses with the requirement to obtain permits for activities specified in by-laws 39 and 43 of the Tennant Creek (Control of Public Places) By-laws 2021 where such activities directly relate to the advertisement of a candidate contesting an election. This dispensation is subject to the following conditions:

##### 1) Signs may be displayed:

- Six (6) weeks prior to a fixed election date (Northern Territory Legislative Assembly and Barkly Regional Council Elections/By-elections).
- From the date of public notice by the Australian Electoral Commissioner of receipt of writ to conduct an election (Federal Elections/By-elections)

Signs must be removed no later than seven (7) days after an election.

##### 2) Sign Details.

Signs should be 1.5m<sup>2</sup> or less in area, and be displayed on corflute or a similar material. Electronic signage of any kind is not permitted.



### 3) Sign Placement and Accountability.

Signs should be positioned with regard to the following:

- Signs must be at least 1m clear of:
  - o Power poles
  - o Irrigation systems or sprinklers, and positioned so as not to impede the operation of such systems.
  - o Street lights
  - o Trees, shrubs, or garden beds
  - o Roads, footpaths, and cycling paths.
- Signs must be at least 5m away from any road sign, speed display sign, or any other traffic control device.
- Signs must not be positioned in a way that obstruct the view or flow of traffic or pedestrians (including being placed in bus stops or on roundabouts).
- Signs must not be placed in a way that damages BRC infrastructure.
- Signs must not be placed on BRC assets, including buildings or fences.

Candidates are responsible for the timely removal of any damaged or unsecured signage. Candidates must also ensure that any rubbish generated as a result of their election signage (zip ties, broken posts etc) is removed as soon as possible.

It is the responsibility of each candidate to maintain a record of the location of all election signage displayed on BRC-controlled areas (this does not include signs displayed on private property). This record must be provided upon request to an Authorised Person.

No election signage is to be applied or affixed to private property without the consent of the owner or occupier of that property.

The use of star pickets, wooden stakes or similar items to display election signage on BRC-controlled areas is prohibited. For the purpose of displaying election signage low strength or frangible stakes must be used, such as lightweight fence droppers.

### 4) Breaches of this Policy.

Candidates will be afforded a reasonable amount of time (usually 24 hours) to rectify any issues of noncompliance with this policy. Failure to rectify such issues within the time period allowed will result in the offending signage being removed.

The return of removed signage will be subject to confirmation, in writing, that a candidate understands this policy and will comply with all requirements of the policy. Further breaches may result in compliance action, pursuant to the Tennant Creek (Control of Public Places) By-laws 2021.

Any sign that presents a road safety issue will be immediately removed by an Authorised Person.

Signs that are not collected within the required time following an election may be removed. The BRC may also take further action, pursuant to the Tennant Creek (Control of Public Places) By-laws 2021.





### 3. Sign Content

The content of election signage is dictated by the various relevant acts and regulations and is not managed or enforced by the BRC. This policy in no way removes any requirement to adhere to relevant legislation. Further information regarding the content of election signage can be found here: <https://ntec.nt.gov.au/publicationsand-reports/Information-sheets>

### 4. Areas controlled by other Authorities

Roads controlled by the Northern Territory Government

A complete list of roads is available <https://nt.gov.au/driving/management/who-manages-a-road-in-the-nt>

Any complaints regarding election signage adjacent to these roads should be directed to the Northern Territory Department of Infrastructure, Planning, and Logistics. More information, including their election signage policy and contact details, can be found here:

<https://dipl.nt.gov.au/policies/election-signage-andmobile-roadside-booths-policies>

### 5. Relevant Policies.

Policies and procedures to be read in conjunction with this policy are:

- 1) Local Government Act 2019
- 2) BRC (Control of Public Places) By-laws 2021
- 3) Traffic Act - s15 Removal of hazardous sign, &c.
- 4) Traffic Regulations 1999– s34 Person or thing obstructing road
- 5) Control of Roads Act – s57 Timber etc. fixed to roads not to be damaged etc.

### 6. Implementation and Review.

#### 6.1. Implementation.

For the public awareness of election signate policy within Barkly Region, this policy will be published on the Barkly Regional Council website at <https://www.barkly.nt.gov.au/council-documents/policies>.

#### 6.2. Review.

This policy will be reviewed on or before May 2027

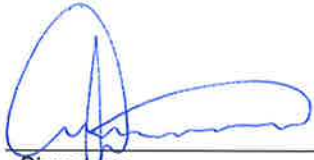
### 7. Variation, Revocation and/ or Changes.

Barkly Regional Council's reserves the right to revoke and/or amend this policy from time to time as is considered necessary to better manage its business and/or to comply with any legislative requirements. Employees will be given sufficient notice of any such revocations, amendments, or changes.

### 8. Approval.

This policy is approved.

Jeff MacLeod  
A/Chief Executive Officer

  
Signature

23.5.24.  
Dated

