


Ranked Choice Voting Ad Hoc Committee
Remote meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions
September 30, 2021

Members Present: Chair Dan Gilbert, Chris Korczak, Tom Peake and Barbara LaBombard. Also in attendance: Ray Spaulding and Homar Gomez.

Approval of Minutes: There were no minutes ready for approval.

- Because there is now a declared write-in candidate for Mayor, the process for counting and tallying write-ins was discussed.
- The Council on Aging will be hosting RCV seminars on Oct. 21st and 26th.
- The DRAFT mailer (below) was reviewed and discussed. It was decided that the second bullet on page 2 wasn't needed. There was review of the flow chart, it was decided to keep it "as is". The 4th bullet on page 2 was changed to include a Spanish translation. City Councilor Homar Gomez gave input on that addition.

Easthampton City Election



Tuesday, November 2, 2021

All precincts vote in the same place:
Easthampton High School
70 Williston Ave, Easthampton, MA 01027

Polls open from 7 AM to 8 PM

Register to vote
or check your status at:

www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr



The deadline to register is
Wednesday, October 13,
2021 at 8:00 p.m.

Can I vote by mail?

Yes! Anyone can receive a ballot to vote by mail, but you need to request one in writing before **Wednesday, October 27, 2021**.



Download a request form at
www.sec.state.ma.us/e/e/e/elepdf/2021-Vote-by-Mail-Application.pdf
or call the City Clerk's office at
413-529-1400, ext. 460.

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UNION LABEL IN THIS AREA

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Guide to Ranked Choice Voting

In 2019, Easthampton voters approved the use of **Ranked Choice Voting** for single-winner races with two or more candidates.

Voters will use Ranked Choice Voting for the first time this year for the **Mayoral** election because at least two candidates will appear on the ballot.

Easthampton does not use Ranked Choice Voting for At-Large City Council or School Committee races.

Ranked Choice Voting requires that the winning candidate gets a **majority** (more than 50%) of the votes. It also gives voters the opportunity to indicate preferences beyond their first choice.

The ballot will look slightly different for contests that use Ranked Choice Voting. As seen in the illustration, additional columns will appear to the right of the list of candidates.

Here are some important points:

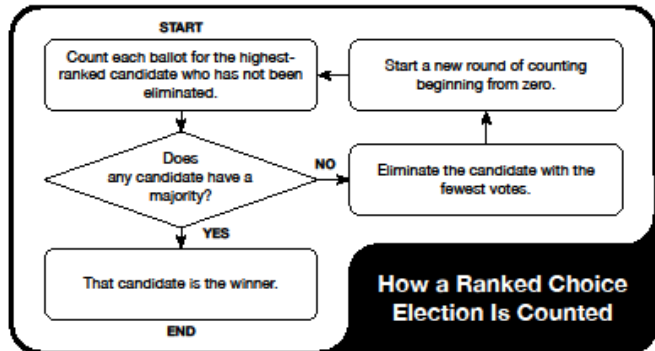
- You are **not required** to rank more than one candidate. You may rank as many or as few candidates as you want to.
- If you choose to rank a candidate, doing so will **not hurt or help** any candidate that you ranked *higher* than that candidate.
- If you have any questions about how to mark your ballot correctly, trained poll workers will be available to help you on Election Day.
- For more voting information, please visit: www.easthamptonma.gov/164/Elections



MAYOR For FOUR Years				
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice
STEVE STORM <small>1 Example St</small>	<input type="radio"/> ¹	<input type="radio"/> ²	<input type="radio"/> ³	<input type="radio"/> ⁴
TERESA TORNADO <small>2 Example St</small>	<input type="radio"/> ¹	<input checked="" type="radio"/> ²	<input type="radio"/> ³	<input type="radio"/> ⁴
CINDY CYCLONE <small>3 Example St</small>	<input type="radio"/> ¹	<input type="radio"/> ²	<input type="radio"/> ³	<input type="radio"/> ⁴
(Write-in) Hanna Hurricane, 4 Example St	<input checked="" type="radio"/> ¹	<input type="radio"/> ²	<input type="radio"/> ³	<input type="radio"/> ⁴

This is what Ranked Choice Voting will look like on the ballot.

In this example, the voter chose to write a name and address on the Write-in line and then marked that person as their first choice. The voter also made a second choice from among the candidates listed on the ballot, but decided not to make a third or fourth choice.



The mailer will be sent out between Oct. 6 and 8th. The 9,600 mailers are being printed at Collective Copies for approximately \$1,500.00. The cost for postage will be \$1,918.00.

The website is being updated with a page explaining Ranked Choice Voting – both in English and Spanish. Homar asked whether there would be explanations about what “not to do”. The website text does have links with illustrations of correctly – and incorrectly – marked ballots.

Next meeting – October 14th at 6 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara LaBombard