

AUGUSTA-RICHMOND COUNTY

201-101

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE/PROVISIONAL/EMERGENCY BALLOT

OFFICIAL SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA MARCH 16, 2021

INSTRUCTIONS:

To Vote

1. Use black or blue ink to mark the ballot
2. Completely fill in the empty oval to the left of the candidate name or choice in all races you wish to vote
3. If voting for a Write-In candidate, completely fill in the empty oval to the left of the Write-In selection, then write the name of the write-in candidate in the space provided

Warning

- Do NOT use red ink or felt tip pen to mark ballot
- Do NOT circle, underline or mark through choices
- Do NOT use check marks or X to mark ballot
- Do NOT mark more choices per race than allowed
- Do NOT sign, cut, tear or damage the ballot

If you make a mistake or change your mind on a selection:

- A. Do not attempt to mark through the selection or attempt to erase. Write "**Spoiled**" across **the ballot and across the return envelope**
- B. Mail or return the spoiled ballot and envelope to your county board of registrars; a new official absentee ballot will be mailed to you

If you decide to vote in-person: Surrender the ballot to the poll manager of an early voting site within your county or the precinct to which you are assigned. You will then be permitted to vote a regular ballot

"I understand that the offer or acceptance of money or any other object of value to vote for any particular candidate, list of candidates, issue, or list of issues included in this election constitutes an act of voter fraud and is a felony under Georgia law." [O.C.G.A. 21-2-284(e), 21-2-285(h) and 21-2-383(a)]

SPECIAL ELECTION

Augusta-Richmond County Special Purpose Local Option Sales and Use Tax (Vote for One)

"Shall a special 1 percent sales and use tax be reimposed in the special district of Richmond County, upon the termination of the special one percent sales and use tax presently in effect, for the raising of not more than \$250,285,000 for the following purposes pursuant to an Intergovernmental Sales Tax Agreement, dated as of January 1, 2021, among Augusta, Georgia ("Augusta"), the City of Blythe, Georgia ("Blythe"), and the City of Hephzibah ("Hephzibah"): (a) capital outlay projects, which are estimated to cost \$241,285,000, to be owned or operated or both by Augusta or by one or more local authorities within such special district pursuant to intergovernmental contracts with Augusta (the "Augusta Projects"): (1) Public Safety, including Facilities, Equipment, and Vehicles, (2) Quality of Life, including Parks and Recreation Facilities and James Brown Arena Project, (3) Infrastructure and Facilities, including Road, Street, Bridge, and Drainage Improvements, (4) Government Facilities, including New Fleet Maintenance Facility and Improvements to Juvenile Court, Fire Stations, and Other Facilities, and (5) Economic Development, including Retail and Industrial Recruitment Projects, Blight Mitigation, Depot Project, and Cyber Center Parking Deck Acquisition; (b) capital outlay projects, which are estimated to cost \$1,500,000, to be owned or operated or both by Blythe: (1) Public Safety Equipment and Vehicles, (2) Road and Street Improvements, (3) Water System Improvements, (4) Stormwater Collection System Improvements, (5) Rehabilitation of Blighted Properties, (6) Parks and Recreation, (7) Library Improvements, and (8) Facilities Equipment/Systems Replacement; and (c) capital outlay projects, which are estimated to cost \$7,500,000, to be owned or operated or both by Hephzibah: (1) Town Center with City Hall, (2) Public Safety Equipment and Vehicles, (3) Public Safety Training Center, (4) Parks and Recreation, (5) Cemetery Expansion, (6) Road and Street Improvements, (7) Utility Vehicles and Equipment, and (8) Water and Sewer System Improvements?"

"If reimposition of the tax is approved by the voters, such vote shall also constitute approval of the issuance of general obligation debt of Augusta, Georgia in the principal amount of \$30,000,000 for the purpose of any one or more of the Augusta Projects."

YES

NO

