

Opened with prayer: Ro-Ellen Sinkewich, Volunteers of America Ohio and Indiana

Roll Call of Judicatories: (Attendance: 26) Ro-Ellen Sinkewich, MARCC President

American Baptist Church USA, Miami Association: Mark Basil

Archdiocese of Cincinnati: Connie Widmer, Bob Ehram, Andrew Musgrave, Bernard Young, Jr., Mackenzie Doyle

Cincinnati Islamic Community Center: Tyrone Jackson

Diocese of Southern Ohio: Elizabeth Brown, Melanie Slane, Prince Brown, Jr.

Disciples of Christ, Southwest Ohio: David Tietsort, Cheryl Coggins

Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation: Margaret Meyer

Great Miami River District, United Methodist Church: Lisa Kerwin

Presbytery of Cincinnati: absent

Religious Society of Friends: Douglas Burks

Unitarian Universalist Council of Greater Cincinnati: Rae Jane Aranjó, Bob Lamb, Ellie Lamb, Dan Schneider, Martha Walker

United Church of Christ of Southwest Ohio and Northern Kentucky: Jonathan Bradner, Dave Maile

Volunteers of America of Ohio and Indiana: Ro-Ellen Sinkewich

Guests (name and denomination or organization, if any): Alice Skirtz

MARCC: Daniel Burrige, Holly Toensing

Minutes for September 11, 2024, Delegates Council Meeting were submitted and approved without correction by Delegates.

Agenda for October 9, 2024, Delegates Council Meeting was submitted and approved without correction or addition by Delegates.

MARCC UPDATES: Daniel Burrige, MARCC Executive Director.

Daniel Burrige stated that he has begun to reach out to meet with people on the Board, Delegates Council, and key people within Cincinnati with whom MARCC has had an association. He indicated that changes within MARCC need to happen, but only in ways that are responsible and respecting MARCC's values.

Daniel Burrige highlighted that the Fall Planning Conference will be held the 3rd week in November, though a place still needs to be confirmed. He stated that the social concerns for 2025 will be the same as those chosen for 2024 since this is a transition year. However, an important task for the conference will be to listen to one another, determining where we're at and where do we want to be going.

SPEAKER: Elizabeth Brown, MARCC Vice President and League of Women Voters Cincinnati Vice President, delivered a presentation, "**What's on the Ballot.**"

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is attached.

Elizabeth provided a brief history of the League of Women's Voters: it was formed by the suffragettes who fought long and hard to get women the right to vote, which was confirmed in 1920. After this confirmation, the suffragettes formed the League to help educate and encourage the new voters. The League is a volunteer membership organization that is non-partisan: it never favors one party over another, though it does at times take positions on certain issues. It works hard at keeping their advocacy separate from their voter education and voter service work.

Elizabeth educated participants and answered questions on various aspects of the Voting Process:

- Timeline for the Election, indicating that the voter registration deadline has already passed. She noted that Ohio is one of the few states that allows online voter registration.
- Ways to vote: by mail (must apply and use last 4 digits of social security number, but no need for photo identification); vote early in person (must show unexpired photo identification); vote on election day (must show unexpired photo identification).
- Kinds of photo identification that will be accepted (as long as they are unexpired): Ohio drivers license, Ohio state ID card, US Passport/card, US Military ID, Ohio national guard ID card, or a US Veterans Affairs card. Elizabeth stated that addresses DO NOT have to match.
- Hours when early voting in person will be available
- Resources to consult in one's election research

Using the League of Women Voter's Voting Guide that each person was given, Elizabeth asked for audience participation to highlight the specific election races:

- Federal: president, senator, congressional representative
- Ohio: state senators, state representatives, citizens not politicians amendment, judges
- Hamilton County: county commissioners, prosecuting attorneys and sheriff, coroner and county engineer, clerk of court, treasurer, auditor, tax levies, and judges

Elizabeth provided focused attention to the one state issue on the ballot—the Ohio Constitutional Amendment—Issue 1: Citizens Not Politicians:

- It would create an independent commission to draw voting district lines and removes politicians from the redistricting process
- Intended to prevent gerrymandering by whoever is in power in an election year
- The 15-member Ohio Redistricting Commission would be made up of 5 Republicans, 5 Democrats, and 5 Independents. Elizabeth explained how members would be selected and who is eligible. Elizabeth presented both the pros and the cons of creating the Commission

Elizabeth also gave focused attention to 2 Hamilton County Levies on the ballot, both recommended by the Tax Levy Review Committee (she indicated that this Committee undertakes an independent financial and management review of those groups who are getting levy funding to make sure they are managing and spending funds effectively, which ultimately determines whether or not the Committee recommends to the county commissioners to put levies on the ballot for renewal):

- Hamilton County Family Services and Treatment Levy
 - Will not raise taxes
 - Provides treatment for individuals in the criminal justice system for alcohol and drug use
- Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Levy
 - Will not raise taxes
 - Provides services to about 8,600 children and adults with disabilities a year

Ro-Ellen Sinkewich thanked our speaker. She encouraged participants to be alert to further notices about the Fall Planning Conference to be held the 3rd week in November.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Holly Toensing
MARCC Office Manager

Hamilton County Ohio 2024 Ballot Summary

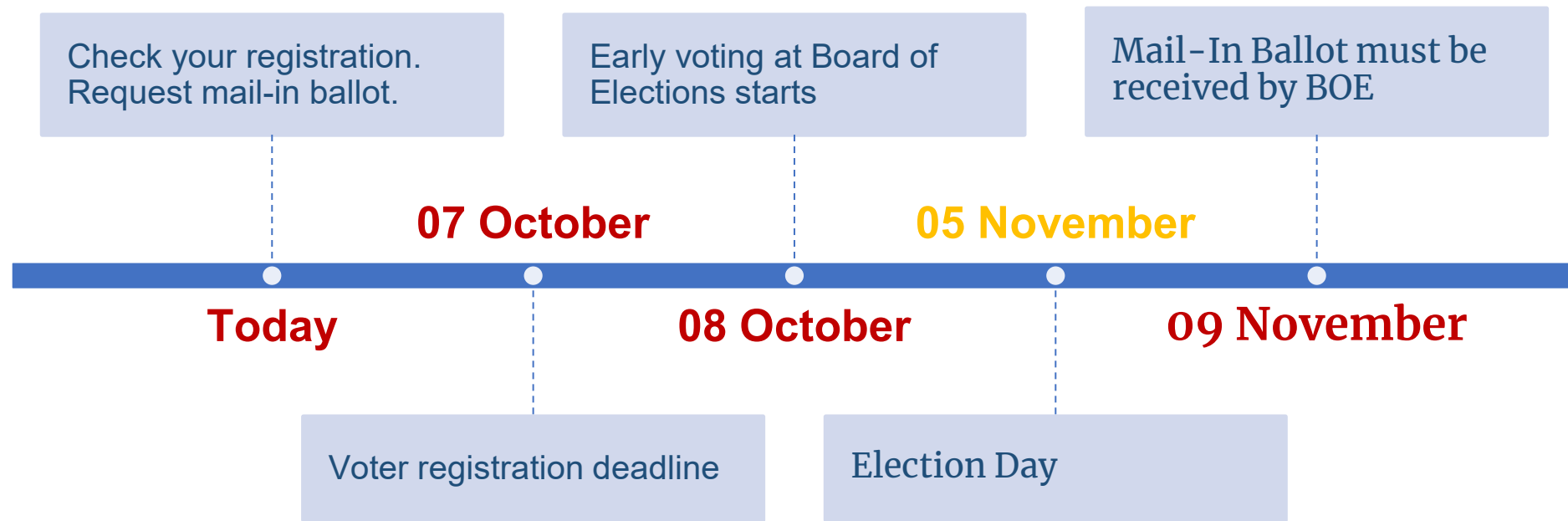


League of Women Voters in Cincinnati

- ❑ The LWVCA is a **nonpartisan** political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government
- ❑ Never favors a candidate/party, may take positions on issues
- ❑ **Our work:** public policy initiatives, education and advocacy for voter rights, providing various voter services, speaker forums on community issues, and more



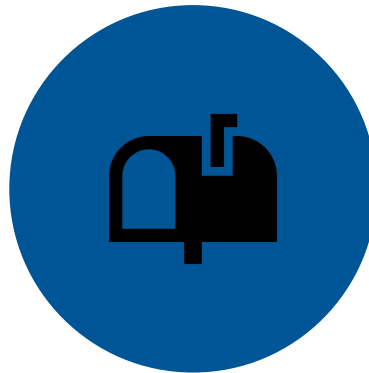
Timeline for Ohio 2024 November Election



3 Ways to Register



Online
VoteOhio.gov
Vote411.org

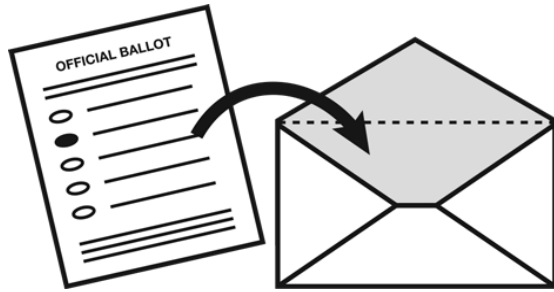


**Fill in and Mail
Paper Application
Form**



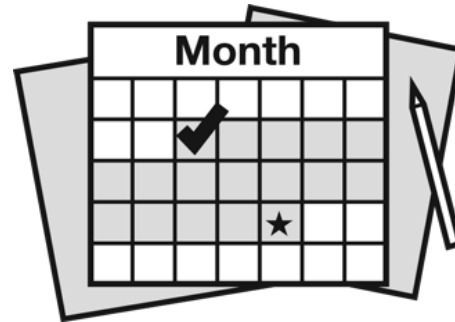
In Person at
Board of Elections
Library
Community Events

3 Ways to Vote in Ohio



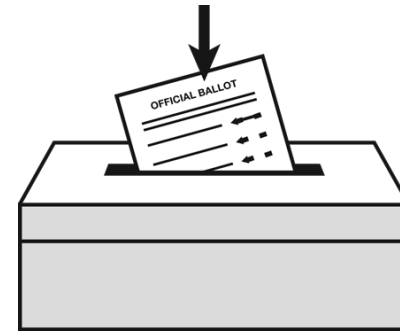
Vote by mail

Apply for an absentee ballot by October 29
No Photo ID needed



Vote early in person

Oct. 8 - Nov. 3
Must show unexpired Photo ID



Vote on Election Day

November 5, 2024
Must show unexpired Photo ID

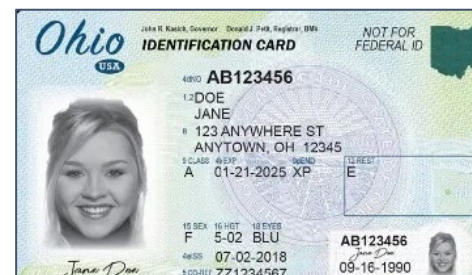
To Vote In-Person you must show a photo ID

Your ID must have your name and photo.

You can only show an unexpired:

- OH driver's license
- OH state ID card
- US passport or card
- US military ID card
- OH national guard ID card
- US Veterans Affairs (VA) card

Your ID address does not need to match your voter registration address. You can vote with an interim or suspended OH driver's license.



Early Voting Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	October 7 Last day to register to vote	October 8 8 am-5 pm	October 9 8 am-5 pm	October 10 8 am-5 pm	October 11 8 am-5 pm	
	October 14 8 am-5 pm	October 15 8 am-5 pm	October 16 8 am-5 pm	October 17 8 am-5 pm	October 18 8 am-5 pm	
	October 21 8 am-6 pm	October 22 8 am-6 pm	October 23 8 am-6 pm	October 24 8 am-6pm	October 25 8 am-6 pm	October 26 8 am-4 pm
October 27 1pm-5pm	October 28 7:30 am-7:30 pm	October 29 7:30 am-8:30 pm	October 30 7:30 am-7:30 pm	October 31 7:30 am-7:30 pm	November 1 7:30 am-7:30 pm	November 2 8 am-4 pm
November 3 1-5 pm		November 5 Election Day 6:30 am - 7:30 pm				

Voter Education Resources

The League of Women Voters offers non-partisan resources including :

- The Annual Printed Voter Guide:** Available October 11 in Branch libraries, in bulk at LWV office, in *CityBeat* and *The Cincinnati Herald*
- Vote411.org:** Online election information, candidate guide, and voter registration
- Cincyvotes.org:** Greater Cincinnati Voter Collaborative rides to the polls

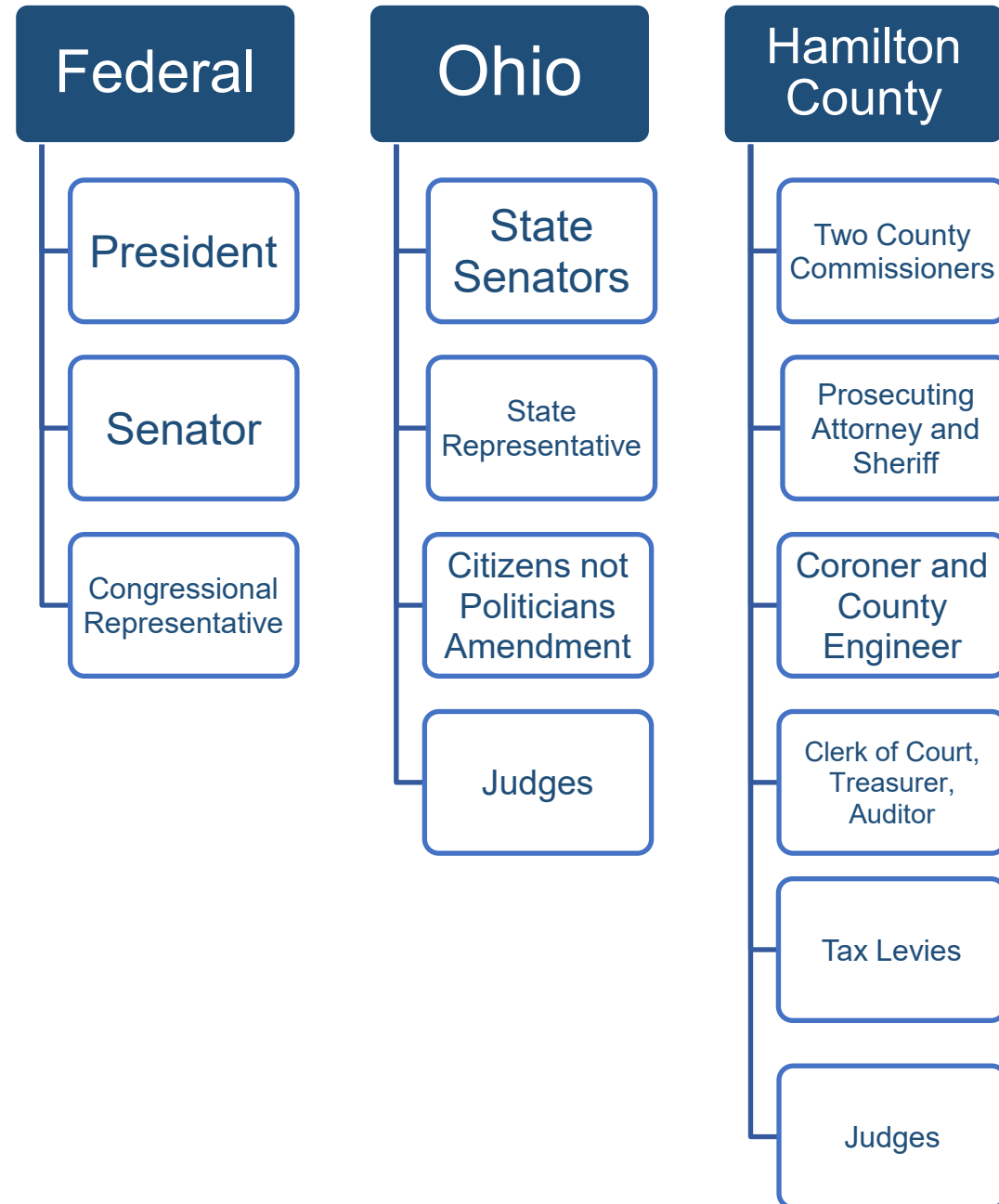
Get a personalized sample ballot from Board of Elections website

- <https://votehamiltoncountyohio.gov>
- Select topic – “Find sample ballot”
- Enter address



November 2024 - What's on the Ballot

Additional local municipal and township levies, amendments, etc. can be found on Vote411.org starting in October



Ohio Constitutional Amendment: Issue 1 Citizens Not Politicians



Civic groups gathered signatures to put on the ballot.



Creates an independent commission to draw voting district lines and removes politicians from the redistricting process.



Intended to prevent gerrymandering.



Gerrymandering is when electoral districts are drawn by the party in power to manipulate district lines with the intention of predetermining who gets elected.



Ohio voters passed constitutional amendments in 2015 and 2018 in an effort to combat gerrymandering. These amendments created a 7-person Bipartisan Redistricting Commission composed of elected politicians.

Issue 1 Citizens Not Politicians Amendment

Creates an independent, 15-member Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission of 5 Republicans, 5 Democrats and 5 Independents.

Bans current or former politicians, political party officials and lobbyists from serving on the Commission.

Requires districts that do not discriminate against or favor any political party or individual politician.

Instructs the Commission to operate in a transparent manner with public hearings and opportunity for public input.



Issue 1 - Citizens Not Politicians Amendment

- Eligibility – any registered voter in Ohio with residency for 6 years.
- Ineligible – anyone who has served in a partisan position, been candidate for elective office or registered as a lobbyist over the past 6 years, or their family members.
- Selection begins with retired judges – 2 Republicans and 2 Democrats selected by the 4 legislative appointees of the Ohio Ballot Board – picking those of the opposite party.
- The judges oversee the open application process and eventually select 45 applicants. 6 commissioners will be chosen randomly and those 6 will choose the remaining 9 commissioners.
- The Commission will begin the map-making process in 2025 for use in the 2026

Issue 1 Citizens Not Politicians Amendment

Cons

- Too complicated
- Commissioners not elected, therefore are not accountable
- Replaces current system that was overwhelmingly approved by voters

Pros

- Current system did not work because politicians ignored constitution
- Gets politicians who are affected by redistricting out of the process
- Was developed by a bipartisan team and is supported by civic groups because it will result in fair districts



Hamilton County Family Services and Treatment Levy

Renewal; will not raise taxes

Provides treatment for individuals in the criminal justice system for alcohol and drug use

Programs managed by the Sheriff, the courts, and the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board

Recommended by the Tax Levy Review Committee



Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Levy

Renewal; will not increase taxes

Provides services to about 8,600 children and adults with disabilities a year

Managed by Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services

Includes case management, family support, housing support, infant therapy, education and employment services

Recommended by the Tax Levy Review Committee – costs have increased, but have reserves from pandemic funding



Public School Funding on the Ballot

- Mariemont – additional, last increase in 2018
- Princeton – additional
- Mt. Healthy – in Fiscal Emergency, last levy in 2003
- Wyoming – bond issue for facilities
- Milford – earnings income tax for schools



Why Vote?

Make a Difference:

Your vote can decide important issues and the people who lead us.

Protect Your Rights:

Voting helps protect freedoms like speech and equality.

Choose Leaders:

Voting allows you to pick people who share your values.

When more people vote, the government represents everyone better.



LWW LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF CINCINNATI AREA



513-281-VOTE(8683)

LWVCINCINNATI.ORG

VOTE411.ORG

