

from the desk of...



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VoteHillsborough.org

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Getting Ready for the Runoff but first, a recount!

The **March 5 City of Tampa Municipal Election** resulted in four new elected officials (in City Council Districts 2, 4, 6 and 7) and a runoff election for Mayor and City Council Districts 1, 3 and 5 (where none of the candidates received a majority of the vote).

[Flip the page for City of Tampa Municipal Runoff Election information.](#)

The races for City Council Districts 1 and 3 were so close that they triggered an automatic recount to determine which two candidates would move on to the runoff. Candidates and members of the public observed as our office rescanned all 48,881 ballots cast during the municipal election, to recount the votes in the two affected races.



After the machine recount, the candidates in the District 1 race were close enough to trigger a manual recount. All recounts were completed in one day, and confirmed our initial results.

WHY DID WE HAVE A RECOUNT?

You can't ask for a recount because you're unhappy with the results, and a recount isn't a suggestion that something went wrong. Florida Statute requires recounts whenever the results of a race are very close, and they are an important way for us to confirm our election results and ensure confidence in the process. A **machine recount** is automatically triggered when a candidate would be defeated or eliminated by one-half of one percent or less of the votes cast; a **manual recount** is automatically triggered if, after a machine recount, candidates are within one-quarter of one percent or less.



Machine Recount

margin is less than 1/2 of 1%

During the **machine recount**, we electronically scan all the ballots again to recount the votes cast in the affected race. If we are recounting more than one race, the machines can count all the affected races at the same time. Ballots with overvotes and undervotes in the affected race(s) are set aside in case a manual recount is triggered.

Overvote - voter designated more choices than allowed in the recounted race(s).

Undervote - voter made no choice or less than the number of allowable choices in the recounted race(s).

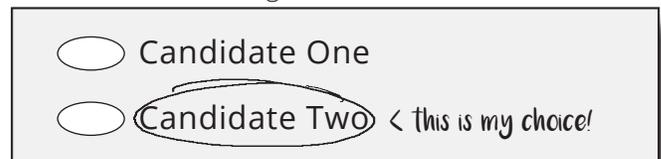


Manual Recount

margin is less than 1/4 of 1%

During a **manual recount**, all the ballots that were set aside with overvotes and undervotes are looked at to determine if there are additional votes that can be counted.

For example, a machine would not have recognized this as a vote for **Candidate Two**, but during a manual recount, **Candidate Two** would get this vote:



the flip side



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CITY OF TAMPA MUNICIPAL RUNOFF ELECTION

The City of Tampa Municipal Runoff Election will include the following races:

- ★ Mayor
- ★ City Council District 1 (*citywide district*)
- ★ City Council District 3 (*citywide district*)
- ★ City Council District 5

Registration Deadline *if not already registered*
Monday, March 25

Vote By Mail

Due in our office by April 23, 7 p.m.

Early Voting *vote at any of the sites listed below*
Sunday, April 14 to Saturday, April 20
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Cyrus Greene Center
2101 E. Dr. MLK, Jr. Blvd.

Fred B. Karl County Center
601 E. Kennedy Blvd. (lobby)

Jan Kaminis Platt Regional Library
3910 S. Manhattan Ave.

New Tampa Regional Library
10001 Cross Creek Blvd.

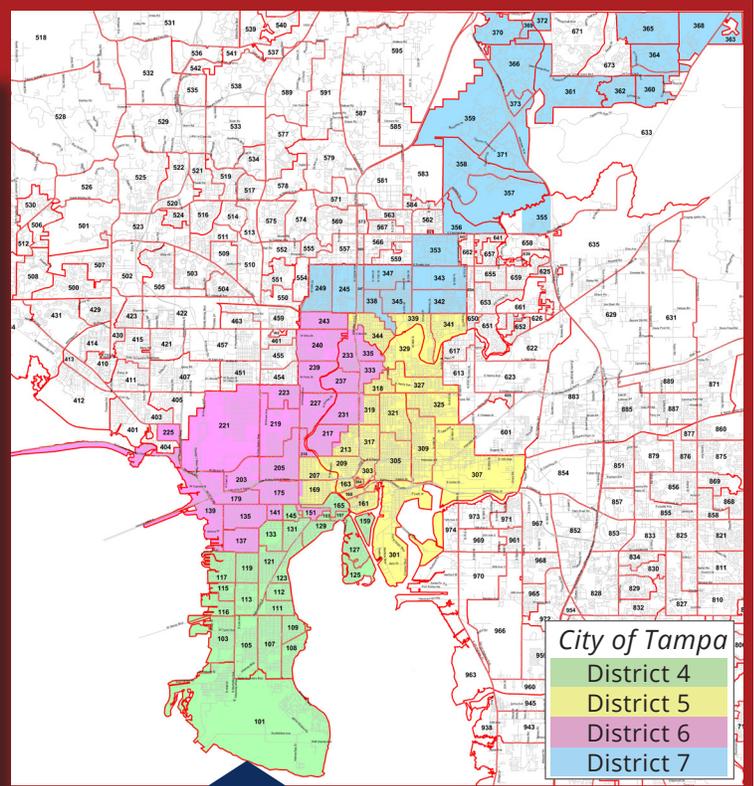
North Tampa Branch Library
8916 North Blvd.

Robert L. Gilder Elections Service Center
2514 N. Falkenburg Rd.

West Tampa Branch Library
2312 W. Union St.

Election Day* *vote at your assigned precinct*
Tuesday, April 23, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

**Mail ballots can be dropped off at Early Voting sites during Early Voting but they cannot be dropped off at polling places on Election Day.*



DO YOU LIVE IN THE CITY OF TAMPA?



Only voters who reside in the city limits of Tampa are eligible to vote in the City of Tampa Municipal Runoff Election.

Not sure if you live in the City of Tampa? Take a look at the map, check your voter information card, or call our office to find out if you're an eligible voter for the upcoming election.

the last word

City of Tampa Municipal Runoff Election sample ballots are online and will be sent in the mail. Use your sample ballot to make voting decisions before arriving to vote, and bring it with you for reference. Sample ballots are available at VoteHillsborough.org/MySampleBallot

