

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: Receive & File
Subcategory: Report

Subject:

2016 Presidential Election: Initial plans and preparations

Description:

Receiving a report on initial plans and preparations by the Elections & Voter Services Division related to the 2016 Presidential Election.

Ward/Address:

All Wards

Background/Analysis:

The 2016 Presidential General Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 8; the primary run-off is 90 days earlier, on Tuesday, August 9. In-person absentee balloting for both the primary run-off and the general election begins 46 days prior to the scheduled date. Given the high-profile nature of presidential elections, it is highly probable that Minneapolis will experience significant turnout this year. However, research shows certain populations are historically under-represented, which hinders or prevents full participation for qualified voters. Minneapolis has made significant efforts to engage these populations through formalized Voter Outreach & Education initiatives over the past several years, and plans to build on those successes in preparation for the 2016 Presidential Election.

Furthermore, to serve all voters and to minimize the potential for negative impacts caused by long lines, wait times, and potential claims of disenfranchisement, the Elections & Voter Services Division is pursuing a multi-tiered outreach, education, and early engagement approach that will use community-based partnerships, community-specific liaisons, and “early voting” opportunities to maximize access to the ballot box for all qualified voters.

Financial Review:

No financial impact.

Attachments:

1. Report: Taking the ballot to the people: Plans & preparations for the 2016 election