
Feasibility Study of City of Milton

Conducting Its Own Municipal Elections

December 5th, 2022

Milton Election Feasibility Committee:
City Council: Rick Mohrig and Paul Moore
Citizens: Mark Amick and Lisa Cauley
City Staff: Stacey Inglis and Tammy Lowitt

Election Feasibility Findings Summary

The City of Milton should start conducting our own elections starting in 2023.

Significant Savings for Milton Taxpayers by Conducting our Elections in 2023 and in the Future.



**FULTON
COUNTY**



REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS 2023 BUDGET REVIEW

ELECTION COST INCREASES

The resolution establishing policy between municipalities and Fulton County for funding election was drafted in 2019. The policy states it was to be revisited in the year 2020 because of the State of Georgia's implementation of new voting system and anticipated rising cost of elections. The resolution is currently being reviewed to propose a cost increase per voter. An example of a cost increase is as follows:

2019 DRE UNIT

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>COST PER UNIT</u>
ROLL OF TAPE	1	\$1.65	\$1.65
SEALS	2	\$0.22	\$0.44
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AVERAGE COST PER DRE UNIT:	\$ 2.09		
AVERAGE # OF DRE UNITS UTILIZED	1800		
COST IN 2019:	\$ 3,762		

2023 BMD UNIT

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>QUANTITY</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>COST PER UNIT</u>
BMD BALLOT PAPER - FULL DRAWER	450	\$0.13 PER SHEET	\$58.50
SEALS	5	\$0.22	\$1.10
PRINTER INK (AVERAGE REPLACEMENT)	1	\$12.50	\$12.50
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AVERAGE COST PER BMD UNIT:	\$ 72.10		
AVERAGE # OF BMD UNITS	1800		
COST IN 2023:	\$ 129,780		

BUDGET REDUCTIONS TO BE REVIEWED

- **REDUCTION IN ELECTION DAY POLLING LOCATIONS**

AFFECT:

- REDUCE POLLING STAFF COST
- REDUCE POLLING LOCATION FEES
- REDUCE EQUIPMENT DEPLOYMENT

- **PRECINCT MERGES**

AFFECT:

- REDUCE PROVISIONAL BALLOT PRINTING ORDER
- REDUCE ABSENTEE BALLOT PRINTING ORDER

2023 ELECTIONS

The Department of Registration & Elections 2023 November Election Budget was drafted in preparation for a county wide election. Currently no county wide election is scheduled for 2023. A county wide election could be caused by resignations, deaths, etc.

County wide expenditures are drafted in the budget to ensure funds are approved for usage if necessary.

The Department of Registration & Elections is scheduled to relocate operations to the new Election Central location in 2023. The relocation will be a massive and time-consuming effort along with preparation for the 2024 election. We are proposing to the BRE to strongly encourage municipalities to conduct their own election in 2023.

MUNICIPALITY VOTING METHOD CHOICES

Municipalities have the freedom to choose which method of voting works best for them, which includes the option to conduct their own Election.

With BRE approval, the Department of Registration & Election encourage municipalities conduct their own election, with the exception of the City of Atlanta due to population size, if the election is not to be held in conjunction with a county wide election.

municipal voting methods permitted are as follows:

County Conducted Election

the county conducts the election according to the Intergovernmental Agreement

Contracting Use of Voting Equipment

Contracting use of county owned state mandated voting machines without county involvement

Paper ballots – Optical Scan Count

Counting with use of the Optical Scanners with no county involvement

Paper ballots - Hand Count

Counting the ballots by hand with no county involvement

Shoup Machines

no county involvement