SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

Initiative 134 "Approval Voting" and Council Bill 120369 "Ranked Choice Voting"

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SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

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Initiative 134 – Timeline for Council action

June 28   Certificate of sufficient signatures filed

August 2   Deadline to place measures on the November 8 Ballot

August 9   Deadline for Council action under the City Charter

Options for voting in Seattle primaries

- Current system: "Choose One Voting"

- Initiative 134: "Approval Voting"

- Council Bill 120369: "Ranked Choice Voting"

Current System: "Choose One Voting"

– Voters select the candidate they want to win

– The two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes advance to the general election

Initiative 134: "Approval Voting"

– Voters select as many candidates as they approve of for each office (can vote for more than one candidate)

– The two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes advance to the general election

St. Louis 2021 Mayoral Election – Approval Voting

St. Louis 2021 Mayoral Election – Approval Voting Results

	Primary Voters	Primary Votes	Votes per Voter
Mayoral Primary	44,571	69,661	1.56

Candidates	Primary Votes	% of Voters	General Votes	% of Votes
Lewis Reed	17,186	39%		
Cara Spencer	20,659	46%	27,865	48%
Tishuara Jones	25,388	57%	30,166	52%
Andrew Jones	6,428	14%		
Total	**69,661**	**156%**	**58,031**	**100%**

CB 120369: "Ranked Choice Voting"

– Voters rank up to 5 candidates in order of preference.

– Counting occurs in rounds

– After each round, lowest-ranked candidate eliminated

– Voter's ballots count a single vote for the remaining candidate the voter has ranked highest

– The two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes advance to the general election

New York City "Ranked Choice Voting" Instructions
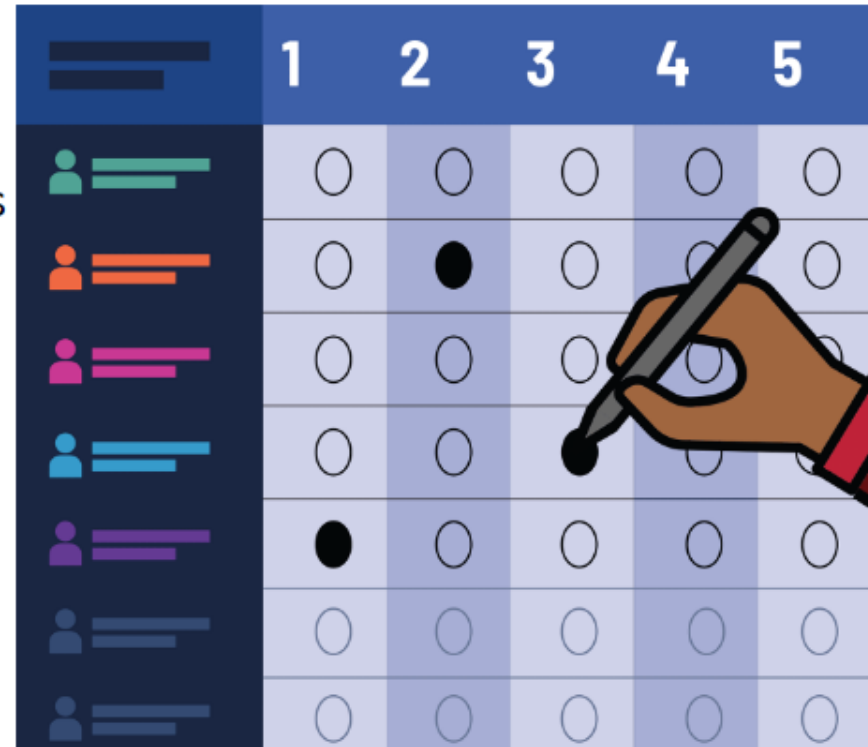
How to Mark Your Ballot

Mark your ballot by order of preference.

- Rank as many or as few candidates as you like

- Choose one candidate for each column

- 1st choice - Pick your favorite candidate

- 2nd choice - Fill in second column

- Followed by your 3rd, 4th and 5th choice

Source: Board of Elections in the City of New York, https://vote.ny/page/ranked-choice-voting

New York 2021 Democratic Mayoral Primary Ranked Choice Voting (Top 5 Choices)

	Voters	Candidates	Rounds of Counting
Mayoral Election	942,031	14	8

Candidate	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Round 8
Eric Adams	289,403	289,603	390,055	291,806	295,798	317,092	354,657	404,513
Katherine Garcia	184,463	184,571	184,669	186,731	191,876	223,634	266,932	397,316
Maya Wiley	201,127	201,193	201,518	206,013	209,108	239,174	254,728	Eliminated
Andrew Yang	115,130	115,301	115,502	118,008	121,597	135,686	Eliminated	
				* * *				
Aaron Foldenauer	7,742	7,758	7,819	Eliminated				
Art Chang	7,048	7,064	7,093	Eliminated				
Paperboy Prince	3,964	4,007	4,060	Eliminated				
Joycelyn Taylor	2,662	2,683	2,780	Eliminated				
Isaac Wright Jr.	2,242	2,254	Eliminated					

Council Options under the Charter

Article IV, Section 1, C: COUNCIL MAY ENACT OR REJECT BUT NOT MODIFY; COUNCIL MAY PASS SUBSTITUTE:

The City Council may <u>enact, or reject</u>, any initiative bill or measure, but shall not amend or modify the same. It may, however, after rejection of any initiative bill or measure, <u>propose and pass a different one dealing with the same subject</u>.

Council Options: Enact or Reject

Enacting

– File Certificate of Sufficiency (CF 314495)

– Adopt an Ordinance enacting the provisions of I-134

Rejecting (aka Not Enacting)

– File Certificate of Sufficiency (CF 314495)

– Adopt a Resolution placing the Initiative on the Ballot (Res 32057)

Optional: Adopt a Resolution of Support or Opposition

Council options: Alternative approach to Issue

Proposing an alternative to go on the ballot

– File Certificate of Sufficiency (CF 314495)

– File Council intent to reject Initiative and propose an alternative (CF 314498)

– Adopt Council Bill enacting the alternative (CB 120369)

– Pass a Resolution placing I-134 and the alternative on the ballot (Substitute Version 2)

Ballot questions if there is an alternative

1. Should either of these measures be enacted into law?

    Yes ____

    No ____

2. Regardless of whether you voted yes or no above, if one of these measures is enacted, which one should it be?

    Proposition 1 A (Approval Voting) ____

    Proposition 1 B (Ranked Choice Voting) ____

Questions?