

# Proposed Election System Modifications



March 20, 2025

Tybee Island Guard House

31 Van Horne Avenue, Tybee Island, GA 31328



# Key Terms

**Plurality System:** Voting system in which the candidate(s) with the **greatest number of votes** are elected.

- Section 14-12 Tybee Island Code: "A candidate for municipal office shall be elected in a general or special election by receiving a plurality of the votes cast to fill that public office."
- Election outcome determined by the most votes, not necessarily a majority of votes

**Majority System:** Voting system in which the candidate with the **majority of votes** is elected.

- Requires a candidate to receive an absolute majority, greater than 50% of votes cast
- Compels a runoff election if a candidate does not receive a majority of votes

**At-Large:** Refers to public officials elected to represent an **entire community**, not a subset

**Post Seat:** An elected **position**



# Modifications

## CURRENT

- Plurality system
- Singular candidate category
- Tie vote requires a runoff election



## PROPOSED

- Majority system
- Six at-large post seats
- Runoff election required when a candidate fails to receive a majority of votes



# Modifications

Councilmember Post 1  
Michael Hosti

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Councilmember Post 2  
Tony Ploughe

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Councilmember Post 3  
Monty Parks

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## **Election Calendar**

November 2025  
Posts 1, 3, and 5

November 2027  
Posts 2, 4, and 6

Councilmember Post 4  
Kathryn Williams

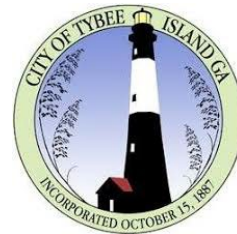
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Councilmember Post 5  
Bill Garbett

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Councilmember Post 6  
Nick Sears

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# Advantages & Disadvantages

## Majority System

- ✓ Requires a candidate to receive a majority of votes
  - ✓ Greater representation of voters' preferences

## Plurality System

- ✓ Simplifies election outcome process, decreases need for a runoff election
- ✓ Easily understood by the general public

## Majority System

- × Increases likelihood of runoff elections
  - × Timely and costly

## Plurality System

- × Winning candidates may fail to represent the majority of voters



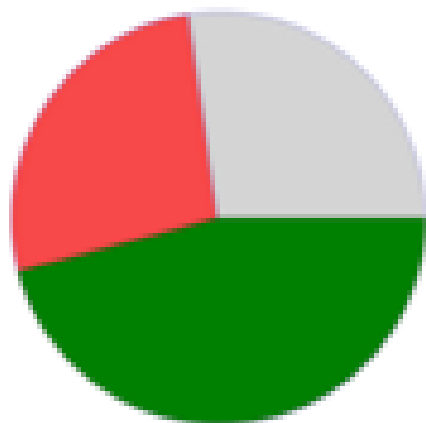
# Charter Amendment

## **Local Act**

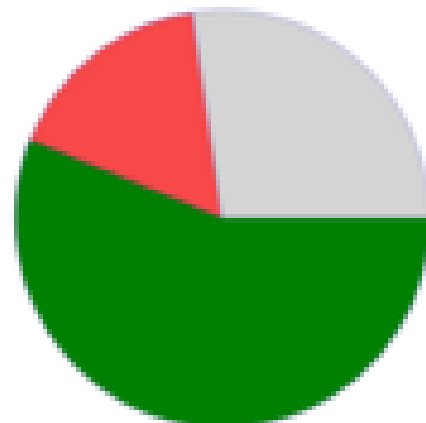
- Law passed by the Georgia General Assembly to alter a city's charter
  - Modifications affect the procedure for election and appointment of elected officials
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# Public Comments



Plurality



Majority