

New Budget Requests

Additional Vote-By-Mail Staffing

Because of the impact and current status of the COVID-19 pandemic, we expect a significant increase in vote-by-mail requests than what we have seen in previous years. This impact will require additional staffing to help manage the increased workload effectively and efficiently. **This request will cost \$80,000.**

Additional Vote-by-Mail Return Postage

Additional funding is needed for pre-paid return postage for mail ballots. **We are requesting \$40,000 to cover the additional return postage expenses.**

Additional Vote-by-Mail Cost

Because of the anticipated increase in vote-by-mail due to COVID-19, **\$55,000 is requested for the extra cost in vote-by-mail mailing packets.**

Protective Equipment and Hygiene Supplies Related to COVID-19 Pandemic

We must provide acquire personal protective equipment and supplies to keep voters and election workers as safe as possible in following the guidance of national health organizations. **The request will cost \$6,500.**

My office is trying to secure alternative funding to pay for expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic through federal grants. If we are able to secure funding, portions of the budgeted amounts received from the Board related to the four above items will be returned.

At Least One Additional Early Voting Location

Because of the major population growth in the Jonesville area, we see a great need in adding an early voting location in this part of the County. I am supportive of the Commission funding additional new sites as well. **Each new site added would cost \$32,000 in equipment and \$14,500 in staffing.**

New 0.5 FTE (Outreach Assistant)

The Outreach Department continues to be a crucial and vital area in providing voter education and outreach in the community and at schools — all in service of the voters and citizens of Alachua County. In Alachua County, we are fortunate that the work of this department within our office was recognized with a national award from the Elections Center in 2019 for its work with the University of Florida.