

**Testimony of
Michael J. Ryan, Executive Director
Board of Elections in the City of New York**

Committee on Governmental Operations

**Ranked Choice Voting Implementation
and Ballot Design**

September 30, 2022

Chair Ung and members of the New York City Council's Committee on Governmental Operations, thank you for the opportunity to appear before you on behalf of the Board of Elections (Board). I am Michael J. Ryan, the Executive Director of the Board. Joining me at the table is the Board's Deputy Executive Director Vincent M. Ignizio.

Also present at today's hearing are the Board's:

- Wilma Brown Phillips, Administrative Manager
- Georgea Kontzamanis, Operations Manager

The Board, pursuant to New York's Constitutional and statutory mandates is a bipartisan ministerial agency headed by a 10 member Board of Commissioners and is charged with managing the electoral process within the City of New York. The Board conducts elections and its other activities in accordance with the provisions of the New York State Election Law, State Rules and Regulations, applicable provisions of federal law and several judicial determinations. Given the Board's

ministerial authority, the Commissioners have directed that input shall be directed to practical implementation, without endorsement of any particular legislative proposals.

The last several years have been particularly challenging for the City of New York and the Board has shared in such challenges. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the Board's doors remained open for public access and conducting elections. The Board's employees and poll workers have heroically served the voters in New York City and ensured that our cherished democracy has the opportunity to continue to flourish.

In addition to keeping The Board's offices and poll sites operating to serve the voters, there has been an unprecedented number of elections and administration activity virtually since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Board has conducted twenty (20) separate elections (seven (7) thus far in 2022) from March 2020 to the present

(numerous during the height of the COVID-19 outbreak). They are as follows:

- 03/15/2020 - Special Election for Borough Queens Borough President canceled after commencement of Early Voting
- 06/23/2020 – Presidential Primary (included Congressional, State, Judicial and party positions)
- 11/03/2020 – Presidential General Election
- 12/22/2020 – Special Election – 12th Council District, Bronx
- 02/02/2021 - Special Election – 24th Council District, Queens
- 02/23/2021 - Special Election – 31st Council District, Queens (**RCV conducted for the 1st time**)
- 03/23/2021 - Special Election – 11th Council District, Bronx (**RCV conducted for the 2nd time**)
- 03/23/2021 - Special Election – 15th Council District, Bronx (**RCV conducted for the 3rd time**)
- 06/22/2021 – Primary Election for City Offices (**RCV conducted for the 4th time**)
- 06/22/2021 – Primary Election for District Attorney, Judicial and Party Offices (non-RCV)

- 11/02/2021 – Mayoral General Election
- 11/02/2021 - Special Election – 30th State Senate District, New York
- 11/02/2021 - Special Election – 86th State Assembly District, Bronx
- 01/18/2022 - Special Election – 68th State Assembly District, New York
- 02/15/2022 - Special Election – 72nd State Assembly District, New York
- 02/15/2022 - Special Election – 60th State Assembly District, Kings
- 02/15/2022 - Special Election – 43rd State Assembly District, Kings
- 05/24/2022 - Special Election – 58th State Assembly District, Kings
- 06/28/2022 – Gubernatorial Primary Election (included State Assembly and Party Positions)
- 08/23/2022 – Primary Elections (included Congressional and State Senate Offices)

Upon the completion of the United States Census conducted every ten (10) years, district lines for New York State Offices are redistricted. The completion of the redistricting process requires the Board to reapportion all of the Election Districts in the City. Ultimately, a court decision required the Board to conduct an additional primary election on August 23, 2022 and

to complete the “once every ten years” reapportionment process twice in the span of three (3) months. . To state that Board’s workload over the past two and one half years has been unprecedented is, in fact, a dramatic understatement. In addition, the foregoing does not address the numerous enacted legislative amendments/mandates related to the process of administering elections.

Board technical staff has reviewed the elements of Intro. # 696 and has determined the same may be implemented within the limitations of the firmware approved for use by the New York State Board of Elections. I have provided sample ballots for your review (1 – sample ballot used in the 2021 Primary Election and 1 – sample ballot prepared as instructed in Intro. # 696).

As the committee members are aware, it is the responsibility of the Campaign Finance Board (CFB) to conduct an RCV voter education program. On-going voter education is also a critical element of election success. For the RCV implementation, the Board partnered with various groups

to implement a media campaign akin to poll worker recruitment efforts. The Board also partnered effectively with the Campaign Finance Board (CFB) to ensure message consistency and maximization of coverage.

The Board has worked closely with interested stakeholders to create an effective public and poll worker RCV education program as an effective supplement to the efforts of CFB.

The Board engaged in a multi-dimensional public outreach effort, consistent with agency branding. The effort included comprehensive media advertising in citywide, local and various language-specific newspapers.

The Board included RCV information in a mailing to all 4.7 million active voters which also provided early voting and election day poll site information and other general information. The Board included RCV information in its digital media footprint which included a comprehensive media buy that blanketed available platforms (i.e Facebook, Twitter, News Publications and Community/Language Publications, etc.) The Board purchased outdoor advertising on subways, buses, the

Staten Island ferry terminal and Link NYC kiosks (samples of the Board's RCV education materials have been provided).

Again, I must extend a particular note of gratitude to all of the Board staff in the Borough Offices the General Office and poll workers for the hard work and dedication displayed to make all aspects of voting successful. Voting is not possible without the men and women who work long days over a period of months prior to each election planning for each event.

The Board appreciates the outstanding working relationship enjoyed with the New York City Council and looks forward to continuing our cooperative work toward improving the electoral process and increasing voter participation. The City Board is committed to continue working with each of you in our mutual efforts to enhance the voting process and to improving the free and independent exercise of the voter franchise for those eligible in the City of New York.

As always, my colleagues and I are available to answer any questions that you may have and to provide you with additional information.

NYC'S NEW WAY TO VOTE

**RANKED
CHOICE
VOTING**

PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TOOLKIT



SUCCESSFUL
PUBLIC
EDUCATION
CAMPAIGNS
ARE BUILT WITH
INSIGHT,
CREATIVITY AND
COHERENCE.

This document is a reference guide for existing campaign materials to help promote **NYC's NEW way to vote— Ranked Choice Voting— and the upcoming NYC June 2021 Primary Elections.** The frameworks and examples shown in this document help express the **NYC Board of Election's** public education campaign across a range of touch points.

Campaign Materials (ready-to-use)

The below thumbnails are a sample of the various promotional materials available for your use. Click on the hyperlink in each column to download the full set of materials.

PRINT (various sizes)



DISPLAY ADS* (various sizes)



SOCIAL MEDIA** (800px x 800px, 1200px x 1200px)



OUT-OF-HOME (digital: 1080px x 1920px)



* Available in All Languages

** Available in English and Spanish Language

Campaign Toolkit Overview

Hero Graphic

**RANKED
CHOICE
VOTING**



Color Palette

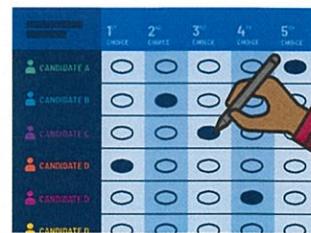


Typography (Google Fonts)

SYNCOPATE
HEADLINES
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
0123456789

Open Sans
Body Copy
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
0123456789

Campaign Language + Design System Overview



NYC'S NEW WAY TO VOTE

**RANKED
CHOICE
VOTING**

PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TOOLKIT

CONTACT INFORMATION

All questions concerning the use of the materials found in this document and/or in the links provided, including permission requests should be referred to:

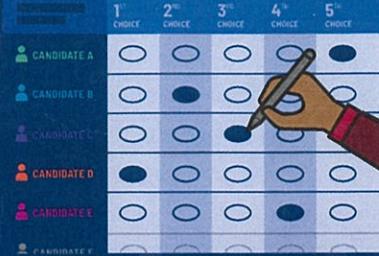
Valerie Diaz
Director of Communications & Public Affairs
T: (917) 681-8517
E: Wazquez@boe.nyc



Board of Elections
City of New York

RANKED CHOICE VOTING

Is **NEW** for the June 22, 2021 NYC Primary Election



Visit: VOTE.NYC
Call: 866-VOTE-NYC (866-868-3692)
TTY: 212-487-5496

The following contests* use RCV:

Mayor • Public Advocate • Comptroller • Borough President • City Council



* All other contests use the traditional voting method

How Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) works:

- 1 Under the '1st Choice' column, fill in the oval next to your favorite candidate. You must choose at least 1 candidate for your vote to count.
- 2 If you have a 2nd choice candidate, fill in the oval next to their name under the '2nd Choice' column.
- 3 You may continue this process for up to 5 candidates. Some contests may have fewer than 5 candidates. All contests have a write-in option.

DO NOT MARK:

- ✗ More than 1 oval per column.
- ✗ More than 1 oval per candidate.



For two-sheet ballots, please remember to:

- Complete both sides of your ballots.
- Insert ballots into the scanner one sheet at a time.
- Wait for the "thank you" screen before inserting second sheet.

Early voting days and hours:

Saturday, June 12	8 AM - 5 PM
Sunday, June 13	8 AM - 5 PM
Monday, June 14	7 AM - 4 PM
Tuesday, June 15	10 AM - 8 PM
Wednesday, June 16	10 AM - 8 PM
Thursday, June 17	10 AM - 8 PM
Friday, June 18	7 AM - 4 PM
Saturday, June 19	8 AM - 5 PM
Sunday, June 20	8 AM - 4 PM

VOTO/VOTACIÓN POR ORDEN DE PREFERENCIA

Es **NUEVA** para la Elección Primaria del 22 de Junio del 2021 en NYC

Las siguientes contiendas* utilizarán RCV (Voto/Votación por Orden de Preferencia):

Alcalde • Defensor Público
Contralor • Presidente del Distrito Municipal
Concejo de la Ciudad

*Todas las otras contiendas utilizarán el método de votar tradicional

Cómo funciona voto/votación por orden de preferencia (RCV):

- 1 Bajo la columna de '1a Opción', llene el óvalo cerca de su candidato favorito. Usted debe seleccionar al menos un candidato para que su voto cuente.
- 2 Si tiene un candidato de segunda opción, llene el óvalo cerca del nombre bajo la columna de '2a Opción'.
- 3 Usted puede continuar este proceso para hasta 5 candidatos. Algunas contiendas tendrán menos de 5 candidatos. Todas las contiendas tienen la opción de candidato por escrito.

NO MARQUE:

- ✗ Más de un óvalo por columna.
- ✗ Más de un óvalo por candidato.



Para papeletas de dos hojas, favor de recordarse de:

- Completar ambos lados de sus papeletas.
- Insertar las papeletas en la máquina de escaneo una hoja a la vez.
- Esperar a ver la pantalla que dice "gracias" antes de insertar la segunda hoja.

Días y horas de votación temprana:

Sábado, 12 de Junio	8 AM a 5 PM
Domingo, 13 de Junio	8 AM a 5 PM
Lunes, 14 de Junio	7 AM a 4 PM
Martes, 15 de Junio	10 AM a 8 PM
Miércoles, 16 de Junio	10 AM a 8 PM
Jueves, 17 de Junio	10 AM a 8 PM
Viernes, 18 de Junio	7 AM a 4 PM
Sábado, 19 de Junio	8 AM a 5 PM
Domingo, 20 de Junio	8 AM a 4 PM

排名選擇投票

2021年6月22日紐約市初選 排名選擇投票是新的投票方式

以下競選項目* 使用排名選擇投票:

市長 · 公益維護人 · 主計長 · 區長 · 市議員

*所有其他的競選項目均使用傳統的投票方式

排名選擇投票(RCV) 您可以這麼做:

- 1 在'第一選擇'欄目下, 塗滿您屬意的候選人旁邊的欄目。您必須至少投選一位候選人以便您的選票被計算在內。
 - 2 如果您有第二選擇候選人, 塗滿'第二選擇'欄目下候選人旁邊的欄目。
 - 3 您可繼續此流程最多排名投選五位候選人。某些競選項目可能少於五位候選人。所有競選項目都有寫入未列名候選人的選項。
- 請勿標記:
- ✗ 一個以上的欄目在每一個競選欄目中。
 - ✗ 一個以上的欄目給每一位候選人。



兩張選票, 請謹記要:

- ✍ 填寫您選票的正反面。
- ✍ 將選票一次一張地輸入掃描機中。
- ✍ 等候屏幕顯示"感謝您"的信息後再輸入第二張選票。

提前投票的日期和時間:

星期六, 6月12日	上午 8點到下午5點	星期四, 6月17日	上午 10點到晚上8點
星期日, 6月13日	上午 8點到下午5點	星期五, 6月18日	上午 7點到下午4點
星期一, 6月14日	上午 7點到下午4點	星期六, 6月19日	上午 8點到下午5點
星期二, 6月15日	上午 10點到晚上8點	星期日, 6月20日	上午 8點到下午4點
星期三, 6月16日	上午 10點到晚上8點		

순위 선택 투표

2021년 6월 22일 뉴욕시 예비선거를 위한 새로운 순위 선택 투표

다음 경선들은 * 순위 선택 투표 사용:

시장 · 공의 옹호관 · 시감사원장 · 보로장 · 시의원

*다른 모든 경선은 기존의 투표 방식을 사용합니다.

순위 선택 투표 방법 (RCV):

- 1 1차 선택 열에서 가장 좋아하는 후보 열의 타원형을 채우십시오. 귀하의 투표가 집계되려면 반드시 최소한 한 명의 후보를 선택해야 합니다.
- 2 만약 귀하가 두 번째 선택 후보자가 있다면, "2 차 선택" 열 아래 후보자 이름 옆에 타원형을 표시하십시오.
- 3 귀하는 최대 5명의 후보자를 대상으로 이 과정을 계속할 수 있습니다. 일부 경선은 5명의 후보자 보다 더 적을 수도 있습니다. 모든 경선은 기명 투표 선택이 있습니다.



표시하지 마십시오:
✗ 한 열에 1개 이상의 타원형.
✗ 후보자 한 사람당 1개 이상의 타원형.

두 장의 투표용지는, 다음 사항을 기억하십시오:

- ✍ 귀하의 투표용지 양면을 모두 완성하십시오.
- ✍ 한 번에 한 장씩 스캐너에 투표 용지를 넣으십시오.
- ✍ 두 번째 용지를 넣기 전에 "감사합니다" 라는 화면이 나타날 때까지 기다립니다.

조기 투표 날짜 및 시간:

6월 12일, 토요일	오전 8시-오후 5시	6월 17일, 목요일	오전 10시-오후 8시
6월 13일, 일요일	오전 8시-오후 5시	6월 18일, 금요일	오전 7시-오후 4시
6월 14일, 월요일	오전 7시-오후 4시	6월 19일, 토요일	오전 8시-오후 5시
6월 15일, 화요일	오전 10시-오후 8시	6월 20일, 일요일	오전 8시-오후 4시
6월 16일, 수요일	오전 10시-오후 8시		

পছন্দের ক্রমানুসারে ভোট দান

হচ্ছে ২২ জুন, ২০২১ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিতব্য প্রাথমিক নির্বাচনে ভোট দেয়ার নতুন পদ্ধতি

নিম্নলিখ প্রতিযোগিতাগুলোতে* পছন্দের ক্রমানুসারে
ভোট দেয়ার পদ্ধতি ব্যবহার করা হবে:

মেয়র • পার্বনিক আডভোকেট • কম্পন্ট্রোলার • বরো প্রেসিডেন্ট • সিটি কাউন্সিল
* অন্যান্য সকল প্রতিযোগিতায় ভোট দেয়ার পদ্ধতি সম্বন্ধে পরে জানা হবে।

পছন্দের ক্রমানুসারে ভোট দেয়ার পদ্ধতি কিভাবে কাজ করে:

- 1 "প্রথম পছন্দ" লেখা কলামে আপনার সবচেয়ে পছন্দের প্রার্থীর নামের পাশের বৃত্তটি ভরাট করুন। আপনার ভোট পুনরায় আসার জন্য কমপক্ষে ১ জন প্রার্থীকে অবশ্যই ভোট দিতে হবে।
 - 2 পছন্দের ২য় প্রার্থী থাকলে, "দ্বিতীয় পছন্দ" লেখা কলামে সেই প্রার্থীর নামের পাশের বৃত্তটি ভরাট করুন।
 - 3 আপনি এই প্রক্রিয়া অবলম্বন করে ক্রমান্বয়ে সর্বাধিক ৫ জন প্রার্থীকে ভোট দিতে পারবেন। কিছু প্রতিযোগিতায় ৫ জনের চেয়ে কম প্রার্থী থাকতে পারে। প্রতিটি প্রতিযোগিতায় প্রার্থীর নাম লিখে ভোট দেয়ার বিকল্প উপায় থাকবে।
- ভরাট করবেন না:
- ✗ প্রতিটি কলামে ১টির বেশী বৃত্ত
 - ✗ প্রত্যেক প্রার্থীর জন্য ১টির বেশী বৃত্ত



দুই পৃষ্ঠার ব্যালটের ক্ষেত্রে, মনে রাখবেন:

- ✍ আপনার ব্যালটগুলোর উভয় পাশ পূরণ করতে হবে
- ✍ স্ক্যানারে একটি একটি করে ব্যালট ঢোকাতে হবে
- ✍ পর্দায় "আপনাকে ধন্যবাদ" লেখা দেখার পর ব্যালটের দ্বিতীয় পৃষ্ঠা স্ক্যানারে ঢোকান

অগ্রিম ভোটের দিন এবং সময়সূচী

শনিবার, ১২ জুন	সকাল ৮ট থেকে বিকাল ৫টা পর্যন্ত	বৃহস্পতিবার, ১৭ জুন	সকাল ১০ট থেকে বিকাল ৮টা পর্যন্ত
রবিবার, ১৩ জুন	সকাল ৮ট থেকে বিকাল ৫টা পর্যন্ত	শুক্রবার, ১৮ জুন	সকাল ৭ট থেকে বিকাল ৪টা পর্যন্ত
সেতম্বর, ১৪ জুন	সকাল ৮ট থেকে বিকাল ৫টা পর্যন্ত	শনিবার, ১৯ জুন	সকাল ৮ট থেকে বিকাল ৫টা পর্যন্ত
মঙ্গলবার, ১৫ জুন	সকাল ১০ট থেকে বিকাল ৮টা পর্যন্ত	রবিবার, ২০ জুন	সকাল ৮ট থেকে বিকাল ৫টা পর্যন্ত
বুধবার, ১৬ জুন	সকাল ১০ট থেকে বিকাল ৮টা পর্যন্ত		

Ranked-Choice Voting is new for the **June 22, 2021** Primary Election



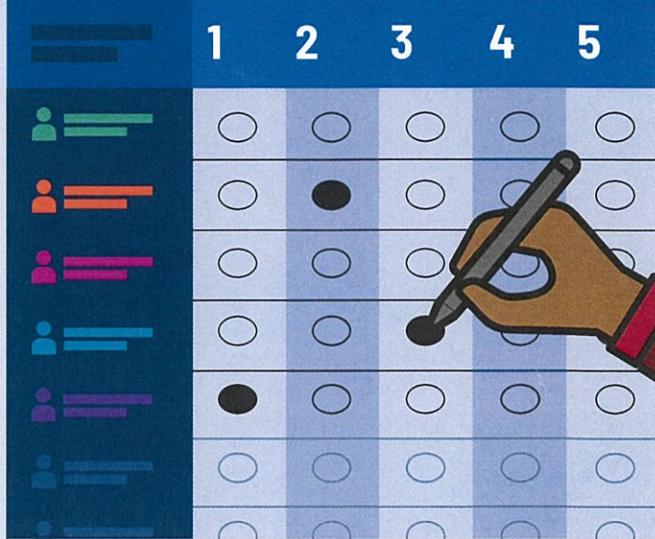
Primary Election

Election Day: June 22, 2021
Early Voting Dates: June 12-20, 2021

A new process called **Ranked-Choice Voting** will be used in the June Primary.

Open to learn more, or visit **VOTE.NYC**

PM-06222021



Jane Doe
Heritage Health and Housing
1154 Stratford Avenue, Apt 2M
Bronx, NY 10472-1047
New York, NY 10004

41 2565090



ALERT!
Your Polling Place Has Been Changed.
Su centro de votación ha sido cambiado.
您的投票處有所變動。
귀하의 투표소가 변경되었습니다.
आपका वोटिंग स्थान परिवर्तित हो चुका है।

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
BD OF ELECTIONS
CITY OF NEW YORK



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

BOARD OF ELECTIONS
32 BROADWAY, 7 FL
NEW YORK, NY 10004-1609



Primary Election Election Day: June 22, 2021 Early Voting Dates: June 12-20, 2021



Special Notice: If we received information indicating that you no longer reside at your registration address, your name may be on the list of inactive voters. By casting an affidavit ballot, you will be restored to active status and your ballot counted.

Aviso Especial: Si recibimos información indicando que usted ya no reside en la dirección que aparece en su registro de votante, su nombre puede estar en la lista de votantes inactivos. Al emitir una papeleta de declaración jurada, se le restaurará a un estado activo y su papeleta será contada.

特別通知: 如果您不再居住於您辦理選民登記的地址，您的名字可能會被列為不活躍選民名單中。如果您填寫投票，您將恢復為活躍選民，您的選票將被計算在內。

重要提醒: 如果您不再居住於您辦理選民登記的地址，您的名字可能會被列為不活躍選民名單中。如果您填寫投票，您將恢復為活躍選民，您的選票將被計算在內。

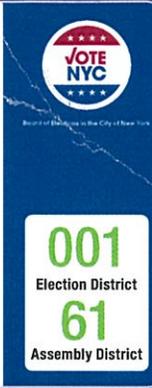
सुप्रसन्नता के साथ सूचित किया जाता है कि यदि हमें सूचित किया गया है कि आप अब भी अपने पंजीकृत पता पर नहीं रहते हैं, तो आपकी पंजीकृत पता पर सूचीबद्ध सूची में निष्क्रिय मतदाताओं की सूची में शामिल हो सकते हैं। प्रत्यक्ष वोटिंग बिलेट का उपयोग करके, आप सक्रिय स्थिति में लौटेंगे और आपका वोट गिनत किया जाएगा।



Jane Doe
Heritage Health and Housing
1154 Stratford Avenue, Apt 2M
Bronx, NY 10472-1047
New York, NY 10004



Look for this sign
at your ED/AD table



Here's Your Election Day Poll Site Information

PS 79 Elementary School for Math, Science,
and Technology
125 East 181 Street, Bronx

Voter Entrance:
Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue:
Left Side is Polling Room

Accessible Entrance:
Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue:
Left Side is Polling Room



Become a POLL WORKER OR INTERPRETER!

Earn up to **\$2800** for working all Election Days.



Board of Elections in the City of New York

nyc.electiondayworker.com
866-VOTE-NYC (866-868-3692)

To find your assigned Early Voting Site, Early Voting Hours, check your registration, request an absentee ballot, view sample ballot, or become a poll worker, visit VOTE.NYC or call 866-VOTE-NYC

Para encontrar su Centro de Votación Temprana asignado, Horas de Votación Temprana, verificar su inscripción, solicitar una papeleta de voto ausente, ver una papeleta de muestra, o ser un trabajador electoral visite VOTE.NYC o llame al 866-VOTE-NYC

查尋您被分配的提前投票處, 核實您的選民登記, 申請缺席選票, 查閱選票樣本, 成為選務人員登錄 VOTE.NYC 網站或致電 866-VOTE-NYC

귀하의 해당 조기 투표소를 찾거나, 조기 투표시간, 등록 확인, 부재자 투표용지 요청, 샘플 투표 용지를 보시거나, 투표소 직원이 되시려면, VOTE.NYC 를 방문하시거나, 866-VOTE-NYC 로 전화하십시오.

আপনার অগ্রিম ভোটের ভোট কেন্দ্র খুঁজে পেতে, আপনার ভোটার নিবন্ধনের হাল জানা, অ্যাবসেন্টে ব্যালটের আবেদন করা, একটি নমুনা ব্যালট দেখা এবং নির্বাচন কর্মী হিসাবে কাজ করার জন্য আমাদের ওয়েব সাইট VOTE.NYC দেখুন অথবা 866-VOTE-NYC নম্বরে কল করুন

Know where to vote on Election Day

Primary Election, June 22, 2021
Early Voting, June 12–June 20
General Election, November 2, 2021
Early Voting, October 23–October 31, 2021
Sepa donde votar en el Día de la Elección
Elección Primaria, 22 de Junio del 2021
Votación Temprana, 12 de Junio al 20 de Junio
Elección General, 2 de Noviembre del 2021
Votación Temprana, 23 de Octubre al 31 de Octubre del 2021

瞭解選舉日在何處投票	선거일 투표소 위치 알기
初選, 2021年6月22日	예비선거 2021년 6월 22일
提前投票, 6月12日-6月20日	조기투표 6월 12일 - 6월 20일
普選, 2021年11月2日	총선거 2021년 11월 2일
提前投票, 2021年10月23日 - 10月31日	조기투표 2021년 10월 23일 - 10월 31일

নির্বাচনের দিন কোথায় ভোট দিতে পারবেন জেনে নিন

প্রাথমিক নির্বাচন, ২২ জুন, ২০২১
অগ্রিম ভোট, ১২ জুন থেকে ২০ জুন, ২০২১
সাধারণ নির্বাচন, ২ নভেম্বর, ২০২১
অগ্রিম ভোট, ২৩ অক্টোবর থেকে ৩১ অক্টোবর, ২০২১

To find your assigned Early Voting Site and hours visit VOTE.NYC or call 866-VOTE-NYC

Para encontrar su centro de Votación Temprana asignado y las horas, visite VOTE.NYC o llame al 866-VOTE-NYC

查尋您被分配的提前投票處及時間
登錄VOTE.NYC 網站或致電866-VOTE-NYC

귀하의 해당 조기투표 장소와 시간을 확인하시려면
VOTE.NYC를 방문하시거나 또는 866-VOTE-NYC로 전화하십시오.

আপনার জন্য নির্ধারিত অগ্রিম ভোটদানের ভোটকেন্দ্রের ঠিকানা এবং ভোটদানের সময়সূচী জানার জন্য VOTE.NYC দেখুন অথবা 866-VOTE-NYC নম্বরে কল করুন।



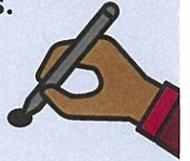
Ranked-Choice Voting is new for the **June 22, 2021** Primary Election

Here's How It Works

1. Pick your 1st Choice candidate and completely fill in the oval next to that candidate under 1st Choice. You must choose at least one candidate for your vote to count.
2. If you have a 2nd choice candidate, fill in the oval next to that candidate under 2nd Choice.
3. Continue marking up to 5 choices. You can mark as many or as few as you wish.

Be sure to mark:

- At least 1 candidate for your vote to count. You do not have to rank all candidates.
- No more than 1 oval per column.
- No more than 1 oval per candidate.



Vote Early

To find your assigned Early Voting site, and hours, visit **VOTE.NYC** or call **866-VOTE-NYC**

PRIMARY ELECTION
Early Voting Dates
Saturday, June 12 – Sunday, June 20, 2021

GENERAL ELECTION
Early Voting Dates
Saturday, October 23 – Sunday, October 31, 2021

Vote on Election Day

(See below for your General Election poll site information)

Polls are open 6:00am to 9:00pm

If your name is not in the poll list book you may vote using an Affidavit Ballot.

If you vote at the correct poll site, your ballot will be counted.

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY
Tuesday, June 22, 2021

GENERAL ELECTION DAY
Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Here's Your Election Day Poll Site Information

PS 79 Elementary School for Math, Science, and Technology - 125 East 181 Street, Bronx
Voter Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room
Accessible Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room



Voto/Votación por Orden de Preferencia es nuevo para la Elección Primaria del 22 de Junio del 2021

Así es Cómo Funciona

1. Escoja su candidato de primera opción y llene completamente el óvalo junto a ese candidato bajo 1ª Opción. Debe seleccionar al menos un candidato para que su voto cuente.
2. Si tiene un candidato de segunda opción, llene el óvalo junto a ese candidato bajo 2ª Opción.
3. Siga marcando hasta 5 opciones. Puede marcar tantos o tan pocos como usted desee.

Asegúrese de marcar:

- Por lo menos un candidato para que su voto cuente. No tiene que clasificar a todos los candidatos.
- No más de un óvalo por columna.
- No más de un óvalo por candidato.



Vote Temprano

Para encontrar su centro de Votación Temprana asignado y las horas, visite VOTE.NYC o llame al 866-VOTE-NYC

ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA

Fechas de Votación Temprana

Sábado, 12 de Junio al Domingo 20 de Junio del 2021

ELECCIÓN GENERAL

Fechas de Votación Temprana

Sábado, 23 de Octubre al Domingo 31 de Octubre del 2021

Vote en el Día de la Elección

(Vea abajo para la información de su Centro de Votación del Día de la Elección)

Los centros de votación están abiertos de 6:00am a 9:00pm

Si su nombre no está en el libro de lista de electores puede votar utilizando una Papeleta de Declaración Jurada.

Si vota en el centro de votación correcto, su papeleta será contada.

DÍA DE LA ELECCIÓN PRIMARIA

Martes, 22 de Junio del 2021

DÍA DE LA ELECCIÓN GENERAL

Martes, 2 de Noviembre del 2021

Aquí está la Información de su Centro Votación del Día de la Elección

PS 79 Elementary School for Math, Science, and Technology - 125 East 181 Street, Bronx

Voter Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room

Accessible Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room



2021年6月22日初選全新的排名選擇投票

做法如下

1. 選擇您的第一選擇候選人並塗滿在第一選擇項下其姓名旁邊的橢圓。您必需至少選擇一位候選人以便您的選票被計入。
2. 如果您有第二選擇候選人，塗滿在第二選擇項下其姓名旁邊的橢圓。
3. 繼續標記最多五個選擇。您可根據您的喜好投選最多或最少的候選人。

請務必標記：

- 至少一位候選人以便您的選票被計入。您不需排名投選所有候選人。
- 每一欄僅限一個橢圓。
- 每一位候選人僅限一個橢圓。



提前投票

欲查尋您被分配的提前投票處，登錄
VOTE.NYC 網站或致電 **866-VOTE-NYC**

初選
提前投票日期
星期六，2021年6月12日 - 星期日，6月20日

普選
提前投票日期
星期六，2021年10月23日 - 星期日，10月31日

選舉日投票

(請參閱以下有關普選日投票處資訊)

投票處自上午六點開放至晚上九點

如果您的名字不在選民名冊中您可以宣誓選票方式投票。

如果您在正確的投票處投票，您的選票將會被計入。

初選日
星期二，2021年6月22日

普選日
星期二，2021年11月2日

您的選舉日投票處資訊

PS 79 Elementary School for Math, Science, and Technology - 125 East 181 Street, Bronx
Voter Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room
Accessible Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room



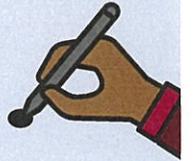
순위 선택 투표는 **2021년 6월 22일**, 예비 선거를 위한 새로운 투표입니다.

투표 방법

- 1 순위 후보자를 선택하고 1 순위 선택 아래 해당 후보자 옆에 있는 타원형을 완전히 채우십시오. 귀하의 투표가 집계되려면 반드시 최소한 한 명의 후보자를 선택해야 합니다.
2. 두 번째 선택 후보자가 있는 경우 두 번째 선택 해당 아래 후보자 옆에 있는 타원형을 채우십시오.
3. 계속해서 선택한 최대 5명에게 표시하십시오. 원하는 만큼 또는 적게 표시할 수 있습니다.

반드시 표시:

- 귀하의 투표가 집계되려면 반드시 최소한 한 명의 후보자에게 표시하십시오. 모든 후보자의 순위를 정할 필요는 없습니다.
- 각 칼럼의 1 개 이상 타원형에 표시하지 마십시오.
- 각 후보자에게 1 개 이상 타원형에 표시하지 마십시오



조기 투표

귀하의 해당 조기투표 장소와 시간을 찾으시려면 **VOTE.NYC**를 방문하시거나 **866-VOTE-NYC**로 전화하십시오.

예비선거
조기투표 날짜
2021년 6월 12일 토요일-6월 20일 일요일

총선거
조기투표 날짜
2021년 10월 23일 토요일 - 10월 31일 일요일

선거일 투표하기

(귀하의 총선거 투표소 정보는 아래 참고)

투표소는 오전 6시 부터 오후 9시까지 열려있습니다.

귀하의 이름이 선거인 명부에 없을 경우, 귀하는 선서 진술서 투표용지를 사용하여 투표할 수 있습니다.

귀하의 해당 투표 장소에서 투표하시면 귀하의 투표용지가 집계됩니다.

예비선거일
2021년 6월 22일 화요일

총선거일
2021년 11월 2일 화요일

여기에 귀하의 선거일 투표 장소 정보가 있습니다.

PS 79 Elementary School for Math, Science, and Technology - 125 East 181 Street, Bronx
Voter Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room
Accessible Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room



২২ জুন, ২০২১ তারিখে অনুষ্ঠিতব্য প্রাথমিক নির্বাচনে নতুন পদ্ধতি অবলম্বন করে পছন্দের ক্রমানুসারে ভোট দিন

ব্যবহার করে ভোট দেয়ার প্রক্রিয়া নিম্নরূপ

১. আপনার প্রথম পছন্দের প্রার্থী বাছাই করুন এবং প্রার্থীর নামের পাশের ১ম পছন্দ লেখা কলামের বৃত্তটি ভরাট করুন। আপনার ভোট গণনায় আসার জন্য কমপক্ষে একজন প্রার্থীকে অবশ্যই ভোট দিতে হবে।
২. যদি আপনার পছন্দের দ্বিতীয় প্রার্থী থাকে তাহলে সেই প্রার্থীর জন্য ২য় পছন্দ লেখা কলামের বৃত্তটি ভরাট করুন।
৩. এইভাবে পছন্দের ক্রমানুসারে ৫ জন প্রার্থীকে তালিকাভুক্ত করুন। আপনি আপনার পছন্দমত যতজনকে ইচ্ছা ভোট দিতে পারবেন।

নিশ্চিত হয়ে নিন:

- কমপক্ষে একজন প্রার্থীকে ভোট দিয়েছেন। আপনি আপনার পছন্দমত যতজনকে ইচ্ছা ভোট দিতে পারবেন।
- প্রতিটি কলামে একটির বেশী বৃত্ত ভরাট করবেন না।
- প্রতিটি কলামে একজন প্রার্থীর জন্য একটির বেশী বৃত্ত ভরাট করবেন না।



অগ্রিম ভোট দিন

আপনার জন্য নির্ধারিত অগ্রিম ভোটদানের ভোটকেন্দ্রের ঠিকানা এবং ভোটদানের সময়সূচী জানার জন্য **VOTE.NYC** দেখুন অথবা **866-VOTE-NYC** নম্বরে কল করুন।

প্রাথমিক নির্বাচন
অগ্রিম ভোট গ্রহণের তারিখ
শনিবার, ১২ জুন থেকে রবিবার, ২০ জুন, ২০২১ পর্যন্ত

সাধারণ নির্বাচন
অগ্রিম ভোট গ্রহণের তারিখ
শনিবার, ২৩ অক্টোবর থেকে রবিবার, ৩১
অক্টোবর, ২০২১ পর্যন্ত

নির্বাচনের দিন ভোট দান

(আপনার সাধারণ নির্বাচনের জন্য নির্ধারিত ভোটকেন্দ্র সম্পর্কিত তথ্যাদির জন্য নীচে দেখুন)

ভোটকেন্দ্র সকাল ৬টা থেকে রাত ৯টা পর্যন্ত
খোলা থাকবে

আপনার নাম নিবন্ধিত ভোটারের তালিকায় না থাকলে আপনি অ্যাক্সিডেন্ট
ব্যালটের মাধ্যমে ভোট দিতে পারবেন।

আপনি যদি সঠিক ভোট কেন্দ্রে ভোট দিয়ে থাকেন তাহলে আপনার ভোট
গণনা করা হবে।

প্রাথমিক নির্বাচনের দিন
মঙ্গলবার, ২২ জুন, ২০২১

সাধারণ নির্বাচন
মঙ্গলবার, ২ নভেম্বর, ২০২১

আপনার সাধারণ নির্বাচনের ভোটকেন্দ্র সম্পর্কিত তথ্যাদি

PS 79 Elementary School for Math, Science, and Technology - 125 East 181 Street, Bronx
Voter Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room
Accessible Entrance: Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue: Left Side is Polling Room



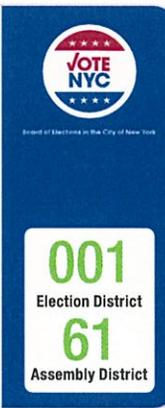


Jane Doe
Heritage Health and Housing
1154 Stratford Avenue, Apt 2M
Bronx, NY 10472-1047
New York, NY 10004



412565090

→
Look for this sign
at your ED/AD table



Here's your Election Day Poll Site Information

PS 79 Elementary School for Math, Science,
and Technology
125 East 181 Street, Bronx

Voter Entrance:

Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue:
Left Side is Polling Room

Accessible Entrance:

Schoolyard Entrance on Cypress Avenue:
Left Side is Polling Room



Know where to vote on Election Day

Primary Election, June 22, 2021

Early Voting, June 12–June 20

General Election, November 2, 2021

Early Voting, October 23–October 31, 2021

Sepa donde votar en el Día de la Elección

Elección Primaria, 22 de Junio del 2021

Votación Temprana, 12 de Junio al 20 de Junio

Elección General, 2 de Noviembre del 2021

Votación Temprana, 23 de Octubre al 31 de Octubre del 2021

瞭解選舉日在何處投票

初選, 2021年6月22日

提前投票, 6月12日-6月20日

普通, 2021年11月2日

提前投票, 2021年10月23日-10月31日

선거일 투표소 위치 알기

예비선거 2021년 6월 22일

조기투표 6월 12일- 6월 20일

총선거 2021년 11월 2일

조기투표 2021년 10월 23일 - 10월 31일

নির্বাচনের দিন কোথায় ভোট দিতে পারবেন জেনে নিন

প্রাথমিক নির্বাচন, ২২ জুন, ২০২১

অগ্রিম ভোট, ১২ জুন থেকে ২০ জুন, ২০২১

সাধারণ নির্বাচন, ২ নভেম্বর, ২০২১

অগ্রিম ভোট, ২৩ অক্টোবর থেকে ৩১ অক্টোবর, ২০২১

To find your assigned Early Voting Site and hours visit VOTE.NYC or call 866-VOTE-NYC

Para encontrar su centro de votación temprana asignado y las horas, visite VOTE.NYC o llame al 866-VOTE-NYC

查尋您被分配的提前投票處及時間
登錄VOTE.NYC網站或致電866-VOTE-NYC

귀하의 해당 조기투표 장소와 시간을 확인하시려면
VOTE.NYC를 방문하시거나 또는 866-VOTE-NYC로 전화하십시오.

আপনার জন্য নির্ধারিত অগ্রিম ভোটদানের ভোটকেন্দ্রের
ঠিকানা এবং ভোটদানের সময়সূচী জানার জন্য VOTE.NYC দেখুন
অথবা 866-VOTE-NYC নম্বরে কল করুন।



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New York City Campaign Finance Board
100 Church Street, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10007
212.409.1800 | www.nyccfb.info

**Testimony of Amy Loprest and Amanda Melillo
Executive Director and Deputy Director of Public Affairs
New York City Campaign Finance Board**

**New York City Council Governmental Operations Committee
September 30, 2022**

Thank you, members of the City Council Governmental Operations Committee, for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Amy Loprest. I am the Executive Director of the New York City Campaign Finance Board (CFB). I am joined by Amanda Melillo, Deputy Director of Public Affairs, who will deliver the second half of our testimony, and Allie Swatek, Director of Policy and Research, who is available to answer questions.

As most of you know, the Campaign Finance Board is a nonpartisan and independent city agency tasked with administering the city's matching funds program. NYC Votes - an initiative of the CFB - works alongside community organizations, volunteers, and other city agencies to register, educate, and engage voters across the city.

At the end of October, after 16 years as Executive Director and a combined 25 years with the agency, I will be retiring from the CFB. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the Executive Director of the Campaign Finance Board, and I am confident that our strong partnership with the City Council will continue into the future. This agency has contributed meaningful improvements to city elections over the past few decades. I am particularly proud of our work in the 2021 election, which resulted in the election of the most diverse city council in history. 96% of the newly elected members were participants in the public matching funds program.

Under discussion today is Int. 696-2022, which would make substantive improvements to Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) ballot instructions and design. As mandated by a 2019 New York

City Charter amendment, the CFB conducted a voter education campaign leading up to the 2021 Ranked Choice Voting elections. Our staff also conducted focus groups with New York City voters, community leaders, and nonpartisan experts to craft a communication strategy. We ensured that RCV information would reach and be understood by low- and high-information voters, especially those in Black, Latino, and limited English-speaking communities.

In collaboration with the Center for Civic Design (CCD), one of our primary partners, the CFB developed a “bite, snack, meal” approach to educate voters about Ranked Choice Voting. With this approach, the CFB created materials that met voters where they were, whether they wanted a quick overview or a detailed description of the vote tabulation process. In late 2020, the CCD conducted in-depth usability tests with New York City voters to fine-tune RCV messaging for the public. The CCD’s research also drove the NYC Votes Voter Guide and website redesign. As a result, nycvotes.org is more usable and accessible than ever before.

The Campaign Finance Board and countless elected offices, organizations, community leaders, and New Yorkers worked tirelessly to educate the public on Ranked Choice Voting. We coordinated our communications strategy directly with the Board of Elections (BOE) in the City of New York - the entity tasked with administering elections - and the Mayor’s Office, so our messaging remained consistent throughout the voting process.

Thankfully, the first Ranked Choice Voting primary election was largely a success. Roughly one million people voted in the June 2021 primary: the highest turnout for a New York City local primary election in decades. Furthermore, 88.3% of ballots ranked some of the 374 candidates on the ballot and 89.3% of Democrats and 56.6% of Republicans ranked multiple unique candidates in at least one race for their respective primaries. However, turnout rate disparities between boroughs and further disparities in ballot marking errors suggest that there is much more to be done when it comes to voter education and ballot design.

The CFB is pleased to see that Int. 696 is informed by the Center for Civic Design’s guidance. The bill would mandate best practices that make ballot instructions and headers easier to read and ensure that information in non-English languages is well-positioned and legible. If the bill

passes, the text on the ballot would also more closely resemble the language used in the CFB's Voter Guide. Minor changes like these can significantly improve accessibility and may also reduce ballot marking errors. However, these changes should comport with existing technology and software acquired by the City BOE, and we defer to their technical expertise on which changes are possible. The CFB supports Int. 696, and finds that our efforts to improve RCV information accessibility will complement the bill's measures.

The vast majority of voters filled out their ballots correctly in the 2021 primary, with only 1.2% of ballots having at least one fatal overvote error. This occurs when a voter marks two candidates for the same race as their first choice, leading to that race being invalidated on their ballot. This is also called first-choice overvoting. During its first Ranked Choice Voting election in 2004, districts in San Francisco experienced similar overvote rates. Over the course of all RCV elections held in San Francisco between 2004 and 2016, San Francisco had an average first-choice overvote rate of 0.8%. A recent study by FairVote and the Ranked Choice Voting Resource Center found that the first use of a new ballot style—as New Yorkers experienced in 2021—is associated with a higher error rate, so we might also expect to naturally see a reduction in error rates as voters become accustomed to RCV.

The Council Districts with the three highest fatal overvote errors in any race for the June 2021 primary election were all in the Bronx. Council Districts 14, 16, and 17 had fatal error rates between 3.2% and 3.8%. To address this issue, the CFB plans to focus on these districts for our voter education campaigns, partnering with community groups to educate voters about the correct way to fill out an RCV ballot in 2023 and 2025. These districts already lie within our priority voter education neighborhoods in Central and South Bronx. Our other priority neighborhoods are in North Central Queens and South and Southeast Brooklyn, where ballot errors were not as frequent, but turnout remains lower than the city's average.

The CFB is also working to reach communities with limited English proficiency and provide greater accessibility in future elections. The NYC Votes website is currently available in English, Spanish, Bengali, Korean, and Traditional Chinese—the federal Voting Rights Act languages. Due to a recent law passed by the Council, starting on January 1, 2023, all features of the website

and the Voter Guide will be available in eight additional languages: Russian, Haitian Creole, Arabic, Urdu, French, Polish, Hindi, and Punjabi. We will also offer closed captioning and ASL interpretation, among other accessibility improvements, for our online Voter Guide.

We included recommendations to improve the ways election results are reported and data is released in our 2021 Voter Analysis Report. For example, RCV election results could be published in stages, similar to how the City BOE published unofficial results in 2021. Additionally, we proposed changes that could make it easier to analyze RCV data at the ballot-level, and consequently identify areas needing additional outreach. This would include areas with more frequent ballot marking errors. We are discussing these two recommendations with the BOE and look forward to continuing our partnership with them in 2023.

We applaud the Council's Governmental Operations Committee for taking steps to improve the Ranked Choice Voting experience. The Campaign Finance Board reaffirms its commitment to educating New Yorkers about RCV and looks forward to working with organizations, community leaders, and elected officials, especially those within our priority neighborhoods, as we approach future ranked choice elections.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. Allie Swatek, Amy Loprest, and I are happy to answer any questions the Council might have.



PUBLIC ADVOCATE FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Jumaane D. Williams

**STATEMENT OF PUBLIC ADVOCATE JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS
TO THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**

My name is Jumaane D. Williams and I am the Public Advocate for the City of New York. I would like to thank Chair Ung and members of the Committee on Governmental Operations for holding this hearing and for the opportunity to share my statement.

In 2019, New Yorkers overwhelmingly voted to implement ranked choice voting (RCV) in their future primary municipal elections. In 2021, we were able to see for the first time the impact and value of ranked choice voting during the city's primary elections. This change in voting saw for the first time a majority-women City Council, the first Muslim woman councilmember, a record 5 Asian councilmembers, the most LGBTQ+ councilmembers, and a Black woman speaker to lead the Council, amongst many records.¹ The Council has never been more diverse and representative of their constituencies, and a driving force in the makeup of our current municipal representation is due to ranked choice voting.

While we have only used RCV in our primaries one time thus far, other localities have implemented RCV long before New York City. Currently, over 40 jurisdictions have used RCV in their most recent elections. Two states, Maine and Alaska, use RCV statewide in their federal and state elections.² It is clear that there is a movement building to implement RCV across the country, and fortunately, our city is a part of it.

This movement is growing because ranked choice voting opens up and levels the playing field for a more diverse range of candidates. RCV helps voters navigate their choices in a crowded field of options; instead of just voting for one candidate, they are still able to affect the outcome by ranking a second choice and proceeding choices if they decide to rank completely. RCV also empowers voters to know that candidates who could once win with less than 50% of the vote must now mobilize their efforts across the entirety of their constituencies and work to build a broader coalition beyond their usual voter base. In particular, Black, Latino, and Asian coalitions build power through RCV according to a study by Fair Vote.³ Therefore, instead of attacking one another, campaigns pivot to focusing more on appealing to their broad range of voters, which is integral in New York City.⁴

To ensure that our New York voters are engaged, mobilized, and empowered to vote and utilize RCV (which at this time is only in use during local primary elections) to the best of their abilities, the City must provide and sustain voter education campaigns on RCV. In the case of the 2021 primaries, I co-sponsored [Int 1994-2020](#) (now Local Law 21 of 2021), which outlines the components of public awareness campaigns led by the Campaign Finance Board and city agencies in regards to RCV. A result of this

¹ <https://19thnews.org/2021/12/nyc-city-council-women-majority-black-woman/>

² <https://fairvote.org/our-reforms/ranked-choice-voting-information/>

³ https://fairvote.org/report/report_rcv_benefits_candidates_and_voters_of_color/

⁴ <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/civicengagement/voting/ranked-choice-voting.page>



PUBLIC ADVOCATE FOR THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Jumaane D. Williams

**STATEMENT OF PUBLIC ADVOCATE JUMAANE D. WILLIAMS
TO THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**

legislation was a largely successful June 2021 primary. Exit polling from Edison Research showed most voters found the RCV process straightforward, showing 93% of Black voters, 95% of hispanic voters, 95% of white voters, and 97% of Asian voters found their ballot simple to complete.⁵

That being said, there is always more to be done to improve the experiences of voters in order to make the process of casting a ballot as simple and straightforward as possible. More specifically, it is important to keep in mind voters with disabilities, older voters, and voters with limited-English proficiency, and how their experiences may be drastically different when navigating a ballot. One of the improvements I hope to see changes in is with the simplification of language throughout the ballot. We are doing a disservice to all New York voters if the ballot is difficult to understand and full of jargon, which is why it is important to ensure reading comprehension of the ballot is at an early grade school level. Additionally, this will help limited-English proficient voters in two ways: plain language will be easier to understand and will lead to better translations. Another important improvement to make for future RCV ballots is font size, which goes in tandem with the previous recommendation. With simplified language, there will be greater room on the ballot, allowing an increase in font size, which will also enhance readability. Voters may feel fatigued and their eyes physically strained if they have to go through walls of miniscule text, potentially deterring them from casting their ballots (especially if it is an absentee ballot). An easy fix for this issue is to increase the font size of the text so that most voters do not need to rely on a magnifier.

The reasons I am providing testimony is for all the reasons stated above, and overall to affirm my belief and trust in ranked choice voting. From one primary election alone, we have seen the potential with RCV in New York City with our vastly diverse and representative City Council. I am eager to work alongside voting rights advocates in maintaining, improving upon, and ensuring the success and integrity of all future elections, especially those that utilize RCV. As I have said before, RCV is the fairer, more representative, future of American elections.⁶

Thank you.

5

http://readme.readmedia.com/RANK-THE-VOTE-NYC-RELEASES-EDISON-RESEARCH-EXIT-POLL-ON-THE-ELECTION/17989282?utm_source=newswire&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=media_pr_emails

⁶ <https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/ranked-choice-voting-bowman-jumaane-williams/>

Testimony to the New York City Council for LS9428

Sean Isamu Johnson, designer and researcher at the Center for Civic Design

The Center for Civic Design is a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan nonprofit. Our main goal is to make elections work for everyone. Our approach is to combine best practices, solid design research, and our years of experience in elections to improve the voting process.

We work directly with many elections offices across the country—large and small. We've helped these offices design better voter guides, vote-by-mail envelopes, all kinds of election forms and notices, and—most relevant to LS9428—ranked choice voting ballots.

Our experience in designing ranked choice voting materials is vast. We were proud to support the successful first ranked choice election in New York City. Our work included usability research with English and Spanish-speaking voters before the election, design advice to the Campaign Finance Board, Board of Elections and others, developing voter education and ballots, and interviews with voters after their first RCV voting experience. We also have worked in Alaska this year, and have consulted with officials and advocates in Colorado, DC, Georgia, Virginia, and Washington.

Through our research over the last 6 years, we have seen that voters understand the basic action of ranked choice voting. As one voter told us, "It feels good to have another choice." And, when ballots and information are well designed, voters are able to confidently cast their vote and make their voices heard.

Even though voters generally understand how ranked choice voting works, there's always room for improvement. This bill would directly improve the ranked choice voting experience for New York City voters. And although all New York City voters will benefit from the improvements in this bill, it's the most vulnerable voters who will benefit the most. There are a few ways that this bill would do that.

First, this bill requires that the instructions be shorter and clearer. Plain language instructions are easier to understand for low-literacy readers, rushed readers, and voters who speak English as a second language. And when the instructions are shorter, it leaves more space on the ballot for larger text and other visual layout components. All of these things amount to a ballot that's easier to read. When ballots are written in plain language, voters vote them more accurately. Voters also prefer plain language ballots over traditional language ballots. And these effects

endure through translation. In other words, plain language facilitates better translations.

Second, New York City is the most linguistically diverse city in the world. This bill carefully considers the challenge of translating ballots into multiple languages. It does that by requiring that the ranking columns be identified with simple numbers (1, 2, 3...) instead of using 1st, 2nd, 3rd, which doesn't translate well into many languages. In addition, bilingual voters often benefit from reading instructions in both their languages. That's why this bill adds a specific requirement that alternative languages be arranged so that they can be easily compared to the English text.

Finally, this bill proposes an improvement to the visual layout to make the instructions as easy to read as possible. Dark text on a light background is easiest to read, especially for voters with visual impairments. The current design of the ballot uses color in the banner and the instructions section to distinguish between different party ballots. The proposed change preserves this use of color in the banner, but removes the color from the instructions area. This will increase the color contrast of the instructions, which will make them easier to read, especially for aging eyes, or anybody who struggles to read small text in a poorly lit polling place.

These are small changes to an already effective and usable ballot. They are changes that are supported by the academic research as well as what was learned during usability testing. And while these changes are small, they are important because they will help the elections office design better ballots, and ultimately help voters further understand ranked choice voting. Please see page 3 for a visualization of what the ballot might look like under LS-9428. Thank you for your time.

**Testimony of Susan Lerner, Executive Director, Common Cause/NY
In Support of Int. 696 Before the NYC Council Government Operations Committee
September 30, 2022**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I am Susan Lerner, Executive Director of Common Cause/NY and Board Chair of Rank the Vote NYC. Common Cause is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization founded to serve as a vehicle for citizens to make their voices heard in the political process. We fight to strengthen public participation and faith in our institutions of self-government and lead the grassroots component of the nationwide Election Protection effort. Common Cause/NY is among the largest and most active state chapters. In 2019, we advocated to place the question of whether to bring Ranked Choice Voting to New York City before the voters and helped to successfully pass it. Rank the Vote NYC was founded in 2019 to bring Ranked Choice Voting to New York City. We have since shifted to educating voters, candidates & campaigns and community groups about RCV. Our massive citywide voter education campaign prepared New York City voters, in thirteen languages, for Ranked Choice Voting by partnering with 700+ organizations reaching over a million New Yorkers.

Last year, New York City voters successfully used Ranked Choice Voting, selecting their top 5 candidates in order of preference. RCV delivered on its promise to elect more women and BIPOC lawmakers. By eliminating vote splitting and incentivizing positive, substance-based campaigns, ranked choice voting helped drive the first majority female City Council, 83% of whom are women of color. New Yorkers, who 74% voted in favor of ranked choice voting in 2019, also reported an overwhelmingly positive experience: 95% of voters found their ballot simple to complete, and 83% of voters ranked at least two candidates. According to a FairVote study, Black voters were more likely to rank in the Public Advocate and Comptroller races.

In 2021, to prepare for the June primary, we collaborated with the Center for Civic Design and worked closely with the NYC Board of Elections, on implementation issues. We, and our colleagues at CCD, shared experiences from other jurisdictions regarding best practices for RCV elections, including ballot design issues, with the staff of the New York City Board of Elections. I want to acknowledge and thank the staff of the New York City Board of Elections for their openness and collaborative attitude in implementing RCV. We believe that the overwhelming satisfaction with RCV expressed in exit polling and the large number of voters who used RCV in the June 2021 primary shows that New York City voters benefited from the Board's successful efforts to provide mailers, polling place materials, and social media posts that clearly explained RCV and to ensure a clear and understandable RCV ballot.

Nevertheless, recognizing that no human system is perfect, we believe that some modest changes will improve the ballot design even further. Again, we worked closely with our colleagues at the Center for Civic Design to identify areas where the ballot design could be strengthened even more. I am pleased that Sean Johnson from CCD will be testifying this morning to provide insight into the research and experience behind the changes to the ballot contained in Intro 696.

Intro 696 was drafted to build on the successful 2021 introduction of RCV by making the ballot even clearer and easier to understand. The Charter language adopted by the voters in 2019 prescribes the exact language for the instructions that must appear on the RCV ballot. Obviously, that language was workable, since so many voters successfully used RCV last year. Intro 696 amends the Charter to shorten and simplify the required instructions, which we believe will make the required ballot instructions even clearer and more comprehensible to voters. By simplifying the required instruction language, Int. 696 would ensure uniformity between elections and facilitate voter education. The simplified instructions provide clear, simple language that can be used by anyone providing information about ranked choice voting, encouraging consistency in information and instructions for ranked choice voting in materials other than the ballot. Consistency and repetition of instruction language on the ballot and on information materials will minimize confusion and increase voter comprehension. Additionally, simplified language is easier to translate accurately.

The instruction language currently specified in the charter has an 8th grade readability level, which is the maximum comprehension level which we recommend be presented to voters. We suggest, when possible, submitting material at a lower comprehension level. When submitted to the Hemingway readability editor, 1 of the total of 12 sentences in the current instruction language is identified as hard to read and 3 of 12 sentences are identified as very hard to read. The instruction language proposed in Int. 696 has a 2nd grade reading comprehension level and none of its 8 sentences are identified as hard or very hard to read by the Hemingway Editor.

As previously indicated, the ballot design for the 2021 primary was generally very good. Int. 696 assists the BOE in identifying areas for design improvement but allows the Board flexibility in how those design elements appear. Feedback from voters indicated that some voters found it was hard to see where each contest began if there were more than one contest in a column. Consequently, Int. 696 provides that, where there are multiple ranked choice contests on the same ballot, each ranked choice contest on the same page will be separated by a bold black line, to help voters recognize and rank the candidates for the same office.

In addition to fostering the easier translation of the ballot instructions into non-English languages by simplifying the required instructions, Int. 696 also encourages the Board of Elections to design the RCV ballot to assist non-English voters in locating and understanding instructions in their language of choice by arranging, to the extent practical, non-English text and English text in

relation to each other so that the voter who is most comfortable in a non-English language can easily compare the non-English and corresponding English text.

Finally, Int. 696 encourages the effective use of instructive illustrations on the ballot by making suggestions as to the content and placement of illustrations in the instruction section of the ballot. An example of illustrative illustrations, prepared by the Center for Civic Design, are attached.

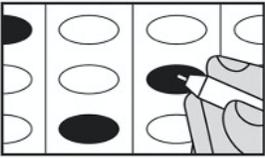
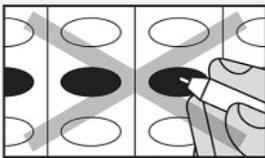
We believe that the modest improvements to the RCV ballot set forth in Int. 696 will facilitate voters' even more effective use of Ranked Choice Voting in municipal primaries for years to come. We strongly urge the Committee to approve Int. 696 and send it to the Council for passage.

Example showing the instructions with illustrations

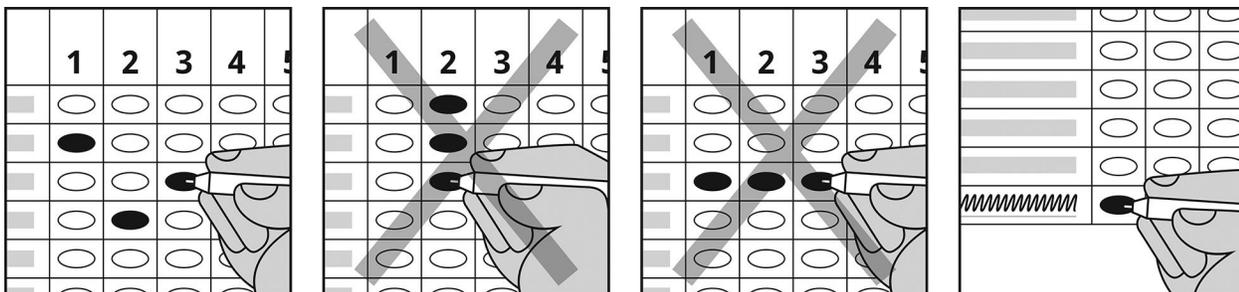
In this illustration, the vertical columns group instructions with the relevant text. Each language can be found by reading across the page. We usually do not recommend multiple illustrations or showing the wrong way to vote, but we believe that showing right and wrong examples makes the RCV rules easier to understand.

Conceptual illustration:

Spanish and Chinese text is shown for spacing and arrangement. The arrangement in columns connects the text in all languages to the illustration at the top of the column, and helps voters by letting them read across the page for each language.

Instructions	Instrucciones	명령
 <p>Rank candidates in the order of your choice.</p> <p>Use the ovals in the columns marked 1, 2, 3, and so on.</p> <p>Clasifique a los candidatos en el orden de su elección. Utilice los óvalos en las columnas marcadas 1, 2, 3, etc.</p> <p>선택한 순서대로 후보자의 순위를 매깁니다. 1, 2, 3 등으로 표시된 열에 타원을 사용합니다.</p>	 <p>Wrong: Mark no more than 1 oval in a column.</p> <p>You may mark as many or as few candidates as the columns allow.</p> <p>Incorrecto: No marque más de 1 óvalo en una columna. Puede marcar tantos candidatos como lo permitan las columnas.</p> <p>잘못된: 한 열에 1개 이상의 타원을 표시하지 마십시오.</p> <p>열에서 허용하는 만큼 후보자를 표시할 수 있습니다.</p>	 <p>Wrong: Mark no more than 1 oval for a candidate.</p> <p>Ranking more candidates will not hurt your first-choice candidate.</p> <p>Incorrecto: No marque más de 1 óvalo para un candidato. Clasificar a más candidatos no perjudicará a su candidato de primera elección.</p> <p>틀리다: 후보자에 대해 1개 이상의 타원을 표시하지 마십시오. 더 많은 후보자의 순위를 매긴다고 1순위 후보자에게 피해를 주지는 않습니다.</p>
		<p>Any mark or writing outside the spaces for voting may void your ballot.</p> <p>You have a right to a replacement ballot. If you make a mistake, ask a poll worker for a new ballot.</p> <p>Cualquier marca o escritura fuera de los espacios para votar puede anular su boleta.</p> <p>Tiene derecho a una boleta de reemplazo. Si comete un error, pídale a un trabajador electoral una nueva boleta.</p> <p>투표 공간을 벗어난 표시 나 글은 투표 용지를 무효화 할 수 있습니다.</p> <p>귀하는 대체 투표를 할 권리가 있습니다. 실수를했다면 투표소 직원에게 새 투표 용지를 요청하십시오.</p>

Larger versions of the images for voter guides or other formats where more space is available.



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**New York City Council Committee on Government Operations Meeting
September 30, 2022
Ranked Choice Voting Implementation and Ballot Design**

To: The Honorable City Councilmember Sandra Ung

Date: September 30, 2022

From: Chris Hughes, Director of Policy, Ranked Choice Voting Resource Center

Dear Councilmember Ung,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony to the Committee on Government Operations. We, a coalition of pro-democracy organizations and ranked-choice voting (RCV) experts, urge the committee to advance A Local Law to amend the New York City charter, in relation to the design of the ballot and content of ballot instructions for ranked choice elections ([Int. 0696-2022](#)).

This update to New York City's ranked-choice voting law ensures that all voters will receive clear and effective ranked-choice voting instructions. Research shows that plain language voter instructions help voters cast their ballots.¹ While New York City voters in 2021 experienced low error rates and overwhelmingly reported understanding RCV, clearer instructions will enable even more voters to cast an effective ballot in the City's next ranked-choice voting elections.² Revisions will also decrease the length of the instructions required, which should allow for more effective use of ballot space in New York City RCV elections.

¹ Nat'l Institute of Standards and Tech., NISTIR 7556, *Report of Findings: Use of Language in Ballot Instructions* 6 (2009), available at <https://civicdesign.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/NISTIR-7556.pdf>; Ctr. for Civic Design, *Vol. 2 Writing instructions voters understand*, <https://civicdesign.org/fieldguides/writing-instructions-voters-understand/> (last visited Sept. 29, 2022).

² New York City Campaign Finance Board, *2021 - 2022 Voter Analysis Report* 102–105, 166 (2022), https://www.nycfb.info/pdf/2021-2022_VoterAnalysisReport.pdf; Nora Dell and Deb Otis, *Ranked Choice Voting in New York City: An In-Depth Analysis* 10, FairVote (2021), <https://fairvote.app.box.com/s/cfhwv6ts8c7af94ya5qjtytbyr6n2kt>; Common Cause/NY and Rank the Vote NYC, *Rank the Vote NYC Releases Edison Research Exit Poll on the Election* (June 28, 2021), http://readme.readmedia.com/RANK-THE-VOTE-NYC-RELEASES-EDISON-RESEARCH-EXIT-POLL-ON-THE-ELECTION/17989282?utm_source=newswire&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=media_pr_emails.

These revisions will further enfranchise voters whose first language is not English.³ Clearly differentiating the multiple languages on a ballot will make it easier for voters to identify their language of choice on RCV ballots. These updates to the charter ensure that all voters, regardless of their preferred language, will have the best opportunity possible to make their voices heard in NYC primary elections.

Thank you for your commitment to ensuring New Yorkers can cast an effective ranked-choice voting ballot. We look forward to working with you to advance this legislation and support the City's ranked-choice voting implementation.

Respectfully,

Chris Hughes
Director of Policy
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³ Center for Civic Design, *Vol. 103 Planning language access*, <https://civicdesign.org/fieldguides/planning-language-access/> (last visited Sept. 29, 2022); see Minkwon Center For Community Action, *More Equitable Democracy*, and New York Immigration Coalition, *Examining Chinese, Korean, Bengali, and Arab Voters' Attitudes and Effective Messaging on Ranked Choice Voting and Elections in New York City 4* (2021), <https://www.equitabledemocracy.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Voter-Attitudes-RCV-In-language-Research.pdf>.



**Testimony to the City Council Governmental Operations Committee
On Ranked Choice Voting Implementation and Ballot Design**

September 30, 2022

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony for this hearing. Reinvent Albany is a watchdog organization that advocates for open and accountable government in New York.

Reinvent Albany strongly supports Ranked Choice Voting and [Intro 696 of 2022 \(Ung\)](#). New York City's first ranked choice voting primary election last year was an overwhelming success – in exit polling by Edison Research, [90% of New Yorkers said RCV was easy to use](#), and 77% said they'd like to see RCV in future elections.

In combination with the City's robust public campaign finance system, last year's elections also produced [the most diverse NYC Council in history](#) – two thirds of the current City Council are people of color, up from 51%. Additionally, 61% are women, up from 27%. We believe that ranked choice voting played a major part in this.

However, the law could be improved to ensure a better RCV ballot design in future elections. Councilmember Sandra Ung's Int. 696 makes the necessary updates and will help keep ranked choice voting simple for voters. See our attached memo of support.

If you have any questions, please contact Tom Speaker at tom@reinventalbany.org.



MEMO OF SUPPORT

Intro 696 of 2022 (Ung)

Improves Ranked Choice Voting Ballot Design

September 30, 2022

TITLE OF BILL

A Local Law to amend the New York city charter, in relation to the design of the ballot and content of ballot instructions for ranked choice elections.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

Section 1 amends New York City Charter §1057-g, subdivision d, paragraph 2 to provide that in ranked choice voting ballots, each column shall be labeled with a consecutive numeral. Paragraph 3 is amended to provide a new set of specific ballot instructions for voters. The bill also adds three new paragraphs to provide that:

1. each RCV election shall be separated by a bold black line (paragraph 6);
2. text with multiple languages will be arranged so that the languages are clearly separated (paragraph 7); and
3. the text of any instructions shall be black against a white background (paragraph 8).

Section 2 states the bill takes effect immediately.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

Reinvent Albany supports this bill because we believe it will ensure ranked choice voting ballots continue to be easy to use in future NYC elections.

NYC's first RCV primary election was a huge success, with 90% of voters saying they found the new system easy to use, and 77% saying they want to see it in future elections.¹

¹<http://readme.readmedia.com/RANK-THE-VOTE-NYC-RELEASES-EDISON-RESEARCH-EXIT-POLL-ON-THE-ELECTION/17989282>

This election also preceded the most diverse NYC council in history: Two thirds of the new City Council are people of color, and 61% are women.²

While the original RCV legislation was a strong start, its lack of specificity could lead to poor ballot design in coming elections. This bill provides clearer language to keep the RCV ballot simple for voters, and also will help voters who do not speak English better navigate future RCV ballots.

We urge the Council to pass the bill.

²<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/small-donor-public-financing-plays-role-electing-most-diverse-new-york>

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 696 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 6/30/2022

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: MICHAEL J. RYAN

Address: 42 BROADWAY

I represent: BD OF ELECTIONS

Address: 42 BROADWAY

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 696 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 6/30/2022

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: VINCENT IGITZIO

Address: 42 BROADWAY

I represent: BD OF ELECTIONS

Address: 42 BD OF ELECTIONS

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 696 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 9/30/22

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Allie Swatek

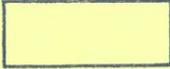
Address: _____

I represent: NYC Campaign Finance Board

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card



I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 696 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 9/30/22

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Amy Loprest, A

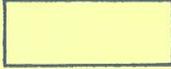
Address: 100

I represent: NYC Campaign Finance Board

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card



I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 696 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Amanda Melillo

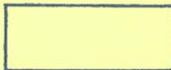
Address: _____

I represent: NYC Campaign Finance Board

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card



I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 696 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 9/30/22

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: SUSAN LERNER

Address: 80 Broad St, NY, NY

I represent: Common Cause/NY + RTV-NYC

Address: 80 Broad St, NY, NY