CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA
SUPPORTING THE CLOSURE OF BROWARD COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS ON ELECTION DAY OR THE
RELOCATION OF VOTING PRECINCTS FROM BROWARD
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS; PROVIDING FOR EFFECTIVE
DATE.

_____

WHEREAS, over many years, the Broward County Supervisor of
Elections has utilized Broward County Public Schools for the
purpose of voting precincts for primaries, general and municipal
elections; and

WHEREAS, for many years, Broward County Public Schools have
been utilized by the Broward County Supervisor of Elections for
voting precincts on election days; and

WHEREAS, while efforts are made by the respective schools to
prevent access to other areas of the school campuses, parents,
families and school staff have been concerned about allowing
access to the school campuses on election days for people who
would not otherwise be allowed on the school campuses; and

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2018, a shooter gained access to
the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School campus and murdered
seventeen (17) students and teachers and injured seventeen (17)
others; and

WHEREAS, during the August 28, 2018 primary in Broward
County, there were 154 voting precincts located in 128 different
Broward County Public Schools throughout Broward County; and

WHEREAS, during the August 28, 2018 primary voting in
Broward County, there were eight (8) schools in Margate which
hosted voting precincts; and

WHEREAS, Florida Statutes section 102.101 prohibits law
enforcement personnel on duty in a polling precinct unless
requested by the Supervisor of Elections; and

WHEREAS, increasing visible police presence at or outside
voting precincts are not solutions as police presence at the
polls has been a historic method in areas of the United States

to allegedly intimidate voters and can lead to lawsuits related to alleged voter intimidation; and

WHEREAS, for the November 6, 2018 general election, schools will be closed for an employee planning day; and

WHEREAS, reportedly other school districts have made adjustments in the public school year calendar to ensure schools are closed on election days to avoid the concern of having people on the school campuses who would otherwise not be permitted on the campuses during the school day; and

WHEREAS, the City of Margate has been a strong advocate for school safety as well as encouraging more and better access to methods for citizens to cast their votes in elections; and

WHEREAS, the Broward County Public Schools and the Broward County Supervisor of Elections should work together to find a solution to eliminate the risks associated with individuals who would otherwise not be permitted on a public school campus on election day, either by closing schools on election day or relocating voting precincts out of Broward County Public Schools.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF MARGATE, FLORIDA:

Section 1:   The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are adopted herein.

Section 2:   The City Commission supports the closure of Broward County Public Schools on election day for primaries, general and municipal elections in order to provide maximum safety to children, families, and Broward County Public School staff.

Section 3:   That the City Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to all municipal and county governments within Broward County, Florida, The School Board of Broward County, and the Broward County Supervisor of Elections.

PASSED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2018.

ATTEST:

_____   _____
JOSEPH J. KAVANAGH   MAYOR ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ
CITY CLERK

RECORD OF VOTE

Peerman   _____
Simone   _____
Ruzzano   _____
Caggiano   _____
Schwartz   _____