

CCNA

COALITION OF CITY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

677 N Washington Blvd Ste 52 · Sarasota, FL 34236

October 4, 2021

SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY TO CITY EMAIL ADDRESSES

City Commissioners
City of Sarasota

CC: City Manager, Deputy City Manager, City Attorney, CCNA President's, Delegates & Alternates

RE: Ranked Choice Voting Opportunity

Dear Commissioners:

We have just learned of the agenda item on this weeks City Commission agenda to reconsider the opportunity to pursue a way to implement Ranked Choice Voting which is an element of the City Charter. We offer the following points for your consideration and discussion:

1. We urge you to continue to investigate this opportunity for the city by formalizing the offer from the outside organization to cover ALL costs including staff time.
2. Have our city attorney review said agreement and report back in a timely manner on any possible downside to the city from pursuing.
3. Understand that Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) is in our Charter, was approved by the voters and has only been awaiting implementation.
4. It is not the role of the Commission to pass judgement on the stated will of the voters or the contents of the Charter. That question has been answered and is within the City Charter.
5. We cannot pick and choose which Charter elements to apply. The job of our elected officials and staff are to adhere to the full content of the Charter.
6. If the City Commission, collectively or as individuals, want to defer RCV they should make their statement(s) to the active Charter Review Committee for possible inclusion in their recommendations.
7. Since this opportunity has presented itself to the city and because it is a valid element of our city charter the Commission is obligated to the voters to investigate this opportunity as part of their fiduciary duty to uphold the terms of the Charter.

We strongly encourage you to continue the effort to investigate and pursue this opportunity.

Sincerely,
/Signed,

CCNA Executive Committee