

HEALTH, EDUCATION, NEIGHBORHOODS, PARKS, ARTS, AND RIVER COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the conduct of Neighborhood Council (NC) elections during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. INSTRUCT the City Clerk to implement all Vote-by-Mail (VBM) NC elections in FY 2020-21, in response to the current pandemic.
2. INSTRUCT the City Clerk and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to develop a joint outreach plan to inform and educate stakeholders on the all VBM election process using current resources.
3. AUTHORIZE the City Clerk to use up to \$673,010 in funds currently appropriated for at-poll NC elections for all VBM elections.
4. INSTRUCT DONE with the assistance of the City Clerk to report back in 30 days with a status update on the development and implementation of a neighborhood council election outreach and education program, and a mechanism to receive input from neighborhood councils related to the conduct of the 2021 elections.
5. INSTRUCT the City Clerk with the assistance of DONE to report back in 30 days with a plan to ensure residents experiencing homelessness, as well as those without a physical mailing address and/or internet access are included in the Department's outreach efforts and able to vote.
6. INSTRUCT the City Clerk and DONE to report in 30 days with any additional resources needed to effectively conduct outreach, education and a successful vote by mail election.
7. INSTRUCT the City Clerk and DONE to report back in 30 days on the process, cost and feasibility of in-person voting as well as on-line voting.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The City Clerk reports that no additional funding would be required this fiscal year for the implementation of either at-polls or all VBM NC election options.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On August 13, 2020, the Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts, and River Committee considered an August 3, 2020 City Clerk report relative to the conduct of NC elections during the COVID-19 pandemic. The City Clerk report attached to the Council file, includes some background on the matter.

After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the recommendations as amended and reflected above. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

HEALTH, EDUCATION, NEIGHBORHOODS, PARKS, ARTS, AND RIVER COMMITTEE

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>VOTE</u></b>
RYU:	YES
O'FARRELL:	YES
PRICE:	YES

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**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**