Executive summary

Title: 2019 municipal elections: ranked choice voting planning and implementation

Recommended action: None at this time. This is the first in a series of discussions regarding the development of the rules for conduct of municipal elections.

Policy consideration: Does the city council agree with following the Minneapolis model for the development of the rules for conduct of municipal elections?

Summary: On May 7, 2018 the city council approved an ordinance amending the city charter by adding Sec. 12.08 related to voting method. The adoption of this ordinance was the first step in a process to implement ranked-choice voting for municipal (mayor and city council) elections.

Once a city makes the decision to use an alternative voting method they are required to provide the rules that will govern the administration of municipal elections. The primary reason for this is that state election law does not speak to the rules for the administration of elections using the ranked-choice method. The city is obligated to ensure that rules for the conduct of municipal elections continue to meet all state and federal election laws where applicable. The city attorney will be in attendance to provide an overview of the legal requirements of the ordinance, the process for adoption, and the specific topics the ordinance will need to address.

Because ranked-choice voting is already used in Minneapolis, a model ordinance for the rules of conduct for municipal elections is readily available and should be closely followed given that these rules have already been deemed legal by the courts and they have been tested and proven to work in conjunction with the current voting equipment and administrative procedures in place in Hennepin County.

Equity and inclusion considerations: In each discussion regarding the rules for the conduct of municipal elections, staff will include information that will allow for reflection through the lenses of equity, inclusion, and accessibility. This will provide an opportunity to consider how the rules that are developed will impact the populations that we serve. In this instance the scope of consideration goes beyond racial equity and encompasses overall equity and accessibility to voting. Elections impact many different groups and populations including and not limited to: seniors, non-english speaking voters, first-time voters (newly 18), new residents to St. Louis Park, new citizens, military and overseas voters, candidates for office, and election judges. These considerations and discussions will provide the foundation for staff’s continued work on the actual implementation of ranked-choice voting and will guide the development of materials for communications, marketing, education and outreach.

Financial or budget considerations: Money will be allocated in the 2019 budget for the resources needed for the implementation and administration of ranked-choice voting.

Strategic priority consideration: St. Louis Park is committed to creating opportunities to build social capital through community engagement.

Supporting documents: Discussion schedule; Minneapolis city code chapter 167

Prepared by: Melissa Kennedy, City Clerk
Approved by: Nancy Deno, Deputy City Manager/HR Director
### Discussion schedule

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### Other items of note:

- The schedule above may be adjusted as needed.
- In order to reach the target for use of RCV in the 2019 municipal election, this outline of the schedule above is important. Once we have the technical pieces in place and an ordinance approved, we will need to run a “test” of our new RCV systems in mock election environments to ensure successful use. This will involve development of test ballots, programming of machines, training of a group of election judges, and staff training on the counting methodology. Testing would need to be done the first quarter of 2019 if the system is going to be used in the fall of 2019. We understand if more time and process is needed, the target may change to 2021.
- We have had and will continue to hold meetings with League of Women voters and FairVote MN in order for them to assist us as we move forward with education and outreach efforts.
- Staff is also working on a robust communications plan that encompasses the breadth of materials we will need for voter outreach and education efforts, staff and election judge training, candidate training, absentee voting, and Election Day supplies.
- As you are aware, we will only use RCV in local municipal elections for mayor and council. To avoid confusion and due to the upcoming election this fall, we want to make sure that our voters are aware of what system they will be using in 2018 when they go to the polls (not RCV). Therefore, aside from regular updates on the development of the rules by council, detailed and targeted outreach and education materials on RCV and our municipal election will be provided after the election this fall and beginning 2019.
CHAPTER 167. - MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS: RULES OF CONDUCT

167.10. - Applicability.

This chapter applies to all municipal elections. All provisions of City Charter and Minnesota Statutes pertaining to elections also apply, to the extent they are not inconsistent with this chapter. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08)

167.20. - Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section:

Batch elimination means a simultaneous defeat of multiple continuing candidates for whom it is mathematically impossible to be elected.

Chief election official means the city clerk and includes the city clerk's designee(s).

Continuing candidate means a candidate who has been neither elected nor defeated.

Declared write-in candidate(s) means a candidate(s) who has filed a written request in accordance with section 167.45.

Exhausted ballot means a ballot that cannot be advanced under section 167.60(c)(2) or section 167.70(c)(2).

Highest continuing ranking means the ranking on a voter's ballot with the lowest numerical value for a continuing candidate.

Mathematically eliminated by the next higher current vote total comparison means either:

1. The candidate could never win because his or her current vote total plus all votes that could possibly be transferred to him or her in future rounds (from candidates with fewer votes, tied candidates, surplus votes, and from undeclared write-in candidates) would not be enough to equal or surpass the candidate with the next higher current vote total; or
2. The candidate has a lower current vote total than a candidate who is described by (1).

Mathematically eliminated by the sum of all ranked-choice votes comparison means:

1. For single-seat elections: The candidate could never win because the sum of all ranked-choice votes for that candidate is less than the highest current vote total.
2. For multiple-seat elections: The candidate could never win because the sum of all
ranked-choice votes for that candidate would not be enough to equal or surpass the current vote total(s) of any of the top "x" continuing candidate(s) with the highest current vote total(s), where "x" equals the number of seats yet to be filled for the office.

Mathematically impossible to be elected means:

(1) Mathematically eliminated by the next higher current vote total comparison.

(2) Mathematically eliminated by the sum of all ranked-choice votes comparison.

Maximum possible threshold means the number of votes sufficient for a candidate to be elected under a first ranked choice tabulation under sections 167.60(b) and 167.70(b). In any given election, the maximum possible threshold equals the total ballots cast that include votes, undervotes, skipped rankings, and overvotes for the office, divided by the sum of one (1) plus the number of offices to be filled, then adding one (1), disregarding any fractions. Maximum Possible Threshold = ((Total ballots cast that include votes, undervotes, skipped rankings, and overvotes for the office)/(Seats to be elected + 1)) + 1, with any fractions disregarded.

An overvote occurs when a voter ranks more than one (1) candidate at the same ranking.

Partially defective ballot means a ballot that is defective to the extent that the election judges are unable to determine the voter's intent with respect to the office being counted.

Ranked-choice voting means an election method in which voters rank candidates for an office in order of their preference and the ballots are counted in rounds and votes, or fractions thereof, are distributed to candidates according to the preferences marked on each ballot as described in sections 167.60 and 167.70 of this chapter.

Ranked-choice voting tabulation center means one (1) or more locations selected by the chief election official for the tabulation of votes.

Ranking means the number assigned by a voter to a candidate to express the voter's preference for that candidate. Ranking number one (1) is the highest ranking. A ranking of lower numerical value indicates a greater preference for a candidate than a ranking of higher numerical value.

Repeat candidate ranking occurs when a voter ranks the same candidate at multiple rankings for the office being counted.

Round means an instance of the sequence of voting tabulation steps established in sections 167.60 and 167.70 of this chapter.

Skipped ranking occurs when a voter leaves a ranking blank and ranks a candidate at a subsequent ranking.
Sum of all ranked-choice votes means the sum of all votes for a candidate at every ranking for an office, including all repeat candidate rankings.

Surplus means the total number of votes cast for an elected candidate in excess of the threshold.

Surplus fraction of a vote means the proportion of each vote to be transferred when a surplus is transferred. The surplus fraction is calculated by dividing the surplus by the total votes cast for the elected candidate, calculated to four (4) decimal places, ignoring any remainder. Surplus fraction of a vote = (Surplus of an elected candidate)/(Total votes cast for elected candidate), calculated to four (4) decimal places, ignoring any remainder.

Threshold means the number of votes sufficient for a candidate to be elected. In any given election, the threshold equals the total votes counted in the first round after removing partially defective ballots, divided by the sum of one (1) plus the number of offices to be filled, then adding one (1), disregarding any fractions. Threshold = ((Total votes cast)/(Seats to be elected + 1)) + 1, with any fractions disregarded.

Transfer value means the fraction of a vote that a transferred ballot will contribute to the next ranked continuing candidate on that ballot. The transfer value of a vote cast for an elected candidate is calculated by multiplying the surplus fraction by its current value, calculated to four (4) decimal places, ignoring any remainder. The transfer value of a vote cast for a defeated candidate is the same as its current value.

Transferable vote means a vote or a fraction of a vote for a candidate who has been either elected or defeated.

Totally defective ballot means a ballot that is defective to the extent that the election judges are unable to determine the voter's intent for any office on the ballot.

Undeclared write-in candidate means a write-in candidate who is not a declared write-in candidate.

An undervote occurs when a voter does not rank any candidates for an office. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08; 2009-Or-102, § 1, 10-2-09; 2013-Or-055, § 1, 5-24-13; 2015-Or-065, § 1, 7-24-15)

167.30. - Ballots.

(a) Ballot format.

(1) When there are three (3) or more qualified candidates, a ballot must allow a voter to rank at least three (3) candidates for each office in order of preference and must also allow the voter to add write-in candidates.

(2) A ballot must include instructions to voters that clearly indicates how to mark the ballot so as to be read by the election judges conducting the count, or if voting equipment is to be used, so as to be read by the voting equipment used to tabulate results.

(3) A ballot must include instructions to voters that clearly indicate how to rank candidates
in order of the voter's preference.

(4) A ballot must indicate the number of seats to be elected for each office.

(b) *Mixed-eletion method ballots.* If elections are held in which ranked-choice voting is used in addition to other methods of voting, the ranked-choice voting and non-ranked-choice voting elections must be on the same ballot if possible, with ranked-choice voting and non-ranked-choice voting portions clearly separated on the ballot. If placement of all offices to be elected cannot be placed on a single ballot, a separate ballot may be used for those offices to be elected using ranked-choice voting. The city may deviate from the standard ballot order of offices to allow separation of ranked-choice voting and non-ranked-choice voting elections.

(c) *Ballot format rules.* The chief election official shall establish administrative rules for ballot format after a voting mechanism has been selected. All rules shall be adopted in accordance with this section. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08; 2009-Or-102, § 2, 10-2-09; 2013-Or-055, § 2, 5-24-13)

167.40. - Ranked-choice voting tabulation center.

The chief election official shall designate one (1) or more locations to serve as the ranked-choice voting tabulation center. Tabulation of votes must be conducted as described in sections 167.60 and 167.70 of this chapter. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08; 2013-Or-055, § 3, 5-24-13; 2015-Or-065, § 2, 7-24-15)

167.45. - Write-in votes.

A candidate for municipal office who wants write-in votes for the candidate to be counted as votes for the candidate must file a written request with the chief election official no later than seven (7) days before the general or special election. The chief election official shall provide copies of the form to make the request. (2013-Or-055, § 4, 5-24-13)

167.50. - Tabulation of votes; in general.

(a) *Precinct tabulation.* When the hours for voting have ended and all voting has concluded, the election judges in each precinct shall record and post the number of votes at each ranking on the ballot. The election judges must then securely transfer all election night materials and ballots from the precinct to the location designated by the chief election official. Upon receipt, the election night materials and ballots shall be secured.

(b) *Notice of recess in count.* At any time following receipt of materials per 167.50(a) the chief election official may declare a recess. Notice shall be posted of such recess, which must include the date, time and location at which the process of recording and tabulating votes will resume and the reason for the recess.

(c) *Recording write-in votes.* At a time set by the chief election official, the judges of the election shall convene at a ranked-choice voting tabulation center to record the names and number
of votes received by each declared write-in candidate. The number of votes received by undeclared write-in candidates will be recorded as a group by office. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08; 2009-Or-102, § 3, 10-2-09; 2013-Or-055, § 5, 5-24-13)

167.60. - Tabulation of votes; single-seat elections.

(a) **Applicability.** This section applies to a ranked-choice voting election in which one (1) seat in an office is to be filled from a single set of candidates on the ballot. The method of tabulating ranked-choice votes for single-seat elections as described in this section must be known as the "single-seat single transferable vote" method of tabulation.

(b) **First ranked choice tabulation.** A first ranked choice tabulation shall be done under this clause before a tabulation as described in clause (c). A first ranked choice tabulation will consist of a first round only. Under the first ranked choice tabulation, the vote total will be the sum of the number one (1) ranked votes. The maximum possible threshold must be determined. If the vote total for a candidate, other than an undeclared or a declared write-in candidate, is equal to or greater than the maximum possible threshold, that candidate is declared elected and the tabulation is complete. If the vote total for no candidate, other than an undeclared or a declared write-in candidate, is equal to or greater than the maximum possible threshold, a tabulation, as described in clause (c), shall be done.

(c) **Tabulation of round(s).**

(1) Tabulation of votes at the ranked-choice voting tabulation center must proceed in rounds for each office to be counted. The threshold must be calculated. The sum of all ranked-choice votes for every candidate must be calculated. Each round must proceed sequentially as follows:

a. The number of votes cast for each candidate, as indicated by the highest continuing ranking on each ballot, must be counted. If a candidate, other than an undeclared write-in candidate, has a vote total that is equal to or greater than the threshold, that candidate is declared elected and the tabulation is complete. If no candidate, other than an undeclared write-in candidate, has a vote total that is equal to or greater than the threshold, a new round begins and the tabulation must continue as described in clause b.

b. At the beginning of the second round only, all undeclared write-in candidates and all candidates for whom it is mathematically impossible to be elected must be defeated simultaneously. For rounds subsequent to the second round, all candidates for whom it is mathematically impossible to be elected must be defeated simultaneously. Votes for the defeated candidates must be transferred to each ballot's next-ranked continuing candidate, except votes for candidates defeated in the final round are not transferred if, by their defeat, the number of
continuing candidates is reduced to one (1). If no candidate can be defeated under this clause, the tabulation must continue as described in clause c. Otherwise, the tabulation must continue as described in clause d.

c. The candidate with the fewest votes is defeated. Votes for the defeated candidate must be transferred to each ballot's next-ranked continuing candidate, except votes for candidates defeated in the final round are not transferred if, by their defeat, the number of continuing candidates is reduced to one (1). Ties between candidates with the fewest votes must be resolved by lot by the chief election official. The candidate chosen by lot must be defeated. The result of the tie resolution must be recorded and reused in the event of a recount.

d. The procedures in clauses a. to c. must be repeated until one (1) candidate reaches the threshold, or until only one (1) continuing candidate remains. If only one (1) continuing candidate remains, that continuing candidate must be elected. In the case of a tie between two (2) or more continuing candidates, the tie must be resolved by lot by the chief election official. The result of the tie resolution must be recorded and reused in the event of a recount. A tied candidate chosen by lot must be defeated. When only one (1) continuing candidate remains after a tie has been resolved by lot by the chief election official, that continuing candidate must be elected and the votes of the tied candidate chosen by lot will be retained.

(2) When a skipped ranking, overvote or repeat candidate ranking is encountered on a ballot, that ballot shall count towards the highest continuing ranking that is not a skipped ranking, an overvote or repeat candidate ranking. If any ballot cannot be advanced because no further continuing candidates are ranked on that ballot, or because the only votes for further continuing candidates that are ranked on that ballot are either overvotes or repeat candidate rankings, the ballot shall not count towards any candidate in that round or in subsequent rounds for the office being counted.

(2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08; 2009-Or-102, § 4, 10-2-09; 2013-Or-055, § 6, 5-24-13; 2015-Or-065, § 3, 7-24-15)

167.70. - Tabulation of votes, multiple-seat elections.

(a) Applicability. This section applies to a ranked-choice voting election in which more than one (1) seat in office is to be filled from a single set of candidates on the ballot. The method of tabulating ranked-choice votes for multiple-seat elections as described in this section must be known as the "multiple-seat single transferable vote" method of tabulation.

(b) First ranked choice tabulation. A first ranked choice tabulation shall be done under this clause before a tabulation as described in clause (c). A first ranked choice tabulation will consist of a first round only. Under the first ranked choice tabulation, the vote total will be the sum of the number one (1) ranked votes. The maximum possible threshold must be
determined. If the number of candidates, other than any undeclared or declared write-in candidate, whose vote total is equal to or greater than the maximum possible threshold is equal to the number of seats to be filled, those candidates are declared elected and the tabulation is complete. If the number of candidates, other than any undeclared or declared write-in candidate, whose vote total is equal to or greater than the maximum possible threshold is less than the number of seats to be filled, a tabulation, as described in clause (c), shall be done.

(c) Tabulation of round(s).

(1) Tabulation of votes at the ranked-choice voting tabulation center must proceed in rounds for each office to be counted. The threshold must be calculated. The sum of all ranked-choice votes for every candidate must be calculated. Each round must proceed sequentially as follows:

a. The number of votes cast for each candidate for the current round must be counted. If the number of candidates, other than any undeclared write-in candidate, whose vote total is equal to or greater than the threshold is equal to the number of seats to be filled, those candidates who are continuing candidates are elected and the tabulation is complete. If the number of candidates, other than any undeclared write-in candidate, whose vote total is equal to or greater than the threshold is not equal to the number of seats to be filled, a new round begins and the tabulation must continue as described in clause b.

b. Surplus votes for any candidates whose vote total is equal to or greater than the threshold must be calculated.

c. At the beginning of the second round only, after any surplus votes are calculated but not yet transferred, all undeclared write-in candidates and all candidates for whom it is mathematically impossible to be elected must be defeated simultaneously. For rounds subsequent to the second round, after any surplus votes are calculated but not yet transferred, all candidates for whom it is mathematically impossible to be elected must be defeated simultaneously. Votes for the defeated candidates must be transferred to each ballot's next-ranked continuing candidate, except votes for candidates defeated in the final round are not transferred if, by their defeat, the number of continuing candidates is reduced to the number of seats yet to be filled. If no candidate can be defeated under this clause, the tabulation must continue as described in clause d. Otherwise, the tabulation must continue as described in clause a.

d. The candidate with the largest surplus is declared elected and that candidate's surplus is transferred. A tie between two (2) or more candidates must be resolved by lot by the chief election official. The surplus of the candidate chosen by lot must be transferred before other transfers are made. The result of the tie resolution
must be recorded and reused in the event of a recount. The transfer value of each vote cast for an elected candidate must be transferred to the next continuing candidate on that ballot. If no candidate has a surplus, the tabulation must continue as described in clause e. Otherwise, the tabulation must continue as described in clause a.

e. If there are no transferable surplus votes, the candidate with the fewest votes is defeated. Votes for a defeated candidate are transferred at their transfer value to each ballot’s next-ranked continuing candidate, except votes for candidates defeated in the final round are not transferred if, by their defeat, the number of continuing candidates is reduced to the number of seats yet to be filled. Ties between candidates with the fewest votes must be resolved by lot by the chief election official, and the candidate chosen by lot must be defeated. The result of the tie resolution must be recorded and reused in the event of a recount.

f. The procedures in clauses a. to e. must be repeated until the number of candidates whose vote total is equal to or greater than the threshold is equal to the number of seats to be filled, or until the number of continuing candidates is equal to the number of seats yet to be filled. If the number of continuing candidates is equal to the number of seats yet to be filled, any remaining continuing candidates must be declared elected. If the number of continuing candidates is equal to the number of seats yet to be filled, any remaining continuing candidates must be declared elected. In the case of a tie between two (2) or more continuing candidates, the tie must be resolved by lot by the chief election official. The result of the tie resolution must be recorded and reused in the event of a recount. Candidates defeated under this clause in the final round will retain their votes.

(2) When a skipped ranking, overvote or repeat candidate ranking is encountered on a ballot, that ballot shall count towards the highest continuing ranking that is not a skipped ranking, an overvote or repeat candidate ranking. If any ballot cannot be advanced because no further continuing candidates are ranked on that ballot, or because the only votes for further continuing candidates that are ranked on that ballot are either overvotes or repeat candidate rankings, the ballot shall not count towards any candidate in that round or in subsequent rounds for the office being counted.

(2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08; 2009-Or-102, § 5, 10-2-09; 2013-Or-055, § 7, 5-24-13; 2015-Or-065, § 4, 7-24-15)

167.75. - Ties resolved by lot.

(a) *Who resolves a tie by lot.* The chief election official must resolve a tie by lot.

(b) *Notice to candidates with tied votes.* The chief election official must notify all candidates with tied votes that the tie will be resolved by lot, except those candidates who have not provided contact information that would allow notice under this section. This notice must be sent at
least one (1) hour prior to resolving the tie by lot. The notice must be sent through a medium that would generally be capable of reaching a person within the one-hour period, such as face-to-face, a fax, an e-mail, an instant message, a text, a video chat, a telephone call, or a voicemail. The chief election official may consider the preference of each candidate for the medium through which the notice would be provided. The chief election official is not required to confirm that the notice is received by a candidate before resolving a tie by lot. A tie may be resolved by lot even though some or all of the candidates who have tied votes are not present.

(c) **Witnesses.** The resolving of the tie by lot must be witnessed by two (2) election judges who are members of different major political parties.

(d) **Video.** The resolving of the tie by lot may be recorded through any audio and visual recording technology.

(e) **Media.** The chief election official may contact the media to view the chief election official resolve a tie by lot.

(f) **Procedures.** The chief election official may establish written procedures for implementing this section.

(2015-Or-065, § 5, 7-24-15)

167.80. - Reporting results.

(a) **Precinct summary statement.** Each precinct must print a precinct summary statement, which must minimally include the number of votes in the first ranking for each candidate.

(b) **Ranked-choice voting tabulation center summary statement.** The ranked-choice voting tabulation center must print a summary statement, which must include the following information: total votes cast; number of undervotes; number of totally defective and spoiled ballots; threshold calculation; total first choice rankings for all candidates; round-by-round tabulation results, including simultaneous batch eliminations, surplus transfers, and defeated candidate transfers; and exhausted ballots at each round.

(c) **Election abstract.** The election abstract must include the information required in the ranked-choice voting tabulation center summary statement, with the addition of the number of registered voters by precinct, the number of same day voter registrations, and the number of absentee voters. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08)

167.90. - Recounts.

(a) **Required recounts.** A candidate defeated in the final round of tabulation may request a recount of the votes cast for the nomination or election to that office if the difference between the final round vote total for that candidate and for a winning candidate is less than the percentage threshold as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Section 204C.36. In case of offices where two (2) or more seats are being filled from
among all the candidates for the office, the percentage threshold difference, as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Section 204C.36, is between the elected candidate with the fewest votes and the candidate with the highest final round vote total from among the candidates who were not elected.

(1) Candidates shall file a written request for the recount with the city clerk. All requests shall be filed during the time for notice of contest of the election for which a recount is sought.

(2) Upon receipt of a request made pursuant to this section, the city shall recount the votes for a municipal office at the expense of the city.

(b) Discretionary candidate recounts. Candidates defeated in the final round of tabulation when the vote difference is greater than the difference required by section 167.90(a), and candidates defeated in an earlier round of counting, may request a recount in the manner provided in this section at the candidate's own expense.

(1) The votes shall be recounted as provided in this section if the requesting candidate files with the city clerk a bond, cash, or surety in an amount set by the city for payment of the recount expenses.

(c) Notice of contest. Time for notice of contest of election to a municipal office which is recounted pursuant to this section shall begin to run upon certification of the results by the governing body of the municipality.

(d) Scope of recount. A recount conducted as provided in this section is limited in scope to the determination of the number of votes validly cast for the office to be recounted. Only the ballots cast in the election and summary statements certified by the election judges may be considered in the recount process. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08; 2009-Or-102, § 6, 10-2-09; 2013-Or-055, § 8, 5-24-13)

167.100. - Count procedures.

The chief election official shall establish administrative procedures for the tabulation of votes in accordance with rules for counting the votes contained in sections 167.50, 167.60 and 167.70 of this chapter. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08; 2013-Or-055, § 9, 5-24-13)

167.110. - Electronic voting systems.

All provisions of Minnesota Statutes pertaining to electronic voting equipment systems apply, to the extent they are not inconsistent with this chapter. Any voting equipment system used to conduct an election under this section must be authorized for use by the county auditor pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 206.58. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08)

167.120. - Testing of voting systems.
The chief election official shall have the voting system tested to ascertain that the system will correctly mark ballots using all methods supported by the system, and count the votes cast for all candidates and on all questions per Minnesota Statute Section 206.83. In addition to all requirements of Minnesota Statute Section 206.83, the equipment must be tested to ensure that each ranking for each candidate is recorded properly, and must be tested to ensure the accuracy of software used to perform vote transfers and produce results. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08)

167.130. - Post-election review of voting system and tabulation of results.

(a) **Selection of test date; notice.** Post-election review is not required for a hand count election. At canvass, the chief election official must select by lot the offices and precincts to be reviewed and set the date, time and place for the post-election review.

(b) **Scope and conduct of test.** The post-election review must be conducted, in public, of a sample of ballots cast for at least one (1) single-seat ranked-choice voting election for city council, if applicable, and one (1) multiple-seat ranked-choice voting election for either park board or board of estimate and taxation, if applicable.

(c) **Single seat test.** At canvass, the chief election official shall select, by lot, a total of two (2) precincts. Using the actual ballots cast in the two (2) precincts selected, the judges of the election shall conduct a hand count of ballots cast for the one (1) or two (2) offices of council member. Using procedures called for in section 167.100 of this chapter and accompanying rules, the judges shall count and record the ballots cast.

(d) **Multiple seat test.** At canvass, the chief election official shall select, by lot, a total of two (2) precincts. Using the actual ballots cast in the two (2) precincts selected, the judges of the election shall conduct a hand count of ballots cast for either the office of park board or the office of board of estimate and taxation, also to be determined by lot. Using procedures called for in section 167.100 of this chapter and accompanying rules, the judges shall count and record the ballots cast.

(e) **Standard of acceptable performance by voting system.** A comparison of the results compiled by the voting system with the results compiled by the judges of election performing the hand count must show that the results of the electronic voting system differed by no more than the applicable percentage threshold, as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Section 204C.36, from the hand count of the sample tested. Valid votes that have been marked by the voter outside the vote targets or using a manual marking device that cannot be read by the voting system must not be included in making the determination whether the voting system has met the standard of acceptable performance.

(f) **Additional review if needed.** Additional review(s) may be required as follows:

1. **Additional precinct review.** If a test under clause (c) or (d) reveals a difference greater than the applicable percentage threshold, as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Section...
204C.36, in at least one (1) precinct of an office, the chief election official must immediately publicly select by lot two (2) additional precincts of the same office for review. The additional precinct review must be completed within two (2) days after the precincts are selected and the results immediately reported to the county auditor.

(2) **Additional office review.** If the additional precinct review also indicates a difference in the vote totals that is greater than the applicable percentage threshold, as provided by Minnesota Statutes, Section 204C.36, in at least one (1) precinct of an office, the chief election official must conduct a review of the ballots from all the remaining precincts in the office being reviewed. This review must be completed no later than two (2) weeks after the canvass.

(g) **Report of results.** Upon completion of the post-election review, the chief election official must immediately report the results to the county auditor and make those results public.

(h) **Update of vote totals.** If the post-election review under this section results in a change in the number of votes counted for any candidate, the revised vote totals must be incorporated in the official result from those precincts.

(i) **Effect on voting systems.** If a voting system is found to have failed to record votes accurately and in the manner provided by this chapter, the voting system may not be used at another election until it has been approved for use by the county auditor, pursuant to Minnesota Statute Section 206.58. In addition, the county auditor may order the city to conduct a hand recount of all ballots cast in the election.

(j) **Penalties to voting equipment system vendor.** If the voting system failure is attributable to either its design or to actions of the vendor, the vendor is liable for the cost of a hand recount ordered per section 167.130(i) and is liable for additional penalties imposed per agreement between the city and the vendor. (2008-Or-028, § 1, 4-18-08; 2009-Or-102, § 7, 10-2-09; 2013-Or-055, § 10, 5-24-13)

167.140. - Deadline for primary campaign reports pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 383B.048.

For the sole purpose of filing primary campaign reports pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 383B.048, subd. 1, the city adopts the primary election date for municipal primaries as determined by Minnesota Statutes during city municipal election years. Primary campaign reports will be due one (1) week prior to this date, as provided in Minn. Stat. § 383B.048, subd. 1, as if a primary were being held for such elective offices, notwithstanding the elimination of primary elections for city municipal offices. (2009-Or-052, § 1, 7-17-09; 2015-Or-065., § 6, 7-24-15)

**Editor's note— Ord. No. 2015-Or-065., § 6, adopted July 24, 2015, retitled the catchline of § 167.140 from "Primary date for campaign reports pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 383B.048" to read as herein set out.**