



RANKED VOTING METHOD

SAMPLE PLANNING CHECKLIST

COLORADO SECRETARY OF STATE
1700 BROADWAY, SUITE 270
DENVER, COLORADO 80290
PHONE: 303-894-2200

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INTRODUCTION

On May 27, 2008, House Bill 08-1738 was signed into law. The Act established that a local government may conduct an election using a ranked voting method.

"Ranked voting method" is defined as a voting method, including instant runoff voting, choice voting, or proportional voting, that allows a voter to rank candidates for an office in order of preference and uses these preferences to determine the winner of the election.

A local government may conduct an election using a ranked voting method so long as the use of such a method is not prohibited by the charter of the local government. Additionally, the system of casting, recording, and tabulating votes implemented to accommodate the ranked voting method must be approved by the governing body and designated election official of the local government.

The Secretary of State has prepared this sample planning checklist to outline the ranked voting method election process. This document provides a general overview of the ranked voting method election requirements. Spaces and check boxes are provided below for each required aspect of a ranked voting election. For more detailed information, please reference the Voter Choice Act [part 10 of article 7 of Title 1, C.R.S.].

TYPE OF RANKED VOTING METHOD

- Instant runoff voting:** only one candidate is to be elected to an office.
- Ranked voting election:** more than one candidate is to be elected to an office in a multiple-seat district or on a governing body that includes multiple at-large seats.

RANKED VOTING BALLOT REQUIREMENTS

CANDIDATE CHOICES:

- The ranked voting ballot allows an elector to rank as many choices as there are candidates.
- OR-
- The voting system cannot accommodate the number of rankings equal to the number of candidates. The number of choices has been limited to the maximum number allowed by the voting system, however, not fewer than three.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES:

- The ranked voting ballot allows an elector to rank as many choices as there are candidates.

TABULATION METHOD

- Sequential method.** For example, basic sequential method:
1. Voter's first choices are counted.
 2. If no candidate receives a clear majority, the candidate who received the fewest first place choices is eliminated and electors who voted him/her as their first choice will have their votes reassigned to their second choice. All ballots are recounted.
 3. Repeat step (2) until one candidate receives a majority.
- Batch method.** For example, top two batch method:
1. Voters' first choices are counted.
 2. If no candidate receives a clear majority, eliminate all candidates below the top two candidates.
 3. Votes are recounted among the top two candidates to determine which candidate receives a majority.
- Other.** Description:

RANKED VOTING EXPLANATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

- A voter education and outreach campaign to familiarize electors with ranked voting will be provided in English and in every language in which a ballot is required to be made available in accordance with Title 1, C.R.S., and the federal "Voting Rights Act of 1965", 42 U.S.C. sec. 1973aa-1. Description:
- Copies of the ranked voting explanation and instructions were submitted to the Secretary of State for and have been approved for use.
- The ranked voting explanation and instructions will be posted at each polling place and included with each mail-in ballot.

AUDIT PROCESS

- A post election hand count will be implemented.
- If a computer program will be used to accommodate ranked voting, this system will be written in an open source code that could be viewed by the public.
- Logic and accuracy tests of the count will be made public.

- A random sample of voting machines and a manual comparison of the paper ballots read by that machine with the machine record will be conducted to assure that machines are properly recording the voters' marks. Additionally, audited ranked-ballot files will be made publicly available.
- Additional information/explanation:

REPORTING PROCESS

The following reports will be issued:

- A summary report listing the total number of votes for each candidate in each round;
- A ballot image report listing for each ballot the order in which the elector ranked the candidates, the precinct of the ballot, and whether the ballot is a mail-in ballot; and
- A comprehensive report listing the results in the summary report by precinct.
- Preliminary versions of the summary report and ballot image report will be made available to the public as soon as possible after the commencement of the official canvass of the vote.

EXAMPLES & RESOURCES

EXAMPLE RANKED VOTING BALLOT

SAMPLE PRINT
CITY OF ASPEN REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION
MAY 5, 2009

Katherine K. Kell
 City Clerk

INSTRUCTIONS: Mark your 1st choice in the 1st column completely fill in the oval like this . To indicate a 2nd choice, select a different candidate in the 2nd column. To indicate a 3rd choice, select a different candidate in the 3rd column, etc.

a. Rank candidates in order of preference.

b. You may rank as few candidates as you wish or as many as are allowed.

c. Do not skip rankings and only one choice per column and one choice per row.

d. With a black ball point pen or marking device, completely fill in the oval like this .

e. You may write in a candidate by filling in the oval and writing the name or the Write In line.

MAYOR
 (Two year term)
 Only one choice per column and one choice per row

	1st choice	2nd choice	3rd choice	4th choice
Marilyn Marks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
LJ Erspamer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Andrew Kole	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mick Ireland	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write In _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

CITY COUNCIL
 (Four year term)

Two City Council Members will be elected for 4-year terms. Rank your choices in columns 1 through 8. Your first and second choices will be counted in the first round of tallies. Only one choice per column and one choice per row.

	1st choice	2nd choice	3rd choice	4th choice	5th choice	6th choice	7th choice	8th choice	9th choice
Jackie Kasabach	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jack Johnson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adam Ensch	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Torre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Michael Behrendt	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jason Lacey	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Michael Wampler	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Derek Johnson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Brian D. Speck	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write In _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write In _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

QUESTION NO. 1 CITY OF ASPEN REFERENDUM SALE OF FORMER YOUTH CENTER PROPERTY AND BUILDING
 Shall the City Council be authorized to sell the property and building known as the former Youth Center and certain adjacent properties located next to the Galena Street Plaza (as more fully described in Resolution No. 14, Series of 2009) to the Aspen Art Museum for the construction of a new art museum building, on such terms and conditions, including sale price, requisite land use approvals, and civic benefits, as determined by the City Council to be in the best interests of the City of Aspen? Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the City shall not be obligated to sell the former Youth Center to the Aspen Art Museum.

YES NO

Additional sample ballots are available online at: <http://www.fairvote.org/?page=1447>

ASPEN, COLORADO – MAY 2009 ELECTION USING A RANKED VOTING METHOD

Information relating to Aspen City’s May 2009 election, including voter outreach materials, is available online at:

<http://www.aspenpitkin.com>