



MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 18, 2019
TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
FROM: Dave Perrault, City Administrator
SUBJECT: Elections Discussion

Budgeted Amount:	Actual Amount:	Funding Source:
N/A	N/A	N/A

For Council Consideration

The City Council may consider giving direction or feedback on future polling places within the City.

Background

Following discussions with the City Council, City Staff has been reviewing the current polling places for Arden Hills. The current polling locations are Presbyterian Church of the Way (Precinct One), North Heights Lutheran (Precinct Two), and the Ramsey County Public Works Facility (Precinct Three). During the recent election held on November 5, 2019, City Staff received concerns regarding Precinct Two and Precinct Three including, but not limited to, poor access, insufficient signage, and issues with the facilities themselves.

City Staff has requested Ramsey County Elections Staff review alternate locations for polling places within the City. Ramsey County has preliminary identified the following polling places: St Katherine Orthodox Church (Highway 96), Boston Scientific (Hamline), Land O’Lakes (Lexington), Bethel College (Bethel Drive), Anderson Center (Pine Tree Drive), Gradient Center (Lexington), and the Pilgrim House (Highway 96). Ramsey County has not discussed elections with these facilities; however, if Council does have an interest in one of those sites the County would then approach the site hosts.

Generally, the Council would need to make a decision by early December to set polling places for the subsequent year; however, elections staff have said there is sufficient flexibility to make a decision after the deadline. Staff would request Council discuss the current sites, and if they would like to combine precincts are continue to consider alternative locations. Two different solutions have been mentioned, the first is combining Precinct 2 and 3 at North Heights, the

second solution mentioned is moving Precinct 3 to North Heights and Precinct 2 to the Anderson Center (again, this would need approval from the site hosts).

It was requested as part of this discussion to also consider where election signs are allowed to be placed on boulevards, etc.

Budget Impact

N/A

Attachment

Attachment A: Polling Places Map