

Good Morning Election Officials,

Another election season is on the horizon and the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT) Outdoor Advertising Sign Program (sign program) wanted to reach out to share Oregon's temporary sign laws, for any temporary signs posted where visible to a state highway, or any portion of the National Highway System (NHS).

Temporary signs may not be placed on, or from, ODOT's right of way. All temporary signs must be on private property, and the placed from the private property, without using or crossing ODOT's right of way. All signs left on ODOT's right of way are subject to immediate removal by ODOT personnel.

The sign program at ODOT has been receiving calls and emails regarding temporary signs being posted on ODOT's right of way or on private property, where visible to a state highway, that do not meet the requirements in Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) Chapter 377 (Titled the "Oregon Motorist Information Act") and the associated Oregon Administrative Rules.

Under ORS 377.735 temporary signs are allowed to be placed, where visible to a state highway, only if:

- 1) The sign is 12 sq. ft. in size or less,
- 2) Is posted without any compensation being exchanged,
- 3) Is posted on a temporary base, and
- 4) Is not posted for more than 60 days

In addition, there is a temporary variance process that allows signs to be up to 32 sq. ft., and/or allows the sign(s) to be posted for up to 120 days with an **approved** Temporary Sign Variance from ODOT (may not violate prohibited sign statutes in ORS 377.720).

Attached to this email is the Temporary Sign Variance Form. The Temporary Sign Variance is a single page form and there is no fee associated with it. Each sign owner is allowed up to 10 variances at any one time. The variance form should be completed by the sign owner (or their designate), and approved by ODOT, prior to any temporary sign larger than 12 sq ft being placed where visible to a state highway. If the temporary sign is 12 sq ft or less, and meets the Exempt sign requirements noted above, no approval is needed from ODOT.

Also attached is the statutory language from ORS 377.735 for Exempt signs and ORS 377.720 for Prohibited signs, as well as information about the temporary variance process from Oregon Administrative Rule 734-060-0175. Please feel free to share with local candidates, and other who will be posting signs, as needed.

For any questions or additional information, please contact the ODOT Outdoor Advertising Sign Program at OutdoorAdvertising@odot.oregon.gov.