

News Release

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Teton County to adjust political sign regulations

Jackson, Wyo. – Oct. 4, 2016 – Teton County is planning to adjust its regulations that oversee election-campaign-oriented yard signs.

Teton County presently has a Land Development Regulation (LDR) that regulates the time periods that political signs can be displayed. Specifically, Teton County Land Development Regulation 5.6.2(B)(3)(b) states that political signs may not be displayed earlier than 30 days prior to an election and must be removed within 5 days after the election.

The constitutionality and legality of land regulations in regard to time periods to display political signs have recently been raised, according to Chief Deputy County Attorney Keith Gingery. The Teton County Planning Department is processing an amendment to Teton County's regulations to remove the current restriction regarding the time period political signs may be displayed.

The amendment process is expected to take longer than the current election season. In the interim, while awaiting Board of County Commissioner action on the proposed amendment, the Teton County Planning Department will not be enforcing regulations regarding the length of time signs are displayed.

"The county's political sign regulation has been in place for longer than any of us can remember as a way to make sure there was some consistency and fairness during election season," Gingery said. "Until this year, no one has really expressed any concerns. We support free speech, and we recognize political signs are an important component of that."

However, individuals posting signs should note: Political signs, as well as all signs, are still prohibited within county right-of-ways. Those signs will be removed, and candidates may pick up their wayward signs at the Teton County Road and Levee shop, located at 3190 South Adams Canyon Road. In the case of signs missing from state and federal highway right-of-ways, owners should check with the Wyoming Department of Transportation.

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