

## Voter Turnout Challenges Insights from the Recent Special Primary Election

Even with special elections, our usual "non-election" year planning and maintenance activities have been in the works. Elections are what we do, and we welcome the challenge! No matter how small or how few voters it affects, the same preparation and attention to detail are essential to ensuring a successful election.

We delivered on our promise and conducted a transparent, trouble-free, and secure election with timely and accurate results, however can an election truly be considered successful when only 6.89% of the eligible voters participate? That was the voter turnout for the Special Primary Election. Of the 20,431 eligible Pasco County voters, only 1,407 voted for the candidate who will advance to the General! This is a statistic I am not proud of, and I am hopeful the turnout will be better in the upcoming Special General Election.

If you are interested in voter turnout as well, it is posted daily on <u>PascoVotes.gov</u> once the first Vote by Mail ballot is received. Initially, the turnout numbers represent those who have returned their mail ballot to the elections' office, then with the start of early voting on November 29th, the numbers will be updated every 10 minutes! On Election Day, voter turnout is also updated every 10 minutes, and election results are posted as they become available after 7:00 p.m. The idea of posting voter turnout is a concept we are proud of! Pasco County was the first, not only in the state but also in the nation, to post turnout.



