

Maria,

The purpose of this letter is to give you an update on the issues you addressed in your email to me yesterday.

As I said yesterday, an election is the last thing on citizens' minds since Hurricane Irma. People are concerned about food, water and fuel. There are still about 400,000 Lee County Citizens still without electricity. People are concerned about repairing the damages to their homes. Debris clean-up for those who are able is taking place and neighbors are helping neighbors. Fortunately, my home and my neighbors' homes were spared any major damages and we are one of the lucky ones to have electrical power restored to us.

The assessment of the early voting places and Election Day is incomplete at this time. I have surveyed several early voting sites which are also Election Day voting sites and found them accessible but without power. I know that most polling locations do not have electricity and the utility company estimates all electrical power will be restored by September 22nd. I will be reaching out to all polling places today and tomorrow so I can get a better assessment on all sites. One thing for sure is that the polling sites would not fully ready by our September 26th schedule. I'm confident the October 3rd schedule is feasible and both cities do not want to push the election back any further.

Our voting and tabulation equipment is secure and ready for Early Voting and Election Day Voting. All Tabulation equipment will be tested as soon as staff can return to work. All Lee County Government offices are closed until Monday September 18th. Because of conditions of some my staffs homes and the fact that 50% of them evacuated north, there will be limited staff returning on Monday.

One hundred percent of the electors for this upcoming election were impacted by Hurricane Irma. As far as the number of evacuees, I don't have a definitive number. Those who evacuated are having a difficult time returning because of very heavy traffic on the highways and fuel is in short supply. There are reports of long lines at gas stations and after a three hour wait the gas station run out of fuel.

The USPS resumed service yesterday to places that are accessible but some streets are still under water.

The bottom line is Hurricane Irma devastated this region leaving thousands without power, flooding roadways and homes, forcing gridlock at gas stations, and leaving grocery store shelves empty. The number one priority of the citizens of Lee County and the entire State is to provide the necessary resources for survival. The removal of the debris left by Hurricane Irma will be a daunting task and will take time. I think it's imperative that the election for City of Ft Myers and the City of Cape Coral be moved once again to insure maximum voter turnout. The concerns of the safety and welfare of all citizens is paramount above everything.

If you need more let me know.

Thank you,

TOMMY DOYLE

Lee County Supervisor of Elections