



# CITY OF OWENS CROSS ROADS ORDINANCE NO. 24-004

## Regulating the Placement of Campaign Signs and Campaigning on Municipal Property

### AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE THE PLACEMENT OF CAMPAIGN SIGNS AND CAMPAIGNING ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF OWENS CROSS ROADS, ALABAMA

**WHEREAS**, the Legislature of the State of Alabama enacted Code of Alabama, Title 17. Elections § 17-9-50 provides that the proximity of persons to a polling place shall be as follows:

*Except as electors are admitted to vote and persons to assist them as herein provided, and except for the judge of probate, the sheriff, or his or her deputy, the precinct election officials, and watchers, no person shall be permitted within 30 feet of the door of the building of the polling place; and*

**WHEREAS**, this code also permits local governments to tailor these provisions to suit the specific needs and characteristics of their community while ensuring that they uphold the principles of democracy and fairness in the electoral process; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council of the City of Owens Cross Roads see the need to expand on the current zoning ordinance that addresses signs, specifically Sections 3-20 & 4, to add regulating the placement of campaign signs and campaigning by political candidates and their supporters in the City of Owens Cross Roads; so,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF OWENS CROSS ROADS, ALABAMA, THAT THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BE AMENDED AND INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE**

1) Placement of Campaign Signs:

- may not be placed in or on any municipal owned property past the indicated markers and/or not more than fifteen (15) feet from the edge of the roadway.



- may be placed on private property with the permission from the owner
- may not be placed on utility poles or traffic signs
- in residential zoning districts and at City Hall: political signs are not to exceed four (4) square feet
- in all other zoning districts: political signs are not to exceed sixteen (16) square feet

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2) Time Restrictions:

- may be placed in an approved location once the individual has qualified for the position for which he/she is running except at City Hall, which is not permitted until 5 pm the night before an election
- must be removed within five (5) days after the following and the first to occur:
  - i. said candidate not winning a primary election or prevailing to a run-off in a primary election;
  - ii. said candidate not winning a primary run-off election;
  - iii. said candidate not winning a general election or prevailing to a run-off in a general election; or
  - iv. The general election (provided, that the foregoing use of the term "general election" shall include a run-off in a general election).

3) Prohibited Activities:

- campaigning on municipal property past the indicated markers is prohibited, including but not limited to, during council meetings, board meetings, and staff meetings

4) Enforcement and Penalties:

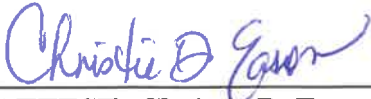
- signs will be removed by local authorities
- persons campaigning will be asked to vacate the premises

The provisions of the Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor and the City Council and upon publication of this Ordinance as required by law.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 26<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2024.



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Tony K. Craig, Mayor



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ATTEST: Christie D. Eason, City Clerk

City of Owens Cross Roads, Alabama,  
certificate of publication: This is to certify  
that Ordinance No. 24-004 was published by  
posting on the City website, and on five (5)  
bulletin boards within the City.

