



RESOLUTION

Whereas, the mission of Astorians for Peace and Justice is to bring people together in our diverse neighborhood who share a commitment to social justice and democracy to work locally for a more peaceful world.

Whereas, Astorians for Peace and Justice is an independent, non-partisan, and non-sectarian organization that believes all people have the right to live in peace and with dignity.

Whereas, Voting rights and honest elections are the bedrock of democracy, upon which all other rights and freedoms are based.

Whereas, Electronic voting systems are the subject of controversy and distrust, and have caused many people to question value of voting or participating in the democratic process.

Whereas, Electronic voting systems take the process of elections out of local hands and put elections into the hands of corporations, which have no responsibility or accountability to the community.

Whereas, Optical scan voting systems, which use paper ballots voted by hand or by accessible ballot marking machines for voters with disabilities or languages other than English, enable members of the community to observe election procedures and ensure the honesty of elections.

Whereas, Optical scan voting systems are much less expensive and have a longer useful lifespan, so the community will not be forced to spend money for new machines that could be spent on schools or other local needs.

Therefore, Astorians for Peace and Justice endorse the choice of Optical Scan voting systems for New York City and the rest of New York State, and we urge our New York City Board of Elections to switch to Optical Scan voting systems when the lever voting machines must be replaced.