



500 West Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084
troymi.gov



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Date: August 17, 2020

To: Mark F. Miller, City Manager

From: Robert J. Bruner, Assistant City Manager
M. Aileen Dickson, City Clerk

Subject: Request for Approval of Additional Times for AV Ballots for November 3, 2020 Presidential Election, Other Important Dates, and Drop Box Update

On the Agenda for the August 24, 2020 Regular City Council Meeting is a request for approval of additional times for the City Clerk's Office to offer Absent Voter (AV) Ballots to Troy voters. Michigan Election Law requires local clerks to obtain approval from the governing body for any additional times or places that AV ballots will be issued 60 days in advance of the election date. Also, clerks are required to notify the Bureau of Elections of those times or places, and post the times and places in a public notice. The City Clerk's Office will publicize these times and the address for City Hall on an official public notice, but also on social media, in the Troy Today, on the City website, and any other forms of media.

We are adding a ballot pickup service the weekend before our first ballot mailing to give voters a chance to pick-up their ballots instead of receiving them through the mail. Since the first mailing of ballots is on September 28, we will offer drive-thru ballot pick-up service on Saturday, September 26 12-4pm, and Sunday, September 27 12-4pm for voters who have already applied for their November ballot and would otherwise receive it in the mail. Voters will drive up to the east doors of City Hall, show their ID to the City Clerk's Office staff member, who will then retrieve their ballot from inside City Hall and hand it to the voter.

We will most likely continue our Drive Thru Clerk's Office service since it has been received very positively by voters, and the Clerk's Office staff members, who have commented that it is a safe, comfortable alternative to crowds inside City Hall. If, however, the weather does not cooperate, or it isn't feasible for some unforeseen reason, we will provide traditional service at the Clerk's counter.

Our proposed extended hours are:

- Saturday, September 26 – 12:00-4:00pm (AV Ballot Pick-up Service)
- Saturday, September 27 – 12:00-4:00pm (AV Ballot Pick-up Service)
- Wednesday, October 14 – 8:00am-7:00pm (Drive Thru Clerk's Office)
- Wednesday, October 21 – 8:00am-7:00pm (Drive Thru Clerk's Office)
- Saturday, October 24 – 8:00am-4:00pm (Drive Thru Clerk's Office)
- Friday, October 30 – 8:00am-5:00pm (Drive Thru Clerk's Office)
- Saturday, October 31 – 8:00am-4:00pm (Drive Thru Clerk's Office)



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The City Clerk's Office has ordered large capacity drop boxes that hold 5,500+ envelopes to replace the 2 small drop boxes on either side of City Hall. These large capacity boxes will be placed in relatively the same locations as the existing boxes, but will accommodate the influx of ballot returns we expect, as well as tax and water payments, and any other envelopes returned to City Hall. The existing ballot-only drop boxes will be relocated. One will be at the Troy Public Library near the main entrance. The other will be at the Troy Community Center near the main entrance. The ballot-only boxes will only be accessible during AV ballot seasons, and will be emptied daily during those times by a City Clerk's Office staff member.

Other important dates to note:

On/before September 19 – Ballots must be sent to any military/overseas voter with FPCA on file
Beginning September 24 – Absentee ballots available to voters arriving in-person at City Hall
Week of September 21 – Clerk's Office conducts testing of ballots and tabulators
September 28 – Clerk's Office begins mailing absentee ballots to voters with applications on file
September 28-October 30 – Absentee ballots available by mail or in-person at City Hall
October 19 – Last day to register to vote by mail or online and be eligible to vote November 3
October 20-November 3 – Voters wishing to vote November 3 must register in person at City Hall
October 31, 8:00am-4:00pm – Absentee ballots available in-person at City Hall
November 2, 8:00am-4:00pm – Last time to obtain absentee ballot (must vote in-person at City Hall)

Financial

There is no additional financial impact for the City of Troy to offer this service to Troy residents and voters.

Recommendation

City Management requests City Council approval of the additional times for issuing and receiving absent voter ballots as detailed above, as required by Michigan Election Law.



Sales Number: **PO1243** **SO4083**

Business Name: City of Troy

Model/Cabinet: 910

Date of Proof: 8/13/2020

Quantity: 2

Date Shipped: _____

Special Instructions:



Left Top
31" x 11"



Chute Top
19" x 3.3"



Bottom
31" x 11"



Left Bottom
31" x 37"



Door
28" x 37"



Right Bottom
31" x 37"