



City of New Bedford

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

July 19, 2022

New Bedford City Council
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Councillors:

The Board of Election Commissioners is requesting a late addition to be placed on the July 21st City Council agenda to approve the change of a polling location, Kennedy Youth Center (Ward 5A and 5B) to The Kennedy Donovan Center New Bedford South, 385 County St. All voters impacted by these moves must be notified at least 20 days prior to the State Primary Election (September 6, 2022), thus necessitating this request. There will be roughly 3,500 registered voters impacted.

The emergency move is necessary due to the ongoing and delayed renovations of the building in anticipation of The Holy Family Holy Name/ St. James St. John Schools' merger. Use of the location was confirmed in conversation with the Diocese of Fall River in June but have been recently notified that in fact the area will be inaccessible for at least the September Primary and most likely the November Election as well. The Kennedy Donovan center is located adjacent to the prior location and will have the least impact logistically on the voters. The new location will not have a disparate adverse impact on access to the polls on the basis of race, national origin, disability, income or age.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Manuel DeBrito Jr.
Chairperson
Board of Election Commissioners

cc: Dennis Farias, City Clerk
Ian Abreu, Councillor-At-Large
Elizabeth McNamara, First Assistant City Solicitor