



July 30, 2021

Holyoke City Council
536 Dwight St.
Holyoke, MA 01040

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

As you may know, Governor Baker recently signed Chapter 29 of the Actos of 2021, which is a supplemental budget but contains provisions to extend early voting by mail for elections held between now and December 15, 2021, including preliminary elections. I have added the 2021 Vote by Mail application to the city's website.

The law also provides for a local option for in-person early voting for municipal elections as well as Preliminary Elections. To have the in-person early voting, the local election official must request and recommend it. I would like to formally request and recommend that the City of Holyoke hold in-person early voting for five days prior to the preliminary. The dates and times would be as follows:

Monday, September 13, 2021	8:30am-4:30pm	City Clerk's Office
Tuesday, September 14, 2021	8:30am-4:30pm	City Clerk's Office
Wednesday, September 15, 2021	8:30am-4:30pm	City Clerk's Office
Thursday, September 16, 2021	8:30am-4:30pm	City Clerk's Office
Friday, September 17, 2021	8:30am-4:30pm	City Clerk's Office

I will request an additional vote for the Municipal Election in November.

Lastly, subsection (n) provides a mechanism to "opt out" of early voting by mail for municipal elections. To opt out, the City Council must have a public hearing and then take a public and recorded vote to not provide early voting by mail. I would request that we do not opt out of early voting by mail.

Thank you all for your attention to these new election laws. If you have any specific questions or concern, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Respectfully,

Brenna Murphy McGee

Brenna Murphy McGee
City Clerk/Registrar of Voters