

**ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY UNIFIED GOVERNMENT
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT: Amendments to Athens-Clarke County Code
Section 1-2-1 Changing Four Polling Places

Recommendation
 Policy Discussion

DATE: February 5, 2010

Status Report
 Other

BUDGET INFORMATION:

REVENUES: N/A

EXPENSES: N/A

ANNUAL:

CAPITAL:

OTHER:

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: April 6, 2010

PURPOSE:

To request that the Mayor and Commission adopt an ordinance amending the Athens-Clarke County Code Section 1-2-1 to change the location of four (4) polling places as noted in Facts & Issues #3.

HISTORY:

1. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 requires the United States Department of Justice to approve all changes to the elections process in Georgia.
 2. The last polling place changes were approved in November 2007.
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FACTS & ISSUES:

1. The Athens-Clarke County Board of Elections regularly evaluates existing polling places and makes changes when a facility is no longer appropriate (i.e., building in poor condition, precinct line changes, parking problems, availability).
2. After the Board of Elections approves the polling place changes, it is necessary for the Mayor and Commission to amend the Athens-Clarke County Code Section 1-2-1 to reflect such changes.
3. The Athens-Clarke County Board of Elections approved the following polling place changes to be effective beginning with the 2010 election cycle, subject to preclearance by the U.S. Department of Justice.
 - A. Winterville Train Depot, 101 Marigold Lane, Winterville (Previously Winterville School on Cherokee Road)

Reason for change: The Winterville Train Depot served as a “temporary” polling place while Winterville School underwent renovations during the last election cycle. Voters have become accustomed to voting at the Train Depot and it is located within the city limits of Winterville which makes it an excellent polling place for the city of Winterville elections.

- B. East Athens Baptist Church, 4325 Lexington Road (Previously Tuckston United Methodist Church, 4175 Lexington Road)

Reason for change: Tuckston United Methodist Church no longer wishes to serve as a polling location.

- C. 2A Judia J. Harris Elementary School, 2300 Danielsville Road (Previously Fowler Drive School on Fowler Drive)

Reason for change: Fowler Drive School is under construction and will not be available for the July 20, 2010 General Primary Election.

- D. 3A Clarke Central High School, 350 S. Milledge Avenue (Previously H.T. Edwards Building on Dearing Extension)

Reason for change: Clarke Central High School served as a “temporary” polling site while H.T. Edwards underwent renovations. Voters have become accustomed to voting at Clarke Central High School and the facility is better located.

4. The U.S. Department of Justice has sixty days to review submissions received for precinct changes.
5. The next scheduled election in Athens-Clarke County is the General Primary on July 20, 2010.
6. **Attachment #1** illustrates the proposed amendments to the Code of Athens-Clarke County, Section 1-2-1, using strikethrough text to indicate deletions and shaded text to indicate additions.

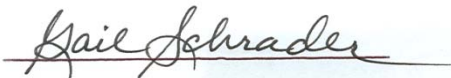
OPTIONS:

1. Mayor and Commission adopt an ordinance amending the Athens-Clarke County Code Section 1-2-1 to change the location of four (4) polling places as noted in Facts & Issues # 3.
2. Mayor and Commission do not adopt an ordinance amending the Athens-Clarke County Code Section 1-2-1.
3. Mayor and Commission defined option.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED ACTION: Option #1

DEPARTMENT:

Prepared by: Gail Schrader, Supervisor of Elections and Registration



February 5, 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION: Option #1

[Handwritten initials]

W. Alan Reddick

Manager

Date: March 11, 2010

AMENDMENTS TO ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY CODE SECTION 1-2-1

Sec. 1-2-1. Voting precincts and polling places.

Each district of Athens-Clarke County shall constitute a voting precinct for any election, whether general, special, primary or other, and the polling place for each precinct shall be as follows:

- (1) District 1:
 - A - ~~Winterville School on Cherokee Road~~ Winterville Train Depot, 101 Marigold Lane, Winterville
 - B - ~~Tuckston United Methodist Church, 4175 Lexington Road~~ East Athens Baptist Church, 4325 Lexington Road
 - C - Barnett Shoals School on Barnett Shoals Road
 - D - Whit Davis School, 1450 Whit Davis Road

- (2) District 2:
 - A - ~~Fowler Drive School on Fowler Drive~~ Judia J. Harris Elementary School, 2300 Danielsville Road
 - B - Howard B. Stroud Elementary School, 715 Fourth Street

- (3) District 3:
 - A - ~~H.T. Edwards Building on Dearing Extension~~ Clarke Central High School, 350 S. Milledge Avenue
 - B - Thomas N. Lay Park, 297 Hoyt Street

- (4) District 4:
 - A - Athens Transit Multi-Modal Center, 775 East Broad Street
 - B - Memorial Park on Gran Ellen Drive

- (5) District 5:
 - A - Oglethorpe School on Oglethorpe Avenue
 - B - Whitehead Road School, 500 Whitehead Road
 - C - Chase Street School on North Chase Street
 - D - ACC Fleet Management Building, 225 Newton Bridge Road

- (6) District 6:
 - A - Cleveland Road School on Cleveland Road
 - B - Board of Education, 240 Mitchell Bridge Road
 - C - Timothy Road School, 1900 Timothy Road
 - D - Fire Station Number 4, Oglethorpe Avenue

- (7) District 7:
 - A - Timothy Baptist Church, 380 Timothy Road
 - B - Alps Road Elementary School, 200 Alps Road
 - C - Fire Station Number 3, 1198 South Milledge Avenue

- (8) District 8:
 - A - Gaines Elementary School, 900 Gaines School Road
 - B - Cedar Shoals High School, 1300 Cedar Shoals Drive
 - C - Fire Station Number 7, 2350 Barnett Shoals Road.

(Ord. of 1-5-93, § 1; Ord. of 1-26-93, § 1; Ord. of 10-29-93, §§ 1, 2; Ord. of 8-25-94, § 1; Ord. of 7-5-2000, § 1)