



Election and Ranked Choice Voting Updates

Delynn Coldiron, City Clerk Sara Arfmann, Assistant City Attorney II



Today's Topics



Code Changes

Eliminate write-in candidates

Add RCV provisions (SOS)

Eliminate requirement to read petitions but requiring accessibility

Revising election-related reporting to conform to statute and adds

Charter Changes

Circulation Period Correction
Other items resulting from the
Charter Review Process
January 28 – Work Session
April 1 – First Reading

Election Oversight

Outside Contractor?
Oversight board?
Status Quo?

Ranked Choice Voting
Update

Additional Code Amendments

Redistricting Other?

Other Topics – "Bike Rack"

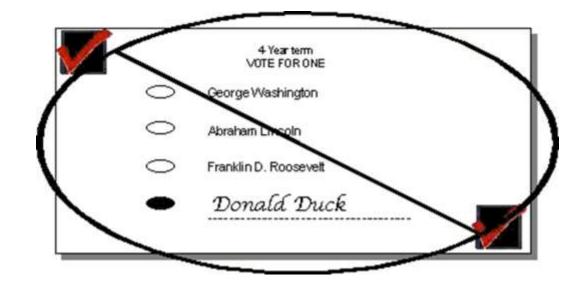
Public Financing of Campaigns



Write-In Candidates

Proposal to eliminate write-in candidates.

- Sec. 7-103. Write-in candidates.
- No write-in vote for a candidate for City Council office shall be counted. unless the person whose name appears as the write-in vote has filed an affidavit of intent with the City Clerk, no later than the close of business sixty-four (64) days before the election, indicating that such person desires and is qualified for the office.





Ranked Voting Provisions

Proposal to add provisions that enable the City Clerk to run special elections that are not coordinated with the County in compliance with the rules adopted by the Secretary of State.

Sec. 7-21. - Administration of City-administered elections.

The provisions of this article apply to the administration of City-administered elections. Any election conducted as a coordinated election with the County is subject to the provisions of applicable state law. Any ranked voting election conducted by the City Clerk will be in compliance with the rules adopted by the Secretary of State pursuant to the Colorado Code of Regulations 8 C.C.R. 1505-1:26.





Petition Circulation

Proposal to eliminate the requirement that a petition must be read aloud upon request but ensuring the information is accessible by any reasonable method requested.

Sec. 7-165. – Obligation of petition circulators.

Any person circulating a petition approved for circulation by the City Clerk shall-will, upon the request of any person to whom the petition is presented, read aloud to such person make the entire text of the initiated or referred measure that is the subject of the petition or, in the case of a recall petition, the statement of charges and statement of defenses, accessible by any reasonable method.





Definitions

Proposal to update the definition for ballot issue, ballot question or issue to include any measure intended to be put to a vote for which contributions are collected.

Sec. 7-132. – Definitions

Ballot issue, ballot question or issue shall mean any measure put to a vote, or any measure for which contributions are collected with the intent to put to a vote, of the registered electors of the City by the City Council at any election held under the provisions of the Charter. For purposes of this Article V, ballot issue, ballot question or issue shall also mean any measure for which recall, initiative or referendum proceedings have been commenced, or for which contributions are collected with the intent to commence such proceedings, pursuant to Article IX, Section 1(b), Article X, Section 1(b), and Article X, Section 2(b), respectively, of the Charter.



State law now states that disclosures "must be filed no later than"

- 60 days;
- 30 days;
- 15 days before; and
- 30 days after

CRS 1-45-108(F)(2)(II.5)

 Dates updated to be consistent with use of 7 day increments

Campaign Finance Reports

Proposal to align with state requirements and add additional reports.

Sec. 7-136. - Disclosure; filing of reports.

- (c) Reports shall be filed with the City Clerk as follows:
- 1) When an election is more than ninety-one (91) days away, all committees must file a report within two (2) weeks of receipt of the first contribution or contribution in kind and then the first of the calendar quarter thereafter until the election is fifty-six (56) days away and the requirements of subsection (2) control.
- 2) All committees must file reports on the following dates:
- a. the thirty-fifth sixty-third (3563rd) day before the election;
- b. the twenty-first thirty-fifth (21st 35th) day before the election;
- c. the fourteenth twenty-first (21st) day before the election;
- d. no later than noon on the Friday before the election;
- e. the thirty-fifth twenty-eighth (30-28 th) day after the election; and
- f. the seventieth (70 th) day after the election.





Campaign Finance Reports

Proposal is to align with state requirements and add additional reports.

Sec. 7-136. - Disclosure; filing of reports.

- 3) Candidate committees that continue in operation must file a report annually on the first day of the month in which the anniversary of the election occurs until such time as a termination report is filed.
- 4) If the reporting day falls on a weekend or legal holiday, the report shall be filed by the close of the next business day.





First Reading – Feb. 18? March 4? Second Reading – March 4 or 18? Consent?

1. Campaign Enforcement

- Changes to streamline process/clarify roles
- Requires factual evidence and creates clear process stages
- Provides notification of presumptive fine and ability to pay
- Provides information and evidence of cure to complainants

2. Contribution Limits:

- Increase to \$200/Mayor; \$150/Councilmember
- Includes a provision for inflation (based on CPI/Denver area)
 - Rounds to nearest \$10 starting Q4 2026 then every 2 years after
- Clarifies 3rd party transaction fees; joint contributions
- Prohibits cryptocurrency

3. Write-In Candidates:

Eliminate

4. Ranked Voting Provisions

 Add provisions for ranked voting based off Secretary of State provisions

5. Petition Circulation

 Eliminates requirement that circulators read the entire petition if requested, but ensures a reasonable accessible way to get voters the full information upon request

6. Definitions

 Ballot issue, ballot question or issue – adds provisions to ensure any measure for which contributions are collected with intent to put to a vote are included

7. Campaign Finance Reports

- Changes to align with state requirements and adds provisions for quarterly reports when committees have started accepting contributions and an election is more than 90 days away.
 - ➤ 1st report is due within two weeks after the first contribution; quarterly after.

Campaign Oversight



Outside Service Provider:

- Contracted to provide increased proactive review
- Regular review of campaign finance submissions
- Investigation of potential violations
- Response to public inquiries
- Documentation of complaint resolutions
- Purchasing guidelines; anything over \$60K requires an RFP process
- Quotes based on outreach are \$100/hour (Clerk) or more (Attorney)

Independent Body:

- There continues to be interest by others for this
- League of Women Voters Letter

Status Quo?:

- Lots going on with Ranked Choice Voting and proposed code changes
- Wait for next election with this one?



Additional Charter Amendments and Other Topics



Additional Code Amendments

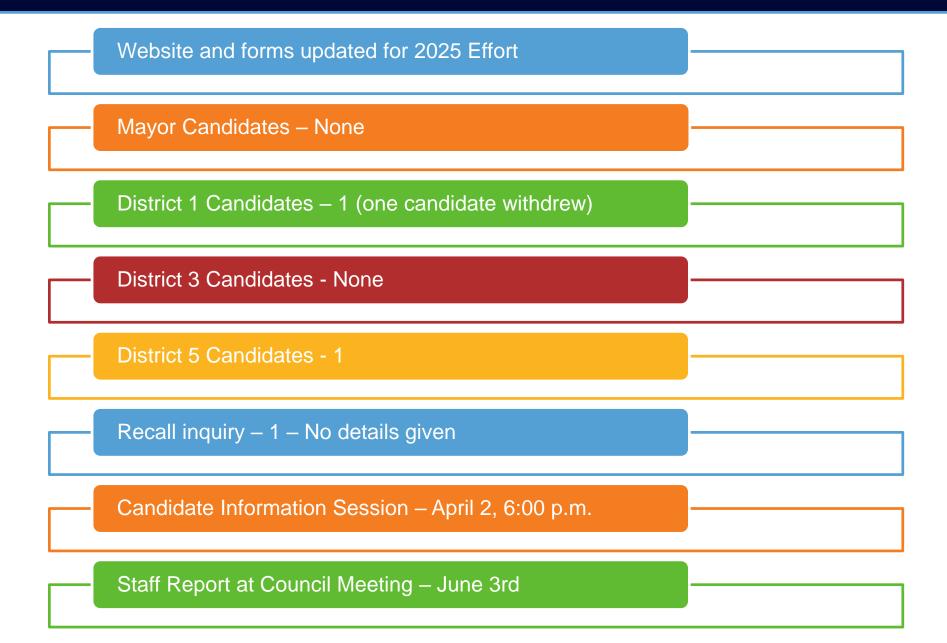
- Redistricting
- Other?

Other Topics "Bike Rack"

 Public Financing of Campaigns

Election Update





Ranked Choice Voting Update



- Met with County
 - There is a need for more work/alignment
 - Will be meeting monthly
- Collaboration with League of Women Voters planned
 - Want to wait until we have another meeting with County
- Communication Plan is being developed
 - CPIO staff is ready to move forward once we have agreement on title (RCV versus RV)
- Q1 will start outreach (Bite, Snack, Meal approach)
 - Bite social media, website, postcard, Coloradoan information
 - Snack Candidate Information Session, postcard mailing, utility bill stuffer, continued social media posts, added information on website, slides, video
 - Meal Full flyer mailing, cable tv information, QR code that links to a ballot for practice, fully built out website, events, mock elections, elections blue book



League of Women Voters

Ranked Choice Voting Update



- Video and postcard will be available at Candidate Information Session
- Events
 - State of the City
 - Candidate Information and Orientation Sessions
 - Open Streets
 - Lagoon Series
 - Larimer County Fair and Farmer's markets
 - Library (when they have events planned)
 - Super-Issue meetings
 - Collaboration with League of Women Voters
 - CSU events (ASCSU, Strayer Center)
 - Senior Center Outreach
 - Collaboration with the Equity Office and related events



Better Ballot North Carolina

Ranked Choice Voting Update - Volunteers



- Developed a volunteer description to post plan to do this just prior to the State of the City address
- Will work through the City's Volunteer Coordinator with help of Davina in the Clerk's Office
- Will ensure all volunteers are identified and go through the same process
- Will include volunteer training, as well as RCV training



Next Meeting – March 3, 2025 – CIC Room – 4:00 p.m.



- Debrief on Council first reading of election code changes (if on February 18th)
- Review of RCV Communication Plan
- Review of Candidate Information Session
- Break until after the election?



Questions?