

ORDINANCE NO. 2511

**ROSS TOWNSHIP
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ROSS, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER 27, PART 16 SECTION 1609 ("TEMPORARY SIGNS") OF THE ROSS TOWNSHIP CODE OF ORDINANCES, TO REGULATE AND RESTRICT THE PLACEMENT OF TEMPORARY SIGNS.

WHEREAS, Ross Township is a First Class Township in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 1502.44 of the Pennsylvania First Class Township Code, 53 P.S. section 56544, the Board of Commissioners has the authority to enact and amend provisions of the Code of Ordinances of Ross Township (the "Code") at any time it deems necessary for the health, safety, morals, cleanliness, beauty, convenience, comfort and general welfare of Ross Township and the inhabitants thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Ross Township Code, Chapter 27, regulates Zoning in Ross Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Township deems it necessary to amend the Code to regulate the placement of temporary signs on public property located in the Township;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF ROSS TOWNSHIP, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY AND WITH THE SAME THAT:

SECTION 1:

Chapter 27, Zoning, Section 1609, of the Code, *Temporary Signs*, is hereby repealed and amended to include the following:

- 1. Signs in Public Cartway.** Excepting Municipal Signs and Identification Signs, all signs, including Temporary Political Signs, shall be permitted only on private property. Temporary signs may not be placed within the public right-of-way or on public property.
- 2. Public nuisance.** Any sign posted in violation of this section is hereby declared to be a nuisance. In addition to any other remedy provided by this Article or available under

law, the Township may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for an injunction to prohibit the continuation of any violation.

3. Removal Procedures. Any sign found to violate this section shall be removed forthwith by any Township employee duly authorized by the Township Manager or his/her designee.

4. Notice, Storage, Return. Upon removal of any sign in violation of this section, a designated employee of the Township shall keep a record of the location from which the sign was removed. Further, a reasonable attempt shall be made to contact the owner. If such attempt is successful, the owner shall be notified of the removal and of the location where the sign may be retrieved. If telephone or other contact, including but not limited to electronic means, is not achieved, written notice of the violation and the retrieval location may, but is not required to, be provided. In either case, the Township shall store any removed sign for at least 10 days. After expiration of the ten-day period, the Township shall be permitted to destroy or discard any sign.

5. Persons Deemed Responsible. The person(s), organization(s), or business(es) named or promoted on the sign posted in violation of this section shall be deemed to be the owner responsible for the violation, absent prior notification to the Township of another responsible party. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to make any person, organization, or business liable for any sign posted by persons over whom he/she/it has no control.

SECTION 2:

6. Definitions. The following definitions shall apply:

CARTWAY

Portion of the street, drive, or alley that is available for vehicular traffic, including the curb, berm or shoulder thereof.

IDENTIFICATION SIGN

Any sign which identifies the name, address, use, and/or management of a building.

MUNICIPAL SIGN

Any sign that is erected by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by Allegheny County, by Ross Township, or any agency thereof, for traffic control, street identification, or any other public purpose.

TEMPORARY POLITICAL SIGN

Those signs announcing political candidates seeking office and/or political or public issues contained on an election ballot.

7. **Temporary Political Signs.** The display of Temporary Political Signs shall be permitted at an official polling place located on any public property beginning 12 hours before the polls open and must be removed within 12 hours after the polls close.

8. **Private Property.** No person may erect or place any sign on private property without having first obtained consent from the property owner and/or tenant.

SECTION 3:

9. The erection and maintenance of all necessary signage is hereby authorized. Said signage shall comply with applicable state and federal laws, guidelines, standards and regulations.

SECTION 4:

10. The appropriate Officers of Ross Township are hereby authorized and directed to take such actions and execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5:


11. In the event that any section, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this ordinance shall be declared illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration shall not prevent or otherwise foreclose enforcement of any of the remaining provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 6:


12. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith or in conflict with any of the specific terms enacted hereby, each such inconsistency or conflict is hereby specifically repealed.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF ROSS TOWNSHIP THIS 18TH DAY OF MARCH, 2024.

ATTEST:


Ronald L. Borczyk
Township Manager

TOWNSHIP OF ROSS

By: 
Daniel DeMarco, President
Board of Commissioners