

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 6, 2023
TO: City Council, City of Greenbelt
FROM: Board of Elections
RE: Mail-In Ballot Applications
for Out-of-City Voters

The Board of Elections hereby advises that we have tentatively decided, subject to Council approval by resolution or other appropriate action, to allow voters who are outside the City during the 30-day period before Election Day to file mail-in ballot applications by facsimile or email.

The Board is encouraging voters to submit ballots either by mail-in procedures or in person on Election Day. By late August, all Greenbelt voters registered with the County Board of Elections will be sent a mail-in ballot application. Instructions will ask voters to fill out and submit their applications “as soon as possible,” or words to that effect, though the law allows later applications. Earlier submissions will allow our vendor to send mail-in ballots early enough for voters to fill them out and submit them by Election Day.

The Election Code provides that voters “outside the continental United States for the 30-day period ending on election day” may submit mail-in applications by facsimile or email. (The ballots themselves must still be submitted to City government in person or by U.S. mail.)

To increase voter convenience, the Board of Elections will be advising voters in the mail-in instructions that they may submit applications by facsimile or email if they “will be continuously outside the City for the 30-day period ending on Election Day.” This expanded instruction will

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permit a voter not in Greenbelt for the month prior to the election to submit their application in a more timely and convenient manner.

If Council members or members of the public have questions about mail-in applications or ballots, they may call or email the Board at the Clerk's office.

