

# **CODE OF PRACTICE**

# FOR TEMPORARY ADVERTISING SIGNAGE

# **ON ROAD RESERVES**

# **Table of Contents**

Objective
Why is this Code needed?3
Who does this Code apply to?3
Road Authorities3
Definitions4
Corangamite Planning Scheme Requirements5
Planning Permits6
Local Law Requirements6
Placement of Signs6
When may a Permit be applied for?7
Signs in Contravention of this Code7
Examples of Complying Signage8
Examples of Non-Complying Signage11

## Objective

The objective of this Code of Practice is to document how temporary advertising signage may or may not be placed on road reserves throughout the Corangamite Shire.

It seeks to provide compliance with the requirements of the various road authorities in keeping with the safety and visual aspects of the road reserve and the management responsibilities of the road authorities.

It is not meant in any way to restrict trade in any specific organisation or business.

# Why is this Code needed?

This Code is needed to:

- Provide a document to the community that details what will or will not be acceptable to road authorities who manage and have responsibility for the road reserves.
- Maintain the visual amenity of roadsides and streets.
- Prevent the proliferation of unlawful signs.

## Who does this Code apply to?

The Code applies to all persons, agencies, organisations who may wish to erect signage on a temporary basis to advertise an event, a property sale, a clearing sale or for any other reason.

# **Road Authorities**

Within the Corangamite Shire municipal area there are a number of road classifications which may have various management responsibilities applied to them.

Generally the roads are either Vicroads managed, as in freeways, highways and arterial roads, or Council managed, as in local roads.

## Definitions

#### Council land means

Any land, which is owned, occupied or managed by Council.

#### Local Law means

Council's General Local Law No.1 – 2015.

#### Planning Scheme means

Corangamite Planning Scheme.

#### Road Reserve means

That area of land between the property boundaries and includes any carriageway, footpath, reservation or any other road related asset on that land.

#### Sale Date means

That date on which a sold sticker is placed on a for sale sign.

*Signage* means, but is not limited to, banners, billboards, sandwich boards, coreflute signs, and cardboard signs, whether hand written or sign written. Signage can be classified into "For Sale" signs, which apply to properties for sale, and "Directional" signs, which are used to indicate where properties are for sale.

#### Temporary means

Of short term duration and not a permanent erection.

#### Vicroads roads means

Freeways, highways and arterial roads which are managed by Vicroads.

### **Corangamite Planning Scheme Requirements**

Clause 52.05 of the Scheme specifically relates to signs.

Generally signs displayed showing properties for sale ("For Sale") are covered in these planning scheme requirements.

Directional indicator signs are dealt with in the Local Law section.

At Clause 52.05-4 there are a list of **exempt** signs which in relation to the sale of land state:

- A sign with an advertisement area not exceeding 10 square metres publicising the sale or letting of the property on which it is displayed.
- Only one sign may be displayed. It must not be an animated sign and it must not be displayed longer than 7 days after the sale date.

A permit may be granted for:

- The advertisement area to exceed 10 square metres if the sign concerns more than 20 lots.
- The sign to be displayed on land excised from a subdivision and transferred to the municipal council.
- The sign to be displayed longer than 7 days after the sale date.

# All other signs relating to the sale of land that do not comply to the above standards will require a planning permit.

This includes:

- Signs situated on a road reserve.
- Signs situated on land which is not for sale and is advertising other land for sale in the area.

The only exception to this is in the case of land for sale in the Farming zones of the Shire where <u>one</u> small temporary sign will be permitted to be displayed on the fence line of a property located on the closest intersection to the land for sale. This is subject to the Agent gaining consent of the owner of this land and the removal of this sign within 7 days of the sale of the land. Such a sign cannot be display for a period exceeding three months without a permit being issued. At any time Council can request to view the date the sign was erected and a proof of the owner's consent to display the sign.

# **Planning Permits**

Applications for signs that do not comply with the exemptions will need to provide the following:

- Complete details of the sign, such as size, proposed location, property details, etc.
- The length of time the sign is to be displayed for.
- Reasons why the sign cannot be displayed on the land, such as vegetation obscuring a property boundary.
- The exact location of the sign.
- Digital photos of the site for the sign from the near and far side of the road reserve, looking straight on, as well as left and right.
- Any signs on the road reserve will need to be accompanied by public indemnity insurance protecting Council to a value of \$10 million.
- A planning permit application form must be completed and an application fee paid.

## Local Law Requirements

Council's General Local Law No.1 – 2015, Part 4, Section (3) d states:

No person may, without a permit

• Place anything on any Council land.

Directional signs to a property for sale, located generally on corners, signposts and lamp posts, are covered by Council's Local Laws and must comply with the relevant standards. If not, they will be removed by Council's rangers.

## **Placement of Signs**

- No temporary advertising signs shall be placed in contravention of Council's Planning Scheme and Council's General Local Law No.1 – 2015.
- Temporary advertising signs must be placed on the property boundary to which they apply.
- Signs must not be attached to poles, sign posts or any other road assets belonging to the road authority or to a utility company.

- Any braces, supports, wires, cables or other method of support for the sign must be behind the property boundary.
- Signs must be removed no later than 7 days after the sale date.

## When may a permit be applied for?

When a person wishes to erect a sign on a property to which the sign does not apply, that person will need the approval of the property owner and then must apply for a Planning Permit.

On a Vicroads managed road Vicroads will consider issuing a permit only if extenuating circumstances apply. It will be necessary to prove to the road authority that complying with the standard placement requirements cannot be met.

# Signs in Contravention of this Code

Where signs are found to be in contravention of this Code of Practice they will be removed and impounded in accordance with Council's Local Law.

A fee will be applied for the recovery of impounded signs to cover the cost of impounding.

Penalty Infringement Notices will be issued to companies or persons responsible for the contravention.

# Examples of Complying Signage

"For Sale" signs:





Directional signs:





# Examples of Non-Complying Signage

"For Sale" signs:



Directional signs:



