



**ELECTION 2007:**

***VOTE FOR HOMES!***



c/o Project H.O.M.E. 1515 Fairmount Ave., Phila., PA 19130 Ph: (215) 232-7272 Fax: (215) 232-7277

## Philadelphia Election 2007 Fact Sheet

**Primary Election: May 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**General Election: November 6<sup>th</sup>**

*If you have any difficulty registering to vote or voting at the polls on Election Day, call the Committee of Seventy at (215) 557-3600, the city's Election Day Complaint Hotline at (215) 686-1590, or Project H.O.M.E. at (215) 232-7272, ext. 3042.*

You cannot be prevented from voting for the following reasons:

- You are homeless – just provide a temporary mailing address
- You are physically/mentally disabled – you can bring someone into the booth to help you vote
- You have a criminal justice system record – people with prior convictions can register and vote
- You do not have your ID – you can vote by provisional ballot

*See below for more information.*

- **The voter registration deadline for the Primary Election is Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. The registration deadline for the General Election is Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>.** Voter registration forms are available at Project H.O.M.E., which is located at 1515 Fairmount Avenue, and at most government offices.
- **Voters registered as Democrats or Republicans may vote in their party's Primary Election on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.** Registered voters with no party affiliation may only vote on ballot questions during the Primary Election. All registered voters may vote for candidates and ballot questions in the General Election on Tuesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. You must vote at the polling place that corresponds to the address where you have most recently registered. *Call the City Commissioners' Office at (215) 686-1520 or 1523 or the Committee of Seventy at (215) 557-3600 to find the polling place designated for your address.*
- **If you do not have a permanent address, you can use the address of a shelter/facility where you have an established relationship such that the facility will accept non-forwardable mail.** If you need to establish a temporary address for this purpose, visit the Philadelphia Committee to End Homelessness at 802 N. Broad Street (Monday - Friday, 9:00 am–2:00 pm) or St. John's Hospice at 1221 Race Street (Monday - Friday, 9:00 am–3:00 pm). If a "pollwatcher" challenges your right to vote, ask for an "Affidavit" and have someone from that division verify your identity.

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*(See other side)*

- **If you are voting for the first time at a particular polling site, bring ID to your polling place. If you do not have ID, you can vote by provisional ballot, or temporary paper ballot, at a polling place.** Acceptable forms of ID include a voter registration card, valid PA driver's or non-driver's license, valid passport, federal government ID, current student ID, firearm permit, current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or government check. Even if this is your first time voting at your polling place, you do not need to have identification with you to vote, BUT bringing any form of approved ID will mean that your vote will be counted that day rather than in the days following the election. If you vote at the wrong polling place by provisional ballot, your vote will only count in the races for which you are eligible to vote, based on your registration address. *If you do not have identification and you have problems at the polls, call the Committee of Seventy at (215) 557-3600.*
- **If you go to the wrong polling place on Election Day,** ask the election official to call the County Board of Elections to see if and where you are eligible to vote. *If the election official is unable or unwilling to call, you should find a telephone – even a pay phone – and call the County Board of Elections at (215) 686-1590.* If you cannot determine your polling place, you can vote at any polling place by a provisional ballot (see above for more information).
- **Convicted felons released from prison, people awaiting trial or serving time for a misdemeanor, and those on probation, parole, and house arrest can now vote.** All people convicted of felonies have the right to vote as long as they are released from prison and not in a halfway house or correctional facility on pre-release status. Also, the five-year waiting period for felons has been eliminated. The Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court restored the right to vote for ex-felons as of December 2000. *Contact John Leib, JEVS Prison Program, at 215-685-7114 for more information.*
- **You have the right to assistance with voting inside the voting machine.** You must fill out a Declaration of Assistance form at the polling place on Election Day. Then, anyone you select may enter the voting booth with you to help you cast your vote. The only people who may not assist with voting are your employer, your union leader, or the Judge of Elections at your polling place.
- **If you are unable to get to the polls on Election Day because your polling place is inaccessible, you have several voting options.** If you are disabled or over 65 years of age, you may vote by alternative ballot at City Hall. Contact the County Board of Elections at (215) 686-0505 for more information. If you will be absent from home on Election Day because of work responsibilities or other duties or if you are unable to go to the polls because of illness or physical disability, you may vote by absentee ballot. You must submit your application for an absentee ballot by May 8, 2007 to vote in the Primary Election and by October 30, 2007 to vote in the General Election. Please note that you must include a photocopy of your identification when you mail in your absentee ballot if you are a first-time voter in Philadelphia and you registered to vote by mail. If you have questions about accessibility issues at the polls, please contact the City Commissioner office at (215) 686-3460 or the Committee of Seventy at (215) 557-3600.

*These organizations can help you find your polling place and other helpful information:*

**Committee of Seventy:** (215) 557-3600 — [www.seventy.org](http://www.seventy.org)

**Hallwatch:** [www.hallwatch.org](http://www.hallwatch.org)

**Pennsylvania Department of State:** (800) 552-VOTE — [www.hava.state.pa.us](http://www.hava.state.pa.us)

**City Commissioners:** (215) 686-3460 — [www.phila.gov/commissioners](http://www.phila.gov/commissioners)

To get involved or learn more about *Vote for Homes!*,  
call Jennine Miller at 215-232-7272 or visit [www.projecthome.org/vote](http://www.projecthome.org/vote).

*Information from Committee of Seventy, the Pennsylvania Department of State, and the Philadelphia Board of Elections.*