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## Projected Schedule of Election Day Ballot Tabulation Activities

PLEASE NOTE: Ballot tabulation for the November 3rd Presidential Election will take much longer than usual for the following reasons:

1. In a presidential election, there are many "last minute voters". Because polls don't close until everyone in line at 8:00 p.m. has voted, ballot boxes will be arriving in the counting center later than usual.
2. There are 467 candidates and 314 contests on the ballot, making computer processing of election results cumbersome and time-consuming. In addition, the fact that the boundaries for the 299 ANC Single Member Districts frequently cross precinct lines will slow computer processing.
3. Voter turnout will be high--perhaps record-breaking. As a result of the high turnout--and the fact that each voter will be given three ballot cards (the most ever in a D.C. election)--our computer will read and process up to 750,000 ballots on election night.

- 9:00 a.m. Counting center employees and official watchers are instructed on procedures  
"Early absentee ballots"<sup>1</sup> are sorted by precinct and prepared for counting. Absentee ballots are run through card readers (results are not tabulated until 8:00 p.m.)
- 2:00 p.m. A.M. ballots from precincts begin to arrive at District Building. Ballots are removed from ballot boxes and prepared for counting.  
A.M. ballots are run through card readers (results are not tabulated until after 8:00 p.m.)
- 8:00 p.m. Results of early absentee votes and A.M. precinct ballots are tabulated.
- 8:30 p.m. "Early returns" are distributed on the fifth floor of the District Building. ("Early returns" include early absentee ballots and ballots cast at the polls in the morning. Report issued to the public will include all 299 Advisory Neighborhood Commission offices.)
- 9:15 p.m. A ward and precinct level breakdown of "early returns" is issued. (ANC contests will not be reported on precinct level.)
- 9:30 p.m. Ballot boxes from polling places begin to arrive for counting. Ballots are removed from ballot boxes and run through card readers.
- 10:45 - end Citywide running total updates are printed and distributed periodically. (Updates will include citywide and ward contests only. Updates for ANC contests will not be issued.)  
The ward and precinct breakdown of final returns will be issued approximately 90 minutes after the final citywide report.
- Nov. 13 Special ballots and remaining absentee ballots tabulated at 5:00 p.m.

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<sup>1</sup>"Early absentee ballots" are absentee ballots that have been received by the Board of Elections through the close of business on Friday, October 30th. Absentee ballots are, by regulation, accepted through ten days after the election, as long as they are postmarked by Election Day. Remaining absentees will be counted along with special/challenged ballots on Friday, November 13th.