THE CITY OF VAUGHAN

BY-LAW

BY-LAW NUMBER 079-2019

A By-law of the Corporation of the City of Vaughan to amend Sign By-law 140-2018, to provide greater clarity with respect to Election Signs, to provide additional parameters with respect to Feather Banner Signs, and to provide various technical amendments, as well as to amend Fees and Charges By-law 171-2013, as amended, to include Election Sign application fees.

WHEREAS subsection 5(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001 S.O. 2001, c.25 (“Municipal Act, 2001”), provides that a municipal power shall be exercised by by-law;

AND WHEREAS subsection 8(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that the powers of a municipality under this Act shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality’s ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS subsection 8(3) of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that a by-law may regulate or prohibit respecting the matter, require persons to do things respecting the matter, and provide for a system of licences respecting the matter;

AND WHEREAS subsection 11(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that a municipality may provide any service or thing that the municipality considers necessary or desirable for the public;

AND WHEREAS subsection 11(2) of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that a municipality may pass by-laws respecting: 5. Economic, social and environmental well-being of the municipality; 6. Health, safety and well-being of Persons; 7. Services and things that the municipality is authorized to provide under subsection (1); 8. Protection of persons and property, including consumer protection;

AND WHEREAS section 99 refers to specific municipal powers under Part III of the Municipal Act, 2001 for structures, including fences and Signs;

AND WHEREAS section 63 of the Municipal Act, 2001 provides that a by-law may prohibit or regulate the placing or standing of an object on or near a Highway, and may provide for the removal and impounding or restraining and immobilizing of any object placed or standing on or near a Highway;
AND WHEREAS section 11(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25*, provides that a Municipality may pass by-laws respecting signs, including the authority to grant sign variances to the city’s Sign By-law;

AND WHEREAS sections 9, 11, and 23.2(1)(c) of the *Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25*, provide that a Municipality may delegate quasi-judicial powers under the *Municipal Act, 2001* to an individual who is an officer, employee or agent of the municipality;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of City of Vaughan ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by replacing the current definition of *Window Sign* with the following:
   “Window Sign” means, any *Sign* located on the interior of a *Premises* which is intended to be seen from off the property on which the *Premises* is located and is constructed in such a manner as intended to be of a permanent nature, but shall not include *Illuminated Signs* commonly used to advertise products sold on the *Premises*;

2. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by adding the following definition:
   “Real Estate Sign” means a *Temporary Sign* intended to advertise a building, property, *Premises* or a portion thereof offered for sale, rent or lease and may indicate information as to the real estate agent and the name and location of the sales office, but which does not include *Real Estate Open House Signs*;

3. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by replacing the current definition of *Election Sign* with the following:
   “Election Sign” means a *Sign* advertising, promoting or opposing a registered *Candidate*, or someone who should be a registered *Candidate* or *Registered Third Party*, or an *Elections Question*, in any federal, provincial or municipal election, including an election of a local board or commission, and includes *Third-Party Election Signs*;

4. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by adding the following definition:
   “Candidate” means a person whose nomination as a candidate at an election has been confirmed under any federal, provincial or municipal regulation, or who should be a registered candidate under any Canadian statute or regulation;

5. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by adding the following definition:
“Governmental Entity” means the government of a jurisdiction, any political subdivision of a jurisdiction, such as a federal, provincial, or municipal body, performing a function of the government;

6. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by adding the following definition:

“Homebuilder A-frame Sign” means an A-frame Sign used to advertise the sale of new homes and used to direct traffic to sale trailers, sales pavilions, and model homes;

7. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by adding the following definition:

“Special Event” has the same meaning as in the Special Events By-law 045–2018, as amended, or its successor by-law;

8. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by adding the following definition:

“Municipal Law Enforcement Officer” means an individual appointed or employed by the City as a municipal law enforcement officer under section 15 of the Police Services Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.15, as amended;

9. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by replacing Subsection 23.1 with the following:

The City, the Region, or any other Canadian Governmental Entity are exempt from the requirements of the City’s Sign By-law, which extends to Signs developed by the City or Region or any other Canadian Governmental Entity for the purpose of distribution by other parties, subject to prescribed conditions set out by the City or Region or Canadian Governmental Entity in agreements with these parties.

10. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by replacing Clause 4.1(f)(i) with the following:

No Candidate or his or her agent shall Erect, attach, place, display, cause or permit the Erection, attachment, placement or display of an Election Sign unless the Candidate has paid to the City the applicable Election Sign non-refundable fee, as indicated in Fees and Charges By-law 171-2013, as amended.

11. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by replacing Clause 4.1(f)(ii) with the following:

No Registered Third-Party shall Erect, attach, place, display, cause or permit the Erection, attachment, placement or display of a Third-Party Election Sign unless the Registered Third-Party has paid to the City the applicable Election Sign non-refundable fee, as indicated in Fees and
Charges By-law 171-2013, as amended, for each Candidate and Elections Question for which they wish to Erect Signs.

12. Amend Fees and Charges By-law 171-2013, as amended, Schedule “I”, to include the following fees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elections Signs</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>HST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registration fee for Candidate running for the office of Mayor, Regional Councillor, or for Provincial or Federal Office</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration fee for Candidate running for the office of Ward Councillor</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>$150.00</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration fee for office of School Trustee</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration fee for each Candidate and/or Elections Question for which a person intends to Erect a Third-Party Elections Sign</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>E</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by replacing the current definition of Feather Banner Sign with the following:

“Feather Banner Sign” means a Temporary Sign constructed of non-rigid material attached to the ground and supported on a pole, but does not include a flag;

14. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Section 2, by replacing the current definition of Lawn Sign with the following:

“Lawn Sign” means a Temporary Sign composed of a Sign attached to spokes intended to be driven into a surface to stand the Sign in place;

15. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by replacing the provisions of Section 3.1 with the following:

Except for the Signs referred to in Sections 4 and 17, or unless otherwise specified in this by-law, no Person shall Erect, attach, place, display, or Alter a Sign, or cause or permit the Erection, attachment, placement, display or Alteration of a Sign without a permit, agreement or other written approval from the City.

16. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, Subsection 4.1(b), by replacing “Real Estate Open House Signs” with “Real Estate Signs”.


19. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by adding Section 6.13 WINDOW SIGNS, to read as follows:

The following regulations shall apply to Window Signs:

a. **Window Signs** may occupy the entire surface of a window.


22. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by replacing the provisions of Section 8.9 with the following:

a. Notwithstanding Section 6.6 (e) respecting the location of Wall Signs and Section 6.1 respecting the number of Wall Signs, Office Buildings three (3) or more Storeys in height may be permitted additional Wall Signs in accordance with the following:

i. A maximum of four (4) Wall Signs on the uppermost wall or parapet or mechanical penthouse, displaying only the business name, logo, symbol or crest of a major occupant.

ii. Such Wall Signs may be located on different elevations of the building or on a single elevation.

iii. Such Signs shall have a combined maximum Sign Area of 2% of the area of the building face on which they are located.

iv. No Sign or combination of Signs shall have a combined maximum Sign Area of more than 20% of the wall area at the uppermost Storey.

23. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by renaming Section 8.10 the following: A-FRAME, MOBILE AND FEATHER BANNER SIGNS.

24. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by replacing Subsection 8.10(a)(i), as follows:

A maximum of one Mobile Sign shall be permitted along each street line of a Lot if it is directly abutting a Residential Use property; if the Lot is not abutting a Residential Use property:

a) where a Lot is zoned “C4” (Neighbourhood Commercial Zone) or “C5” (Community Commercial) under the City Zoning By-law 1-88, up to a maximum of three Mobile Signs are allowed per Lot, provided that there is a minimum of 215 metres between Mobile Signs located on the same street frontage;
b) where the Lot is not zoned C4 or C5, up to a maximum of two Mobile Signs are allowed per Lot.

25. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by replacing Subsection 8.10(b), as follows:

Notwithstanding the preceding, Religious Organization, Community Organization or Charitable Organization may Erect Mobile Signs advertising festivals and community events in accordance with the following provisions:

i. The Sign shall comply with Section 8.10(a)(v) with respect to size, location and standards, unless otherwise specified by City staff.

ii. A maximum of one Sign shall be allowed per event by any one organization.

iii. The Sign shall be permitted to be displayed for a maximum of 30 days prior to and shall be removed immediately after the event.

26. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by adding Subsection 8.10(c), as follows:

Notwithstanding the preceding, Premises used for Commercial Use or Industrial Use may Erect A-frame Signs in accordance with the following provisions:

i. A Commercial Use or Industrial Use Premises shall be entitled to use one A-frame Sign per business Premises.

ii. Each A-frame Sign shall:

a) be located on Private Property;

b) have a maximum Sign Area of 0.5 square metres with a total Sign Area of 1.0 square metres;

c) not be located as to interfere with pedestrian or vehicular traffic;

d) be taken in after business hours; and

e) have a maximum Sign height of 1.0 metres above grade.

27. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by adding Subsection 8.10(d), as follows:

Notwithstanding the preceding, Commercial Use or Industrial Use Premises may Erect Feather Banner Signs in accordance with the following provisions:

i. Each Feather Banner Sign shall:

a) be located on Private Property;

b) have a maximum Sign Area of 3.5 square metres;
c) have a maximum Sign height of 2.4 meters above grade;

d) be setback 1.0 metre from all street lines;

e) not be located within 5.0 metres of a different type of Sign or adjacent property line.

ii. A maximum of six (6) Feather Banner Signs are permitted per Lot.

iii. Feather Banner Sign permits shall be issued in time increments of six months.


29. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by adding Subsection 8.10(e), as follows:

Despite any restrictions in this section, the City may Erect Temporary Signs on City property, including, but not limited to, Mobile Signs at community centres, libraries and other City facilities.

30. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by replacing Subsection 16.1(f) with the following:

Signs painted on, attached to, or supported by a tree, stone, or other natural object, traffic Sign post, traffic Sign pole, or wooden utility pole, or Signs placed on any centre median of any roadway.

31. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by renaming Section 17 the following: “SIGNS ALLOWED ON PUBLIC LANDS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A PERMIT”.

32. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by replacing Subsection 17.3 with the following:

17.3 HOME BUILDER A-FRAME SIGNS

Home Builder A-frame Signs shall be permitted in accordance with the following:

a) Signs shall be located within one kilometer of the from the construction/project site in which the new homes are located/to be built and shall be permitted to be displayed on Saturdays and Sundays only.

b) A maximum of three Signs shall be permitted per builder per project, or a maximum of three Signs per sales trailer or pavilion.

c) Signs shall be setback a minimum of 1.0 metres from the street curb and/or sidewalk or 3.0 metres from the edge of the pavement where there is no curb.

d) Signs have a maximum Sign Area of 1.0 square metre per side, maximum height of 1.2 metres, and maximum width of 0.8 metres.
e) Notwithstanding the above, where a Sign is to be located within 20 metres of a street intersection the maximum Sign height shall be reduced to 0.6 metres.

f) Signs shall not be allowed on traffic islands.

g) The Sign Owner shall have liability insurance in the amount of five (5) million dollars naming the City as coinsured.

h) Signs shall not be located within the Special Sign Districts as shown on Schedules "A", "B", "C" and "D" to This By-law.

33. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by adding Subsection 17.4 with the following:

17.4 TEMPORARY SIGNS USED BY RELIGIOUS/CHARITABLE/COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

Temporary Signs for Charitable Organizations, Community Organizations and Religious Organizations advertising Special Events, except Mobile Signs as set out in Section 8.10(b), shall be permitted in accordance with the following:

a) Signs can only be Erected by Special Event permit holders at the location of the Special Event.

b) Signs shall be permitted to be displayed for a maximum of 30 days prior to and shall be removed immediately after the event.

c) Signs shall have a maximum Sign Area of 0.60 square metres.

d) Signs shall be setback a minimum of 1.5 metres from any sidewalk, street curb, roadway, driveway or any other Sign.

e) Signs shall not be located within a Daylighting Triangle.

f) Signs shall be constructed as to be easily dismantled in the case of roadway, sidewalk or public utility, maintenance or construction.

g) Written approval must be received from the appropriate road authority having jurisdiction.

h) Signs shall not be located within the Special Sign Districts as shown on Schedules "A", "B", "C", and "D" to this by-law.

34. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by adding Subsection 3.9(j) as follows:

For the purposes of an inspection, a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer may:
i. require the production for inspection of documents or things, including drawings or specifications, that may be relevant to a Sign;

ii. require information from any Person concerning a matter related to a Sign;

iii. be accompanied by a Person who has special or expert knowledge in relation to a Sign; and

iv. alone or in conjunction with a Person possessing special or expert knowledge, make examinations of the Sign necessary for the purposes of the inspection.

35. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by adding Section 8.12(e) as follows:

*Landscaping Signs* do not require a City permit.

36. Amend Sign By-law 140-2018, by deleting Section 18 and renumbering subsequent sections accordingly.

Enacted by City of Vaughan Council this 12th day of June, 2019.

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Hon. Maurizio Bevilacqua, Mayor

Todd Coles, City Clerk

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Authorized by Item No. 32 of Report No. 20 of the Committee of the Whole
Adopted by Vaughan City Council on June 12, 2019.

Authorized by Item No. 27 of Report No. 27 of the Committee of the Whole
Adopted by Vaughan City Council on September 27, 2018.