

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**Chapter 693**

**SIGNS**

ARTICLE I  
**Third-Party Signs**

**§ 693-1. Definitions.**

**§ 693-2. Use prohibited near portions of certain highways.**

**§ 693-3. Applicability of other by-law provisions.**

**§ 693-4. Conflicting provisions.**

ARTICLE II  
**Election Signs**

**§ 693-5. Definitions.**

**§ 693-6. General requirements.**

**§ 693-7. Election signs on public property.**

**§ 693-8. Election signs on private property.**

**§ 693-9. Timing.**

**§ 693-10. Removal of unlawful election signs.**

**§ 693-11. Campaign office signs.**

**§ 693-12. Use of City of Toronto logo.**

**§ 693-13. Offences.**

**§ 693-14. Liability for damages.**

**§ 693-15. Authority of City Solicitor.**

ARTICLE III  
**Temporary Signs**

**§ 693-16. Definitions.**

**§ 693-17. Temporary signs; general requirements.**

**§ 693-18. Portable signs.**

**§ 693-18.1. (Reserved).**

**§ 693-19. A-frame signs.**

**§ 693-20. Mobile signs.**

**§ 693-21. Real estate signs.**

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

§ 693-22. Open house directional signs.

§ 693-23. Garage sale signs.

§ 693-24. Charity; religious institution; community organization; school.

§ 693-25. Removal of unlawful signs; costs of City removal.

§ 693-26. Construction hoarding signs.

§ 693-27. Offences.

ARTICLE IV  
**Posters on Public Property**

§ 693-28. Definitions and interpretation.

§ 693-29. General restrictions.

§ 693-30. Posters on kiosks.

§ 693-31. Community posters on utility poles.

§ 693-32. Additional restrictions.

§ 693-33. Compliance.

§ 693-34. Removal of posters.

§ 693-35. Offence.

ARTICLE V  
**Destination Signage on City Highways**

§ 693-36. Definitions.

§ 693-37. Municipal consent required.

§ 693-38. Application.

§ 693-39. Referral to Community Council.

§ 693-40. Refusing applications.

§ 693-41. Appeal.

§ 693-42. Permit issuance.

§ 693-43. Specific requirements.

§ 693-44. Removal, modification.

§ 693-45. Enforcement; revocation.

**[History: Adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto as indicated in article histories.  
Amendments noted where applicable.]**

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**General References**

Fees and charges - See Ch. 441.  
City of Toronto Act, 2006 - See S.O. 2006 c. 11.  
Education Act - See R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2.  
Municipal Elections Act, 1996 - See S.O. 1996, c. 32, Sched.  
Repair and Storage Liens Act - See R.S.O. 1990, c. R.25.

ARTICLE I  
**Third-Party Signs**  
[Adopted 1998-06-05 by By-law 280-1998<sup>1</sup>]

**§ 693-1. Definitions.**

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**HIGHWAY** - Includes the area between the lateral property lines of the highway.

**SIGN** - Any device, structure or medium that uses any colour, form, graphic, illumination, symbol or writing to convey information of any kind to the public.

**THIRD-PARTY SIGN** - Any sign other than one which is intended to advertise or promote a business, product or service of the owner or occupant of the land on which the sign is located, but does not include the following:

- A. A sign which advertises for sale the property on which it is located.
- B. A directional sign at each point of ingress or egress from the land.

**§ 693-2. Use prohibited near portions of certain highways.**

[Amended 2017-01-31 by By-law 101-2017]

No person shall erect or use any third-party signs, other than Vehicular Destination Signs or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Signs approved by the General Manager, Transportation Services, in accordance with Article V, on any of the lands within 400 metres of any limit of the following sections of highway:

- A. F.G. Gardiner Expressway from Highway 427 to the Humber River, transferred from the Province by Order in Council 534/97.
- B. Highway 27 from Highway 401 to Steeles Avenue, transferred from the Province by Order in Council 535/97.
- C. Highway 2A from Highway 401 to Old Highway 2 (Kingston Road), and Highway 2 from Highway 401 to the City of Toronto and Durham boundary, transferred from the Province by Order in Council 647/97.
- D. The portion of Highway 427 referred to as "Eglinton Avenue," from The East Mall to a point 0.5 kilometre east, and transferred from the Province by Order in Council 533/97.

---

<sup>1</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law was passed under the authority of paragraph 146 of section 210 of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.45.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-3. Applicability of other by-law provisions.**

With the exception of those by-law provisions relating to third-party signs, all other by-laws of the City shall continue to apply to the lands described in § 693-2 above.

**§ 693-4. Conflicting provisions.**

Where this article conflicts with any other by-law, this article prevails to the extent of the conflict.

ARTICLE II  
**Election Signs**  
**[Adopted 2000-06-07 by By-law 316-2000<sup>2</sup>]**

**§ 693-5. Definitions.**

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**ARTERIAL ROAD** - Any street that is designated as a minor or major arterial street in the City's road classification system, as amended from time to time. **[Added 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>3</sup>]**

**CAMPAIGN OFFICE** - A building or portion of a building which is used by a candidate or an agent of a candidate as part of an election campaign and where a candidate's campaign staff are normally present and the public may enter to obtain information regarding the candidate. **[Added 2004-12-02 by By-law 1081-2004]**

**CAMPAIGN OFFICE SIGN** - Any sign containing sign copy which solely identifies the name of a candidate in a federal, provincial or municipal election, and the location of a candidate's campaign office, and contains no other message. **[Added 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>4</sup>]**

**CANDIDATE** - A person who is running or has expressed an intention to run in a municipal, provincial or federal election, and shall be deemed to include a person seeking to influence other persons to vote for or against any candidate or any question or by-law submitted to the electors under section 8 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. **[Amended 2004-12-02 by By-law 1081-2004]**

**COLLECTOR ROAD** - Any roadway that is designated as a collector road in the City's road classification system, as amended from time to time. **[Added 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>5</sup>]**

---

<sup>2</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law was passed under the authority of paragraphs 146 to 149, inclusive, of section 210, and paragraph 3 of section 308, of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.45. This by-law also provided that it shall supersede the election sign provisions of any other by-law.

<sup>3</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

<sup>4</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

<sup>5</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

ELECTION SIGN - Any sign, including an Outsider Election Sign:  
[Amended 2017-11-09 by By-law 1321-2017<sup>6</sup>]

- A. Advertising or promoting a candidate in a federal, provincial or municipal election, including an election of a local board or commission; or
- B. Intended to influence persons to vote for or against any candidate or any question or bylaw submitted to the electors under section 8 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

ELECTION SIGN PERIOD - The time between the date established under § 693-9A for the commencement of the erection or display of election signs and the time established for the removal of election signs established under § 693-9D. [Added 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>7</sup>]

HIGHWAY: [Added 2004-12-02 by By-law 1081-2004]

- A. A common and public highway including any sidewalk, untravelled portion of the road allowance, bridge, trestle, viaduct or other structure forming part of or located on the highway and includes a portion of a highway;
- B. But does not include a structure, including a bus shelter and a municipal garbage container, if the structure, shelter or container is not owned by the City or is subject to the rights of a third party under an agreement with the City.

LOCAL ROAD - Any street that is not designated as a major arterial, minor arterial or collector street in the City's road classification system, as amended from time to time. [Added 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>8</sup>]

OUTSIDER ELECTION SIGN - Any sign, advertising or promoting a candidate in a municipal election, including an election of a local board or commission; or intended to influence persons to vote for or against any candidate or any question or bylaw submitted to the electors under section 8 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, which has been erected and displayed without the authorization, direction or involvement of a candidate. [Added 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>9</sup>]

PUBLIC PROPERTY: [Amended 2004-12-02 by By-law 1081-2004]

- A. Property owned by or under the control of the City of Toronto or any of its agencies, boards or commissions, including highways, and shall be deemed to include public utility poles, regardless of whether the poles are owned by or under the control of the City and shall also be deemed to include bus shelters, municipal garbage containers or other structures, located on a highway regardless of whether the shelters, containers or structures are owned by the City.
- B. The following shall not be deemed to be public property:

---

<sup>6</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 deleted the former definition of Election Sign and replaced it with a new definition. By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

<sup>7</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

<sup>8</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

<sup>9</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (1) Property owned by a corporation of which the City is the sole shareholder; or
- (2) Property owned by the City and leased to another person or entity for a period of 21 years or longer.

**PUBLIC UTILITY POLE** - A pole owned or controlled by an entity which provides a municipal or public utility service, including the City, Bell Canada, Enbridge Consumers Gas, Toronto Hydro, Hydro One, Inc., and any subsidiaries thereof. **[Amended 2004-12-02 by By-law 1081-2004]**

**REGISTERED THIRD PARTY** - In relation to an election in a municipality, an individual, corporation or trade union that is registered under section 88.6 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. **[Added 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>10</sup>]**

**STATION ADVERTISING SPACE** - A TTC dedicated advertising space located on part of the premises constituting a subway station. **[Added 2011-09-22 by By-law 1160-2011<sup>11</sup>; amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

**STREET INSTALLATION DEDICATED ADVERTISING SPACE** - An area approved and designated by the City for the purpose of displaying any colour, form, graphic, illumination, symbol or writing to convey information of any kind to the public, including but not limited to display of an advertisement, bill, handbill, leaflet, flyer or placard, located on a structure, including a bus shelter and a municipal garbage container located on a Highway, owned by or under the control of the City. **[Added 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>12</sup>]**

**TTC DEDICATED ADVERTISING SPACE** - A location or structure, located on property owned by or under the control of the Toronto Transit Commission, approved and designated by the Toronto Transit Commission for the purpose of displaying any colour, form, graphic, illumination, symbol or writing to convey information of any kind to the public, including but not limited to display of an advertisement, bill, handbill, leaflet, flyer or placard, and includes a station advertising space and a vehicle advertising space. **[Added 2011-09-22 by By-law 1160-2011<sup>13</sup>; amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

**TTC VEHICLE** - Any motorized transportation equipment operated by or on behalf of the TTC and includes but is not limited to buses, streetcars, rapid transit trains, subway trains, light rail vehicles, wheel-trans vehicles and automobiles. **[Added 2011-09-22 by By-law 1160-2011<sup>14</sup>; amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

**VEHICLE ADVERTISING SPACE** - A TTC dedicated advertising space located in or on a TTC vehicle. **[Added 2011-09-22 by By-law 1160-2011<sup>15</sup>; amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

---

<sup>10</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

<sup>11</sup> Editor's Note: Definition was originally added to Section 693-16.

<sup>12</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

<sup>13</sup> Editor's Note: Definition was originally added to Section 693-16.

<sup>14</sup> Editor's Note: Definition was originally added to Section 693-16.

<sup>15</sup> Editor's Note: Definition was originally added to Section 693-16.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-6. General requirements.**

**[Amended 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>16</sup>]**

- A. No person shall erect, attach, place or display an election sign except as permitted by this article.
- B. Election signs shall not be:
  - (1) Illuminated; or
  - (2) Attached to trees.
- C. No person shall pull down, move, remove, alter, deface or wilfully cause damage to a lawfully erected election sign except:
  - (1) In the case of an election sign erected or displayed in accordance with § 693-7B, with the consent of:
    - (a) The candidate to whom the sign relates or the owner or occupant of the abutting property; or
    - (b) The registered third party advertiser responsible for the outsider election sign.
  - (2) In the case of an election sign erected or displayed in accordance with § 693-7C, with the consent of:
    - (a) The candidate to whom the sign relates; or
    - (b) The Toronto Transit Commission.
  - (3) In the case of an election sign erected or displayed in accordance with § 693-7D, with the consent of:
    - (a) The candidate to whom the sign relates; or
    - (b) The City of Toronto.
  - (4) In the case of an election sign erected or displayed in accordance with § 693-8, with the consent of:
    - (a) The candidate to whom the sign relates; or
    - (b) The owner of the property upon which the sign is erected; or
    - (c) The occupant of the property upon which the sign is erected; or
    - (d) The registered third party advertiser responsible for the outsider election sign.

---

<sup>16</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 deleted Subsection 693-6C and replaced it with a new Subsection 693-6C. By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-7. Election signs on public property.**

**[Amended 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>17</sup>]**

- A. Election signs are not permitted anywhere on public property other than on:
- (1) A highway, or a public utility pole located on a highway, provided there is compliance with the requirements of Subsections B(1) and G, if applicable;
  - (2) A structure, including a bus shelter and a municipal garbage container, located on a highway, if permitted under the terms and conditions of any agreement between the owner or operator of the structure and the City or one of its agencies, boards or commissions, and provided there is compliance with the requirements of Subsections B(1)(e) to (g) and G, if applicable;
  - (3) A TTC dedicated advertising space, if permitted under the terms and conditions of any agreement between the owner or operator of the TTC dedicated advertising space and the Toronto Transit Commission, and provided there is compliance with the requirements of Subsections C(1) and G, if applicable;
  - (4) A Street Installation dedicated advertising space, if permitted and erected or displayed in accordance with the terms and conditions of any agreement between the City concerning operation of the street installation dedicated advertising space and in accordance with Subsections D and G, if applicable;
  - (5) A third party sign located on public property, provided there is compliance with the requirements of Subsections E and G, if applicable; or
  - (6) On the surface of vehicles or trailers located on public property, provided there is compliance with the requirements of Subsections F and G, if applicable.
- B. Regulations for signs on highways.
- (1) Election signs may be erected or displayed on highways, except highways upon which pedestrians are prohibited, if:
    - (a) The signs are no larger than 1.2 square metres in area and no higher than two metres above ground level;
    - (b) The signs are not located within 1.5 metres of the curb or the edge of pavement;
    - (c) On highways with sidewalks, the signs are not located within 0.6 metres of either side of the sidewalk;
    - (d) The signs are not located within 15 metres of an intersection or pedestrian crossover of a collector road or arterial road and not located within 3 metres of an intersection or pedestrian crossover of a local road;

---

<sup>17</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 deleted and replaced Section 693-7, as amended, in its entirety and came into force January 1, 2018.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (e) The signs are not located on a median or island installed within the highway;
- (f) The signs do not interfere with the safe operation of motor vehicular traffic, cyclists, and with the safety of pedestrians, and must not obstruct visibility or block sightlines;
- (g) The signs are not erected or displayed on or adjacent to a voting place, City park or a facility that is owned or operated by the City; and
- (h) The signs are erected with the consent of the owner or occupant of the abutting property.

C. Regulations for signs on TTC dedicated advertising spaces.

- (1) Election signs may be erected or displayed on TTC dedicated advertising spaces, if:
  - (a) The signs are located on station advertising space as permitted under the terms and conditions of any agreement between the owner or operator of the station advertising space and the Toronto Transit Commission; and
    - [1] The sign is not illuminated as required by § 693-6B(1), unless the terms and conditions of any agreement between the owner or operator of the station advertising space and the Toronto Transit Commission permits the erection or display of illuminated signs on the station advertising space;
    - [2] The signs are no larger than 2.3 square metres in area;
    - [3] The signs do not interfere with the safe operation of motor vehicular traffic, cyclists, and with the safety of pedestrians, and must not obstruct visibility or block sightlines;
    - [4] The signs are not erected or displayed on or adjacent to a voting place; and
    - [5] The signs are erected or displayed with the consent of the Toronto Transit Commission.
  - (b) The signs are located on vehicle advertising space as permitted under the terms and conditions of any agreement between the owner or operator of the vehicle advertising space and the Toronto Transit Commission and;
    - [1] The sign is not illuminated as required by § 693-6B(1), unless the terms and conditions of any agreement between the owner or operator of the vehicle advertising space and the Toronto Transit Commission permits the erection or display of illuminated signs on the vehicle advertising space;
    - [2] The signs are no larger than 2.7 square metres in area;

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- [3] The signs do not interfere with the safe operation of motor vehicular traffic, cyclists, and with the safety of pedestrians, and must not obstruct visibility or block sightlines;
- [4] The signs are not erected or displayed on or adjacent to a voting place; and
- [5] The signs are erected or displayed with the consent of the Toronto Transit Commission.

D. Regulations for signs on Street Installation dedicated advertising spaces.

(1) Election signs may be erected or displayed on Street Installation dedicated advertising space, if:

(a) The signs are located on advertising space as permitted under the terms and conditions of any agreement between the owner or operator of the Street Installation dedicated advertising space and the City and;

- [1] The sign is not illuminated as required by § 693-6B(1), unless the terms and conditions of any agreement between the owner or operator of the Street Installation dedicated advertising space and the City permits the erection or display of illuminated signs on the advertising space;
- [2] The signs are no larger than the area of the Street Installation dedicated advertising space;
- [3] The signs do not interfere with the safe operation of motor vehicular traffic, cyclists, and with the safety of pedestrians, and must not obstruct visibility or block sightlines;
- [4] The signs are not erected or displayed on or adjacent to a voting place; and
- [5] The signs are erected or displayed with the consent of the City and the owner of the street installation.

E. Notwithstanding the restrictions contained in §§ 693-6B(1) and 693-8A(1), an election sign may be erected or displayed as sign copy on a third party sign, provided:

- (1) The sign is operating in accordance with the requirements of the applicable permit issued under Chapter 694, Signs, General or under the authority of a sign by-law passed by the City, former area municipality, or the former Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, still in effect as of April 5, 2010; and
- (2) The signs are not erected or displayed on or adjacent to a voting place.

F. Regulations for signs on Vehicles and Trailers.

- (1) Election signs may be erected or displayed by being attached, affixed, painted or otherwise displayed on the surface of vehicles or trailers, located on public

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

property provided:

- (a) The signs erected or displayed on a vehicle or trailer do not interfere with the safe operation of motor vehicular traffic, cyclists, and with the safety of pedestrians, and must not obstruct visibility or block sightlines; and
- (b) The signs are not erected or displayed on a vehicle or trailer that is parked, stopped or standing on or adjacent to a voting place, City park or facility that is owned or operated by the City.

G. Regulations for outsider election signs on public property.

- (1) An outsider election sign may be erected on public property if:
  - (a) The outsider election sign is erected in compliance with the provisions of § 693-6 otherwise applicable to the sign;
  - (b) The outsider election sign includes valid and up-to-date contact information for at least one individual responsible for the outsider election sign; and
  - (c) The third party advertiser responsible for the outsider election sign has registered with the City Clerk in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

**§ 693-8. Election signs on private property.**

**[Amended 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>18</sup>]**

- A. Election signs may be erected or displayed on private property if:
  - (1) The signs are no larger than 1.2 square metres in area and no higher than two metres above ground level, save and except signs on campaign offices;
  - (2) The signs do not interfere with the safe operation of motor vehicular traffic, cyclists, and with the safety of pedestrians, and must not obstruct visibility or block sightlines;
  - (3) The signs are erected with the consent of the owner or occupant of the property; and
  - (4) If an outsider election sign, the sign complies with Subsection C.
- B. Notwithstanding the restrictions contained in §§ 693-6B(1) and 693-8A(1), but subject to the restrictions of Subsection C, an election sign may be erected or displayed as sign copy on a third party sign, in accordance with the requirements of the applicable permit issued under Chapter 694, or under the authority of a sign by-law passed by the City, former area municipality, or the former Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, still in effect as of April 5, 2010.
- C. An outsider election sign may be erected on private property if:
  - (1) The outsider election sign includes valid and up-to-date contact information for at

---

<sup>18</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 deleted and replaced Section 693-8 in its entirety and came into force January 1, 2018.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

least one individual responsible for the outsider election sign; and

- (2) The third party advertiser has registered with the City Clerk in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

**§ 693-9. Timing.**

**[Amended 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>19</sup>]**

- A. Election signs shall not be erected or displayed:
  - (1) For a federal election or provincial election until the day the writ of election is issued;
  - (2) For a municipal election until 25 days prior to voting day.
- B. Notwithstanding Subsection A, where the day the writ of election is issued, or the 25th day prior to voting day or polling day as applicable, is a date of cultural or religious significance as indicated in the annual schedule of meetings adopted by Council and published by the City Clerk as required by § 27-25 of Chapter 27, Council Procedures, election signs shall not be erected or displayed until the first day after the date indicated in Subsection A, that is not is a date of cultural or religious significance indicated in Council's adopted annual schedule of meetings.
- C. Election signs may be erected on campaign offices from the day the writ of election is issued for a federal election or provincial election, and up to 25 days prior to voting day for a municipal election, provided that:
  - (1) In the case of a candidate for the position of Councillor or Trustee, that right shall extend to no more than one campaign office in the ward where the candidate is running for election;
  - (2) In the case of a candidate for the position of Mayor, that right shall extend to no more than four campaign offices.
- D. Election signs shall be removed within 72 hours after the completion of voting on voting day.

**§ 693-10. Removal of unlawful election signs.**

**[Amended 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>20</sup>]**

- A. Removal of signs by City; storage; retrieval.
  - (1) If an election sign or a campaign office sign is erected or displayed in violation of this article, the appropriate City officials may cause the sign to be removed immediately without notice.

---

<sup>19</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 deleted and replaced Section 693-9 in its entirety and came into force January 1, 2018.

<sup>20</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 deleted and replaced Section 693-10 in its entirety and came into force January 1, 2018.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (2) Notwithstanding § 693-6C, the appropriate City officials or persons acting under their direction may, on reasonable ground are of the belief that an election sign or a campaign office sign is erected or displayed in violation of this article cause the sign to be removed immediately without notice.
- (3) Signs that have been removed under Subsection A(1) and (2) shall be stored by the City for 72 hours after the Election Sign Period.
- (4) During the time the sign is stored under Subsection A(3), the owner of the sign or the owner's agent may retrieve the sign by providing the City with a signed acknowledgement and release in a form acceptable to the City.
- (5) Any sign that has been removed by the City and stored in accordance with Subsection A(1), (2) and (3), may be recycled, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of by the City without notice and without compensation to the owner of the sign.
- (6) Despite Subsection A(3), the City shall not be obliged to store signs made entirely of paper or other lightweight material and may destroy these signs immediately upon removal.

B. Notice for signs removed.

- (1) Notice shall be given by means of email, registered mail, personal delivery, or facsimile transmission, to the candidate, within 24 hours of the removal of the sign.
- (2) Notice provided in accordance with Subsection C(1) shall be deemed to be received the next business day.

**§ 693-11. Campaign office signs.**

[Amended 2017-11-09 by By-law 1231-2017<sup>21</sup>]

Campaign Office Signs may be erected or displayed if the campaign office sign is a part of a sign structure erected or displayed in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 694, Signs, General that would otherwise apply to the sign structure; or in accordance with the requirements of the applicable permit issued under the authority of the sign bylaw passed by the City, former area municipality, or the former Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, still in effect as of April 5, 2010.

**§ 693-12. Use of City of Toronto logo.**

[Amended 2004-12-02 by By-law 1081-2004]

No person shall display on any election sign a logo, trademark or official mark, in whole or in part, owned or licensed by the City.

---

<sup>21</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 1231-2017 deleted former Section 693-11, entitled "Payment methods" and replaced it with a new Section 693-11, entitled "Campaign office signs". By-law 1231-2017 came into force January 1, 2018.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-13. Offences.**

Any person who contravenes any provision of this article is guilty of an offence and upon conviction is liable to a fine or penalty as provided for in the Provincial Offences Act.<sup>22</sup>

**§ 693-14. Liability for damages.**

The provisions of this article shall not be construed as relieving or limiting the responsibility or liability of any person erecting or owning any sign for personal injury or property damage resulting from the placing of such signs or resulting from the negligence or wilful acts of such person, or his or her agents or employees, in the construction, erection, maintenance, repair or removal of any such signs.

**§ 693-15. Authority of City Solicitor.**

**[Added 2004-12-02 by By-law 1081-2004]**

Where a candidate has failed to pay any amount owed to the City under this article, and the outstanding amounts cannot be added to a candidate's tax roll, the City Solicitor may initiate court action to collect the outstanding amount, may appeal any decision where warranted, may discontinue or settle such claim or action where it is concluded by the City Solicitor, in consultation with the City Clerk and the Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards, or successor official, that it is reasonable to do so and may execute any documents as required to discontinue or settle the claim or action.

ARTICLE III

**Temporary Signs**

**[Adopted 2005-07-21 by By-law 698-2005<sup>23</sup>]**

**§ 693-16. Definitions.**

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**A-FRAME SIGN** - A rigid self-supporting free-standing moveable sign structure shaped like an "A", which is not fastened by any means to the ground or any structure. **[Amended 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>24</sup>]**

**BUSINESS OPERATOR** - A person who operates, manages, supervises, runs or controls any premises or part thereof in which services or materials are furnished, performed, provided, solicited, or given in pursuance of a trade or occupation, or other commercial, industrial or professional activities. **[Added 2008-10-30 by By-law 1162-2008]**

---

<sup>22</sup> Editor's Note: This section was passed under the authority of section 320 of the Municipal Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.45. Under section 61 of the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.33, a person convicted of an offence is liable to a fine of not more than \$5,000.

<sup>23</sup> Editor's Note: This article was passed under the authority of section 99 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25. This by-law stated that it comes into force 60 days after enactment of September 20, 2005.

<sup>24</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law came into force September 1, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**BUSINESS OWNER** - Includes, in the case of premises or part of premises in which services or materials are furnished, performed, provided, solicited, or given in pursuance of a trade or occupation, or other commercial, industrial or professional activities: **[Added 2008-10-30 by By-law 1162-2008]**

- A. A person who has the right to possess or occupy the premises or part thereof; and
- B. A person who possesses or occupies the premises or part thereof.

**CHARITY** - A registered charity, as defined in subsection 248(1) of the federal Income Tax Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.), or successor legislation, that has a registration number issued by the Canada Revenue Agency, or successor agency.

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION** - A non-profit group of persons organized for the advancement of activities of a civic, cultural or recreational nature.

**CONSTRUCTION HOARDING** - Any temporary wall and related structures which form a continuous site enclosure, which is erected for the purpose of site protection, including, but not limited to, any temporary structure required as a result of safety requirements imposed by provincial or federal legislation or regulation, including, but not limited to, covered sidewalks, scaffolding, and fencing. **[Added 2010-08-27 by By-law 1072-2010<sup>25</sup>]**

**CONSTRUCTION HOARDING SIGN** - Any device, structure or medium that uses any colour, form, graphic, illumination, symbol or writing to convey information of any kind to the public which is erected, attached, installed, or displayed on, in or upon construction hoarding, where the device, structure or medium or construction hoarding to which the device, structure or medium which is erected, attached, installed, or displayed on, in or upon is located on public property in whole or in part. **[Added 2010-08-27 by By-law 1072-2010]**

**CONSTRUCTION HOARDING SIGN OWNER** - Includes: **[Added 2010-08-27 by By-law 1072-2010]**

- A. A construction hoarding sign provider who lawfully owns the construction hoarding sign.
- B. A person:
  - (1) Described on the construction hoarding sign;
  - (2) Whose name and address or telephone number appears on the construction hoarding sign;
  - (3) Who installed the construction hoarding sign;
  - (4) Who is in lawful control of the construction hoarding sign; or
  - (5) Who benefits from the message on the construction hoarding sign.

---

<sup>25</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law came into force January 4, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

CONSTRUCTION HOARDING SIGN PROVIDER - A person who carries on or engages in the business of: **[Added 2010-08-27 by By-law 1072-2010]**

- A. Installing construction hoarding or construction hoarding signs on behalf of others; or
- B. Leasing or renting construction hoarding or construction hoarding signs to others.

DEVELOPMENT **[Added 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

- A. The construction, erection or placing of one or more buildings or structures on land;
- B. The making of an addition or alteration to a building or structure that has the effect of substantially increasing the size or usability of the building or structure; or
- C. The redevelopment of land through the removal of one or more buildings or structures to permit such development.

ELECTION SIGN - An election sign as defined in § 693-5.

FIRST PARTY CONTENT - Any colour, form, graphic, illustration, symbol or writing to convey information of any kind to the public in the furtherance of the marketing, promoting or advertising of a business, product or service available on the property to which the construction hoarding or sign relates. **[Added 2010-08-27 by By-law 1072-2010<sup>26</sup>; amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

FRONTAGE - The linear length of a property which abuts a street line. **[Added 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>27</sup>]**

GARAGE SALE SIGN - A sign advertising the sale of merchandise in a private sale held on a property zoned residential.<sup>28</sup>

GROUPING OF NEW DEVELOPMENT SIGNS - A group of not more than five new development signs all of which are located within a span of not more than 10 metres in length.

ILLUMINATED - Lighting of the sign by artificial means and "illumination" has a corresponding meaning.

LICENSED - Licensed under the provisions of any by-law licensing sign businesses and companies in the City.

MOBILE SIGN:

- A. A sign that is:
  - (1) Temporary;
  - (2) Designed for the rearrangement of copy on the sign face; and

---

<sup>26</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law came into force January 4, 2011.

<sup>27</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law came into force September 1, 2011.

<sup>28</sup> Editor's Note: The former definition of "Ground-mounted sign," which immediately followed this definition, was deleted February 7, 2012 by By-law 163-2012.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

(3) Part of, or attached to, a readily re-locatable wheeled trailer or frame without wheels.

B. Does not include a sign attached to a vehicle where the principal use of that vehicle is the transportation of people, goods or other materials.<sup>29</sup>

OPEN HOUSE DIRECTIONAL SIGN - A rigid free-standing moveable sign not fastened by any means to the ground or any structure or building, utilized for the sole purpose of directing traffic to a residential premises or residential property for sale or lease. [**Amended 2012-02-07 by By-law 163-2012**<sup>30</sup>]

PEDESTRIAN CLEARWAY - An unobstructed, clear, straight and continuous path of sidewalk which provides unobstructed passage, or pedestrian flow, for the entire length of the sidewalk and which is adjacent to the street line of the premises, as well as providing unobstructed access to any City-approved installation located on the sidewalk. [**Added 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011**<sup>31</sup>]

PORTABLE SIGN - A rigid free-standing moveable sign not fastened by any means to the ground or any structure, but excludes an A-frame sign. [**Amended 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011**<sup>32</sup>]

REAL ESTATE SIGN - A sign that is not permanently installed or affixed to the ground or any structure or building, utilized for the sole purpose of advertising the sale, rent or lease of the premises, in whole or in part, upon which the sign is located. [**Amended 2012-02-07 by By-law 163-2012**]

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION - An association of persons that is registered as a charity under the federal Income Tax Act, R.S.C. 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.), or successor legislation, and is organized for the advancement of religion and for the conduct of religious worship, services or rites.

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY - Property that is zoned residential and "residential premises" has a corresponding meaning.

SCHOOL - A "school" or a "private school" as defined under the Ontario Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2, or successor legislation.

---

<sup>29</sup> Editor's Note: The former definition of "new development sign," which immediately followed this definition, was deleted February 7, 2012 by By-law 163-2012.

<sup>30</sup> Editor's Note: The former definition of "owner," which immediately followed this definition, was deleted October 30, 2008 by By-law 1162-2008.

<sup>31</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 975-2011 came into force September 1, 2011.

<sup>32</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 975-2011 came into force September 1, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

SIGHT TRIANGLE:

- A. In the case of a corner lot, the triangular space formed by the street lines and a line drawn from a point in one street line to a point in the other street line, each such point being 7.5 metres measured along the street from the point of intersection of the street lines where the street is a collector road, and 15 metres, where the street is a major or arterial road;
- B. Any other sight triangle that is set out in a site plan agreement; or
- C. A sight triangle otherwise approved by the City.

SIGN OWNER - Includes: **[Added 2008-10-30 by By-law 1162-2008]**

- A. A temporary sign provider who lawfully owns the temporary sign.
- B. A person:
  - (1) Described on the temporary sign;
  - (2) Whose name and address or telephone number appears on the temporary sign;
  - (3) Who installed the temporary sign;
  - (4) Who is in lawful control of the temporary sign; or
  - (5) Who benefits from the message on the temporary sign.

SIGN PERMIT - A sign permit issued under this article for the legal placement of a temporary sign.

SIGN PERMIT IDENTIFIER - An attachment issued by the City signifying the issuance of a valid sign permit by the City.

STREET - A highway as defined in subsection 3(1) of the City of Toronto Act, 2006. **[Amended 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>33</sup>; amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

STREET LINE - The line dividing a street and a property. **[Added 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>34</sup>]**

TEMPORARY SIGN - A sign that is not permanently installed or affixed to the ground or any structure or building and: **[Amended 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>35</sup>; 2012-02-07 by By-law 163-2012]**

- A. Includes:
  - (1) A mobile sign;
  - (2) A portable sign;

---

<sup>33</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 975-2011 came into force September 1, 2011.

<sup>34</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 975-2011 came into force September 1, 2011.

<sup>35</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 975-2011 came into force September 1, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (3) An A-frame sign;
- (4) A real estate sign;
- (5) An open house directional sign;
- (6) A garage sale sign; and
- (7) A construction hoarding sign.

B. Does not include a poster.

TEMPORARY SIGN PROVIDER - A person who carries on or engages in the business of:  
**[Added 2008-10-30 by By-law 1162-2008]**

- A. Installing temporary signs of behalf of others; or
- B. Leasing or renting temporary signs to others.

ZONE - Any zone established in zoning by-laws of the City and includes all special exceptions to the zones and "zoned" has a corresponding meaning.

**§ 693-17. Temporary signs; general requirements.**

A. General.

- (1) No person shall erect, display, place or maintain a temporary sign except as permitted by this article.
- (2) Temporary signs shall comply with all other applicable City by-laws.
- (3) Where the provisions of this article are in conflict with any other by-law applicable to temporary signage, this article shall prevail to the extent of the conflict.

B. Temporary sign permit.

**[Amended 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>36</sup>; 2012-02-07 by By-law 163-2012; 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

- (1) No person shall display, place, alter or erect or cause to be displayed, placed, altered or erected, any temporary sign on public or privately owned lands, without obtaining a permit, except in the case of the following temporary signs:
  - (a) An official sign required by or erected under a federal or provincial statute or a by-law;
  - (b) A real estate sign, if the sign is on the lot being advertised for real estate purposes and is removed within 30 days after the property is no longer for sale or lease;
  - (c) An open house directional sign;

---

<sup>36</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 975-2011 came into force September 1, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (d) A-frame signs promoting citizen participation in religious, civic, charitable or non-profit activities and events, or advertising festivals and community events as permitted by § 693-24D;
  - (e) All other temporary signs promoting citizen participation in civic, charitable or non-profit activities and events or advertising festivals and community events as permitted by § 693-24A;
  - (f) A garage sale sign; and
  - (g) Election signs, as permitted in Article II of this chapter.
- (2) [Amended 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>37</sup>] An applicant for a temporary sign permit, with the exceptions of an applicant for a permit for a construction hoarding permit or an applicant for a permit for an A-frame sign shall furnish to the City the following information required by the City to process the permit, including:
- (a) The name and address of the sign owner and, if applicable, the temporary sign provider of the temporary sign;
  - (b) The name and address of the property owner or business owner or business operator applying for the permit;
  - (c) The municipal address of the premises upon which the sign is to be located;
  - (d) A site plan or survey, identifying the location of the temporary sign on the premises;
  - (e) The commencement and termination dates for the placement of the temporary sign;
  - (f) A contact name and number for the individual responsible for the temporary sign and written authorization from the property owner or management company to permit the applicant to have the temporary sign located and placed on the premises;
  - (g) The completed application; and
  - (h) The permit fee for the temporary sign set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges.
- (3) Applicants for a temporary sign permit shall provide the City with a general liability insurance certificate in the amount of no less than \$2,000,000.00 per occurrence, naming the City as an additional insured and having provisions for cross-liability and severability of interest and the insurer or an authorized agent of the insurer must advise the City in writing in advance of a policy cancellation.
- (4) The refusal of an application for a temporary sign permit based on failure to comply with any provision of this article is not appealable or reviewable.

---

<sup>37</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 975-2011 came into force September 1, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (5) **[Amended 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>38</sup>; 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**  
Despite §§ 693-17B(4) or 693-19A(3), the refusal of an application for a mobile, portable or A-frame sign permit may be appealed if an application:
- (a) is received for a location within a registered Business Improvement Area (BIA) District;
  - (b) the BIA has criteria for mobile, portable or A-frame signs that have been approved by the BIA Board of Management prior to the application being filed with the City;
  - (c) the BIA has filed with the City notice of its intent to comment on such applications; and
  - (d) the application is refused as a result of an objection based on the aforementioned criteria.
- (6) Appeals made under Subsection B(5) shall be considered by the local community council that shall make the final decision, under delegated authority, or shall make recommendations to Council for final decision. **[Amended 2007-03-06 by By-law 176-2007]**
- (6.1) A final decision made under § 693-17B(6) is not appealable or reviewable. **[Added 2007-03-06 by By-law 176-2007]**
- (7) Where the City has refused an application for a temporary sign permit based on failure to comply with any provision of this article, there shall be no refund of any permit fee paid.
- C. Revocation of permit.
- (1) The City may revoke a permit issued under this article, with no refund, where:
- (a) The sign does not comply with this article or any other applicable by-law or legislation;
  - (b) The permit has been issued in error by the City; or
  - (c) The permit has been issued under false, mistaken, incorrect, or misleading information.
- (2) Appeals relating to temporary sign permit revocations may be considered by the local community council that shall make the final decision, under delegated authority, or shall make recommendations to Council for final decision. **[Amended 2007-03-06 by By-law 176-2007]**
- (2.1) A final decision made under § 693-17C(2) is not appealable or reviewable. **[Added 2007-03-06 by By-law 176-2007]**

---

<sup>38</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law came into force September 1, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

D. Location.

- (1) Temporary signs may only be displayed or erected on lands zoned commercial, agricultural, institutional or mixed-uses and not on lands zoned solely for residential uses or industrial uses.
- (2) Despite Subsection D(1), real estate signs, open house directional signs and new development signs may be displayed or erected in any zone.
- (3) Despite Subsection D(1), garage sale signs may only be displayed or erected on lands zoned solely for residential uses.
- (4) Despite Subsections D(1), (2) and (3), Council may, subject to such conditions deemed necessary, including public consultation within the local community, prohibit any or all temporary signs within specified areas of the City.
- (5) Except as permitted by this article, no temporary sign shall be displayed or erected on, over, partly on or partly over, public property (for example, the road allowance, parks, community centres and public squares).
- (6) Despite Subsection D(5), the following are permitted on public property: **[Amended 2010-08-27 by By-law 1072-2010<sup>39</sup>]**
  - (a) A construction hoarding sign as permitted by this article;
  - (b) An official sign required by a public authority;
  - (c) A work zone sign; and
  - (d) A non-illuminated directional sign for a religious institution.
- (7) Temporary signs shall not obstruct or be located in a required parking space.
- (8) The placement of temporary signs shall allow for unobstructed pedestrian clearway of a minimum width of 2.1 metres. **[Amended 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>40</sup>]**
- (9) Temporary signs shall not be:
  - (a) Displayed or erected on any centre median, traffic island or centre boulevard within the road allowance;
  - (b) Displayed or erected within a sight triangle;
  - (c) Affixed in any way to a utility pole, tree, official sign (such as, parking signs) or other public property;
  - (d) Displayed or erected within three metres of a driveway entrance or exit or a side property line. **[Amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

---

<sup>39</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law came into force January 4, 2011.

<sup>40</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law came into force September 1, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

(10) Temporary signs shall be located as follows:

- (a) Except as permitted by this article, on private property and not closer than one metre (3.2 feet) from a municipal sidewalk;
- (b) No closer than nine metres (29.5 feet) from the edge of the nearest traffic control device and shall not pose a line of sight issue by impeding a pedestrian's or driver's view of the traffic control device; and
- (c) No closer than nine metres (29.5 feet) from the closest edge of the nearest paved portion of an intersection and shall not pose a line of sight issue by impeding a pedestrian's or driver's view of the intersection.

E. Maintenance and safety.

Every temporary sign shall be displayed, placed, erected or maintained in a good state of repair and shall not become, and shall not be altered to become, in the opinion of the Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards, or his or her designate, deteriorated, damaged, unsafe, defective, upset, dislodged, inoperative or with no message to remain placed, erected or displayed on a premises or property.

F. Removal of sign.

The business owner or business operator shall: **[Amended 2008-10-30 by By-law 1162-2008]**

- (1) Remove any temporary sign located on City property, if required to do so under this article;
- (2) Not obstruct the City from entering any portion of the boulevard for the purposes of snow removal and any other maintenance, installation or repair.

**§ 693-18. Portable signs.**

**[Amended 2011-07-14 by By-law 975-2011<sup>41</sup>; 2012-02-07 by By-law 163-2012; 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

A. Portable sign permit.

- (1) Subject to the exceptions listed in § 693-17B(1)(a) to (g) inclusive, every person displaying or erecting a portable sign shall obtain the following:
  - (a) A permit, if the person operates a business that does not require a licence; or
  - (b) An attachment to the applicable business licence if the person operates a business that requires a licence under Chapter 545, Licensing.
- (2) A person applying for an attachment to a business licence or for a permit for a portable sign shall provide the City with the information listed in § 693-17B(2) and the following:

---

<sup>41</sup> Editor's Note: By-law 975-2011 came into force September 1, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (a) A site plan showing the dimensions of the portable sign and the location of the portable sign on the premises; and
  - (b) The distance from the portable sign to the nearest street line, sidewalk, intersection, crosswalk, pedestrian crossover, corner, traffic light, driveway and street furnishings.
- (3) When the City authorizes a portable sign under this article, the sign owner of the sign shall display on the sign a sign permit identifier issued by the City as evidence that the sign has been authorized.
- (4) No permit for a portable sign shall be issued in relation to a premises for which a valid A-frame sign permit has been issued.

B. Location.

- (1) When portable signs are displayed or erected on public property as permitted by this article, the placement of the signs shall allow for an unobstructed pedestrian clearway, of a minimum width of 2.1 metres.
- (2) Subject to Subsection B(1), portable signs shall only be displayed or erected on the road allowance abutting the business to which the sign relates, if there is insufficient area on private property in front of the main front wall of a building or side wall if the building is situated on a corner lot.
- (3) Portable signs shall be located against the front wall of the premises directly adjacent to the business which it is advertising or where City-approved installations are located on the sidewalk and the sign is permitted on public property, the portable signs shall be located so as not to obstruct the remaining portion of the sidewalk.
- (4) No Portable sign shall be located in an area that has tall grass or weeds, litter, trash or is generally unkempt, and it shall be the responsibility of the business owner or business operator of the business being advertised in the sign to keep the property free of such conditions.
- (5) A sign that does not comply with Subsection B(4) shall be removed immediately.

C. Specific requirements for portable signs.

- (1) No more than one portable sign shall be displayed or erected for each business location.
- (2) Every portable sign relating to a business may only be displayed during the hours that that business is open and operating.
- (3) A portable signs shall comply with the following requirements:
  - (a) Each portable sign shall only display first party content and no other message;
  - (b) Each portable sign shall not contain more than two sign faces;
  - (c) Each portable sign shall not exceed a maximum height of 1.0 metre, nor be less than a minimum height of 0.5 metre;

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (d) Each portable sign shall not exceed a maximum width of 0.6 metre;
- (e) A portable sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any vehicular access point;
- (f) A portable sign shall not be animated, contain any video display elements, be illuminated, have flashing lights, emit sound or have electronic device to create or simulate motion, nor have any attachments adding to its height or width that result in the sign exceeding the dimensions outlined above in subsections (c) and (d).

**§ 693-18.1. (Reserved)** <sup>42</sup>

**§ 693-19. A-frame signs.**

**[Amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

A. A-frame sign permit.

- (1) Every person shall, prior to displaying or erecting an A-frame sign, obtain the following:
  - (a) A permit, if the person operates a business that does not require a licence; or
  - (b) An attachment to the applicable business licence if the person operates a business that requires a licence under Chapter 545, Licensing.
- (2) An applicant for an A-frame sign permit, or renewal thereof, shall furnish to the City the following information required by the City to process the permit, including:
  - (a) The completed application;
  - (b) The contact name, number and address of the sign owner of the A-frame sign;
  - (c) The name and address of all of the property owners, business owners and business operators who are applying for the permit to display the A-frame sign;
  - (d) Where the applicants for an A-frame sign permit under this article do not include the property owner of the business location or development to which the A-frame sign relates, written confirmation from the property owner that there are no objections to the proposed signage;
  - (e) The municipal address of the premises where the sign is to be located;
  - (f) A site plan showing the dimensions of the A-frame sign, the location of the A-frame sign on the premises and the distance from the A-frame sign to the nearest street line, sidewalk, intersection, crosswalk, pedestrian crossover, corner, traffic light, driveway and street furnishings, or where the application is for an A-frame sign permit or renewal thereof for purposes of identifying, advertising,

---

<sup>42</sup>Section 693-18.1. A-frame signs, was added July 14, 2011 by By-law 975-2011, which came into force September 1, 2011. This section was deleted June 8, 2012 by By-law 803-2012.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

promoting or directing attention to a development as defined by this article, a plan showing the dimensions of each A-frame sign, the location of each A-frame sign and the distance from the A-frame sign to all other A-frame signs for which the application is being made, the nearest street lines, sidewalks, intersections, crosswalks, pedestrian crossovers, corner, traffic lights, driveways and street furnishings;

- (g) The certificate of insurance referred to in Subsection A(6); and
  - (h) The application fee or renewal fee as applicable, for the appropriate A-frame sign permit as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges.
- (3) The refusal of an application for an A-frame sign permit based on failure to comply with any provision of this article is not appealable or reviewable.
  - (4) Where the City has refused an application for an A-frame sign permit based on failure to comply with any provision of this article, there shall be no refund of any permit fee paid.
  - (5) When the City authorizes an A-frame sign under this article, the sign owner of the sign shall display on the sign a sign permit identifier issued by the City as evidence that the sign has been authorized.
  - (6) The applicant for an A-frame sign permit shall provide, and purchase at its own cost and expense, Commercial General Liability insurance, written with an insurer licensed in the Province of Ontario with a limit of not less than \$2,000,000, per occurrence, such insurance policies to include a Cross Liability Clause; a Severability of Interest Clause; a clause naming the City of Toronto as an additional Insured; and a clause which states that the policy will not be cancelled without the City of Toronto receiving 30 days prior written notice.
  - (7) No permit for an A-frame sign shall be issued in relation to a premises for which a valid portable sign permit has been issued.
  - (8) No more than one A-frame sign permit shall be issued to an applicant with respect to any one business location.
  - (9) No A-frame sign permit shall permit the erection or display of more than one A-frame sign.
  - (10) Notwithstanding Subsection A(9) an A-frame sign permit may permit the erection or display of more than one A-frame sign but less than 10 A-frame signs, where the A-frame signs are for the purpose of identifying, advertising, promoting or directing attention to a development as defined by this article, in accordance with Subsection E.
- B. Revocation of A-frame permit.
- (1) The City may revoke an A-frame permit issued under this article, with no refund, where:

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (a) The sign does not comply with this article or any other applicable by-law or legislation;
  - (b) The permit has been issued in error by the City; or
  - (c) The permit has been issued under false, mistaken, incorrect, or misleading information.
- (2) Appeals relating to A-frame sign permit revocations may be considered by the local community council that shall make the final decision, under delegated authority, or shall make recommendations to Council for final decision.
- (3) A final decision made under § 693-19B(2) is not appealable or reviewable.
- C. Specific requirements, location.
- (1) All A-frame signs shall comply with the following requirements:
- (a) Each A-frame sign shall only display first party content and no other message;
  - (b) Each A-frame sign shall not contain more than two sign faces;
  - (c) Each A-frame sign shall not exceed a maximum height of 1.0 metre, nor be less than a minimum height of 0.5 metre;
  - (d) Each A-frame sign shall not exceed a maximum width of 0.6 metre;
  - (e) Each A-frame sign shall not exceed a maximum length of 0.75 metre in length;
  - (f) An A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any vehicular access point;
  - (g) An A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any parking or traffic control sign, signal or device;
  - (h) An A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any intersection;
  - (i) An A-frame sign shall not be animated, contain any video display elements, be illuminated, have flashing lights, emit sound or have electronic device to create or simulate motion, nor have any attachments adding to its height or width that result in the sign exceeding the dimensions outlined above in Subsections (c), (d) and (e).

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (2) An A-frame sign may only be displayed during the hours that the business to which the sign relates is open and operating.
- (3) A-frame signs shall be located against the front wall of the premises, containing the business location of the business which it is advertising.
- (4) Subject to Subsection C(3), A-frame signs shall only be displayed on the road allowance abutting the business location to which the sign relates, if there is insufficient area on private property in front of the main front wall of a building or side wall if the building is situated on a corner lot.
- (5) No business that has a licensed portion of the public right-of-way for a boulevard café or for marketing purposes, which is located in part or in whole, on the frontage in front of the main front wall of the building, may locate an A-frame sign outside the limits of the area so licensed.
- (6) No A-frame sign shall be located in an area that has tall grass or weeds, litter, trash or is generally unkempt and it shall be the responsibility of the business owner or business operator of the business being advertised on the sign to keep the property free of such conditions.
- (7) A sign that does not comply with Subsection C(6) shall be removed immediately.
- (8) When A-frame signs are displayed or erected on public property as permitted by this article, the placement of the signs shall allow for an unobstructed pedestrian clearway, of a minimum width of 2.1 metres at all points.
- (9) No A-frame signs shall be displayed or erected along the right-of-way areas along Bloor Street East and Bloor Street West between Avenue Road and Sherbourne Street, or along Yonge Street south of Davenport Road.
- (10) No A-frame signs shall be displayed or erected unless the policy of insurance referred to in 693-19A(6) is maintained in full force and effect.

D. Number of A-frame signs.

- (1) Where the frontage associated with the main front wall of the premises is 6.1 metres or less, a maximum of one A-frame sign per premises shall be permitted to be erected or displayed.
- (2) Notwithstanding Subsection D(1), where the frontage associated with the main front wall of the premises exceeds 6.1 metres, a maximum of two A-frame signs per premises shall be permitted to be erected or displayed.
- (3) Notwithstanding Subsections D(1) and D(2), if a building is situated on a corner lot and contains more than one frontage, one A-frame in addition to the maximum number set out in Subsections D(1) and D(2), may be permitted to be erected or displayed, on the condition that the additional A-frame sign is displayed adjacent to side wall of the building.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- E. A-frame signs for developments, specific regulations, location, number.
- (1) Notwithstanding §§ 693-19(C) and (D), all A-frame signs for the purpose of identifying, advertising, promoting or directing attention to a development as defined by this article shall comply with the following requirements:
- (a) Each A-frame sign shall only display first party content and no other message;
  - (b) Each A-frame sign shall not contain more than two sign faces;
  - (c) Each A-frame sign shall not exceed a maximum height of 1.2 metre, nor be less than a minimum height of 0.5 metre;
  - (d) Each A-frame sign shall not exceed a maximum width of 0.6 metre;
  - (e) Each A-frame sign shall not exceed a maximum length of 0.75 metre in length;
  - (f) An A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any vehicular access point;
  - (g) An A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any parking or traffic control sign, signal or device;
  - (h) An A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any intersection;
  - (i) An A-frame sign shall not be animated, contain any video display elements, be illuminated, have flashing lights, emit sound or have electronic device to create or simulate motion, nor have any attachments adding to its height or width that result in the sign exceeding the dimensions outlined above in Subsections (c), (d) and (e);
  - (j) A-frame signs shall not be located in an area that has tall grass or weeds, litter, trash or is generally unkempt, and it shall be the responsibility of the owner or operator of the development to which the A-frame sign relates to keep the area free of such conditions;
  - (k) A sign that does not comply with Subsection E(1)(j) shall be removed immediately;
  - (l) An A-frame sign for the purpose of identifying, advertising, promoting, or directing attention to a development may only be displayed during the hours before 5:00 p.m. on a Friday, or after 7:00 a.m. of the immediately following Monday;

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (m) Notwithstanding Subsection E(1)(l), where a Friday is a statutory holiday, display of an A-frame sign for the purpose of identifying, advertising, promoting or directing attention to a development may commence at 5:00 p.m. on a Thursday immediately before the Friday, and where a Monday is a statutory holiday, display of an A-frame sign for the purpose of identifying, advertising, promoting or directing attention to a development must cease by 7:00 a.m. of the immediately following Tuesday;
- (n) No A-frame signs for the purpose of identifying, advertising, promoting, or directing attention to a development shall be displayed or erected unless the policy of insurance referred to in § 693-19A(6) is maintained in full force and effect;
- (o) A maximum of ten A-frame signs per development shall be permitted to be erected or displayed;
- (p) A-frame signs for the purpose of identifying, advertising, promoting or directing attention to a development shall only be displayed on the road allowance in accordance with the following criteria:
  - (1) The placement of the signs shall allow for an unobstructed pedestrian clearway of a minimum width of 2.1 metres at all points;
  - (2) The A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed along the right-of-way areas along Bloor Street East and Bloor Street West between Avenue Road and Sherbourne Street or along Yonge Street south of Davenport Road;
  - (3) No more than five signs relating to the same development shall be erected or displayed on the same side of the street;
  - (4) No more than two signs relating to the same development shall be erected or displayed on each street block;
  - (5) The A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed closer than 100 metres to an A-frame sign for the purpose of identifying, advertising, promoting or directing attention to a different development;
  - (6) The A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed adjacent to residential property;
  - (7) The A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed adjacent to an area where parking is permitted at the curbside; and
- (8) The A-frame sign shall not be displayed on the portion of the street dedicated for vehicular traffic or on any centre median, traffic island or centre boulevard within the road allowance.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-20. Mobile signs.**

**[Amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

A. Mobile sign permit.

- (1) A permit for a mobile sign shall be valid for a period of 30 days.
- (2) No more than three mobile sign permits shall be issued for a single business location in a calendar year.
- (3) If a permit for a mobile sign has been issued for a business location, a subsequent permit will not be issued until at least 30 days have elapsed from the date of expiry of the previous permit.
- (4) A person to whom a permit is issued for a mobile sign shall ensure that the permit expiry date is prominently displayed on the sign so as to be visible from a distance of not less than 15 metres.

B. Location.

- (1) Mobile signs shall be located completely on private property.
- (2) Mobile signs shall be located in front of the business that the sign is advertising.
- (3) Mobile signs shall not be displayed or erected on vacant land.
- (4) No mobile sign shall be located in an area that has tall grass or weeds, litter, trash or is generally unkempt and it shall be the responsibility of the business owner or business operator of the business being advertised in the sign to keep the property free of such conditions.
- (5) A sign that does not comply with Subsection B(4) shall be removed immediately.

C. Safety.

All mobile signs shall comply with minimum safety and design requirements, including the following:

- (1) Each sign shall have no more than two sign faces, each having a maximum area of five square metres;
- (2) The sign content shall be only black on white or white on black in the case of mobile signs having an area of 1.5 square metres or more;
- (3) If backlit, the sign shall be Canadian Standards Association (CSA), hydro-approved battery or CSA hydro-approved power generator driven;
- (4) There shall be a minimum set distance between mobile signs so that each sign shall not be placed closer than 23 metres to another mobile sign located on the same lot or an adjoining lot; and
- (5) The sign shall not exceed 2.5 metres in height above grade and 3.05 metres in width.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-21. Real estate signs.**

**[Amended 2012-02-07 by By-law 163-2012]**

A. Specific requirements; number; location.

- (1) All real estate signs shall comply with the following requirements:
  - (a) Each real estate sign shall not contain more than two sign faces;
  - (b) Each real estate sign shall only display content relating to the sale, rent or lease of the premises, in whole or in part, upon which the sign is located and no other message;
  - (c) Each real estate sign shall have a maximum sign face area of:
    - [1] one square metre, if erected on a residential property; or
    - [2] four square metres, if erected on a property not zoned residential;
  - (d) No more than one real estate sign advertising the sale or lease of a property, or unit of a building or condominium shall be permitted to be located facing each street line of the premises to which the real estate sign relates;
  - (e) Notwithstanding subsection 1(d), no more than 4 real estate signs may be displayed on a premises;
  - (f) A real estate sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any vehicular access point;
  - (g) A real estate sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any parking or traffic control sign, signal or device;
  - (h) A real estate sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any intersection; and
  - (i) A real estate sign shall not be animated, contain any video display elements, be illuminated, have flashing lights, emit sound or have electronic device to create or simulate motion, nor have any attachments adding to its height or width.
- (2) Real estate signs may be located on public property if:
  - (a) The real estate sign is placed entirely upon public property which constitutes the specific premises being advertised for real estate purposes;
  - (b) The real estate sign is not to be affixed to a utility pole, tree, official sign or other similar public property;
  - (c) The real estate sign, is removed within 30 days after the premises is no longer for sale, rent or lease; and

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (d) The real estate sign is positioned to prevent damage to underground services.
- (3) Real estate signs may be located on private property if:
  - (a) The real estate sign is placed entirely upon private property which constitutes the specific premises being advertised for real estate purposes;
  - (b) The real estate sign is not to be affixed to a utility pole, tree, official sign or other similar public property;
  - (c) The real estate sign, is removed within 30 days after the premises is no longer for sale, rent or lease;
  - (d) The real estate sign is positioned to prevent damage to underground services; and
  - (e) The real estate sign is not located within less than 0.3 metre of the pedestrian sidewalk or where there is no sidewalk, within less than 0.3 metre of the vehicular travelled portion of the road.

**§ 693-22. Open house directional signs.**

**[Amended 2012-02-07 by By-law 163-2012]**

A. Specific requirements; location.

- (1) All open house directional signs shall comply with the following requirements:
  - (a) Each open house directional sign shall only display content directing traffic to a residential premises or residential property for sale or lease and no other message;
  - (b) Each open house directional sign shall include the address of the property for sale or lease and the date of the open house to which the open house directional sign relates;
  - (c) Each open house directional sign shall not contain more than two sign faces;
  - (d) Each open house directional sign shall not exceed a maximum height of 1.0 metre nor be less than a minimum height of 0.5 metre;
  - (e) Each open house directional sign shall not exceed a maximum width of 0.6 metre;
  - (f) Notwithstanding anything else in this article, each open house directional sign shall have a maximum sign face area of 0.5 square metre;
  - (g) An open house directional sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any vehicular access point;

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (h) An open house directional sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any parking or traffic control sign, signal or device;
  - (i) An open house directional sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any intersection; and
  - (j) An open house directional sign shall not be animated, contain any video display elements, be illuminated, have flashing lights, emit sound or have electronic device to create or simulate motion, nor have any attachments adding to its height or width.
- (2) An open house directional sign may only be displayed during the hours that the open house to which the sign relates is open and operating;
- (3) Notwithstanding Subsection A(2), an open house directional sign may only be displayed during the period between sunrise and sunset; **[Amended 2018-02-01 by By-law 74-2018]**
- (4) Open house directional signs may be located on public property if:
- (a) The open house directional sign is placed on the public road allowance, but not any centre median, traffic island or centre boulevard within the road allowance;
  - (b) The open house directional sign is not affixed to a utility pole, tree, official sign or other similar public property;
  - (c) The placement of the open house directional sign shall allow for an unobstructed pedestrian clearway of a minimum width of 2.1 metres at all points;
  - (d) The open house directional sign is not located within less than 0.3 metre of the pedestrian sidewalk; and
  - (e) The open house directional sign is not located within less than 0.3 metre of the vehicular travelled portion of the road.
- (5) Open house directional signs may be located on private property if:
- (a) The open house directional sign is placed on private property with the prior written consent of the owner of the premises;
  - (b) The open house directional sign is not affixed to a utility pole, tree, official sign or other similar public property; and
  - (c) The open house directional sign is not located within less than 0.3 metre of the pedestrian sidewalk and where there is no sidewalk within less than 0.3 metre of the vehicular travelled portion of the road.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-23. Garage sale signs.**

A. General.

- (1) A garage sale sign shall not exceed 0.6 metre (two feet) in any dimension and shall not exceed 0.36 square metre (3.9 square feet) in sign area.
- (2) A garage sale sign may be located in the untravelled portion of the road allowance excluding any centre median, traffic island or centre boulevard within the road allowance.
- (3) No garage sale sign may be displayed or erected before 5:00 p.m. of the day immediately before the garage sale or after 7:00 a.m. of the day immediately following the garage sale.
- (4) A garage sale sign shall include the address of the property where the garage sale will be located and the date of the garage sale.

**§ 693-24. Charity; religious institution; community organization; school. [Amended 2012-02-07 by By-law 163-2012; 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

A. A charity, religious institution, community organization and school may erect, display, place or maintain temporary signs promoting citizen participation in religious, civic, charitable or non-profit activities and events, or advertising festivals and community events if:

- (1) The temporary signs are located on land which is primarily used for the operations or activities of the charity, religious institution, community organization or school; or
- (2) The signs are located at the site where the activity or event is taking place; and
  - (a) There is no existing signage at the site where the festival, activity or event is taking place; and
  - (b) The signs are erected no more than one week prior to the festival, activity or event taking place; and
  - (c) The signs are removed within 48 hours of the conclusion of the festival, activity or event.

B. The physical criteria in this article that is applicable to the type of temporary signs being utilized shall apply to signs erected, displayed, placed or maintained by charities, religious institutions, community organizations and schools.

C. Despite Subsection A, no more than one mobile sign may be erected, displayed, placed or maintained on land which is primarily used for the operation or activities of a charity, religious institution, community organization or school, or at the site where the activity or event is taking place.

D. Notwithstanding § 693-19, a Ward Councillor may erect, display, place or maintain A-frame signs within the ward which promote citizen participation in religious, civic,

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

charitable or non-profit activities and events, or advertising festivals and community events if:

- (1) Each A-frame sign is located on public property or on private property with the prior consent of the owner or occupant of the property;
- (2) Each A-frame sign shall display the name of the Ward Councillor responsible for the erection, display, placement or maintenance of the A-frame sign and content promoting citizen participation in religious, civic, charitable or non-profit activities and events, or advertising festivals and community events, only and no other message;
- (3) Each A-frame sign shall not contain more than two sign faces;
- (4) Each A-frame sign shall not exceed a maximum height of 1.2 metre nor be less than a minimum height of 0.5 metre;
- (5) Each A-frame sign shall not exceed a maximum width of 1.2 metre;
- (6) Each A-frame sign shall not exceed a maximum length of 1.2 metre in length;
- (7) Each A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any vehicular access point;
- (8) Each A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any parking or traffic control sign, signal or device;
- (9) Each A-frame sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any intersection;
- (10) Each A-frame sign shall not be animated, contain any video display elements, be illuminated, have flashing lights, emit sound or have electronic device to create or simulate motion, nor have any attachments adding to its height or width that result in the sign exceeding the dimensions outlined above in Subsections D(4), (5) and (6);
- (11) Each A-frame sign shall be located in an area that is free of tall grass or weeds, litter, trash or is generally unkempt and it shall be the responsibility of the Ward Councillor to keep the area free of such conditions;
- (12) Each A-frame sign displayed or erected on public property shall allow for an unobstructed pedestrian clearway of a minimum width of 2.1 metres at all points;
- (13) Each A-frame sign shall be located within the ward; and
  - (a) There is no existing signage at the site where the A-frame sign is located;
  - (b) Each A-frame sign is erected no more than 48 hours prior to the activity or event taking place; and
  - (c) Each A-frame sign is removed within 48 hours of the conclusion of the activity or event.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-25. Removal of unlawful signs; costs of City removal.**

**[Amended 2006-12-06 by By-law 12-2007;<sup>43</sup> 2008-10-30 by By-law 1162-2008; 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

- A. If a temporary sign is erected or displayed in contravention of this article, the Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards, or a person acting upon his or her instructions, may, without notice to the sign owner, enter the land and pull down or remove the temporary sign at the expense of the sign owner.
- B. Despite Subsection A, if an open house directional sign, a real estate sign or a garage sale sign has been affixed, erected or otherwise displayed in contravention of this article, the Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards, or a person acting upon his or her instructions, may:
  - (1) Notify any or all of the sign owners to:
    - (a) Repair the sign;
    - (b) Pull down or remove the sign; or
    - (c) Correct the contravention so the sign complies with this article.
- C. Storage of temporary signs.
  - (1) Temporary signs that have been removed under Subsection A shall be stored by the City for a minimum of 30 days, during which time the sign owner may retrieve the sign by:
    - (a) Paying any amounts owing to the City under this article, including the fee for retrieving an illegal temporary sign as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges; and
    - (b) Providing the City with a signed acknowledgement and release in a form acceptable to the City.
  - (2) A temporary sign that has been removed by the City and stored for more than 30 days may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the City without notice and without compensation to the sign owner.
  - (3) Despite Subsection C(1), the City shall not be obliged to store a temporary sign made primarily of paper or other lightweight material and may destroy the sign immediately upon removal.
- D. Fees for storage and removal of temporary signs.

---

<sup>43</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law came into force September 27, 2006.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (1) If a temporary sign is removed under Subsection A, in addition to any fine or other penalty that may be imposed for an offence under this article, the sign owner shall pay to the City the following fees as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges:
  - (a) The fee for removing an illegal temporary sign;
  - (b) If a sign has been stored, the fee for storing an illegal temporary sign; and
  - (c) If a sign has been destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the City, the fee for disposal of an illegal temporary sign.
- (2) If a sign is not retrieved, the fee for removing an illegal temporary sign and the fees for storing and disposing of an illegal temporary sign as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges, shall be added to the subsequent year's permit fee.
- (3) The fee for removing an illegal temporary sign as well as the fees for storing and disposing of an illegal temporary sign, as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges, may also be recovered by action or adding the charge to the tax roll and collecting the charge in the same manner as taxes.

**§ 693-26. Construction hoarding signs.**

**[Added 2010-08-27 by By-law 1072-2010<sup>44</sup>; amended 2012-06-08 by By-law 803-2012]**

A. Permit.

- (1) Every person shall obtain a permit from the General Manager of Transportation Services, prior to the displaying or erecting a construction hoarding sign.
- (2) A person applying for a permit for displaying or erecting a construction hoarding sign shall provide the City with information required by the City to process the permit, including:
  - (a) The name and address of the construction hoarding sign owner and, if applicable, the construction hoarding sign provider of the construction hoarding sign;
  - (b) The name and address of the property owner or business owner or business operator of the property to which the construction hoarding relates;
  - (c) The municipal address of the premises adjacent to the location upon which the construction hoarding sign is to be located;
  - (d) A site plan or survey, identifying the following:
    - [1] Location of the construction hoarding sign;

---

<sup>44</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law came into force January 4, 2011.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- [2] The dimensions of the construction hoarding sign;
  - [3] The distance from the construction hoarding sign to the nearest street line, sidewalk, intersection, crosswalk, pedestrian crossover, corner, traffic light, driveway and street furnishings; and
  - [4] A graphic representation illustrating the proposed content, including the colours thereof, of the construction hoarding sign;
- (e) The commencement and termination dates for the placement of the construction hoarding sign;
  - (f) A contact name and number for the individual responsible for the construction hoarding sign;
  - (g) Written authorization from Transportation Services, Traffic Operations Section of the City of Toronto;
  - (h) A valid permit for "Construction Hoarding/Site Protection" issued pursuant to applicable law by the General Manager of Transportation Services;
- 
- (i) Where the applicant for a permit under this article is not the person to whom the valid construction hoarding/site protection permit has been issued by the General Manager of Transportation Services, written confirmation from the holder of the construction hoarding/site protection permit holder stating that there are no objections to the proposed signage;
  - (j) Where a construction hoarding sign exceeds the height of the construction hoarding by 1.2 metres or more, a stamped engineered drawing of the construction hoarding sign; and
  - (k) The completed application form.

B. General.

All construction hoarding signs shall comply with the following requirements:

- (1) Each construction hoarding sign shall only display first party content and no other message;
- (2) Each construction hoarding sign shall not exceed a maximum height of 4.8 metres and shall not exceed the limit of the length of the hoarding;
- (3) Each construction hoarding sign shall not exceed the height of the construction hoarding by 2.4 metres or more;
- (4) Each construction hoarding sign may form an integral component of the construction hoarding, or may be affixed to the construction hoarding in a manner satisfactory to the General Manager of Transportation Services; however, a construction hoarding

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

sign may only be attached to, or form an integral component of, the following elements of construction hoarding:

- (a) Vehicular access gates;
  - (b) An overhead protection component;
  - (c) The outside surface;
  - (d) Bracing underneath handrails;
- (5) Each construction hoarding sign shall be maintained, at all times, in a safe condition, in good and proper repair, and satisfactory to the General Manager of Transportation Services;
  - (6) A construction hoarding sign shall not be erected or displayed with content which is not in substantial compliance with the graphic representation illustrating the proposed content submitted to the City;
  - (7) A construction hoarding sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any vehicular access point;
  - (8) A construction hoarding sign shall not be erected or displayed in within 3.0 metres of a driveway entrance or exit or a side property line;
  - (9) A construction hoarding sign shall not be erected or displayed in within 9.0 metres from the edge of the nearest traffic control device;
  - (10) A construction hoarding sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any parking or traffic control sign, signal or device;
  - (11) A construction hoarding sign shall not be erected or displayed in such a manner as to impede a pedestrian's or driver's view of any intersection;
  - (12) A construction hoarding sign shall not be erected or displayed in within 30.5 metres of a traffic control signal, which contains any element or content which is red, yellow and green;
  - (13) A construction hoarding sign shall not be animated, contain any video display elements, be illuminated, have flashing lights, emit sound or have an electronic device to create or simulate motion, nor have any attachments adding to its height or width that result in the sign exceeding the maximum dimensions outlined above in Subsection B; and
  - (14) A construction hoarding sign shall not contain text in excess of 40 percent of the overall permitted area of the construction hoarding sign.

C. Specific restrictions.

- (1) No person shall erect, display or maintain, or cause or permit to be erected, displayed or maintained any construction hoarding sign on, or as part of any construction hoarding prior to obtaining a permit issued pursuant to this article.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (2) No person shall erect, display or maintain, or cause or permit to be erected, displayed or maintained any construction hoarding sign on, or as part of any construction hoarding prior in contravention of the permit issued pursuant to this article.
- (3) No person shall erect, display or maintain, or cause or permit to be erected, displayed or maintained any construction hoarding sign on, or as part of any construction hoarding in contravention of the restrictions contained within this article.

D. Removal of unauthorized construction hoarding sign.

- (1) If a construction hoarding sign is erected or displayed in contravention of this article, the General Manager of Transportation Services, or a person acting upon his or her instructions, may:
  - (a) Notify any or all of the construction hoarding sign owners to:
    - [1] Repair the construction hoarding sign;
    - [2] Pull down, remove, or otherwise render the construction hoarding sign non-visible; or
    - [3] Correct the contravention so the construction hoarding sign complies with this article within 48 hours of the date of the notice.
  - (2) If a construction hoarding sign owner does not comply with the notice provided in Subsection D(1), the General Manager of Transportation Services, or a person acting upon his or her instructions, may without notice to the construction hoarding sign owner enter upon land as may be required and pull down, remove, or otherwise render the construction hoarding sign non-visible at the expense of the construction hoarding sign owner.

E. Storage of unauthorized construction hoarding sign.

- (1) Construction hoarding signs that have been removed under Subsection D(2) shall be stored by the City for a minimum of 30 days, during which time the construction hoarding sign owner may retrieve the sign by:
  - (a) Paying any amounts owing to the City under this article, including the fee for retrieving an illegal construction hoarding sign as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges; and
  - (b) Providing the City with a signed acknowledgement and release in a form acceptable to the City.
- (2) A construction hoarding sign that has been removed by the City and stored for more than 30 days may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the City without notice and without compensation to the construction hoarding sign owner.
- (3) Despite Subsection E(1), the City shall not be obliged to store a construction hoarding sign made primarily of paper or other lightweight material and may destroy the sign immediately upon removal.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- F. Fees for storage and removal of unauthorized construction hoarding sign.
- (1) If a construction hoarding sign is removed under Subsection D, in addition to any fine or other penalty that may be imposed for an offence under this article, the construction hoarding sign owner shall pay to the City the following fees as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges:
    - (a) The fee for removing an illegal construction hoarding sign;
    - (b) If a sign has been stored, the fee for storing an illegal construction hoarding sign; and
    - (c) If a sign has been destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the City, the fee for disposal of a construction hoarding sign.
  - (2) If a sign is not retrieved, the fee for removing an illegal construction hoarding sign and the fees for storing and disposing of an illegal construction hoarding sign as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges, shall be added to the fee payable for any subsequent permit obtained for the erection or display of construction hoarding signs or construction hoarding.
  - (3) The fee for removing an illegal construction hoarding sign as well as the fees for storing and disposing of an illegal construction hoarding sign, as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges, may also be recovered by action or adding the charge to the tax roll and collecting the charge in the same manner as taxes.
- G. Applicability of other by-law provisions.
- (1) With the exception of those by-law provisions relating to construction hoarding signs as defined by this article, all other by-laws of the City shall continue to apply to the lands described above. Where conflict arises between this article and any other by-law, the provisions of this article shall prevail.

**§ 693-27. Offences.**

Any person who contravenes any provision of this article is guilty of an offence.<sup>45</sup>

---

<sup>45</sup> Editor's Note: This section was passed under the authority of section 425 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, and, under section 61 of the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.33, a person convicted of an offence under this section is liable to a fine of not more than \$5,000.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

ARTICLE IV

**Posters on Public Property**  
**[Adopted 2010-08-27 by By-law 1074-2010<sup>46</sup>]**

**§ 693-28. Definitions and interpretation.**

A. As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

**BOULEVARD** - The untravelled portion of a highway, but does not include a sidewalk or a median.

**COMMUNITY POSTER** - A poster identifying missing persons, pets or items, or promoting citizen participation in religious, civic, charitable, or non-profit activities such as advertising festivals, community events, local artistic and cultural events, local community services, and political ideas.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** - The Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards.

**HIGHWAY** - A highway as defined in section 3 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, that is under the jurisdiction of the City.

**KIOSK** - A structure, approved by the General Manager of Transportation Services, placed on a highway within the City for the purpose of posting posters and includes a poster board, a designated wall or other designated locations.

**OWNER** - Includes a person who created a poster, who installed a poster, who is in lawful control of a poster or otherwise directly benefits from the message of a poster.

**POSTER** - Any device, structure or medium that uses any colour, form, graphic, illumination, symbol or writing to convey information of any kind to the public, including but not limited to an advertisement, bill, handbill, leaflet, flyer or placard, and includes a community poster.

**SCHOOL** - A "school" or a "private school" as defined under the Ontario Education Act.

**STREET-LIGHTING POLE** - A pole owned by Toronto Hydro Street Lighting Inc.

**UTILITY POLE** - Includes a utility pole, light standard, a pole owned or controlled by the Toronto Transit Commission, and a street-lighting pole but does not include a privately owned pole.

---

<sup>46</sup> Editor's Note: This by-law was passed under the authority of subsection 8(2) of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, S.O. 2006, c. 11. This by-law also repealed the following: (1) Section 9 of By-law 64-87, "For Prohibiting and Regulating the Erection of Signs and Other Advertising Devices," as amended, of the former Borough of East York; (2) Sections 215-27, and 215-28 of Chapter 215, Signs, of the former City of Etobicoke Municipal Code, as amended; (3) Section 2.10 of By-law 30788, "A By-law to prohibit or regulate signs and other advertising devices," as amended, of the former City of North York; (4) the following provisions of Chapter 313, Streets and Sidewalks, of the former City of Toronto Municipal Code: (a) Article XB; and (b) the following from Schedule A, at the end of Chapter 313: "§ 313-73.4C" from column 1, "Removal of poster" from column 2, and "\$60.00\*(per poster)" from column 3; (5) Paragraph 2.2.3 of Schedule A to By-law 22980, "A By-law to prohibit and regulate signs in the City of Scarborough," as amended, (Scarborough Sign By-law) of the former City of Scarborough; and (6) By-law 11928, as amended by By-law 3296-79 of the former City of York, being "A By-law to prohibit the erection of signs, posters or other advertising devices and the posting of notices on buildings or vacant lots, and to prohibit the pulling down or defacing of any sign board or notice lawfully affixed."

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- B. For the purposes of this article, there may be more than one owner of a poster.
- C. For greater certainty, this article does not apply to election signs.

**§ 693-29. General restrictions.**

- A. Except as authorized by by-law, article in this chapter, or by agreement with the City, no person shall erect, attach, place or display, or cause or permit to be erected, attached, placed or displayed, any poster on, over or to any structure or thing, located on land owned by the City or any of its agencies, boards or commissions, including but not limited to:
  - (1) Parking meter ticket dispensers (pay and display machines) and parking meters, including the vertical support posts;
  - (2) Parking and traffic signs, including the vertical support posts;
  - (3) Street litter disposal containers;
  - (4) Newspaper boxes;
  - (5) Traffic control devices and signal control boxes;
  - (6) Trees;
  - (7) Street furniture;
  - (8) Bus shelters;
  - (9) Bicycle racks;
  - (10) Fire hydrants;
  - (11) Post boxes;
  - (12) Phone booths and call stations;
  - (13) Switching cabinets;
  - (14) Fencing of a construction site or demolition site required under Chapter 363, Building Construction and Demolition, Article III, Fencing of Construction and Demolition Sites;
  - (15) Kiosks;
  - (16) Utility poles; and
  - (17) Privately owned poles.
- B. For greater certainty, Subsection A(14) shall not apply to prevent the erection, attachment, placement or display of posters on construction site or demolition site fencing which is located on land owned by the City or any of its agencies, boards or commissions, where such posters are authorized by Article III.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-30. Posters on kiosks.**

- A. Despite § 693-29A, a poster may be placed on a kiosk if:
- (1) The poster is no more than 22 centimetres by 28 centimetres in size;
  - (2) The poster consists only of lightweight cardboard or paper;
  - (3) The poster is securely attached flush to the surface of the kiosk using staples or removable tape and no other method of affixing the poster to the kiosk is used;
  - (4) The poster is placed no higher than two metres above the ground;
  - (5) The poster includes the date of posting on the front of the poster;
  - (6) The poster is displayed for not more than the earlier of:
    - (a) Thirty days; or
    - (b) Five days after the end of the advertised event, if any;
  - (7) Not more than one poster conveying essentially identical information is posted on the kiosk;
  - (8) The poster faces towards the property fronting on the highway and away from the portion of the highway ordinarily used by vehicles; and
  - (9) The poster includes valid contact information for at least one owner of the poster.

**§ 693-31. Community posters on utility poles.**

- A. Despite § 693-29A, persons, charities, religious organizations, community organizations and schools may erect, attach, place or display, or cause or permit to be erected, attached, placed or displayed community posters on utility poles as permitted under Subsection B.
- B. A community poster may be placed on a utility pole located on a boulevard if:
- (1) The community poster is no more than 22 centimetres by 28 centimetres in size;
  - (2) The community poster consists only of lightweight cardboard or paper;
  - (3) The community poster is securely attached flush to the surface of the utility pole using staples or removable tape and no other method of affixing the poster to the utility pole is used;
  - (4) The community poster is placed no higher than two metres above the ground;
  - (5) The community poster includes the date of posting on the front of the poster;
  - (6) The community poster is displayed for not more than the earlier of:
    - (a) Thirty days; or
    - (b) Five days after the end of the advertised event, if any;

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (7) Not more than one community poster conveying essentially identical information is posted on the kiosk;
- (8) The community poster faces towards the property fronting on the highway and away from the portion of the highway ordinarily used by vehicles; and
- (9) The community poster includes valid contact information for at least one owner of the poster.

**§ 693-32. Additional restrictions.**

- A. In addition to the restrictions in §§ 693-30 and 693-31, a poster shall not:
- (1) Be placed on or within any traffic island or median.
  - (2) Be a hazard or dangerous to vehicular or pedestrian traffic, as determined by the General Manager of Transportation Services.
  - (3) Cause any damage to municipal property.
  - (4) Become unsightly.
  - (5) Cover or overlap another poster or community poster, in whole or in part.

**§ 693-33. Compliance.**

Despite any other sign by-law of the City or article in this chapter, a poster that complies with this article may be erected or displayed without a permit.

**§ 693-34. Removal of posters.**

- A. The Executive Director or the owner of a utility pole may, at any time and without notice, remove any poster from a utility pole or kiosk in the course of periodic cleaning or maintenance operations.
- B. The Executive Director may, at any time and without notice, remove any poster that is displayed in contravention of this article.
- C. A poster removed under this section may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the Executive Director or the owner of the utility pole without notice or compensation to any person who has an interest in the sign.
- D. Where a poster has been removed under Subsection B, the owner or any person responsible for erecting, attaching, placing or displaying, or causing or permitting the erecting, attaching, placing or displaying of the poster in contravention of this article shall, in addition to any fine or other penalty that may be imposed for an offence under this article, be required to pay to the City the greater of the removal fee prescribed in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges, and the actual cost of removal and disposal of the sign, and the City may recover this amount by legal action or in like manner as municipal taxes.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

**§ 693-35. Offence.**<sup>47</sup>

Any person who contravenes any provision of this article is guilty of an offence.

ARTICLE V

**Destination Signage on City Highways**  
**[Added 2017-01-31 by By-law 101-2017]**

**§ 693-36. Definitions.**

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

GENERAL MANAGER - The General Manager of Transportation Services for the City of Toronto and his or her designate or successor.

HIGHWAY - A highway as defined in the City of Toronto Act, 2006.

NEIGHBOURHOOD AND BUSINESS AREA IDENTIFICATION SIGN - A sign on a highway that is intended to assist people in identifying and locating a unique commercial area, community or neighbourhood.

QUESTION OF SIGN COPY - Any issue on content proposed to be displayed on a sign face, including, but not restricted to, choices of colours, graphics, logos, symbols, words, numerical figures, text, images, messages, pictures, or combination thereof which are proposed to be displayed on a sign face.

VEHICULAR DESTINATION SIGN - A sign or series of signs on highways that is intended to provide drivers with information and directions to a specific or geographical destination in the City.

**§ 693-37. Municipal consent required.**

- A. No person shall be permitted to fabricate, install, modify, erect, place or permit the fabrication, installation, modification, erection or placement of a Vehicular Destination Sign across, under or upon any highway.
- B. Despite Subsection A, the General Manager shall solely be authorized and permitted to fabricate, install, modify, erect, place or permit the fabrication, installation, modification, erection or placement of a Vehicular Destination Sign across, under or upon any highway.
- C. No person shall install, erect, place or permit the installation, erection or placement of a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign along, across, under or upon any highway unless the person:
  - (1) Obtains a permit as required from the General Manager under this Article;
  - (2) Pays all fees as required by Chapter 441, Fees and Charges;

---

<sup>47</sup> Editor's Note: This section was passed under the authority of section 366 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, S.O. 2006, c. 11, and, under section 61 of the Provincial Offences Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.33, a person convicted of an offence under this section is liable to a fine of not more than \$5,000.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (3) Enters into an agreement, where required by the General Manager or City Council, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and
  - (4) Complies with the terms and conditions of all agreements and permits for the duration of the permit term.
- D. The General Manager is authorized to issue permits and enter into agreements allowing for the installation of Vehicular Destination Signs or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Signs along, across, under or upon a highway or any portion thereof in accordance with this Article.

**§ 693-38. Application.**

- A. An application for a Vehicular Destination Sign permit or a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit shall be made in accordance with this section and in a form satisfactory to the General Manager.
- B. An application for a Vehicular Destination Sign permit shall include:
- (1) the applicant's name, address and telephone number;
  - (2) detailed plans and specifications to the satisfaction of the General Manager;
  - (3) proof of compliance with the Vehicular Destination Sign Policy adopted by the City;
  - (4) payment of any application fee required by Chapter 441, Fees and Charges; and
  - (5) any other information deemed necessary by the General Manager.
- C. An application for a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit shall include:
- (1) the applicant's name, address and telephone number, including proof to the satisfaction of the General Manager that the applicant is eligible to apply for a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign under the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy adopted by the City;
  - (2) detailed plans and specifications, to the satisfaction of the General Manager, including, but not limited to, site plans, proposed sign location plans, proposed sign copy and proposed sign materials;
  - (3) proof of compliance with the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy established by the City; and
  - (4) any other information deemed necessary by the General Manager.
- D. Upon receipt of an application under Subsections B or C, the General Manager may, for any purpose relating to the assessment of an application under this section, serve an applicant personally or by ordinary mail with a written demand for information and such other documents as the General Manager considers necessary to assess an application for compliance with the Vehicular Destination Sign Policy or the Neighbourhood and

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

Business Area Identification Sign Policy. Should the written demand for information be served on the applicant by ordinary mail, it shall be deemed to have been received on the fifth day after the day of mailing.

- E. A person in receipt of a demand under Subsection D shall comply with the demand within the time specified in the demand.

**§ 693-39. Referral to Community Council.**

- A. Upon receipt of a complete application for a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit, and where the General Manager has reviewed the application and provided preliminary approval for the application under all requirements of this Article and the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy save and except for a question of sign copy, the General Manager may, at the General Manager's sole discretion, refer the application to the Community Council for the area where the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign is proposed to be located for final resolution.
- B. The appropriate Community Council shall review the General Manager's report and provide the applicant with the opportunity to be heard, after which the Community Council shall:
  - (1) Direct that the General Manager issue a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit to the applicant on the terms and conditions of the application that have received preliminary approval by the General Manager and on such terms and conditions pertaining to the question of sign copy as Community Council sets out; or
  - (2) Direct that the application be refused on the basis that Community Council rejects the application in relation to the question of sign copy.

**§ 693-40. Refusing applications.**

- A. The General Manager may refuse an application for a Vehicular Destination Sign permit or a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit where:
  - (1) The application is incomplete or has been submitted using false or misleading information;
  - (2) The proposed sign does not meet the requirements of this Article or either the Vehicular Destination Sign Policy or the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy adopted by the City;
  - (3) The applicant has failed to provide the information demanded by the General Manager under § 693-38D in the time set out in the demand;
  - (4) The applicant has not paid the required fees and securities; or
  - (5) The appropriate Community Council has directed the application be refused under § 693-39.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- B. The General Manager shall provide an applicant whose application is refused with the reason, in writing, for refusing it.

**§ 693-41. Appeal.**

- A. An applicant whose application for a Vehicular Destination Sign permit or a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit has been refused, except an applicant whose application was refused under § 693-40A(5), may appeal the decision of the General Manager by filing with the General Manager, within 15 business days of the date of the General Manager's written decision, a notice of appeal containing the applicant's contact information, grounds for requesting an appeal and any information the applicant wishes to provide in support of the appeal.
- B. Before the General Manager accepts a notice of appeal, the applicant shall pay a non-refundable appeal fee as set out in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges.
- C. On acceptance of a notice of appeal, the General Manager shall review the notice of appeal and application to determine whether the application complies with this Article and either the Vehicular Destination Sign Policy or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy and may either:
- (1) Issue the permit in accordance with the requirements of this Article where it is determined the application complies with this Article and either the Vehicular Destination Sign Policy or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy; or
  - (2) Refuse the application in accordance with this Article where it is determined that the application does not comply with this Article or either the Vehicular Destination Sign Policy or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy.
- D. Despite Subsection C, where the General Manager has reviewed a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign application appeal and provided preliminary approval for the application under all requirements of this Article and the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy save and except for a question of sign copy, the General Manager may, at the General Manager's sole discretion, refer the application to Community Council for final resolution in accordance with § 693-39.

**§ 693-42. Permit issuance.**

- A. The General Manager may issue the requested permit subject to such terms and conditions as the General Manager considers appropriate where the proposal meets all requirements under this Article and either the Vehicular Destination Sign Policy or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy, including the payment of all applicable fees.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- B. Despite Subsection A, where Community Council has ordered the General Manager to issue a permit under § 693-39B(1), the General Manager shall issue the requested permit on the terms and conditions approved by Community Council including the payment of all applicable fees.
- C. Prior to the issuance of an approved Vehicular Destination Sign permit, the applicant shall enter into a written agreement on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.
- D. Prior to the issuance of an approved Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit, the applicant shall:
  - (1) Obtain the consent to construct and install the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign under Article III of Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of; and
  - (2) Enter into a written agreement on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

**§ 693-43. Specific requirements.**

- A. The issuance of a permit under this Article does not absolve the permit holder from complying with any other applicable by-law or legislation.
- B. Vehicular Destination Sign responsibilities and obligations:
  - (1) No person other than the General Manager shall be permitted to fabricate, install, modify, erect, place or permit the fabrication, installation, modification, erection or placement of a Vehicular Destination Sign across, under or upon any highway.
  - (2) The General Manager shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine the location, sign materials, sign elements and sign copy of any Vehicular Destination Sign.
  - (3) The permit holder shall be responsible for the costs of design, fabrication, installation and major maintenance work conducted by the City for the Vehicular Destination Sign, and shall provide payment satisfactory to the General Manager within 30 days of receiving an invoice notifying the permit holder of such work. Notice of the work shall be served personally or by ordinary mail to the permit holder's last known address, and if the notice is served by ordinary mail, it shall be deemed to have been received on the fifth day after the day of mailing.
  - (4) No Vehicular Destination Sign permit shall be issued under this Article until the applicant enters into an agreement with the City satisfactory to the General Manager and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor including the following conditions. The permit holder agrees that:
    - (a) The General Manager shall solely be authorized and permitted to conduct all work on the Vehicular Destination Sign including, but not limited to, installation, maintenance and removal work on the Vehicular Destination Sign, and the permit holder shall not fabricate, install, modify, erect, place,

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

permit or perform any work on the Vehicular Destination Sign on a highway at any time;

- (b) The General Manager shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine the location, size, sign materials, sign elements and sign copy of the Vehicular Destination Sign;
- (c) The permit holder shall be liable for any third party sign tax due for the Vehicular Destination Sign under Chapter 771, Taxation, Third Party Sign Tax. The permit holder shall be considered the "Owner" under Chapter 771, Taxation, Third Party Sign Tax, for any Vehicular Destination Sign for which the applicant has been issued a permit. Nothing under this agreement shall render the City liable for any third party sign tax under Chapter 771, Taxation, Third Party Sign Tax, with regards to the Vehicular Destination Sign of the permit holder;
- (d) The permit holder shall pay the fees specified in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges;
- (e) The permit holder shall be responsible for the costs of design, fabrication, installation and major maintenance work conducted by the City for the Vehicular Destination Sign, and shall provide payment satisfactory to the General Manager within 30 days of receiving an invoice notifying the permit holder of such work. Notice of the work shall be served personally or by ordinary mail to the permit holder's last known address, and if the notice is served by ordinary mail, it shall be deemed to have been received on the fifth day after the day of mailing;
- (f) This agreement shall be deemed null and void should the permit holder's permit be revoked at any time as of the date the City revokes the permit holder's permit, and upon revocation of the permit holder's permit, the City shall have the right to remove the Vehicular Destination Sign and shall not be liable for any claim related to such a removal;
- (g) In the case of an emergency, the City may remove any sign without notice. In which case, the City is not obligated to return or restore the sign removed as a result of the emergency, and shall not be liable for any claim related to such a removal;
- (h) The permit holder shall pay all costs associated with preparing the agreement; and
- (i) The permit holder shall agree to any other conditions considered appropriate by the General Manager.

C. Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign responsibilities and obligations:

- (1) Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit holders shall maintain the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign in a state of

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

good repair in accordance with the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy, free of graffiti, posters, litter, snow, and ice at no cost to the City and to the satisfaction of the General Manager.

- (2) The City shall not be financially responsible for repairing or replacing any Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign, including any Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign that is damaged as a result of clearing and removing of litter, graffiti, posters, snow or ice, or as a result of street repairs or reconstruction.
- (3) The permit holder shall, if required by the General Manager, modify or remove the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign and restore the street in accordance with § 693-44 and/or § 693-45.
- (4) No Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit shall be issued under this Article until the applicant enters into an agreement with the City satisfactory to the General Manager and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, and including the following conditions. The permit holder agrees that:
  - (a) The permit holder shall construct the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign to the satisfaction of the General Manager;
  - (b) The permit holder shall maintain the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign in a state of good repair in accordance with the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy, free of graffiti, posters, litter, snow and ice, at no expense to the City and to the satisfaction of the General Manager;
  - (c) The City shall not be responsible for repairing or replacing any Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign element damaged as a result of clearing or removing of litter, graffiti, posters, snow or ice, or as a result of street repairs or reconstruction;
  - (d) The City may, in accordance with § 693-44 and § 693-45, remove or modify, at the permit holder's expense, any Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign element situated within a highway;
  - (e) The permit holder shall comply with the insurance and indemnity requirements of § 743-23 of Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of;
  - (f) The City shall maintain the right to place pipes, cables, wires, poles and other infrastructure within the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign location site;
  - (g) The permit holder shall, if required by the General Manager, modify or remove the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign and restore the street in accordance with § 693-44 and/or § 693-45;

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (h) In the case of an emergency, the City may remove any installation within the permit area without notice. In which case, the City is not obligated to return or restore the installations removed as a result of the emergency, and shall not be liable for any claim related to such a removal;
- (i) The permit holder shall be liable for any third party sign tax due for their Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign under Chapter 771, Taxation, Third Party Sign Tax. The permit holder shall be considered the "Owner" under Chapter 771, Taxation, Third Party Sign Tax, for any Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign for which the permit holder has been issued a permit. Nothing under this agreement shall render the City liable for any third party sign tax under Chapter 771, Taxation, Third Party Sign Tax, with regards to the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign of the applicant;
- (j) This agreement shall be deemed null and void should the permit holder's permit be revoked at any time as of the date the City revokes the permit holder's permit;
- (k) The permit holder shall pay the fees specified in Chapter 441, Fees and Charges;
- (l) The permit holder shall pay all costs associated with preparing the agreement; and
- (m) The permit holder shall agree to any other conditions considered appropriate by the General Manager.

**§ 693-44. Removal, modification.**

- A. The General Manager may, upon revocation of a permit for a Vehicular Destination Sign according to § 693-45, remove that Vehicular Destination Sign from any location across, under or upon any highway at any time.
- B. The General Manager may, at any time, modify, maintain or repair a Vehicular Destination Sign on any location across, under or upon any highway.
- C. The General Manager may issue a Notice of Violation that shall require a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign to be brought into compliance with this Article or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy within 14 days to any person who:
  - (1) Has fabricated, installed, modified, erected, placed or permitted the fabrication, installation, modification, erection or placement of a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign without first having obtained a permit to do so under this Article; or
  - (2) Having obtained a permit under this Article, has fabricated, installed, modified, erected, placed or permitted the fabrication, installation, modification, erection or placement a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign contrary to this

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

Article, the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy, the permit issued or the agreement entered into under this Article.

- D. Where a Notice of Violation has been issued under Subsection C and the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign has not been brought into compliance with this Article, the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy, agreement or permit to the satisfaction of the General Manager within 14 days of the Notice of Violation being served on the permit holder, the General Manager may remove or modify the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign or cause the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign or any part thereof to be removed or modified, and the City may recover the costs incurred by any means including, but not limited to, by way of action or by adding the costs to the tax roll for the permit holder and collecting them in the same manner as property taxes.
- E. A notice under Subsection C shall be served personally or by ordinary mail to the recipient's last known address, and if the notice is served by ordinary mail, it shall be deemed to have been served on the fifth day after the day of mailing.
- F. Where a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign or any part thereof has been removed under Subsection D and the General Manager has stored the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign or any part thereof, the City may enforce the associated care and storage costs by claiming a lien under the Repair and Storage Liens Act.
- G. In the case of an emergency, the General Manager may, at the City's expense, remove a Vehicular Destination Sign or a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign and all associated equipment without notice, and the General Manager is not obligated to restore the Vehicular Destination Sign or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign and all associated equipment removed as a result of the emergency.
- H. Any person who contravenes any provision of this Article is guilty of an offence.
- I. Any director or officer of a corporation who knowingly concurs in the contravention of any provision of this Article by the corporation is guilty of an offence.
- J. In addition to offences referred to in Subsections H and I, every person is guilty of an offence under this Article who:
  - (1) Hinders or obstructs or attempts to hinder or obstruct any person exercising a power or performing a duty under this Article;
  - (2) Neglects or refuses to produce or provide any information or thing to any person acting according to an order made under section 378 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006;
  - (3) Knowingly makes, participates in, assents to or acquiesces in the provision of false information in a statement, affidavit, application or other document prepared, submitted or filed under this Article;

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- (4) Erects, displays, modifies or restores or causes to be erected, displayed, modified or restored any sign for which a sign permit is required by this Article without first obtaining a sign permit;
- (5) Erects, displays, modifies or restores or causes to be erected, displayed, modified or restored a sign contrary to the terms of this Article;
- (6) Erects, displays, modifies or restores or causes to be erected, displayed, modified or restored a Vehicular Destination Sign upon a highway except where the erection, display, modification or restoration is carried out by the General Manager; and
- (7) Is a director or officer of a corporation and knowingly concurs with actions taken by or on behalf of the corporation in relation to an offence described in this subsection.

**§ 693-45. Enforcement; revocation.**

- A. The General Manager may revoke a permit issued under this Article where:
  - (1) The erection, display, modification, or restoration of the Vehicular Destination Sign or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign authorized by the permit has not, in the opinion of the General Manager, been conducted in accordance with the requirements of this Article, the Vehicular Destination Sign Policy or Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign Policy, the permit, or the agreement entered into in accordance with this Article;
  - (2) The permit was issued on mistaken, false, or incorrect information;
  - (3) The permit was issued in error;
  - (4) The permit holder requests in writing that the permit be revoked;
  - (5) Any fees due under this Article have not been paid; or
  - (6) A notice of violation has been issued by the General Manager under § 693-44 and the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign has not been brought into compliance with this Article within 14 days of the notice being served.
- B. Before revoking a permit, the General Manager shall provide the permit holder and any other person as the General Manager deems appropriate with written notice of his or her intention to revoke the permit.
- C. A notice under Subsection B shall be served personally or by ordinary mail to the recipient's last known address, and if the notice is served by ordinary mail, it shall be deemed to have been served on the fifth day after the day of mailing.
- D. A permit holder or any other person to whom notice was served under Subsection B may, within 14 days from the date of service of the notice, request in writing that the General Manager not revoke the permit and shall include therein the reasons for the request and any information the person wishes to provide in support of the request.

TORONTO MUNICIPAL CODE  
CHAPTER 693, SIGNS

- E. When a request is made under Subsection D that the permit not be revoked, the General Manager shall consider the reasons provided in the request and any other considerations he or she deems appropriate and shall thereafter provide the requestor with his or her decision in writing.
- F. The decision of the General Manager in Subsection E shall be served personally or by ordinary mail to the requestor's last known address, and if the decision is served by ordinary mail, it shall be deemed to have been served on the fifth day after the day of mailing.
- G. Where no written request is made under Subsection D within 14 days from the date of service of notice of the intention to revoke a sign permit and the ground for revocation continues to exist, the General Manager may proceed to revoke the permit.
- H. Where the General Manager revokes a permit, written notice of the revocation shall be provided to the permit holder and any other person as the General Manager deems appropriate.
- I. Notice of the revocation of a permit shall be served personally or by ordinary mail to the recipient's last known address, and if the notice is served by ordinary mail, it shall be deemed to have been served on the fifth day after the day of mailing.
- J. Where the General Manager has revoked a permit, an agreement entered into between the City and permit holder pertaining to that permit shall be deemed null and void as of the date the permit was revoked.
- K. Where the General Manager has revoked a Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign permit, the permit holder shall, at no cost to the City and to the satisfaction of the General Manager, remove the Neighbourhood and Business Area Identification Sign and restore the highway to its pre-construction condition, including boulevard landscaping, within 30 days of being served with notice that the permit has been revoked.
- L. Where the General Manager has revoked a Vehicular Destination Sign permit, the City shall have the right to remove the Vehicular Destination Sign.