



## MAYOR AND COUNCIL AGENDA

<b>MOTION # 29-02-07</b>		<b>DRAFT # 1</b>
<b>DATE SUBMITTED: 2/1/07</b>	<b>DATE TO GO BEFORE COUNCIL: 2/12/07</b>	
<b>SUBMITTED BY: Atteberry/Tartaro/Tierney/Elwood/Gardiner/Matulef</b>		
<b>DEPARTMENT: City Clerk</b>		
<b>TITLE OF MOTION: Open and Fair Elections Directive</b>		
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> I move that the Mayor and Council request that during city elections that the City Clerk post on the city's website a standardized downloadable version of an absentee ballot request form and have forms available as a handout at the city offices.		
<b>BACKGROUND:</b> Due to the hard work and diligence of our City Clerk and Board of Election Supervisors, and other involved volunteers and staff, our recent city elections have run smoothly and efficiently. The city convened an open dialogue forum on November 13, 2006 regarding election practices and procedures where a variety of participants expressed feedback regarding city election practices. Our next city-wide election will be held in May 2007. The above changes are suggested to go into effect prior to this election. Often participation in city elections hovers around 10% of registered voters. Expanding our city's absentee ballot application procedures is one way to potentially increase participation. An issue was raised regarding Americans with Disability requirements and this measure directs appropriate changes to our Charter. The requirement to publish an "authority line" seeks to foster open public discourse.		
<b>ANTICIPATED STAFF RESOURCES REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT:</b> See Comments below		
<b>CITY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR/SUPERVISOR COMMENT:</b> It is anticipated that there will be some cost, yet to be determined, to develop the downloadable and printed versions of the application and possible training or increased staff support should large numbers of registered voters shift to using this voting process. Recommend approval.		
<b>FUNCTION AND OBJECTIVES: (Note: Delete the ones that DO NOT pertain to your Agenda Item)</b> Ensure Open Government and Fair Elections, Promote Community Building throughout the City, Promote Efficient and Effective Government Services.		
<b>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:</b>		
<b>CURRENT YEAR BUDGET IMPACT:</b> Anticipate some minimal cost (see comments above).		