

June 6, 2021

Allegheny County Board of Elections  
County Office Building  
542 Forbes Avenue, Room 604  
Pittsburgh PA 15219

**Re: 2021 Election Plans & Board Meeting Schedule**

We are writing to express our deep concern that according to the Allegheny County Election Board website, June 7th is the last scheduled public meeting of your board until October 19th -- just two weeks before the general election. On behalf of the undersigned nonpartisan organizations representing diverse communities across Allegheny County, we urge you to prioritize election administration and hold at least one Election Board meeting per month until the November election.

It has also been brought to our attention that the board meeting on June 7th will not be streamed online. The real-time streaming of Board of Election meetings was an effective tool during the pandemic and its use should be continued as a way to provide ease of communication with those unable to attend, transparency and accountability to the public, and to increase confidence in our election systems. We urge you to continue the use of online streaming for the June 7th board meeting and subsequent meetings.

With the primary election now behind us, it is time to turn our attention to the planning of the general election in November. We believe it is in the best interest of voters to have access to information regarding the general election process as early as possible. In addition, with the potential for the State Legislature to enact election law changes over the summer, it becomes imperative that voters be given clear and expeditious information about any such changes that may affect how and when they vote. Convening monthly Election Board meetings would address that. To be clear, waiting two weeks before an election to share your plans with the public is counterproductive for voter participation. Additionally, it is a likely acknowledgment that your plans will not include pro-voter activations such as drop boxes and satellite offices again.

We recognize that election administration work is an ongoing process throughout the year and does not start and stop with the traditional election cycles. This makes the summer months a critical time to develop the infrastructure needed for the ultimate success of the November election and future elections. Given the administrative work that will be done this summer, we strongly encourage you to hold monthly public meetings and provide your election plans no later than Labor Day 2021. This will provide voters a reasonable amount of time to develop their own election plans and encourage participation.

It is our hope that this board will look favorably on this letter in the best interest of Allegheny County voters. We look forward to maintaining ongoing conversations throughout the summer with you all regarding these topics and more with respect to expanding voter access. Our

organizations are committed to continuing a meaningful working relationship with Allegheny County elections officials and providing support in any way possible.

The undersigned,

All Voting is Local PA  
Black Political Empowerment Project (B-PEP)  
Center for Loving Kindness of the JCC of Greater PGH  
League of Women Voters of Greater Pittsburgh  
One PA  
Pennsylvania Religious Action Center  
Pittsburgh Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU)  
Southwestern PA Coalition of Labor Union Women  
Take Action Mon Valley  
The Pennsylvania Chapter of Pride At Work  
Voter Empowerment Education & Enrichment Movement  
West End P.O.W.E.R.

Cc: Jennifer Liptak, Chief of Staff Allegheny County Executive  
Amie Downs, Communications Director Allegheny County  
David Voye, Allegheny County Election Division Manager  
Chet Harhut, Allegheny County Election Deputy Division Manager