

BUFFALO CITY MUNICIPALITY



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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

**Buffalo City
Municipality**

BCM warns to clampdown on illegal signs and posters

The City has noticed a disturbing trend in which people are publicly erecting offensive signs, posters and notices illegally.

We are calling upon our people and relevant stakeholders to come on board and assist in the clampdown on those who are violating our Bylaws and spreading filth in such an unacceptable behaviour.

These illegal signs are erected in inappropriate places like street verandas, traffic control signal / busy intersections, walls, rocks, bins, trees etc. Some contain offensive material, tend to obstruct traffic in such streets or pollute the environment.

For any illegal poster that has been erected, the Municipality will remove such poster(s) at a cost of R117.00 each per un pasted poster, and R292.00 each per pasted poster if such poster(s) has not been removed after the Municipality has written to the offender giving him notice remove such poster(s).

The City police will be patrolling the streets and be on the look out and arrest anybody caught erecting illegal posters. . These people mainly target mostly the CBD's and they illegal advertise entertainment shows and illegal clinics.

Our efforts to keep our City clean have been severely handicapped by those who erect these illegal signs and we are calling upon our people to take pride and responsibility in their environment and discourage this unruly behaviour.

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With the elections looming, political parties and similar organisations are also advised to take heed of these Bylaws. Channels are in place for advertisers to express themselves as our Constitution permits in detail; however these should be done within the perimeters of the law.

Herewith are some of our Bylaws:

- i) Any person who displays or attempts to display a new sign or who alters or adds to, an existing sign without the prior approval of the local authority shall be guilty of an offence.
- ii) No signs shall be affixed to or painted on a wall, unless in the opinion of the local authority, such wall, fence or hoarding serves primarily either to conceal a condition or attribute of the property on which such a wall, fence or hoarding is erected similar operations.
- iii) No signs affixed to a parapet wall, balustrade or railing of a veranda or a balcony shall exceed 910mm in depth, or project above or below or beyond either end of such parapet wall, balustrade or railing, or project more 230mm in front of such parapet wall, balustrade or railing. No sign affixed to a beam or fascia of a veranda or balcony shall exceed 500mm in depth, or project above or below or beyond either end of such beam or fascia.
- iv) No posters may be erected on light standards within 40m of a busy intersection or on traffic control signal. Swinging signs, loose portable signs, aerial signs and other signs not rigidly fixed are barred and no posters may be affixed to a street tree.
- v) All posters, backing boards and cord/string must be removed within 7 days of the passing of the event.
- vi) Posters must be a minimum of 2, 2 metres above the ground and a minimum of 2 metres below the light fixture. The number of posters for election campaigns must be 200 per party and per ward. Posters may be erected 30 days before the event and must be removed within 7 days after the event .Payment of a partially refundable deposit of R500, 00 to cover the cost of removal of the posters should the applicant fail to do so.
- v) Permission for advertising by means of posters may be granted only to non- profit making organisations such charities, institutions, educational bodies on payment of a deposit of R100.

Should any person want to erect posters, a written application must be made at the Signage Department, Directorate of Planning and Economic Development or any enquiries pertaining to the erection of posters must be done at the following number: 043 705 2019.

- Ends -

Issued by BCM Communications:

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