



October 29, 2021

Dear Mason Residents,

Democracy is rooted in elections and part of elections is private citizens working hard to get their message noticed - and your vote. By its nature this is competitive, loud, and sometimes contentious. The City of Mason cannot and does not use public resources to interfere with this democratic process. That includes staff time, property, equipment, or use of City logo with an intent to support or oppose candidates.

The City is aware political mailings that appear to use portions of the City logo or color scheme have been circulated this past week as part of private election campaigns. We are also aware and have heard from many residents concerned or confused that these flyers were authorized in some fashion by the City of Mason. Please note that on such mailings the address box should contain a "Paid for by:" statement with the name of the organization responsible for producing the piece. We regret any confusion or concern that any private mailings have created. This confusion puts the City in the awkward position of correcting a perception the City did not create, balanced with not interfering in democratic elections or free speech.

The City did not produce, cooperate or endorse these flyers. The City is not responsible for any of the contents made in the flyer. The City cannot comment on, correct, or confirm claims that were not produced by the City. Such mailings were produced privately and without our knowledge.

The City has consulted with legal counsel about the use of the City's logo and has issued "cease and desist" letters to organizations responsible for recent mailings that contain the City logo and will continue to defend against non-City use that creates confusion among residents.

We encourage all residents to research, consider and, most importantly, vote, for candidates or issues that best reflect your concerns and positions. As citizens, it is a privilege and responsibility to vote – our professional commitment is to not interfere with your choice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eric Hansen', written over a light blue background.

Eric Hansen
City Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Forbes', written over a light blue background.

Jeff Forbes
Wood & Lamping

