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# NOTICE

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## **Policy Regarding Electioneering During Early and Absentee Voting for All Elections**

No poster, card, handbill, placard, picture or circular intended to influence the action of the voter, other than those expressly authorized by M.G.L. c. 54, § 65, shall be posted, exhibited, circulated or distributed in the Town Clerk's office, in the building where the Town Clerk's office is located, on the walls thereof, on the premises on which the Town offices at 4 Boltwood Avenue stand, or within one hundred and fifty feet of either of the building entrance doors.

No person shall collect signatures upon petitions, referendum petitions or nomination papers within one hundred and fifty feet from the building entrance door to a polling place.

Additional information:

- Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 54, Section 65 prohibits "electioneering" (the display or distribution of material intended to influence the actions of voters) at or within 150 feet of the entrance of polling places at an election of federal, state or local officers;
- An increasing percentage of Amherst voters are taking advantage of their right and opportunity to vote in-person by absentee ballot or during the Early Voting Period and visit the Town Clerk's office at Town Hall at 4 Boltwood Avenue in order to obtain absentee ballots or cast early ballots;
- Such voters should have the same right and opportunity to cast or obtain ballots free of electioneering activity as is enjoyed by voters who cast their vote on the day of the election;
- Observance of the 150-foot rule established by Chapter 54, Section 65 at the Town offices during in-person absentee voting or the Early Voting Period would not unduly restrict the ability of any person to display or distribute campaign messages to prospective voters approaching the Town offices;
- The Town Manager has the care, custody and control of the Town offices at 4 Boltwood Avenue and may regulate activity therein and the Town Council controls and regulates the public way;
- Based upon the recommendation of the Town Clerk, the Town Manager and Town Council adopted the above regulation for the period designated for in-person absentee voting and for all Early Voting Periods.

Approved by the Town Manager:

*Paul Bockelman*

Paul Bockelman (Sep 16, 2021 11:15 EDT)

Paul Bockelman  
Town Manager

Approved by the Town Council:

*Lynn Griesemer*

Lynn Griesemer (Sep 16, 2021 11:14 EDT)

Lynn Griesemer, President  
Town Council









# Policy on Electioneering during Early and Absentee Voting - adopted by Town Council 09-13-2021

Final Audit Report

2021-09-16

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