



Staff Report

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Report To: General Government Committee

Date of Meeting: September 27, 2021

Report Number: LGS-023-21

Submitted By: Rob Maciver, Director of Legislative Services

Reviewed By: Andrew C. Allison, CAO

Resolution#:

File Number:

By-law Number:

Report Subject: Election Signs

Recommendations:

1. That Report LGS-023-21, and any related communications, be received;
2. That the By-law attached to Report LGS-023-21, as Attachment 1, be approved; and
3. That all interested parties listed in Report LGS-023-21 and any delegations be advised of Council's decision.

Report Overview

A report to amend [Election Sign By-law 2016-004](#) to reflect the delegation of authority for placement of signs on Regional roads to the Municipality.

1. Background

- 1.1 Election signs and/or temporary signs have been regulated by upper tier and lower tiers for highways within their jurisdiction. As regional roads are contained within each lower tier municipality, this leads to variations, or permissions that were not consistent between regional roads and municipal roads, within the same lower tier municipality.
- 1.2 In 2019 and 2020, the Region of Durham and surrounding municipalities worked on developing a Regional by-law that would be consistent through out each municipality. As each lower tier municipality had various factors to consider and varying impacts to their respective Election Sign/Temporary sign bylaws, a consensus throughout could not be agreed upon.
- 1.3 As a result, in a meeting held on October 28, 2020, Council of the Region of Durham adopted recommendations to delegate authority of election or temporary signs on regional roads to lower tier municipalities.

2. Discussion

- 2.1 The delegation of authority to lower tier municipalities provides for a more consistent and understandable process for erecting temporary signs. For candidates or individuals erecting signs there is no longer a need to distinguish roads or differences in placement, allowing for less misplacement and loss of signs within a particular municipality.
- 2.2 The delegation of authority provides for easier administration and communication to those registering to erect signs. In addition, any enforcement actions may be lessened due to consistency of placement through out regional and municipal roads.
- 2.3 The attached draft by-law removes the reference to the Region of Durham and provides clarity.

2.4 Additionally, the following are some housekeeping issues included in the draft by-law:

- arising out of the recent reorganization (i.e. changed name of Operations Department to Public Works Department);
- boards (as it relates to public property);
- removing the word “permanently” from “No person shall permanently attach any election sign to a tree or fence.”

3. Concurrence

Not applicable.

4. Conclusion

It is respectfully recommended that the By-law attached to Report LGS-023-21, as Attachment 1, be approved.

Staff Contact: Duncan Anderson, Manager Municipal Law Enforcement, 905-623-3379 ext. 2110 or danderson@clarington.net.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Amending By law 2021-XX

Interested Parties:

There are no interested parties to be notified of Council's decision.