

Conditions for Display of Election Advertisements at Designated Spots

- (1) Candidates shall abide by Part 10 of the Electoral Procedure (Rural Representative Election) Regulation (Cap. 541L) and Chapter 4 “Election Advertisements” of the Electoral Affairs Commission’s “Guidelines on Election-related Activities in respect of the Rural Representative Election”.
- (2) As a general rule, election advertisements displayed at designated spots should not exceed 1 metre high and 2.5 metres long, or exceed beyond the height and length of a railing or fence; or exceed the size as specified by the authority concerned for a particular designated spot as stated in Annex I (whichever is applicable). Before displaying election advertisements, candidates should ensure that the election advertisements must not distract motorists or interfere with the sight lines of motorists and pedestrians, obscure any traffic sign or traffic light signal, obstruct the circulation of pedestrians, or vehicular traffic, and impair the safety of pedestrians / vehicles on adjoining public roads. Candidates should not display any roll-up banners and vertical flying flags/posters at or near railings and fences.
- (3) Candidates can only erect ONE piece of single-side election advertisement at each designated spot allocated to them. The back of the election advertisement being displayed should be left blank.
- (4) No commercial advertising shall be allowed on the election advertisements.
- (5) Election advertisements shall be firmly and separately fastened:-
 - (i) permanent fixing devices, such as nails or insoluble glue, should not be used;
 - (ii) “tie-on” posters (rather than “stick-on” posters or fixed by metallic wires) should be used to facilitate subsequent removal;
 - (iii) posters should not be stuck on painted or varnished surfaces as their subsequent removal will cause damage or leave irremovable marks;
 - (iv) excavation should not be carried out on pedestrian accesses or roads; and
 - (v) tree or plant should not be used as anchor point.
- (6) Measures shall be taken to prevent damage to any highway structure, railing, barrier, fence, post or any other street furniture on which any election advertisement is affixed. Any damage to road elements and street furniture etc. caused by the hanging or dismantling of election advertisements will be reinstated by the Highways Department at the candidates’ cost to the satisfaction of the Chief Engineer of the Highways Department.

- (7) Candidates shall at their own expense and to the satisfaction of the Chief Engineer of the Highways Department remove the election advertisements when they are found obstructing any maintenance, improvement or repair works of the public roads, footbridges or street furniture. The election advertisements may be removed without any prior notice to the candidates if they obstruct pedestrians or vehicular traffic, the carrying out of any emergency repair works or may be affected by such works.
- (8) No electronic speakers or amplifiers shall be affixed to any structure.
- (9) Designated spots will not be identified at the following structures/locations. Candidates shall not erect any election advertisements at the following structures/locations-
 - (i) within the boundaries of the polling station including its outer walls;
 - (ii) road signs;
 - (iii) railings at or near bus stops and bus termini;
 - (iv) external faces of footbridges, highways and flyovers;
 - (v) lamp posts;
 - (vi) pavements (e.g. nailing boards to the ground);
 - (vii) central dividers on carriageways;
 - (viii) within 30 metres on the traffic upstream side of government built pedestrian crossings including signal-controlled crossings, zebra crossings or cautionary crossing;
 - (ix) within 30 metres on the traffic upstream side of all road junctions, but location within a one-way street near junction will not be subject to this restriction if they do not obstruct the views of drivers getting on to the major road; and
 - (x) trees, plants, directional signs or roadside planters under the management of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department.

A plan illustration for items (vii)-(ix) is at Figure I.

authorities. Failure to do so may result in such advertisements being removed or seized by any one of the said authorities and prosecution being brought against the candidate. The cost of removal will also be recovered from the candidate and will be construed as election expenses; or

- (ii) if a candidate is not given notice, such advertisements will be removed and seized by any of the said authorities and prosecution may be brought against the candidate. The cost of removal will also be recovered from the candidate and will be construed as election expenses; or
 - (iii) in the case that the authorisation and permission for the display of election advertisements at a certain spot is revoked and withdrawn by any one of the said authorities as the spot is not suitable for displaying election advertisements due to repair works or other unexpected causes, the authority concerned will allocate to the candidate concerned another spot which has not been allocated.
- (14) Where election advertisements are removed and seized by any one of the said authorities, they will be kept as evidence or disposed of or returned upon application, in accordance with the relevant law.
- (15) Candidates are responsible for the election advertisements and the contents thereof and agree to indemnify and keep indemnified the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and/or any of its officers against all liabilities, costs, expenses, actions, proceedings, claims and demands arising out of or in connection with the permission granted by the said authorities for the display of the election advertisements.
- (16) These authorisations and permissions are given to the candidate personally. The display locations allocated to the candidates are not transferable or exchangeable for any other spot.
- (17) If a candidate no longer wishes to use one or more designated spots allocated to him/her, the candidate should inform the Returning Officer in writing within one week after the allocation of those spots. Upon request by any other candidate of the same Village or Market Town, the Returning Officer, if he/she considers appropriate, may re-allocate by agreement or by the drawing of lots the designated spots amongst all other candidates who are eligible to be allocated with designated spots of the same Village or Market Town.

- End -