

# City of Minneapolis

## Request for Committee Action

**To:** Elections & Rules  
**Date:** 3/29/2016  
**From:** City Clerk's Office  
**Prepared by:** Casey Joe Carl  
**Presented by:** Casey Joe Carl, City Clerk – 612-673-2216  
**File type:** Action  
**Subcategory:** Contracts & Agreements

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**Subject:**

Facility use agreements for the 2016 Presidential Election

**Description:**

Authorizing Finance & Property Services to negotiate and approve facility use lease agreements not to exceed market rates for up to four satellite voting locations to be used during the absentee voting period in advance of the 2016 Presidential General Election.

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**Ward/Address:**

All Wards

**Background/Analysis:**

The 2016 Presidential General Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8. In-person absentee balloting for the general election begins on September 23, 46 days prior to Election Day. Following the introduction of unrestricted (no-excuse) absentee voting in 2014, the number of voters choosing to cast a ballot before Election Day increased dramatically. Given the high-profile nature of presidential elections, it is highly probable that Minneapolis will experience significant turnout this year both on Election Day and through the use of absentee voters.

To serve all voters and to minimize the potential for negative impacts caused by long lines and wait times, a key aspect of preparations being made by the Elections & Voter Services Division is increasing “early voting” opportunities to maximize access to the ballot box for all qualified voters. In advance of the general election, Elections & Voter Services plans to offer in-person absentee voting at other locations in addition to City Hall. To do this, it is necessary to enter into lease agreements with selected locations to house these additional voting locations for use during the 46 day absentee voting period.

**Financial Review:**

**No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.**