

**CITY COMMISSIONERS SUNSHINE MEETING**  
**February 20, 2019**  
***PREPARED REMARKS – CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY***

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I'm here today to reiterate my serious concerns about this process that I outlined in my letter to the City Commissioners on February 8, 2019. I urge you not to vote today on new voting machines for our city. We are the largest county in Pennsylvania, yet your process has not allowed public input with demonstrations of the voting machines such as Montgomery County and Berks County have done. Having residents use the various technologies and provide feedback is invaluable information as to which machines we should be purchasing.

Also, the RFP was written in a way to be tailored towards a digital screen, or ballot marking device. Tailoring the RFP to seemingly exclude the option of hand marked ballots is not in the best interests of taxpayers. Because of the vulnerability of all electronic voting machines, there is much written about hand marked ballots being viewed by experts as more reliable. That is why I recommended in my letter to bring in ballot security experts and use their feedback as part of the selection process.

This is a significant expense. There is \$22 million set aside in the capital program for FY20 which needs to be voted on by City Council this spring; and City Commissioner cost estimates have been upwards of \$50 million. It is not clear where the \$28 million of remaining funds are expected to be coming from. With this much taxpayer money at stake, taxpayers deserve better than this. Please do not vote today, but go back and look to change this process to pick the most secure, reliable voting system that we can. Thank you.