

# *Election Options*

CORAL  
GABLES<sup>®</sup>  
THE CITY BEAUTIFUL



# Coral Gables Elections

- Coral Gables Charter Section 1 - Second Tuesday in April
- Coral Gables Charter Section 1.1 – Run-Off Election, two weeks after the general election, on a Tuesday
- Coral Gables Charter Section 2- Term Limitations, Mayor “Eight Consecutive Years”, Commissioner “Twelve consecutive years”



## 2023 Election

- April 11<sup>th</sup> General Election
- April 25<sup>th</sup>, Run-Off Election
- Cost for General Election: Approximately \$125,000, included three early voting dates at one site only.
- Cost for Run-Off Election: Approximately \$125,000, included two early voting dates at one site only.
- General Election Voter Turnout: 20.92%, 6,905/33,002
- Run-Off Election Voter Turnout: 17.55%, 5,787/32,978



# *Upcoming Elections*

- 2025 Election Dates
  - April 8, 2025 General Election
  - April 22, 2025 Run-Off if needed
  - Swearing In- April 25, 2025
- 2027 Election Dates
  - April 13, 2027 General Election
  - April 27, 2027 Run-Off if needed
  - Swearing In- April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027

## Mechanisms for Change

- 100.3605, *Florida Statutes*, “*The Governing body of a municipality may, by ordinance, change the dates ... for the election of members of the governing body... and provide for the orderly transition of office resulting from such date changes*”.
- 101.75, *Florida Statutes*, “*The governing body of a municipality may, by ordinance, move the date of any municipal election to a date concurrent with any statewide or countywide election*”.
- Charter Amendment

## Other Municipalities

- Apalachicola, Ordinance 2023-01
- City of St. Petersburg , Charter Amendment
- City of North Miami, Ordinance 1501, 1502
- City of South Miami, Charter Amendment



## OPTION 1 - APRIL ELECTION, 3 WEEK RUN-OFF

- Keep April Election
- Change Run-Off to 3 weeks (or other)
- Change in cost: None
- Change in Turnout: Minimal
- Change to Terms: Minimal, one week longer/shorter
- Other considerations: Swearing in Date moved, impact on May meeting schedule, spring break/ Easter Holiday



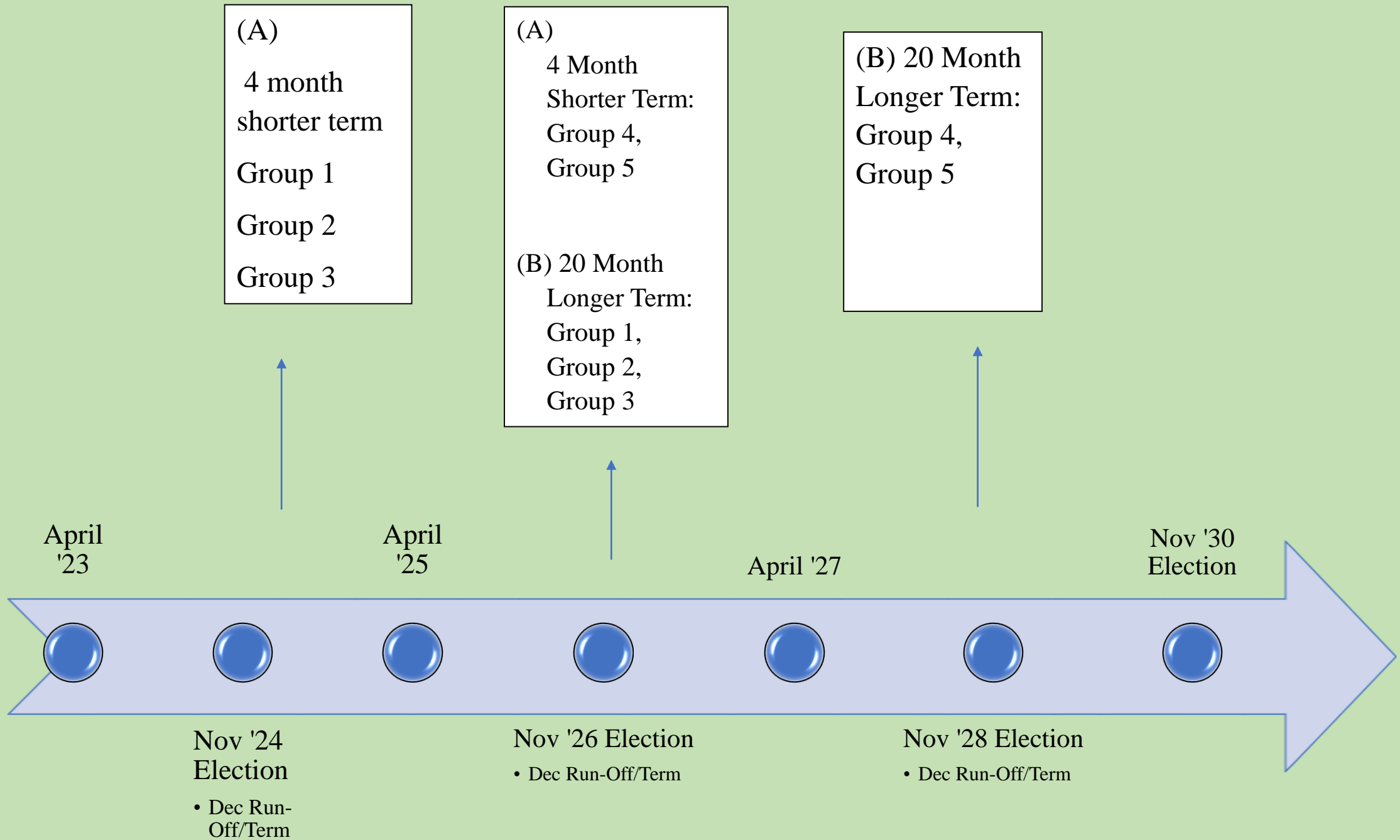
## OPTION 2 – APRIL ELECTION, NO RUN-OFF

- Keep April Election
- Charter referendum to remove run-off provision (added in 2016)
- If run-off eliminated,
  - Change in cost: Approximately \$125,000/election.
  - Change to turnout: none
  - Change to terms: none, minimal, week shorter/longer
  - Cost of referendum: Approximately \$20,000 if piggyback a November Election
  - Referendum in November of 2024, if change approved, applies April 2025



## OPTION 3- NOVEMBER ELECTION

- Change Election to November of even year, w/ run 4 weeks later
- Cost of General Election: \$20,000
- Cost of Run-Off: \$125,000
- Change in Turnout: Expected increase, Nov '22, 62.96% turnout
- Change in terms: Extend or shorten
- Other considerations:
  - Term limits
  - Ballot length, voter drop-off,
  - Timing of run-off





# Potential November Election Dates

- November 5, 2024 (General Election)
  - December 3, 2024 (Run-Off)
  
- November 3, 2026 (General Election)
  - December 1, 2026 (Run-Off)

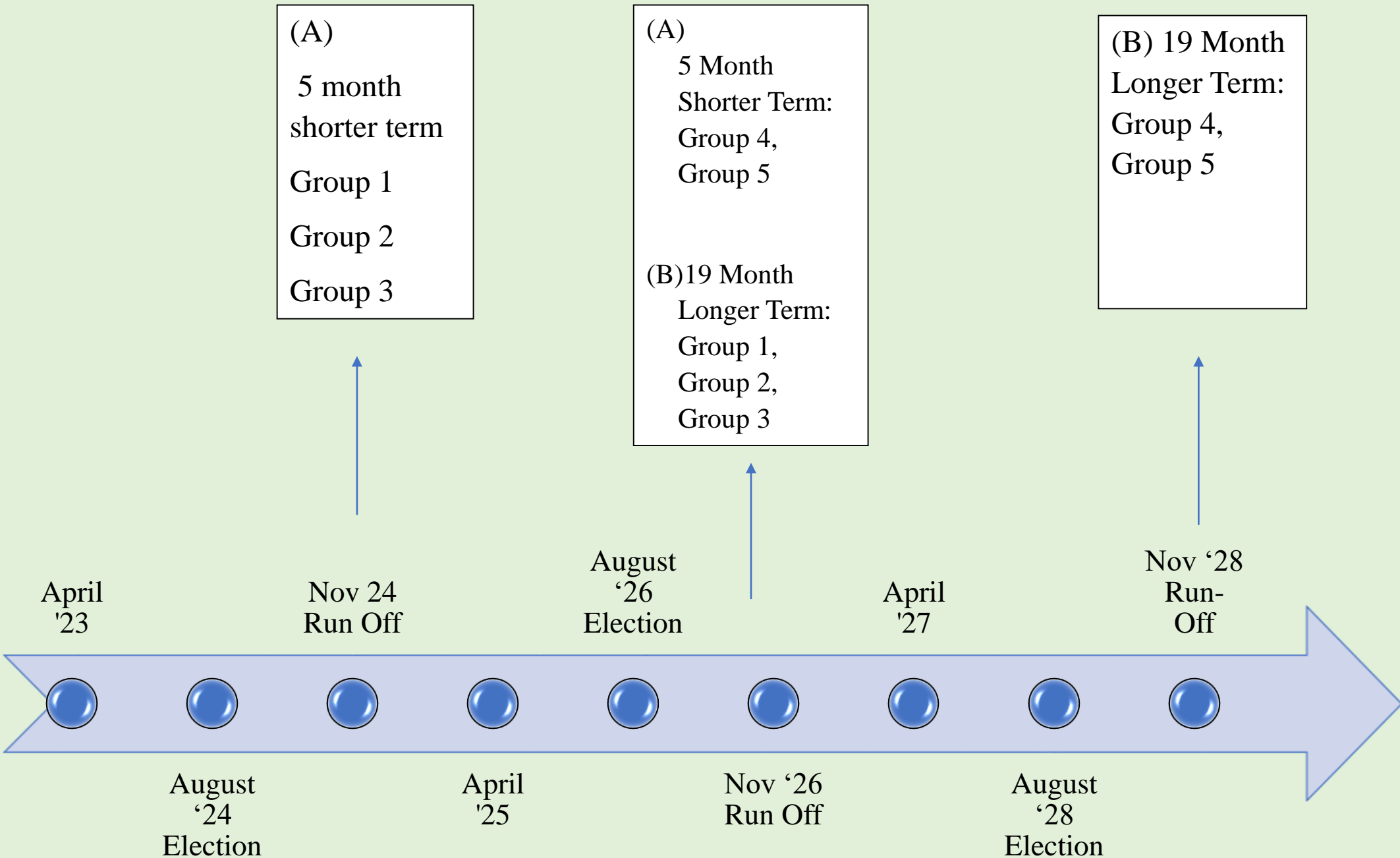
# Option 3- Methods of Change

- Ordinance
  - No cost
  - Take effect November 2024 of November 2026
- Charter Amendment
  - Cost of Charter Amendment: \$20,000
  - November 2024 General Election Ballot Question
  - Take effect November 2026



# Option 4- August Election, November Run-Off

- August Election (Piggyback Countywide Election)
- November Run Off
- Cost: \$20,000 General Election  
\$20,000 Run-Off
- Turn out: August 2022: 28.56%
- Changes in terms: Similar to November Election, few weeks difference
- Other considerations: Term Limits, turnout comparison between August and November.
- Can be changed via ordinance or Charter amendment.





# Option 4- Methods of Change

- Charter Amendment
  - Cost of Charter Amendment
  - Timing of potential charter amendment, election day, when take affect
  - Bonus of public voting on extension of terms
- Ordinance
  - No cost
  - Public participation
  - Legal challenges

## Option 5- Primary Election in August, General November of Even Years

- This would require a change to the Charter as a primary isn't currently contemplated and the Run-Off would be eliminated.
- Cost: \$20,000 for Primary and \$20,000 for General Election
- Terms: Extended/Shortened as with all November Elections
- Considerations: August vs November turnout, changes to term limits

## Summary of Options

- 1) April Election, 3 week Run-Off
- 2) April Election, No Run-Off
- 3) November Election, early December Run-Off
- 4) August Election, November Run-Off
- 5) August Primary, November General, no Run-Off