



City Council Agenda Item Report

JUNE 4, 2013

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SUBJECT: Discussion on the administration of City Elections.

1. Background/History

During the November 6, 2012 City Elections, a number of City voters experienced difficulties in receiving ballots with City races listed on them. Since City elections are administered by the Hays County Elections Office, that office took steps to identify the problem and learned that some poll workers were not aware of the appropriate method for accessing City ballots in a few precincts with numerous ballot styles. The issues were identified during the early voting period and addressed before the voting was completed on Election Day. A review by the Elections office determined that the number of ballots affected by the issue was not large enough to impact the outcome of any race on the City's ballots.

2. FINDINGS/CURRENT ACTIVITY

The City Council has requested that the Hays County Elections Administrator, Joyce Cowan, address the City Council on how the voting issues were identified and remedied, and what steps can be taken to ensure that similar difficulties can be avoided in the future.

3. FINANCIAL IMPACT

4. ACTION OPTIONS/RECOMMENDATION

No action is required.