OVERVIEW

1. What is Ranked Choice Voting?
2. How does RCV work for 2+ winners?
3. Next Steps + Questions?
What is Ranked Choice Voting?

Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV) or Instant Runoff Voting is a voting system where voters use a ranked ballot to sequentially rank their candidate choices in order of preference, rather than selecting a single or limited number of candidates as their choice for a winner.

If your first choice cannot win, your vote counts towards your next choice.

How Does Ranked Choice Voting Work?

1. Voters have the option to rank candidates in order of preference: 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice, and so on.

2. If no candidate reaches the “election threshold” on the initial round, the last place candidate is eliminated, and that voters 2nd place votes are redistributed to the remaining candidates.

3. The process continues until a winner has earned over the election threshold.
How Does RCV Work for 2+ Winners?

1. Voters have the option to rank candidates in order of preference: 1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice, and so on - EXACTLY THE SAME.
2. Instructions will inform the voter the number of candidates that will be elected.
3. Votes are allocated using the Inclusive Gregory Method of Reallocation.
   ○ % of vote will be applied to next choice
4. All candidates who cross the “election threshold” earn a seat/nomination

What’s the “Election Threshold?”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of ballots cast</th>
<th>Seats to Elect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of seats to be filled + 1 seat</td>
<td>+ 1 vote = Election Threshold*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent for One Seat</th>
<th>Seats to Elect</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50% + 1</td>
<td>1 Seat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33.3% + 1</td>
<td>2 Seats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25% + 1</td>
<td>3 Seats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20% + 1</td>
<td>4 Seats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.7% + 1</td>
<td>5 Seats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*number is equal to the minimum number of votes needed to win
Surplus Fractions

If a candidate exceeds the election threshold, a fraction of their votes are transferred to the next-ranked candidate on their voters’ ballots.

\[
\text{Candidate’s total # of votes} - \text{Election Threshold} \quad \frac{\text{Candidate’s total # of votes}}{=} \quad \text{Surplus Fraction}
\]

*NOTE: Every person who voted for this candidate will have a fraction of their vote applied to their next-ranked candidate.
Legal and Funding Considerations

- Only applies to City Council
- Outreach and Education Costs
- Hart Upgrade to 2.7
- Can be applied to a Primary and/or General
  - Ballot printing
Possible Next Steps for Charlottesville

- Draft, Introduce, and Pass Ordinance
- Develop Education & Outreach Plan

Concerns

- Certified vs. Approved Tabulation Software
- Standards for transposing hand-count ballots
- How to conduct a Risk Limiting Audit or a Recount with a multi-seat race
- General Elections and Write-Ins
Questions?

www.Charlottesville.gov/vote
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