

For Immediate Release:



Marathon voters to take to polls in August

MARATHON, FL (June 23, 2026) -- With the City Council firmly in place through November 2027, voters in Marathon will have to look beyond the city to help decide a variety of offices to be filled this year.

Primary elections will be held Tuesday, Aug. 18, with several county-wide races on the ballot, including the Monroe County Commission Dist. 2 seat, two posts on the Monroe County School Board, the Florida Keys Mosquito Control Board, Dist. 2, seat, and selection of a judge for the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, Group 2.

The winner in each of those five races will secure the position.

Incumbent Monroe County Commissioner and current county Mayor Michelle Lincoln will face George Lopez for the District 2 seat. To date, Lincoln has raised \$26,000 in campaign contributions, while Lopez has banked \$200,000.

Two posts on the Monroe County School Board are open.

Former Monroe County School District Superintendent Theresa Axford will face incumbent Darren Horan for the Dist. 1 seat. Axford has raised \$50 in contributions through June 22, while Horan has amassed \$3,200.

Meanwhile, newcomer Chelyn Shaw is challenging incumbent Sue Woltanski for the Dist. 5 post. Shaw has raised nearly \$5,000 to date, while Woltanski has garnered more than \$36,000.

In the race for the Florida Keys Mosquito Control Board, Dist. 2, seat, Phil Goodman has raised more than \$18,000, while challenger Alex Osborn has garnered nearly \$7,000 in contributions.

The final race to be decided in August will be the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, Group 2, county judgeship. Kevin McCarthy and David Van Loon are seeking the bench seat vacated by Judge Mark Wilson, who is seeking the Circuit Court seat of retiring Judge Mark Jones.

To date, McCarthy has raised more than \$12,550 in contributions, while Van Loon is close behind with nearly \$9,000 in contributions.

A variety of candidates ran unopposed and captured their positions when qualifying ended earlier this month.

Monroe County Commissioner David Rice retained his Dist. 4 seat, which represents most of Marathon, while former Marathon Mayor Luis Gonzalez captured the Dist. 4



Press Release (#36-26) | CITY OF MARATHON
9805 Overseas Highway Marathon, Florida 33050
305-743-0033

seat on the Monroe County School Board, and Rep. Jim Mooney, whose Dist. 120 includes all of the Florida Keys, will remain in his state House seat.

Marathon voters will have other candidates to consider in November's Midterm Election.

U.S. Congressman Carlos Gimenez faces challengers Phil Her and Eddie Rojas for the Dist. 28 seat, while State Sen. Ana Maria Rodriguez will defend her Dist. 40 seat against Jose Antonio Stoute, and Ramira Ota.

The Midterm Elections take place Tuesday, Nov. 3.

For information, visit the Monroe County Supervisor of Elections website at <https://www.votemonroeflkeys.gov> .

Chris Seymour, City of Marathon Public Information Officer
Email: pio@ci.marathon.fl.us Cell: 645-206-4368

For inquiries, contact City of Marathon, 305-743-0033