



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
City Council Interoffice Communication

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

From: Keith Bohr, City Council Member

Date: December 9, 2004

Subject: *H – ITEM FOR DECEMBER 20, 2004, CITY COUNCIL MEETING -
REVISION TO CITY'S SIGN ORDINANCE AS IT RELATES TO
POLITICAL SIGNS*

2004 DEC 10 A 53
CITY CLERK
CITY OF
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

It seems every two years during the election season that many of our Huntington Beach residents grow more irritated by the ninety days of legally and illegally displayed political signs. Huntington's current code allows political signs to be displayed 75 days before election and requires them to be removed no later than 15 days after the election.

After researching other Orange County cities' ordinances, I respectfully suggest that the City Council consider revising our ordinance by reducing the current 75 days to 45 days before election and reducing from 15 to 12 days the amount of time after election to remove all signs. This reduces by one-third the time Huntington Beach residents must view signs while still maintaining the candidate's freedom of speech and still allowing signs to go up before absentee ballots are distributed and cast. The 12 days to remove signs gives candidates and their supporters two full weekends to remove all their signs.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Council direct the City Attorney to bring back to the Council a revised ordinance as outlined above for its consideration.

xc: Penny Culbreth-Graft, City Administrator
Joan Flynn, City Clerk
Jennifer McGrath, City Attorney

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