March 28, 2012

Dear Political Candidate:

I am writing to advise you of the City of Bellevue's regulations regarding the placement of political signs in conjunction with an election. City Ordinance No. 3619, Section 7.04.03(6), **does not permit any temporary political sign greater than six square feet in area**, regardless of the zoning district in which it is located. Additionally, the ordinance does not permit these signs to be located in any public right-of-way (signs should be placed behind sidewalks, or if there are no sidewalks they should be placed behind utility poles or fire hydrants), nor at an intersection within the area of a triangle formed by the corner and points on the curb thirty feet from the intersection. The City no longer regulates when such signs may be displayed. Please be aware that these requirements apply to signs placed within the City limits as well as the City's two-mile extraterritorial zoning jurisdiction. Signs displayed as part of a permitted billboard are not subject to these regulations.

Signs that are found to be in violation of City regulations may be confiscated by City employees. Confiscated signs may be retrieved at the Street Department, 206 Industrial Drive, during regular business hours until May 22nd. The signs will be stored on the west side of the first building on the left as you enter from Hancock Street. Any signs remaining after May 22nd will be disposed of.

Please disseminate this information to your campaign workers and volunteers. If you have any questions regarding the sign ordinance or the City's zoning jurisdiction, please call the Planning Department at 293-3026. If you have questions regarding the public right-of-way, please call the Public Works Department at 293-3029.

Sincerely,

Chris Shewchuk, AICP
Planning Director