

MOTION
NO. M-26-139

CITY HALL: April 9, 2026

BY: COUNCILMEMBER HUGHES

SECONDED BY:

WHEREAS, Louisiana Revised Statute § 18:534(B)(1) provides that once a polling place has been established, its location shall not be changed from the date when qualifying period opens until after the date of the general election, “unless the polling place becomes unavailable due to an emergency caused by an act of God or when privately owned property being used as a polling place becomes unavailable through no fault of the governing authority”;

WHEREAS, the earliest qualifying period for the May 16, 2026 election began on February 11, 2026;

WHEREAS, since the qualifying period opened, Engine House #37 at 13400 Chef Menteur Hwy has become infested with mosquitos and is no longer safe to serve as an election day polling site for Ward 9, Precinct 41C;

WHEREAS, the infestation and potential exposure to virus is a health concern for poll commissioners and voters and constitutes an emergency due to an act of God, in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute § 18:534(B)(1); and

WHEREAS, the Clerk of Criminal District Court recommends for immediate action a emergency permanent polling location change for Ward 9, Precinct 41C to Sarah T. Reed located at 5316 Michoud Blvd., as stated in his memorandum to the Clerk of Council dated April 6, 2026; **NOW, THEREFORE**

BE IT MOVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, That Sarah T. Reed High School at 5316 Michoud Boulevard is hereby established as the permanent polling location, replacing Engine House #37 at 13400 Chef Menteur Highway, as the official polling place for Ward 9, Precinct 41C within the Parish of Orleans; and

BE IT FURTHER MOVED, That the Clerk of Council immediately forward certified copies of this motion to the Governor of the State of Louisiana, the Louisiana Secretary of State, the Clerk of Criminal District Court of Orleans Parish, the City Attorney, and the Registrar of Voters for Orleans Parish for their further handling.

THE FOREGOING MOTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF, AND RESULTED AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

AND THE MOTION WAS ADOPTED.

MEMORANDUM

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

CLERK OF CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT

TO: Honorable Council Members, City of New Orleans
Aisha R. Collier, Clerk of Council

CC: Justyn A. Hawkins, Council Chief of Staff

FROM: Darren P. Lombard, Clerk of Criminal District Court

DATE: April 6, 2026

SUBJECT: Permanent Emergency Polling Location Changes

Election Day Poll Commissioners working at Engine House #37 contacted the Clerk's office with an ongoing problem. The Polling commissioner had been dealing with a Mosquito problem. The Commissioners tried to resolve the problem on their own with sprays and repellent.

For the March 14th election our office sent candles and repellent. Unfortunately, the problem persists. With the weather warming up we can anticipate the Mosquitos will only get worse. Our concern now is for the health of the Poll Commissioners. This led our office to Collaborate with Councilmember Hughes to find an emergency Polling location.

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Ward/

Precinct:

From:

To:

9/41C

Engine House #37
13400 Michoud Blvd.

Sarah T. Reed High School
5316 Michoud Blvd.

