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**DUVAL COUNTY ELECTION ADVISORY PANEL**

**2021-22 ANNUAL REPORT**

Membership

9 members: 3 members of the general public appointed by the Council President; 3 members of the general public appointed by the Mayor; 2 members appointed by the Supervisor of Elections; 1 employee of the Supervisor of Elections Office appointed by the Supervisor. All members must be registered Duval County voters. The panel has 8 seated members at present and 1 vacancy (mayoral appointment). Four of the members (2 Council President, 1 Mayor, 1 Supervisor of Elections) serving beyond the end of expired terms while awaiting reappointment or replacement.

Meetings

The Election Advisory Panel adjusted its meetings for the year to coordinate with the scheduled State and City elections. The panel met on October 6 and December 15, 2021 and March 16, 2022; a meeting scheduled for August 8, 2021 was cancelled due to lack of a quorum and a meeting scheduled for May 18, 2022 was cancelled due to the unavailability of a representative of the Supervisor of Elections Office due to medical leave. The March 2022 meeting was held at the Election Operations Center at Imeson so the panel members could see the location and get an understanding of the operations conducted there.

Sampling of topics discussed in 2021-22 by topic

Election mechanics

* December 2021/February 2022 special elections to fill the seat vacated by the death of Council Member Tommy Hazouri – timing, cost, poll worker recruitment, sample ballots, COVID precautions, results, supplemental appropriation of funds to pay unbudgeted costs.
* Number, location and publicity about changes in early voting sites.
* Use of vote-by-mail drop boxes.
* Vote-by-mail faulty ballot cure process
* 2022-23 election calendar – state primary and general elections in August and November 2022, City first and second elections in March and May 2023.

Supervisor of Elections operations

* Procurement, funding and operation of new ExpressVote voter assistance terminals; demonstration of ExpressVote system and tabulation of printout.
* Redrawing of voting precincts following city, state and Congressional redistricting; need to mail approximately 400,000 new voter registration cards to voters whose precinct will be changing; legal challenges to redistricting plans.
* Volume of petitions (over 400,000) reviewed and verified supporting referenda on amendments to the Florida Constitution for the 2022 general election.
* Voter registration list maintenance procedures.
* Proposed relocation of Supervisor of Elections headquarters from Monroe Street downtown to Election Operations Center at Imeson Park
* Investigation of fraudulent voter registration form submissions and prosecution of perpetrators.
* Steady growth in No Party Affiliation voter registration.

Legislative

* 2021 Florida Legislature election reform laws and subsequent lawsuits.
* Possible amendment to the City Charter regarding the timing of City special elections, particularly to fill vacancies for only a short time before a next general election opportunity would occur.
* Vote-by-mail standing ballot request; 1-year limit on standing requests due to change in state law; notice to voters about request expirations and renewals.