

City of New Bedford

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Honorable Jonathan F. Mitchell Mayor of the City of New Bedford City Hall 133 William Street New Bedford, MA 02740 March 16, 2023

RE:

Recommendation to adopt Early In-person voting hours for 2023 Municipal Elections

Dear Mayor Mitchell:

Pursuant to Chapter 29 of the Acts of 2021 and Chapter 255 of the Acts of 2020, as the Chairperson of the Board of Election Commissioners, I hereby request and recommend that the City of New Bedford make In-person Early Voting available to New Bedford registered voters for Municipal Elections.

The commission recommends that the City of New Bedford make early in-person voting periods available to New Bedford voters on Saturday, September 30, 2023, and Saturday, November 4, 2023, from 9:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M at the New Bedford Free Public Library located at 613 Pleasant Street in Downtown New Bedford. I also recommend early voting at satellite locations Taber Mills on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, and Wednesday November 1, 2023, 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. and Hazelwood Senior Center Thursday, September 28, 2023, and Thursday, November 2, 2023, 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

According to state law, the City Council must formally vote to accept and adopt the recommendation before in-person early voting may be offered to New Bedford voters. The City Council vote must include reference to the dates, times and locations where early in-person voting is to be made available. With decreasing turnouts for Local Elections, I believe offering in-person early voting at various locations in the city will provide additional opportunities for voters to cast their ballots. Please 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

Linda Morad, Councillor-at-Large