



Legislation Text

File #: 20-479, **Version:** 2

Ordinance No. 20-63 amending multiple sections of Part 1 (Conduct of Elections) of Article 1 (General Municipal Elections) of Chapter 5 (Elections) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, pertaining to election ballots

Presenter:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk

Summary:

Our city election code currently requires each ballot be printed with a 1 inch ballot stub. Colorado law was changed several years ago to remove the ballot stub requirement for Title I mail ballot elections. You may have noticed your state/county mail ballots do not have a ballot stub. The Colorado Municipal Clerks Association worked with the State Legislature to change the Title 31 Municipal election law to remove the ballot stub requirement for mail ballot elections in the 2020 legislative session. I am requesting the City Code be changed remove the ballot stub requirement for our mail ballot elections. This change will align our City Code with existing state law. This change would also cause less confusion for voters, lessen the ballot processing time, and save the City money.

Our city election code currently requires each ballot packet contain a secrecy sleeve for placing a voted ballot in before sealing in the return envelope. The Colorado County Clerks Association worked with the Colorado Secretary of State and the State Legislature to change Title 1 elections to remove the requirement for a secrecy sleeve for mail ballot elections. You may have noticed your state/county ballot packets do not have a secrecy sleeve. I am requesting the City Code be changed remove the secrecy sleeve requirement for our mail ballot elections. This change will align our City Code with state law, cause less confusion of voters when they forget to use the secrecy sleeve, lessen ballot processing time, and save the City money.

Background:

N/A

Previous Council Action:

N/A

Financial Implications:

Removing the requirement to print the ballot with a 1 inch ballot stub would save the city approximately \$3,000 based on the cost for this item in the 2019 municipal election. Removing the requirement to have a secrecy sleeve in the ballot packet would save the City approximately \$16,000 based on the cost for this item in the 2019 municipal election.

City Council Appointed Board/Commission/Committee Recommendation:

N/A

Stakeholder Process:

N/A

Alternatives:

Not approve the proposed ordinance

Proposed Motion:

An ordinance amending multiple sections of Part 1 (Conduct of Elections) of Article 1 (General Municipal Elections) of Chapter 5 (Elections) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, pertaining to election ballots

An ordinance amending multiple sections of Part 1 (Conduct of Elections) of Article 1 (General Municipal Elections) of Chapter 5 (Elections) of the Code of the City of Colorado Springs 2001, as amended, pertaining to election ballots to remove the ballot stub and secrecy sleeve requirements.