
2016 Overview: Election Commission

**Finance & Personnel Committee
October 8, 2015**

Objectives

Conduct fair, accurate, and transparent elections:

Measure	2014 Actual	2015 Planned	2016 Planned
Enter 100% of voter registrations in a prompt and timely manner.	100%	100%	100%
Minimize the number of disenfranchised and provisional ballot voters by providing a public education campaign on voter registration and photo ID requirements.	N/A	N/A	<200
Mail all absentee ballot requests within 72 hours of receipt.	85%	100%	100%
Maintain an average wait time at voting sites of less than 15 minutes.	20 minutes	15 minutes	15 minutes
Elections programming occurs with 100% accuracy.	100%	100%	100%
Election results are published within 60 minutes of the closing of polls and reviewed with 100% accuracy prior to the state's official canvass.	100%	100%	100%

2016 Budget Summary

	2015 ADOPTED BUDGET	2016 PROPOSED BUDGET	DIFFERENCE (amount)
FTEs – O&M	17.86	76.87	59.01
FTEs - Other	0	0	0
Total Position Authorized	823	2473	1650
Salaries & Wages	\$887,672	\$1,984,829	\$1,097,157
Fringe Benefits	\$174,006	\$214,665	\$40,659
Operating Expenditures	\$332,000	\$679,225	\$347,225
Equipment	0	0	0
Special Funds	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$1,393,678	\$2,878,719	\$1,485,041

2016 Election Cycle

- Four elections are scheduled in 2016:
 - Spring Primary
 - Tuesday, February 16th
 - Projected Turnout = 45,000 (14%)
 - Spring Election and Presidential Preference Vote
 - Tuesday, April 5th
 - Projected Turnout = 90,000 (28%)
 - Fall Partisan Primary
 - Tuesday, August 9th
 - Projected Turnout = 75,000 (23%)
 - Fall General/Presidential Election
 - Tuesday, November 8th
 - Projected Turnout = 280,000 (88%)

2016 Budget Highlights:

- New Program Assistant Position
 - To enable compliance with new Voting Rights Act provisions regarding bilingual election workers
 - To lead in poll worker recruitment and training
- Accommodation for :
 - Introduction of a photo ID requirement
 - Reductions to in-person absentee (“early”) voting
 - Additional proof of residence requirements during open registration

2016 Budget Highlights:

- Finalize the Initiative with Milwaukee County
 - ❑ Uniform voting equipment proposal for all municipalities in Milwaukee County
 - ❑ City of Milwaukee programs voting equipment potentially for all municipalities and County
 - ❑ Fee-for-service reimbursement to Milwaukee would reduce county-wide costs while upgrading and standardizing equipment
 - ❑ Provide this service at a significantly lower cost benefitting taxpayers and voters throughout Milwaukee County
- Reduce Data Management costs
 - ❑ Vendor contract reduced costs
 - ❑ Election Commission staff perform more functions for Statewide Voter Registration System

Future Challenges

- DOJ / GAB Accessibility Audits at Polling Places
- Challenges to election laws could impact voter participation
- Changing election laws and rules creates difficulties in poll worker recruitment and retention
- Training election workers to understand polling place procedures and changes in election laws, and efficiently integrating these changes into Election Day activities
- Promote awareness and understanding of new Voter ID and voter registration requirements
- Implementing use of new voting equipment