



Haverhill

City Clerk's Office, Room 118
Phone: 978-374-2312 Fax: 978-373-8490
cityclerk@cityofhaverhill.com

Change or Polling Locations: Adverse Impact Report

In accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 115 of the Acts of 2020, the City Clerk of Haverhill is requesting moving a 3rd polling location located Northpoint College (Ward 2 Prec 1) to the Hunking School. There are 2 polling location there which will be situated in the cafetorium. This 3rd location will be situated in the school library.

According to Section 11 of this Act, notwithstanding Section 24 of Chapter 54 of the M.G.L. or any other general or special law to the contrary, the City Council may, by a recorded and public vote, change any polling place to be used at the primary or general election at least 20 days prior to the date of the primary or general election if it is determined that the public convenience or public health would be better served.

In making a decision to change a polling place, the City Council shall evaluate and report on whether such change would have a disparate adverse impact on access to the polls on the basis of race, national origin, disability, income or age, and not later than 3 days prior to changing a polling location, shall make publicly available on its website and at the office of the City Clerk a report on its evaluation.

Furthermore, when the new polling places have been designated pursuant to the new legislation, the board of registrars shall post on the municipal website and at other such places as it may determine, a description of the polling places and shall notify voters by using an electronic means, to the extent possible, such as via email or reverse 911 call. The following polling location changes, for the primary and general elections of 2020, to be voted on by a roll call vote are as follows:

The City Clerk believes that the public health and public convenience would be better served during the ongoing COVID 19 Pandemic by consolidating this polling location with 2 other precincts at the Hunking School based on the following:

There is no adverse impact on the basis of disability or age.

- The Hunking Middle School is a modern building that can safely house all the necessary equipment needed to properly conduct in-person voting while also accommodating any person with disabilities or any other special considerations. This school is a short distance from the Hunking School (.7 mi)

There is no adverse impact on the basis of race or national origin.

- The Hunking Middle School is also an existing poll location. It is a public school building serving the children of Haverhill who come from diverse backgrounds. Again, no voter should feel unwelcome or uncomfortable entering and voting at the School.



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There is no adverse impact on the basis of income.

- The Hunking Middle School is .7 mile from the Northpoint Bible College poll location. Both these locations are on the MVRTA Route 14 bus route with buses every hour from 8am to 6pm.
- If transportation issues are irresolvable for certain voters, there will be early voting at City Hall prior to the elections and mail in early voting with all postage costs prepaid.

Based on the information above and the information I hope that the City Council will find that these proposed changes in polling places are in accordance with Section 11 of Chapter 115 of the Acts of 2020 and will have no adverse impact on the voters in these locations.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L Koutoulas
Haverhill City Clerk