

POLICY TITLE	Use of City and Park Board Facilities for Campaigning
CATEGORY	Administrative
POLICY NUMBER	ADMIN-012
POLICY OWNER	City Clerk's Office
ACCESS	Public

PURPOSE

To guide City and Park Board staff on managing the use of City-operated buildings and Park Board-operated buildings and spaces for any municipal election campaign activities to ensure that such places remain non-partisan venues.

SCOPE

This policy applies to the use of City-operated buildings and Park Board-operated buildings and spaces for municipal campaign activities. Such facilities include, but are not limited to:

- administration buildings;
- community and recreation centres;
- civic theatres; and
- open spaces including parks, beaches and other spaces operated or jointly operated by the Park Board.

This policy does not apply to:

- Vancouver Public Library facilities; and
- City-owned buildings leased to and operated by non-profit groups.

DEFINITIONS

Campaigning	means any activity by or on behalf of a municipal candidate or political party meant to elicit support or opposition during an election and includes the distribution and display of campaign materials. Campaigning does not include the appearance of elected officials, candidates or candidates' supporters at an event in their personal capacity.
Campaign materials	means any materials used to solicit support or opposition to a candidate or question on the ballot including, but not limited to: literature, banners, signs, posters, and photographs but does not include buttons, clothing, or other similar paraphernalia.
City-operated building	means any building or part of a building operated by the City of Vancouver including but not limited to Vancouver City Hall,

West Annex, including any City Hall satellite offices and the Election Office.

Park Board-operated building means any building or part of a building operated by the Park Board, including Community Centres.

POLICY STATEMENTS

Use of City Buildings

1. Campaigning within City-operated buildings is prohibited unless such activities occur within spaces where rental is permitted and is conducted in accordance with standard City of Vancouver civic facilities rental procedures and established rental fees.
2. For any campaigning occurring under section 1:
 - a. Such activities must be contained within the perimeters of the rented space; and
 - b. Campaign materials including signage and posters must be contained within the rented space.
3. Campaigning is permitted on the public realm and common areas outside of City-operated buildings provided that:
 - a. Such activities do not impede access to the facilities;
 - b. Such activities do not disrupt regular City business and are compliant with any event permits, related by-laws and policies and the Vancouver Charter;
 - c. No campaign materials are attached to the City-operated buildings;
 - d. Interaction or solicitation with patrons must be conducted outside City-operated buildings; and
 - e. Operation of any amplifying sound system or loud speaker is not permitted within City-operated buildings.

Use of Park Board Buildings, Parks, Beaches and Open Spaces

4. Campaigning within Park Board-operated buildings is prohibited unless such activities occur within spaces where rental is permitted and is conducted in accordance with standard Park Board or Community Centre Association facilities rental procedures and established rental fees.

5. For any campaigning occurring under section 4:
- a. Such activities must be contained within the perimeters of the rented space;
 - b. Campaign materials must be contained within the rented space;
 - c. Interaction or solicitation with patrons must be conducted outside Park Board-operated buildings; and
 - d. Operation of any amplifying sound system or loud speaker is not permitted within Park Board-operated buildings.
6. Any campaigning or display of campaign materials at Park Board operated parks, beaches and open spaces must comply with the Parks Control By-law, Park Board special events guidelines and the Vancouver Charter.

NOTE: Section 125(4) of the Vancouver Charter prohibits campaigning within 100 metres of a voting place while voting is underway.

REFERENCES AND RELATED POLICIES:

[Street and Traffic By-law No. 2849](#)

[Sign By-law No. 11879 \(section 6\)](#)

[AG-012-01 Elections – Campaign Parades and Public Meetings Policy](#)

[VPL Political Use of Library Space Policy](#)

[Parks Control By-law](#)

[Vancouver Charter](#)

APPROVAL AND REVIEW¹ HISTORY:

Version 1 approved by:	City Clerk	9/26/2018
	City Manager	9/26/2018
Version 2 approved by:	City Clerk	3/2/2022

Next review date **2/12/2030**

¹ Please note: Policy was reviewed Feb. 2026 – no changes needed.