

TO:

The Honorable Charlie Justice, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

The Honorable Members of the Board of County Commissioners

FROM:

Deborah Clark, Supervisor of Elections

DATE:

February 22, 2016

RE:

Special Appropriation Request – 2016 Congressional and State Senate Redistricting

On August 21, 2015, we notified the Board that the Florida State Legislature was holding special sessions to redraw Congressional and State Senate Districts. The process has been completed, and the final maps have been approved by the Florida Supreme Court.

The new Congressional and State Senate district lines impact voters in north and south Pinellas County, and the renumbering of State Senate Districts impact all Pinellas County voters.

Unlike redistricting in 2012, which was planned for and included in the budget after the last census, the costs associated with this redistricting were not anticipated and were not budgeted. Therefore, it is necessary to request a special appropriation in the amount of \$407,000. These funds will be used for address list maintenance activities, printing and mailing voter cards to every registered voter and printing new congressional, senate and precinct maps - all mandated by Florida law.

Whenever district and precinct lines change, polling places sometimes must be relocated so they are within the new boundaries. It is too early to know, but if that becomes necessary, we will need an additional appropriation to cover the costs to print and mail polling place change notices to voters and to publish the required legal notice.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Cc:

Mark Woodard, County Administrator
Jim Bennett, County Attorney
Jewel White, Chief Assistant County Attorney
Bill Berger, Director, Office of Management and Budget

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315 Court Street • Room 117 Clearwater, FL 33756-5190 727-464-6788 • FAX: 727-464-4158 Election Service Center
13001 Starkey Road
Largo, FL 33773-1416
727-464-6788 • FAX: 727-464-7636

St. Petersburg Office
501 First Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33701-3726
727-464-6788 • FAX: 727-582-7798