

Albemarle County Electoral Board Meeting

October 15, 2026, 2:00 PM

5th Street County Office Building, 1600 5th Street, Charlottesville, Room C

Members of the public may attend in person. Members of the public who wish to attend virtually can find the details online at <https://www.albemarle.org/government/elections/electoral-board>, click on the Electoral Board Meeting event at the bottom of the page for specifics.

ITEM	WHO
1. Establish Quorum and Call to Order	Chair
2. New Business	
- Proposed Policy on Early Voting Campaigning	Bucky Walsh
3. Executive Session – Closed Meeting	Board/Registrar
4. Return from Executive Session – Open	
5. Adjourn	Board

Albemarle County Electoral Board
Policy on Early Voting Campaigning
At the 5th Street County Office Building

9-Oct-2026

DRAFT

- 1) Albemarle County Facilities controls and is responsible for the allocation of space at the 5th Street County Office Building. Facilities will create a map of the 5th Street building grounds which will depict where space has been allocated for: voter parking, campaigning, campaign signs, curbside voting.
- 2) Per § 24.2-701.1 of the Code of Virginia, §§ 24.2-604, 24.2-604.4, 24.2-605, 24.2-606, and 24.2-607 prohibiting certain conduct or activities in and around a polling place shall apply to the Early Voting polling place whenever absentee voting in person is available.
- 3) The Registrar's office shall be responsible for placing signs identifying the 40-foot Prohibited Area around the polling place. Within this prohibited area, during the times the polls are open and ballots are being counted, or within one hour of opening or after closing, it is unlawful for any person
 - (i) to loiter or congregate within 40 feet of any entrance of any polling place;
 - (ii) within such distance to give, tender, or exhibit any ballot, ticket, or other campaign or referendum material to any person or to solicit or in any manner attempt to influence any person in casting his vote;
 - (iii) to hinder or delay a qualified voter in entering or leaving a polling place. [§ 24.2-604]
- 4) The **campaign space**, as designated on the Facilities map, shall be solely for the use of individuals who are lawfully engaging in the activities of (ii) above, referred to in this policy as **Campaigners**. Each separate group of Campaigners (e.g., Democrats, Republicans, Independents, specific candidate campaigners, specific issue campaigners, etc.) are referred to in this policy as **Campaigns**.
 - a. The Campaigns may allocate the campaign space among themselves in such equitable fashion as they please. If the Campaigns cannot come to an agreement on how to allocate the space, then they shall apply to the Registrar to assign space to each Campaign within the campaign space. The Registrar may elect to change each Campaign's campaign space allocation on a daily basis at the Registrar's sole discretion. The Registrar shall endeavor, as far as practicable, to allocate an equivalent amount of campaign space to each Campaign.
 - b. Within each Campaign's campaign space, they may set up: tables, signs, tents, chairs and such other comparable temporary furnishings as needed to support their campaign. No motor vehicles or trailers may be placed in these spaces.

- c. At the end of voting on each day, the Campaigns must remove all temporary furnishings they have placed in their Campaign space, leaving their Campaign space empty.
 - d. Campaigners are not restricted to remaining within their Campaign space, except, that no Campaigner:
 - i. Shall enter the campaign space of another Campaign unless invited to do so by the Campaigners holding that space.
 - ii. Shall, in their activities, “hinder, intimidate, or interfere with any qualified voter so as to prevent the voter from casting a secret ballot“ [§ 24.2-607.A] nor shall they “conduct himself in a noisy or riotous manner at or about the polls so as to disturb the election or insult or abuse an officer of election” [§ 24.2-607.B].
 - e. Campaigners may invite voters and others into their Campaign space.
- 5) The **campaign sign space**, as designated on the Facilities map, shall be solely for the placement of signs by the Campaigns.
- a. The Campaigns may allocate the campaign sign space among themselves in such equitable fashion as they please. If the Campaigns cannot come to an agreement on how to allocate the space, then they shall apply to the Registrar to assign space to each Campaign within the campaign sign space. The Registrar may elect to change each Campaign’s campaign sign space allocation on a daily basis at the Registrar’s sole discretion. The Registrar shall endeavor, as far as practicable, to allocate an equivalent amount of campaign sign space to each Campaign.
 - b. Within each Campaign’s campaign space, the Campaign may place temporary signs supporting their Campaign that are compliant with the code of Virginia, do not obstruct visibility for vehicle traffic, and do not exceed three (3) feet in height and do not violate any other provisions that Albemarle County Facilities may require.
 - c. At the end of voting on each day, the Campaigns must remove all temporary signs they have placed in their Campaign sign space, leaving their Campaign sign space empty.
 - d. No Campaigners may interfere with the signs placed by another Campaign.
- 6) The **voter parking space** and the **curbside voting space** shall not be used by Campaigners unless they are in the process of voting. Campaigner vehicles shall be parked in other parking spaces while they are working for their Campaign.
- 7) Questions about compliance with this policy shall be adjudicated by the Registrar. Appeals from decisions of the Registrar may be brought to the Electoral Board at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board. Violators of this policy may be subject to all of the penalties prescribed by law without further warning.

Albemarle County Electoral Board
Guidance on Early Voting Campaigning
At the 5th Street County Office Building

12-Oct-2026

DRAFT

- 1) Albemarle County government, through its Facilities department, controls and is responsible for the allocation of space at the 5th Street County Office Building. Facilities will create a map (the **Facilities map**) of the 5th Street building grounds which will depict where space has been allocated for: voter parking, campaign space, campaign signs, curbside voting.
- 2) According to § 24.2-701.1 of the Code of Virginia, §§ 24.2-604, 24.2-604.4, 24.2-605, 24.2-606, and 24.2-607 prohibiting certain conduct or activities in and around a polling place apply to the Early Voting polling place whenever absentee voting in person is available.
- 3) The Registrar's office will place signs identifying the 40-foot Prohibited Area around the polling place. In accordance with § 24.2-604, within this prohibited area, during the times the polls are open, or within one hour of opening or after closing, it is unlawful for any person
 - (iv) to loiter or congregate within 40 feet of any entrance of any polling place;
 - (v) within such distance to give, tender, or exhibit any ballot, ticket, or other campaign or referendum material to any person or to solicit or in any manner attempt to influence any person in casting his vote;
 - (vi) to hinder or delay a qualified voter in entering or leaving a polling place.
- 4) The **campaign space**, as designated on the Facilities map, is for the use of individuals who are lawfully engaging in the activities of (ii) above, called here **Campaigners**. Each separate **group** of Campaigners (e.g., Democrats, Republicans, Independents, specific candidate campaigners, specific issue campaigners, etc.) are called here **Campaigns**.
 - a. The Campaigns may allocate the campaign space among themselves in such equitable fashion as they please. Each Campaign should have the same amount of contiguous campaign space allotted to them. If the Campaigns cannot come to an agreement on how to allocate the space, then they should, on a daily basis, rotate through the available spaces. In this scenario, if there are 3 Campaigns, on Day 1 the order of the Campaigns would be 1-2-3, on Day 2 it would be 2-3-1, on Day 3 it would be 3-1-2, and then the cycle would repeat.
 - b. Within each Campaign's campaign space, they may set up: tables, signs, tents, chairs and such other comparable temporary furnishings as needed to support their campaign. No motor vehicles or trailers may be placed in any of the campaign space, as doing so could pose a safety risk.
 - c. At the end of voting on each day, the Campaigns have to remove all temporary furnishings they have placed in their Campaign space, leaving their Campaign

space empty. There is no overnight storage of Campaign materials on County property.

- d. Campaigners (individuals) do not have to stay in their Campaign space, except, that no Campaigner:
 - i. Should enter the campaign space of another Campaign unless invited to do so by the Campaigners holding that space.
 - ii. Shall, in their activities, “hinder, intimidate, or interfere with any qualified voter so as to prevent the voter from casting a secret ballot” [§ 24.2-607.A] nor shall they “conduct himself in a noisy or riotous manner at or about the polls so as to disturb the election or insult or abuse an officer of election” [§ 24.2-607.B].
 - e. Campaigners may invite voters and others into their Campaign space.
- 5) The **campaign sign space**, as designated on the Facilities map, is where entry Campaign “yard” signs are placed by the Campaigns.
- a. Just as with the campaign space, the Campaigns may allocate the campaign sign space among themselves in any mutually agreeable fashion. If the Campaigns cannot agree on how to allocate the space, then they can divide the available sign space into as many approximately equal spots on either side of the driveway (if applicable) as there are Campaigns, and then as above, rotate through the use of the space every day so each Campaign gets a turn at each of the equal spaces.
 - b. Within each Campaign’s campaign sign space can be temporary signs supporting their Campaign that are compliant with the code of Virginia, do not obstruct visibility for vehicle traffic, and do not exceed three (3) feet in height and do not violate any other provisions that Albemarle County Facilities may require.
 - c. At the end of voting on each day, the Campaigns must remove all temporary signs they have placed in their Campaign sign space, leaving their Campaign sign space empty.
 - d. Campaigners may not interfere with the signs placed by another Campaign, they are private property.
- 6) The **voter parking space** and the **curbside voting space** are not used by Campaigners unless they themselves are in the process of voting. Campaigner vehicles shall be parked in other parking spaces while they are working for their Campaign.