



Report Number: EC2022-1372

Meeting: Executive Committee

Meeting Date: 2022 December 14

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: Reducing Election Sign Complaints by Improving the Temporary Sign Bylaw

Sponsoring Councillor(s): Councillor Penner and Councillor Sharp

WHEREAS Bylaw 29M97 regulates Temporary Signage along highways and roadways;

AND WHEREAS sign proliferation creates visual clutter and unsafe distractions along roadways;

AND WHEREAS signs are placed temporarily for the purposes of elections;

AND WHEREAS temporary sign complaints to 311 increased during the 2021 federal and municipal election periods in a year over year, month over month comparison by over 10% and up to 30%;

ANDWHEREAS the majority of temporary elections signs are made from single-use corrugated plastics;

AND WHEREAS corrugated plastic signs are not accepted for recycling through City of Calgary facilities thereby generating high volume landfill waste; and

AND WHEREAS Council has declared a climate emergency and has adopted a single-use item reduction strategy;

AND WHEREAS Council may address visual clutter and plastic waste through amendments to the *Temporary Signs on Highways Bylaws 27M97*;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That Administration return to Executive Committee no later than 2023 Q1 with proposed amendments to Bylaw 29M97 to support a reduction in the number of temporary signs:

- a) Including the distance between signs, roadways where signs may be prohibited, or other mitigating factors;
- b) With particular consideration for rules related to election signage; and
- c) That any proposed changes to Bylaw 29M97 align with provincial regulations relating to election signage;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Administration consider temporary signs as part of the Single-Use Items Reduction Strategy.

	2020	2021	2022
Monthly Snapshots		Jun 18-Jul 18 321 complaints Jul 18-Aug 18 395 complaints *federal election writ period Aug 18-Sept 18 400 complaints *federal election writ period & start of municipal election Sep 18-Oct 18 464 complaints *federal and municipal election periods (16% increase over month prior) represents 9% annual calls (monthly avg 349)	Sept 15-Oct 15 128 Complaints (3.5x more in 2020)
Year over year	3272	4192 (almost 1000 more calls annually)	

Attachment:

1. Notice of Motion Checklist