

All Results

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
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| 22205 | I am against it emphatically! In fact, if Arlington were to adopt it, I would cease voting in any elections that adopted it. | I see this a voting complication that we don't need. Stay with plurality voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | While "ranked choice" voting has a role in crowded partisan primary elections, they are likely unconstitutional in general elections. They afford minor- or independent-voters more than one vote in a general election, contrary to our nation's one-person-one-vote principle. Citizens who vote outside the two-party system should be satisfied with their choices, and not allowed a second or third vote. Frankly, based on experiences in Maine and most recently, Alaska, it is VERY CONFUSING for many if not most voters. That should be reason enough to reject it. | The immense expense of reorienting machines to accommodate ranked-choice voting needs to be thoroughly explored. There is a strong chance it will require a return to paper ballots, and the cost associated with that. I have written extensively about ranked-choice voting and my views are contained here: https://kellyjohnston.substack.com/p/ranked-choice-voting-a-serious-look | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | I hold a degree in political science and a law degree. I am vehemently opposed to the recent adoption of RCV across the country. Ranked choice voting produces an unnecessary level of uncertainty and confusion to voters that undermines the integrity of our elections. While RCV theoretically requires the successful candidate to reach a majority of votes, RCV results in exhausted ballots when voters only rank one or two candidates, particularly in races in which voters do not possess information about every candidate. Rather than ensuring candidates receive a majority of votes, RCV can too easily result in voters not having their voice counted at all in the subsequent rounds of tabulation. | Will Arlington County require all voters to rank every candidate in order of preference or will voters be able to simply rank one or two candidates | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 2201 | This is the worst system ever. It is convoluted and confusing. It can take a long time to tabulate votes. It is way too complex for the ordinary voter. It should be unconstitutional. The Founders never intended for this kind of system. I hate it and I hope Arlington never does it. I hate RCV so much I would consider filing a lawsuit against it. | None. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Oppose. | Why is Arlington considering this now? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Every vote should count. Introducing a system where it is possible that the majority of votes cast end up as exhausted ballots and equal to them not even coming to the polls to vote is not a better system. | There have been complaints that requiring identification or social security numbers is unfair and meant to depress voter turnout. Do you think this multi-tiered system very few fully understand will motivate more people to vote or less? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I do not support RCV... Stick with the original plurality voting system. | Why reinvent the wheel? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I do not support rank choice voting. There is no reason to adopt. | Why is this being considered and why would we pay to change our voting process? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | We should be voting on DISTRICT-based voting, where each county board member represents a geographically contiguous area of the County. County Board is very concerned about hearing from underserved communities, and giving them a voice. District based voting is the way to achieve this, not ranked choice. | Why aren't we pursuing district based voting, in the name of representation and equity? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Opposed | none | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I denounce and repudiate rank-choice voting most strongly because it locks out promising third- party or unaffiliated candidates. ONE VOTER GETS ONE, AND ONLY ONE, VOTE. Ranked choice voting is bullshit. | Do not implement ranked choice voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Terrible idea. Do not support it at all. | Why do you want to change the voting structure? What need is there to do so? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | An individual should win based on the actual number of votes. Not some made up process that does not allow the peoples top choice to win. | Exactly what is wrong with the individual with the most votes winning - the people's top choice? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22201 | I DO NOT support the change. IMHO it will only further undermine the credibility of voting by drawing out the process and injecting greater uncertainty. You/the Board should first insure that residents eligible to vote have confidence that the County can run credible elections. Unfortunately, election deniers across the country and this state have undermined confidence in our electoral system changing it at this point will only further embolden them. | Why now? Whose behind it? The Republican are weak in this County because those like Chucinnelli (sp) supported the worst possible gay discrimination. They would deny a woman's choice to make her health care decisions. If you can't implement the current system credibly, why do you think changing it will improve it. Aside from Member Kahntokis (sp) who won a special track closed primary, do any of you others really think that helped the County being viewed as a Democratic closed club. I'm a democrat but embarrassed to be one in this County. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a horrible idea because it allows a contested race to be pre-determined by a coalition, especially when multiple seats are up for election. Why do we want winners based on someone's "other" choice? | What safeguards will Arlington County put in place to prevent fraud and exploitation of the loopholes this type of voting creates? The popularity of ranked choice voting is promoted only by those unhappy that they cannot win and election outright. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I am strongly opposed to ranked choice voting. We live in a majority rule democracy. Ranked choice voting often results in unintended consequences because people are trying to game their choices to influence a specific outcome. The election becomes one more about manipulation than about electing the strongest candidate based on qualifications and policy positions. We should eschew this trendy election process that causes more problems than it solves | I have no questions other than the rhetoric one of why are we wasting our time creating divisions among our citizenry with ideas such as ranked choice voting, missing middle re-zoning, and thumbing our noses at the citizens who pay taxes here by shredding the Arlington Way until it no longer is recognizable now as the courteous, consensus-building process that encouraged many of us to move here. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I think this is a horrible idea. Each candidate should run on their own record and priorities. Ranked voting in Arlington would effectively eliminate voter choice as well as anyone with an opposing point of view. | Is this a form of voter suppression? Is the county, or democratic party, attempting to eliminate non-democratic party candidates? Why are you implementing ranked voting fir candidates instead of fir funding and bonds? Why do you thing this is a goid idea? What problem are you attempting to fix? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | In am not in favor of rank choice voting.in Arlington. In areas where there are many different political groups this does seem like a viable option. Since I believe in one person one vote, would RCV give those who are willing to rank less desirable candidates lower , more of an influence than those w/o a second or third choice ? That if true , how can that be legal ? I feel it's important to invest the money to make sure the results reflect the electriates will as opposed in using RCV as a cost savings. It also seems to matter how it is applied. When there is a single office it's application seems relatively straight forward. However, I am concerned that its use when multie seats are up for grabs.. | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Each voter should get one vote not several. It can lead to a second-place person winning. | Can the county please instead split the county into districts instead of having at-large members. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | This is ridiculous. Spend time doing something you rarely do, that is, something to improve the everyday quality of life in Arlington. | No questions. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | very bad idea | why bother | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Negative. Makes finding a winner to complicated. Want same day results. | Why would the county board even consider this stupid idea? Why would intelligent people on the County board even consider this unless to confuse the voters? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22201 | I am absolutely opposed to ranked choice voting. The old system is fine as it is. Stop messing with it. There is already plenty of doubt in the integrity of elections in general, please do not make that worse by trying ranked choice voting. It is manipulative and prone to abuse. Just stop. And while I am at it. Bring back ONE DAY voting, all on paper, and all counted in one day. The rules for absentee voting should return to how it was 30+ years ago, where it had to be requested by mail well in advance and it had to be signed by a witness, and dated very specifically. We did it as college students and it should remain an anomaly to regular, in-person voting. 7am-7pm is plenty of time to vote. We all managed it for decades and decades, why are people all of the sudden less competent? Voting is a sacred right which comes with a serious responsibility to know what you are doing and know how to do it. Stop messing around with something as sacred as a well run election! | As a recent primary in Alaska clearly demonstrates, the ranked choice voting leaves voters frustrated and feeling cheated. There is simply no reason to change the normal method of voting. I also believe that constant meddling in the election system breeds contempt and mistrust. There is simply no argument for ranked choice voting that justifies such a change. Beware awakening a sleeping giant-those generally apathetic to politics will rise up and revolt against the party who institutes this unfounded system...Much like we learned that an educational system hostile to the parents will eventually find itself in ruins. It may take time, but it will eventually come, even in Arlington. School lockdowns, mask mandates, vaccine mandates and other liberty-limiting policies of the past 2+ years need to be honestly reviewed with a critical eye, and a sense of problem-solving must return. Ranked choice voting is clearly NOT a return to rational problems solving. Rather, it is a problem causer! | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | If it isn't broke there is no need for a fix. The existing system works fine. | What is the need for rank choice when current system is working fine | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I am not in favor. The idea that ranked choice voting will, somehow, improve upon the current system is a fallacy. If a plurality is not considered enough to put a person in office, then the election should go to a runoff. The electorate needs to have clear choices. There is too much room for manipulation otherwise. | The winner of a ranked choice election will never have a clear mandate the way a clear majority winner will. There will always be doubts about how the result came about. Voters may not take their 2nd and 3rd choices as seriously as they should. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Oppose. Not necessary. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I think a candidate should only be selected if they are a clear first choice. | Why would you want everyone's 2nd choice? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | NO !! | No questions | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | NO! NO! NO! The current county board has no trust within the county! With the crazy proposals, frivolous and costly proposals like the Clarendon Million Dollar Dog Park, crazy spending on play parks, trolley route, gondola to Georgetown, mega swimming pool that no one uses, Artisphere fiasco, and the most insane of all--Missing Middle/Elimination of Single Family Zoning, no one trusts anything that the County Board suggests! | Don't trust anything the Board wants, given their past conduct! | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I oppose the use of ranked-choice voting. | Ranked-choice voting should not be implemented. The Arlington County Board should stop wasting their time on this exercise. It is a waste of resources. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The rationale for this has not been proven with real-life examples from Arlington, and it can have unintended negative effects. | Please explain rationale without the kneejerk answers that have been given thus far. If there is an underlying philosophy, pls be honest about it. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The County should not proceed with ranked-choice voting. This method is confusing and coercive. I direct you to Kim Strassel's Wall Street Journal piece on the chaos and voter disenfranchisement created by ranked-choice voting in Alaska. The current system works just fine. Drop ranked-choice voting and stop wasting taxpayers' money. | Ranked-choice voting should not be implemented because it confuses and coerces voters. It is a terrible voting method and should never be implemented in Arlington County. Those County Board Members that advocate for ranked-choice voting should be IMPEACHED. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I do not want to go to ranked choice voting at this time. Our current voting system is functional and trustworthy, and until ranked choice voting systems are more familiar to the public, I do not believe we should move to this system. "If it isn't broken, don't fix it." | No further comment. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting inserts a bureaucrat and bureaucracy in the midst of the voter's ballots. There is already mistrust or distrust in a straight forward one person, one vote system. Are you ready to open pardora's box to every sort of accusation by having a ranked choice process? | I don't have any questions. I see how poorly the ranked choice process played out in the last primary election in Alaska. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22201 | Do not think the “Ned” or benefit has been proven | Can you show test results from actual elections before making an actual change? Would be a fair test if evaluating actual candidates. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I am unequivocally opposed to the idea as I believe it fundamentally goes against the idea in a democracy that every vote should count. In some cases votes will for all practical purposes “disappear” if the candidate one votes for does not reach a threshold. I understand that it may be quicker and easier for the vote tally, but I am not willing to sacrifice anyone’s vote just because it’s easier. Democracy is hard and messy but it works better than top down bureaucracy. Let the individual decide. He/she doesn’t need a one party monopolistic bureaucracy to think for him; that’s frankly patronizing. | I have no questions. I’ve read the materials on this website and others. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The Board should not adopt ranked-choice voting. This method is overly complicated. It requires a voter to consider not just the merits of all candidates, but also all possible permutations of ranked choices and each ranked choice’s likelihood. This is excessively time consuming and burdensome for voters, particularly those who need to work and care for their families. The method is also opaque because it is difficult for a voter to understand who will actually be elected based on her ranked choices. The winner of a ranked choice election depends on the interaction of all ranked choices of all other voters and it is not possible for a single voter to have information about other voters’ ranked choices. The excessively complicated nature of this method, and its burdensome and opaque nature will dissuade many voters from voting. Thus, ranked choice voting will discourage and disenfranchise people from participating in the democratic process. | What is the Board’s actual reason for implementing ranked-choice voting? Is the Board’s real reason for implementing ranked-choice voting an attempt to maintain the Democratic Party’s hold over the governance of Arlington County, in spite of the Democrats’ dismal record of governance? Is the Board’s real reason for implementing ranked-choice voting an attempt to discourage voters, i.e., voter suppression? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The rules governing rank-choice voting allow voters to assign more than one candidate to a rank to express their preferences. The County’s plan does not consider this option. Why not? Also, if machines are to be used to count votes, they should be tested if the system is designed to process voter preferences through more than one round of voting to produce a majority winner. Currently, FEC standards do not require such testing. | RCV may actually increase the number and diversity of candidates running for office. This effect involves potential tradeoffs that should be analyzed. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I don’t see any real value in ranked choice voting, and do not think it is needed here. If it is implemented, it will probably take a couple of election cycles before voters somewhat understand it, and it will likely help further division in the community. There are other things that the Board can work on that would be of more use to the community (improving economic development & quality of issues in core corridors, etc.). | Honestly, why it is needed here in the first place? It creates confusion where current elections are pretty easy to understand. It can also create divisive coalitions, and help lead wing candidates to victory. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I don’t know if this is the right direction for Arlington. I’d prefer the county find a way to conduct elections countywide with proportional representation, which would give a better chance to voters who are not Democrats to have representation. It would be nice to have some diversity of thought on the board instead of one-party rule. | None | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | I would like to try it for primaries and then review the process, not automatically move to it for general election. | This supposes that we have positions with many candidates per position, has that happened often in our elections? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | I’m interested to see how well it works in operation. | I’m going to take a wait and see approach to this. | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | The scheme is completely worthless, unless all five members stand for ealection at the same time. | Why not have all five members stand for election (or as is more common, reelection) if voters are going to get multiple choices? | Yes | 3 - Neutral |

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| 22201 | Ranked Choice voting in single seat primaries, as has been proposed does virtually nothing to improve the current system. Arlington should look at a multi-seat RCV system (also known as proportional representation), similar to what is used in Cambridge MA and other places, and use it in the general election. Such a system would be much more effective in lowering barriers to entry, ensuring a diverse board, and helping ensure that the Board represents the people of Arlington. (For background information, see the Arlington Civic Federation's TIGER report. TIGER's recommendations could go further, but are far better than the current proposal) | Have you considered multi-seat ranked choice voting? What are you doing to make sure Arlingtonians truly know about different voting options before adopting a new system? Why not do away with the primaries and use rank choice in the General Election, allowing everyone to participate. Will you consider doing away with staggered terms and allow Arlingtonians to elect representative candidates all at once, as in Congressional and state legislature elections. | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | I am absolutely in favor of ranked-choice voting at every level of elections, so seeing it adopted at the county level would be great! | Would the county be able to include the School Board in its decision to move to ranked-choice voting? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I like the idea of rank choice voting. | How would it be implemented? Would results take much longer to get? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I would like to use ranked-choice voting. It would be a good process/system for elections here in Arlington. | N/A | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | NA | Would this significantly delay the releasing the results? Does Arlington have the technology to support this? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting might improve candidate quality | NA | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Ok | None | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Introducing ranked choice voting to the County Board primary in 2023 is a good move. Voters can learn about its implementation during this pilot project before such a system is more widely adopted. | Will the detailed vote counts, including tabulations from each run-off, be shared promptly with the public? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I am personally attracted to Ranked Choice Voting, but I am concerned that it could impact voters who already tend to participate less. If we were to adopt it, it would require extensive education campaigns, partnering with organizations such as LWV, NAACP, or others who could help reach voting groups who may not be as familiar with the process. | Could it depress voting in certain populations? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Campaign spending limits! No candidate can neither raise nor spend more than \$1,500 for any campaign. Even the playing field! | Why do you not also impose campaign spending limits? And, please, don't cry, "the state won't let us." It's always somebody, something other than this local government. Simple: No candidate can neither raise nor spend more than \$1,500 for any campaign. Even the playing field! | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I think it would be a good idea. | If implemented, would there be sufficient education of voters on exactly how it works? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | none | Do I understand this correctly from the explanation....."The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and voters who ranked that candidate as their first choice will have their votes count for their "next choice""? Does this mean that if the voter did not choose a "2nd choice", but instead selected a "third choice", then their "next choice" would be their "third choice"? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I'd be interested in trying it. I'd be even more interested in seeing Approval voting as an option. | I see very little information about how Arlington is considering implementing it, beyond a very general FAQ. Can we have more information? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I am in favor | would it apply to all elected positions? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Try it for local elections. See how it goes. If many problems administering it emerge, be able to summarize them and report them to the public. | Americans are accustomed to having candidates who gain a plurality of votes win. Not sure how RCV will sit with people who think the current method is fairest. Will RCV really decrease negativity and divisiveness in elections? If so, let's try it. | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Good idea in general. Usually leads to more moderation & less extremes. Not sure it's necessary in small jurisdictions like Arlington. | Similar to my questions about the Missing Middle: would like to see statistics about results of this being used in similar areas before it is tried here. | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22201 | I believe ranked choice voting would benefit the County as well as other jurisdictions by reducing the likelihood of extremist candidates, from either the left or right. Primaries typically have very low voter turnout and candidates often appeal to those most motivated to vote in a primary, more often than not the far left or far right. Ranked choice voting eliminates the primary and simply allows the most popular candidates to rise to the top, and also allows voters to rank alternative choices. I encourage the board to vote for ranked choice voting. | I would like to understand the details and timing of any proposed implementation. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I think ranked voting is great. | I have no questions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Do it please it leads to a better democracy | None. I've used it at work and watch CPGrey videos on the topic | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting for all elections. It provides the voters with the best menu of options and the ability to have their voice heard, by having multiple preferences considered. It will increase turnout particularly for those who may feel disaffected. I support this proposal. | Voters will need to be educated about the benefits of ranked choice voting and how to make their selections, as many may be unfamiliar with the concept. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would greatly improve election fairness and would give third party candidates a fair shot and enable voters to more accurately represent their interests | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Big fan of ranked choice voting and I fully support it. | Will there be a maximum/cap on the number of candidates from either major political party? Will there be a maximum "top 3" (or whatever number) candidates or would all potential candidates be able to be ranked. How will the public be educated on what ranked choice voting is, the pros/cons, and other information a constituent needs to know. What will the timeframe from approval to implementation be? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting. However, I don't think Arlington residents will benefit from ranked choice voting until we move away from having staggered terms and elections for County Board members. We need an election policy that increases prospects for a Board that reflects *all* of Arlington and one that is less prone to group think and smugness.. | Will Arlington use mock elections to educate voters, shake out bugs and allow ample time for feedback and possible changes? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a good step towards diversifying the political candidate pool and making the system more equitable. I'm fully in favor. | Are there other potential voting systems being considered? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I would be in support of switching to ranked voting. | How do we ensure that information is on the change and how to now vote is widely available? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I want ranked choice voting for ALL elections at County level, not just the primary election. RCV will ensure that County-level bodies represent EVERYONE, not just the tiny fraction of voters who participate in a firehouse primary. The current system lacks legitimacy because it elects people who all have the same views - as seen in the debate on Missing Middle. We need RCV, for the Board's diversity, credibility and legitimacy. Because a primary winner can have a lock on the general election, we need RCV for ALL elections. Some will say RCV is costly and it delays determining the winner. These are not valid objections! Arlington can cut costs by learning from jurisdictions that already have RCV. As for delay - if that's what matters most, why hold elections at all? Finally: ALL County Board members should be elected at the same time. | (1) Many other jurisdictions have RCV - and in some, RCV dates back tens of years. They have a lot of knowledge on how to implement RCV efficiently and transparently. How will the County Board learn from them on how to organize RCV so it is efficient and cost-effective? (2) The County Board instituted staggered terms for the Board in the 1950s in order to prevent or deter Black representation on the Board. When will the Board take a hard look at how racism shaped how Arlington chooses its elected government? Why not combine RCV with a switch to electing all County Board members at the same time? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I fully support ranked-choice voting and want to see it adopted in Arlington. | No questions at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Much better than current system | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of ranked-choice voting. | If Arlington proceeds with ranked-choice voting, when would it begin? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | It's a good idea, to enable more diverse candidates and avoid small minority/plurality wins. | It's important to publish the results in full, showing how the runoffs played out. Consider also how to handle multi seat elections. I think there's a case to be made for districted board and school board elections—not necessarily rigid districts but some way to guarantee district wide (and racial) representation in currently at-large elections. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Yes! Very good idea. | No-I have a good understanding and fully support | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support implementing ranked-choice voting. I hope the county will implement a process for completing all rounds of the vote counting quickly. | I am comfortable with my understanding of the voting method. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of ranked-choice voting. | Has the board studied other places that have introduced RCV, what their experience has been, lessons learned etc.? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | i'm for it, i've heard that communicating how it works to the voters can be tricky but it seems like it works fine in practice, it allows people to try a moon shoot for a wacky candidate and still have a say in who actually wins. | none | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I would love to see Arlington use Ranked Choice Voting for all elections as soon as possible. | I have no questions and do not think it will be difficult to explain ranked choice voting to Arlingtonians. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Strongly support. As leading county in America, we should set the example, and try to provide more realistic options than the current two-party slate currently does. Realistically, our county candidates are strong and generally reasonable, so results may not change that much. But we should lead by example for the rest of the US | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Finally - this is the best way to choose candidates by a consensus, rather than having similar candidate cancel each other out and resulting in an inferior candidate win the election. | Can we also eliminate the Democratic/Republican primaries? Just have one rank-choice election without primaries. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked-choice voting is more fair and more efficient. Hooray for RCV!! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | We should absolutely adopt ranked choice voting. We have an effective one party system at the Arlington County board. This will at least allow board members to be held more accountable to voters on more specific issues without Democratic voters having to worry about enabling the election of a Republican. That is simply the reality of Arlington. I don't want to wind up with an ineffective government like DC. | Will this replace the Democratic caucus, which is an extremely insular system that is outdated? Will party ID be included on the ballot? Will we still be able to use the scanning machines for voting efficiently? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Besides educating constituents and maybe extra cost there is no reason not to move to ranked choice voting. These seem like easy hurdles to overcome to have an outcome that actually reflects the majority of voters and discourages negative campaigning. | What is an actual reason not to do it? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly support the implementation of ranked-choice voting. I would like to vote for a candidate without having to worry about being a spoiler vote. For example let's say there are 3 candidates running: A, B and C. Candidates A and B are the most popular with C the least popular. I may want to vote for candidate C but because I would rather have Candidate A over Candidate B I vote for Candidate A. If ranked-vote voting were implemented then I could rank C first, A second and B third. That way I wouldn't have to worry about wasting a vote and potentially ending with the with candidate I least prefer end up winning. | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | 100 percent supportive | Zero. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Strongly in favor! I believe that ranked-choice voting is more democratic (in that it captures more detail on voters' preferences) and produces more cooperative and moderate outcomes. | If rolled out, I would want an education campaign so people understand it's benefits (so it isn't rolled back if people are confused/misinformed) | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support rank choice voting for all election races, including Presidential, US Senate, US House of Rep, State, and local races. Let's try it out with the next County Supervisor election race. | What procedures will be established to ensure results are tabulated as quickly as possible so that a final result doesn't take weeks to attain? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked-choice voting in Arlington elections. Please do not delay any longer. | It is easy to understand if properly explained. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Ranked choice voting supports diverse beliefs and ideas. | Would this apply to all political elections within county or just county board? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would be great! | How much voter education will there be? To the extent the county has multiple options for implementation, how will a decision be made? How much input will voters have in making that decision? What experts will be involved in the decision making? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Thank you. Rcv is great. This should be a stronger step. Rcv for all local elections. Multi seat rcv is the gold standard we need to eventually aim for. | What is taking you so long? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly favor ranked choice voting. | How soon can it be implemented? The sooner the better. Also, something different should be implemented to change Arlington's staggered term regime. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked-choice voting represents a big step forward towards creating a more perfect union. Other localities in the commonwealth are waiting for someone to take the lead on this. If Arlington County does not adopt ranked-choice voting soon, there will be a delay in the Commonwealth adopting it. We are fortunate to have a very competent and able General Registrar and staff that will be able to implement a successful roll out and blaze a trail for the rest of the State. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm 100% in favor of ranked-choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I am very strongly in favor of ranked-choice voting. It ought to be implemented nationwide. No candidate should be able to win election with less than a majority of votes. | What voter information campaign does the county plan to run? Will poll workers onsite be trained to clearly and concisely explain the process and answer any questions voters may have? If RCV is implemented, will the Arlington Democratic Party use it or will they seek to avoid it by having a caucus or convention? How will RCV impact the amount of time it takes to publish election results, and what is the county's plan to prepare residents for delays and explain the process? What procedure will vote tabulators follow if voters fail to rank choices and simply mark off one or more candidates, e.g. with an "X" or checkmark? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm a strong supporter. It rewards campaigns that appeal to the middle. It's less partisan. Let's be leaders and do it. | How would you educate people so they aren't surprised and confused when they arrive at the voting booth? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | RCV gives me a stronger influence in an election where my first choice is not the first choice the majority. I believe it should pressure against negative campaigning. | One of the biggest negatives to RCV may be educating the public to its advantages and thus moving away from the status quo. If necessary, does the County have the patience and guidance to make the change? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of ranked choice voting as it is a way to make our elections less partisan. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Please implement it. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly support RCV | Is it possible for RCV to be voted on via ballot measure instead of via County Board resolution? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I favor RCV as a way to allow us to vote for whom we really want, rather than against the person we fear most. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Ranked choice voting is a great way to help strengthen our democratic institutions. By allowing voters a second and third choice, it allows voters to vote for a candidate they may like best, without worrying about throwing away their vote. It is a check against extremism and a generally unpopular candidate from winning with a small plurality of the vote. In summary, I am a strong supporter of ranked choice voting for arlington. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | STRONGLY SUPPORT | HOW SOON CAN WE START? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I fully support ranked-choice voting. It will encourage candidates to consider all voters and better reflect the range of voter opinions. | Are there proposed limitations on the number of candidates? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | I support it. I wonder why this is limited to the primaries. My preference would be to eliminate primaries and have one non-partisan race using Rank Choice Voting in November. | Why not at the November general election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support this means of voting because it will eliminate costly additional elections. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I am strongly in favor of ranked choice voting. | I'd just want the instructions to be very, very clear so nobody is confused when they vote. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | n/a | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly endorse it, not only for Arlington, but throughout the U.S. as a way of reducing political polarization. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | This is a very admirable issue that helps enfranchise more voters in the jurisdiction, and would make elections more fair. | What will the threshold need to be for people who want to run as candidates in a ranked-choice election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | The Arlington County Board should adopt rank choice voting for all elections. The benefits far outweigh any detriments. | Why has it taken Arlington County so long to embrace rank choice voting? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting (RCV) would be a great addition to our local political system. I believe that candidates should receive at least 50% of the vote to win, and RCV guarantees that outcome where a plurality system does not (at least not every time). RCV also eliminates "spoiler" candidates (i.e., Ross Perot and Ralph Nader). I am absolutely in support of RCV in Arlington for our Board and primary election candidates. | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked-choice voting as it may result in more diverse candidates on the Board that are representative of the full community in Arlington. | When would it be implemented? Would the Board also be expanded? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I think it has a very good chance of successful implementation with few glitches in Arlington County, which has a high proportion of well-educated voters. I think Arlington would be an excellent testing ground for the rest of Virginia. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | YES! We should move to ranked choice voting. It would encourage more candidates to run for the county board. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Absolutely, makes the most sense. Do something right and adopt it. | Voters need to be educated about the process | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of Ranked Choice Voting. | How soon could it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | it's about time! | How quickly can this be implemented? Before the 2023 election? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm for it | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I think ranked choice voting is a great idea and will break the stranglehold that the democrats have over the County Board. For a long time, many of us have been trying to get independent voices in to the Board. Ranked choice will allow voters to vote for more than just one candidate. | I would want to make sure that voters know that their candidate may not be elected. In the past, it was virtually guaranteed that the democratic candidate was going to get elected. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I enthusiastically support ranked-choice voting. It provides the fairest outcome. | How quickly would election results be announced? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Believe RCV will allow for more fair consideration of candidates from political parties other than Dem/Rep. | Providing instructions that are easily understandable by all voters. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly support RCV and I urge you to adopt it immediately. It is simpler for voters after first use, requires less guesswork. It tends to lead to more civil campaigns, and it reduces the chance a widely disliked candidate will be elected just because the field was crowded. | Like any other voting procedure, RCV requires some voter education for first time users. After the first time it becomes natural. I recommend finding trained educators at each polling place the first time it is implemented. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I would like to see Arlington adopt RCV. Currently, the Democratic primary is effectively the deciding election, and while I am a Democrat, I often dislike the candidates chosen or endorsed by Arlington's Democratic Party. County board candidates with the party's support seem to be able to stay in office indefinitely and are more responsive to the most wealthy, conservative Democrats rather than progressives or minority voters. Switching to RCV could require candidates to appeal to more voters and make races fairer, more competitive, and more representative. In RCV, the candidate with the broadest swatch of support rather than the strongest base wins, and that seems more democratic than the current process. | I do find RCV to be a bit confusing, and I have a PhD! While I support implementing it, I would ask that the county provide ample explainers in multiple languages (esp. Spanish) so that voters understand the process fully. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV and think our county should immediately implement it. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | I think the problem which most needs addressing is that we have a very small slice of the Dem electorate putting its candidates into office every single time. There is much more variation of opinion within the Democratic Party in Arlington than turns up on the dais at School or County Board. We have a LOT too many 5-0 votes, for issues which are NOT 5-0 issues. If we shift to ranked choice voting, and in particular shift from our current staggered terms for Board members to electing more members at once, we will get a better representation of the opinion groups in the electorate - both inside and outside the Dems. Most Arlingtonians are Dems, so most of those elected would be Dems, but there will be much better representation of the span of opinions here. The other big problem is that Feds can't run in partisan primaries, so are excluded from running for office here - if we drop the partisan primaries, as ranked choice permits, that problem goes away | Ranked choice can enable us to get rid of partisan primaries and run the election entirely in November. I guess if there is a question, it is what kind of justification can be offered not to make that choice. Somehow the below questions don't take text for me, so I will answer here: I voted in ranked choice elections for school board caucus in Arlington and in municipal elections in Cambridge Mass | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Great idea. This approach will best reflect the full preferences of the voters. | None. I'm familiar with the approach. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Great idea. Glad you are giving it a try. | Is the County considering the possibility of combining ranked choice voting with dividing Arlington into five separate voting districts? Having all County-wide candidates reduces diversity. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Hi Arlington County Board, My name is Ben Silvan - I'm a young professional living near Court House. I recently completed my Masters in Technology Management at Georgetown, and did my Bachelors in Economics & Political Science at UChicago a couple years prior. My biggest concern with America's political structures is that we are incentivizing bad behavior. Our current plurality-wins approach contributes to this issue, and Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) would move us in the right direction. It does so in 3 ways. 1) RCV incentivizes candidates to cater to a larger swath of the population because you want 2nd place votes too, disincentivizing extremism and incentivizing reasonableness. 2) RCV disincentivizes negative campaigning (attack ads) for the same reason. 3) RCV gives lesser-known candidates a chance and eliminates the "spoiler effect" The benefits abound. I'm very excited to hear that Arlington is considering the policy, and strongly urge this body to adopt it. Thanks, Ben | I would like more clarity into the financial cost of RCV. As someone who has followed these developments relatively closely, I feel this body hasn't been as transparent in this aspect as it could be. Previously, I recall discussion around the number of \$3 million. Is this still the cost estimate or has something changed? Does this sticker price solely relate to the implementation of RCV functionality in voting machines, or other benefits as well (e.g. more updated models of voting machines, better security provisions, the option to integrate additional add-ons in the future, etc)? Because of the incentive-related benefits of RCV, I believe a sizeable upfront cost is justified. But I would like further clarity into what that cost is. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea. It may help to elect more moderate candidates. My preferred candidate is often unlikely to win, so I would personally benefit from being able to pick a second choice as well as a first choice. | Is it intuitive? How can we tell if voters are getting confused and filling it out incorrectly? I'm not worried about this for myself but this system has to work for everyone. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Good evening. I hope all of you are well. Thank you for reading this comment. I am very interested in expanding the utilization of ranked choice voting and open primaries. There is much I do not know, pertaining to the impact this would have on your processes and interests. If possible, I would love to learn more and figure out how we could move forward together. | What are the main challenges preventing the implementation of ranked choice voting? What are its main drawbacks? Is the current status quo the most effective and representative democracy we can muster? What are you doing to slow/revert the widespread polarization afflicting society and politics? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Sounds great. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting as a means to ensure that the voice of the voters is more clearly heard in elections. I have dual citizen, and have experienced different t voting systems including party list systems. While such system can get complex if implemented poorly, they can also allow for greater choice while limiting some of the extremes that currently exist in the US. | How it is implemented is critical. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | "Winner" may have a weak plurality, say only 38%, when most voters preferred someone else. In RCV, there are no wasted votes. See Mary Peltola's race in Alaska. | None -- RCV is preferable on all counts. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I favor maximum shift to ranked choice voting. This includes the Board's intent to move to ranked choice primary for 2023 and I would also favor using ranked choice voting for the 2023 general. The benefits of ranked choice voting are greatest when multiple candidates are elected at the same time, and the Board should request authorization from the legislature to elect Board members all at once. I support the CivFed TIGER report on enlarging the Board. Current system does not enable the variety of communities within the County to select their representatives effectively. | questions? advice, maybe: look at the educational material used in other jurisdictions putting RCV into place (Maine, NYC, Albany Calif Oakland Calif San Francisco Minneapolis) and think what are best practices for voter education here. Get better voting machines for Arlington which can enable voters to rank into the teens, as I expect early elections in particular will have many candidates. The question below this one does not allow text for me, only yes/no. I have voted in RCV in school board caucus in Arlington and in Cambridge Mass | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting should absolutely be implemented in Arlington. It gives minor party candidates a chance to win elections, decreases polarization, and incentivizes elected decision makers to do what's best for more of their constituents than the most engaged or extreme voters. It also improves the chances of female and minority candidates. | How will less engaged voters be educated about the switch to and how to use ranked choice voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Sounds like a good option. Let's try it. | Will the voting process take longer in RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Anything to improve the current situation with respect to voting. Might not matter much in Arlington but a start. | Does it matter if only 2 candidates are running for an office? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | While a bit more trouble than conventional winner take all races, my experience with ranked choice voting is overwhelming positive. I highly endorse it's use for Arlington elections. I think it more fair and leads to more participation in running for office. | What authority would run and monitor the ranked choice election process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would better represent voters' preferences in elections. The "winner take all" approach encourages extremism in positions and rewards partisanship. Ranked choice voting would enable a candidate to earn a broader base of support in order to be elected. | How much in advance of an election will ranked choice voting be implemented? How will the public be educated about the way it works and its implications for the candidates to be elected? How many 'elimination rounds' will there be before a winner is declared (in other words, is a candidate declared the winner when he or she reaches a plurality of votes? Or some other total?) | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Thank you for offering this option to maximize the chances that the elected officials actually align with voters' interests!! | When will we consider offering ranked choice voting for other positions? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I am in favor of anything that would reduce the 'lock' that the Arlington County Democratic Committee has on elections. I vote 99% of the time for Democrats (except for the County Board), and my message is that I feel like I have little in common with the ACDC and the ACB. The self-righteousness and arrogance of the current CB members and ACDC leadership are too much. The CB Members - except for Takis - are really skilled at LECTURING their constituents (looking at you in this order, Christian, Libby, Katie, Matt) - and it is so annoying. Even on issues that I don't care about or would even possibly agree with the Board's position, I just listen to the way they talk to people and manipulate 'public engagement'. Really disgusting. They really turn off many of my neighborhood. This isn't about Missing Middle for me as I can see some value in looking at housing - but not the way the County is going about it. Another thing - the way the ACB manipulates commissions - a joke. | Is it possible for ranked-choice voting to somehow get someone on the Board who is not lock-step with ACDC and the ACB and certain extremists on some of the commissions? If so, I'm all for ranked-choice voting. I'm also interested in the work of the TIGER group with CivFed. And also on district voting - would be great. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Voters need this! Please do it asap. Our politics favors polarization, rank order voting helps reflect voters nuanced preferences. | None, seems like a straightforward proposition. Transparency and electoral safeguards won't change right? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | This is so necessary and required. It is the only way for us to have real choices, particularly in a place like Arlington where voters are skewed so much in favor of one party. It provides real options for voters and makes elected officials more responsive | How quickly we can expand to all positions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Overall support as a fairer voting method | What are the exact rules that will be followed? Are there similar jurisdictions where this is in place that we could model Arlington's a new system? How would this be rolled out and introduced to the community? Why would this only be for Board seats? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | RCV seems like a good idea worth supporting and trying. Studies show it encourages better candidates who are more representative of the population | What ways can we explain the process better to increase understanding? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting as it makes more voices heard. | How are run-offs to be conducted? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I urge the Board to adopt RCV for the next primary, and to strongly consider it for the general election. I'm in favor of any process that makes voting more open and accessible to everybody in a fair, ungerrymandered manner. | Will the County provide maximum education to the public on RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | It's great! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I stand by the decision to utilize RCV for all voting | How can we make it more equitable | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would allow for voters to have more say during elections. | How do you plan to educate people to ensure they fill out ballots correctly? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | As an Arlington resident and voter, I strongly support Ranked Choice Voting. The current system allows for the possibility that candidates not supported by the majority of Arlington voters could win election. Ranked-choice voting ensures that like-minded candidates do not split votes and encourages candidates to favor less divide tactics and cross-party unity over loud, attention-grabbing, or divisive tactics. | I have no questions, the system seems straightforward enough to me. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Please use rcv | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I believe implementing ranked choice voting is a great idea! It's a great way to ensure the candidate that wins is most widely appealing. | N/A | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | We need rank choice voting for all of our elections not just the primaries. In fact the primaries are highly discriminatory and exclusive and illuminate a lot of the population so let's focus on getting ranchers voting in all of our races. With rank choice voting that political parties will not have to that the candidates anymore and we can get rid of the primaries and caucuses all together | With rank choice voting that political parties will not have to that the candidates anymore and we can get rid of the primaries and caucuses all together | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Arlington county should adopt ranked-choice voting. Given that county issues are more granular than party politics, it allows for residents to make clearer choices about policies. Especially given that Arlington County is highly liberal, ranked choice would allow for more differences between candidates who are liberal. | How can the county help move ranked-choice voting statewide? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Arlington should implement ranked choice voting to empower voters with more choice and strengthen the health of our democracy | How can voters best be educated on how to fill out their ballots under ranked choice voting? How can ballots best be designed to make this as easy as possible? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Yes! We need RCV. | N/A | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | There are a lot of benefits to RCV and Arlington should implement this system. I am in support of eliminating vote splitting, encouraging candidates to work across the aisle and ensuring a winner with majority support. This will also help me vote for the candidate I believe in versus thinking I am throwing away my vote if I don't vote for the popular candidate who may not be the one I want to vote in office. | How quickly can this process be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV, please vote yes! Voters should have the freedom to select who they want without having to worry about the spoiler effect or vote splitting. | Why wouldn't you vote for it, its a no-brainer. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I believe that for this to work you need to change the election cycle so that more board Members were up for election at the same time. I'm all for ranked choice but not if there are only two candidates in the county board race. | See above | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a great way to make sure that people can vote based on their true preferences without having to worry about the strategic voting that a first past the post (FPTP) system necessitates. RCV would both help voters feel more empowered and help elected officials better understand what their constituents are looking for in leaders by allowing voters to express true support for unique platforms while still participating meaningfully in the electorate. We should implement RCV in Arlington as soon as possible. | Would Arlington be able to effectively educate voters on how RCV works and what it's benefits are? What can we learn from its implementation in other states (such as Maine)? I think Arlington is well placed to lead Virginia and find meaningful answers to these questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I fully support ranked choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV and want your support for RCV as well!! | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV, and think it should be implemented everywhere. It helps build consensus candidates. | I don't have any questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Why are you dragging your feet on this? We've had previous experiments, they went well. In the name of democracy, implement this instead of kicking it down the road. | What are you waiting for? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked-choice voting 100%. It promotes civility among the candidates, and ensures that the final winner has the support of the majority of voters. I see no downside. | It requires voter education, which Arlington is capable of doing. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked-choice voting would more accurately reflect the voters' opinions. it would prevent people from voting for their second choice candidate if they think their first choice candidate is unlikely to win. | How would the votes be tallied? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting. RCV means winners with closer to majority support -- you don't just have to win the Democratic Party primary, you have to win votes from the whole electorate. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. GO FOR IT! Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | Have you considered the other recommendations of the Civic Federation's TIGER group, as well? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support it. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting." RCV means winners with closer to majority support -- you don't just have to win the Democratic Party primary, you have to win votes from the whole electorate. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support the use of ranked-choice voting in future Arlington County elections. I want to be able to vote my conscience for my most preferred candidate, without having to weigh who is the most electable person that I'm content with or "wasting my vote". It also discourages candidates from extremist or negative campaigning, where the goal is to stake out a position that's unpopular with the majority but appeals to a decisive plurality. Ranked-choice voting encourages candidates to reach out for a broad consensus, and the winner is the reflection of who the majority of the voters ultimately decide is the best candidate. This is a simple and proven way to offer voters a wide diversity of candidates and positions while also protecting against the potential of abuse or electoral quirks that subvert the intent of the electorate | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'd love to see Arlington adopt rank choice voting. | What the education campaign would be to help people understand how to use it | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is an EXCELLENT voting system IF it is implemented properly. In particular, it functions very well in MULTI-SEAT races, where it functions to allow the electorate to choose a diverse slate of candidates representing a wide range of constituencies (based on all kinds of factors). If implemented in SINGLE-SEAT races it has little to no effect. Arlington should implement RCV for County Board (and perhaps School Board) along with realigning to common election dates for all seats and, possibly, enlarging the size of the bodies by a little bit. The fear of instability is largely unfounded (see, for instance, Cambridge, MA which has reasonable long-term stability with such a system). | Like every other policy proposal, I would start with the question "What are your objectives?". State those clearly and it will be relatively clear whether RCV (and the specific implementation you are recommending) can achieve those objectives. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting for primaries and elections for all levels of office, local to federal. | How will county be clear and transparent about how ranked choice votes are registered and counted? How would ballots and voting machines change to accommodate this voting method? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV. Please vote yes! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I just moved here from Minneapolis, where they have ranked-choice voting for local elections. It allowed me to vote for who I actually wanted to represent me. For this upcoming election in Arlington, I would love to vote for Adam Theo because he is actually wanting to do something about the housing crisis. He also supports striving for vision-zero by making Arlington more walkable and bike-friendly. These are both issues that I am passionate about. However, I am nervous to vote for him because of the potential to split the vote between Theo and de Ferranti, allowing Clement to take the election. Ranked-choice voting would eliminate this risk. | N/A | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting." RCV means winners with closer to majority support -- you don't just have to win the Democratic Party primary, you have to win votes from the whole electorate. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. GO FOR IT! Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | Ensuring proper funding and voter education will be important. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Do not implement Ranked Choice Voting for General Elections. They are confusing to voters and do not solve any problems. Look at Maine and Alaska to examine the impact in General Elections. RCV in primaries should not be considered, as the voting pool in a primary election is not as politically divided as a general election. Considering the impact to voting by changing to RCV, this decision should be in the hands of the voters and not the county board. | What problem does it solve in a General Election and what evidence is there to support that assertion? How is it better than the current form of voting (for a General Election) and is there evidence for that assertion? Is RCV compliant with Virginia state law and Virginia constitution? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | Absolutely NO on ranked choice voting. It's just another way voting loses integrity. | Stop infringing on our voting processes. No ballot boxes, no mail in, voter ID required, NO ranked voting. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I'm not an advocate of ranked choice voting and I do not want to see it implemented where I live. | What problem is the board attempting to fix by implementing ranked-choice voting? In what way as the current voting system failed that requires the implementation of a new system? Who is better supported by ranked choice voting as a method instead of the current voting system? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | No on ranked choice voting. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | what a silly idea. why need ranked choice when the existing board memeber choose the candidates | why bother. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22202 | <p>Regarding Ranked Choice Voting (RCV):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What's the point? Present system of voting has worked for over 200 years! Doesn't NEED to be reinvented, transformed, re-imagined. 2. How does RCV benefit the citizens / taxpayers of Arlington County vs. the politicians, government, and political parties? 3. Many races are uncontested because candidates can't afford campaign expenses. So again what's the point? 4. What about the voter who does NOT want to rank candidates? Wants ONLY the ONE candidate. How does a voter cast ALL ranked votes for only one candidate. 5. Flawed assumption in entire RCV is that voters see candidates as relativistic (this one or then that one) vs. absolutism (ONLY this one or no one). 6. In a race with more than two (2) candidates, why can't the candidate with the most votes (even if less than 50 percent) be declared the winner!? 7. Need better reasons than: Its new, we like, we have to have it. 8. Yo do realize representative government is on the line. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. REALLY!! WHAT ARE THE TOP 5 OVERLY COMPELLING REASONS TO CHANGE TO RCV!? 2. Just because we want to is NOT compelling enough! 3. Also it makes elections cheaper (for us the candidates and the government) is NOT compelling enough! 4. Just because it makes elections simpler (for us the candidates and the government) is NOT compelling enough! 5. Just because it makes elections faster (for us the candidates and the government) is NOT compelling enough! 6. Explain, in detail, how RCV will result in the MAJORITY of voters getting the PRIMARY candidate he / she wants. 7. I have been forced / coerced to engage in RCV at Arlington Democratic Firehouse primaries. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | <p>Ranked choice is a horrible decision. Do NOT do this. It disenfranchises voters who would never vote for any of the other candidates, ever, and therefore chooses to leave them off the ranked choice. However, when you get to 3rd, 4th, and 5th choices, their voice doesn't matter. Democracy is not 50.1% of the vote. In fact, the U.S. government is set up to protect minority opinions/small states, etc. and block majority/mob rule. It's why we have 3 branches of government (with one of them divided itself), checks and balances, etc. I have family who have voted ranked-choice in their community and from what I've learned watching them, it is a horrible outcome. One election, one person, one vote. Not 3,4,5 votes per person.</p> | <p>Why is this necessary? (There is no need to get 50.1% of the vote. Pluralities are just fine.)</p> <p>Why do you feel people need to get more than one vote? (We are a one election, one person, one vote-type country.)</p> <p>What is wrong with a system of government that is built to protect minority viewpoints and inhibit majority/mob rule?</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | <p>Ranked choice is NOT democratic. One person, one vote, one election. Not 5 different votes. The U.S. Constitution and our entire philosophy of government is geared to protect the minority. We do NOT need to "manufacture a majority of votes" just to appease people who don't understand basic civics and government. It creates an environment open to mob rule/tyranny of the majority. These subsequent "votes" disenfranchises anyone who feels that any or all others are NOT their choice, that they do NOT want those people to get elected.</p> <p>Voting is a simple concept - one person, one vote, one election. Majority (mob) rule is NOT what the U.S. is all about.</p> | <p>Why do you feel it is necessary to have ranked choice?</p> <p>What is wrong with the current system that it requires a new, unproven (and anti-democratic) process?</p> <p>Why would you consciously choose to disenfranchise someone on the 2nd, 3rd, etc. votes if that person specifically does NOT want any other person to get elected?</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I do not agree with this method of voting | What can citizens do to stop this proposal? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I am strongly against it. | It takes too long. It allows elections to be gamed even more so than now. Increases the cost of elections and increases the chance of delays in determining who won. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | After following ranked choice voting in some other jurisdictions, I'm not in favor of ranked choice voting. It provides a method for a sore loser to stay in the race, and for county leadership to get the results they want, in spite of the votes. If a candidate gets the largest number of votes then they are the winner. Much like sporting contests (except golf), you can win or lose by one point or many points, but the highest score wins. A win is a win. | Why is the board and other leafership in Arlington trying to change the voting procedures so that it favors the outcomes they prefer? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I have experienced RCV in a different context, and the result was a choice that no one really liked much. Therefore, I vote NO. | I just wonder if this is a sham questionnaire, similar to the board's other supposed public opinion queries on pre-determined issues. (Ya, I'm skeptical...) | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | NO "ranked choice voting." Why RCV now? It just invites mischief, and sows confusion. The current voting system, which is considered normal in a democracy by the vast majority, has done just fine for generations. Do not touch it. | "Ranked choice voting" sows confusion, and provides an opening for mischief-making insiders to game the system. No way. "RCV" is bad news. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22202 | Ranked choice voting is too complex, convoluted and introduces too many variables into the ballot/voting process. There is already a climate of mistrust in the public mind that this change will fuel. Family in Alaska feel the adoption of this system doesn't reflect accurately the community. | Why not go to an open primary system if the intent is to have a party neutral election process. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | It is difficult to get people to come out to vote once and requiring three rounds seems inefficient and inconvenient. | I don't dislike ranked voting, but three rounds is too much. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22202 | This decision should not be made quickly. There needs be public discussions about it because there are pros and cons. | Haven't done enough research yet to have good questions. | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22202 | Do we really have enough people/issues on our ballot to make this viable? What is the goal of the plan? | Seems a really complicated idea for very small list of choices. | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22202 | Ranked choice voting allows for more choice, but flawed systems still result in some voices not having a say. It is important to allow individuals to rank as many (non-write-in) candidates as they choose. Putting a limit on number of candidates (ex. 5 in NYC mayoral primary) leads to ballots in essence not counting. If someone would only like to rank a certain number and their ballot is discarded, that is certainly valid, but to have the potential of having the ballot as essentially a vote for nobody ("inactive" in NYC results) by the final ballot should not be a forced choice. | Would this require upgrades to existing election infrastructure? If so, at what cost? Will there be a limit on how many ranked choices individuals will be allowed to have? If so, how many? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Ranked choice voting enables more realistic consideration of candidates | How might the outcome of ranked choice voting differ from "normal" voting? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | None | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | I am in favor of trying ranked-choice voting. Introducing it in Arlington, whose population is probably more politically aware than the average Virginia locality, seems to me a wise way to determine how well it will work elsewhere, and to determine how to implement it successfully elsewhere. I have never used ranked-choice voting. I assume other jurisdictions have figured out solutions to the technical problems: how to print ballots, how to program voting machines, etc. | In a county as ethnically diverse as Arlington, I have concerns about ensuring that instructions will be available in a sufficient number of languages. How does the county propose to make sure this is not a hindrance to a significant proportion of voters? I am also concerned about visibility into the process. What steps would be taken to assure voters that the process is performed fairly? In current elections, a losing candidate may request a recount if the vote is close. Does ranked-choice voting work similarly? Can the counts be contested during all stages? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | I support ranked-choice voting. | I have no questions. | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Lets try it! | Have we ever done this in VA | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Almost anything is better than the current FPTP method, so I'm in favor of RCV in Arlington. Of course, a lot depends on the implementation and making sure voters are informed about how it works. Approval voting could be even better than ranked-choice voting, however - see here for an explanation: https://electionscience.org/library/approval-voting-versus-irv/ (I've also attached a PDF version of the article). Thanks for your consideration! | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Please do ranked choice voting. The election system in America is clearly flawed and this new style of voting needs to have use cases that prove it can be done. I'd rather us look forward than look backwards and say "son, wtf" at our choices. | How quickly can we do it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | There only ceiling for RCV. If you're the popular candidate by a wide margin, RCV does not change that. Get 50% or more, with a substantial lead, you do not need the additional rankings. This now allows for many candidates to run, and need truly stand for something. | When can you implement? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22202 | This is an excellent idea! Ranked-choice voting is an fantastic solution to the hyper-partisan climate in our country today. I'm particularly excited about using it in local elections to reward candidates for taking consensus-building positions. I hope the Board chooses a format similar to the Alaska model that gives as many candidates as possible a chance to run in a ranked-choice general election. The best benefits of a ranked choice model come when republicans, democrats, progressives, and others can all compete in the final stage of voting. For local elections, we only need one round of voting since the number of candidates is small (no need for a primary and general election). | How would ranked-choice voting work with the current two-step process of a primary and general election? Would it be like the Alaska model (first-past-the-post jungle primary with top 4 candidates advancing to a ranked-choice general election)? The NYC model (ranked-choice primary with first-past-the-post general)? Something else? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Ranked Choiced Voting should be implemented for the general election, Board member number should be expanded and board members should be elected in larger groups - implement the TIGER recommendations! | Why hasn't it been implemented yet? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think this is a great idea. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | YES! This is really important if the number of board members is increased and more than one opening is available. | How fast the results will be available. Faster results are much better than slow results. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Very supportive of ranked-choice voting and I commend the County Board for leading on this issue. Just please make sure that the County goes ABOVE AND BEYOND to educate people—ESPECIALLY our voters who may not be very fluent in English. | How quickly can we expand it to other offices too? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I fully support the prospect of ranked choice voting. It allows for a greater diversity of candidates and removes some of the necessity of "strategic" voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support it. It's a fairer way to determine election results that helps more diverse candidates get traction and prevents exclusively major party candidates from dominating. | I would have questions if I were reacting to a specific proposal, but I haven't read one as yet. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Please use ranked choice voting. I voted by ranked choice in local elections when I lived in Cambridge, MA and it worked well. It worked well in Alaska this year. I wish we had ranked choice for state and national elections, too. Let Arlington help lead on this | Will you use the method where one can rank up to the full slate, but can choose to rank only some candidates? That was useful in Cambridge, MA where sometimes 20 people ran and I would rank only my top 10. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support using it | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think RCV is great! I believe it will have a moderating effect on our divisive politics | How do we get the entire state to adopt RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think it is a great idea. I believe by rank-choice, this will nicely reflect the will of the citizens. | How soon would this be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I have friends who live in Alaska, which has ranked choice voting. Their experience with this approach to electing officials has been positive insomuch that it appears to help elect less extreme candidates. Based on their first-hand feedback, I am in favor of implementing ranked choice voting in Arlington County. | I have no questions at the moment. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | . | . | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I believe this a very good way and outcome to elect candidates. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Ranked-choice voting enables voters to support their preferred candidate confidently without having to consider the candidate's popularity or ability to market themself. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support it. Ranked choice voting would allow me to cast my vote for the candidate who I think best matches the issues I care about without worrying that by supporting them, I could lead to a horrible extremist to win through a plurality. | How will the county explain this, especially to older and limited English proficient populations? Will there be any timing delays? Will ballots be complex? Will the county talk to jurisdictions that have successfully implemented RCV for best practice learnings? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | This would allow me to show support for candidates who are not the republican or democratic ones and would otherwise be seen as a "wasted vote." Being able to vote for the person I support most, then next voting for who I don't actually want but would rather have would be nice. I think in that regard there might be higher voting turn out if people could vote for their candidate and there be a better possibility of doing well. | How many positions would it be implemented on? Would all local elections have it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22202 | County Bd: Pass an ordinance/resolution ASAP to allow the Elections Commission to work through the technical details of implementation. RCV assures the winning candidate wins at least 50% of the vote; a mandate. Currently, in a 3-person race, for instance, the victor can win with just over 33% of the vote. Candidates must appeal to the entire electorate since it is to their advantage to be a voter's 2d or 3d choice. RCV also eliminates the "spoiler" effect by allowing votes to rank all candidates in preference order (or not rank anyone at all by choosing to vote in the traditional way). | None, I am a strong supporter of this electoral innovation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | This is a great idea for rejuvenating our democracy. | How much will it slow down vote tabulation? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Everything I've read about Ranked Choice Voting has convinced me it would a very positive improvement. | None at this time. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | PLEASE---let's try RCV. Makes so much sense because it enables fairer, more realistic vote, and it results in a winner who is palatable to most folks. Under the current system, it seems that the candidate who can raise the most money tends to win, even though other candidates may be better qualified, but don't have the funds to advertise. | making sure that people understand how it works | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I am a strong supporter! Thank you for moving this forward. This move captures the aspirations of the voters much better. Thank you thank you | I dont have questions. I just hope this passes, so please keep the algorithm simple, so the extremists don't have anything to fight against. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support it. | I support it | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Fully support ranked-choice voting for future local elections. | Will the County provide an orientation and other guidance if this voting option is implemented in the future? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Yes, I am pro ranked choice voting | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support RCV and would like to see it implemented. | Will the city be investing in electronic systems to help count the votes? How much of the vote counting is already done electronically? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Please do this, it makes for a more democratic systems | I don't have any questions, think it should be implemented | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I fully support the adoption of ranked-choice voting in Arlington. I hope it will spread to the rest of Virginia and ultimately be adopted for all state and federal elections. | How can ranked-choice voting be explained to all potential voters? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think the Board should adopt ranked-choice voting. It is more intuitive and allows for the candidate who is elected to truly represent the preferences of the majority, not just a plurality. | How long will it take to implement ranked-choice voting? How will you educate the public ahead of time on how it works? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Approve it, but do it for all elections! | Could the county advocate for the state to grant permission to allow those 16+ to vote in local elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I am in favor. This is a good way to reduce polarization and promote cooperation across party lines | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | It gives newcomers a better chance | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | RCV is a more precise means of determining the favored candidate. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Political scientist Dr. Francis Fukuyama, in his book, Political Order and Political Decay, makes the intuitive point that, in order for representative democracy to work, it must be representative. The gridlock, partisanship, and ineffectiveness at various levels of government are indications that our representative democracy is breaking down. There are many causes for this breakdown, but, at least one of the cause is that government is not as representative as it ought to be. Ranked-choice voting allows for representation of moderate and independent voices that would otherwise be shut-out by a 'winner-take-all' first-past-the-post voting system. | What voter education is planned to ensure a smooth implementation? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Like it if the number of Board positions is increased. Having two openings at the same election is very different than 1. | Good info out to voters, but if Alaska can do it, Arlington can do it. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think is necessary to broaden participation | None. Follow NYC example. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice is a bad idea and undemocratic. It deprives voters of the chance to fully evaluate candidates in a regular runoff election | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22203 | Ranked-choice voting is an absolutely horrible idea. It routinely gives you a candidate that was not the first choice but someone who also was not someone you disliked. We end up with a mediocre candidate and not the first choice for anyone. It also gives people like progressives the ability to vote once, e.g, once for Bernie Sanders and once for Joe Biden. Compromise is prudent, but resorting to prudence when first-choice morality seems to fail teaches voters that morality is at the extreme and prudence is strategic. Teaching in a classroom, one could say it combines the worst of Kant and Machiavelli. The better way is to make one's first choice prudently, thus tempering extremism and promoting compromise. | I would raise the question of why this is even No being discussed when it's been tried and repealed in other jurisdictions around the country. In a overwhelmingly blue county like Arlington, this type of voting give zero chance to a candidate outside of the Democratic party. It basically gives two votes to progressives and the independent or republican candidate suffers. This is the reason the Board will most likely implement this, they want to keep control of power at all costs. Ranked choice voting would make Arlington not democracy, but rather a kind of autocracy. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | First, Ranked Choice Voting favor incumbents by allowing a dozen candidates to run instead of just two or three. As a result, this will prevent the County from benefiting from new candidates who may bring about much needed change. Second, Ranked Choice Voting will increase divisiveness and fragment the community by allowing dozens of candidates to run. This in turn will allow fringe candidates to have unwarranted public exposure and will prevent citizens from learning the positions of electable candidates on important electoral issues. Third, Ranked Choice Voting has forced voters to wait weeks and sometimes even months finding out who the winner is. All in all, Ranked Choice Voting will only lead to major headaches for the County and its residents. Thank you for your service. | How can the Board guarantee that vote counting will be completed in one day? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | Someone who is not the first choice of most can win. See what happened in Alaska. | Why do we need to change the way we vote? Don't think it is necessary. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | How about NO. Did you all see the mess Alaska got itself into this pass primary. It took months to find the winner. Do you want that to happen here? The only thing we need to do is go back to paper ballots. Quicker to count, votes can be recounted in a close election. Paper ballots are the best deterrent to voter fraud, not the ranked-choice method. Keep it simple. | 1. Why is it needed? 2. Why aren't paper ballots being considered? Why are we using computer voting? It's much easier to cheat with computers. (did you not see what happened in the 2020 election?!) 3. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | I vote no for ranked choice voting!! | No upload | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | Seems like a bad idea to me. How about dividing the county up i to district so north Arlington doesn't get to elect the whole board? | No questions | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | NO... What are you thinking???? Please read this opinion piece by Kim Strassel: https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-ranked-choice-scam-alaskans-for-better-elections-voting-system-election-race-votes-liberal-group-polls-ballot-11666906215?st=4q8dgb51c8jojhh&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink | Why would we implement this confusing & complicated process? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | None | None | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22203 | no comment | no questions | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22203 | At first I was against it, but I think I feel differently now. I'd like to see us try it. Seems more representative of the voters with RCV. | Want to be clear that a voter can still just vote for their first choice if they want. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | It could be beneficial if there are several candidates so that a person with minimal but more than the others support could not be elected. The winner should have a large support base | Is this a burning issue in Arlington? The primary takes care of this for party nominations and the school board would be where it might come into play. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | In principle- favorable | Without soe concrete plans, I don't have questions | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | None | None | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | It seems to produce good results. | none | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | This seems to be a more efficient method of assessing voter preferences. And perhaps a more fair process, although our democracy has always rested on the premise of majority-rule. | It's unclear if this method is more vulnerable or less vulnerable to manipulation by wealthy single-interest political advertisers. The hope for me is that it would reduce the ability of money to influence elections. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | Rank Choice voting is a good idea to balance different viewpoints | It will be important to educate voters on how this works | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22203 | I feel that RCV does a better job at achieving greater consensus in elections with large numbers of candidates. | Can RCV be incorporated into the same ballot as would be used for other elected offices? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | It's better than the current system, which could force voters to choose between the lesser of two evils. But it's still dependent on individual candidates, so inevitably voters whose preference is a minority within a district have no representation at all. | Are the Republicans going to use the consideration of ranked choice to argue for splitting Arlington into districts? Again, proportional representation is better bc it doesn't allow gerrymandering and gives minority preferences representation even within a district. Of course Republicans don't propose proportional representation bc it would hurt them nationwide. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | In favor of RCV, to reduce costs of elections | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in favor of trying it | Is it possible that the person who got the most votes would not win in the end? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | This is a great idea and the only possible way to end the current stranglehold of Democrats on the county board. And I say this as a Democrat. We need a board that exhibits some diversity of thought, which we certainly lack now. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting should be implemented as soon as possible in Arlington. It is a fairer way of electing candidates since it allows people to vote their actual preferences rather than having to game out their choices to avoid voting for "spoiler" candidates. Fears that the voting system is too confusing for voters to understand is insulting to the intelligence of Arlingtonians. If the good people of Alaska could figure out RCV then surely we can. | Why wouldn't this method be adopted for both the general election and the primary? Can the current voting systems employed by Arlington handle RCV, or would new equipment need to be purchased? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think it is an ideal way to get the candidates that are the most popular in office. | I think they should do this for the congressional elections too and higher state offices. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I believe ranked choice voting is necessary to create a more accurate representation of the electorate's desires. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I favor it. Eliminates the effect of spoilers. | How soon can it happen? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I fully support the implementation of ranked-choice voting. Allowing citizens to rank their candidates of choice will allow for more discussions around the issues and make campaigns less about money and personality. | How soon can we implement ranked-choice voting? Arlington County needs it yesterday. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am very much in favor of ranked choice voting. It will lead to more positive campaigns, more quality candidates, and another example of ranked choice voting succeeding at a local level encouraging more state/national adoption. | Apart from showing the winners, what additional insights into the math/counting/process will be shown upon completion of ranked choice elections? Will it be a standard report? How transparent? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting is a better way to ensure that the views of the people are reflected in the leadership of the government, which is really the whole point of democracy. I totally support it, and have since first learning about it 30 or so years ago. Its a change long past due. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think this is neat! | I don't have any questions, I'm pretty aware of how it works. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please implement ranked choice voting for County Board and School Board and eliminate primaries for those contests. Primaries are redundant with ranked-choice voting. | The only question is why is the Board delaying implementing ranked choice voting | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | PRO - Without a doubt ranked choice voting is far fairer than standard plurality elections. When put in place this system would ensure our elected officials are more specifically representative of their constituents views rather than a national platform. From a societal standpoint, it is absolutely the right call. When deciding between two candidates who differed on this issue, I would support the candidate who was focused on implementing RCV without a doubt. It's all about better, more accurate representation. | N/A. I'm familiar with the system. Surely we'd need to be more supportive in our education on the system for the first few elections but after that it'd be as straightforward as standard voting. Additionally, I'd make sure we're allowing individuals to leave spots blank so they never feel like they're voting "for" a candidate they wholeheartedly disagree with. In a five candidate race, for instance, they could fill out their 1-3 spots and leave 4-5 blank with their vote essentially being "no preference" if their first three choices were eliminated. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | Please support rank choice voting (RCV). It allows for a more diverse and representative election. More candidates are able to run and a greater span of ideas can be presented. It allows multiple preferences to be expressed by the voter to ensure a more representative choice. It saves money on runoffs and ensures who is elected was selected by over 50% of the voters (through multiple choices). Most of all, it breaks the binary, zero-sum mentality of current first-past-the-post voting which feeds partisanship and division, and encourages candidates to support each other and court their supporters for their second and third round votes. It builds coalitions instead of pitting voters against each other, keeping candidates focused on getting the most votes in the middle rather than playing to extremes. RCV has been successfully executed in multiple democracies around the world & increasingly in the US. Arlington should continue to lead the way in electoral reforms like this. | What elections would have RCV? I would want all elections at all levels to be RCV, but I understand Arlington cannot make state-wide and federal elections RCV. Still, I would hope that Arlington could be a proof-of-concept to advance and advocate for more RCV in Virginia and the US. If passed, what is the plan to education/communicate RCV to the public to ensure they are prepared to fill out a RCV ballot in the next election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Great idea! Ranked choice is a great benefit for Democracy! | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Do it | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Yes. Let's do it! | none | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting is amazing and should be implemented, in my opinion, everywhere. While yes this is a system used elsewhere already, I see this an opportunity for Arlington County to be a leader in this for the nation. While I don't personally think its complicated for a voter to vote this way, there is a lot of misinformation on its efficacy and fairness. This needs to be taken seriously and cant be frivolously thrown into a vote for implementation or implementation in general. We've learned over the last 7 years that elections are a fragile system when people lose faith in them, even when their loss of faith is unwarranted. Overall applaud the board for exploring this. | Its unclear to me if this is being put to a county wide vote to implement or just the board to decide. Either way this needs to be explained properly to people before they vote on whether to implement or before they utilize it fully. If / when this is implemented I think you need to have a campaign to explain what it is and how it works. With the recent election in Alaska there was a lot of talk of confusion by right leaning voters, mostly this was spread by those that lost in an attempt to lie to their voters about rigged elections. An explainer needs to accompany at home ballots, signs at the polls, tv/ radio ads. having candidates from both sides of the isle explain to voters what it is, why its a good thing and how to do it. there is always going to be misinformation and confusion about things such as this, steps need to be taken to minimize this as much as possible. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I'm very in favor of it. I think it will lead to more democratic results. | No questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please do tanked choice! | Please make it clear so people don't mess this up but ranked choice has so many benefits! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please implement ranked-choice voting in Arlington. | How soon can it happen? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Strongly support ranked choice voting as it allows more likely to get best candidates with less hesitation on only choosing between 2 candidates | how soon can it be done? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | The two party system is only benefiting the radicals and the wealthy. The only reason to be against it is if you've been bought off or are completely insane. | Would need more details. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Na | Na | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Do it you scrubs | Why has this taken so long to implement? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Let's do it! | ? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think RCV is a great idea. I support it 100%. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I believe this is a much fairer and more equitable way to choose a candidate and will help to eliminate extreme politicians. I also believe having essentially a multiple choice not based solely on party is more inclusive. This process has proven effective where instituted. | No additional comments. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | <p>Dear Members of the Board,</p> <p>RCV is an urgent reform. It would improve interest in politics generally. In a typical D vs R election, it's usually too obvious to most voters which one they'll prefer. And of course a vote for anyone else is almost always wasted, so I hardly have to pay attention. In races with RCV (like recent local caucuses), I know that I can rank all of the candidates and my vote won't be wasted. So I have more of a reason to pay attention to the issues and to the candidates.</p> <p>With RCV in the general election, it's likely that more candidates would be on the ballot, and I can vote for my favorite because my vote won't be wasted. And it won't be obvious who is going to win. This would improve interest and engagement in local issues. So I think it would also improve turnout wherever it is used. Improving voter turnout in Arlington would give us a stronger voice in statewide elections even if we are only able to do this in our local elections for now.</p> | <p>Voters like RCV. Why are we starting with the primaries only? RCV would make the most difference in the general election, especially in a two-seat year. After success in the pilot in 2023, will the county be prepared to move quickly so that it will be used in the general election in 2025?</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>I support Ranked Choice Voting. RCV promotes candidates who build consensus, requires a majority of votes to win. RCV is very popular and easy-to-understand in localities that already use it. RCV removes the "spoiler effect" of having three or more candidates in an election. RCV can make elections more fair and competitive. RCV has a proven track record of being beneficial to minorities and women seeking office. RCV is used in localities all across the US, and for some state-wide elections.</p> | <p>I have no questions about Ranked Choice Voting and I support it.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>I'm for it.</p> | <p>None at this time.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>This sounds like a solid idea.</p> | <p>none</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>Sounds like ranked choice voting has a lot of advantages, and it is well worth the time and effort for Arlington to try out a pilot voting project in the June election. I'm all for it.</p> | <p>The only downside I can think of is that it will require voters spend time researching and evaluating all the candidates in order to list them in order of preference.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>I support using RCV in Arlington primaries.</p> | <p>RCV is not an intuitive voting method. If adopted, the County must develop and implement a communication/education program that reaches all segments of the voting-age population. The ballot itself must be carefully designed to make voting easy and accurate. A poorly designed RCV could lead to confused voters and to voters marking their ballots incorrectly--see the infamous Florida 2000 "butterfly" ballot as an example. Election officers at the precincts also will need to be trained,</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>I strongly support this. It's a great idea! Then my vote would matter more and we might see a broader range of candidates</p> | <p>None</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>It needs to be implemented ASAP both in Arlington and nation-wide. It will lead to a more democratic and civil electoral system.</p> | <p>None.</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | <p>I support ranked choice voting. Among the reasons I support ranked choice voting are that it:</p> <p>Gives voters more meaningful choices: it allows candidates from outside the two major parties to compete. It creates a richer dialogue on the issues and increases the diversity of views.</p> <p>Eliminates spoilers and strategic voting: it allows voters to support their favorite candidate without worrying that they might "throw their vote away," or worse, split their votes with like-minded voters and unintentionally help elect the candidate they like the least.</p> <p>Reduces negative campaigning: Candidates running in ranked choice elections must ask for second and third choice rankings. Voters are less likely to rank a candidate highly who is negative.</p> <p>Reduces the influence of money in politics: Campaigns and special interest groups spend a lot of money on negative advertising. By making negative advertising less effective, it reduces the need for, and influence of, money in politics.</p> | <p>How will you do voter outreach and education about ranked-choice voting?</p> <p>How will you ensure that the system adopted does not adopt a formula that favors the party running the most candidates?</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in favor Of ranked -choice voting. It is more democratic than the traditional system and ensures that the winner is more likely to have received first or second choice votes. We have seen how the Alaska model worked, and ensured that radical figures were defeated. | Can Constutational officials (Treasurer, Sheriff, No County Clerk) also be subjected to Ranked Choice? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Fully support as it's more democratic | What are the logical and budgetary impacts of the possible change? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support Ranked Choice voting for eligible local elections in Arlington County. This is a proven approach to give voters an opportunity to provide their preferences beyond supporting a single candidate. Most importantly, it ensures that the candidates with the broadest support will win. | The County will need to expend additional resources to explain ranked-choice voting to residents as it can be confusing at first. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am all for ranked-choice voting to provide more flexibility in user preferences on candidates and issues than first past the post which encourages just picking 1 of 2 sides. My only question is why other voting methods like approval voting are not considered. Approval voting is where users can select multiple candidates, basically all candidates that they approve of. It should be easier to implement with existing systems since it is just counting how many votes each candidate received, and is easier to explain the results of such an election. | Will the board consider having either open primaries or doing away with primaries to begin with in addition to implementing ranked choice? This is because ranked choice allows users to be able to prioritize candidates, and as a result, would benefit from having multiple candidates available to be selected. If there are only 2 candidates, then the benefits would be moot. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I love it! I wish all elections worked this way (including partisan primaries). | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Definitely support it! Best way to get good outcomes! | None- | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please do ranked choice, it's obviously better for all elections, but especially for a place with 1 main party | How do you plan on designing it so it's clear to each voter what they are doing? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting gives us more power to communicate our preferences. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I'm pro | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | We should have it! It reflects voter preferences better. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support ranked choice voting. It would increase equity by allowing people to put their true first vote, knowing that their second choice could be a more safe choice. | If rank choice voting was implemented, could early and mail in votes be tabulated before election day? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Using ranked choice seems to be a fair way to help identify candidates with the most support, and help include votes for candidates outside the major two parties | Can existing voting machinery support ranked choice or would this require procurement of new hardware? (Software updates are less of a concern although I recognize there'd still be costs incurred.) | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | RCV will help make elections fairer, more accurate, and more engaging! It can help raise the chances (and profile) of a field of candidates so that a broader diversity of voices may compete. It allows voters who are the minority in their own party to carry weight when otherwise they'd be naturally dismissed by plurality voting. And a broader range of candidates who have a better chance to win could become more engaging and salient to voters who feel uninspired by elections with foregone conclusions. | How soon can we start?! But more seriously, will there be sufficient staff to support testing and quality control before, during, and after the election? Will you use risk-limiting audits (RLAs) to provide confidence in RCV-tallying software? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in strong favor. Makes it possible to express a range of preferences. | Is the county ready to explain it well? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support ranked-choice voting. | Will the election results be available quickly? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Seems like a way to expand democracy and is the way of the future for better elections. | Is the board opposed because the legacy voting process protects insiders? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | Please adopt it for the board. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | we should do rank choice voting because it is a better way to understand what the people want vs just picking one person only | since it is only in the county should be fast and accurate, but would want to make sure it is implemented correctly | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Great idea! I support it 100%. | Why wasn't it used sooner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support the implementation of ranked-choice voting for the 2023 County Board June primary election. There are plenty of other people who are likely writing in to show the benefits of the system and how it has worked in Alaska and elsewhere. All I will add is that I believe people in this county and country are looking for a different way of doing politics. If we use this system and it does not work, we can just go back to the old system. But if it works, it can be a new way forward for the people of Arlington, Virginia, and elsewhere. So let's give it a shot. | If it is deemed successful in the primary, can it be implemented for the general election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting is the superior method of voting and will allow the voice of voters to be heard more effectively. | Ranked choice should be thoroughly explained to the voting populous. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support rank choice voting. I think it has a lot of potential and is worth trying. | Just would like to see the country implement it but also track the impact of it in terms of effective representation and system gaming. True representation is an important tenant of our democracy that is being challenged by election gaming, so I think it is important to consider initiatives like this to restore faith and trust in the system for many. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support ranked choice voting. I think it gives voters more options and helps address the issues with the two-party system. However, ranked choice ballots can be confusing if they are designed poorly, so I hope that the County Board makes sure that the ballot is well-designed. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | It's good because we want to end up with the candidate who is the best representation of what the people want, and the best way to do that is for them to have a ranked choice system where they can end up with a second favorite if their first doesn't work out. | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | 100% supportive. Would also like to move away from party primaries for county positions but realize that is a party choice. | What slows us down? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support the Civic Federation task force recommendations. | Is the Board going to hold any public meetings to discuss the Civic Federation recommendations? Is there a CB vote scheduled on adopting these or similar changes? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am strongly in favor of ranked choice voting and heavily support its implementation. | How do you intend to educate the people on how to effectively use ranked choice voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I love ranked choice voting. I want this to be implemented at all levels of government and I believe it addresses a number of issues that currently exists when voting | How will the election board (or another party) educate people on the new voting method? Will the election board (or another party) have methods in place to address voting issues related to the ranked choice implementation? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think it's a great idea and would very much like to see us do it. | None-I attended a presentation by the Arlington committee of 100 on this and it was very thorough. I do think we will need good educational campaign if we do it because it is a little complicated. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in favor. Arlington County could use more variety in its Board. This might have that result. Although it might only have an effect after the population has gotten used to it. | What plans are there for deciding whether to continue after the first year? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think it's an excellent idea and greatly support it. Thank you for considering it. | I have none. I think it's been well implemented elsewhere and hope we learn from those experiences | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | This is the stinkiest thing you could be devoting your efforts to.....It should never be allowed. | Any system where the popular vote winner could be the loser should never be brought into existenc. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | This is a bad idea. A democracy should be majority votes win period! It's hard enough to get people to the ballot boxes. If there is a need for a run off, then you are asking for people to vote again. Please leave the current system in place. | Why do we need to make this change? Why do you think it's a good idea for our community to use this system? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | Totally against it. Ranked voting allows for too many hands to touch the "votes" before winners are declared. With absentee voting added in, it can take well beyond expected time frames to declare winners. We don't need any new voting wrinkles to further concerns about "big lie" results. | Why is it necessary? Regular voting has served us well for many years. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am opposed to ranked-choice voting. It has no place in a constitutional republic or democracy. I support voting with real paper ballots that are correctly tabulated, not weighted, nor adjudicated. A voting process that is simple and legitimate will encourage transparency and confidence for citizens -- something we all need after the last two voting cycles. | Ranked-choice voting should be reserved for high school prom king/queen and sorority rush. Period. I am strongly opposed to any voting process that uses algorithms or weighted averages. One person, one vote is pure and simple -- and it works. Ranked-choice voting disintegrates a voters intention to vote for their preferred candidate. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am opposed to rank choice voting. | How can it be done electronically to prevent fraud and/or error. And provide results quickly. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | No to tanked choice voting. It leads to results where the number one choice might not get in. It is convoluted. Please keep the system we have now. | Why do you feel the need to change our voting system, which works fine? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Ridiculous! The person with the most votes wins! Stop messing with reality. | Exactly why, being truthful, why is the county even considering this when there are so many important things to focus your time on. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Leave it alone. Count each vote as cast. Don't play G_D manipulating votes. | Not a question but, DON'T MASSAGE THE VOTES, COUNT THEM AS CAST | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am not in favor of ranked voting. I believe it is just one more example of a way to keep the county liberal and squash dissent. Leave the system the way it is. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Causing great fear or alarm; dreadful to voters | Causing great fear or alarm; dreadful To voters | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I don't believe it is a good idea | It can become controlled and not allow for true representation | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Na | Na | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | It is too confusing. | Why does it have to be so complicated? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Please don't implement ranked voting. We have been fine, the way it is. | Why implement this? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Do Not do it | I voted for who I voted for, I would not want my vote moved to someone else. Would rather start over if we had to | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | No. Majority rules | No | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am not in favor of ranked choice voting. | I have no idea how it works. I would need a full explanation with an example. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am opposed to rank choice voting. | Na | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Not in favor of ranked choice voting | Benefits need to be clearly defined. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I think the process is confusing and in this county which has mainly democrats, it seems pointless. I don't see how it is going to encourage diverse candidates. I have a feeling that you've already made up your mind and even if you receive a lot of opposition, you'll ram it through anyway. Use it for the primaries but leave the elections alone. I don't like the fact that someone whom I might have left blank and not voted for could receive the vote I made for another candidate. This does not let my voice be heard. | What is the process for educating the voter? This would be a change from the norm and a lot of people won't understand it. Could it be a pilot if you're set on implementing it? That way people can experience it and decide if they want it. How much is it going to cost to change the system over and what is cost benefit analysis? What is the justification for needing this? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Seems like a good way to prolong contests. | How does this not complicate vote counting, as is? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | You want Audrey Clement getting on the board? Stop playing around with these goody-two-shoes ideas and eave well enough alone. | How are you going to keep Audrey Clement and/or John Vistadt off the board? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I'm against RCV in Arlington County elections. It is a process that can be too confusing for voters, who may not understand fully the mechanics of the process and as a result may have their vote go to a candidate they don't truly support, or be negated entirely. A straight up election with run-offs if needed is much preferable. | what is the impetus for this change? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | I strongly support ranked choice voting for single winner elections. However, I strongly disagree with use of Proportional Ranked Choice Voting (PRCV or Single Transferable Vote, or any of its other names) in Arlington. Use of PRCV would likely result in election of at least one Republican to the County Board. With the Republican Party's current behavior (i.e., if you can't win fairly - then cheat, and no election is fair unless Republicans win, storm the Capitol if you don't win, etc.), I believe we should not take any action that would increase the chance of the Republicans to win any election. | Why should Arlington (or any other jurisdiction) adopt a voting system that would artificially give a party that is taking actions that threaten the future of our democratic republic (such as the Republicans) a chance to get its candidates elected? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I believe that RCV is problematic primarily because it adds an unnecessary layer of complexity to the voting process. It seems to me that you would want to make voting as simple / basic / easy as possible to ensure robust voter turnout. Voters must be confident in themselves and the system; otherwise, it is likely to deter voters who may be confused by the RCV rules. Additionally, with the ongoing attacks on existing voting systems and processes, disinformation and deception regarding RCV is likely to proliferate, causing further confusion and frustration among voters, which, in turn, will deter them from voting. I do not believe this is a good time to introduce a "new" way of voting, one that is likely to draw endless litigation by losing candidates and/or voters who believe they've been misled. This will only lead to further erosion of voter confidence in the system. ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE! | What is the primary reason for wanting to transition to RCV? Is that reason enough to outweigh the potential downside of RCV? What's wrong with the existing system - is it so broke that you need to introduce a new way of voting? How do you ensure every voter receives a sufficient level of education and training on RCV to ensure that there aren't significant mistakes, misconceptions, etc., before implementation? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | The more I'm reading about this, the more I dislike the concept. This goes against the idea of one vote per person. I don't like that my vote may be given to another candidate. Or even worse, at least at the beginning, people won't understand the concept and not put second or third choices, reducing their vote even further. In a one party system like Arlington, there won't be the possibility of a non-Democrat being elected. | What problem is this trying to solve? Why is it necessary to do this and why now? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I don't want to be like California | It tends to favor party in power | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | After checking this out and getting answers from both people promoting this and people leery of this, my take is that this is another step away from "one person, one vote". The danger is in the redistributing of the votes for the candidate with the smallest percentage of votes. There is no guarantee that there will not be more Republican and "Independent" (so-called) manipulation that will actually make representation even LESS accurate. I VOTE NO. Thanks. | As stated above, this removes us even further from "one person, one vote" than we are now. The possibly well-meaning philosophy of those promoting this falls into one of two categories. Either they are looking at this with rose-colored glasses or they are flat out up to no good. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I do not support proportional ranked choice voting. I do support the instant run off type of ranked choice voting. The problem arises where there is more than one position open; that happenstance allows a candidate to be elected even if opposed by the majority of voters. Also, I feel that if there are multiple positions open (eg, 2), my vote should count equally for the 2 positions. Under PRCV, if my 1st choice is elected on the 1st round, my choice for the remaining position may not be counted at all unless my 1st choice won by more than the threshold (>33%). If my 1st choice won by more than the threshold, my vote for the remaining position is a fraction of a vote. I feel that I should get a full vote for each position that is open. | At the outset, the County should make sure that people do not confuse proportional ranked choice voting (PRCV) with other forms of RCV. I think there is widespread confusion on this important distinction. I would never want to see PRCV implemented in races where more than one candidate is being chosen. I would like to see us adopt instant run off RCV (for each open position, the winner has to eventually be the preference of the majority of voters) when and if allowed, NOT PRCV. The next 2 questions of this survey are deceptive. The survey asks if I have voted in a RCV election before, and how favorably do I feel. I have voted in the Dem endorsement process for SB, which is instant run off RCV, and feel very favorably. Since the survey makes no distinction between the forms of RCV, respondents will be confused; the results of the survey will be worthless. Since I am not in favor of PRCV, I am answering that I haven't voted in that type of election and that I am very unfavorable. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | With RCV, it may not be clear to voters the implications of the ranking system for candidates ranked after choice #1. My hometown in the midwest instituted RCV for local races and number of candidates on the ballot ballooned, creating voter confusion and lesser desired candidates getting elected based on the ranking. Winner take all elections are straight forward, understandable, and can be completed in a timely manner. | I would be concerned about dilution of the candidate pool. While the bar for entry into races should not be exorbitant, lesser candidates may be more likely to attempt a run, cluttering the ballot. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Favors incumbents | Why do this at all? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | The linked materials give no indication WHY you are proposing rank choice voting. This is a significant gap, because rank choice voting has been seen used by parties with vested interests in stacking multiple member organizations (such as councils or committees). | What is the exact reason this is being proposed? Is it for financial reasons (to avoid runoffs)? If that is the case, what are the estimated savings? Can you improve explanation to ensure that this is not a Democratic partisan effort to stack a group of elected positions? (I am a Democrat, by the way, but this was my first assumption when I see the proposal for rank choice.) | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Cumbersome process, Logistical nightmare that has a very real possibility of delaying results indefinitely. | None, don't see the need to change. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | This is transformative and requires significant education of the electorate. It is September 2022, and MMHS is taking up much of people's energy and focus. You need at least 12 months to educate an electorate of over 150,000 people properly. Stakeholders from underrepresented communities must be at the table and weigh in, not just the affluent. RCV is complex and doesn't assume people will understand by June 2023. If you run a pilot program, it needs to be at the same time as the regular primary, with only the official results of the primary and the pilot program used for analysis. From there, you can modify the educational aspect and go live in 2024. I want to know what the ACLU, LWV, NAACP, and others think. What happened in the New York mayoral race was confusing to everyone. | This is transformative and requires significant education of the electorate. It is September 2022, and MMHS is taking up much of people's energy and focus. You need at least 12 months to educate an electorate of over 150,000 people properly. Stakeholders from underrepresented communities must be at the table and weigh in, not just the affluent. RCV is complex and doesn't assume people will understand by June 2023. If you run a pilot program, it needs to be at the same time as the regular primary, with only the official results of the primary and the pilot program used for analysis. From there, you can modify the educational aspect and go live in 2024. I want to know what the ACLU, LWV, NAACP, and others think. What happened in the New York mayoral race was confusing to everyone. | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22204 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting. I think it represents an opportunity to ensure candidates are favored by the majority of the community. This isn't too often an issue in Arlington, because so much of the county is solidly supportive of the Democratic party, however ranked choice voting would avoid the issue of having a candidate that only a minority approve of win in an election where multiple independent candidates run. Ranked choice voting should allow for candidates to attempt to appeal to the widest possible range of supporters, rather than just to their political base. | Would it be implemented that if a candidate wins a majority of first-preference votes, he or she is declared the winner? If no candidate wins a majority of first-preference votes, the candidate with the fewest first-preference votes will be eliminated. First-preference votes cast for the failed candidate are eliminated, lifting the second-preference choices indicated on those ballots. A new tally is conducted to determine whether any candidate has won a majority of the adjusted votes. The process is repeated until a candidate wins an outright majority. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | If introduced, the ballot instructions should be very clear and voter education extensive. Ballots should be readable by the voting machines (not need manual counting). If someone makes a mistake, such as 'voting' for a candidate more than once, count that vote in the first instance and stop -- don't invalidate the ballot. | None | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | This sounds like a great idea. | No questions. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I am for it. | I'd like to know how the votes are tabulated. Is it someone gets 1000 votes, but doesn't have the majority of the votes so if you indicated person 2 your vote now goes to them? Is that correct? If not please explain it simply. Statistically how does this reflect the voters? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I support ranked choice voting | Will rank choice voting cost more to implement and count the votes? | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22204 | I believe rank choice voting in primary and general state run elections would allow for more democracy at the local level. But this needs to also happen in general elections. | No additional comments | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | Why don't you take this opportunity to try not only ranked choice, but on-line and remote voting as well? | See above | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I think it's an interesting idea and encourage the County Board to try it | n/a | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | None | N/A | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I support this and hope that it can be implemented for state and federal elections as well as local elections. | I don't have questions—I think ranked choice voting is key to opening the door to more diverse candidates and opinions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support to concept, but because it is more complicated than the traditional method, it will take redoubled educational efforts to acclimate the public, and the counting process will have to be absolutely secure and transparent at the same time. | I'm not clear as to how votes will be counted - No - by machine, by hand? And what data about the vote breakdown will be available to the public? And how long will the counting process take? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | PLEASE please implement Ranked Choice Voting -- it leads to MUCH better decisions, choices -- and promotes compromise, "middle of the road" choices, rather than extremes. Our county (& country) will be a much better place with it! | Why didn't we start doing this years ago? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | This is a fantastic idea. I am so glad to see this being talked about. I learned of this via FairVote Virginia, a ranked choice advocacy group I am a part of; there are many of us, especially in Arlington who are very happy to see this pilot program taking place. I hope this is here to stay, and continues beyond the local level! I am sure the board already knows this, but I would like to reiterate that ranked choice voting is one of the most mathematically sound ways to conduct an election. It ensures everyone's voice is heard, that no one can be accused of "throwing their vote away" if they prefer a candidate outside of the two leading parties, and it eliminates the spoiler effect (aka splitting the vote). This is an outstanding development. I am very happy to see it will be implemented next June! Thank you | N/a | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support this voting method and feel it is the most authentic way to show people's choices. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support the use of Ranked Choice Voting and would like to see it put into use as soon as possible. At this time, I do not support use of Proportional Ranked Choice Voting. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I wholeheartedly support ranked choice voting. It allows for a more equitable campaign process by encouraging candidates to create a broader platform that can appeal to more voters, rather than polarizing them into two camps. I have been an Independent voter since I registered and it nearly always means if I want to have a voice in my vote, I have to align with Democrats or Republicans. Ranked choice voting will allow me to make my vote for my candidate of choice while also adding to the tally of my 2nd best choice. I also believe it will force PACs, lobbyists and "dark money" influencers to hedge their bets and not place all their monetary support behind one candidate. It also eliminates extremist candidates who are more focused on notoriety than governing. Ranked choice voting is fair, equitable and necessary for a functional democracy. | What education will be offered to help voters and candidates understand the benefit and process of ranked choice voting? How can Arlington be a model for other jurisdictions? How can the public get involved? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | DO IT. I believe it to be one of the best mechanisms for elections. I believe that it strengthens voice of individual voters. | How would you counter disinformation campaigns about it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea. It may not make much of a difference now in terms of who wins elections, given Democratic Party dominance, and assuming there will still be primaries. But the more jurisdictions use it, the faster it will be adopted nationally. That will decrease political polarization. Bonus opinion: I would not want to increase the number of County Board and School Board members. | Will there still be primaries, and will they be ranked choice? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Yes, please! This much more accurately captures the will of the people and will eliminate someone winning with a plurality of voters' support. | None. Do it! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | It can't come soon enough. Our county's politics are dominated by retired political hobbyists who have an outsize influence. The general election should be meaningful, not a rubber stamp on a decision a few hundred party activists made in range primary 6 months earlier. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Having studied, read, and understood how ranked choice voting works and the benefits to elections, I wholeheartedly endorse Arlington adopting RCV in its elections. The system works to elect a candidate for whom a majority of voters would be comfortable with as an officeholder (usually as a first or second choice), eliminating the spoiler effect of third party or independent candidates. RCV also promotes consensus and less partisanship as candidates seek to avoid alienating too large a bloc of potential second or third choice voters. Others states and localities have implemented RCV to great success. | Some localities have tried and failed to enact RCV on the basis that the system is too confusing. What does Arlington plan to do to help educate voters on RCV to help assuage the fear of implementing a new voting method? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am a staunch Democrat and I strongly support ranked choice voting. One party rule, no matter which party, is not good for the county. Ranked choice voting would help to eliminate the perception that only candidates with a "D" after their names can win elections. It could encourage moderate Republicans and third party candidates to run, since they would actually have a chance to be competitive. We would all be better off for some diversity of thought in county leadership. | Why hasn't the county already implemented ranked choice voting? All this stalling seems rather protectionist. If Democrats are truly putting forth the candidates whose positions are most in line with the community's, they should be able to win elections, regardless of the voting system. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting, especially as it will allow the eventual winner to have a majority of votes | I believe the county should provide explainers, with examples and in multiple languages, as it is not a surface-level intuitive approach | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Yes, please do ranked choice. We always get the same, narrow sliver of the democratic party. I'm a democrat but we need a better system to have more voices. Either ranked choice or combination of districts and at large members. | Absolutely support | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Strongly in favor of ranked choice voting. It hopefully will help moderate candidates. | Need to make sure all voters including those who don't speak English or have sight or hearing difficulties understand ranked choice voting | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | We used ranked choice voting back when back in college. Back then, pre computers, counting the votes was a royal pain. These days with computer assistance it should be a breeze. | Will the county provide totals for each round of counting? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Much needed. | Making sure there are explainers available at multiple levels of complexity to describe the intent, execution, and the impact of different voter choices in hypothetical scenarios to allay concerns about voter confusion | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | DEFINITELY in favor of ranked-choice voting - please implement this! | None! It makes total sense. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support ranked choice voting at all levels of government. It gives voters a better opportunity to vote for their preferred choice first, as opposed to choosing a "lesser evil" due to the nature of our two party system. | I don't have any particular questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | ranked-choice voting is the best way to give constituents the closest to their top choice for candidates or key county decisions. Let's try it! | None, I've studied this model and think it's a great option. To gain confidence, the county should communicate about how this approach has been rolled out in other jurisdictions across the US. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | The time for rank choice voting is here. It is important to stop polarization of America. Rank choice voting is critical to moving forward. | How will we implement rank choice voting? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | We should implement it. | No | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I know that most people will likely use this form to complain, so I just wanted to break that trend and say that I'm absolutely ecstatic that this is happening! I'm a college student studying math, and while I typically avoid politics at every chance, it is clear to anyone who spends more than a few minutes on it that Ranked Choice is, mathematically, vastly superior to Plurality voting, both at electing the candidate that best represents the people and at ensuring it's in their best interest to please the entire populace rather than just a subset. In simulations and studies, it has also been shown to significantly depolarize politics and reduce political violence. So thank you for this change! | I have none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Please implement it for all primaries. | Can we combine all party primaries into a single "open" primary? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting is a smart idea. Gives more of an accurate picture of who the voters are considering. Prevents the extremes from sneaking past the majority. | Let's give it a try. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I think it's a great idea | How do you plan to educate the voting public about the process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting should be implemented for all county elections. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I think its a better way to cast a vote, especially if you like more than one candidate. It allows for more equity in voting. | How do we make sure the system and the counting of the votes is fair? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support RCV for Arlington, although I recognize a year in which we vote for two Board members could complicate the public's understanding of the process. RCV has the opportunity to change the dialog around campaigns, as candidates could benefit from tempering debates with other candidates to encourage the Round Two support of more voters. | What do you believe is creating the reluctance of County Board members to support RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked choice is highly superior to the current voting system. Voters. I strongly favor Arlington moving to a ranked choice voting system. Unbiased education will be important in this era of certain Republicans denying election results and casting doubt on core fundamentals of democracy. | I have no questions, but many voters will have questions. Arlington should make an effort to explain and educate voters why ranked choice is superior and will not dilute their vote at all. For example, I have no doubt that ranked choice is being vilified by certain groups because it could (more accurately) cause a moderate candidate to win over a more extreme candidate or cause people to more easily cross party lines to oppose a certain candidate from the other party. Even though this result directly reflects the voters' intent (which is democracy), it's not unreasonable for people to look skeptically at a changed system. Arlington should absolutely shift but help educate why ranked-choice is more powerful, more democratic, and more fair for all, regardless of political opinion. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Very much support this! | How quickly can we implement. What is your plan to educate the public about it | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | It's great and should be used with every election | How can we make it a state wide thing? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support Ranked Choice Voting! I am member of fairvote.org and have been advocating for this change. | What are the exact implementation details? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | This is gaining in popularity and goes a long way toward battling extremism in politics. I'm all in favor, even if it means taking long count the votes. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support ranked choice voting because I think it can result in more centrist candidates winning. The recent congressional elections in Alaska are a perfect example of this. | How would ranked-choice voting affect the competitiveness of contests in this one-party town? Would it be for primaries and general elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | It is an excellent method of avoiding candidates to the extremes. However, it may initially be confusing, and thus requires a great deal of clear, simple explanation, given without any bureaucratic gobbledegook, in plain language that all can understand. If that outreach to the public is made several times before ranked-choice voting is introduced, and then maintained for each election, there should be no difficulties in implementing it. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Just do it already | I don't have any questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I have participated in ranked choice voting. It's very easy. People prioritize what they want all the time. Prioritizing candidates in the order of preference is easy. Alaska just had their first ranked choice voting experience and it worked very well. https://alaskapublic.org/2022/09/07/five-takeaway-lessons-from-alaskas-first-ranked-choice-election/ | Is Arlington prepared to do a lot of public education on how ranked choice voting works? The Alaska Division of Elections sent out mailers and postcards about how to do it, had sample ballots online for people to show how it works. And organizations that supported ranked choice voting also had public information campaigns. I don't know how much it all cost, but you could contact the Alaska Division of Elections to find out. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | Go for it. The way things are now, the Dems have all offices locked up. It's patently unfair to the independents, some of whom are very much more qualified and would be more effective than the incumbents. Plus the incumbents are obligated to do the bidding of the ADC, regardless of what other people think. I's rather have Audrey on the board than some of the others. | None, I understand it. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I'm in favor of tanked choice voting. | I think ranked choice voting gives voters the best chance for nuanced representation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | yes yes yes | how easy is it to do the paperwork to start a new political party? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am very much IN SUPPORT OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING. This methodology of counting votes is the most fair way to proceed in my opinion. | I have no questions -- I have read up on this topic and have a good sense of what it means. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support ranked choice voting. It would allow a more nuanced assessment of the preferences of voters. It might not make a big difference in most local races (we'll see) but it is better than the all or nothing approach used in the past. | Would it be made available for all races, or only local positions? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Research shows that RCV fosters civility, democracy, and representation that reflects the community. | I'd want to know what ideas there are for how it can be implemented with both accessibility and efficiency/simplicity/thrift in mind. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Do it! No reason not to. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Support | How do we establish thresholds that trigger a runoff? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support rank choice voting. | How would resolutions for ties or close elections be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting will give people a real voting right. They don't have to feel torn between two candidates, since this option would give them more freedom to vote with their true feelings. It's time for this here in Arlington--give elections back to us voters! | No questions--it totally makes sense and should happen ASAP. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support ranked-choice voting and believe it results in electing representatives who better represent most constituents. | How soon can it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support RCV so multiple independent candidates can run in the general election without pressure to drop out to not dilute the vote. | As an election officer, please make the forms no very obvious with a clear consolidated result form and encourage campaign & independent observers to take a photo and independently verify the ranked-choice logic. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I think its a good idea. | How will it be implemented in Arlington elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support ranked choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting is a fairer way of conducting elections and results and less extreme office-holders. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | We should embrace ranked-choice voting. It will help ensure that candidates who actually want to work for the good of the county will be elected to office. | I don't have any. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support ranked choice voting and would like to implement it for as many elections as possible | How long will it take to roll out? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Please start doing this. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | ranked choice voting is the most easy to implement out of many superior electoral systems to our current one, it isn't the best, but will help the county select consensus candidates and eliminate the risk of supporting a "spoiler candidate". While there are superior systems, (single alternative vote, various proportional representation schemes, and multi-member ranked choice vote, I am confident that this is an improvement on our current system | which version of ranked choice voting would be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am pro ranked choice voting! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support RCV | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support this initiative. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | RCV encourages nuanced reflection—holding the tension of considering multiple good-enough choices—not the yes/no duality | No questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Support. | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Seems like a great idea. | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked Choice Voting should be implemented in all elections, both primary and general, at all levels (local, state, federal). | Will ranked-choice voting be implemented in Arlington for the 2023 primary election? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | I support a ranked-choice system that would be more likely to result in the election of candidates who have broader support, even if they might not be the ones I would personally favor. Arlington has an electorate that predominantly supports Democratic candidates, and I am among that group. But that demographic can result in crowding out other voices, and ranked-choice voting offers a way to acknowledge and respect voters' real preferences. | Based on what I have learned, the Alaskan model seems to have worked well. But I'm not familiar with alternative implementations and I would like to know more about the options available to the county in choosing to adopt this system. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked choice voting is far better than the current first past the post, winner take all system; it should be the future of all American voting and Arlington should be in the lead of that change | It will be important to ensure that all reasonable candidates make it on the ballot, without every loony whacko/extremist/perpetual candidate crowding on and leaving people overwhelmed and/or confused | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | RCV is a great idea that can help moderate the extremism we're seeing in elections. | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | This will work well if candidates initially undergo a 'primary' process within their affiliated party. Otherwise, the outlier candidates from the 'weirdo' party will water-down and split votes for more viable candidates. Minimum requirements to get on the ballot in the first place need to be rigorous. | Simple-simple English explanation to the public and media assistance will be essential ... Buy-in from the 'conspiracy theory contingent' will also be necessary. Otherwise it will be framed as undemocratic ... when in fact it makes every vote actually count. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am whole-heartedly in approval of this change. I will bring compromise rather than pandering to extremes. | How will you distribute educational materials about it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I love the idea of Ranked Choice Voting. This system really makes sure that the winner is the candidate with the most voter support, even if they are not everyone's top pick. | how soon can it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support ranked choice voting. I think it will encourage more candidates to run and give voters more choices. | How will the county ensure that votes are tabulated in a timely manner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Primarily all arguments against RCV can be countered by how we already use it in our daily lives. When we go to order a drink at a restaurant we have our top few choices with a basic mindset of what is acceptable and what is not. Avoid the red herrings. My reasons for RCV are: 1. NO MORE SPOILER VOTES: I can truly vote for who I want to see get elected regardless of their ability to win and then identify other candidates that I would positively endorse in the role. This not only means I am not "throwing away my vote" I am also helping to indicate to those running for office the level of support that candidates are truly receiving. If it were objectively known that a third party was getting 20% of the first choice vote if voters voted without the risk of effects, the winning candidate may find considering the offered views to be smart. 2. POSITIVE INCENTIVES TO COLLABORATE. Winners need to work towards providing solutions with broad appeal rather than playing to a polarized base. | None: The process is straightforward and there are AMPLE advocacy groups that can help with education. Let's Go! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I disagree with ranked choice voting. | Makes it too complicated n | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I oppose ranked choice voting as confusing. My concern is that Ranked Chose Voting would favor those voters already heavily involved in Arlington politics and who have the time to rank candidates, and disfavor those of us who don't have the inclination or time to rank candidates. | Is there evidence that ranked choice voting gives a better indication of who all voters want as their elected representative, as compared to traditional voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | No. Voting works well now; do not institute this, | Who would this benefit? And would it cost more because runoffs would be required? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | RCV is complicated to administer and confusing for voters. There's no problem with the current system. There's no need to introduce unneeded and unnecessary complexity into the voting system. Such an action could open the county to allegations of voter fraud or cast doubt on the outcome of local elections. Please stop this policy change. | It's a bad policy that should be rejected. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | It's a very complicated system that no one would understand. See the recent Alaska representative election, for example. We need to have more independents and Republicans on the board. This would only elect Democrats; Republicans would never stand a chance. Our family is against ranked-choice voting. | How are you going to explain the process to people? No matter what you do, the process will favor Democrats. NO to ranked-choice voting. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | This seems kind of sudden. | I don't understand how it works but from what I know it sounds confusing. How will people know what to do? Is this in conjunction with a district system of government in Arlington? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22205 | I am against RCV unless. What is more important and urgent is that the political representation system in Arlington is changed to proportional and regional. Having representatives districts and expanding the Board from 5 to at least 7 is far more urgent chasing the folly of "how" we vote. I wish the Board would focus at the more urgent matter at hand than chasing this dumb idea. | Nothing - stop wasting our time with this. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Absolutely not permissible. | Why consider it? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Why add complications to voting in a climate that election integrity is being questioned in large forums and there is a sense of distrust. As an election officer this will be hard to explain and will open up more questions from election monitors. | Why is this necessary? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Historically, Americans have followed the "one person, one vote" mantra. Ranking dilutes that premise. You would get half and quarter votes. I subscribe to the idea. of "you pay your money, you take your choice." A voter makes a choice and should agree to the consequences. | What if there is a tie? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | No! It is a GD scam that needlessly complicates election results. What is your objective? Who benefits? Just concentrate on delivering services and lowering the rapacious taxes. | Why do this? Who benefits? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I do not want ranked-choice voting in Arlington elections | What justification does Arlington County have for using ranked-choice voting? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I suggest recent WSJ opinion piece about RCV in Alaska and the Heritage Foundation article about RCV be added to the record of Arlington Board discussions... | No | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | In the normal electoral process in the vast majority of states, there is a runoff election several weeks after a general election in which no candidate won a majority of the vote. It is true that some voters might not turn out for a runoff election that is held several weeks after the general election because their preferred candidate did not gather enough votes to be in the runoff. However, the added time window gives potential voters the opportunity to reexamine and reeducate themselves about the character and views on issues of the two candidates who received the largest pluralities in the general election. Voters have a greater opportunity to make an informed choice than with instant runoffs (i.e., ranked choice voting). Runoff elections guarantee that the winner of the runoff election has a genuine mandate from a majority of the voters—a crucial factor in a democratic system. | How does this accurately represent the wishes of the voters as they compare the positions of the candidates. Candidates who receive the least amount of votes clearly do not represent the position of the electorate. However the top vote getters do. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Elections and politics aside, I encourage the Board to consider this change from a survey design and human psychology perspective. Please review the article written by an experienced survey developer at https://greatbrook.com/ranked-choice-voting-the-good-the-opaque-the-end-game/ . While at first glance this appears to be a straightforward alternative to traditional voting, there are many opportunities for error and unintended consequences. The math alone involved with reallocation of votes significantly reduces transparency. | What is flawed in the existing election process that warrants making a change? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22205 | There is no information provided to explain why this is being considered. | How is it better or worse than our current process? What are the implications for the Board race? I would like much more information on the rationale for making a change like this for Arlington specifically. What problem is this solving? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I believe that voters may be skeptical of the results due to the multiple iterations that must occur before a "winner" is derived. | Confusion over how to vote and causing potential voters to just skip the process | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I am a proponent of it, as it should provide for more diverse elected officials. | N/A | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am in favor of it | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | None | Would there be a limit to the number of "ranked" positions or would all candidates be ranked? | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22205 | I support ranked-choice voting. Anything changes the "either/or" proposition is a good thing for the community. Ranking candidates helps voters contemplate a number of likely outcomes from their vote. In my view, it ultimately results in fairness because all votes are considered and no vote is wasted. It will also make the tone of the elections more positive. | Is there a cost associated with moving to ranked-choice voting? Does the country intend to provide 'training video' as part of the implementation to ensure everyone understands the new ballots? Will moving to ranked-choice voting increase voter participation? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting as an option | is it only applicable to local elections? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | There's a useful free app resource that can help citizens become more familiar with ranked choice vote. It's a useful tool for small-scale, low-stakes elections or votes. RCV123 is the name of the app. It's free to use. Here's the website: https://www.rcv123.org/ I work at Arlington Public Library; let me know if you're interested in doing public programs about it. jodlum@arlingtonva.us | I think it would be interesting to know whether people using ranked choice voting try to use it in a non-straightforward way. For example, would voters try to rank an undesirable candidate higher than they would personally prefer in order to knock out another undesirable candidate? If people use ranked choice the way it's intended, I think it makes a lot of sense. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am in favor. Must be implemented--and I think this is the plan--such that voters are not required to rank all candidates. That is, a voter can make just one choice if desired, rank top 2 of 4, etc. | How will the new method be explained to voters. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | It's a great idea especially when we have multiple seats to fill. | Will they use it for the general election too? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I like the fairness and sense of Ranked-choice voting; allowing voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference | I am not hearing objections to RCV that are making sense to me. Always open to hearing both sides. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I support the Board's proposal to use RCV in next year's Board primary, This will be a good way for voters to learn how to use this new type of voting system, without fear of too big a change at one time. | I have uncertainty and qualms about how RCV would work if we move to having a larger Board, which some are recommending. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I support a change to implement ranked choice voting | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | Please implement ranked-choice voting as soon as possible. | Only why we don't have it already. It should be in place for national, state, and local elections. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I'm in favor of RCV | Do any rules/regs have to be changed to implement RCV in future elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support the use of ranked choice voting. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We need ranked choice voting. | Would people understand how it works | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think it's a good idea. It seems to have worked effectively, is efficient and takes into account more of the view of voters, who may have preferences across a series of candidates. | I have never understood, what happens when the two last place candidates are tied? How do their voters preferences get allocated moving forward. This is a definite possibility, given our sometimes small polls for primaries. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choic voting is a net benefit for politics. It allows people to vote for candidates/3rd parties that more closely align with their political beliefs without feeling like they are throwing their vote away or "choosing the lesser of two evils". Competition is good for everyone, and ranked choice voting will increase competition in elections. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting produces candidates and representatives that are more acceptable to a larger percentage of the population. It helps bring the community together and should be used for all elections in Arlington. | None - it's great! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I fully support using ranked-choice voting in county elections and urge the Board to approve it. | None come to mind right now! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | YES on ranked choice. I wrote a paper and did an analysis on this in college in the late 80s and it is clearly the better way to gauge the position of the populace compared to plurality voting. While some people might try to determine if they can influence the outcome by not ranking all the candidates or just some of them, ranked choice is still clearly the superior approach. Not bad that you allowed for supporting materials to be sent, but I would certainly hope that someone has done a basic literature search on the subject. | How are you going to select winners after voting is complete? There are various ways to determine a winner(s) once the voters have done their ranking. One could assign points to each relative position and generate the outcome by tallying up who has the most points. Other alternatives involve a stepped elimination process. The ultimate goal should be to best represent the voters preferences. It is helpful to step through some simple examples and see how the outcome could change depending on the method used and again assess who is most representative. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | It is a much much much better system. PLEASE ADOPT IT! | No. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am very much in favor of using ranked-choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | If this gives the Arlington taxpayer better and more choices for candidates I am all for it. The County Board is basically a politburo. | Will it gives taxpayers more choices regardless of party affiliation? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am supportive of this approach. I feel that ranked choice voting allows us to move beyond the binary choices that have resulted in winning candidates often being from one far side of the political spectrum or the other. | I do think we might find a way to avoid having a suitable number of candidates on the ballot. Max of 8? Minimum requirements that don't produce only 2! How might the County determine qualification for the ballot based on constituent support? For example would the number of signatures to put someone in the ballot change? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think it would be a very good idea to have ranked-choice voting. | I would like to know how and when it would be implemented | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked-choice voting would likely help to increase candidate diversity. | It would be important to educate the electorate about its benefits. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It will be more representative of what the people want. | I don't have any questions at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support the use of RCV for County Board (and other) elections - both primary and general elections. I support "proportional RCV" and/or Final Four/Five RCV for primary elections - where all candidates, regardless of party designation, would be on the primary ballot - with the top 4/5 vote getters appearing on the Gen Election ballot. We must ensure that Arlingtonians are represented by officials who have the support of the "majority" of voters, rather than a plurality. | Are you considering Final 4/5 RCV for the primary elections? Are you considering RCV for general elections/ | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Yes. Let's do it! | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am a strong advocate for it because it will help diminish the polarization in our current politics. People will run on the issues and not the party. | I am concerned that the public will have to research the candidates and their platform versus voting a straight party ticket. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I prefer ranked choice voting because it allows more moderate candidates on the right and left to have a chance in elections. The extremism in candidates is needed to win primaries but I don't think it reflects the majority of citizens' views and that's what we're left with in the general election. I hope it is adopted widely. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support ranked choice voting, especially for School Board and County Board. I am a Democrat, but believe Arlington would benefit from a greater diversity of opinion among its elected leaders. The group think, and lack of transparency, over School Board spending in particular is harmful to the long-term sustainability of Arlington public schools. | None. I see how it has helped in other jurisdictions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I've used this system several times, the first being way back when Ted Kennedy visited the caucus held at Kenmore if my memory serves correctly. In my mind, this seems the fairest way to vote for the voters and for those running for office. | How does the software compute ranked choice? Are the results known as soon as all votes are tallied? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | RCV is an urgent reform. It would improve interest in politics generally. In a typical D vs R election, it's usually too obvious to most voters which one they'll prefer. And of course a vote for anyone else is almost always wasted, so I hardly have to pay attention. In races with RCV (like recent local caucuses), I know that I can rank all of the candidates and my vote won't be wasted. So I have more of a reason to pay attention to the issues and to the candidates. With RCV in the general election, it's likely that more candidates would be on the ballot, and I can vote for my favorite because my vote won't be wasted. And it won't be obvious who is going to win. This would improve interest and engagement in local issues. So I think it would also improve turnout wherever it is used. Improving voter turnout in Arlington would give us a stronger voice in statewide elections even if we are only able to do this in our local elections for now. | RCV has already been proven effective. Voters like it. It would be good for democracy. It doesn't favor one party over another. We've had the ability to adopt it for a couple of years now, and the state has done some of the work to lower the costs of any municipality that adopts it. Why, then, are we starting so small, with the primaries only? RCV would make the most difference in the general election, especially in a two-seat year. After success in the pilot in 2023, will the county be prepared to move quickly so that it will be used in the general election in 2025? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I support use of Ranked Choice Voting at the Board, County-wide, and State-Wide election levels. | How will Arlington educate residents about how they should approach this vote counting method and why it is a better method for counting votes? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I strongly recommend allowing ranked choice voting in Arlington. I think it is the best way to ensure that, when there are three or more candidates, the election is won by a candidate who has received a majority of the votes. I also thinks it forces candidates to compromise and to seek more of a middle ground, as they are seeking second and third place votes, in addition to first. I think that this is incredibly important in such a divided era. | I would want to know the specific procedures used to count the votes and maintain an adequate audit trail. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am strongly in favor of adopting ranked choice voting. While it is slightly more complex and will slow down vote tallying, it more closely approximates voter preferences and reduces the extremism inherent in first-past-the-post voting systems. | I do not have any questions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I highly approve of RCV and would love to see it implemented in Arlington. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | This is a good idea and should be implemented. | None, this is a good idea for Arlington. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It is a great idea. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I'm cautiously optimistic that this will result in elections that truly reflect the will of the people. Explaining how it works is critical to gaining public acceptance. Also the major parties need to buy in, which may be a hard sell because it will likely result in one party losing its historically solid control of election outcomes. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am for ranked-choice voting | What happens in case of a tie? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think ranked choice voting is a great way to select a candidate who truly has the most popular support and avoid polarizing election results | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We need district representation, but ranked choice is better than no changes, and perhaps will encourage more candidates to challenge the Arl Dems stranglehold on elected office. | Voter education and outreach about the ranked choice system will be important | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Do it. | Just to make sure the count is tabulated by professionals in the elections office and transparent so there are no disputes. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I favor it | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Support move to ranked-choice voting! | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support ranked-choice voting (RCV). I believe that RCV will increase voter engagement and voter representation. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am strongly in favor of ranked-choice voting, it can help to increase the diversity of opinion of our elected leaders. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I support RCV. It's a way to make my vote count. It also, it seems to me, was a key factor in the Republicans winning the gubernatorial election last year; it helped the Republicans gain a candidate who was broadly attractive across the Commonwealth. It provides a transparency that is sorely lacking in behind-closed-door approaches. It also seems to me that it might promote more civil and less expensive (fewer attack ads) campaigns, since it chooses a candidate that is acceptable (enough) to (eventually) more than half the voters. | My understanding is this decision merely allows a party to use RCV to choose a candidate, if it so desires, correct? But a party does not have to hold a primary, and if it does hold a primary, it doesn't have to use RCV, correct? In addition, my understanding is that this decision does not include the option of having one multi-party primary, with candidates from all parties, to select the final candidates for the election, correct? If a party chooses to hold an RCV primary, I assume that, like now, I do not have to be a registered member of that party to vote in that primary (but can only vote in one primary!), correct? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We need RCV for general elections, not just primaries. Our current system creates the same electoral incentives for all 5 board members, namely do what's necessary to win a Democratic Primary. This doesn't create a representative government. We're a majority renter county, but we're governed by 5 homeowners. That's obscene, and RCV will lower barriers to elected office and make it easier for us to elect a truly representative county board, along with other recent recommendations from the TIGER Task Force. | No questions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I support Ranked Choice Voting. There are many benefits including reducing negative campaigning, encourages consensus building, streamlines the election process saving costs, reduces extremism. | How would the Board educate the electorate about the new system? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting promotes candidates who are responsive to a wider range of the population. We should use it for every election in ARlington! | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I think ranked-choice voting is very important for Arlington County to adopt. I feel it will allow us to vote on candidates based on the issues that are most important to each Arlingtonian locally - instead of focusing on party affiliation. I believe it will increase the diversity of our elected officials and let Arlingtonians voices be heard. | I would wonder how it would be implemented and how the voting public will be educated about how to vote in a ranked-choice election - I would think it is important to make it easy, clear and spread the work across the entire county. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting makes for fairer elections that better capture the public will. I hope the county board will implement RCV as soon as possible. | No questions, other than how soon can we get this done? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support adoption of Ranked Choice Voting for Arlington County Board candidates and I hope the Board will consider expanding this method to additional county elections. | The only question I have is how quickly it can be implemented. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly urge the Board to adopt ranked choice voting (RCV). In our polarized society, with a two party system, voters often feel that their vote hasn't counted. With RCV voters are more likely to see their votes as mattering and it would encourage more candidates to compete for more votes. This is particularly true with an electorate like Arlington's where there is such a lopsided one party majority. Voters of the other party know that their vote doesn't matter. With RCV it would encourage more candidates competing for more votes. We would have less polarization and more moderate candidates. Ranked choice voting is being tried in the US. Maine uses RCV in federal elections. San Francisco, Minneapolis, Saint Paul and Santa Fe have also adopted RCV as will Alaska in the coming 2022 elections. Australia has used RCV since its founding in 1904 and other countries use multi-winner RCV (Ireland, Malta and Australia in the Senate), producing less polarization and more moderate candidates. | As with most major changes such as this, the devil is in the details. Arlington should appoint an independent task force of no more than three and thoroughly research the systems currently in use in various cities and states in the US. Some questions to consider are (i) how can we foster and encourage the development of a multi-party system? (ii) do we want to use multi-winner RCV and perhaps the top winners make up the Board?. (iii) do we need to examine and perhaps change how we implement fund raising with an RCV system? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think rank choice voting is excellent. We should be doing it in all of our elections especially primaries | When there are multiple candidates if the second choice for an eliminated candidate is already above the threshold does the vote go to the third choice candidate | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I'm very supportive of ranked choice voting and believe it has the potential to result in even more broadly representative elected officials. When having three or more candidates, ranked choice voting would result in a winner representing a true majority of the electorate rather than a plurality. This could allow true consideration of three or four candidates while reducing the likelihood of success by an extreme candidate representing only a minority of the electorate. | In discussing ranked choice voting, I've found others unfamiliar with the concept and confused by how it would work. While very worthwhile, it will need a major effort to inform and educate the electorate. This needs extra care in our current polarized political environment. If implemented well, local efforts could serve as an example for later state and national elections. To help educate kids (and indirectly their parents), could ranked choice voting be introduced in APS K-12 student elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I believe Ranked Choice Voting is important to implement in order to improve election fairness, better represent voter preferences, and discourage negative campaigning. It's a system that is more responsive to voters and can help mitigate polarization. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It was exciting in early 2020 when the General Assembly passed a bill allowing Arlington to nominate AND elect board members by RCV, and another bill allowing all local governing bodies to do so. I thought it made a lot of sense for Arlington to be a trail-blazer for this essential non-partisan pro-democracy reform. Now there's no reason to wait. Why do it only in primaries? It's more meaningful in general elections. RCV is already proven to be successful elsewhere. It would be even more helpful in a year when two seats are open. | What are we waiting for? Why only primaries? The state board of elections has already promulgated regulations for how to do it. Alaska and Maine are doing it for federal elections! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think we should give ranked choice voting a try. I'm hoping it will give us candidates that will represent the views of more voters that are seeking to find common ground on issues. | How has ranked choice voting worked in other jurisdictions? Does it help increase voter turnout.? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I like RCV because sometimes if one is ambivalent about the candidates (no stellar standout), ranking them makes sense. With the proposal allowing for prioritizing as many candidates as one like, this serves the voters when there's a standout, and when there's not. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I urge the Board to consider ranked-choice voting as an important means of preserving and defending the civility and common sense that has defined Arlington and given the County its reputation as a safe, well-run community in which we can live and work. As you know, in this era where a vocal minority can hijack a populace with extremist views (on either side of the political spectrum), ranked-choice voting works to moderate extremism and promote consensus, compromise, and coalition-building. I view this as an important safeguard in preserving civility and even the physical safety of those of us who live here. | I would like to see your implementation process, a timeline, and real-life case studies from other jurisdictions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting is hugely important and one of the best democratic reforms that can be made to ensure that elections truly reflect the will of the electorate. | None, Please implement this | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We should adopt it, post haste. Let the voters decide who they want without fear of their vote "not counting". It's rational. It's party neutral. It's the smart thing. Do it. | My only question is how soon can it be implemented, and not just for primaries. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support ranked choice voting. It works well elsewhere and appears to encourage improved political dialogue and reduced polarization. | I suggest surveying best practices elsewhere and building upon them. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | A good idea. Politics are too polarized. | I like the results where it is being used. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Yes please! | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Please consider it. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It helps indicate the candidate with the strongest support and eliminates second-round voting. | Who would decide to move to ranked-choice voting? Would there be training on how it works? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting." RCV means winners with closer to majority support. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. GO FOR IT! Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | What type of ballot is being used? There are many versions and that matters! Talk to FairVote and do your research! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think ranked choice voting is a great idea and should be implemented in Arlington. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I feel ranked-choice voting is a tool that allows nuances of voter choice to shine through, and can help mitigate the harm that gerrymandering has done to squelch voter power. | None, at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I am staunchly opposed to ranked choice voting. | Is the old system that bad? Seems fine. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | As an attorney who works in election law, I have engaged in much research on Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV). RCV is a flawed election system that seeks to increase voter turnout at the expense of voters who seek to vote for only one candidate. There are countless issues with RCV, but most important to address is how it allows a candidate who comes in second place after the first round to ultimately prevail in the second and third round of tabulating. Voters who only vote for one candidate are disenfranchised if their candidate receives the least amount of votes, for they will not participate in the second or third rounds. This forces voters to vote for candidates they don't like in order to have their vote count rather than being able to just elect one. Voter confidence is undermined by RCV's shaky results. It is not a method Arlington should consider implementing, and the Board would be wise to keep the status quo. | Why does the Board believe this method is needed? Has the Board examined the large expense of funds it would cost the county to educate the electorate on the new method? Is the Board ready to deal with the fallout of voter confidence if a candidate that gets the most in round one ends up losing in rounds two or three? Does the Board know that most jurisdictions that implement RCV end up repealing it in subsequent years? Does the Board know that voters who desire to vote for only one candidate can be disenfranchised? Who on the Board believes that civic engagement in Arlington would actually increase with RCV? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | Voting in Arlington County has always been simple and straight forward. There is no need to change the County's way of voting. | NA | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I dislike ranked choice voting. It goes against democracy and the one person one vote principle. | It should not be implemented without first putting it to Arlington voters. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22206 | I have read several articles about ranked choice voting and I for one find it quite confusing. The results can be so counter-intuitive I think it will shock many voters. | Every ballot should include a complete explanation of the tally method used. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I do not like this voting method. It may confuse voters and be completed incorrectly. | Why are you considering this method? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | No to RCV. | Why is it necessary? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I am very against ranking voting. It forces me to vote for people I would not vote for in order to keep my overall vote from being thrown away. If my primary choice is not picked, I then may end up having my vote counted for a person that I do not think is the best candidate and would not have voted for. The one person one vote situation we currently have is the one that most aligns with our democratic principles. Please do not change it. Thank you. | What is the benefit of changing to ranked voting? Who suggested this? Why exactly is the county considering this? Does the fact I have not voted in a ranked voting before negatively affect my comments? I have read about and researched the matter and come to my opinion based off careful consideration, so I do not think any past experience, or lack thereof, with this kind of voting should matter. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I think it complicates the tabulation and vote counting, which could risk election results being challenged and the public not understanding and/or not trusting the results. | How does the potential benefit from this system measure against the risks of loss of public trust in the election process since the process is more complicated and difficult to understand. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22206 | Let's give it a try. | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it would be a good idea to try. I'm not sure it would make much difference in County Board races, but it could result in a wider variety of candidates running. | Why not also for school board? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | As I understand it, I am in favor of ranked choice voting. | None at this time. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it would be good to test ranked-choice voting | I think I understand how it works, but a lot of people may be confused. How will the results be reported; will that include how many or % of votes from the lower-ranked choices were distributed to which higher-ranked choices? For this method to be accepted by voters, transparency about the process and outcomes will be essential. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I'm familiar with RCV from our Arlington County Democratic endorsement caucuses, which have seemed to work well. Also, due to my close familiarity with Alaska politics thru my clients' business, I'm familiar how it's worked in Alaska, which just resulted in a moderate Democrat winning the US House seat and first Democrat in that seat in 50 years, instead of Trump-endorsed Sarah Palin (ugh) who would have won under the state's former traditional closed primary. Also, it will save moderate Sen. Murkowski from her Trump-endorsed opponent. That alone is all I need to know. | None. If they can successfully implement RCV statewide in far-flung Alaska, as well as New York City, it can be EASILY implemented in Arlington. It's not rocket science. | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | Would this be available for other county office primaries such as school board? | As long as the process is clearly explained to voters through several methods before election and at polling locations, I have no issues. I think it is an interesting step. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | While I support RCV in principle, I don't think it's the most important election-related reform the County Board should be focused on. I think more good can be done by either expanding the number of County Board seats, eliminating at-large districts, or both. | If ranked-choice voting is used in the June primary, is it possible to also implement for the November general election? Have the Arlington Democratic and Republican parties endorsed use of RCV? Do they have a say in the decision? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I support the idea for the county to do ranked-choice voting. | n/a | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | Support this as an economical approach. | No comments | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I support ranked choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it is great! I've been previously unwilling to "throw away" my vote by voting for someone who may not get selected for the top tier positions, but I think that rank choice voting would allow me to express my genuine voting wishes without worrying about throwing away my vote. | I would want extreme transparency on how the results were determined, alternative scenarios for counting, etc. Since people are unfamiliar with it, it probably will need a lot more explanation and the best way for that is transparency. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I absolutely agree with ranked choice voting for Arlington | No additional questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22206 | In general, me and my family support ranked-choice voting. For Arlington, for the foreseeable future, it wouldn't have any affect on winners and losers, but, it could save the county money not having to conduct instant run off elections. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I support the idea in principle. | Would ranked choice be employed if two or more seats are open? I don't understand how that would work, so I'm not sure I'd support ranked choice in that situation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I strongly support ranked-choice voting. | None at this time | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Any kind of RCV is better than what we have now. I like Condorcet but I recognize that IRV is currently ascendant. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked Choice Voting *should* be instituted for ALL elections local, state, AND federal. Comedian Hasan Minhaj (formerly of The Daily Show) did a segment about Ranked Choice Voting on his own show Patriot Act that explains it quite simply. The best part is that it doesn't require Congressional action to implement. Since voting is left to the States, it just requires a local law. https://youtu.be/MykMQfmLlro | All local decision makers and voters should watch Hasan Minhaj discuss Ranked Choice Voting. https://youtu.be/MykMQfmLlro | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I support it. Listen to the Radlolib podcast episode about ranked choice voting called Tweak the Vote. | No questions, but suggest moving forward quickly. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Thank you to the County Board for considering a new way of voting in Arlington. I am enthusiastically in support of ranked-choice voting. I think it better represents the diversity of opinion throughout our great county. I urge you to allow it. I also think at a time of rising frustration and division over missing middle, it would show flexibility on the Board's part. I do think there will be a powerful backlash against the Board if the multifamily housing is allowed where only single family homes are today. Most people in Arlington who actually care about missing middle are strongly against it, not for it. This is the Board's creation. It would be a severe mistake. And the people who the Board thinks it's helping will barely care. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I like the idea of being able to express multiple preferences in order. Otherwise, I have found myself trying to assess what the will of the entire electorate is, and supporting a candidate who I think will be electable, even if s/he was not my first choice. | for the Arlington county Board primary, will there be one primary for all candidates, or separate primaries by party? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I've always been in favor of RCV. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea - the "winner take all" system currently in place encourages unnecessary partisanship, whereas ranked choice would allow for a greater representation of voter opinions. | This system will be new and unfamiliar to many voters - how would the county ensure voters are prepared for the new ballot style? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I am in favor | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I am totally in favor of ranked choice voting for Arlington County Board, for use in June primaries and November general elections. It makes so much sense. It eliminates voters trying to game the system rather than just being straightforward in voting for several choices in priority order. It would encourage candidates to be less extreme in their views and rhetoric, and less negative in political ads, and would instead encourage them to try to attract the largest number of voters, including moderate or undecided voters, who might vote for them as either a first or second choice. I especially like that the RCV system creates an efficient automatic "runoff" if no one wins a majority on the first count. That's SO much better than asking voters to show up for a second round of voting. | Of course RCV will only work if voters trust the county government to run a fair electoral system, but that's probably just an issue of transparency and communication with the public regarding the results of each step in the new RCV process of counting the votes. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked choice voting is a great move, and we should use it in every election we can. | Can we implement sooner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Highly in favor of exploring this option and implementing it for future elections. | How would the county ensure fair exposure for all candidates? What restrictions would be imposed to negate perceived favoritism towards a certain candidate? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked Choice voting I believe is the best method to ensure that candidates are selected by a true majority of voters. Often voters feel compelled to vote for candidates in dominant parties because they feel like their vote will be wasted if they vote for a smaller party, and in large fields multiple similar candidates can split the vote while a fringe candidate may win a plurality, but would have lost with ranked choice voting. | Ranked Choice voting should be implemented carefully with significant education opportunities for voters, doing simulated votes to ensure that votes can be processed in a timely manner and implementing the system first in some smaller elections (like primaries) before implementing for general elections. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it is a good idea especially with all the polarized politics going on. For primaries and elections. | Very clear instructions please | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I am totally opposed to ranked-choice voting. We just saw in the Alaska US House race that a candidate with 40% of the vote can easily win. In that case 60% of voters did not vote for that candidate, but she won. It is clearly designed to appeal to voters who see the name and think "ranking my choices seems like a good thing" -- but who do not realize that it can easily result in the opposite vote result than they want. Moreover, ranked choice voting is now contributing to the poisonous view too many Americans now have of the fairness of election rules designed to help one political party. We need to maintain the traditional approach where each political party chooses their nominee and those nominees go head-to-head in the general election. See: https://www.dailywire.com/news/a-scram-gop-senator-blasts-ranked-choice-voting-after-alaska-democrat-wins-house-seat | 1) Special interests: Which organizations are most closely identified with actively pushing for rank-choiced voting? 2) Follow the money: Has Arlington County done the important work of following the money to find to find out who has a significant interest in pushing for these changes to voting laws. 3) Do voters clearly understand that the result of ranked-choice voting can easily be the opposite of what they want just like in the recent Alaska US House election where 60% of voters supported a Republican, but yet a Democrat with only 40% of the vote was elected? 4) Is ranked-choice voting designed to reduce the likelihood that a conservative is elected in Arlington? 5) Will an objective analysis of Arlington country reduce the likelihood that a conservative is elected in Arlington? 6) Is it true, as many critics argue, that ranked-choice voting is likely to result in the election of more Democrats or moderate Republicans more closely aligned with Democrats? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Confusing- would voters know that they ranked choice is optional? | Would need extra instruction at voting booth. What would happen if there wasn't a clear winner? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Keep system as is. | What problems are you trying to solve? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | i think it is stoopid. it seems dishonest. and cheating. and statistical unsound. it may be statistically sound, but it seems wrong. How often have we needed a run off? then do a tru run off. | How do we know it is statistically sound? prove it to me. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | please leave things alone as we need to encourage more inclusive government with independents and republicans | How does this disadvantage non democrats | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Ranked choice voting violates the one person, one vote principle. It also injects uncertainty into the outcome which will feed feelings of election mistrust. | Does the county have the constitutional authority to implement this change. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | By nature, it's complex from the simple method of winners and losers. Also, it may cause multiple voting rounds which has to cost the county and taxpayers more \$\$. It's just could stretch out the process - time equals more money spent. | Need to clearly lay this out in simplest terms. Plus the "typical voter" will not spend the time to do a proper ranking before voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Bad idea -- too easy for groups to game the system, voters do not understand the impacts of their rankings | How would you restrict number of candidates? Fewer than 10? Fewer than 20? How would you decide? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | This would be a terrible decision. | What problems are you trying to fix? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | From what I have seen, especially on the west coast, ranked-choice voting has a greater chance of resulting in on party control and given the make-up of Arlington, it will probably happen here. | Don't do it. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Too subject to game-playing. Jurisdictions that do this have lengthy delays in reporting results -- don't need uncertainty given today's environment. | What does it achieve? The current system has worked well. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | A | A | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22207 | <p>Ranked choice voting is a bad idea. Ranked-choice voting makes the common good inferior to each person's private first choice. The common good of Arlington county will likely gets ranked second choice or below for each citizen.</p> <p>It is sometimes thought that the sole purpose of an election is to make government accountable to the people and representative of their will. A fault of ranked-choice voting is that it aims to perfect this idea by offering some success to as many shades of opinion as possible. But another, greater purpose for elections was intended by the Constitution's framers: to find competent public officials.</p> | <p>The voters should get not only what they want, like consumers, but also what is good for them as citizens. Competency among those elected is never assured, but it will stand a better chance when voters are selecting the candidate who is best for the job as well as the one most representative of their will. Ranked-choice voting may bring competency along with accuracy, but accuracy is all that is asked for. Competency ought to include the ability to unite the country in a majority, not just to make pleasing speeches to the voters known as the base.</p> <p>Ranked-choice voting rewards extremism in the electorate. Voters who make extreme choices should be punished via exclusion from the majority. Ranked-choice voting rescues them from the penalty they deserve for throwing away their ballot on an extreme first choice.</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>This is a bad idea. Stick with the tried and true methodology of electing or officials. It's worked for hundreds of years. Ranked choice creates the opportunity for a candidate to win that did not have the vote of the most voters. There is a way to game the system and it will happen to the displeasure of voters.</p> | <p>Nothing else to B add. It's a bad idea.</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>This is too confusing for a lot of people and it can take weeks to figure out an election winner as seen in other jurisdictions that have implemented it. It's unnecessary and just trendy.</p> | <p>Why would this have any benefits for the people of Arlington County? If there are benefits how do they outweigh the confusing system and slow vote counting that could undermine faith in the election system?</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>This is equally as stupid of an idea as was the gift to developers and the county coffers (read corrupt county board) as the missing middle and multi family housing Idea. Arlington County Board Members should be ashamed of their blatant disregard for the electorate and their wholesale pursuit of special interests and personal gain.</p> | <p>None. It is a sham.</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>No - absolutely do not accept ranked Choice Voting</p> | <p>None</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>I am not in favor of this type of voting.</p> | <p>I am concerned that there would be a very large number of possible candidates listed on the voting ballot. How could this be restricted? Too many candidates to choose from makes this a very difficult way to have sufficient knowledge about individual candidates to make an informed choice when ranking all candidates. Will the number of candidates that all voters rank be limited to the top 3 or 4? Even this number may be difficult to fairly rank.</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>None</p> | <p>None</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>Bad idea.</p> | <p>Why are you interfering with a system that has worked well for over two centuries?</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>Do not like it. Looking at where is has been used, it puts the minority party at a greater disadvantage. Example, CB race, majority party runs several candidates ensuring no majority on first vote, then each further step likely dilutes minority party candidate's votes.</p> | <p>Why????? Better change would be to have CB members from districts with maybe one county-wide.</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>Please do not do this as it creates opacity for voters</p> | <p>See above</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | <p>I am against it. The current system works so why mess with it?</p> | <p>I don't trust most of the members of the current Board because they are more interested in over-crowding the County than in creating a great community. The fact that the Board is bringing this up makes me suspicious. And NO, I am not a Republican, although I suspect Board Members Kristol, Dorsey, and Ferranti have Republican tendencies.</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22207 | No to ranked choice voting | Why the change to something that will be confusing? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Definitely not necessary. No reason to change current voting system. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | See the attached file for an explanation. Key Points: 1. Ranked choice voting is a scheme to disconnect elections from issues and allow candidates with marginal support from voters to win. 2. It obscures true debates and issue-driven dialogs among candidates and eliminates genuine binary choices between two top-tier candidates. 3. It disenfranchises voters, because ballots that do not include the two ultimate finalists are cast aside to manufacture a faux majority for the winner. | How will you audit this and make it transparent to citizens? We certainly do not need increased manipulation of votes using non-transparent voting machines and proprietary software. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | While it is technically constitutional, it often allows the election of no one's top choice. I am against it. | Will the county revisit it if the voters do not end up liking it? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I do not like ranked choice. If I choose to vote for a candidate who is eliminated I want the opportunity to choose where my vote goes in the next round. More information about a particular candidate might become available following the initial election date that would change my mind. Also bad weather on election day may vary the outcome, I'd like to see maximum voter participation. | None, I believe I understand it. It seems to solve an Arlington democrat unique problem to save money for a second election if necessary. I don't care for this shortcut | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Oppose. Dumb idea. | In an election I choose to support or oppose a candidate generally. However, I may decide to not support any candidate. I don't want to have a voting system where another system where another method is used to determine the winner(s). | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Few know RCV, it will require an extensive educational campaign and other changes that cost money. There are no obvious benefits to the RCV system based on empirical studies conducted on cities and states using RCV. Tax funds can be put to better use than for a new voting system. | Cost of converting to a new voting system and impact on Arlington resident taxes. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I was initially supportive of the idea, but am persuaded by available research that the confusion it contributes to the voting process, and the non-intuitive and potentially paradoxical effects of different ranked-choice voting strategies (https://alaskapolicyforum.org/2020/10/failed-experiment-rcv/) means that it is very likely to cause more problems than it solves (if any). There are simpler approaches that may do a better job achieving some of these ends - e.g. multi-member districts - that are worth exploring first. | See prior comments | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I'd rather see an election of multiple candidates reduced to just two then have voters return to the polls a month later to vote on one. | I don't think citizens know enough about all the candidates for ranked-choice voting. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | The one thing the County does well is run elections. Don't mess with success. | Is there any reason to do this? The Board has become a pawn for outside interests (Amazon, Missing Middle scam developers, etc) so this makes me question why the Board would even explore this. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I don't support Ranked Choice Voting | With RCV it's no longer really one person one vote. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | RCV sounds good in practice, but voter turn-out will be way down for a separate run-off election. We already have way too many election days and elections should not be decided by a very small percentage of the electorate. | How would you do the run-off election in a way that will allow for high voter turnout? Will you have the vote on a weekend? I would not want another canceled school day for a run-off election. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Why can't we just divide Arlington into 5 districts and vote by district? | Still confused that only the second-place votes of those whose candidates are eliminated are counted in the second round. Shouldn't everyone's second-place votes count? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | Glad we are doing this for a primary in 2023. I hope the Board does a survey after that ranked choice primary. Perhaps ranked choice voting should be decided by the voters in November 2023 or later. | None | Yes | 3 - Neutral |

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| 22207 | Hard to figure out the ramifications from the description given. | How well has this worked in other jurisdictions? However "well" is defined | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | As long as I can continually rank my first choice, for my second, third, etc. choices, then I am ok with ranked-choice voting. If my second choice has to be something other than my first choice, then I am not ok with ranked-choice voting. | see above | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | Go for it! | Provide a very thorough explanation so that every voter understands its implications. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I attended the Committee of 100 event with the TIGER team of the civic associations n RCV, district voting, and the status quo in Arlington. Either RCV or district voting would be preferable to the current at-large system. The data and analysis the TIGER team presented were convincing in terms of making the Board more representative and accountable to diverse stakeholders throughout Arlington. | What is the plan for voter education? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting for the county board. | No questions now. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | x | x | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I've heard some of the discussions and it sounds as though it has advantages, especially where there are substantial differences between and among candidates of a party. | Would like to see pros and cons from several jurisdictions where it has been used, after the Nov. elections so that some analysis can report on how it might have made a difference in outcomes. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | Before instituting ranked-choice voting, it is imperative for the voting public to have a full understanding of how it works - both the act of voting itself and the counting. Voting systems can be complicated, e.g., the proportional representation used for municipal elections in Cambridge, Massachusetts. It is also important to state the objective, as there are different schools of thought on how progressive it is. | What elections are contemplated for ranked-choice? What type of civic education is contemplated? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it's a method that is worth trying. The Board can evaluate the effectiveness after the next election. | none | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it would encourage more people to run and would possibly eliminate one party rule in Arlington. | How will ranked-choice voting impact the cost of elections? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | Although campaign literature advises potential voters of political party affiliation of the candidates, I would prefer that information on political party affiliation be left off of the ballot. | If a voter's preferred candidate is omitted from consideration early in the process, would there be a way of expressing dissatisfaction with all remaining candidates? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | It allows for a more nuanced result | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I think RCV should be applied to a single non-partisan primary. I encourage you to review the operation of the Alaskan system and consider the improvements offered in a Nov 1, 2022 opinion piece in the Washington Post about RCV by Drs. Foley and Maskin. I think our current system encourages candidates to appeal to the activist base in each party rather than being responsive to the broader electorate, and leaves too many feeling that the candidate choices available to them in the general election are unrepresentative of their views. | How would the Board address the challenge of helping citizens understand the mechanics and the fairness of such a new system? How would a nonpartisan primary be implemented? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I favor ranked-choice voting. I believe it allows more diversity and encourages more candidates to run for election. | How will the County educate the public regarding this type of voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Yes, please implement RCV. | Please provide detail on how the process will work. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Favor | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am strongly in favor. Ranked-choice voting reduces the 0-sum nature of elections and also creates more civil political campaigns. | Ranked-choice voting is not intuitively simple to undersatnd, so any move in that direction MUST be accompanied by an aggressive PR/education effort -- starting in high school as kids approach age 18. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I'm all in favor of ranked-choice voting. I think it will require candidates to focus on the desires of the majority of all voters no matter their party affiliation. | Will there still be primaries that are segregated by political party? Will there be any primaries at all? Will there be primaries under certain conditions? For example, if there are a large number of candidates (let's say 15), then would there be a "primary" to narrow the field to a smaller number (say, 5)? Can we assume that all candidates for an office--no matter their party affiliation or no party affiliation--will be listed together on the same ballot? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Strongly favor it for both primary and general elections. | Should be simple to implement. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Yes! | None! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Preferable to plurality voting as it provides voters the opportunity to rank candidates and more fully express their preferences. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am a strong advocate for ranked choice voting. It will help diminish polarization in our current politics and allow for more diversity in choices of candidates. I am working with UpVoteVA to help make this a reality throughout Virginia. While critics argue the process may be confusing and delay vote tallies, elections such as the recent one in Alaska show that not to be the case. While it may take some time to adapt in some instances, it will be a benefit to all in the long one, and one of the few tools we have at our disposal to bring people together and lessen the polarizing identification with political parties. I am a strong Democrat but a moderate who wants to see change in how we conduct ourselves and - hopefully - a return to some civility in the political arena. Thank you for listening. | I have no questions. Ranked Choice Voting will revolutionize American politics and I support it wholeheartedly. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting. | I have no questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Great idea! | Long term would this type of approach begin to cut down on partisan politics? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | The County should absolutely move to top-five open primaries leading to a general election with ranked-choice voting. Additionally, we should move to the proportional representation form of ranked-choice voting or institute multi-member districts to allow for better representation of Arlington's diversity and lower the threshold for third parties to get at least some representation in government. I believe giving voters more choice in elections would be good for our local democracy, and also set an example that higher levels of government could follow. | What changes would be needed to state law to implement top-five open primaries and ranked-choice voting in the general election? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | For me, living and voting in Australia with a ranked-choice voting system was straightforward and elected candidates fairly. Ranked choice voting is very popular in localities in the United States where it has recently been implemented. | How can we ensure ranked-choice voting lowers thresholds for third-party and independent candidates who wish to run for office? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | RCV empowers people to vote with their heart with their first choice, and perhaps with their head for their 2nd choice. Over the long term, it will encourage more people to run for office and more choices at the polls. Also, Arlington is a leader. RCV is a promising reform and Arlington should help introduce it to America. | Critics who say it's hard to use are always talking about some other hypothetical person. They never say it's hard for them - because the fact is America ranks everything and using RCV is easy. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Absolutely yes. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This seems like a good idea. | My only question is: Why is this field required? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support implementing ranked choice voting for primaries and elections. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think its absolutely the way to go. It makes sure everyone's preferences count to the very last candidate. And I think it helps eliminate extreme candidates. | Have none. Witness Alaska's very successful implementation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think this is the way to go. The people are heard in ranked-choice elections | How will you protect the system from someone coming along and allegations of "fraud"? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Yes! RCV is a great way to get candidates to move toward the middle and counter the winner-take-all extremism that infects too much of our current political landscape. Arlington could be a leader in convincing other jurisdictions to adopt this approach. | How would the county educate voters unfamiliar with with process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think that ranked choice voting assures the greatest democratic expression assuring that everyone's vote counts thus, hopefully, enhancing participation. | Not sure | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Strongly support wide use of RCV. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I like it! Let's be part of the change that the country and state need to reform our divided and decisive political system. | I would like to see posters showing how it works. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am highly in favor for all the reasons that are known. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support RCV as a way to broaden the diversity of voices in our election and to enhance civility. | Does Virginia law allow RCV to be done such that it can be combined with final five voting? In other words, I prefer a system like Alaska's where there's a first round of non-partisan voting where the top five vote-getters go on to compete in the RCV round. I'm not sure whether Virginia law allows for that, however. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I would love to see great competition and feel that ranked choice voting would support that | The specifics of how the votes would be calculated | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support this! | N/A | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Support rank-choice voting for primaries and general elections | Ensure instructions are clear and printed at every voting location | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I favor it. | I don't have any questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Totally support it! | Is it possible to expand ranked choice voting to other levels of elections in the future? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I much prefer ranked choice voting over current plurality voting. | Who and how will validate the software that will process ranked voting results? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am strongly in favor of ranked choice voting. It is an excellent method for allowing the will of the people to shine through. Please proceed. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I love it - we should implement rank voting. | I feel pretty comfortable about my base of knowledge about rank order voting. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Determines the candidate with the strongest support Encourages civil campaigning Reduces wasted votes Eliminates the need for multiple elections | How quickly can it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support Ranked Choice Voting for civility and saving cost. | My concern is about election-deniers and those stirring mistrust of the democratic election process in the U.S. For support and information, please see: https://www.rcvresources.org/ | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think that Arlington should adopt Ranked Choice Voting. It is the best way to allow voters to have meaningful choices with a system that is less partisan and more about the actual candidates. It provides a system that raises voters choices with less influence of money in politics and eliminates influence from outside the state. It's the most fair process where elections are not determined in the primary but through the general election. | When would it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support ranked choice voting. I think it's the fairest way to conduct an election with more than two candidates. | Will you be disclosing the how the results were calculated, or just the winner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Please adopt ranked-choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This seems like a good thing to try. It seems like it might find the candidate with the most support from the community, even if that person is someone's second choice. | How will you get the voters of Arlington to come out and vote? I know that some local elections do not attract a large amount of voters. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I'm all for ranked-choice voting. It avoids two strong candidates losing to a third less popular candidate. It also negates having run-off elections and thus saves the cost and inconvenience. Candidates are also more likely to be more civil in campaigning. | Educating the voting public and creating a clear ballot would be key to getting general acceptance of the process. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked-choice voting should be a Democratic Party top priority throughout the country. | Can it be done transparently by computer? If not, it would take a very long time to count, recount, contest, recount. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Implement as soon as possible | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I would support ranked-choice voting. | N/A | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This is long overdue. Please get this in place. | Could it be implemented in primaries? Will this only be for Arlington elections? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | What are we waiting for? It is hugely rewarding to be able to vote your conscience/passion without feeling like your vote will count for nothing, if you favor someone more fringe or less likely to win. I think it will be a boost for diverse candidates-- diverse demographics and diverse ideas. For the good. | What is the plan to teach and train about it | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Support | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | It's a great idea! | None right now. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I believe this is long overdue and that it should be expanded to all elections. | What has it taken this long to use a common sense voting method? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea and will allow voters to better choose candidates. It has already been used successfully in other parts of the country, and should be implemented in Arlington. | I would want the County Board to provide a draft plan with specifics for everyone to comment on before implementation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support Ranked Choice Voting as a means of reducing the likelihood that extremist candidates whom most of the electorate do not support will prevail. | How much longer after the polls close would it take to announce a winner with ranked choice voting as compared to using traditional methods of determining the winner? I support adoption of RCV in any event, but am curious if there would be a delay in announcing the outcome. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am for ranked-choice voting | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked Choice voting is absolutely the best direction to go. Not only does it allow broader representation of the public's political views, it allows a more truthful image of the full spectrum of voters. It can only increase voter interest and participation, and those are both vital to a democratic society. | Is Arlington prepared to address changes to the voting infrastructure to implement it? Is Arlington prepared to provide voter education material both before and during the election cycles so that the voting public understands how to vote in a RCV poll and what their vote means. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I like the idea that it can prod candidates to avoid extremist views in special elections. | It should be done gradually to increase confidence. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This is at the top of my low hanging fruit to help address our broken voting and democratic process. This allows people to vote their heart and still feel their vote means something by having rank choices. It works most recently in New York City and in Alaska. I think it helps give more power to moderate voters versus those at either extreme of the political spectrum who vote during primaries and candidates pander to them. In Arlington a lot of people don't feel their vote matters because the domination of democratic candidates. But at least if there was an array of Democratic candidates that would be helpful. I think it invites more people to run for office with possibly more diversity. | I have no further comments. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked choice voting is far more fair and democratic than the current system, which can easily be manipulated to advance political parties rather than the public will. | If you are against it, why? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it is a great idea. | How would the county ensure that the electorate understands the process? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Great idea! Eliminates the extremes -- finds the consensus our society dearly needs. | No quesitons. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Hi. I strong endorse rank choice voting. It works well elsewhere and is a qualitative improvement. HOWEVER, I REALLY WANT TO SEE ARLINGTON ADOPT PROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION FOR FUTURE ELECTIONS. HERE IS A LINE TO INFORMATION: https://medium.com/@scholars-redistricting-reform/open-letter-to-congress-to-end-single-member-congressional-districts-and-adopt-proportional-97ad1cf6aa2e . Thank you. | Thank you for creating this initiative. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I like the concept. I believe ranked choice voting could make an election less about one person's strengths and weaknesses and more about voters' preferences among the candidates. The current "winner takes all" method of voting pits one candidate against another and leads candidates to exaggerate negative qualities in their opponents when campaigning which is very destructive. | How many positions would we be voting for during a ranked choice vote for County Board? Would the candidates be presented on the ballot without regard to their political party affiliation? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I agree that this is the best way to elect the people we want to serve Arlington County. This method should have been implemented before . | What and who is holding up the process of implementation? Why? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Please. | There are various iterations world-wide. Am I correct in assuming we would implement what seems to work in several US states? Perhaps that requires more voter research, county explanation?? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I support ranked-choice voting because it more accurately captures public sentiment. | I would love to see some Republicans on the ballot. I am concerned that Arlington has a one party system. That typically hasn't worked out too well for governments who have tried it... | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support moving to ranked choice voting. I think it is a better way to assess public opinion when voting. While it may be more complicated and take longer in some circumstances, the effort is worth it. | Given how uniform the voting population is in Arlington, in how many races would it make a difference? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am fully on board with this innovation here in Arlington; it makes perfect sense to give all voters more consideration and freedom to express preferences. Ranking candidates reflects many of those unknown but critical variables that define our values and pick well qualified leaders. It is far past time to give it a real try. | I trust our County leaders to get this right. I cannot think of any specific questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it is a good system. | No question. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support rank choice voting. It leads to less extreme platforms and policy decisions, and less partisanship. | Zero questions. I'm extremely familiar with it, and wish we would move in that direction. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I'm pretty disappointed that the Board has not yet implemented it in time for the 2022 elections. This delay leads me to prefer a challenger for the Board seat this year, whom I trust to prioritize its implementation. | N/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am highly supportive of rank-choice voting. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think we would get candidates who are more knowable and an electorate that would have to be more engaged. Rank choice would help break the divide between political parties, as well help independent candidates. Candidates for school board could be part of the primary process instead of the Democratic only "firehouse" voting. | How can school board candidates be included in the primary process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am very enthusiastic about ranked choice voting. I believe this is the way to get the official or candidate or policy that best reflects the will of most people. Vote yes. | Perhaps there are boundaries about when we can employ it. Any National or state constraints? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support RCV generally and would like to see it implemented in Arlington. I see it as one of the innovations that could help ameliorate the tribal/partisan divide in the country, and the more localities that adopt RCV the more people will become familiar with it and the likelier the chance that it will spread. | Would RCV be used in combination with final five voting, in which the top five candidates in a first round go to the RCV second round? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am 100% in favor of ranked choice voting for all elections. It's a wonderful way to get every last preference out of a voter and boost the candidates who appeal to more voters of different political persuasions but may not be super well known | None I think it's been successful wherever it's been implemented | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Often with multiple candidate elections no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote. Ranked-choice voting makes the election process more democratic since the ultimate winner will have received the majority of the votes cast. | The recent Congressional race in Alaska clearly demonstrates the positive outcome of Ranked-choice voting. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Stop the missing middle plans at once. You Will forever destroy the quality,of our neighborhoods | We deserve ward representation instead of at large board membership | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | In a large field of candidates, Ranked choice voting avoids the election being won by candidate who is no one's first choice | None—we did it at WashingtIn-Liberty school before covid | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | If this is to be a pilot, then there needs to be published criteria on which the pilot will be evaluated. I would like to see more than one Board seat up for election at a time on more of a rotating basis. As it is, the one Board member who runs alone is almost always guaranteed a seat. It seems like RCV could get us closer to having constituencies represented rather than having the lack of representation that comes from all at large membership. | It is unclear to me from the description of "pilot program for the 2023 County Board primary elections" whether this applies to the PRIMARIES at which the candidates to be presented at the general election in November are chosen or whether it refers to the November election itself. If the former, would the two principal parties change their selection processes? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Absolutely in favor of ranked choice voting. | I understand clearly how it works. However this is not universally the case - I would ask how you plan to communicate with voters in advance of rolling this out, AND how the ballots will be designed to ensure that voters are well informed about the system in the moment they are voting. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | One of the simplest means to improving Democracy. | How does this relate to at-large versus districted voting? In particular, if at-large (as at present), and multiple seats open, does the ranked choice select multiple seats? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I recommend that county elections feature ranked choice voting. Ranked choice voting - 1) allows candidates from outside the two major parties to compete. 2) allows voters to support their favorite candidate without worrying that they might "throw their vote away," or worse, split their votes with like-minded voters and unintentionally help elect the candidate they like the least. 3) reduces negative campaigning, as candidates running in ranked choice elections must ask for second and, sometimes, third choice rankings. Voters are less likely to rank a candidate highly who is negative toward their preferred candidate. 4) reduces the influence of money in politics: Campaigns and special interest groups spend a lot of money on negative advertising. By making negative advertising less effective, ranked choice voting reduces the need for, and influence of, money in politics. | no questions, as I have voted in RCV elections previously | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it is a great idea to help make elections more competitive and make people feel more heard. Ranked choice voting makes people more likely to vote because their voice will be heard even if their first choice candidate does not win. Candidates do not have to be so extreme to get their base out to vote. This is good for democracy. | I like how are elections are paper ballots counted by machines. Could the ranked-choice voting be implemented also with paper ballots counted by machines? (I hope so as it is good for security, fast results with paper back up, and Virginians are used to that.) Will you look to other places already using this to see what lessons they have learned? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support ranked choice voting. It enhances the ability of voters to communicate their preferences and have the outcome of the election reflect those preferences. As a result, it can help to reduce the cynicism towards political activity that is currently so prevalent. | The main hurdle to overcome is to educate voters on how ranked-choice voting works. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | It should become the standard for board and all county elections | Why not used ranked choice? What are the downsides? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it's a good idea | How soon? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Ranked Choice Voting has seen the election of people who were nowhere near the top of the majority's choice. It is very confusing and complicated and if people have a difficult time selecting candidates now, they will definitely have a hard time with RCV. Also, it obscures the process so that it is even harder to make sure that the election was handled fairly and transparently. | N/A | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | Do not implement it. It is a sham!! | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | Ranked-choice voting should be used for primary elections ONLY because the USA has a presidential system, not a parliamentary system. The ranked-choice system results in too many anomalies, such as the special election for the one Congressional seat in Alaska where a Republican state ended up with a Democratic. | What specific electoral problem would ranked-choice voting really solve? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | It weights votes and unconstitutional. One person, one vote. I am a former Maine resident and it ruined our election system there. | What is your methodology to count ranked votes? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | The underlying issue is that the U.S. has the lowest voter turnout rate of any democracy in the world. I just don't see how making voting MORE complicated will even address that, let alone solve the problem. | See above: How does making voting more complicated possibly address our low turnout issue? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22209 | I am not sure about this. | Why would we do this? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22209 | Is Ranked Choice Voting confusing for voters? Does Ranked Choice Voting lead to higher voter engagement and turnout? | How many preferences can I rank under Ranked Choice Voting? Do voters have to rank all the candidates, even candidates they don't like? Does the current voting equipment work for Ranked Choice Voting? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22209 | I think it's a good idea! | none | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22209 | Let's try it! | I'm assuming if we have, say, 10 seats to fill and 20 candidates, we can rank our preferences 1-10 | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | It is very exciting to know that Arlington is interested in bringing a fair process of voting to the county! It would be an honor for our county to be one of a few jurisdictions in the country with this voting method. | I would just be curious about what it would take for the county to transition to this. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I think this is a great way to make sure Arlington residents have their preferences represented. | How will people learn about the new voting process? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22209 | Do it! | How will you combat misinformation about the mechanics? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Let's try it! | What kind of educational materials would be provided to voters? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I believe implementing ranked choice voting is an excellent idea that will strengthen democracy and reduce the negative impact of a 2-party political system. I would like to see it implemented for every office on the ballot. | Why only use this system for county board candidates, rather than the entire ballot? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I am strongly in favor of ranked-choice voting. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Rank choice voting is a fantastic option to support a greater number of candidates from diverse backgrounds to participate in elections and run for office. Plurality voting traditionally creates a race between two candidates and pushes others out. In addition, we should promote ranked-choice voting because it's more democratic than traditional plurality with people getting a say down the line of candidates. Also places that have begun to use this method are seeing good results and I think Arlington County should be on the forefront of that. | How will this go into affect and on what timeline? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Amazing. Love it. Please do it. I think it's the best thing and it's evidence based. | How quickly can we do it for every position. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Ranked choice voting works, and the results better reflect the will of the voters. I'm strongly in favor. | When would ranked choice voting be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I believe RCV will lead to more moderation, cooperation on problem solving in a Arlington and could over time improve government in the county. If it works in Arlington, I hope it will spread to other election races, throughout VA and the country. | There have been ballot "kinks" and mess ups in some other states, I hope operations will be carefully reviewed and guided to prevent those in Arlington. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | We need ranked choice voting. We need to set an example for the Commonwealth that good governance should always trump partisanship. | None. Please implement immediately. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I'm a proud Arlingtonian and Marine Corps veteran. I'm deeply saddened by the state of our democracy, the deep division between citizens, and the seeming inability for the current political duopoly to change the status quo of the system. I firmly believe the only way to heal the divisions and repair the lost trust, is to change the system to incentivize consensus building, not grandstanding. I believe ranked-choice voting is the only systemic means to do just this. Please, have the courage of your convictions and demonstrate that Arlington can lead not just in Virginia, but for the country in adopting ranked choice voting in ALL our elections! Thank you for your work! -Isaac Riddle | No questions! Our election machines can handle it and so can our citizens!! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I believe it represents a better way to arrive the candidate who has the most support | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I love this idea and I think making a test of it in the primary is a good idea. | What would be required to implement it in general elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I am in favor of rcv | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | The last thing you want is an unacceptable candidate to win because the majority have different ideas as to who would be the best alternative. | I have one question: Why am I required to complete this box? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting. | Would primaries still be held by each party? Explain when RCV is applicable and when it is not. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | RCV or instant runoff voting will allow Arlingtonians to express their political preferences at the ballot box without needing to dabble in game theory and political strategizing. It will also allow outsider candidates with diverse political messages to participate in electoral politics without raising the stigma of the "spoiler" candidacy. | How will the County execute RCV in a clear and transparent way? Why is the County exploring RCV for primary elections but not general elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Ranked-choice voting is an excellent voting initiative with the potential to reduce hyper-partisanship, give voters more choices, and reduce negative campaigning. | What steps will be taken to ensure voters understand ranked-choice voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I fully support ranked-choice voting! | Would it take longer to determine a winner? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I support ranked choice voting | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | It is an absolute improvement to the current first-past-the-post voting system and should be implemented in our district. | Which flavor of ranked-choice voting will you be implementing? Instant-runoff voting, single transferable vote, etc. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22209 | I support the idea of ranked-choice voting as it seems like a fairer solution that will allow for a wider variety of viable candidates and viewpoints in our elections. | Does the county have a plan to educate folks about such a system? As a nerd I've watched many videos about different voting systems, so im familiar with ranked choice, but I worry that some folks are used to voting one way. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I think Arlington county should implement ranked choice voting | No questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Ranked choice voting (RCV) is a fair, intuitive, and innovative voting method I strongly support. Arlington adopting RCV will put us at the forefront of preserving democracy. Arlington has the chance to learn from others who've implemented RCV and be instrumental at being a model for other democratic areas. Let us strive to be the best in a method which supports democracy! | How will the board learn from other jurisdictions? How will the board market and make this change understandable and favorable for people who may not be as strongly supportive? How can citizens become more involved in the marketing and general implementation process? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22210 | The League of Women Voters of Arlington and Alexandria City, supports the use of RCV. It gives voters more meaningful choices and helps create a richer dialogue on the issues and increases the diversity of views available for voters to consider. In addition, RCV eliminates spoilers and strategic voting and allows voters to support their favorite candidate without worrying that they might "throw their vote away," or worse, split their votes with like-minded voters and unintentionally help elect the candidate they like the least. Another benefit is that RCV reduces negative campaigning: Candidates running in ranked choice elections must ask for second and, sometimes, third choice rankings. Voters are less likely to rank a candidate highly who is negative toward their preferred candidate. This also reduces the influence of dark money in politics. We encourage the use of RCV in the primary and general elections in Arlington. | We would like to know the status of software updates to allow this. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Do not support. Too complicated. Risk of candidates who wouldn't have won the traditional way -- 1 person, 1 vote--, of winning. Takes too long to get results. | Aren't those who vote the traditional way, just for 1 person, at a disadvantage? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22213 | not supportive of it. | there will be unintended consequences | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22213 | I hope it prevents straight Democrat or straight Republican outcomes and forces voters to better evaluate candidates. | Will ranked-choice be phased in or started across all contests? What education of the electorate will be done beforehand? How would candidates be nominated so that we get more than two choices? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22213 | Personally, I feel it is a good way of voting. I would vote for it. | Can Arlington do it even if the State doesn't agree to it or can the State disallow it? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22213 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting. | Will need instructions on how to fill out the ballot. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22213 | Please institute this policy. It's better for our community and democracy. We can set an example by putting less focus on party and more on candidate positions. | How soon can we implement? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Ranked-choice voting needs to be implemented. We need to have a system similar to Alaska, where all candidates run in a top 5 primary and ranked-choice voting is used for the general election. It reduces extremism and makes sure that a majority is happy with the person who represents them. | None. It needs to be implemented. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I think it should be implemented in Arlington. | How quickly can it get done. How many people will be confused by the process and does more education need to happen? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | It's a terrific idea! Thank you! | We trust you! Look to other jurisdictions for help. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Strongly favor. | no questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I favor ranked-choice voting. in a field of three or more candidates I believe ranked-choice voting gives the voter a more precise way of expressing their electoral preference. | I have not questions other than when. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22213 | Everything I've read about RCV, either about it conceptually or in real-world scenarios, tells me that it would allow for elections whose results more accurately reflect the will of the voters. Arlington should introduce it on a trial basis, and assuming the trials are positive, make it a permanent procedure. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting for the County Board and school board in Arlington. | I've seen how it works so I know it can work. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Please Implement Ranked Choice, I would love to see it nationwide, but if it isn't pushed locally it may never get there. | My biggest question is how we could prevent the incumbent party from overturning it once installed. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I think RCV is an excellent idea and will reduce highly negative discourse between candidates. It also encourages less extreme positions by candidates, and allows voters to vote for who their real first choice is without worrying about "wasting" their vote. Arlington should absolutely try this! | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

22201

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Expeirence | Favorability |
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| 22201 | This is the worst system ever. It is convoluted and confusing. It can take a long time to tabulate votes. It is way too complex for the ordinary voter. It should be unconstitutional. The Founders never intended for this kind of system. I hate it and I hope Arlington never does it. I hate RCV so much I would consider filing a lawsuit against it. | None. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22101 | I strongly oppose ranked choice voting. All arguments are based on the premise that voters should be controlled because they do not really know what is best for the community or understand how to choose the best candidate. This ranking system allows the manipulation of votes by the counters and has provided opportunity and proven manipulation to "provide" the best choice of candidate in spite of voter preference. The only honest voting method is: one vote by one registered voter when one slot is available for an office. For a voter to "order his list by ordering several favorites" is truly a method of cheating. The only way to "use" rank voting fairly is to allow each voter to vote (say, in a five candidate field) in each slot for the same candidate if desired, then ranked choice would be fair. Otherwise is is a system to bastardize the voters vote and insult they voters ability to vet and choose the best candidate for the office. It is an illegal suggestion for fair election. | none | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Oppose. | Why is Arlington considering this now? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Every vote should count. Introducing a system where it is possible that the majority of votes cast end up as exhausted ballots and equal to them not even coming to the polls to vote is not a better system. | There have been complaints that requiring identification or social security numbers is unfair and meant to depress voter turnout. Do you think this multi-tiered system very few fully understand will motivate more people to vote or less? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I do not support RCV... Stick with the original plurality voting system. | Why reinvent the wheel? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I do not support rank choice voting. There is no reason to adopt. | Why is this being considered and why would we pay to change our voting process? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | We should be voting on DISTRICT-based voting, where each county board member represents a geographically contiguous area of the County. County Board is very concerned about hearing from underserved communities, and giving them a voice. District based voting is the way to achieve this, not ranked choice. | Why aren't we pursuing district based voting, in the name of representation and equity? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Opposed | none | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I denounce and repudiate rank-choice voting most strongly because it locks out promising third- party or unaffiliated candidates. ONE VOTER GETS ONE, AND ONLY ONE, VOTE. Ranked choice voting is bullshit. | Do not implement ranked choice voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Terrible idea. Do not support it at all. | Why do you want to change the voting structure? What need is there to do so? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | An individual should win based on the actual number of votes. Not some made up process that does not allow the peoples top choice to win. | Exactly what is wrong with the individual with the most votes winning - the people's top choice? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I DO NOT support the change. IMHO it will only further undermine the credibility of voting by drawing out the process and injecting greater uncertainty. You/the Board should first insure that residents eligible to vote have confidence that the County can run credible elections. Unfortunately, election deniers across the country and this state have undermined confidence in our electoral system changing it at this point will only further embolden them. | Why now? Whose behind it? The Republican are weak in this County because those like Chucinnelli (sp) supported the worst possible gay discrimination. They would deny a woman's choice to make her health care decisions. If you can't implement the current system credibly, why do you think changing it will improve it. Aside from Member Kahntokis (sp) who won a special track closed primary, do any of you others really think that helped the County being viewed as a Democratic closed club. I'm a democrat but embarrassed to be one in this County. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a horrible idea because it allows a contested race to be pre-determined by a coalition, especially when multiple seats are up for election. Why do we want winners based on someone's "other" choice? | What safeguards will Arlington County put in place to prevent fraud and exploitation of the loopholes this type of voting creates? The popularity of ranked choice voting is promoted only by those unhappy that they cannot win and election outright. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I am strongly opposed to ranked choice voting. We live in a majority rule democracy. Ranked choice voting often results in unintended consequences because people are trying to game their choices to influence a specific outcome. The election becomes one more about manipulation than about electing the strongest candidate based on qualifications and policy positions. We should eschew this trendy election process that causes more problems than it solves | I have no questions other than the rhetoric one of why are we wasting our time creating divisions among our citizenry with ideas such as ranked choice voting, missing middle re-zoning, and thumbing our noses at the citizens who pay taxes here by shredding the Arlington Way until it no longer is recognizable now as the courteous, consensus-building process that encouraged many of us to move here. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I think this is a horrible idea. Each candidate should run on their own record and priorities. Ranked voting in Arlington would effectively eliminate voter choice as well as anyone with an opposing point of view. | Is this a form of voter suppression? Is the county, or democratic party, attempting to eliminate non-democratic party candidates? Why are you implementing ranked voting fir candidates instead of fir funding and bonds? Why do you thing this is a goid idea? What problem are you attempting to fix? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | In am not in favor of rank choice voting.in Arlington. In areas where there are many different political groups this does seem like a viable option. Since I believe in one person one vote, would RCV give those who are willing to rank less desirable candidates lower , more of an influence than those w/o a second or third choice ? That if true , how can that be legal ? I feel it's important to invest the money to make sure the results reflect the electriates will as opposed in using RCV as a cost savings. It also seems to matter how it is applied. When there is a single office it's application seems relatively straight forward. However, I am concerned that its use when multie seats are up for grabs.. | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Each voter should get one vote not several. It can lead to a second-place person winning. | Can the county please instead split the county into districts instead of having at-large members. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | This is ridiculous. Spend time doing something you rarely do, that is, something to improve the everyday quality of life in Arlington. | No questions. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | very bad idea | why bother | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Negative. Makes finding a winner to complicated. Want same day results. | Why would the county board even consider this stupid idea? Why would intelligent people on the County board even consider this unless to confuse the voters? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22201 | I am absolutely opposed to ranked choice voting. The old system is fine as it is. Stop messing with it. There is already plenty of doubt in the integrity of elections in general, please do not make that worse by trying ranked choice voting. It is manipulative and prone to abuse. Just stop. And while I am at it. Bring back ONE DAY voting, all on paper, and all counted in one day. The rules for absentee voting should return to how it was 30+ years ago, where it had to be requested by mail well in advance and it had to be signed by a witness, and dated very specifically. We did it as college students and it should remain an anomaly to regular, in-person voting. 7am-7pm is plenty of time to vote. We all managed it for decades and decades, why are people all of the sudden less competent? Voting is a sacred right which comes with a serious responsibility to know what you are doing and know how to do it. Stop messing around with something as sacred as a well run election! | As a recent primary in Alaska clearly demonstrates, the ranked choice voting leaves voters frustrated and feeling cheated. There is simply no reason to change the normal method of voting. I also believe that constant meddling in the election system breeds contempt and mistrust. There is simply no argument for ranked choice voting that justifies such a change. Beware awakening a sleeping giant-those generally apathetic to politics will rise up and revolt against the party who institutes this unfounded system...Much like we learned that an educational system hostile to the parents will eventually find itself in ruins. It may take time, but it will eventually come, even in Arlington. School lockdowns, mask mandates, vaccine mandates and other liberty-limiting policies of the past 2+ years need to be honestly reviewed with a critical eye, and a sense of problem-solving must return. Ranked choice voting is clearly NOT a return to rational problems solving. Rather, it is a problem causer! | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | If it isn't broke there is no need for a fix. The existing system works fine. | What is the need for rank choice when current system is working fine | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I am not in favor. The idea that ranked choice voting will, somehow, improve upon the current system is a fallacy. If a plurality is not considered enough to put a person in office, then the election should go to a runoff. The electorate needs to have clear choices. There is too much room for manipulation otherwise. | The winner of a ranked choice election will never have a clear mandate the way a clear majority winner will. There will always be doubts about how the result came about. Voters may not take their 2nd and 3rd choices as seriously as they should. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Oppose. Not necessary. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I think a candidate should only be selected if they are a clear first choice. | Why would you want everyone's 2nd choice? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | NO !! | No questions | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | NO! NO! NO! The current county board has no trust within the county! With the crazy proposals, frivolous and costly proposals like the Clarendon Million Dollar Dog Park, crazy spending on play parks, trolley route, gondola to Georgetown, mega swimming pool that no one uses, Artisphere fiasco, and the most insane of all--Missing Middle/Elimination of Single Family Zoning, no one trusts anything that the County Board suggests! | Don't trust anything the Board wants, given their past conduct! | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I oppose the use of ranked-choice voting. | Ranked-choice voting should not be implemented. The Arlington County Board should stop wasting their time on this exercise. It is a waste of resources. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The rationale for this has not been proven with real-life examples from Arlington, and it can have unintended negative effects. | Please explain rationale without the kneejerk answers that have been given thus far. If there is an underlying philosophy, pls be honest about it. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The County should not proceed with ranked-choice voting. This method is confusing and coercive. I direct you to Kim Strassel's Wall Street Journal piece on the chaos and voter disenfranchisement created by ranked-choice voting in Alaska. The current system works just fine. Drop ranked-choice voting and stop wasting taxpayers' money. | Ranked-choice voting should not be implemented because it confuses and coerces voters. It is a terrible voting method and should never be implemented in Arlington County. Those County Board Members that advocate for ranked-choice voting should be IMPEACHED. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I do not want to go to ranked choice voting at this time. Our current voting system is functional and trustworthy, and until ranked choice voting systems are more familiar to the public, I do not believe we should move to this system. "If it isn't broken, don't fix it." | No further comment. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting inserts a bureaucrat and bureaucracy in the midst of the voter's ballots. There is already mistrust or distrust in a straight forward one person, one vote system. Are you ready to open pardora's box to every sort of accusation by having a ranked choice process? | I don't have any questions. I see how poorly the ranked choice process played out in the last primary election in Alaska. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22201 | Do not think the “Ned” or benefit has been proven | Can you show test results from actual elections before making an actual change? Would be a fair test if evaluating actual candidates. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I am unequivocally opposed to the idea as I believe it fundamentally goes against the idea in a democracy that every vote should count. In some cases votes will for all practical purposes “disappear” if the candidate one votes for does not reach a threshold. I understand that it may be quicker and easier for the vote tally, but I am not willing to sacrifice anyone’s vote just because it’s easier. Democracy is hard and messy but it works better than top down bureaucracy. Let the individual decide. He/she doesn’t need a one party monopolistic bureaucracy to think for him; that’s frankly patronizing. | I have no questions. I’ve read the materials on this website and others. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The Board should not adopt ranked-choice voting. This method is overly complicated. It requires a voter to consider not just the merits of all candidates, but also all possible permutations of ranked choices and each ranked choice’s likelihood. This is excessively time consuming and burdensome for voters, particularly those who need to work and care for their families. The method is also opaque because it is difficult for a voter to understand who will actually be elected based on her ranked choices. The winner of a ranked choice election depends on the interaction of all ranked choices of all other voters and it is not possible for a single voter to have information about other voters’ ranked choices. The excessively complicated nature of this method, and its burdensome and opaque nature will dissuade many voters from voting. Thus, ranked choice voting will discourage and disenfranchise people from participating in the democratic process. | What is the Board’s actual reason for implementing ranked-choice voting? Is the Board’s real reason for implementing ranked-choice voting an attempt to maintain the Democratic Party’s hold over the governance of Arlington County, in spite of the Democrats’ dismal record of governance? Is the Board’s real reason for implementing ranked-choice voting an attempt to discourage voters, i.e., voter suppression? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The rules governing rank-choice voting allow voters to assign more than one candidate to a rank to express their preferences. The County’s plan does not consider this option. Why not? Also, if machines are to be used to count votes, they should be tested if the system is designed to process voter preferences through more than one round of voting to produce a majority winner. Currently, FEC standards do not require such testing. | RCV may actually increase the number and diversity of candidates running for office. This effect involves potential tradeoffs that should be analyzed. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I don’t see any real value in ranked choice voting, and do not think it is needed here. If it is implemented, it will probably take a couple of election cycles before voters somewhat understand it, and it will likely help further division in the community. There are other things that the Board can work on that would be of more use to the community (improving economic development & quality of issues in core corridors, etc.). | Honestly, why it is needed here in the first place? It creates confusion where current elections are pretty easy to understand. It can also create divisive coalitions, and help lead wing candidates to victory. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I don’t know if this is the right direction for Arlington. I’d prefer the county find a way to conduct elections countywide with proportional representation, which would give a better chance to voters who are not Democrats to have representation. It would be nice to have some diversity of thought on the board instead of one-party rule. | None | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | I would like to try it for primaries and then review the process, not automatically move to it for general election. | This supposes that we have positions with many candidates per position, has that happened often in our elections? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | I’m interested to see how well it works in operation. | I’m going to take a wait and see approach to this. | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | The scheme is completely worthless, unless all five members stand for ealection at the same time. | Why not have all five members stand for election (or as is more common, reelection) if voters are going to get multiple choices? | Yes | 3 - Neutral |

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| 22201 | Ranked Choice voting in single seat primaries, as has been proposed does virtually nothing to improve the current system. Arlington should look at a multi-seat RCV system (also known as proportional representation), similar to what is used in Cambridge MA and other places, and use it in the general election. Such a system would be much more effective in lowering barriers to entry, ensuring a diverse board, and helping ensure that the Board represents the people of Arlington. (For background information, see the Arlington Civic Federation's TIGER report. TIGER's recommendations could go further, but are far better than the current proposal) | Have you considered multi-seat ranked choice voting? What are you doing to make sure Arlingtonians truly know about different voting options before adopting a new system? Why not do away with the primaries and use rank choice in the General Election, allowing everyone to participate. Will you consider doing away with staggered terms and allow Arlingtonians to elect representative candidates all at once, as in Congressional and state legislature elections. | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | I am absolutely in favor of ranked-choice voting at every level of elections, so seeing it adopted at the county level would be great! | Would the county be able to include the School Board in its decision to move to ranked-choice voting? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I like the idea of rank choice voting. | How would it be implemented? Would results take much longer to get? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I would like to use ranked-choice voting. It would be a good process/system for elections here in Arlington. | N/A | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | NA | Would this significantly delay the releasing the results? Does Arlington have the technology to support this? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting might improve candidate quality | NA | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Ok | None | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Introducing ranked choice voting to the County Board primary in 2023 is a good move. Voters can learn about its implementation during this pilot project before such a system is more widely adopted. | Will the detailed vote counts, including tabulations from each run-off, be shared promptly with the public? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I am personally attracted to Ranked Choice Voting, but I am concerned that it could impact voters who already tend to participate less. If we were to adopt it, it would require extensive education campaigns, partnering with organizations such as LWV, NAACP, or others who could help reach voting groups who may not be as familiar with the process. | Could it depress voting in certain populations? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Campaign spending limits! No candidate can neither raise nor spend more than \$1,500 for any campaign. Even the playing field! | Why do you not also impose campaign spending limits? And, please, don't cry, "the state won't let us." It's always somebody, something other than this local government. Simple: No candidate can neither raise nor spend more than \$1,500 for any campaign. Even the playing field! | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I think it would be a good idea. | If implemented, would there be sufficient education of voters on exactly how it works? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | none | Do I understand this correctly from the explanation....."The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and voters who ranked that candidate as their first choice will have their votes count for their "next choice""? Does this mean that if the voter did not choose a "2nd choice", but instead selected a "third choice", then their "next choice" would be their "third choice"? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I'd be interested in trying it. I'd be even more interested in seeing Approval voting as an option. | I see very little information about how Arlington is considering implementing it, beyond a very general FAQ. Can we have more information? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I am in favor | would it apply to all elected positions? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Try it for local elections. See how it goes. If many problems administering it emerge, be able to summarize them and report them to the public. | Americans are accustomed to having candidates who gain a plurality of votes win. Not sure how RCV will sit with people who think the current method is fairest. Will RCV really decrease negativity and divisiveness in elections? If so, let's try it. | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Good idea in general. Usually leads to more moderation & less extremes. Not sure it's necessary in small jurisdictions like Arlington. | Similar to my questions about the Missing Middle: would like to see statistics about results of this being used in similar areas before it is tried here. | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22201 | I believe ranked choice voting would benefit the County as well as other jurisdictions by reducing the likelihood of extremist candidates, from either the left or right. Primaries typically have very low voter turnout and candidates often appeal to those most motivated to vote in a primary, more often than not the far left or far right. Ranked choice voting eliminates the primary and simply allows the most popular candidates to rise to the top, and also allows voters to rank alternative choices. I encourage the board to vote for ranked choice voting. | I would like to understand the details and timing of any proposed implementation. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I think ranked voting is great. | I have no questions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Do it please it leads to a better democracy | None. I've used it at work and watch CPGrey videos on the topic | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting for all elections. It provides the voters with the best menu of options and the ability to have their voice heard, by having multiple preferences considered. It will increase turnout particularly for those who may feel disaffected. I support this proposal. | Voters will need to be educated about the benefits of ranked choice voting and how to make their selections, as many may be unfamiliar with the concept. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would greatly improve election fairness and would give third party candidates a fair shot and enable voters to more accurately represent their interests | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Big fan of ranked choice voting and I fully support it. | Will there be a maximum/cap on the number of candidates from either major political party? Will there be a maximum "top 3" (or whatever number) candidates or would all potential candidates be able to be ranked. How will the public be educated on what ranked choice voting is, the pros/cons, and other information a constituent needs to know. What will the timeframe from approval to implementation be? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting. However, I don't think Arlington residents will benefit from ranked choice voting until we move away from having staggered terms and elections for County Board members. We need an election policy that increases prospects for a Board that reflects *all* of Arlington and one that is less prone to group think and smugness.. | Will Arlington use mock elections to educate voters, shake out bugs and allow ample time for feedback and possible changes? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a good step towards diversifying the political candidate pool and making the system more equitable. I'm fully in favor. | Are there other potential voting systems being considered? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I would be in support of switching to ranked voting. | How do we ensure that information is on the change and how to now vote is widely available? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I want ranked choice voting for ALL elections at County level, not just the primary election. RCV will ensure that County-level bodies represent EVERYONE, not just the tiny fraction of voters who participate in a firehouse primary. The current system lacks legitimacy because it elects people who all have the same views - as seen in the debate on Missing Middle. We need RCV, for the Board's diversity, credibility and legitimacy. Because a primary winner can have a lock on the general election, we need RCV for ALL elections. Some will say RCV is costly and it delays determining the winner. These are not valid objections! Arlington can cut costs by learning from jurisdictions that already have RCV. As for delay - if that's what matters most, why hold elections at all? Finally: ALL County Board members should be elected at the same time. | (1) Many other jurisdictions have RCV - and in some, RCV dates back tens of years. They have a lot of knowledge on how to implement RCV efficiently and transparently. How will the County Board learn from them on how to organize RCV so it is efficient and cost-effective? (2) The County Board instituted staggered terms for the Board in the 1950s in order to prevent or deter Black representation on the Board. When will the Board take a hard look at how racism shaped how Arlington chooses its elected government? Why not combine RCV with a switch to electing all County Board members at the same time? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I fully support ranked-choice voting and want to see it adopted in Arlington. | No questions at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Much better than current system | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of ranked-choice voting. | If Arlington proceeds with ranked-choice voting, when would it begin? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | It's a good idea, to enable more diverse candidates and avoid small minority/plurality wins. | It's important to publish the results in full, showing how the runoffs played out. Consider also how to handle multi seat elections. I think there's a case to be made for districted board and school board elections—not necessarily rigid districts but some way to guarantee district wide (and racial) representation in currently at-large elections. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Yes! Very good idea. | No-I have a good understanding and fully support | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support implementing ranked-choice voting. I hope the county will implement a process for completing all rounds of the vote counting quickly. | I am comfortable with my understanding of the voting method. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of ranked-choice voting. | Has the board studied other places that have introduced RCV, what their experience has been, lessons learned etc.? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | i'm for it, i've heard that communicating how it works to the voters can be tricky but it seems like it works fine in practice, it allows people to try a moon shoot for a wacky candidate and still have a say in who actually wins. | none | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I would love to see Arlington use Ranked Choice Voting for all elections as soon as possible. | I have no questions and do not think it will be difficult to explain ranked choice voting to Arlingtonians. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Strongly support. As leading county in America, we should set the example, and try to provide more realistic options than the current two-party slate currently does. Realistically, our county candidates are strong and generally reasonable, so results may not change that much. But we should lead by example for the rest of the US | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Finally - this is the best way to choose candidates by a consensus, rather than having similar candidate cancel each other out and resulting in an inferior candidate win the election. | Can we also eliminate the Democratic/Republican primaries? Just have one rank-choice election without primaries. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked-choice voting is more fair and more efficient. Hooray for RCV!! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | We should absolutely adopt ranked choice voting. We have an effective one party system at the Arlington County board. This will at least allow board members to be held more accountable to voters on more specific issues without Democratic voters having to worry about enabling the election of a Republican. That is simply the reality of Arlington. I don't want to wind up with an ineffective government like DC. | Will this replace the Democratic caucus, which is an extremely insular system that is outdated? Will party ID be included on the ballot? Will we still be able to use the scanning machines for voting efficiently? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Besides educating constituents and maybe extra cost there is no reason not to move to ranked choice voting. These seem like easy hurdles to overcome to have an outcome that actually reflects the majority of voters and discourages negative campaigning. | What is an actual reason not to do it? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly support the implementation of ranked-choice voting. I would like to vote for a candidate without having to worry about being a spoiler vote. For example let's say there are 3 candidates running: A, B and C. Candidates A and B are the most popular with C the least popular. I may want to vote for candidate C but because I would rather have Candidate A over Candidate B I vote for Candidate A. If ranked-vote voting were implemented then I could rank C first, A second and B third. That way I wouldn't have to worry about wasting a vote and potentially ending with the with candidate I least prefer end up winning. | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | 100 percent supportive | Zero. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Strongly in favor! I believe that ranked-choice voting is more democratic (in that it captures more detail on voters' preferences) and produces more cooperative and moderate outcomes. | If rolled out, I would want an education campaign so people understand it's benefits (so it isn't rolled back if people are confused/misinformed) | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support rank choice voting for all election races, including Presidential, US Senate, US House of Rep, State, and local races. Let's try it out with the next County Supervisor election race. | What procedures will be established to ensure results are tabulated as quickly as possible so that a final result doesn't take weeks to attain? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked-choice voting in Arlington elections. Please do not delay any longer. | It is easy to understand if properly explained. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Ranked choice voting supports diverse beliefs and ideas. | Would this apply to all political elections within county or just county board? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would be great! | How much voter education will there be? To the extent the county has multiple options for implementation, how will a decision be made? How much input will voters have in making that decision? What experts will be involved in the decision making? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Thank you. Rcv is great. This should be a stronger step. Rcv for all local elections. Multi seat rcv is the gold standard we need to eventually aim for. | What is taking you so long? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly favor ranked choice voting. | How soon can it be implemented? The sooner the better. Also, something different should be implemented to change Arlington's staggered term regime. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked-choice voting represents a big step forward towards creating a more perfect union. Other localities in the commonwealth are waiting for someone to take the lead on this. If Arlington County does not adopt ranked-choice voting soon, there will be a delay in the Commonwealth adopting it. We are fortunate to have a very competent and able General Registrar and staff that will be able to implement a successful roll out and blaze a trail for the rest of the State. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm 100% in favor of ranked-choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I am very strongly in favor of ranked-choice voting. It ought to be implemented nationwide. No candidate should be able to win election with less than a majority of votes. | What voter information campaign does the county plan to run? Will poll workers onsite be trained to clearly and concisely explain the process and answer any questions voters may have? If RCV is implemented, will the Arlington Democratic Party use it or will they seek to avoid it by having a caucus or convention? How will RCV impact the amount of time it takes to publish election results, and what is the county's plan to prepare residents for delays and explain the process? What procedure will vote tabulators follow if voters fail to rank choices and simply mark off one or more candidates, e.g. with an "X" or checkmark? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm a strong supporter. It rewards campaigns that appeal to the middle. It's less partisan. Let's be leaders and do it. | How would you educate people so they aren't surprised and confused when they arrive at the voting booth? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | RCV gives me a stronger influence in an election where my first choice is not the first choice the majority. I believe it should pressure against negative campaigning. | One of the biggest negatives to RCV may be educating the public to its advantages and thus moving away from the status quo. If necessary, does the County have the patience and guidance to make the change? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of ranked choice voting as it is a way to make our elections less partisan. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Please implement it. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly support RCV | Is it possible for RCV to be voted on via ballot measure instead of via County Board resolution? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I favor RCV as a way to allow us to vote for whom we really want, rather than against the person we fear most. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Ranked choice voting is a great way to help strengthen our democratic institutions. By allowing voters a second and third choice, it allows voters to vote for a candidate they may like best, without worrying about throwing away their vote. It is a check against extremism and a generally unpopular candidate from winning with a small plurality of the vote. In summary, I am a strong supporter of ranked choice voting for arlington. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | STRONGLY SUPPORT | HOW SOON CAN WE START? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I fully support ranked-choice voting. It will encourage candidates to consider all voters and better reflect the range of voter opinions. | Are there proposed limitations on the number of candidates? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | I support it. I wonder why this is limited to the primaries. My preference would be to eliminate primaries and have one non-partisan race using Rank Choice Voting in November. | Why not at the November general election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support this means of voting because it will eliminate costly additional elections. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I am strongly in favor of ranked choice voting. | I'd just want the instructions to be very, very clear so nobody is confused when they vote. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | n/a | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly endorse it, not only for Arlington, but throughout the U.S. as a way of reducing political polarization. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | This is a very admirable issue that helps enfranchise more voters in the jurisdiction, and would make elections more fair. | What will the threshold need to be for people who want to run as candidates in a ranked-choice election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | The Arlington County Board should adopt rank choice voting for all elections. The benefits far outweigh any detriments. | Why has it taken Arlington County so long to embrace rank choice voting? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting (RCV) would be a great addition to our local political system. I believe that candidates should receive at least 50% of the vote to win, and RCV guarantees that outcome where a plurality system does not (at least not every time). RCV also eliminates "spoiler" candidates (i.e., Ross Perot and Ralph Nader). I am absolutely in support of RCV in Arlington for our Board and primary election candidates. | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked-choice voting as it may result in more diverse candidates on the Board that are representative of the full community in Arlington. | When would it be implemented? Would the Board also be expanded? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I think it has a very good chance of successful implementation with few glitches in Arlington County, which has a high proportion of well-educated voters. I think Arlington would be an excellent testing ground for the rest of Virginia. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | YES! We should move to ranked choice voting. It would encourage more candidates to run for the county board. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Absolutely, makes the most sense. Do something right and adopt it. | Voters need to be educated about the process | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of Ranked Choice Voting. | How soon could it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | it's about time! | How quickly can this be implemented? Before the 2023 election? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm for it | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I think ranked choice voting is a great idea and will break the stranglehold that the democrats have over the County Board. For a long time, many of us have been trying to get independent voices in to the Board. Ranked choice will allow voters to vote for more than just one candidate. | I would want to make sure that voters know that their candidate may not be elected. In the past, it was virtually guaranteed that the democratic candidate was going to get elected. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I enthusiastically support ranked-choice voting. It provides the fairest outcome. | How quickly would election results be announced? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Believe RCV will allow for more fair consideration of candidates from political parties other than Dem/Rep. | Providing instructions that are easily understandable by all voters. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly support RCV and I urge you to adopt it immediately. It is simpler for voters after first use, requires less guesswork. It tends to lead to more civil campaigns, and it reduces the chance a widely disliked candidate will be elected just because the field was crowded. | Like any other voting procedure, RCV requires some voter education for first time users. After the first time it becomes natural. I recommend finding trained educators at each polling place the first time it is implemented. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I would like to see Arlington adopt RCV. Currently, the Democratic primary is effectively the deciding election, and while I am a Democrat, I often dislike the candidates chosen or endorsed by Arlington's Democratic Party. County board candidates with the party's support seem to be able to stay in office indefinitely and are more responsive to the most wealthy, conservative Democrats rather than progressives or minority voters. Switching to RCV could require candidates to appeal to more voters and make races fairer, more competitive, and more representative. In RCV, the candidate with the broadest swatch of support rather than the strongest base wins, and that seems more democratic than the current process. | I do find RCV to be a bit confusing, and I have a PhD! While I support implementing it, I would ask that the county provide ample explainers in multiple languages (esp. Spanish) so that voters understand the process fully. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV and think our county should immediately implement it. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | I think the problem which most needs addressing is that we have a very small slice of the Dem electorate putting its candidates into office every single time. There is much more variation of opinion within the Democratic Party in Arlington than turns up on the dais at School or County Board. We have a LOT too many 5-0 votes, for issues which are NOT 5-0 issues. If we shift to ranked choice voting, and in particular shift from our current staggered terms for Board members to electing more members at once, we will get a better representation of the opinion groups in the electorate - both inside and outside the Dems. Most Arlingtonians are Dems, so most of those elected would be Dems, but there will be much better representation of the span of opinions here. The other big problem is that Feds can't run in partisan primaries, so are excluded from running for office here - if we drop the partisan primaries, as ranked choice permits, that problem goes away | Ranked choice can enable us to get rid of partisan primaries and run the election entirely in November. I guess if there is a question, it is what kind of justification can be offered not to make that choice. Somehow the below questions don't take text for me, so I will answer here: I voted in ranked choice elections for school board caucus in Arlington and in municipal elections in Cambridge Mass | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Great idea. This approach will best reflect the full preferences of the voters. | None. I'm familiar with the approach. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Great idea. Glad you are giving it a try. | Is the County considering the possibility of combining ranked choice voting with dividing Arlington into five separate voting districts? Having all County-wide candidates reduces diversity. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Hi Arlington County Board, My name is Ben Silvan - I'm a young professional living near Court House. I recently completed my Masters in Technology Management at Georgetown, and did my Bachelors in Economics & Political Science at UChicago a couple years prior. My biggest concern with America's political structures is that we are incentivizing bad behavior. Our current plurality-wins approach contributes to this issue, and Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) would move us in the right direction. It does so in 3 ways. 1) RCV incentivizes candidates to cater to a larger swath of the population because you want 2nd place votes too, disincentivizing extremism and incentivizing reasonableness. 2) RCV disincentivizes negative campaigning (attack ads) for the same reason. 3) RCV gives lesser-known candidates a chance and eliminates the "spoiler effect" The benefits abound. I'm very excited to hear that Arlington is considering the policy, and strongly urge this body to adopt it. Thanks, Ben | I would like more clarity into the financial cost of RCV. As someone who has followed these developments relatively closely, I feel this body hasn't been as transparent in this aspect as it could be. Previously, I recall discussion around the number of \$3 million. Is this still the cost estimate or has something changed? Does this sticker price solely relate to the implementation of RCV functionality in voting machines, or other benefits as well (e.g. more updated models of voting machines, better security provisions, the option to integrate additional add-ons in the future, etc)? Because of the incentive-related benefits of RCV, I believe a sizeable upfront cost is justified. But I would like further clarity into what that cost is. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea. It may help to elect more moderate candidates. My preferred candidate is often unlikely to win, so I would personally benefit from being able to pick a second choice as well as a first choice. | Is it intuitive? How can we tell if voters are getting confused and filling it out incorrectly? I'm not worried about this for myself but this system has to work for everyone. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Good evening. I hope all of you are well. Thank you for reading this comment. I am very interested in expanding the utilization of ranked choice voting and open primaries. There is much I do not know, pertaining to the impact this would have on your processes and interests. If possible, I would love to learn more and figure out how we could move forward together. | What are the main challenges preventing the implementation of ranked choice voting? What are its main drawbacks? Is the current status quo the most effective and representative democracy we can muster? What are you doing to slow/revert the widespread polarization afflicting society and politics? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Sounds great. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting as a means to ensure that the voice of the voters is more clearly heard in elections. I have dual citizen, and have experienced different t voting systems including party list systems. While such system can get complex if implemented poorly, they can also allow for greater choice while limiting some of the extremes that currently exist in the US. | How it is implemented is critical. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | "Winner" may have a weak plurality, say only 38%, when most voters preferred someone else. In RCV, there are no wasted votes. See Mary Peltola's race in Alaska. | None -- RCV is preferable on all counts. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I favor maximum shift to ranked choice voting. This includes the Board's intent to move to ranked choice primary for 2023 and I would also favor using ranked choice voting for the 2023 general. The benefits of ranked choice voting are greatest when multiple candidates are elected at the same time, and the Board should request authorization from the legislature to elect Board members all at once. I support the CivFed TIGER report on enlarging the Board. Current system does not enable the variety of communities within the County to select their representatives effectively. | questions? advice, maybe: look at the educational material used in other jurisdictions putting RCV into place (Maine, NYC, Albany Calif Oakland Calif San Francisco Minneapolis) and think what are best practices for voter education here. Get better voting machines for Arlington which can enable voters to rank into the teens, as I expect early elections in particular will have many candidates. The question below this one does not allow text for me, only yes/no. I have voted in RCV in school board caucus in Arlington and in Cambridge Mass | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting should absolutely be implemented in Arlington. It gives minor party candidates a chance to win elections, decreases polarization, and incentivizes elected decision makers to do what's best for more of their constituents than the most engaged or extreme voters. It also improves the chances of female and minority candidates. | How will less engaged voters be educated about the switch to and how to use ranked choice voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Sounds like a good option. Let's try it. | Will the voting process take longer in RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Anything to improve the current situation with respect to voting. Might not matter much in Arlington but a start. | Does it matter if only 2 candidates are running for an office? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | While a bit more trouble than conventional winner take all races, my experience with ranked choice voting is overwhelming positive. I highly endorse it's use for Arlington elections. I think it more fair and leads to more participation in running for office. | What authority would run and monitor the ranked choice election process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would better represent voters' preferences in elections. The "winner take all" approach encourages extremism in positions and rewards partisanship. Ranked choice voting would enable a candidate to earn a broader base of support in order to be elected. | How much in advance of an election will ranked choice voting be implemented? How will the public be educated about the way it works and its implications for the candidates to be elected? How many 'elimination rounds' will there be before a winner is declared (in other words, is a candidate declared the winner when he or she reaches a plurality of votes? Or some other total?) | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Thank you for offering this option to maximize the chances that the elected officials actually align with voters' interests!! | When will we consider offering ranked choice voting for other positions? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I am in favor of anything that would reduce the 'lock' that the Arlington County Democratic Committee has on elections. I vote 99% of the time for Democrats (except for the County Board), and my message is that I feel like I have little in common with the ACDC and the ACB. The self-righteousness and arrogance of the current CB members and ACDC leadership are too much. The CB Members - except for Takis - are really skilled at LECTURING their constituents (looking at you in this order, Christian, Libby, Katie, Matt) - and it is so annoying. Even on issues that I don't care about or would even possibly agree with the Board's position, I just listen to the way they talk to people and manipulate 'public engagement'. Really disgusting. They really turn off many of my neighborhood. This isn't about Missing Middle for me as I can see some value in looking at housing - but not the way the County is going about it. Another thing - the way the ACB manipulates commissions - a joke. | Is it possible for ranked-choice voting to somehow get someone on the Board who is not lock-step with ACDC and the ACB and certain extremists on some of the commissions? If so, I'm all for ranked-choice voting. I'm also interested in the work of the TIGER group with CivFed. And also on district voting - would be great. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Voters need this! Please do it asap. Our politics favors polarization, rank order voting helps reflect voters nuanced preferences. | None, seems like a straightforward proposition. Transparency and electoral safeguards won't change right? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | This is so necessary and required. It is the only way for us to have real choices, particularly in a place like Arlington where voters are skewed so much in favor of one party. It provides real options for voters and makes elected officials more responsive | How quickly we can expand to all positions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Overall support as a fairer voting method | What are the exact rules that will be followed? Are there similar jurisdictions where this is in place that we could model Arlington's a new system? How would this be rolled out and introduced to the community? Why would this only be for Board seats? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | RCV seems like a good idea worth supporting and trying. Studies show it encourages better candidates who are more representative of the population | What ways can we explain the process better to increase understanding? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting as it makes more voices heard. | How are run-offs to be conducted? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I urge the Board to adopt RCV for the next primary, and to strongly consider it for the general election. I'm in favor of any process that makes voting more open and accessible to everybody in a fair, ungerrymandered manner. | Will the County provide maximum education to the public on RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | It's great! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I stand by the decision to utilize RCV for all voting | How can we make it more equitable | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would allow for voters to have more say during elections. | How do you plan to educate people to ensure they fill out ballots correctly? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | As an Arlington resident and voter, I strongly support Ranked Choice Voting. The current system allows for the possibility that candidates not supported by the majority of Arlington voters could win election. Ranked-choice voting ensures that like-minded candidates do not split votes and encourages candidates to favor less divide tactics and cross-party unity over loud, attention-grabbing, or divisive tactics. | I have no questions, the system seems straightforward enough to me. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Please use rcv | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I believe implementing ranked choice voting is a great idea! It's a great way to ensure the candidate that wins is most widely appealing. | N/A | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | We need rank choice voting for all of our elections not just the primaries. In fact the primaries are highly discriminatory and exclusive and illuminate a lot of the population so let's focus on getting ranchers voting in all of our races. With rank choice voting that political parties will not have to that the candidates anymore and we can get rid of the primaries and caucuses all together | With rank choice voting that political parties will not have to that the candidates anymore and we can get rid of the primaries and caucuses all together | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Arlington county should adopt ranked-choice voting. Given that county issues are more granular than party politics, it allows for residents to make clearer choices about policies. Especially given that Arlington County is highly liberal, ranked choice would allow for more differences between candidates who are liberal. | How can the county help move ranked-choice voting statewide? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Arlington should implement ranked choice voting to empower voters with more choice and strengthen the health of our democracy | How can voters best be educated on how to fill out their ballots under ranked choice voting? How can ballots best be designed to make this as easy as possible? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Yes! We need RCV. | N/A | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | There are a lot of benefits to RCV and Arlington should implement this system. I am in support of eliminating vote splitting, encouraging candidates to work across the aisle and ensuring a winner with majority support. This will also help me vote for the candidate I believe in versus thinking I am throwing away my vote if I don't vote for the popular candidate who may not be the one I want to vote in office. | How quickly can this process be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV, please vote yes! Voters should have the freedom to select who they want without having to worry about the spoiler effect or vote splitting. | Why wouldn't you vote for it, its a no-brainer. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I believe that for this to work you need to change the election cycle so that more board Members were up for election at the same time. I'm all for ranked choice but not if there are only two candidates in the county board race. | See above | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a great way to make sure that people can vote based on their true preferences without having to worry about the strategic voting that a first past the post (FPTP) system necessitates. RCV would both help voters feel more empowered and help elected officials better understand what their constituents are looking for in leaders by allowing voters to express true support for unique platforms while still participating meaningfully in the electorate. We should implement RCV in Arlington as soon as possible. | Would Arlington be able to effectively educate voters on how RCV works and what it's benefits are? What can we learn from its implementation in other states (such as Maine)? I think Arlington is well placed to lead Virginia and find meaningful answers to these questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I fully support ranked choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV and want your support for RCV as well!! | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV, and think it should be implemented everywhere. It helps build consensus candidates. | I don't have any questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Why are you dragging your feet on this? We've had previous experiments, they went well. In the name of democracy, implement this instead of kicking it down the road. | What are you waiting for? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked-choice voting 100%. It promotes civility among the candidates, and ensures that the final winner has the support of the majority of voters. I see no downside. | It requires voter education, which Arlington is capable of doing. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked-choice voting would more accurately reflect the voters' opinions. it would prevent people from voting for their second choice candidate if they think their first choice candidate is unlikely to win. | How would the votes be tallied? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting. RCV means winners with closer to majority support -- you don't just have to win the Democratic Party primary, you have to win votes from the whole electorate. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. GO FOR IT! Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | Have you considered the other recommendations of the Civic Federation's TIGER group, as well? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support it. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting." RCV means winners with closer to majority support -- you don't just have to win the Democratic Party primary, you have to win votes from the whole electorate. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support the use of ranked-choice voting in future Arlington County elections. I want to be able to vote my conscience for my most preferred candidate, without having to weigh who is the most electable person that I'm content with or "wasting my vote". It also discourages candidates from extremist or negative campaigning, where the goal is to stake out a position that's unpopular with the majority but appeals to a decisive plurality. Ranked-choice voting encourages candidates to reach out for a broad consensus, and the winner is the reflection of who the majority of the voters ultimately decide is the best candidate. This is a simple and proven way to offer voters a wide diversity of candidates and positions while also protecting against the potential of abuse or electoral quirks that subvert the intent of the electorate | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'd love to see Arlington adopt rank choice voting. | What the education campaign would be to help people understand how to use it | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is an EXCELLENT voting system IF it is implemented properly. In particular, it functions very well in MULTI-SEAT races, where it functions to allow the electorate to choose a diverse slate of candidates representing a wide range of constituencies (based on all kinds of factors). If implemented in SINGLE-SEAT races it has little to no effect. Arlington should implement RCV for County Board (and perhaps School Board) along with realigning to common election dates for all seats and, possibly, enlarging the size of the bodies by a little bit. The fear of instability is largely unfounded (see, for instance, Cambridge, MA which has reasonable long-term stability with such a system). | Like every other policy proposal, I would start with the question "What are your objectives?". State those clearly and it will be relatively clear whether RCV (and the specific implementation you are recommending) can achieve those objectives. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting for primaries and elections for all levels of office, local to federal. | How will county be clear and transparent about how ranked choice votes are registered and counted? How would ballots and voting machines change to accommodate this voting method? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV. Please vote yes! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I just moved here from Minneapolis, where they have ranked-choice voting for local elections. It allowed me to vote for who I actually wanted to represent me. For this upcoming election in Arlington, I would love to vote for Adam Theo because he is actually wanting to do something about the housing crisis. He also supports striving for vision-zero by making Arlington more walkable and bike-friendly. These are both issues that I am passionate about. However, I am nervous to vote for him because of the potential to split the vote between Theo and de Ferranti, allowing Clement to take the election. Ranked-choice voting would eliminate this risk. | N/A | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting." RCV means winners with closer to majority support -- you don't just have to win the Democratic Party primary, you have to win votes from the whole electorate. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. GO FOR IT! Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | Ensuring proper funding and voter education will be important. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22210 | The League of Women Voters of Arlington and Alexandria City, supports the use of RCV. It gives voters more meaningful choices and helps create a richer dialogue on the issues and increases the diversity of views available for voters to consider. In addition, RCV eliminates spoilers and strategic voting and allows voters to support their favorite candidate without worrying that they might "throw their vote away," or worse, split their votes with like-minded voters and unintentionally help elect the candidate they like the least. Another benefit is that RCV reduces negative campaigning: Candidates running in ranked choice elections must ask for second and, sometimes, third choice rankings. Voters are less likely to rank a candidate highly who is negative toward their preferred candidate. This also reduces the influence of dark money in politics. We encourage the use of RCV in the primary and general elections in Arlington. | We would like to know the status of software updates to allow this. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

22202

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
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| 22202 | Do not implement Ranked Choice Voting for General Elections. They are confusing to voters and do not solve any problems. Look at Maine and Alaska to examine the impact in General Elections. RCV in primaries should not be considered, as the voting pool in a primary election is not as politically divided as a general election. Considering the impact to voting by changing to RCV, this decision should be in the hands of the voters and not the county board. | What problem does it solve in a General Election and what evidence is there to support that assertion? How is it better than the current form of voting (for a General Election) and is there evidence for that assertion? Is RCV compliant with Virginia state law and Virginia constitution? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | Absolutely NO on ranked choice voting. It's just another way voting loses integrity. | Stop infringing on our voting processes. No ballot boxes, no mail in, voter ID required, NO ranked voting. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I'm not an advocate of ranked choice voting and I do not want to see it implemented where I live. | What problem is the board attempting to fix by implementing ranked-choice voting? In what way as the current voting system failed that requires the implementation of a new system? Who is better supported by ranked choice voting as a method instead of the current voting system? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | No on ranked choice voting. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | what a silly idea. why need ranked choice when the existing board memeber choose the candidates | why bother. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | Regarding Ranked Choice Voting (RCV): 1. What's the point? Present system of voting has worked for over 200 years! Doesn't NEED to be reinvented, transformed, re-imagined. 2. How does RCV benefit the citizens / taxpayers of Arlington County vs. the politicians, government, and political parties? 3. Many races are uncontested because candidates can't afford campaign expenses. So again what's the point? 4. What about the voter who does NOT want to rank candidates? Wants ONLY the ONE candidate. How does a voter cast ALL ranked votes for only one candidate. 5. Flawed assumption in entire RCV is that voters see candidates as relativistic (this one or then that one) vs. absolutism (ONLY this one or no one). 6. In a race with more than two (2) candidates, why can't the candidate with the most votes (even if less than 50 percent) be declared the winner!? 7. Need better reasons than: Its new, we like, we have to have it. 8. Yo do realize representative government is on the line. | 1. REALLY!! WHAT ARE THE TOP 5 OVERLY COMPELLING REASONS TO CHANGE TO RCV!? 2. Just because we want to is NOT compelling enough! 3. Also it makes elections cheaper (for us the candidates and the government) is NOT compelling enough! 4. Just because it makes elections simpler (for us the candidates and the government) is NOT compelling enough! 5. Just because it makes elections faster (for us the candidates and the government) is NOT compelling enough! 6. Explain, in detail, how RCV will result in the MAJORITY of voters getting the PRIMARY candidate he / she wants. 7. I have been forced / coerced to engage in RCV at Arlington Democratic Firehouse primaries. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22202 | <p>Ranked choice is a horrible decision. Do NOT do this. It disenfranchises voters who would never vote for any of the other candidates, ever, and therefore chooses to leave them off the ranked choice. However, when you get to 3rd, 4th, and 5th choices, their voice doesn't matter. Democracy is not 50.1% of the vote. In fact, the U.S. government is set up to protect minority opinions/small states, etc. and block majority/mob rule. It's why we have 3 branches of government (with one of them divided itself), checks and balances, etc. I have family who have voted ranked-choice in their community and from what I've learned watching them, it is a horrible outcome. One election, one person, one vote. Not 3,4,5 votes per person.</p> | <p>Why is this necessary? (There is no need to get 50.1% of the vote. Pluralities are just fine.)</p> <p>Why do you feel people need to get more than one vote? (We are a one election, one person, one vote-type country.)</p> <p>What is wrong with a system of government that is built to protect minority viewpoints and inhibit majority/mob rule?</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | <p>Ranked choice is NOT democratic. One person, one vote, one election. Not 5 different votes. The U.S. Constitution and our entire philosophy of government is geared to protect the minority. We do NOT need to "manufacture a majority of votes" just to appease people who don't understand basic civics and government. It creates an environment open to mob rule/tyranny of the majority. These subsequent "votes" disenfranchises anyone who feels that any or all others are NOT their choice, that they do NOT want those people to get elected.</p> <p>Voting is a simple concept - one person, one vote, one election. Majority (mob) rule is NOT what the U.S. is all about.</p> | <p>Why do you feel it is necessary to have ranked choice?</p> <p>What is wrong with the current system that it requires a new, unproven (and anti-democratic) process?</p> <p>Why would you consciously choose to disenfranchise someone on the 2nd, 3rd, etc. votes if that person specifically does NOT want any other person to get elected?</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I do not agree with this method of voting | What can citizens do to stop this proposal? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I am strongly against it. | It takes too long. It allows elections to be gamed even more so than now. Increases the cost of elections and increases the chance of delays in determining who won. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | <p>After following ranked choice voting in some other jurisdictions, I'm not in favor of ranked choice voting. It provides a method for a sore loser to stay in the race, and for county leadership to get the results they want, in spite of the votes. If a candidate gets the largest number of votes then they are the winner. Much like sporting contests (except golf), you can win or lose by one point or many points, but the highest score wins. A win is a win.</p> | <p>Why is the board and other leadership in Arlington trying to change the voting procedures so that it favors the outcomes they prefer?</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I have experienced RCV in a different context, and the result was a choice that no one really liked much. Therefore, I vote NO. | I just wonder if this is a sham questionnaire, similar to the board's other supposed public opinion queries on pre-determined issues. (Ya, I'm skeptical...) | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22202 | NO "ranked choice voting." Why RCV now? It just invites mischief, and sows confusion. The current voting system, which is considered normal in a democracy by the vast majority, has done just fine for generations. Do not touch it. | "Ranked choice voting" sows confusion, and provides an opening for mischief-making insiders to game the system. No way. "RCV" is bad news. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | Ranked choice voting is too complex, convoluted and introduces too many variables into the ballot/voting process. There is already a climate of mistrust in the public mind that this change will fuel. Family in Alaska feel the adoption of this system doesn't reflect accurately the community. | Why not go to an open primary system if the intent is to have a party neutral election process. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | It is difficult to get people to come out to vote once and requiring three rounds seems inefficient and inconvenient. | I don't dislike ranked voting, but three rounds is too much. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22202 | This decision should not be made quickly. There needs be public discussions about it because there are pros and cons. | Haven't done enough research yet to have good questions. | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22202 | Do we really have enough people/issues on our ballot to make this viable? What is the goal of the plan? | Seems a really complicated idea for very small list of choices. | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22202 | Ranked choice voting allows for more choice, but flawed systems still result in some voices not having a say. It is important to allow individuals to rank as many (non-write-in) candidates as they choose. Putting a limit on number of candidates (ex. 5 in NYC mayoral primary) leads to ballots in essence not counting. If someone would only like to rank a certain number and their ballot is discarded, that is certainly valid, but to have the potential of having the ballot as essentially a vote for nobody ("inactive" in NYC results) by the final ballot should not be a forced choice. | Would this require upgrades to existing election infrastructure? If so, at what cost? Will there be a limit on how many ranked choices individuals will be allowed to have? If so, how many? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Ranked choice voting enables more realistic consideration of candidates | How might the outcome of ranked choice voting differ from "normal" voting? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | None | None | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22202 | <p>I am in favor of trying ranked-choice voting. Introducing it in Arlington, whose population is probably more politically aware than the average Virginia locality, seems to me a wise way to determine how well it will work elsewhere, and to determine how to implement it successfully elsewhere.</p> <p>I have never used ranked-choice voting. I assume other jurisdictions have figured out solutions to the technical problems: how to print ballots, how to program voting machines, etc.</p> | <p>In a county as ethnically diverse as Arlington, I have concerns about ensuring that instructions will be available in a sufficient number of languages. How does the county propose to make sure this is not a hindrance to a significant proportion of voters?</p> <p>I am also concerned about visibility into the process. What steps would be taken to assure voters that the process is performed fairly?</p> <p>In current elections, a losing candidate may request a recount if the vote is close. Does ranked-choice voting work similarly? Can the counts be contested during all stages?</p> | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | I support ranked-choice voting. | I have no questions. | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Lets try it! | Have we ever done this in VA | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | <p>Almost anything is better than the current FPTP method, so I'm in favor of RCV in Arlington. Of course, a lot depends on the implementation and making sure voters are informed about how it works.</p> <p>Approval voting could be even better than ranked-choice voting, however - see here for an explanation: https://electionscience.org/library/approval-voting-versus-irv/ (I've also attached a PDF version of the article).</p> <p>Thanks for your consideration!</p> | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Please do ranked choice voting. The election system in America is clearly flawed and this new style of voting needs to have use cases that prove it can be done. I'd rather us look forward than look backwards and say "son, wtf" at our choices. | How quickly can we do it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | There only ceiling for RCV. If you're the popular candidate by a wide margin, RCV does not change that. Get 50% or more, with a substantial lead, you do not need the additional rankings. This now allows for many candidates to run, and need truly stand for something. | When can you implement? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22202 | This is an excellent idea! Ranked-choice voting is an fantastic solution to the hyper-partisan climate in our country today. I'm particularly excited about using it in local elections to reward candidates for taking consensus-building positions. I hope the Board chooses a format similar to the Alaska model that gives as many candidates as possible a chance to run in a ranked-choice general election. The best benefits of a ranked choice model come when republicans, democrats, progressives, and others can all compete in the final stage of voting. For local elections, we only need one round of voting since the number of candidates is small (no need for a primary and general election). | How would ranked-choice voting work with the current two-step process of a primary and general election? Would it be like the Alaska model (first-past-the-post jungle primary with top 4 candidates advancing to a ranked-choice general election)? The NYC model (ranked-choice primary with first-past-the-post general)? Something else? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Ranked Choiced Voting should be implemented for the general election, Board member number should be expanded and board members should be elected in larger groups - implement the TIGER recommendations! | Why hasn't it been implemented yet? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think this is a great idea. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | YES! This is really important if the number of board members is increased and more than one opening is available. | How fast the results will be available. Faster results are much better than slow results. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Very supportive of ranked-choice voting and I commend the County Board for leading on this issue. Just please make sure that the County goes ABOVE AND BEYOND to educate people—ESPECIALLY our voters who may not be very fluent in English. | How quickly can we expand it to other offices too? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I fully support the prospect of ranked choice voting. It allows for a greater diversity of candidates and removes some of the necessity of "strategic" voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support it. It's a fairer way to determine election results that helps more diverse candidates get traction and prevents exclusively major party candidates from dominating. | I would have questions if I were reacting to a specific proposal, but I haven't read one as yet. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Please use ranked choice voting. I voted by ranked choice in local elections when I lived in Cambridge, MA and it worked well. It worked well in Alaska this year. I wish we had ranked choice for state and national elections, too. Let Arlington help lead on this | Will you use the method where one can rank up to the full slate, but can choose to rank only some candidates? That was useful in Cambridge, MA where sometimes 20 people ran and I would rank only my top 10. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support using it | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think RCV is great! I believe it will have a moderating effect on our divisive politics | How do we get the entire state to adopt RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think it is a great idea. I believe by rank-choice, this will nicely reflect the will of the citizens. | How soon would this be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22202 | I have friends who live in Alaska, which has ranked choice voting. Their experience with this approach to electing officials has been positive inasmuch that it appears to help elect less extreme candidates. Based on their first-hand feedback, I am in favor of implementing ranked choice voting in Arlington County. | I have no questions at the moment. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | . | . | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I believe this a very good way and outcome to elect candidates. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Ranked-choice voting enables voters to support their preferred candidate confidently without having to consider the candidate's popularity or ability to market themself. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support it. Ranked choice voting would allow me to cast my vote for the candidate who I think best matches the issues I care about without worrying that by supporting them, I could lead to a horrible extremist to win through a plurality. | How will the county explain this, especially to older and limited English proficient populations? Will there be any timing delays? Will ballots be complex? Will the county talk to jurisdictions that have successfully implemented RCV for best practice learnings? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | This would allow me to show support for candidates who are not the republican or democratic ones and would otherwise be seen as a "wasted vote." Being able to vote for the person I support most, then next voting for who I don't actually want but would rather have would be nice. I think in that regard there might be higher voting turn out if people could vote for their candidate and there be a better possibility of doing well. | How many positions would it be implemented on? Would all local elections have it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | County Bd: Pass an ordinance/resolution ASAP to allow the Elections Commission to work through the technical details of implementation. RCV assures the winning candidate wins at least 50% of the vote; a mandate. Currently, in a 3-person race, for instance, the victor can win with just over 33% of the vote. Candidates must appeal to the entire electorate since it is to their advantage to be a voter's 2d or 3d choice. RCV also eliminates the "spoiler" effect by allowing votes to rank all candidates in preference order (or not rank anyone at all by choosing to vote in the traditional way). | None, I am a strong supporter of this electoral innovation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | This is a great idea for rejuvenating our democracy. | How much will it slow down vote tabulation? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Everything I've read about Ranked Choice Voting has convinced me it would a very positive improvement. | None at this time. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22202 | PLEASE---let's try RCV. Makes so much sense because it enables fairer, more realistic vote, and it results in a winner who is palatable to most folks. Under the current system, it seems that the candidate who can raise the most money tends to win, even though other candidates may be better qualified, but don't have the funds to advertise. | making sure that people understand how it works | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I am a strong supporter! Thank you for moving this forward. This move captures the aspirations of the voters much better. Thank you thank you | I dont have questions. I just hope this passes, so please keep the algorithm simple, so the extremists don't have anything to fight against. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support it. | I support it | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Fully support ranked-choice voting for future local elections. | Will the County provide an orientation and other guidance if this voting option is implemented in the future? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Yes, I am pro ranked choice voting | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support RCV and would like to see it implemented. | Will the city be investing in electronic systems to help count the votes? How much of the vote counting is already done electronically? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Please do this, it makes for a more democratic systems | I don't have any questions, think it should be implemented | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I fully support the adoption of ranked-choice voting in Arlington. I hope it will spread to the rest of Virginia and ultimately be adopted for all state and federal elections. | How can ranked-choice voting be explained to all potential voters? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think the Board should adopt ranked-choice voting. It is more intuitive and allows for the candidate who is elected to truly represent the preferences of the majority, not just a plurality. | How long will it take to implement ranked-choice voting? How will you educate the public ahead of time on how it works? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Approve it, but do it for all elections! | Could the county advocate for the state to grant permission to allow those 16+ to vote in local elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I am in favor. This is a good way to reduce polarization and promote cooperation across party lines | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | It gives newcomers a better chance | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | RCV is a more precise means of determining the favored candidate. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Political scientist Dr. Francis Fukuyama, in his book, Political Order and Political Decay, makes the intuitive point that, in order for representative democracy to work, it must be representative. The gridlock, partisanship, and ineffectiveness at various levels of government are indications that our representative democracy is breaking down. There are many causes for this breakdown, but, at least one of the cause is that government is not as representative as it ought to be. Ranked-choice voting allows for representation of moderate and independent voices that would otherwise be shut-out by a 'winner-take-all' first-past-the-post voting system. | What voter education is planned to ensure a smooth implementation? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22202 | Like it if the number of Board positions is increased. Having two openings at the same election is very different than 1. | Good info out to voters, but if Alaska can do it, Arlington can do it. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think is necessary to broaden participation | None. Follow NYC example. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

22303

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
|----------|---|--|------------------|----------------------|
| 22203 | Ranked choice is a bad idea and undemocratic. It deprives voters of the chance to fully evaluate candidates in a regular runoff election | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | Ranked-choice voting is an absolutely horrible idea. It routinely gives you a candidate that was not the first choice but someone who also was not someone you disliked. We end up with a mediocre candidate and not the first choice for anyone. It also gives people like progressives the ability to vote once, e.g, once for Bernie Sanders and once for Joe Biden. Compromise is prudent, but resorting to prudence when first-choice morality seems to fail teaches voters that morality is at the extreme and prudence is strategic. Teaching in a classroom, one could say it combines the worst of Kant and Machiavelli. The better way is to make one's first choice prudently, thus tempering extremism and promoting compromise. | I would raise the question of why this is even being discussed when it's been tried and repealed in other jurisdictions around the country. In a overwhelmingly blue county like Arlington, this type of voting give zero chance to a candidate outside of the Democratic party. It basically gives two votes to progressives and the independent or republican candidate suffers. This is the reason the Board will most likely implement this, they want to keep control of power at all costs. Ranked choice voting would make Arlington not democracy, but rather a kind of autocracy. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | First, Ranked Choice Voting favor incumbents by allowing a dozen candidates to run instead of just two or three. As a result, this will prevent the County from benefiting from new candidates who may bring about much needed change. Second, Ranked Choice Voting will increase divisiveness and fragment the community by allowing dozens of candidates to run. This in turn will allow fringe candidates to have unwarranted public exposure and will prevent citizens from learning the positions of electable candidates on important electoral issues. Third, Ranked Choice Voting has forced voters to wait weeks and sometimes even months finding out who the winner is. All in all, Ranked Choice Voting will only lead to major headaches for the County and its residents. Thank you for your service. | How can the Board guarantee that vote counting will be completed in one day? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | Someone who is not the first choice of most can win. See what happened in Alaska. | Why do we need to change the way we vote? Don't think it is necessary. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | How about NO. Did you all see the mess Alaska got itself into this pass primary. It took months to find the winner. Do you want that to happen here? The only thing we need to do is go back to paper ballots. Quicker to count, votes can be recounted in a close election. Paper ballots are the best deterrent to voter fraud, not the ranked-choice method. Keep it simple. | 1. Why is it needed? 2. Why aren't paper ballots being considered? Why are we using computer voting? It's much easier to cheat with computers. (did you not see what happened in the 2020 election?!) 3. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22203 | I vote no for ranked choice voting!! | No upload | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | Seems like a bad idea to me. How about dividing the county up i to district so north Arlington doesn't get to elect the whole board? | No questions | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | NO... What are you thinking???? Please read this opinion piece by Kim Strassel: https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-ranked-choice-scam-alaskans-for-better-elections-voting-system-election-race-votes-liberal-group-polls-ballot-11666906215?st=4q8dgb51c8jojhh&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink | Why would we implement this confusing & complicated process? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | None | None | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22203 | no comment | no questions | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22203 | At first I was against it, but I think I feel differently now. I'd like to see us try it. Seems more representative of the voters with RCV. | Want to be clear that a voter can still just vote for their first choice if they want. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | It could be beneficial if there are several candidates so that a person with minimal but more than the others support could not be elected. The winner should have a large support base | Is this a burning issue in Arlington? The primary takes care of this for party nominations and the school board would be where it might come into play. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | In principle- favorable | Without soe concrete plans, I don't have questions | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | None | None | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | It seems to produce good results. | none | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | This seems to be a more efficient method of assessing voter preferences. And perhaps a more fair process, although our democracy has always rested on the premise of majority-rule. | It's unclear if this method is more vulnerable or less vulnerable to manipulation by wealthy single-interest political advertisers. The hope for me is that it would reduce the ability of money to influence elections. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | Rank Choice voting is a good idea to balance different viewpoints | It will be important to educate voters on how this works | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | I feel that RCV does a better job at achieving greater consensus in elections with large numbers of candidates. | Can RCV be incorporated into the same ballot as would be used for other elected offices? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | It's better than the current system, which could force voters to choose between the lesser of two evils. But it's still dependent on individual candidates, so inevitably voters whose preference is a minority within a district have no representation at all. | Are the Republicans going to use the consideration of ranked choice to argue for splitting Arlington into districts? Again, proportional representation is better bc it doesn't allow gerrymandering and gives minority preferences representation even within a district. Of course Republicans don't propose proportional representation bc it would hurt them nationwide. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | In favor of RCV, to reduce costs of elections | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in favor of trying it | Is it possible that the person who got the most votes would not win in the end? | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22203 | This is a great idea and the only possible way to end the current stranglehold of Democrats on the county board. And I say this as a Democrat. We need a board that exhibits some diversity of thought, which we certainly lack now. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting should be implemented as soon as possible in Arlington. It is a fairer way of electing candidates since it allows people to vote their actual preferences rather than having to game out their choices to avoid voting for "spoiler" candidates. Fears that the voting system is too confusing for voters to understand is insulting to the intelligence of Arlingtonians. If the good people of Alaska could figure out RCV then surely we can. | Why wouldn't this method be adopted for both the general election and the primary? Can the current voting systems employed by Arlington handle RCV, or would new equipment need to be purchased? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think it is an ideal way to get the candidates that are the most popular in office. | I think they should do this for the congressional elections too and higher state offices. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I believe ranked choice voting is necessary to create a more accurate representation of the electorates desires. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I favor it. Eliminates the effect of spoilers. | How soon can it happen? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I fully support the implementation of ranked-choice voting. Allowing citizens to rank their candidates of choice will allow for more discussions around the issues and make campaigns less about money and personality. | How soon can we implement ranked-choice voting? Arlington County needs it yesterday. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am very much in favor of ranked choice voting. It will lead to more positive campaigns, more quality candidates, and another example of ranked choice voting succeeding at a local level encouraging more state/national adoption. | Apart from showing the winners, what additional insights into the math/counting/process will be shown upon completion of ranked choice elections? Will it be a standard report? How transparent? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting is a better way to ensure that the views of the people are reflected in the leadership of the government, which is really the whole point of democracy. I totally support it, and have since first learning about it 30 or so years ago. Its a change long past due. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think this is neat! | I don't have any questions, I'm pretty aware of how it works. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please implement ranked choice voting for County Board and School Board and eliminate primaries for those contests. Primaries are redundant with ranked-choice voting. | The only question is why is the Board delaying implementing ranked choice voting | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | <p>PRO - Without a doubt ranked choice voting is far fairer than standard plurality elections. When put in place this system would ensure our elected officials are more specifically representative of their constituents views rather than a national platform. From a societal standpoint, it is absolutely the right call. When deciding between two candidates who differed on this issue, I would support the candidate who was focused on implementing RCV without a doubt. It's all about better, more accurate representation.</p> | <p>N/A. I'm familiar with the system. Surely we'd need to be more supportive in our education on the system for the first few elections but after that it'd be as straightforward as standard voting. Additionally, I'd make sure we're allowing individuals to leave spots blank so they never feel like they're voting "for" a candidate they wholeheartedly disagree with. In a five candidate race, for instance, they could fill out their 1-3 spots and leave 4-5 blank with their vote essentially being "no preference" if their first three choices were eliminated.</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>Please support rank choice voting (RCV). It allows for a more diverse and representative election. More candidates are able to run and a greater span of ideas can be presented. It allows multiple preferences to be expressed by the voter to ensure a more representative choice. It saves money on runoffs and ensures who is elected was selected by over 50% of the voters (through multiple choices). Most of all, it breaks the binary, zero-sum mentality of current first-passed the post voting which feeds partisanship and division, and encourages candidates to support each other and court their supporters for their second and third round votes. It builds coalitions instead of pitting voters against each other, keeping candidates focused on getting the most votes in the middle rather than playing to extremes. RCV has been successfully executed in multiple democracies around the world & increasingly in the US. Arlington should continue to lead the way in electoral reforms like this.</p> | <p>What elections would have RCV? I would want all elections at all levels to be RCV, but I understand Arlington cannot make state-wide and federal elections RCV. Still, I would hope that Arlington could be a proof-of-concept to advance and advocate for more RCV in Virginia and the US. If passed, what is the plan to education/communicate RCV to the public to ensure they are prepared to fill out a RCV ballot in the next election?</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>Great idea! Ranked choice is a great benefit for Democracy!</p> | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>Do it</p> | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>Yes. Let's do it!</p> | none | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | <p>Ranked choice voting is amazing and should be implemented, in my opinion, everywhere. While yes this is a system used elsewhere already, I see this an opportunity for Arlington County to be a leader in this for the nation. While I don't personally think its complicated for a voter to vote this way, there is a lot of misinformation on its efficacy and fairness. This needs to be taken seriously and cant be frivolously thrown into a vote for implementation or implementation in general. We've learned over the last 7 years that elections are a fragile system when people lose faith in them, even when their loss of faith is unwarranted.</p> <p>Overall applaud the board for exploring this.</p> | <p>Its unclear to me if this is being put to a county wide vote to implement or just the board to decide. Either way this needs to be explained properly to people before they vote on weather to implement or before they utilize it fully. If / when this is implemented I think you need to have a campaign to explain what it is and how it works. With the recent election in Alaska there was a lot of talk of confusion by right leaning voters, mostly this was spread by those that lost in an attempt to lie to their voters about rigged elections. An explainer needs to accompany at home ballots, signs at the polls, tv/ radio ads. having candidates from both sides of the isle explain to voters what it is, why its a good thing and how to do it. there is always going to be misinformation and confusion about things such as this, steps need to be taken to minimize this as much as possible.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I'm very in favor of it. I think it will lead to more democratic results. | No questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please do tanked choice! | Please make it clear so people don't mess this up but ranked choice has so many benefits! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please implement ranked-choice voting in Arlington. | How soon can it happen? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Strongly support ranked choice voting as it allows more likely to get best candidates with less hesitation on only choosing between 2 candidates | how soon can it be done? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | The two party system is only benefiting the radicals and the wealthy. The only reason to be against it is if you've been bought off or are completely insane. | Would need more details. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Na | Na | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Do it you scrubs | Why has this taken so long to implement? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Let's do it! | ? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think RCV is a great idea. I support it 100%. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I believe this is a much fairer and more equitable way to choose a candidate and will help to eliminate extreme politicians. I also believe having essentially a multiple choice not based solely on party is more inclusive. This process has proven effective where instituted. | No additional comments. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | <p>Dear Members of the Board,</p> <p>RCV is an urgent reform. It would improve interest in politics generally. In a typical D vs R election, it's usually too obvious to most voters which one they'll prefer. And of course a vote for anyone else is almost always wasted, so I hardly have to pay attention. In races with RCV (like recent local caucuses), I know that I can rank all of the candidates and my vote won't be wasted. So I have more of a reason to pay attention to the issues and to the candidates.</p> <p>With RCV in the general election, it's likely that more candidates would be on the ballot, and I can vote for my favorite because my vote won't be wasted. And it won't be obvious who is going to win. This would improve interest and engagement in local issues. So I think it would also improve turnout wherever it is used. Improving voter turnout in Arlington would give us a stronger voice in statewide elections even if we are only able to do this in our local elections for now.</p> | <p>Voters like RCV. Why are we starting with the primaries only? RCV would make the most difference in the general election, especially in a two-seat year. After success in the pilot in 2023, will the county be prepared to move quickly so that it will be used in the general election in 2025?</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>I support Ranked Choice Voting. RCV promotes candidates who build consensus, requires a majority of votes to win. RCV is very popular and easy-to-understand in localities that already use it. RCV removes the "spoiler effect" of having three or more candidates in an election. RCV can make elections more fair and competitive. RCV has a proven track record of being beneficial to minorities and women seeking office. RCV is used in localities all across the US, and for some state-wide elections.</p> | <p>I have no questions about Ranked Choice Voting and I support it.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>I'm for it.</p> | <p>None at this time.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>This sounds like a solid idea.</p> | <p>none</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>Sounds like ranked choice voting has a lot of advantages, and it is well worth the time and effort for Arlington to try out a pilot voting project in the June election. I'm all for it.</p> | <p>The only downside I can think of is that it will require voters spend time researching and evaluating all the candidates in order to list them in order of preference.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | I support using RCV in Arlington primaries. | RCV is not an intuitive voting method. If adopted, the County must develop and implement a communication/education program that reaches all segments of the voting-age population. The ballot itself must be carefully designed to make voting easy and accurate. A poorly designed RCV could lead to confused voters and to voters marking their ballots incorrectly--see the infamous Florida 2000 "butterfly" ballot as an example. Election officers at the precincts also will need to be trained, | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support this. It's a great idea! Then my vote would matter more and we might see a broader range of candidates | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | It needs to be implemented ASAP both in Arlington and nation-wide. It will lead to a more democratic and civil electoral system. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support ranked choice voting. Among the reasons I support ranked choice voting are that it: Gives voters more meaningful choices: it allows candidates from outside the two major parties to compete. It creates a richer dialogue on the issues and increases the diversity of views. Eliminates spoilers and strategic voting: it allows voters to support their favorite candidate without worrying that they might "throw their vote away," or worse, split their votes with like-minded voters and unintentionally help elect the candidate they like the least. Reduces negative campaigning: Candidates running in ranked choice elections must ask for second and third choice rankings. Voters are less likely to rank a candidate highly who is negative. Reduces the influence of money in politics: Campaigns and special interest groups spend a lot of money on negative advertising. By making negative advertising less effective, it reduces the need for, and influence of, money in politics. | How will you do voter outreach and education about ranked-choice voting? How will you ensure that the system adopted does not adopt a formula that favors the party running the most candidates? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting. It is more democratic than the traditional system and ensures that the winner is more likely to have received first or second choice votes. We have seen how the Alaska model worked, and ensured that radical figures were defeated. | Can Constitutional officials (Treasurer, Sheriff, County Clerk) also be subjected to Ranked Choice? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Fully support as it's more democratic | What are the logical and budgetary impacts of the possible change? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | I support Ranked Choice voting for eligible local elections in Arlington County. This is a proven approach to give voters an opportunity to provide their preferences beyond supporting a single candidate. Most importantly, it ensures that the candidates with the broadest support will win. | The County will need to expend additional resources to explain ranked-choice voting to residents as it can be confusing at first. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am all for ranked-choice voting to provide more flexibility in user preferences on candidates and issues than first past the post which encourages just picking 1 of 2 sides. My only question is why other voting methods like approval voting are not considered. Approval voting is where users can select multiple candidates, basically all candidates that they approve of. It should be easier to implement with existing systems since it is just counting how many votes each candidate received, and is easier to explain the results of such an election. | Will the board consider having either open primaries or doing away with primaries to begin with in addition to implementing ranked choice? This is because ranked choice allows users to be able to prioritize candidates, and as a result, would benefit from having multiple candidates available to be selected. If there are only 2 candidates, then the benefits would be moot. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I love it! I wish all elections worked this way (including partisan primaries). | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Definitely support it! Best way to get good outcomes! | None- | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please do ranked choice, it's obviously better for all elections, but especially for a place with 1 main party | How do you plan on designing it so it's clear to each voter what they are doing? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting gives us more power to communicate our preferences. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I'm pro | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | We should have it! It reflects voter preferences better. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support ranked choice voting. It would increase equity by allowing people to put their true first vote, knowing that their second choice could be a more safe choice. | If rank choice voting was implemented, could early and mail in votes be tabulated before election day? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Using ranked choice seems to be a fair way to help identify candidates with the most support, and help include votes for candidates outside the major two parties | Can existing voting machinery support ranked choice or would this require procurement of new hardware? (Software updates are less of a concern although I recognize there'd still be costs incurred.) | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | RCV will help make elections fairer, more accurate, and more engaging! It can help raise the chances (and profile) of a field of candidates so that a broader diversity of voices may compete. It allows voters who are the minority in their own party to carry weight when otherwise they'd be naturally dismissed by plurality voting. And a broader range of candidates who have a better chance to win could become more engaging and salient to voters who feel uninspired by elections with foregone conclusions. | How soon can we start?! But more seriously, will there be sufficient staff to support testing and quality control before, during, and after the election? Will you use risk-limiting audits (RLAs) to provide confidence in RCV-tallying software? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | I am in strong favor. Makes it possible to express a range of preferences. | Is the county ready to explain it well? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support ranked-choice voting. | Will the election results be available quickly? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Seems like a way to expand democracy and is the way of the future for better elections. | Is the board opposed because the legacy voting process protects insiders? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please adopt it for the board. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | we should do rank choice voting because it is a better way to understand what the people want vs just picking one person only | since it is only in the county should be fast and accurate, but would want to make sure it is implemented correctly | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Great idea! I support it 100%. | Why wasn't it used sooner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support the implementation of ranked-choice voting for the 2023 County Board June primary election. There are plenty of other people who are likely writing in to show the benefits of the system and how it has worked in Alaska and elsewhere. All I will add is that I believe people in this county and country are looking for a different way of doing politics. If we use this system and it does not work, we can just go back to the old system. But if it works, it can be a new way forward for the people of Arlington, Virginia, and elsewhere. So let's give it a shot. | If it is deemed successful in the primary, can it be implemented for the general election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting is the superior method of voting and will allow the voice of voters to be heard more effectively. | Ranked choice should be thoroughly explained to the voting populous. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support rank choice voting. I think it has a lot of potential and is worth trying. | Just would like to see the country implement it but also track the impact of it in terms of effective representation and system gaming. True representation is an important tenant of our democracy that is being challenged by election gaming, so I think it is important to consider initiatives like this to restore faith and trust in the system for many. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support ranked choice voting. I think it gives voters more options and helps address the issues with the two-party system. However, ranked choice ballots can be confusing if they are designed poorly, so I hope that the County Board makes sure that the ballot is well-designed. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | It's good because we want to end up with the candidate who is the best representation of what the people want, and the best way to do that is for them to have a ranked choice system where they can end up with a second favorite if their first doesn't work out. | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | 100% supportive. Would also like to move away from party primaries for county positions but realize that is a party choice. | What slows us down? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support the Civic Federation task force recommendations. | Is the Board going to hold any public meetings to discuss the Civic Federation recommendations? Is there a CB vote scheduled on adopting these or similar changes? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am strongly in favor of ranked choice voting and heavily support its implementation. | How do you intend to educate the people on how to effectively use ranked choice voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I love ranked choice voting. I want this to be implemented at all levels of government and I believe it addresses a number of issues that currently exists when voting | How will the election board (or another party) educate people on the new voting method? Will the election board (or another party) have methods in place to address voting issues related to the ranked choice implementation? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think it's a great idea and would very much like to see us do it. | None-I attended a presentation by the Arlington committee of 100 on this and it was very thorough. I do think we will need good educational campaign if we do it because it is a little complicated. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in favor. Arlington County could use more variety in its Board. This might have that result. Although it might only have an effect after the population has gotten used to it. | What plans are there for deciding whether to continue after the first year? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think it's an excellent idea and greatly support it. Thank you for considering it. | I have none. I think it's been well implemented elsewhere and hope we learn from those experiences | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

22204

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
|----------|--|---|------------------|----------------------|
| 22204 | This is the stinkiest thing you could be devoting your efforts to.....It should never be allowed. | Any system where the popular vote winner cold be the loser should never be brtought into existencce. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | This is a bad idea. A democracy should be majority votes win period! It's hard enough to get people to the ballot boxes. If there is a need for a run off, then you are asking for people to vote again. Please leave the current system in place. | Why do we need to make this change? Why do you think it's a good idea for our community to use this system? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Totally against it. Ranked voting allows for too many hands to touch the "votes" before winners are declared. With absentee voting added in, it can take well beyond expected time frames to declare winners. We don't need any new voting wrinkles to further concerns about "big lie" results. | Why is it necessary? Regular voting has served us well for many years. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am opposed to ranked-choice voting. It has no place in a constitutional republic or democracy. I support voting with real paper ballots that are correctly tabulated, not weighted, nor adjudicated. A voting process that is simple and legitimate will encourage transparency and confidence for citizens -- something we all need after the last two voting cycles. | Ranked-choice voting should be reserved for high school prom king/queen and sorority rush. Period. I am strongly opposed to any voting process that uses algorithms or weighted averages. One person, one vote is pure and simple -- and it works. Ranked-choice voting disintegrates a voters intention to vote for their preferred candidate. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am opposed to rank choice voting. | How can it be done electronically to prevent fraud and/or error. And provide results quickly. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | No to tanked choice voting. It leads to results where the number one choice might not get in. It is convoluted. Please keep the system we have now. | Why do you feel the need to change our voting system, which works fine? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Ridiculous! The person with the most votes wins! Stop messing with reality. | Exactly why, being truthful, why is the county even considering this when there are so many important things to focus your time on. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Leave it alone. Count each vote as cast. Don't play G_D manipulating votes. | Not a question but, DON'T MASSAGE THE VOTES, COUNT THEM AS CAST | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am not in favor of ranked voting. I believe it is just one more example of a way to keep the county liberal and squash dissent. Leave the system the way it is. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Causing great fear or alarm; dreadful to voters | Causing great fear or alarm; dreadful To voters | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I don't believe it is a good idea | It can become controlled and not allow for true representation | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Na | Na | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | It is too confusing. | Why does it have to be so complicated? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Please don't implement ranked voting. We have been fine, the way it is. | Why implement this? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | Do Not do it | I voted for who I voted for, I would not want my vote moved to someone else. Would rather start over if we had to | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | No. Majority rules | No | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am not in favor of ranked choice voting. | I have no idea how it works. I would need a full explanation with an example. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am opposed to rank choice voting. | Na | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Not in favor of ranked choice voting | Benefits need to be clearly defined. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I think the process is confusing and in this county which has mainly democrats, it seems pointless. I don't see how it is going to encourage diverse candidates. I have a feeling that you've already made up your mind and even if you receive a lot of opposition, you'll ram it through anyway. Use it for the primaries but leave the elections alone. I don't like the fact that someone whom I might have left blank and not voted for could receive the vote I made for another candidate. This does not let my voice be heard. | What is the process for educating the voter? This would be a change from the norm and a lot of people won't understand it. Could it be a pilot if you're set on implementing it? That way people can experience it and decide if they want it. How much is it going to cost to change the system over and what is cost benefit analysis? What is the justification for needing this? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Seems like a good way to prolong contests. | How does this not complicate vote counting, as is? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | You want Audrey Clement getting on the board? Stop playing around with these goody-two-shoes ideas and eave well enough alone. | How are you going to keep Audrey Clement and/or John Vistadt off the board? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I'm against RCV in Arlington County elections. It is a process that can be too confusing for voters, who may not understand fully the mechanics of the process and as a result may have their vote go to a candidate they don't truly support, or be negated entirely. A straight up election with run-offs if needed is much preferable. | what is the impetus for this change? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support ranked choice voting for single winner elections. However, I strongly disagree with use of Proportional Ranked Choice Voting (PRCV or Single Transferable Vote, or any of it's other names) in Arlington. Use of PRCV would likely result in election of at least one Republican to the County Board. With the Republican Party's current behavior (i.e., if you can't win fairly - then cheat, and no election is fair unless Republicans win, storm the Capitol if you don't win, etc.), I believe we should not take any action that would increase the chance of the Republicans to win any election. | Why should Arlington (or any other jurisdiction) adopt a voting system that would artificially give a party that is taking actions that threaten the future of our democratic republic (such as the Republicans) a chance to get it's candidates elected? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | I believe that RCV is problematic primarily because it adds an unnecessary layer of complexity to the voting process. It seems to me that you would want to make voting as simple / basic / easy as possible to ensure robust voter turn out. Voters must be confident in themselves and the system; otherwise, it is likely to deter voters who may be confused by the RCV rules. Additionally, with the ongoing attacks on existing voting systems and processes, disinformation and deception regarding RCV is likely to proliferate, causing further confusion and frustration among voters, which, in turn, will deter them from voting. I do Not believe this is a good time to introduce a "new" way of voting, one that is likely to draw endless litigation by losing candidates and/or voters who believe they've been misled. This will only lead to further erosion of voter confidence in the system. ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE! | What is the primary reason for wanting to transition to RCV? Is that reason enough to outweigh the potential downside of RCV? What's wrong with the existing system - is it so broke that you need to introduce a new way of voting? How do you ensure every voter receives a sufficient level of education and training on RCV to ensure that there aren't significant mistakes, misconceptions, etc., before implementation? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | The more I'm reading about this, the more I dislike the concept. This goes against the idea of one vote per person. I don't like that my vote may be given to another candidate. Or even worse, at least at the beginning, people won't understand the concept and not put second or third choices, reducing their vote even further. In a one party system like Arlington, there won't be the possibility of a non-Democrat being elected. | What problem is this trying to solve? Why is it necessary to do this and why now? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I don't want to be like California | It tends to favor party in powe | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | After checking this out and getting answers from both people promoting this and people leery of this, my take is that this is another step away from "one person, one vote". The danger is in the redistributing of the votes for the candidate with the smallest percentage of votes. There is not guarantee that there will not be more Republican and "Independent" (so-called) manipulation that will actually make representation even LESS accurate. I VOTE NO. Thanks. | As stated above, this removes us even further from "one person, one vote" than we are now. The possibly well-meaning philosophy of those promoting this falls into one of two categories. Either they are looking at this with rose-colored glasses or they are flat out up to no good. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | I do not support proportional ranked choice voting. I do support the instant run off type of ranked choice voting. The problem arises where there is more than one position open; that happenstance allows a candidate to be elected even if opposed by the majority of voters. Also, I feel that if there are multiple positions open (eg, 2), my vote should count equally for the 2 positions. Under PRCV, if my 1st choice is elected on the 1st round, my choice for the remaining position may not be counted at all unless my 1st choice won by more than the threshold (>33%). If my 1st choice won by more than the threshold, my vote for the remaining position is a fraction of a vote. I feel that I should get a full vote for each position that is open. | At the outset, the County should make sure that people do not confuse proportional ranked choice voting (PRCV) with other forms of RCV. I think there is widespread confusion on this important distinction. I would never want to see PRCV implemented in races where more than one candidate is being chosen. I would like to see us adopt instant run off RCV (for each open position, the winner has to eventually be the preference of the majority of voters) when and if allowed, NOT PRCV. The next 2 questions of this survey are deceptive. The survey asks if I have voted in a RCV election before, and how favorably do I feel. I have voted in the Dem endorsement process for SB, which is instant run off RCV, and feel very favorably. Since the survey makes no distinction between the forms of RCV, respondents will be confused; the results of the survey will be worthless. Since I am not in favor of PRCV, I am answering that I haven't voted in that type of election and that I am very unfavorable. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | With RCV, it may not be clear to voters the implications of the ranking system for candidates ranked after choice #1. My hometown in the midwest instituted RCV for local races and number of candidates on the ballot ballooned, creating voter confusion and lesser desired candidates getting elected based on the ranking. Winner take all elections are straight forward, understandable, and can be completed in a timely manner. | I would be concerned about dilution of the candidate pool. While the bar for entry into races should not be exorbitant, lesser candidates may be more likely to attempt a run, cluttering the ballot. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Favors incumbents | Why do this at all? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | The linked materials give no indication WHY you are proposing rank choice voting. This is a significant gap, because rank choice voting has been seen used by parties with vested interests in stacking multiple member organizations (such as councils or committees). | What is the exact reason this is being proposed? Is it for financial reasons (to avoid runoffs)? If that is the case, what are the estimated savings? Can you improve explanation to ensure that this is not a Democratic partisan effort to stack a group of elected positions? (I am a Democrat, by the way, but this was my first assumption when I see the proposal for rank choice.) | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Cumbersome process, Logistical nightmare that has a very real possibility of delaying results indefinitely. | None, don't see the need to change. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | This is transformative and requires significant education of the electorate. It is September 2022, and MMHS is taking up much of people's energy and focus. You need at least 12 months to educate an electorate of over 150,000 people properly. Stakeholders from underrepresented communities must be at the table and weigh in, not just the affluent. RCV is complex and doesn't assume people will understand by June 2023. If you run a pilot program, it needs to be at the same time as the regular primary, with only the official results of the primary and the pilot program used for analysis. From there, you can modify the educational aspect and go live in 2024. I want to know what the ACLU, LWV, NAACP, and others think. What happened in the New York mayoral race was confusing to everyone. | This is transformative and requires significant education of the electorate. It is September 2022, and MMHS is taking up much of people's energy and focus. You need at least 12 months to educate an electorate of over 150,000 people properly. Stakeholders from underrepresented communities must be at the table and weigh in, not just the affluent. RCV is complex and doesn't assume people will understand by June 2023. If you run a pilot program, it needs to be at the same time as the regular primary, with only the official results of the primary and the pilot program used for analysis. From there, you can modify the educational aspect and go live in 2024. I want to know what the ACLU, LWV, NAACP, and others think. What happened in the New York mayoral race was confusing to everyone. | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22204 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting. I think it represents an opportunity to ensure candidates are favored by the majority of the community. This isn't too often an issue in Arlington, because so much of the county is solidly supportive of the Democratic party, however ranked choice voting would avoid the issue of having a candidate that only a minority approve of win in an election where multiple independent candidates run. Ranked choice voting should allow for candidates to attempt to appeal to the widest possible range of supporters, rather than just to their political base. | Would it be implemented that if a candidate wins a majority of first-preference votes, he or she is declared the winner? If no candidate wins a majority of first-preference votes, the candidate with the fewest first-preference votes will be eliminated. First-preference votes cast for the failed candidate are eliminated, lifting the second-preference choices indicated on those ballots. A new tally is conducted to determine whether any candidate has won a majority of the adjusted votes. The process is repeated until a candidate wins an outright majority. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | If introduced, the ballot instructions should be very clear and voter education extensive. Ballots should be readable by the voting machines (not need manual counting). If someone makes a mistake, such as 'voting' for a candidate more than once, count that vote in the first instance and stop -- don't invalidate the ballot. | None | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | This sounds like a great idea. | No questions. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I am for it. | I'd like to know how the votes are tabulated. Is it someone gets 1000 votes, but doesn't have the majority of the votes so if you indicated person 2 your vote now goes to them? Is that correct? If not please explain it simply. Statistically how does this reflect the voters? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I support ranked choice voting | Will rank choice voiting cost more to implement and count the votes? | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22204 | I believe rank choice voting in primary and general state run elections would allow for more democracy at the local level. But this needs to also happen in general elections. | No additional comments | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | Why don't you take this opportunity to try not only ranked choice, but on-line and remote voting as well? | See above | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I think it's an interesting idea and encourage the County Board to try it | n/a | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | None | N/A | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I support this and hope that it can be implemented for state and federal elections as well as local elections. | I don't have questions—I think ranked choice voting is key to opening the door to more diverse candidates and opinions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support to concept, but because it is more complicated than the traditional method, it will take redoubled educational efforts to acclimate the public, and the counting process will have to be absolutely secure and transparent at the same time. | I'm not clear as to how votes will be counted -- by machine, by hand? And what data about the vote breakdown will be available to the public? And how long will the counting process take? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | PLEASE please implement Ranked Choice Voting -- it leads to MUCH better decisions, choices -- and promotes compromise, "middle of the road" choices, rather than extremes. Our county (& country) will be a much better place with it! | Why didn't we start doing this years ago? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | This is a fantastic idea. I am so glad to see this being talked about. I learned of this via FairVote Virginia, a ranked choice advocacy group I am a part of; there are many of us, especially in Arlington who are very happy to see this pilot program taking place. I hope this is here to stay, and continues beyond the local level! I am sure the board already knows this, but I would like to reiterate that ranked choice voting is one of the most mathematically sound ways to conduct an election. It ensures everyone's voice is heard, that no one can be accused of "throwing their vote away" if they prefer a candidate outside of the two leading parties, and it eliminates the spoiler effect (aka splitting the vote). This is an outstanding development. I am very happy to see it will be implemented next June! Thank you | N/a | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support this voting method and feel it is the most authentic way to show people's choices. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support the use of Ranked Choice Voting and would like to see it put into use as soon as possible. At this time, I do not support use of Proportional Ranked Choice Voting. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | I wholeheartedly support ranked choice voting. It allows for a more equitable campaign process by encouraging candidates to create a broader platform that can appeal to more voters, rather than polarizing them into two camps. I have been an Independent voter since I registered and it nearly always means if I want to have a voice in my vote, I have to align with Democrats or Republicans. Ranked choice voting will allow me to make my vote for my candidate of choice while also adding to the tally of my 2nd best choice. I also believe it will force PACs, lobbyists and "dark money" influencers to hedge their bets and not place all their monetary support behind one candidate. It also eliminates extremist candidates who are more focused on notoriety than governing. Ranked choice voting is fair, equitable and necessary for a functional democracy. | What education will be offered to help voters and candidates understand the benefit and process of ranked choice voting? How can Arlington be a model for other jurisdictions? How can the public get involved? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | DO IT. I believe it to be one of the best mechanisms for elections. I believe that it strengthens voice of individual voters. | How would you counter disinformation campaigns about it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea. It may not make much of a difference now in terms of who wins elections, given Democratic Party dominance, and assuming there will still be primaries. But the more jurisdictions use it, the faster it will be adopted nationally. That will decrease political polarization. Bonus opinion: I would not want to increase the number of County Board and School Board members. | Will there still be primaries, and will they be ranked choice? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Yes, please! This much more accurately captures the will of the people and will eliminate someone winning with a plurality of voters' support. | None. Do it! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | It can't come soon enough. Our county's politics are dominated by retired political hobbysists who have an outsize influence. The general election should be meaningful, not a rubber stamp on a decision a few hundred party activists made in range primary 6 months earlier. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | Having studied, read, and understood how ranked choice voting works and the benefits to elections, I wholeheartedly endorse Arlington adopting RCV in its elections. The system works to elect a candidate for whom a majority of voters would be comfortable with as an officeholder (usually as a first or second choice), eliminating the spoiler effect of third party or independent candidates. RCV also promotes consensus and less partisanship as candidates seek to avoid alienating too large a bloc of potential second or third choice voters. others states and localities have implemented RCV to great success. | Some localities have tried and failed to enact RCV on the basis that the system is too confusing. what does Arlington plan to do to help educate voters on RCV to help assuage the fear of implementing a new voting method? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am a staunch Democrat and I strongly support ranked choice voting. One party rule, no matter which party, is not good for the county. Ranked choice voting would help to eliminate the perception that only candidates with a "D" after their names can win elections. It could encourage moderate Republicans and third party candidates to run, since they would actually have a chance to be competitive. We would all be better off for some diversity of thought in county leadership. | Why hasn't the county already implemented ranked choice voting? All this stalling seems rather protectionist. If Democrats are truly putting forth the candidates whose positions are most in line with the community's, they should be able to win elections, regardless of the voting system. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting, especially as it will allow the eventual winner to have a majority of votes | I believe the county should provide explainers, with examples and in multiple languages, as it is not a surface-level intuitive approach | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Yes, please do ranked choice. We always get the same, narrow sliver of the democratic party. I'm a democrat but we need a better system to have more voices. Either ranked choice or combination of districts and at large members. | Absolutely support | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Strongly in favor of ranked choice voting. It hopefully will help moderate candidates. | Need to make sure all voters including those who don't speak English or have sight or hearing difficulties understand ranked choice voting | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | We used ranked choice voting back when back in college. Back then, pre computers, counting the votes was a royal pain. These days with computer assistance it should be a breeze. | Will the county provide totals for each round of counting? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Much needed. | Making sure there are explainers available at multiple levels of complexity to describe the intent, execution, and the impact of different voter choices in hypothetical scenarios to allay concerns about voter confusion | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | DEFINITELY in favor of ranked-choice voting - please implement this! | None! It makes total sense. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | I fully support ranked choice voting at all levels of government. It gives voters a better opportunity to vote for their preferred choice first, as opposed to choosing a "lesser evil" due to the nature of our two party system. | I don't have any particular questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | ranked-choice voting is the best way to give constituents the closest to their top choice for candidates or key county decisions. Let's try it! | None, I've studied this model and think it's a great option. To gain confidence, the county should communicate about how this approach has been rolled out in other jurisdictions across the US. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | The time for rank choice voting is here. It is important to stop polarization of America. Rank choice voting is critical to moving forward. | How will we implement rank choice voting? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | We should implement it. | No | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I know that most people will likely use this form to complain, so I just wanted to break that trend and say that I'm absolutely ecstatic that this is happening! I'm a college student studying math, and while I typically avoid politics at every chance, it is clear to anyone who spends more than a few minutes on it that Ranked Choice is, mathematically, vastly superior to Plurality voting, both at electing the candidate that best represents the people and at ensuring it's in their best interest to please the entire populace rather than just a subset. In simulations and studies, it has also been shown to significantly depolarize politics and reduce political violence. So thank you for this change! | I have none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Please implement it for all primaries. | Can we combine all party primaries into a single "open" primary? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting is a smart idea. Gives more of an accurate picture of who the voters are considering. Prevents the extremes from sneaking past the majority. | Let's give it a try. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I think it's a great idea | How do you plan to educate the voting public about the process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting should be implemented for all county elections. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I think its a better way to cast a vote, especially if you like more than one candidate. It allows for more equity in voting. | How do we make sure the system and the counting of the votes is fair? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support RCV for Arlington, although I recognize a year in which we vote for two Board members could complicate the public's understanding of the process. RCV has the opportunity to change the dialog around campaigns, as candidates could benefit from tempering debates with other candidates to encourage the Round Two support of more voters. | What do you believe is creating the reluctance of County Board members to support RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | Ranked choice is highly superior to the current voting system. Voters. I strongly favor Arlington moving to a ranked choice voting system. Unbiased education will be important in this era of certain Republicans denying election results and casting doubt on core fundamentals of democracy. | I have no questions, but many voters will have questions. Arlington should make an effort to explain and educate voters why ranked choice is superior and will not dilute their vote at all. For example, I have no doubt that ranked choice is being vilified by certain groups because it could (more accurately) cause a moderate candidate to win over a more extreme candidate or cause people to more easily cross party lines to oppose a certain candidate from the other party. Even though this result directly reflects the voters' intent (which is democracy), it's not unreasonable for people to look skeptically at a changed system. Arlington should absolutely shift but help educate why ranked-choice is more powerful, more democratic, and more fair for all, regardless of political opinion. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Very much support this! | How quickly can we implement. What is your plan to educate the public about it | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | It's great and should be used with every election | How can we make it a state wide thing? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support Ranked Choice Voting! I am member of fairvote.org and have been advocating for this change. | What are the exact implementation details? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | This is gaining in popularity and goes a long way toward battling extremism in politics. I'm all in favor, even if it means taking long count the votes. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support ranked choice voting because I think it can result in more centrist candidates winning. The recent congressional elections in Alaska are a perfect example of this. | How would ranked-choice voting affect the competitiveness of contests in this one-party town? Would it be for primaries and general elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | It is an excellent method of avoiding candidates to the extremes. However, it may initially be confusing, and thus requires a great deal of clear, simple explanation, given without any bureaucratic gobbledegook, in plain language that all can understand. If that outreach to the public is made several times before ranked-choice voting is introduced, and then maintained for each election, there should be no difficulties in implementing it. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Just do it already | I don't have any questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | I have participated in ranked choice voting. It's very easy. People prioritize what they want all the time. Prioritizing candidates in the order of preference is easy. Alaska just had their first ranked choice voting experience and it worked very well. https://alaskapublic.org/2022/09/07/five-takeaway-lessons-from-alaskas-first-ranked-choice-election/ | Is Arlington prepared to do a lot of public education on how ranked choice voting works? The Alaska Division of Elections sent out mailers and postcards about how to do it, had sample ballots online for people to show how it works. And organizations that supported ranked choice voting also had public information campaigns. I don't know how much it all cost, but you could contact the Alaska Division of Elections to find out. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Go for it. The way things are now, the Dems have all offices locked up. It's patently unfair to the independents, some of whom are very much more qualified and would be more effective than the incumbents. Plus the incumbents are obligated to do the bidding of the ADC, regardless of what other people think. I's rather have Audrey on the board than some of the others. | None, I understand it. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I'm in favor of tanked choice voting. | I think ranked choice voting gives voters the best chance for nuanced representation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | yes yes yes | how easy is it to do the paperwork to start a new political party? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am very much IN SUPPORT OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING. This methodology of counting votes is the most fair way to proceed in my opinion. | I have no questions -- I have read up on this topic and have a good sense of what it means. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support ranked choice voting. It would allow a more nuanced assessment of the preferences of voters. It might not make a big difference in most local races (we'll see) but it is better than the all or nothing approach used in the past. | Would it be made available for all races, or only local positions? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Research shows that RCV fosters civility, democracy, and representation that reflects the community. | I'd want to know what ideas there are for how it can be implemented with both accessibility and efficiency/simplicity/thrift in mind. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Do it! No reason not to. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Support | How do we establish thresholds that trigger a runoff? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support rank choice voting. | How would resolutions for ties or close elections be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting will give people a real voting right. They don't have to feel torn between two candidates, since this option would give them more freedom to vote with their true feelings. It's time for this here in Arlington--give elections back to us voters! | No questions--it totally makes sense and should happen ASAP. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support ranked-choice voting and believe it results in electing representatives who better represent most constituents. | How soon can it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | I support RCV so multiple independent candidates can run in the general election without pressure to drop out to not dilute the vote. | As an election officer, please make the forms very obvious with a clear consolidated result form and encourage campaign & independent observers to take a photo and independently verify the ranked-choice logic. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I think its a good idea. | How will it be implemented in Arlington elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support ranked choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting is a fairer way of conducting elections and results and less extreme office-holders. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | We should embrace ranked-choice voting. It will help ensure that candidates who actually want to work for the good of the county will be elected to office. | I don't have any. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support ranked choice voting and would like to implement it for as many elections as possible | How long will it take to roll out? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Please start doing this. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | ranked choice voting is the most easy to implement out of many superior electoral systems to our current one, it isn't the best, but will help the county select consensus candidates and eliminate the risk of supporting a "spoiler candidate". While there are superior systems, (single alternative vote, various proportional representation schemes, and multi-member ranked choice vote, I am confident that this is an improvement on our current system | which version of ranked choice voting would be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am pro ranked choice voting! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support RCV | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support this initiative. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | RCV encourages nuanced reflection—holding the tension of considering multiple good-enough choices—not the yes/no duality | No questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Support. | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Seems like a great idea. | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked Choice Voting should be implemented in all elections, both primary and general, at all levels (local, state, federal). | Will ranked-choice voting be implemented in Arlington for the 2023 primary election? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | I support a ranked-choice system that would be more likely to result in the election of candidates who have broader support, even if they might not be the ones I would personally favor. Arlington has an electorate that predominantly supports Democratic candidates, and I am among that group. But that demographic can result in crowding out other voices, and ranked-choice voting offers a way to acknowledge and respect voters' real preferences. | Based on what I have learned, the Alaskan model seems to have worked well. But I'm not familiar with alternative implementations and I would like to know more about the options available to the county in choosing to adopt this system. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked choice voting is far better than the current first past the post, winner take all system; it should be the future of all American voting and Arlington should be in the lead of that change | It will be important to ensure that all reasonable candidates make it on the ballot, without every loony whacko/extremist/perpetual candidate crowding on and leaving people overwhelmed and/or confused | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | RCV is a great idea that can help moderate the extremism we're seeing in elections. | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | This will work well if candidates initially undergo a 'primary' process within their affiliated party. Otherwise, the outlier candidates from the 'weirdo' party will water-down and split votes for more viable candidates. Minimum requirements to get on the ballot in the first place need to be rigorous. | Simple-simple English explanation to the public and media assistance will be essential ... Buy-in from the 'conspiracy theory contingent' will also be necessary. Otherwise it will be framed as undemocratic ... when in fact it makes every vote actually count. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am whole-heartedly in approval of this change. I will bring compromise rather than pandering to extremes. | How will you distribute educational materials about it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I love the idea of Ranked Choice Voting. This system really makes sure that the winner is the candidate with the most voter support, even if they are not everyone's top pick. | how soon can it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support ranked choice voting. I think it will encourage more candidates to run and give voters more choices. | How will the county ensure that votes are tabulated in a timely manner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | <p>Primarily all arguments against RCV can be countered by how we already use it in our daily lives. When we go to order a drink at a restaurant we have our top few choices with a basic mindset of what is acceptable and what is not. Avoid the red herrings. My reasons for RCV are:</p> <p>1. NO MORE SPOILER VOTES: I can truly vote for who I want to see get elected regardless of their ability to win and then identify other candidates that I would positively endorse in the role. This not only means I am not "throwing away my vote" I am also helping to indicate to those running for office the level of support that candidates are truly receiving. If it were objectively known that a third party was getting 20% of the first choice vote if voters voted without the risk of effects, the winning candidate may find considering the offered views to be smart.</p> <p>2. POSITIVE INCENTIVES TO COLLABORATE. Winners need to work towards providing solutions with broad appeal rather than playing to a polarized base.</p> | None: The process is straightforward and there are AMPLE advocacy groups that can help with education. Let's Go! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
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22205

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
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| 22205 | I am against it emphatically! In fact, if Arlington were to adopt it, I would cease voting in any elections that adopted it. | I see this a voting complication that we don't need. Stay with plurality voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I disagree with ranked choice voting. | Makes it too complicated n | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I oppose ranked choice voting as confusing. My concern is that Ranked Chose Voting would favor those voters already heavily involved in Arlington politics and who have the time to rank candidates, and disfavor those of us who don't have the inclination or time to rank candidates. | Is there evidence that ranked choice voting gives a better indication of who all voters want as their elected representative, as compared to traditional voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | No. Voting works well now; do not institute this, | Who would this benefit? And would it cost more because runoffs would be required? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | RCV is complicated to administer and confusing for voters. There's no problem with the current system. There's no need to introduce unneeded and unnecessary complexity into the voting system. Such an action could open the county to allegations of voter fraud or cast doubt on the outcome of local elections. Please stop this policy change. | It's a bad policy that should be rejected. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | It's a very complicated system that no one would understand. See the recent Alaska representative election, for example. We need to have more independents and Republicans on the board. This would only elect Democrats; Republicans would never stand a chance. Our family is against ranked-choice voting. | How are you going to explain the process to people? No matter what you do, the process will favor Democrats. NO to ranked-choice voting. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | This seems kind of sudden. | I don't understand how it works but from what I know it sounds confusing. How will people know what to do? Is this in conjunction with a district system of government in Arlington? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22205 | I am against RCV unless. What is more important and urgent is that the political representation system in Arlington is changed to proportional and regional. Having representatives districts and expanding the Board from 5 to at least 7 is far more urgent chasing the folly of "how" we vote. I wish the Board would focus at the more urgent matter at hand than chasing this dumb idea. | Nothing - stop wasting our time with this. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Absolutely not permissible. | Why consider it? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Why add complications to voting in a climate that election integrity is being questioned in large forums and there is a sense of distrust. As an election officer this will be hard to explain and will open up more questions from election monitors. | why is this necessary? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Historically, Americans have followed the "one person, one vote" mantra. Ranking dilutes that premise. You would get half and quarter votes. I subscribe to the idea. of "you pay your money, you take your choice." A voter makes a choice and should agree to the consequences. | What if there is a tie? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | No! It is a GD scam that needlessly complicates election results. What is your objective? Who benefits? Just concentrate on delivering services and lowering the rapacious taxes. | Why do this? Who benefits? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I do not want ranked-choice voting in Arlington elections | What justification does Arlington County have for using ranked-choice voting? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I suggest recent WSJ opinion piece about RCV in Alaska and the Heritage Foundation article about RCV be added to the record of Arlington Board discussions... | No | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22205 | <p>In the normal electoral process in the vast majority of states, there is a runoff election several weeks after a general election in which no candidate won a majority of the vote.</p> <p>It is true that some voters might not turn out for a runoff election that is held several weeks after the general election because their preferred candidate did not gather enough votes to be in the runoff. However, the added time window gives potential voters the opportunity to reexamine and reeducate themselves about the character and views on issues of the two candidates who received the largest pluralities in the general election. Voters have a greater opportunity to make an informed choice than with instant runoffs (i.e., ranked choice voting). Runoff elections guarantee that the winner of the runoff election has a genuine mandate from a majority of the voters—a crucial factor in a democratic system.</p> | <p>How does this accurately represent the wishes of the voters as they compare the positions of the candidates. Candidates who receive the least amount of votes clearly do not represent the position of the electorate. However the top vote getters do.</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | <p>Elections and politics aside, I encourage the Board to consider this change from a survey design and human psychology perspective. Please review the article written by an experienced survey developer at https://greatbrook.com/ranked-choice-voting-the-good-the-opaque-the-end-game/. While at first glance this appears to be a straightforward alternative to traditional voting, there are many opportunities for error and unintended consequences. The math alone involved with reallocation of votes significantly reduces transparency.</p> | <p>What is flawed in the existing election process that warrants making a change?</p> | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22205 | <p>There is no information provided to explain why this is being considered.</p> | <p>How is it better or worse than our current process? What are the implications for the Board race? I would like much more information on the rationale for making a change like this for Arlington specifically. What problem is this solving?</p> | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22205 | <p>I believe that voters may be skeptical of the results due to the multiple iterations that must occur before a "winner" is derived.</p> | <p>Confusion over how to vote and causing potential voters to just skip the process</p> | No | 2 - Unfavorable |

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| 22205 | I am a proponent of it, as it should provide for more diverse elected officials. | N/A | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am in favor of it | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | None | Would there be a limit to the number of "ranked" positions or would all candidates be ranked? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I support ranked-choice voting. Anything changes the "either/or" proposition is a good thing for the community. Ranking candidates helps voters contemplate a number of likely outcomes from their vote. In my view, it ultimately results in fairness because all votes are considered and no vote is wasted. It will also make the tone of the elections more positive. | Is there a cost associated with moving to ranked-choice voting? Does the country intend to provide 'training video' as part of the implementation to ensure everyone understands the new ballots? Will moving to ranked-choice voting increase voter participation? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting as an option | is it only applicable to local elections? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | There's a useful free app resource that can help citizens become more familiar with ranked choice vote. It's a useful tool for small-scale, low-stakes elections or votes. RCV123 is the name of the app. It's free to use. Here's the website: https://www.rcv123.org/ I work at Arlington Public Library; let me know if you're interested in doing public programs about it. jodlum@arlingtonva.us | I think it would be interesting to know whether people using ranked choice voting try to use it in a non-straightforward way. For example, would voters try to rank an undesirable candidate higher than they would personally prefer in order to knock out another undesirable candidate? If people use ranked choice the way it's intended, I think it makes a lot of sense. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am in favor. Must be implemented--and I think this is the plan--such that voters are not required to rank all candidates. That is, a voter can make just one choice if desired, rank top 2 of 4, etc. | How will the new method be explained to voters. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | It's a great idea especially when we have multiple seats to fill. | Will they use it for the general election too? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I like the fairness and sense of Ranked-choice voting; allowing voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference | I am not hearing objections to RCV that are making sense to me. Always open to hearing both sides. | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22205 | I support the Board's proposal to use RCV in next year's Board primary, This will be a good way for voters to learn how to use this new type of voting system, without fear of too big a change at one time. | I have uncertainty and qualms about how RCV would work if we move to having a larger Board, which some are recommending. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I support a change to implement ranked choice voting | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | Please implement ranked-choice voting as soon as possible. | Only why we don't have it already. It should be in place for national, state, and local elections. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I'm in favor of RCV | Do any rules/regs have to be changed to implement RCV in future elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support the use of ranked choice voting. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We need ranked choice voting. | Would people understand how it works | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think it's a good idea. It seems to have worked effectively, is efficient and takes into account more of the view of voters, who may have preferences across a series of candidates. | I have never understood, what happens when the two last place candidates are tied? How do their voters preferences get allocated moving forward. This is a definite possibility, given our sometimes small polls for primaries. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choicr voting is a net benefit for politics. It allows people to vote for candidates/3rd parties that more closely align with their political beliefs without feeling like they are throwing their vote away or "choosing the lesser of two evils". Competition is good for everyone, and ranked choice voting will increase competition in elections. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting produces candidates and representatives that are more acceptable to a larger percentage of the population. It helps bring the community together and should be used for all elections in Arlington. | None - it's great! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I fully support using ranked-choice voting in county elections and urge the Board to approve it. | None come to mind right now! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | YES on ranked choice. I wrote a paper and did an analysis on this in college in the late 80s and it is clearly the better way to gauge the position of the populace compared to plurality voting. While some people might try to determine if they can influence the outcome by not ranking all the candidates or just some of them, ranked choice is still clearly the superior approach. Not bad that you allowed for supporting materials to be sent, but I would certainly hope that someone has done a basic literature search on the subject. | How are you going to select winners after voting is complete? There are various ways to determine a winner(s) once the voters have done their ranking. One could assign points to each relative position and generate the outcome by tallying up who has the most points. Other alternatives involve a stepped elimination process. The ultimate goal should be to best represent the voters preferences. It is helpful to step through some simple examples and see how the outcome could change depending on the method used and again assess who is most representative. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It is a much much much better system. PLEASE ADOPT IT! | No. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am very much in favor of using ranked-choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | If this gives the Arlington taxpayer better and more choices for candidates I am all for it. The County Board is basically a politburo. | Will it gives taxpayers more choices regardless of party affiliation? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am supportive of this approach. I feel that ranked choice voting allows us to move beyond the binary choices that have resulted in winning candidates often being from one far side of the political spectrum or the other. | I do think we might find a way to avoid having a suitable number of candidates on the ballot. Max of 8? Minimum requirements that don't produce only 2! How might the County determine qualification for the ballot based on constituent support? For example would the number of signatures to put someone in the ballot change? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think it would be a very good idea to have ranked-choice voting. | I would like to know how and when it would be implemented | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked-choice voting would likely help to increase candidate diversity. | It would be important to educate the electorate about its benefits. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | It will be more representative of what the people want. | I don't have any questions at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support the use of RCV for County Board (and other) elections - both primary and general elections. I support "proportional RCV" and/or Final Four/Five RCV for primary elections - where all candidates, regardless of party designation, would be on the primary ballot - with the top 4/5 vote getters appearing on the Gen Election ballot. We must ensure that Arlingtonians are represented by officials who have the support of the "majority" of voters, rather than a plurality. | Are you considering Final 4/5 RCV for the primary elections? Are you considering RCV for general elections/ | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Yes. Let's do it! | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am a strong advocate for it because it will help diminish the polarization in our current politics. People will run on the issues and not the party. | I am concerned that the public will have to research the candidates and their platform versus voting a straight party ticket. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I prefer ranked choice voting because it allows more moderate candidates on the right and left to have a chance in elections. The extremism in candidates is needed to win primaries but I don't think it reflects the majority of citizens' views and that's what we're left with in the general election. I hope it is adopted widely. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support ranked choice voting, especially for School Board and County Board. I am a Democrat, but believe Arlington would benefit from a greater diversity of opinion among its elected leaders. The group think, and lack of transparency, over School Board spending in particular is harmful to the long-term sustainability of Arlington public schools. | None. I see how it has helped in other jurisdictions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I've used this system several times, the first being way back when Ted Kennedy visited the caucus held at Kenmore if my memory serves correctly. In my mind, this seems the fairest way to vote for the voters and for those running for office. | How does the software compute ranked choice? Are the results known as soon as all votes are tallied? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | <p>RCV is an urgent reform. It would improve interest in politics generally. In a typical D vs R election, it's usually too obvious to most voters which one they'll prefer. And of course a vote for anyone else is almost always wasted, so I hardly have to pay attention. In races with RCV (like recent local caucuses), I know that I can rank all of the candidates and my vote won't be wasted. So I have more of a reason to pay attention to the issues and to the candidates.</p> <p>With RCV in the general election, it's likely that more candidates would be on the ballot, and I can vote for my favorite because my vote won't be wasted. And it won't be obvious who is going to win. This would improve interest and engagement in local issues. So I think it would also improve turnout wherever it is used. Improving voter turnout in Arlington would give us a stronger voice in statewide elections even if we are only able to do this in our local elections for now.</p> | <p>RCV has already been proven effective. Voters like it. It would be good for democracy. It doesn't favor one party over another. We've had the ability to adopt it for a couple of years now, and the state has done some of the work to lower the costs of any municipality that adopts it. Why, then, are we starting so small, with the primaries only? RCV would make the most difference in the general election, especially in a two-seat year. After success in the pilot in 2023, will the county be prepared to move quickly so that it will be used in the general election in 2025?</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I support use of Ranked Choice Voting at the Board, County-wide, and State-Wide election levels. | How will Arlington educate residents about how they should approach this vote counting method and why it is a better method for counting votes? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly recommend allowing ranked choice voting in Arlington. I think it is the best way to ensure that, when there are three or more candidates, the election is won by a candidate who has received a majority of the votes. I also thinks it forces candidates to compromise and to seek more of a middle ground, as they are seeking second and third place votes, in addition to first. I think that this is incredibly important in such a divided era. | I would want to know the specific procedures used to count the votes and maintain an adequate audit trail. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am strongly in favor of adopting ranked choice voting. While it is slightly more complex and will slow down vote tallying, it more closely approximates voter preferences and reduces the extremism inherent in first-past-the-post voting systems. | I do not have any questions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I highly approve of RCV and would love to see it implemented in Arlington. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | This is a good idea and should be implemented. | None, this is a good idea for Arlington. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It is a great idea. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I'm cautiously optimistic that this will result in elections that truly reflect the will of the people. Explaining how it works is critical to gaining public acceptance. Also the major parties need to buy in, which may be a hard sell because it will likely result in one party losing its historically solid control of election outcomes. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am for ranked-choice voting | What happens in case of a tie? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think ranked choice voting is a great way to select a candidate who truly has the most popular support and avoid polarizing election results | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We need district representation, but ranked choice is better than no changes, and perhaps will encourage more candidates to challenge the Arl Dems stranglehold on elected office. | Voter education and outreach about the ranked choice system will be important | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Do it. | Just to make sure the count is tabulated by professionals in the elections office and transparent so there are no disputes. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I favor it | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Support move to ranked-choice voting! | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support ranked-choice voting (RCV). I believe that RCV will increase voter engagement and voter representation. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am strongly in favor of ranked-choice voting, it can help to increase the diversity of opinion of our elected leaders. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I support RCV. It's a way to make my vote count. It also, it seems to me, was a key factor in the Republicans winning the gubernatorial election last year; it helped the Republicans gain a candidate who was broadly attractive across the Commonwealth. It provides a transparency that is sorely lacking in behind-closed-door approaches. It also seems to me that it might promote more civil and less expensive (fewer attack ads) campaigns, since it chooses a candidate that is acceptable (enough) to (eventually) more than half the voters. | My understanding is this decision merely allows a party to use RCV to choose a candidate, if it so desires, correct? But a party does not have to hold a primary, and if it does hold a primary, it doesn't have to use RCV, correct? In addition, my understanding is that this decision does not include the option of having one multi-party primary, with candidates from all parties, to select the final candidates for the election, correct? If a party chooses to hold an RCV primary, I assume that, like now, I do not have to be a registered member of that party to vote in that primary (but can only vote in one primary!), correct? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We need RCV for general elections, not just primaries. Our current system creates the same electoral incentives for all 5 board members, namely do what's necessary to win a Democratic Primary. This doesn't create a representative government. We're a majority renter county, but we're governed by 5 homeowners. That's obscene, and RCV will lower barriers to elected office and make it easier for us to elect a truly representative county board, along with other recent recommendations from the TIGER Task Force. | No questions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I support Ranked Choice Voting. There are many benefits including reducing negative campaigning, encourages consensus building, streamlines the election process saving costs, reduces extremism. | How would the Board educate the electorate about the new system? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting promotes candidates who are responsive to a wider range of the population. We should use it for every election in ARLington! | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I think ranked-choice voting is very important for Arlington County to adopt. I feel it will allow us to vote on candidates based on the issues that are most important to each Arlingtonian locally - instead of focusing on party affiliation. I believe it will increase the diversity of our elected officials and let Arlingtonians voices be heard. | I would wonder how it would be implemented and how the voting public will be educated about how to vote in a ranked-choice election - I would think it is important to make it easy, clear and spread the work across the entire county. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting makes for fairer elections that better capture the public will. I hope the county board will implement RCV as soon as possible. | No questions, other than how soon can we get this done? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support adoption of Ranked Choice Voting for Arlington County Board candidates and I hope the Board will consider expanding this method to additional county elections. | The only question I have is how quickly it can be implemented. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly urge the Board to adopt ranked choice voting (RCV). In our polarized society, with a two party system, voters often feel that their vote hasn't counted. With RCV voters are more likely to see their votes as mattering and it would encourage more candidates to compete for more votes. This is particularly true with an electorate like Arlington's where there is such a lopsided one party majority. Voters of the other party know that their vote doesn't matter. With RCV it would encourage more candidates competing for more votes. We would have less polarization and more moderate candidates. Ranked choice voting is being tried in the US. Maine uses RCV in federal elections. San Francisco, Minneapolis, Saint Paul and Santa Fe have also adopted RCV as will Alaska in the coming 2022 elections. Australia has used RCV since its founding in 1904 and other countries us multi-winner RCV (Ireland, Malta and Australia in the Senate), producing less polarization and more moderate candidates. | As with most major changes No such as this, the devil is in the details. Arlington should appoint an independent task force of no more than three and thoroughly research the systems currently in use in various cities and states in the US. Some questions to consider are (i) how can we foster and encourage the development of a multi-party system? (ii) do we want to use multi-winner RCV and perhaps the top winners make up the Board?. (iii) do we need to examine and perhaps change how we implement fund raising with an RCV system? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think rank choice voting is excellent. We should be doing it in all of our elections especially primaries | When there are multiple candidates if the second choice for an eliminated candidate is already above the threshold does the vote go to the third choice candidate | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I'm very supportive of ranked choice voting and believe it has the potential to result in even more broadly representative elected officials. When having three or more candidates, ranked choice voting would result in a winner representing a true majority of the electorate rather than a plurality. This could allow true consideration of three or four candidates while reducing the likelihood of success by an extreme candidate representing only a minority of the electorate. | In discussing ranked choice voting, I've found others unfamiliar with the concept and confused by how it would work. While very worthwhile, it will need a major effort to inform and educate the electorate. This needs extra care in our current polarized political environment. If implemented well, local efforts could serve as an example for later state and national elections. To help educate kids (and indirectly their parents), could ranked choice voting be introduced in APS K-12 student elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I believe Ranked Choice Voting is important to implement in order to improve election fairness, better represent voter preferences, and discourage negative campaigning. It's a system that is more responsive to voters and can help mitigate polarization. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It was exciting in early 2020 when the General Assembly passed a bill allowing Arlington to nominate AND elect board members by RCV, and another bill allowing all local governing bodies to do so. I thought it made a lot of sense for Arlington to be a trail-blazer for this essential non-partisan pro-democracy reform. Now there's no reason to wait. Why do it only in primaries? It's more meaningful in general elections. RCV is already proven to be successful elsewhere. It would be even more helpful in a year when two seats are open. | What are we waiting for? Why only primaries? The state board of elections has already promulgated regulations for how to do it. Alaska and Maine are doing it for federal elections! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think we should give ranked choice voting a try. I'm hoping it will give us candidates that will represent the views of more voters that are seeking to find common ground on issues. | How has ranked choice voting worked in other jurisdictions? Does it help increase voter turnout.? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I like RCV because sometimes if one is ambivalent about the candidates (no stellar standout), ranking them makes sense. With the proposal allowing for prioritizing as many candidates as one like, this serves the voters when there's a standout, and when there's not. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I urge the Board to consider ranked-choice voting as an important means of preserving and defending the civility and common sense that has defined Arlington and given the County its reputation as a safe, well-run community in which we can live and work. As you know, in this era where a vocal minority can hijack a populace with extremist views (on either side of the political spectrum), ranked-choice voting works to moderate extremism and promote consensus, compromise, and coalition-building. I view this as an important safeguard in preserving civility and even the physical safety of those of us who live here. | I would like to see your implementation process, a timeline, and real-life case studies from other jurisdictions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting is hugely important and one of the best democratic reforms that can be made to ensure that elections truly reflect the will of the electorate. | None, Please implement this | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We should adopt it, post haste. Let the voters decide who they want without fear of their vote "not counting". It's rational. It's party neutral. It's the smart thing. Do it. | My only question is how soon can it be implemented, and not just for primaries. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support ranked choice voting. It works well elsewhere and appears to encourage improved political dialogue and reduced polarization. | I suggest surveying best practices elsewhere and building upon them. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | A good idea. Politics are too polarized. | I like the results where it is being used. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Yes please! | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Please consider it. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It helps indicate the candidate with the strongest support and eliminates second-round voting. | Who would decide to move to ranked-choice voting? Would there be training on how it works? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | <p>I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting." RCV means winners with closer to majority support. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. GO FOR IT! Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!!</p> | <p>What type of ballot is being used? There are many versions and that matters! Talk to FairVote and do your research!</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | <p>I think ranked choice voting is a great idea and should be implemented in Arlington.</p> | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | <p>I feel ranked-choice voting is a tool that allows nuances of voter choice to shine through, and can help mitigate the harm that gerrymandering has done to squelch voter power.</p> | None, at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

22206

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
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| 22206 | While "ranked choice" voting has a role in crowded partisan primary elections, they are likely unconstitutional in general elections. They afford minor- or independent-voters more than one vote in a general election, contrary to our nation's one-person-one-vote principle. Citizens who vote outside the two-party system should be satisfied with their choices, and not allowed a second or third vote. Frankly, based on experiences in Maine and most recently, Alaska, it is VERY CONFUSING for many if not most voters. That should be reason enough to reject it. | The immense expense of reorienting machines to accommodate ranked-choice voting needs to be thoroughly explored. There is a strong chance it will require a return to paper ballots, and the cost associated with that. I have written extensively about ranked-choice voting and my views are contained here: https://kellyjohnston.substack.com/p/ranked-choice-voting-a-serious-look | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I am staunchly opposed to ranked choice voting. | Is the old system that bad? Seems fine. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | As an attorney who works in election law, I have engaged in much research on Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV). RCV is a flawed election system that seeks to increase voter turnout at the expense of voters who seek to vote for only one candidate. There are countless issues with RCV, but most important to address is how it allows a candidate who comes in second place after the first round to ultimately prevail in the second and third round of tabulating. Voters who only vote for one candidate are disenfranchised if their candidate receives the least amount of votes, for they will not participate in the second or third rounds. This forces voters to vote for candidates they don't like in order to have their vote count rather than being able to just elect one. Voter confidence is undermined by RCV's shaky results. It is not a method Arlington should consider implementing, and the Board would be wise to keep the status quo. | Why does the Board believe this method is needed? Has the Board examined the large expense of funds it would cost the county to educate the electorate on the new method? Is the Board ready to deal with the fallout of voter confidence if a candidate that gets the most in round one ends up losing in rounds two or three? Does the Board know that most jurisdictions that implement RCV end up repealing it in subsequent years? Does the Board know that voters who desire to vote for only one candidate can be disenfranchised? Who on the Board believes that civic engagement in Arlington would actually increase with RCV? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | Voting in Arlington County has always been simple and straight forward. There is no need to change the County's way of voting. | NA | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I dislike ranked choice voting. It goes against democracy and the one person one vote principle. | It should not be implemented without first putting it to Arlington voters. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I have read several articles about ranked choice voting and I for one find it quite confusing. The results can be so counter-intuitive I think it will shock many voters. | Every ballot should include a complete explanation of the tally method used. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I do not like this voting method. It may confuse voters and be completed incorrectly. | Why are you considering this method? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | No to RCV. | Why is it necessary? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22206 | I am very against ranking voting. It forces me to vote for people I would not vote for in order to keep my overall vote from being thrown away. If my primary choice is not picked, I then may end up having my vote counted for a person that I do not think is the best candidate and would not have voted for. The one person one vote situation we currently have is the one that most aligns with our democratic principles. Please do not change it. Thank you. | What is the benefit of changing to ranked No voting? Who suggested this? Why exactly is the county considering this? Does the fact I have not voted in a ranked voting before negatively affect my comments? I have read about and researched the matter and come to my opinion based off careful consideration, so I do not think any past experience, or lack thereof, with this kind of voting should matter. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I think it complicates the tabulation and vote counting, which could risk election results being challenged and the public not understanding and/or not trusting the results. | How does the potential benefit from this system measure against the risks of loss of public trust in the election process since the process is more complicated and difficult to understand. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22206 | Let's give it a try. | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it would be a good idea to try. I'm not sure it would make much difference in County Board races, but it could result in a wider variety of candidates running. | Why not also for school board? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | As I understand it, I am in favor of ranked choice voting. | None at this time. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it would be good to test ranked-choice voting | I think I understand how it works, but a lot of people may be confused. How will the results be reported; will that include how many or % of votes from the lower-ranked choices were distributed to which higher-ranked choices? For this method to be accepted by voters, transparency about the process and outcomes will be essential. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I'm familiar with RCV from our Arlington County Democratic endorsement caucuses, which have seemed to work well. Also, due to my close familiarity with Alaska politics thru my clients' business, I'm familiar how it's worked in Alaska, which just resulted in a moderate Democrat winning the US House seat and first Democrat in that seat in 50 years, instead of Trump-endorsed Sarah Palin (ugh) who would have won under the state's former traditional closed primary. Also, it will save moderate Sen. Murkowski from her Trump-endorsed opponent. That alone is all I need to know. | None. If they can successfully implement RCV statewide in far-flung Alaska, as well as New York City, it can be EASILY implemented in Arlington. It's not rocket science. | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | Would this be available for other county office primaries such as school board? | As long as the process is clearly explained to voters through several methods before election and at polling locations, I have no issues. I think it is an interesting step. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | While I support RCV in principle, I don't think it's the most important election-related reform the County Board should be focused on. I think more good can be done by either expanding the number of County Board seats, eliminating at-large districts, or both. | If ranked-choice voting is used in the June primary, is it possible to also implement for the November general election? Have the Arlington Democratic and Republican parties endorsed use of RCV? Do they have a say in the decision? | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22206 | I support the idea for the county to do ranked-choice voting. | n/a | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | Support this as an economical approach. | No comments | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I support ranked choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it is great! I've been previously unwilling to "throw away" my vote by voting for someone who may not get selected for the top tier positions, but I think that rank choice voting would allow me to express my genuine voting wishes without worrying about throwing away my vote. | I would want extreme transparency on how the results were determined, alternative scenarios for counting, etc. Since people are unfamiliar with it, it probably will need a lot more explanation and the best way for that is transparency. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I absolutely agree with ranked choice voting for Arlington | No additional questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | In general, me and my family support ranked-choice voting. For Arlington, for the foreseeable future, it wouldn't have any affect on winners and losers, but, it could save the county money not having to conduct instant run off elections. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I support the idea in principle. | Would ranked choice be employed if two or more seats are open? I don't understand how that would work, so I'm not sure I'd support ranked choice in that situation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I strongly support ranked-choice voting. | None at this time | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Any kind of RCV is better than what we have now. I like Condorcet but I recognize that IRV is currently ascendant. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked Choice Voting *should* be instituted for ALL elections local, state, AND federal. Comedian Hasan Minhaj (formerly of The Daily Show) did a segment about Ranked Choice Voting on his own show Patriot Act that explains it quite simply. The best part is that it doesn't require Congressional action to implement. Since voting is left to the States, it just requires a local law. https://youtu.be/MykMQfmLIro | All local decision makers and voters should watch Hasan Minhaj discuss Ranked Choice Voting. https://youtu.be/MykMQfmLIro | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I support it. Listen to the Radlolab podcast episode about ranked choice voting called Tweak the Vote. | No questions, but suggest moving forward quickly. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Thank you to the County Board for considering a new way of voting in Arlington. I am enthusiastically in support of ranked-choice voting. I think it better represents the diversity of opinion throughout our great county. I urge you to allow it. I also think at a time of rising frustration and division over missing middle, it would show flexibility on the Board's part. I do think there will be a powerful backlash against the Board if the multifamily housing is allowed where only single family homes are today. Most people in Arlington who actually care about missing middle are strongly against it, not for it. This is the Board's creation. It would be a severe mistake. And the people who the Board thinks it's helping will barely care. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22206 | I like the idea of being able to express multiple preferences in order. Otherwise, I have found myself trying to assess what the will of the entire electorate is, and supporting a candidate who I think will be electable, even if s/he was not my first choice. | for the Arlington county Board primary, will there be one primary for all candidates, or separate primaries by party? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I've always been in favor of RCV. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea - the "winner take all" system currently in place encourages unnecessary partisanship, whereas ranked choice would allow for a greater representation of voter opinions. | This system will be new and unfamiliar to many voters - how would the county ensure voters are prepared for the new ballot style? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I am in favor | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I am totally in favor of ranked choice voting for Arlington County Board, for use in June primaries and November general elections. It makes so much sense. It eliminates voters trying to game the system rather than just being straightforward in voting for several choices in priority order. It would encourage candidates to be less extreme in their views and rhetoric, and less negative in political ads, and would instead encourage them to try to attract the largest number of voters, including moderate or undecided voters, who might vote for them as either a first or second choice. I especially like that the RCV system creates an efficient automatic "runoff" if no one wins a majority on the first count. That's SO much better than asking voters to show up for a second round of voting. | Of course RCV will only work if voters trust the county government to run a fair electoral system, but that's probably just an issue of transparency and communication with the public regarding the results of each step in the new RCV process of counting the votes. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked choice voting is a great move, and we should use it in every election we can. | Can we implement sooner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Highly in favor of exploring this option and implementing it for future elections. | How would the county ensure fair exposure for all candidates? What restrictions would be imposed to negate perceived favoritism towards a certain candidate? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked Choice voting I believe is the best method to ensure that candidates are selected by a true majority of voters. Often voters feel compelled to vote for candidates in dominant parties because they feel like their vote will be wasted if they vote for a smaller party, and in large fields multiple similar candidates can split the vote while a fringe candidate may win a plurality, but would have lost with ranked choice voting. | Ranked Choice voting should be implemented carefully with significant education opportunities for voters, doing simulated votes to ensure that votes can be processed in a timely manner and implementing the system first in some smaller elections (like primaries) before implementing for general elections. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it is a good idea especially with all the polarized politics going on. For primaries and elections. | Very clear instructions please | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Recommend its adoption | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Sounds great to me! | I want transparency. Just explain what is going on, because it is more complicated. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Yes, I think RCV is a good idea as it will allow people to vote for who they really believe in + a backup, instead of voting strategically by default. It will take some adjustment and education, but it is a step in the right direction. | no questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22206 | From everything we have read about the ranked choice voting process, it sounds like a good thing. | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I'm for it! | N/A | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I agree with ranked choice. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think ranked choice voting will encourage more participation by voters and by qualified candidates | How will officials Ensure its well explained | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | In favor | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I appreciate the Board seeking to innovate in the area of electoral mechanics. Political polarization is a big problem across the country, but electoral improvements like RCV should be able to help reduce polarization by spreading the range of voter preferences and thus reducing the high stakes pressure associated with winner take all, first past the post plurality elections. Thanks for trying this out. If it doesn't work as well as we think it will, we can always revert back to traditional electoral voting. | How will you educate the voting public about RCV? This will be important since it's a new process. Also, can someone win an election if they were only the second ranked candidate on lots of ballots but almost never the first ranked candidate? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | RCV is a proven solution tin other countries that removes the stress of "I have to vote this way or my vote doesn't count" and genuinely makes those in office more representative of the populace. | I've looked at other options in the past and don't have any questions beyond, "how fast can this happen?" | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | An effective way to limit party influence and gives individuals a richer chance to express their interest, versus "either/or" | No questions. Clearly more democratic and less party-based. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | First-past-the-post necessarily leads to reduced options and more extreme outcomes. Ranked Choice is a tried and true approach to mitigating those issues. | How soon can we get started? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think ranked choice voting is a fantastic idea, and I would love to see it implemented. I believe it would lead to more accurate representation of the community because people would have the confidence to vote for they're ideal candidate knowing that even if that candidate doesn't win, their vote will still count towards their second choice. | My only question / concern is that the process is accurately and fully explained so people understand the benefits of this type of voting. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | It's a little like pin the tail on the donkey. Nobody knows how it will turn out. That's no way to run a county. | Why change? Arlington has done well over the decades. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Why are we even thinking about something like this? This is not the Democratic way. | Why are you considering this change? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Terrible idea | Terrible idea | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I'm against it. | Traditional voting is the gold standard. No need to manipulate votes via a computer program that is vulnerable to malfeasance and hard to check up on the votes. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | See no requirements for a change in voting system. | Adds confusion to many voters without improved results. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | This option is unnecessary. There's no obvious benefit. It favors the majority party only. | How does it benefit the electorate? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Don't like. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Do NOT do it. Causes too much confusion and calls into question the legitimacy of the so-called winner. | What's the point? We only have candidates from the Democratic Party from which to choose. What happened to diversity? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I think that this is a ridiculous idea. In my opinion, it means my vote does not count. Why is this even on the table? | Why would you want to eliminate one person, one vote? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I think that the winner of the primary will end up being either an incumbent or the candidate selected by the leadership of the political party. Ranked choice will probably result in fewer candidates vying for the board, resulting in less choice rather than more choice. | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Ranked voting will not improve representation of different viewpoints among Arlingtonians. The all-at-large seats on the Board consistently leave out concerns and views in different areas of the County. We need seats to be allocated by areas. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I realize ranked choice is the flavor of the month but do not understand how it solves any problem Arlington may have in electing officials. Candidates routinely win by 60%+ in every precinct. I can't remember when a run off was required here. | Why is this being considered and appropriate for Arlington? What is the huge defect in the current process given races are rarely close. It offers more confusion than clarity in voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Ranked choice voting is a bad idea. Ranked-choice voting makes the common good inferior to each person's private first choice. The common good of Arlington county will likely gets ranked second choice or below for each citizen. It is sometimes thought that the sole purpose of an election is to make government accountable to the people and representative of their will. A fault of ranked-choice voting is that it aims to perfect this idea by offering some success to as many shades of opinion as possible. But another, greater purpose for elections was intended by the Constitution's framers: to find competent public officials. | The voters should get not only what they want, like consumers, but also what is good for them as citizens. Competency among those elected is never assured, but it will stand a better chance when voters are selecting the candidate who is best for the job as well as the one most representative of their will. Ranked-choice voting may bring competency along with accuracy, but accuracy is all that is asked for. Competency ought to include the ability to unite the country in a majority, not just to make pleasing speeches to the voters known as the base. Ranked-choice voting rewards extremism in the electorate. Voters who make extreme choices should be punished via exclusion from the majority. Ranked-choice voting rescues them from the penalty they deserve for throwing away their ballot on an extreme first choice. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22207 | This is a bad idea. Stick with the tried and true methodology of electing or officials. It's worked for hundreds of years. Ranked choice creates the opportunity for a candidate to win that did not have the vote of the most voters. There is a way to game the system and it will happen to the displeasure of voters. | Nothing else to B add. It's a bad idea. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | This is too confusing for a lot of people and it can take weeks to figure out an election winner as seen in other jurisdictions that have implemented it. It's unnecessary and just trendy. | Why would this have any benefits for the people of Arlington County? If there are benefits how do they outweigh the confusing system and slow vote counting that could undermine faith in the election system? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | This is equally as stupid of an idea as was the gift to developers and the county coffers (read corrupt county board) as the missing middle and multi family housing Idea. Arlington County Board Members should be ashamed of their blatant disregard for the electorate and their wholesale pursuit of special interests and personal gain. | None. It is a sham. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | No - absolutely do not accept ranked Choice Voting | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I am not in favor of this type of voting. | I am concerned that there would be a very large number of possible candidates listed on the voting ballot. How could this be restricted? Too many candidates to choose from makes this a very difficult way to have sufficient knowledge about individual candidates to make an informed choice when ranking all candidates. Will the number of candidates that all voters rank be limited to the top 3 or 4? Even this number may be difficult to fairly rank. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | None | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Bad idea. | Why are you interfering with a system that has worked well for over two centuries? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Do not like it. Looking at where is has been used, it puts the minority party at a greater disadvantage. Example, CB race, majority party runs several candidates ensuring no majority on first vote, then each further step likely dilutes minority party candidate's votes. | Why????? Better change would be to have CB members from districts with maybe one county-wide. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Please do not do this as it creates opacity for voters | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I am against it. The current system works so why mess with it? | I don't trust most of the members of the current Board because they are more interested in over-crowding the County than in creating a great community. The fact that the Board is bringing this up makes me suspicious. And NO, I am not a Republican, although I suspect Board Members Kristol, Dorsey, and Ferranti have Republican tendencies. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | No to ranked choice voting | Why the change to something that will be confusing? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Definitely not necessary. No reason to change current voting system. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22207 | See the attached file for an explanation. Key Points: 1. Ranked choice voting is a scheme to disconnect elections from issues and allow candidates with marginal support from voters to win. 2. It obscures true debates and issue-driven dialogs among candidates and eliminates genuine binary choices between two top-tier candidates. 3. It disenfranchises voters, because ballots that do not include the two ultimate finalists are cast aside to manufacture a faux majority for the winner. | How will you audit this and make it transparent to citizens? We certainly do not need increased manipulation of votes using non-transparent voting machines and proprietary software. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | While it is technically constitutional, it often allows the election of no one's top choice. I am against it. | Will the county revisit it if the voters do not end up liking it? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I do not like ranked choice. If I choose to vote for a candidate who is eliminated I want the opportunity to choose where my vote goes in the next round. More information about a particular candidate might become available following the initial election date that would change my mind. Also bad weather on election day may vary the outcome, I'd like to see maximum voter participation. | None, I believe I understand it. It seems to solve an Arlington democrat unique problem to save money for a second election if necessary. I don't care for this shortcut | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Oppose. Dumb idea. | In an election I choose to support or oppose a candidate generally. However, I may decide to not support any candidate. I don't want to have a voting system where another system where another method is used to determine the winner(s). | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Few know RCV, it will require an extensive educational campaign and other changes that cost money. There are no obvious benefits to the RCV system based on empirical studies conducted on cities and states using RCV. Tax funds can be put to better use than for a new voting system. | Cost of converting to a new voting system and impact on Arlington resident taxes. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I was initially supportive of the idea, but am persuaded by available research that the confusion it contributes to the voting process, and the non-intuitive and potentially paradoxical effects of different ranked-choice voting strategies (https://alaskapolicyforum.org/2020/10/failed-experiment-rcv/) means that it is very likely to cause more problems than it solves (if any). There are simpler approaches that may do a better job achieving some of these ends - e.g. multi-member districts - that are worth exploring first. | See prior comments | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I'd rather see an election of multiple candidates reduced to just two then have voters return to the polls a month later to vote on one. | I don't think citizens know enough about all the candidates for ranked-choice voting. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | The one thing the County does well is run elections. Don't mess with success. | Is there any reason to do this? The Board has become a pawn for outside interests (Amazon, Missing Middle scam developers, etc) so this makes me question why the Board would even explore this. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I don't support Ranked Choice Voting | With RCV it's no longer really one person one vote. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |

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| 22207 | RCV sounds good in practice, but voter turn-out will be way down for a separate run-off election. We already have way too many election days and elections should not be decided by a very small percentage of the electorate. | How would you do the run-off election in a way that will allow for high voter turnout? Will you have the vote on a weekend? I would not want another canceled school day for a run-off election. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Why can't we just divide Arlington into 5 districts and vote by district? | Still confused that only the second-place votes of those whose candidates are eliminated are counted in the second round. Shouldn't everyone's second-place votes count? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | Glad we are doing this for a primary in 2023. I hope the Board does a survey after that ranked choice primary. Perhaps ranked choice voting should be decided by the voters in November 2023 or later. | None | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | Hard to figure out the ramifications from the description given. | How well has this worked in other jurisdictions? However "well" is defined . . . | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | As long as I can continually rank my first choice, for my second, third, etc. choices, then I am ok with ranked-choice voting. If my second choice has to be something other than my first choice, then I am not ok with ranked-choice voting. | see above | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | Go for it! | Provide a very thorough explanation so that every voter understands its implications. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I attended the Committee of 100 event with the TIGER team of the civic associations n RCV, district voting, and the status quo in Arlington. Either RCV or district voting would be preferable to the current at-large system. The data and analysis the TIGER team presented were convincing in terms of making the Board more representative and accountable to diverse stakeholders throughout Arlington. | What is the plan for voter education? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting for the county board. | No questions now. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | x | x | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I've heard some of the discussions and it sounds as though it has advantages, especially where there are substantial differences between and among candidates of a party. | Would like to see pros and cons from several jurisdictions where it has been used, after the Nov. elections so that some analysis can report on how it might have made a difference in outcomes. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | Before instituting ranked-choice voting, it is imperative for the voting public to have a full understanding of how it works - both the act of voting itself and the counting. Voting systems can be complicated, e.g., the proportional representation used for municipal elections in Cambridge, Massachusetts. It is also important to state the objective, as there are different schools of thought on how progressive it is. | What elections are contemplated for ranked-choice? What type of civic education is contemplated? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it's a method that is worth trying. The Board can evaluate the effectiveness after the next election. | none | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it would encourage more people to run and would possibly eliminate one party rule in Arlington. | How will ranked-choice voting impact the cost of elections? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | Although campaign literature advises potential voters of political party affiliation of the candidates, I would prefer that information on political party affiliation be left off of the ballot. | If a voter's preferred candidate is omitted from consideration early in the process, would there be a way of expressing dissatisfaction with all remaining candidates? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | It allows for a more nuanced result | None | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22207 | I think RCV should be applied to a single non-partisan primary. I encourage you to review the operation of the Alaskan system and consider the improvements offered in a Nov 1, 2022 opinion piece in the Washington Post about RCV by Drs. Foley and Maskin. I think our current system encourages candidates to appeal to the activist base in each party rather than being responsive to the broader electorate, and leaves too many feeling that the candidate choices available to them in the general election are unrepresentative of their views. | How would the Board address the challenge of helping citizens understand the mechanics and the fairness of such a new system? How would a nonpartisan primary be implemented? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I favor ranked-choice voting. I believe it allows more diversity and encourages more candidates to run for election. | How will the County educate the public regarding this type of voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Yes, please implement RCV. | Please provide detail on how the process will work. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Favor | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am strongly in favor. Ranked-choice voting reduces the 0-sum nature of elections and also creates more civil political campaigns. | Ranked-choice voting is not intuitively simple to understand, so any move in that direction MUST be accompanied by an aggressive PR/education effort -- starting in high school as kids approach age 18. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I'm all in favor of ranked-choice voting. I think it will require candidates to focus on the desires of the majority of all voters no matter their party affiliation. | Will there still be primaries that are segregated by political party? Will there be any primaries at all? Will there be primaries under certain conditions? For example, if there are a large number of candidates (let's say 15), then would there be a "primary" to narrow the field to a smaller number (say, 5)? Can we assume that all candidates for an office--no matter their party affiliation or no party affiliation--will be listed together on the same ballot? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Strongly favor it for both primary and general elections. | Should be simple to implement. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Yes! | None! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Preferable to plurality voting as it provides voters the opportunity to rank candidates and more fully express their preferences. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am a strong advocate for ranked choice voting. It will help diminish polarization in our current politics and allow for more diversity in choices of candidates. I am working with UpVoteVA to help make this a reality throughout Virginia. While critics argue the process may be confusing and delay vote tallies, elections such as the recent one in Alaska show that not to be the case. While it may take some time to adapt in some instances, it will be a benefit to all in the long one, and one of the few tools we have at our disposal to bring people together and lessen the polarizing identification with political parties. I am a strong Democrat but a moderate who wants to see change in how we conduct ourselves and - hopefully - a return to some civility in the political arena. Thank you for listening. | I have no questions. Ranked Choice Voting will revolutionize American politics and I support it wholeheartedly. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting. | I have no questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Great idea! | Long term would this type of approach begin to cut down on partisan politics? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | The County should absolutely move to top-five open primaries leading to a general election with ranked-choice voting. Additionally, we should move to the proportional representation form of ranked-choice voting or institute multi-member districts to allow for better representation of Arlington's diversity and lower the threshold for third parties to get at least some representation in government. I believe giving voters more choice in elections would be good for our local democracy, and also set an example that higher levels of government could follow. | What changes would be needed to state law to implement top-five open primaries and ranked-choice voting in the general election? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | For me, living and voting in Australia with a ranked-choice voting system was straightforward and elected candidates fairly. Ranked choice voting is very popular in localities in the United States where it has recently been implemented. | How can we ensure ranked-choice voting lowers thresholds for third-party and independent candidates who wish to run for office? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | RCV empowers people to vote with their heart with their first choice, and perhaps with their head for their 2nd choice. Over the long term, it will encourage more people to run for office and more choices at the polls. Also, Arlington is a leader. RCV is a promising reform and Arlington should help introduce it to America. | Critics who say it's hard to use are always talking about some other hypothetical person. They never say it's hard for them - because the fact is America ranks everything and using RCV is easy. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Absolutely yes. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This seems like a good idea. | My only question is: Why is this field required? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support implementing ranked choice voting for primaries and elections. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think its absolutely the way to go. It makes sure everyone's preferences count to the very last candidate. And I think it helps eliminate extreme candidates. | Have none. Witness Alaska's very successful implementation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think this is the way to go. The people are heard in ranked-choice elections | How will you protect the system from someone coming along and allegations of "fraud"? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Yes! RCV is a great way to get candidates to move toward the middle and counter the winner-take-all extremism that infects too much of our current political landscape. Arlington could be a leader in convincing other jurisdictions to adopt this approach. | How would the county educate voters unfamiliar with with process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think that ranked choice voting assures the greatest democratic expression assuring that everyone's vote counts thus, hopefully, enhancing participation. | Not sure | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Strongly support wide use of RCV. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I like it! Let's be part of the change that the country and state need to reform our divided and decisive political system. | I would like to see posters showing how it works. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am highly in favor for all the reasons that are known. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support RCV as a way to broaden the diversity of voices in our election and to enhance civility. | Does Virginia law allow RCV to be done such that it can be combined with final five voting? In other words, I prefer a system like Alaska's where there's a first round of non-partisan voting where the top five vote-getters go on to compete in the RCV round. I'm not sure whether Virginia law allows for that, however. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I would love to see great competition and feel that ranked choice voting would support that | The specifics of how the votes would be calculated | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support this! | N/A | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Support rank-choice voting for primaries and general elections | Ensure instructions are clear and printed at every voting location | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I favor it. | I don't have any questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Totally support it! | Is it possible to expand ranked choice voting to other levels of elections in the future? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I much prefer ranked choice voting over current plurality voting. | Who and how will validate the software that will process ranked voting results? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am strongly in favor of ranked choice voting. It is an excellent method for allowing the will of the people to shine through. Please proceed. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I love it - we should implement rank voting. | I feel pretty comfortable about my base of knowledge about rank order voting. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Determines the candidate with the strongest support Encourages civil campaigning Reduces wasted votes Eliminates the need for multiple elections | How quickly can it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support Ranked Choice Voting for civility and saving cost. | My concern is about election-deniers and those stirring mistrust of the democratic election process in the U.S. For support and information, please see: https://www.rcvresources.org/ | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think that Arlington should adopt Ranked Choice Voting. It is the best way to allow voters to have meaningful choices with a system that is less partisan and more about the actual candidates. It provides a system that raises voters choices with less influence of money in politics and eliminates influence from outside the state. It's the most fair process where elections are not determined in the primary but through the general election. | When would it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support ranked choice voting. I think it's the fairest way to conduct an election with more than two candidates. | Will you be disclosing the how the results were calculated, or just the winner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Please adopt ranked-choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This seems like a good thing to try. It seems like it might find the candidate with the most support from the community, even if that person is someone's second choice. | How will you get the voters of Arlington to come out and vote? I know that some local elections do not attract a large amount of voters. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I'm all for ranked-choice voting. It avoids two strong candidates losing to a third less popular candidate. It also negates having run-off elections and thus saves the cost and inconvenience. Candidates are also more likely to be more civil in campaigning. | Educating the voting public and creating a clear ballot would be key to getting general acceptance of the process. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked-choice voting should be a Democratic Party top priority throughout the country. | Can it be done transparently by computer? If not, it would take a very long time to count, recount, contest, recount. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Implement as soon as possible | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I would support ranked-choice voting. | N/A | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This is long overdue. Please get this in place. | Could it be implemented in primaries? Will this only be for Arlington elections? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | What are we waiting for? It is hugely rewarding to be able to vote your conscience/passion without feeling like your vote will count for nothing, if you favor someone more fringe or less likely to win. I think it will be a boost for diverse candidates-- diverse demographics and diverse ideas. For the good. | What is the plan to teach and train about it | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Support | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | It's a great idea! | None right now. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I believe this is long overdue and that it should be expanded to all elections. | What has it taken this long to use a common sense voting method? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea and will allow voters to better choose candidates. It has already been used successfully in other parts of the country, and should be implemented in Arlington. | I would want the County Board to provide a draft plan with specifics for everyone to comment on before implementation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support Ranked Choice Voting as a means of reducing the likelihood that extremist candidates whom most of the electorate do not support will prevail. | How much longer after the polls close would it take to announce a winner with ranked choice voting as compared to using traditional methods of determining the winner? I support adoption of RCV in any event, but am curious if there would be a delay in announcing the outcome. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am for ranked-choice voting | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked Choice voting is absolutely the best direction to go. Not only does it allow broader representation of the public's political views, it allows a more truthful image of the full spectrum of voters. It can only increase voter interest and participation, and those are both vital to a democratic society. | Is Arlington prepared to address changes to the voting infrastructure to implement it? Is Arlington prepared to provide voter education material both before and during the election cycles so that the voting public understands how to vote in a RCV poll and what their vote means. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I like the idea that it can prod candidates to avoid extremist views in special elections. | It should be done gradually to increase confidence. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This is at the top of my low hanging fruit to help address our broken voting and democratic process. This allows people to vote their heart and still feel their vote means something by having rank choices. It works most recently in New York City and in Alaska. I think it helps give more power to moderate voters versus those at either extreme of the political spectrum who vote during primaries and candidates pander to them. In Arlington a lot of people don't feel their vote matters because the domination of democratic candidates. But at least if there was an array of Democratic candidates that would be helpful. I think it invites more people to run for office with possibly more diversity. | I have no further comments. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked choice voting is far more fair and democratic than the current system, which can easily be manipulated to advance political parties rather than the public will. | If you are against it, why? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it is a great idea. | How would the county ensure that the electorate understands the process? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Great idea! Eliminates the extremes -- finds the consensus our society dearly needs. | No quesitons. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Hi. I strong endorse rank choice voting. It works well elsewhere and is a qualitative improvement. HOWEVER, I REALLY WANT TO SEE ARLINGTON ADOPT PROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION FOR FUTURE ELECTIONS. HERE IS A LINE TO INFORMATION: https://medium.com/@scholars-redistricting-reform/open-letter-to-congress-to-end-single-member-congressional-districts-and-adopt-proportional-97ad1cf6aa2e . Thank you. | Thank you for creating this initiative. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I like the concept. I believe ranked choice voting could make an election less about one person's strengths and weaknesses and more about voters' preferences among the candidates. The current "winner takes all" method of voting pits one candidate against another and leads candidates to exaggerate negative qualities in their opponents when campaigning which is very destructive. | How many positions would we be voting for No during a ranked choice vote for County Board? Would the candidates be presented on the ballot without regard to their political party affiliation? | | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I agree that this is the best way to elect the people we want to serve Arlington County. This method should have been implemented before . | What and who is holding up the process of implementation? Why? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Please. | There are various iterations world-wide. Am I correct in assuming we would implement what seems to work in several US states? Perhaps that requires more voter research, county explanation?? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support ranked-choice voting because it more accurately captures public sentiment. | I would love to see some Republicans on the ballot. I am concerned that Arlington has a one party system. That typically hasn't worked out too well for governments who have tried it... | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support moving to ranked choice voting. I think it is a better way to assess public opinion when voting. While it may be more complicated and take longer in some circumstances, the effort is worth it. | Given how uniform the voting population is in Arlington, in how many races would it make a difference? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am fully on board with this innovation here in Arlington; it makes perfect sense to give all voters more consideration and freedom to express preferences. Ranking candidates reflects many of those unknown but critical variables that define our values and pick well qualified leaders. It is far past time to give it a real try. | I trust our County leaders to get this right. I cannot think of any specific questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it is a good system. | No question. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support rank choice voting. It leads to less extreme platforms and policy decisions, and less partisanship. | Zero questions. I'm extremely familiar with it, and wish we would move in that direction. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I'm pretty disappointed that the Board has not yet implemented it in time for the 2022 elections. This delay leads me to prefer a challenger for the Board seat this year, whom I trust to prioritize its implementation. | N/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am highly supportive of rank-choice voting. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think we would get candidates who are more knowable and an electorate that would have to be more engaged. Rank choice would help break the divide between political parties, as well help independent candidates. Candidates for school board could be part of the primary process instead of the Democratic only "firehouse" voting. | How can school board candidates be included in the primary process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am very enthusiastic about ranked choice voting. I believe this is the way to get the official or candidate or policy that best reflects the will of most people. Vote yes. | Perhaps there are boundaries about when we can employ it. Any National or state constraints? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support RCV generally and would like to see it implemented in Arlington. I see it as one of the innovations that could help ameliorate the tribal/partisan divide in the country, and the more localities that adopt RCV the more people will become familiar with it and the likelier the chance that it will spread. | Would RCV be used in combination with final five voting, in which the top five candidates in a first round go to the RCV second round? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I am 100% in favor of ranked choice voting for all elections. It's a wonderful way to get every last preference out of a voter and boost the candidates who appeal to more voters of different political persuasions but may not be super well known | None I think it's been successful wherever it's been implemented | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Often with multiple candidate elections no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote. Ranked-choice voting makes the election process more democratic since the ultimate winner will have received the majority of the votes cast. | The recent Congressional race in Alaska clearly demonstrates the positive outcome of Ranked-choice voting. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Stop the missing middle plans at once. You Will forever destroy the quality,of our neighborhoods | We deserve ward representation instead of at large board membership | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | In a large field of candidates, Ranked choice voting avoids the election being won by candidate who is no one's first choice | None—we did it at Washingtín-Liberty school before covid | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | If this is to be a pilot, then there needs to be published criteria on which the pilot will be evaluated. I would like to see more than one Board seat up for election at a time on more of a rotating basis. As it is, the one Board member who runs alone is almost always guaranteed a seat. It seems like RCV could get us closer to having constituencies represented rather than having the lack of representation that comes from all at large membership. | It is unclear to me from the description of "pilot program for the 2023 County Board primary elections" whether this applies to the PRIMARIES at which the candidates to be presented at the general election in November are chosen or whether it refers to the November election itself. If the former, would the two principal parties change their selection processes? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Absolutely in favor of ranked choice voting. | I understand clearly how it works. However this is not universally the case - I would ask how you plan to communicate with voters in advance of rolling this out, AND how the ballots will be designed to ensure that voters are well informed about the system in the moment they are voting. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | One of the simplest means to improving Democracy. | How does this relate to at-large versus districted voting? In particular, if at-large (as at present), and multiple seats open, does the ranked choice select multiple seats? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I recommend that county elections feature ranked choice voting. Ranked choice voting - 1) allows candidates from outside the two major parties to compete. 2) allows voters to support their favorite candidate without worrying that they might "throw their vote away," or worse, split their votes with like-minded voters and unintentionally help elect the candidate they like the least. 3) reduces negative campaigning, as candidates running in ranked choice elections must ask for second and, sometimes, third choice rankings. Voters are less likely to rank a candidate highly who is negative toward their preferred candidate. 4) reduces the influence of money in politics: Campaigns and special interest groups spend a lot of money on negative advertising. By making negative advertising less effective, ranked choice voting reduces the need for, and influence of, money in politics. | no questions, as I have voted in RCV elections previously | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I think it is a great idea to help make elections more competitive and make people feel more heard. Ranked choice voting makes people more likely to vote because their voice will be heard even if their first choice candidate does not win. Candidates do not have to be so extreme to get their base out to vote. This is good for democracy. | I like how are elections are paper ballots counted by machines. Could the ranked-choice voting be implemented also with paper ballots counted by machines? (I hope so as it is good for security, fast results with paper back up, and Virginians are used to that.) Will you look to other places already using this to see what lessons they have learned? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support ranked choice voting. It enhances the ability of voters to communicate their preferences and have the outcome of the election reflect those preferences. As a result, it can help to reduce the cynicism towards political activity that is currently so prevalent. | The main hurdle to overcome is to educate voters on how ranked-choice voting works. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | It should become the standard for board and all county elections | Why not used ranked choice? What are the downsides? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it's a good idea | How soon? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

22209

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
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| 22209 | I hold a degree in political science and a law degree. I am vehemently opposed to the recent adoption of RCV across the country. Ranked choice voting produces an unnecessary level of uncertainty and confusion to voters that undermines the integrity of our elections. While RCV theoretically requires the successful candidate to reach a majority of votes, RCV results in exhausted ballots when voters only rank one or two candidates, particularly in races in which voters do not possess information about every candidate. Rather than ensuring candidates receive a majority of votes, RCV can too easily result in voters not having their voice counted at all in the subsequent rounds of tabulation. | Will Arlington County require all voters to ranked every candidate in order of preference or will voters be able to simply rank one or two candidates | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | Ranked Choice Voting has seen the election of people who were nowhere near the top of the majority's choice. It is very confusing and complicated and if people have a difficult time selecting candidates now, they will definitely have a hard time with RCV. Also, it obscures the process so that it is even harder to make sure that the election was handled fairly and transparently. | N/A | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | Do not implement it. It is a sham!! | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | Ranked-choice voting should be used for primary elections ONLY because the USA has a presidential system, not a parliamentary system. The ranked-choice system results in too many anomalies, such as the special election for the one Congressional seat in Alaska where a Republican state ended up with a Democratic. | What specific electoral problem would ranked-choice voting really solve? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | It weights votes and unconstitutional. One person, one vote. I am a former Maine resident and it ruined our election system there. | What is your methodology to count ranked votes? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | The underlying issue is that the U.S. has the lowest voter turnout rate of any democracy in the world. I just don't see how making voting MORE complicated will even address that, let alone solve the problem. | See above: How does making voting more complicated possibly address our low turnout issue? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22209 | I am not sure about this. | Why would we do this? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22209 | Is Ranked Choice Voting confusing for voters? Does Ranked Choice Voting lead to higher voter engagement and turnout? | How many preferences can I rank under Ranked Choice Voting? Do voters have to rank all the candidates, even candidates they don't like? Does the current voting equipment work for Ranked Choice Voting? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22209 | I think it's a good idea! | none | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22209 | Let's try it! | I'm assuming if we have, say, 10 seats to fill and 20 candidates, we can rank our preferences 1-10 | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | It is very exciting to know that Arlington is interested in bringing a fair process of voting to the county! It would be an honor for our county to be one of a few jurisdictions in the country with this voting method. | I would just be curious about what it would take for the county to transition to this. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I think this is a great way to make sure Arlington residents have their preferences represented. | How will people learn about the new voting process? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22209 | Do it! | How will you combat misinformation about the mechanics? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Let's try it! | What kind of educational materials would be provided to voters? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I believe implementing ranked choice voting is an excellent idea that will strengthen democracy and reduce the negative impact of a 2-party political system. I would like to see it implemented for every office on the ballot. | Why only use this system for county board candidates, rather than the entire ballot? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I am strongly in favor of ranked-choice voting. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Rank choice voting is a fantastic option to support a greater number of candidates from diverse backgrounds to participate in elections and run for office. Plurality voting traditionally creates a race between two candidates and pushes others out. In addition, we should promote ranked-choice voting because it's more democratic than traditional plurality with people getting a say down the line of candidates. Also places that have begun to use this method are seeing good results and I think Arlington County should be on the forefront of that. | How will this go into affect and on what timeline? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Amazing. Love it. Please do it. I think it's the best thing and it's evidence based. | How quickly can we do it for every position. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Ranked choice voting works, and the results better reflect the will of the voters. I'm strongly in favor. | When would ranked choice voting be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I believe RCV will lead to more moderation, cooperation on problem solving in a Arlington and could over time improve government in the county. If it works in Arlington, I hope it will spread to other election races, throughout VA and the country. | There have been ballot "kinks" and mess ups in some other states, I hope operations will be carefully reviewed and guided to prevent those in Arlington. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | We need ranked choice voting. We need to set an example for the Commonwealth that good governance should always trump partisanship. | None. Please implement immediately. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I'm a proud Arlingtonian and Marine Corps veteran. I'm deeply saddened by the state of our democracy, the deep division between citizens, and the seeming inability for the current political duopoly to change the status quo of the system. I firmly believe the only way to heal the divisions and repair the lost trust, is to change the system to incentivize consensus building, not grandstanding. I believe ranked-choice voting is the only systemic means to do just this. Please, have the courage of your convictions and demonstrate that Arlington can lead not just in Virginia, but for the country in adopting ranked choice voting in ALL our elections! Thank you for your work! -Isaac Riddle | No questions! Our election machines can handle it and so can our citizens!! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I believe it represents a better way to arrive the candidate who has the most support | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I love this idea and I think making a test of it in the primary is a good idea. | What would be required to implement it in general elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I am in favor of rcv | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | The last thing you want is an unacceptable candidate to win because the majority have different ideas as to who would be the best alternative. | I have one question: Why am I required to complete this box? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting. | Would primaries still be held be each party? Explain when RCV is applicable and when it is not. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22209 | RCV or instant runoff voting will allow Arlingtonians to express their political preferences at the ballot box without needing to dabble in game theory and political strategizing. It will also allow outsider candidates with diverse political messages to participate in electoral politics without raising the stigma of the "spoiler" candidacy. | How will the County execute RCV in a clear and transparent way? Why is the County exploring RCV for primary elections but not general elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Ranked-choice voting is an excellent voting initiative with the potential to reduce hyper-partisanship, give voters more choices, and reduce negative campaigning. | What steps will be taken to ensure voters understand ranked-choice voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I fully support ranked-choice voting! | Would it take longer to determine a winner? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I support ranked choice voting | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | It is an absolute improvement to the current first-past-the-post voting system and should be implemented in our district. | Which flavor of ranked-choice voting will you be implementing? Instant-runoff voting, single transferable vote, etc. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I support the idea of ranked-choice voting as it seems like a fairer solution that will allow for a wider variety of viable candidates and viewpoints in our elections. | Does the county have a plan to educate folks about such a system? As a nerd I've watched many videos about different voting systems, so im familiar with ranked choice, but I worry that some folks are used to voting one way. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I think Arlington county should implement ranked choice voting | No questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Ranked choice voting (RCV) is a fair, intuitive, and innovative voting method I strongly support. Arlington adopting RCV will put us at the forefront of preserving democracy. Arlington has the chance to learn from others who've implemented RCV and be instrumental at being a model for other democratic areas. Let us strive to be the best in a method which supports democracy! | How will the board learn from other jurisdictions? How will the board market and make this change understandable and favorable for people who may not be as strongly supportive? How can citizens become more involved in the marketing and general implementation process? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

22213

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
|----------|--|--|------------------|----------------------|
| 22213 | Do not support. Too complicated. Risk of candidates who wouldn't have won the traditional way -- 1 person, 1 vote--, of winning. Takes too long to get results. | Aren't those who vote the traditional way, just for 1 person, at a disadvantage? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22213 | not supportive of it. | there will be unintended consequences | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22213 | I hope it prevents straight Democrat or straight Republican outcomes and forces voters to better evaluate candidates. | Will ranked-choice be phased in or started across all contests? What education of the electorate will be done beforehand? How would candidates be nominated so that we get more than two choices? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22213 | Personally, I feel it is a good way of voting. I would vote for it. | Can Arlington do it even if the State doesn't agree to it or can the State disallow it? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22213 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting. | Will need instructions on how to fill out the ballot. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22213 | Please institute this policy. It's better for our community and democracy. We can set an example by putting less focus on party and more on candidate positions. | How soon can we implement? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Ranked-choice voting needs to be implemented. We need to have a system similar to Alaska, where all candidates run in a top 5 primary and ranked-choice voting is used for the general election. It reduces extremism and makes sure that a majority is happy with the person who represents them. | None. It needs to be implemented. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I think it should be implemented in Arlington. | How quickly can it get done. How many people will be confused by the process and does more education need to happen? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | It's a terrific idea! Thank you! | We trust you! Look to other jurisdictions for help. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Strongly favor. | no questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I favor ranked-choice voting. in a field of three or more candidates I believe ranked-choice voting gives the voter a more precise way of expressing their electoral preference. | I have not questions other than when. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22213 | Everything I've read about RCV, either about it conceptually or in real-world scenarios, tells me that it would allow for elections whose results more accurately reflect the will of the voters. Arlington should introduce it on a trial basis, and assuming the trials are positive, make it a permanent procedure. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting for the County Board and school board in Arlington. | I've seen how it works so I know it can work. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Please Implement Ranked Choice, I would love to see it nationwide, but if it isn't pushed locally it may never get there. | My biggest question is how we could prevent the incumbent party from overturning it once installed. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I think RCV is an excellent idea and will reduce highly negative discourse between candidates. It also encourages less extreme positions by candidates, and allows voters to vote for who their real first choice is without worrying about "wasting" their vote. Arlington should absolutely try this! | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

Opposed (1 & 2)

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
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| 2201 | This is the worst system ever. It is convoluted and confusing. It can take a long time to tabulate votes. It is way too complex for the ordinary voter. It should be unconstitutional. The Founders never intended for this kind of system. I hate it and I hope Arlington never does it. I hate RCV so much I would consider filing a lawsuit against it. | None. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Oppose. | Why is Arlington considering this now? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Every vote should count. Introducing a system where it is possible that the majority of votes cast end up as exhausted ballots and equal to them not even coming to the polls to vote is not a better system. | There have been complaints that requiring identification or social security numbers is unfair and meant to depress voter turnout. Do you think this multi-tiered system very few fully understand will motivate more people to vote or less? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I do not support RCV... Stick with the original plurality voting system. | Why reinvent the wheel? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I do not support rank choice voting. There is no reason to adopt. | Why is this being considered and why would we pay to change our voting process? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | We should be voting on DISTRICT-based voting, where each county board member represents a geographically contiguous area of the County. County Board is very concerned about hearing from underserved communities, and giving them a voice. District based voting is the way to achieve this, not ranked choice. | Why aren't we pursuing district based voting, in the name of representation and equity? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Opposed | none | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I denounce and repudiate rank-choice voting most strongly because it locks out promising third- party or unaffiliated candidates. ONE VOTER GETS ONE, AND ONLY ONE, VOTE. Ranked choice voting is bullshit. | Do not implement ranked choice voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Terrible idea. Do not support it at all. | Why do you want to change the voting structure? What need is there to do so? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | An individual should win based on the actual number of votes. Not some made up process that does not allow the peoples top choice to win. | Exactly what is wrong with the individual with the most votes winning - the people's top choice? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I DO NOT support the change. IMHO it will only further undermine the credibility of voting by drawing out the process and injecting greater uncertainty. You/the Board should first insure that residents eligible to vote have confidence that the County can run credible elections. Unfortunately, election deniers across the country and this state have undermined confidence in our electoral system changing it at this point will only further embolden them. | Why now? Whose behind it? The Republican are weak in this County because those like Chucinnelli (sp) supported the worst possible gay discrimination. They would deny a woman's choice to make her health care decisions. If you can't implement the current system credibly, why do you think changing it will improve it. Aside from Member Kahntokis (sp) who won a special track closed primary, do any of you others really think that helped the County being viewed as a Democratic closed club. I'm a democrat but embarrassed to be one in this County. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a horrible idea because it allows a contested race to be pre-determined by a coalition, especially when multiple seats are up for election. Why do we want winners based on someone's "other" choice? | What safeguards will Arlington County put in place to prevent fraud and exploitation of the loopholes this type of voting creates? The popularity of ranked choice voting is promoted only by those unhappy that they cannot win and election outright. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22201 | I am strongly opposed to ranked choice voting. We live in a majority rule democracy. Ranked choice voting often results in unintended consequences because people are trying to game their choices to influence a specific outcome. The election becomes one more about manipulation than about electing the strongest candidate based on qualifications and policy positions. We should eschew this trendy election process that causes more problems than it solves | I have no questions other than the rhetoric one of why are we wasting our time creating divisions among our citizenry with ideas such as ranked choice voting, missing middle rezoning, and thumbing our noses at the citizens who pay taxes here by shredding the Arlington Way until it no longer is recognizable now as the courteous, consensus-building process that encouraged many of us to move here. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I think this is a horrible idea. Each candidate should run on their own record and priorities. Ranked voting in Arlington would effectively eliminate voter choice as well as anyone with an opposing point of view. | Is this a form of voter suppression? Is the county, or democratic party, attempting to eliminate non-democratic party candidates? Why are you implementing ranked voting fir candidates instead of fir funding and bonds? Why do you thing this is a goid idea? What problem are you attempting to fix? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | In am not in favor of rank choice voting.in Arlington. In areas where there are many different political groups this does seem like a viable option. Since I believe in one person one vote, would RCV give those who are willing to rank less desirable candidates lower , more of an influence than those w/o a second or third choice ? That if true , how can that be legal ? I feel it's important to invest the money to make sure the results reflect the electriates will as opposed in using RCV as a cost savings. It also seems to matter how it is applied. When there is a single office it's application seems relatively straight forward. However, I am concerned that its use when multie seats are up for grabs.. | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Each voter should get one vote not several. It can lead to a second-place person winning. | Can the county please instead split the county into districts instead of having at-large members. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | This is ridiculous. Spend time doing something you rarely do, that is, something to improve the everyday quality of life in Arlington. | No questions. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | very bad idea | why bother | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Negative. Makes finding a winner to complicated. Want same day results. | Why would the county board even consider this stupid idea? Why would intelligent people on the County board even consider this unless to confuse the voters? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22201 | I am absolutely opposed to ranked choice voting. The old system is fine as it is. Stop messing with it. There is already plenty of doubt in the integrity of elections in general, please do not make that worse by trying ranked choice voting. It is manipulative and prone to abuse. Just stop. And while I am at it. Bring back ONE DAY voting, all on paper, and all counted in one day. The rules for absentee voting should return to how it was 30+ years ago, where it had to be requested by mail well in advance and it had to be signed by a witness, and dated very specifically. We did it as college students and it should remain an anomaly to regular, in-person voting. 7am-7pm is plenty of time to vote. We all managed it for decades and decades, why are people all of the sudden less competent? Voting is a sacred right which comes with a serious responsibility to know what you are doing and know how to do it. Stop messing around with something as sacred as a well run election! | As a recent primary in Alaska clearly demonstrates, the ranked choice voting leaves voters frustrated and feeling cheated. There is simply no reason to change the normal method of voting. I also believe that constant meddling in the election system breeds contempt and mistrust. There is simply no argument for ranked choice voting that justifies such a change. Beware awakening a sleeping giant-those generally apathetic to politics will rise up and revolt against the party who institutes this unfounded system...Much like we learned that an educational system hostile to the parents will eventually find itself in ruins. It may take time, but it will eventually come, even in Arlington. School lockdowns, mask mandates, vaccine mandates and other liberty-limiting policies of the past 2+ years need to be honestly reviewed with a critical eye, and a sense of problem-solving must return. Ranked choice voting is clearly NOT a return to rational problems solving. Rather, it is a problem causer! | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | If it isn't broke there is no need for a fix. The existing system works fine. | What is the need for rank choice when current system is working fine | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I am not in favor. The idea that ranked choice voting will, somehow, improve upon the current system is a fallacy. If a plurality is not considered enough to put a person in office, then the election should go to a runoff. The electorate needs to have clear choices. There is too much room for manipulation otherwise. | The winner of a ranked choice election will never have a clear mandate the way a clear majority winner will. There will always be doubts about how the result came about. Voters may not take their 2nd and 3rd choices as seriously as they should. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Oppose. Not necessary. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I think a candidate should only be selected if they are a clear first choice. | Why would you want everyone's 2nd choice? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | NO !! | No questions | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | NO! NO! NO! The current county board has no trust within the county! With the crazy proposals, frivolous and costly proposals like the Clarendon Million Dollar Dog Park, crazy spending on play parks, trolley route, gondola to Georgetown, mega swimming pool that no one uses, Artisphere fiasco, and the most insane of all--Missing Middle/Elimination of Single Family Zoning, no one trusts anything that the County Board suggests! | Don't trust anything the Board wants, given their past conduct! | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I oppose the use of ranked-choice voting. | Ranked-choice voting should not be implemented. The Arlington County Board should stop wasting their time on this exercise. It is a waste of resources. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The rationale for this has not been proven with real-life examples from Arlington, and it can have unintended negative effects. | Please explain rationale without the kneejerk answers that have been given thus far. If there is an underlying philosophy, pls be honest about it. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The County should not proceed with ranked-choice voting. This method is confusing and coercive. I direct you to Kim Strassel's Wall Street Journal piece on the chaos and voter disenfranchisement created by ranked-choice voting in Alaska. The current system works just fine. Drop ranked-choice voting and stop wasting taxpayers' money. | Ranked-choice voting should not be implemented because it confuses and coerces voters. It is a terrible voting method and should never be implemented in Arlington County. Those County Board Members that advocate for ranked-choice voting should be IMPEACHED. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22201 | I do not want to go to ranked choice voting at this time. Our current voting system is functional and trustworthy, and until ranked choice voting systems are more familiar to the public, I do not believe we should move to this system. "If it isn't broken, don't fix it." | No further comment. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting inserts a bureaucrat and bureaucracy in the midst of the voter's ballots. There is already mistrust or distrust in a straight forward one person, one vote system. Are you ready to open Pandora's box to every sort of accusation by having a ranked choice process? | I don't have any questions. I see how poorly the ranked choice process played out in the last primary election in Alaska. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | Do not think the "Ned" or benefit has been proven | Can you show test results from actual elections before making an actual change? Would be a fair test if evaluating actual candidates. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I am unequivocally opposed to the idea as I believe it fundamentally goes against the idea in a democracy that every vote should count. In some cases votes will for all practical purposes "disappear" if the candidate one votes for does not reach a threshold. I understand that it may be quicker and easier for the vote tally, but I am not willing to sacrifice anyone's vote just because it's easier. Democracy is hard and messy but it works better than top down bureaucracy. Let the individual decide. He/she doesn't need a one party monopolistic bureaucracy to think for him; that's frankly patronizing. | I have no questions. I've read the materials on this website and others. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The Board should not adopt ranked-choice voting. This method is overly complicated. It requires a voter to consider not just the merits of all candidates, but also all possible permutations of ranked choices and each ranked choice's likelihood. This is excessively time consuming and burdensome for voters, particularly those who need to work and care for their families. The method is also opaque because it is difficult for a voter to understand who will actually be elected based on her ranked choices. The winner of a ranked choice election depends on the interaction of all ranked choices of all other voters and it is not possible for a single voter to have information about other voters' ranked choices. The excessively complicated nature of this method, and its burdensome and opaque nature will dissuade many voters from voting. Thus, ranked choice voting will discourage and disenfranchise people from participating in the democratic process. | What is the Board's actual reason for implementing ranked-choice voting? Is the Board's real reason for implementing ranked-choice voting an attempt to maintain the Democratic Party's hold over the governance of Arlington County, in spite of the Democrats' dismal record of governance? Is the Board's real reason for implementing ranked-choice voting an attempt to discourage voters, i.e., voter suppression? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | Do not implement Ranked Choice Voting for General Elections. They are confusing to voters and do not solve any problems. Look at Maine and Alaska to examine the impact in General Elections. RCV in primaries should not be considered, as the voting pool in a primary election is not as politically divided as a general election. Considering the impact to voting by changing to RCV, this decision should be in the hands of the voters and not the county board. | What problem does it solve in a General Election and what evidence is there to support that assertion? How is it better than the current form of voting (for a General Election) and is there evidence for that assertion? Is RCV compliant with Virginia state law and Virginia constitution? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | Absolutely NO on ranked choice voting. It's just another way voting loses integrity. | Stop infringing on our voting processes. No ballot boxes, no mail in, voter ID required, NO ranked voting. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22202 | I'm not an advocate of ranked choice voting and I do not want to see it implemented where I live. | What problem is the board attempting to fix by implementing ranked-choice voting? In what way as the current voting system failed that requires the implementation of a new system? Who is better supported by ranked choice voting as a method instead of the current voting system? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | No on ranked choice voting. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | what a silly idea. why need ranked choice when the existing board memeber choose the candidates | why bother. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | Regarding Ranked Choice Voting (RCV): 1. What's the point? Present system of voting has worked for over 200 years! Doesn't NEED to be reinvented, transformed, re-imagined. 2. How does RCV benefit the citizens / taxpayers of Arlington County vs. the politicians, government, and political parties? 3. Many races are uncontested because candidates can't afford campaign expenses. So again what's the point? 4. What about the voter who does NOT want to rank candidates? Wants ONLY the ONE candidate. How does a voter cast ALL ranked votes for only one candidate. 5. Flawed assumption in entire RCV is that voters see candidates as relativistic (this one or then that one) vs. absolutism (ONLY this one or no one). 6. In a race with more than two (2) candidates, why can't the candidate with the most votes (even if less than 50 percent) be declared the winner!? 7. Need better reasons than: Its new, we like, we have to have it. 8. Yo do realize representative government is on the line. | 1. REALLY!! WHAT ARE THE TOP 5 OVERLY COMPELLING REASONS TO CHANGE TO RCV!? 2. Just because we want to is NOT compelling enough! 3. Also it makes elections cheaper (for us the candidates and the government) is NOT compelling enough! 4. Just because it makes elections simpler (for us the candidates and the government) is NOT compelling enough! 5. Just because it makes elections faster (for us the candidates and the government) is NOT compelling enough! 6. Explain, in detail, how RCV will result in the MAJORITY of voters getting the PRIMARY candidate he / she wants. 7. I have been forced / coerced to engage in RCV at Arlington Democratic Firehouse primaries. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | Ranked choice is a horrible decision. Do NOT do this. It disenfranchises voters who would never vote for any of the other candidates, ever, and therefore chooses to leave them off the ranked choice. However, when you get to 3rd, 4th, and 5th choices, their voice doesn't matter. Democracy is not 50.1% of the vote. In fact, the U.S. government is set up to protect minority opinions/small states, etc. and block majority/mob rule. It's why we have 3 branches of government (with one of them divided itself), checks and balances, etc. I have family who have voted ranked-choice in their community and from what I've learned watching them, it is a horrible outcome. One election, one person, one vote. Not 3,4,5 votes per person. | Why is this necessary? (There is no need to get 50.1% of the vote. Pluralities are just fine.) Why do you feel people need to get more than one vote? (We are a one election, one person, one vote-type country.) What is wrong with a system of government that is built to protect minority viewpoints and inhibit majority/mob rule? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22202 | <p>Ranked choice is NOT democratic. One person, one vote, one election. Not 5 different votes. The U.S. Constitution and our entire philosophy of government is geared to protect the minority. We do NOT need to "manufacture a majority of votes" just to appease people who don't understand basic civics and government. It creates an environment open to mob rule/tyranny of the majority. These subsequent "votes" disenfranchises anyone who feels that any or all others are NOT their choice, that they do NOT want those people to get elected.</p> <p>Voting is a simple concept - one person, one vote, one election. Majority (mob) rule is NOT what the U.S. is all about.</p> | <p>Why do you feel it is necessary to have ranked choice? What is wrong with the current system that it requires a new, unproven (and anti-democratic) process? Why would you consciously choose to disenfranchise someone on the 2nd, 3rd, etc. votes if that person specifically does NOT want any other person to get elected?</p> | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I do not agree with this method of voting | What can citizens do to stop this proposal? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I am strongly against it. | It takes too long. It allows elections to be gamed even more so than now. Increases the cost of elections and increases the chance of delays in determining who won. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | After following ranked choice voting in some other jurisdictions, I'm not in favor of ranked choice voting. It provides a method for a sore loser to stay in the race, and for county leadership to get the results they want, in spite of the votes. If a candidate gets the largest number of votes then they are the winner. Much like sporting contests (except golf), you can win or lose by one point or many points, but the highest score wins. A win is a win. | Why is the board and other leadership in Arlington trying to change the voting procedures so that it favors the outcomes they prefer? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | I have experienced RCV in a different context, and the result was a choice that no one really liked much. Therefore, I vote NO. | I just wonder if this is a sham questionnaire, similar to the board's other supposed public opinion queries on pre-determined issues. (Ya, I'm skeptical...) | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | NO "ranked choice voting." Why RCV now? It just invites mischief, and sows confusion. The current voting system, which is considered normal in a democracy by the vast majority, has done just fine for generations. Do not touch it. | "Ranked choice voting" sows confusion, and provides an opening for mischief-making insiders to game the system. No way. "RCV" is bad news. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22202 | Ranked choice voting is too complex, convoluted and introduces too many variables into the ballot/voting process. There is already a climate of mistrust in the public mind that this change will fuel. Family in Alaska feel the adoption of this system doesn't reflect accurately the community. | Why not go to an open primary system if the intent is to have a party neutral election process. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice is a bad idea and undemocratic. It deprives voters of the chance to fully evaluate candidates in a regular runoff election | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22203 | Ranked-choice voting is an absolutely horrible idea. It routinely gives you a candidate that was not the first choice but someone who also was not someone you disliked. We end up with a mediocre candidate and not the first choice for anyone. It also gives people like progressives the ability to vote once, e.g, once for Bernie Sanders and once for Joe Biden. Compromise is prudent, but resorting to prudence when first-choice morality seems to fail teaches voters that morality is at the extreme and prudence is strategic. Teaching in a classroom, one could say it combines the worst of Kant and Machiavelli. The better way is to make one's first choice prudently, thus tempering extremism and promoting compromise. | I would raise the question of why this is even being discussed when it's been tried and repealed in other jurisdictions around the country. In a overwhelmingly blue county like Arlington, this type of voting give zero chance to a candidate outside of the Democratic party. It basically gives two votes to progressives and the independent or republican candidate suffers. This is the reason the Board will most likely implement this, they want to keep control of power at all costs. Ranked choice voting would make Arlington not democracy, but rather a kind of autocracy. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | First, Ranked Choice Voting favor incumbents by allowing a dozen candidates to run instead of just two or three. As a result, this will prevent the County from benefiting from new candidates who may bring about much needed change. Second, Ranked Choice Voting will increase divisiveness and fragment the community by allowing dozens of candidates to run. This in turn will allow fringe candidates to have unwarranted public exposure and will prevent citizens from learning the positions of electable candidates on important electoral issues. Third, Ranked Choice Voting has forced voters to wait weeks and sometimes even months finding out who the winner is. All in all, Ranked Choice Voting will only lead to major headaches for the County and its residents. Thank you for your service. | How can the Board guarantee that vote counting will be completed in one day? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | Someone who is not the first choice of most can win. See what happened in Alaska. | Why do we need to change the way we vote? Don't think it is necessary. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | How about NO. Did you all see the mess Alaska got itself into this pass primary. It took months to find the winner. Do you want that to happen here? The only thing we need to do is go back to paper ballots. Quicker to count, votes can be recounted in a close election. Paper ballots are the best deterrent to voter fraud, not the ranked-choice method. Keep it simple. | 1. Why is it needed? 2. Why aren't paper ballots being considered? Why are we using computer voting? It's much easier to cheat with computers. (did you not see what happened in the 2020 election?!) 3. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | I vote no for ranked choice voting!! | No upload | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | Seems like a bad idea to me. How about dividing the county up i to district so north Arlington doesn't get to elect the whole board? | No questions | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22203 | NO... What are you thinking???? Please read this opinion piece by Kim Strassel: https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-ranked-choice-scam-alaskans-for-better-elections-voting-system-election-race-votes-liberal-group-polls-ballot-11666906215?st=4q8dgb51c8jojhh&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink | Why would we implement this confusing & complicated process? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | This is the stinkiest thing you could be devoting your efforts to.....It should never be allowed. | Any system where the popular vote winner could be the loser should never be brought into existenc. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | This is a bad idea. A democracy should be majority votes win period! It's hard enough to get people to the ballot boxes. If there is a need for a run off, then you are asking for people to vote again. Please leave the current system in place. | Why do we need to make this change? Why do you think it's a good idea for our community to use this system? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | Totally against it. Ranked voting allows for too many hands to touch the "votes" before winners are declared. With absentee voting added in, it can take well beyond expected time frames to declare winners. We don't need any new voting wrinkles to further concerns about "big lie" results. | Why is it necessary? Regular voting has served us well for many years. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am opposed to ranked-choice voting. It has no place in a constitutional republic or democracy. I support voting with real paper ballots that are correctly tabulated, not weighted, nor adjudicated. A voting process that is simple and legitimate will encourage transparency and confidence for citizens -- something we all need after the last two voting cycles. | Ranked-choice voting should be reserved for high school prom king/queen and sorority rush. Period. I am strongly opposed to any voting process that uses algorithms or weighted averages. One person, one vote is pure and simple -- and it works. Ranked-choice voting disintegrates a voters intention to vote for their preferred candidate. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am opposed to rank choice voting. | How can it be done electronically to prevent fraud and/or error. And provide results quickly. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | No to tanked choice voting. It leads to results where the number one choice might not get in. It is convoluted. Please keep the system we have now. | Why do you feel the need to change our voting system, which works fine? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Ridiculous! The person with the most votes wins! Stop messing with reality. | Exactly why, being truthful, why is the county even considering this when there are so many important things to focus your time on. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Leave it alone. Count each vote as cast. Don't play G_D manipulating votes. | Not a question but, DON'T MASSAGE THE VOTES, COUNT THEM AS CAST | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am not in favor of ranked voting. I believe it is just one more example of a way to keep the county liberal and squash dissent. Leave the system the way it is. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Causing great fear or alarm; dreadful to voters | Causing great fear or alarm; dreadful To voters | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I don't believe it is a good idea | It can become controlled and not allow for true representation | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Na | Na | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | It is too confusing. | Why does it have to be so complicated? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Please don't implement ranked voting. We have been fine, the way it is. | Why implement this? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Do Not do it | I voted for who I voted for, I would not want my vote moved to someone else. Would rather start over if we had to | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | No. Majority rules | No | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am not in favor of ranked choice voting. | I have no idea how it works. I would need a full explanation with an example. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I am opposed to rank choice voting. | Na | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Not in favor of ranked choice voting | Benefits need to be clearly defined. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I think the process is confusing and in this county which has mainly democrats, it seems pointless. I don't see how it is going to encourage diverse candidates. I have a feeling that you've already made up your mind and even if you receive a lot of opposition, you'll ram it through anyway. Use it for the primaries but leave the elections alone. I don't like the fact that someone whom I might have left blank and not voted for could receive the vote I made for another candidate. This does not let my voice be heard. | What is the process for educating the voter? This would be a change from the norm and a lot of people won't understand it. Could it be a pilot if you're set on implementing it? That way people can experience it and decide if they want it. How much is it going to cost to change the system over and what is cost benefit analysis? What is the justification for needing this? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Seems like a good way to prolong contests. | How does this not complicate vote counting, as is? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | You want Audrey Clement getting on the board? Stop playing around with these goody-two-shoes ideas and eave well enough alone. | How are you going to keep Audrey Clement and/or John Vistadt off the board? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | I'm against RCV in Arlington County elections. It is a process that can be too confusing for voters, who may not understand fully the mechanics of the process and as a result may have their vote go to a candidate they don't truly support, or be negated entirely. A straight up election with run-offs if needed is much preferable. | what is the impetus for this change? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support ranked choice voting for single winner elections. However, I strongly disagree with use of Proportional Ranked Choice Voting (PRCV or Single Transferable Vote, or any of its other names) in Arlington. Use of PRCV would likely result in election of at least one Republican to the County Board. With the Republican Party's current behavior (i.e., if you can't win fairly - then cheat, and no election is fair unless Republicans win, storm the Capitol if you don't win, etc.), I believe we should not take any action that would increase the chance of the Republicans to win any election. | Why should Arlington (or any other jurisdiction) adopt a voting system that would artificially give a party that is taking actions that threaten the future of our democratic republic (such as the Republicans) a chance to get its candidates elected? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I believe that RCV is problematic primarily because it adds an unnecessary layer of complexity to the voting process. It seems to me that you would want to make voting as simple / basic / easy as possible to ensure robust voter turnout. Voters must be confident in themselves and the system; otherwise, it is likely to deter voters who may be confused by the RCV rules. Additionally, with the ongoing attacks on existing voting systems and processes, disinformation and deception regarding RCV is likely to proliferate, causing further confusion and frustration among voters, which, in turn, will deter them from voting. I do not believe this is a good time to introduce a "new" way of voting, one that is likely to draw endless litigation by losing candidates and/or voters who believe they've been misled. This will only lead to further erosion of voter confidence in the system. ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE! | What is the primary reason for wanting to transition to RCV? Is that reason enough to outweigh the potential downside of RCV? What's wrong with the existing system - is it so broke that you need to introduce a new way of voting? How do you ensure every voter receives a sufficient level of education and training on RCV to ensure that there aren't significant mistakes, misconceptions, etc., before implementation? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | The more I'm reading about this, the more I dislike the concept. This goes against the idea of one vote per person. I don't like that my vote may be given to another candidate. Or even worse, at least at the beginning, people won't understand the concept and not put second or third choices, reducing their vote even further. In a one party system like Arlington, there won't be the possibility of a non-Democrat being elected. | What problem is this trying to solve? Why is it necessary to do this and why now? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | I don't want to be like California | It tends to favor party in power | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22204 | After checking this out and getting answers from both people promoting this and people leery of this, my take is that this is another step away from "one person, one vote". The danger is in the redistributing of the votes for the candidate with the smallest percentage of votes. There is no guarantee that there will not be more Republican and "Independent" (so-called) manipulation that will actually make representation even LESS accurate. I VOTE NO. Thanks. | As stated above, this removes us even further from "one person, one vote" than we are now. The possibly well-meaning philosophy of those promoting this falls into one of two categories. Either they are looking at this with rose-colored glasses or they are flat out up to no good. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22204 | I do not support proportional ranked choice voting. I do support the instant run off type of ranked choice voting. The problem arises where there is more than one position open; that happenstance allows a candidate to be elected even if opposed by the majority of voters. Also, I feel that if there are multiple positions open (eg, 2), my vote should count equally for the 2 positions. Under PRCV, if my 1st choice is elected on the 1st round, my choice for the remaining position may not be counted at all unless my 1st choice won by more than the threshold (>33%). If my 1st choice won by more than the threshold, my vote for the remaining position is a fraction of a vote. I feel that I should get a full vote for each position that is open. | At the outset, the County should make sure that people do not confuse proportional ranked choice voting (PRCV) with other forms of RCV. I think there is widespread confusion on this important distinction. I would never want to see PRCV implemented in races where more than one candidate is being chosen. I would like to see us adopt instant run off RCV (for each open position, the winner has to eventually be the preference of the majority of voters) when and if allowed, NOT PRCV. The next 2 questions of this survey are deceptive. The survey asks if I have voted in a RCV election before, and how favorably do I feel. I have voted in the Dem endorsement process for SB, which is instant run off RCV, and feel very favorably. Since the survey makes no distinction between the forms of RCV, respondents will be confused; the results of the survey will be worthless. Since I am not in favor of PRCV, I am answering that I haven't voted in that type of election and that I am very unfavorable. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I am against it emphatically! In fact, if Arlington were to adopt it, I would cease voting in any elections that adopted it. | I see this a voting complication that we don't need. Stay with plurality voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I disagree with ranked choice voting. | Makes it too complicated n | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I oppose ranked choice voting as confusing. My concern is that Ranked Chose Voting would favor those voters already heavily involved in Arlington politics and who have the time to rank candidates, and disfavor those of us who don't have the inclination or time to rank candidates. | Is there evidence that ranked choice voting gives a better indication of who all voters want as their elected representative, as compared to traditional voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | No. Voting works well now; do not institute this, | Who would this benefit? And would it cost more because runoffs would be required? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | RCV is complicated to administer and confusing for voters. There's no problem with the current system. There's no need to introduce unneeded and unnecessary complexity into the voting system. Such an action could open the county to allegations of voter fraud or cast doubt on the outcome of local elections. Please stop this policy change. | It's a bad policy that should be rejected. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | It's a very complicated system that no one would understand. See the recent Alaska representative election, for example. We need to have more independents and Republicans on the board. This would only elect Democrats; Republicans would never stand a chance. Our family is against ranked-choice voting. | How are you going to explain the process to people? No matter what you do, the process will favor Democrats. NO to ranked-choice voting. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | This seems kind of sudden. | I don't understand how it works but from what I know it sounds confusing. How will people know what to do? Is this in conjunction with a district system of government in Arlington? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22205 | I am against RCV unless. What is more important and urgent is that the political representation system in Arlington is changed to proportional and regional. Having representatives districts and expanding the Board from 5 to at least 7 is far more urgent chasing the folly of "how" we vote. I wish the Board would focus at the more urgent matter at hand than chasing this dumb idea. | Nothing - stop wasting our time with this. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Absolutely not permissible. | Why consider it? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Why add complications to voting in a climate that election integrity is being questioned in large forums and there is a sense of distrust. As an election officer this will be hard to explain and will open up more questions from election monitors. | why is this necessary? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | Historically, Americans have followed the "one person, one vote" mantra. Ranking dilutes that premise. You would get half and quarter votes. I subscribe to the idea. of "you pay your money, you take your choice." A voter makes a choice and should agree to the consequences. | What if there is a tie? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | No! It is a GD scam that needlessly complicates election results. What is your objective? Who benefits? Just concentrate on delivering services and lowering the rapacious taxes. | Why do this? Who benefits? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I do not want ranked-choice voting in Arlington elections | What justification does Arlington County have for using ranked-choice voting? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I suggest recent WSJ opinion piece about RCV in Alaska and the Heritage Foundation article about RCV be added to the record of Arlington Board discussions... | No | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22205 | In the normal electoral process in the vast majority of states, there is a runoff election several weeks after a general election in which no candidate won a majority of the vote. It is true that some voters might not turn out for a runoff election that is held several weeks after the general election because their preferred candidate did not gather enough votes to be in the runoff. However, the added time window gives potential voters the opportunity to reexamine and reeducate themselves about the character and views on issues of the two candidates who received the largest pluralities in the general election. Voters have a greater opportunity to make an informed choice than with instant runoffs (i.e., ranked choice voting). Runoff elections guarantee that the winner of the runoff election has a genuine mandate from a majority of the voters—a crucial factor in a democratic system. | How does this accurately represent the wishes of the voters as they compare the positions of the candidates. Candidates who receive the least amount of votes clearly do not represent the position of the electorate. However the top vote getters do. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | While "ranked choice" voting has a role in crowded partisan primary elections, they are likely unconstitutional in general elections. They afford minor- or independent-voters more than one vote in a general election, contrary to our nation's one-person-one-vote principle. Citizens who vote outside the two-party system should be satisfied with their choices, and not allowed a second or third vote. Frankly, based on experiences in Maine and most recently, Alaska, it is VERY CONFUSING for many if not most voters. That should be reason enough to reject it. | The immense expense of reorienting machines to accommodate ranked-choice voting needs to be thoroughly explored. There is a strong chance it will require a return to paper ballots, and the cost associated with that. I have written extensively about ranked-choice voting and my views are contained here: https://kellyjohnston.substack.com/p/ranked-choice-voting-a-serious-look | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22206 | I am staunchly opposed to ranked choice voting. | Is the old system that bad? Seems fine. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | As an attorney who works in election law, I have engaged in much research on Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV). RCV is a flawed election system that seeks to increase voter turnout at the expense of voters who seek to vote for only one candidate. There are countless issues with RCV, but most important to address is how it allows a candidate who comes in second place after the first round to ultimately prevail in the second and third round of tabulating. Voters who only vote for one candidate are disenfranchised if their candidate receives the least amount of votes, for they will not participate in the second or third rounds. This forces voters to vote for candidates they don't like in order to have their vote count rather than being able to just elect one. Voter confidence is undermined by RCV's shaky results. It is not a method Arlington should consider implementing, and the Board would be wise to keep the status quo. | Why does the Board believe this method is needed? Has the Board examined the large expense of funds it would cost the county to educate the electorate on the new method? Is the Board ready to deal with the fallout of voter confidence if a candidate that gets the most in round one ends up losing in rounds two or three? Does the Board know that most jurisdictions that implement RCV end up repealing it in subsequent years? Does the Board know that voters who desire to vote for only one candidate can be disenfranchised? Who on the Board believes that civic engagement in Arlington would actually increase with RCV? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | Voting in Arlington County has always been simple and straight forward. There is no need to change the County's way of voting. | NA | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I dislike ranked choice voting. It goes against democracy and the one person one vote principle. | It should not be implemented without first putting it to Arlington voters. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I have read several articles about ranked choice voting and I for one find it quite confusing. The results can be so counter-intuitive I think it will shock many voters. | Every ballot should include a complete explanation of the tally method used. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I do not like this voting method. It may confuse voters and be completed incorrectly. | Why are you considering this method? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | No to RCV. | Why is it necessary? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I am very against ranking voting. It forces me to vote for people I would not vote for in order to keep my overall vote from being thrown away. If my primary choice is not picked, I then may end up having my vote counted for a person that I do not think is the best candidate and would not have voted for. The one person one vote situation we currently have is the one that most aligns with our democratic principles. Please do not change it. Thank you. | What is the benefit of changing to ranked voting? Who suggested this? Why exactly is the county considering this? Does the fact I have not voted in a ranked voting before negatively affect my comments? I have read about and researched the matter and come to my opinion based off careful consideration, so I do not think any past experience, or lack thereof, with this kind of voting should matter. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I have no interest in experimenting with our democracy. | The burden is on the County to prove something is broken. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22207 | Terrible idea | Terrible idea | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I'm against it. | Traditional voting is the gold standard. No need to manipulate votes via a computer program that is vulnerable to malfeasance and hard to check up on the votes. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | See no requirements for a change in voting system. | Adds confusion to many voters without improved results. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | This option is unnecessary. There's no obvious benefit. It favors the majority party only. | How does it benefit the electorate? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Don't like. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Do NOT do it. Causes too much confusion and calls into question the legitimacy of the so-called winner. | What's the point? We only have candidates from the Democratic Party from which to choose. What happened to diversity? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I think that this is a ridiculous idea. In my opinion, it means my vote does not count. Why is this even on the table? | Why would you want to eliminate one person, one vote? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I think that the winner of the primary will end up being either an incumbent or the candidate selected by the leadership of the political party. Ranked choice will probably result in fewer candidates vying for the board, resulting in less choice rather than more choice. | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Ranked voting will not improve representation of different viewpoints among Arlingtonians. The all-at-large seats on the Board consistently leave out concerns and views in different areas of the County. We need seats to be allocated by areas. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I realize ranked choice is the flavor of the month but do not understand how it solves any problem Arlington may have in electing officials. Candidates routinely win by 60%+ in every precinct. I can't remember when a run off was required here. | Why is this being considered and appropriate for Arlington? What is the huge defect in the current process given races are rarely close. It offers more confusion than clarity in voting. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Ranked choice voting is a bad idea. Ranked-choice voting makes the common good inferior to each person's private first choice. The common good of Arlington county will likely gets ranked second choice or below for each citizen. It is sometimes thought that the sole purpose of an election is to make government accountable to the people and representative of their will. A fault of ranked-choice voting is that it aims to perfect this idea by offering some success to as many shades of opinion as possible. But another, greater purpose for elections was intended by the Constitution's framers: to find competent public officials. | The voters should get not only what they want, like consumers, but also what is good for them as citizens. Competency among those elected is never assured, but it will stand a better chance when voters are selecting the candidate who is best for the job as well as the one most representative of their will. Ranked-choice voting may bring competency along with accuracy, but accuracy is all that is asked for. Competency ought to include the ability to unite the country in a majority, not just to make pleasing speeches to the voters known as the base. Ranked-choice voting rewards extremism in the electorate. Voters who make extreme choices should be punished via exclusion from the majority. Ranked-choice voting rescues them from the penalty they deserve for throwing away their ballot on an extreme first choice. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | This is a bad idea. Stick with the tried and true methodology of electing or officials. It's worked for hundreds of years. Ranked choice creates the opportunity for a candidate to win that did not have the vote of the most voters. There is a way to game the system and it will happen to the displeasure of voters. | Nothing else to B add. It's a bad idea. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22207 | This is too confusing for a lot of people and it can take weeks to figure out an election winner as seen in other jurisdictions that have implemented it. It's unnecessary and just trendy. | Why would this have any benefits for the people of Arlington County? If there are benefits how do they outweigh the confusing system and slow vote counting that could undermine faith in the election system? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | This is equally as stupid of an idea as was the gift to developers and the county coffers (read corrupt county board) as the missing middle and multi family housing Idea. Arlington County Board Members should be ashamed of their blatant disregard for the electorate and their wholesale pursuit of special interests and personal gain. | None. It is a sham. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | No - absolutely do not accept ranked Choice Voting | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I am not in favor of this type of voting. | I am concerned that there would be a very large number of possible candidates listed on the voting ballot. How could this be restricted? Too many candidates to choose from makes this a very difficult way to have sufficient knowledge about individual candidates to make an informed choice when ranking all candidates. Will the number of candidates that all voters rank be limited to the top 3 or 4? Even this number may be difficult to fairly rank. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | None | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Bad idea. | Why are you interfering with a system that has worked well for over two centuries? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Do not like it. Looking at where it has been used, it puts the minority party at a greater disadvantage. Example, CB race, majority party runs several candidates ensuring no majority on first vote, then each further step likely dilutes minority party candidate's votes. | Why????? Better change would be to have CB members from districts with maybe one county-wide. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Please do not do this as it creates opacity for voters | See above | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I am against it. The current system works so why mess with it? | I don't trust most of the members of the current Board because they are more interested in over-crowding the County than in creating a great community. The fact that the Board is bringing this up makes me suspicious. And NO, I am not a Republican, although I suspect Board Members Kristol, Dorsey, and Ferranti have Republican tendencies. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | No to ranked choice voting | Why the change to something that will be confusing? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Definitely not necessary. No reason to change current voting system. | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22207 | See the attached file for an explanation. Key Points: 1. Ranked choice voting is a scheme to disconnect elections from issues and allow candidates with marginal support from voters to win. 2. It obscures true debates and issue-driven dialogs among candidates and eliminates genuine binary choices between two top-tier candidates. 3. It disenfranchises voters, because ballots that do not include the two ultimate finalists are cast aside to manufacture a faux majority for the winner. | How will you audit this and make it transparent to citizens? We certainly do not need increased manipulation of votes using non-transparent voting machines and proprietary software. | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | While it is technically constitutional, it often allows the election of no one's top choice. I am against it. | Will the county revisit it if the voters do not end up liking it? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I do not like ranked choice. If I choose to vote for a candidate who is eliminated I want the opportunity to choose where my vote goes in the next round. More information about a particular candidate might become available following the initial election date that would change my mind. Also bad weather on election day may vary the outcome, I'd like to see maximum voter participation. | None, I believe I understand it. It seems to solve an Arlington democrat unique problem to save money for a second election if necessary. I don't care for this shortcut | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Oppose. Dumb idea. | In an election I choose to support or oppose a candidate generally. However, I may decide to not support any candidate. I don't want to have a voting system where another system where another method is used to determine the winner(s). | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | I hold a degree in political science and a law degree. I am vehemently opposed to the recent adoption of RCV across the country. Ranked choice voting produces an unnecessary level of uncertainty and confusion to voters that undermines the integrity of our elections. While RCV theoretically requires the successful candidate to reach a majority of votes, RCV results in exhausted ballots when voters only rank one or two candidates, particularly in races in which voters do not possess information about every candidate. Rather than ensuring candidates receive a majority of votes, RCV can too easily result in voters not having their voice counted at all in the subsequent rounds of tabulation. | Will Arlington County require all voters to rank every candidate in order of preference or will voters be able to simply rank one or two candidates | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | Ranked Choice Voting has seen the election of people who were nowhere near the top of the majority's choice. It is very confusing and complicated and if people have a difficult time selecting candidates now, they will definitely have a hard time with RCV. Also, it obscures the process so that it is even harder to make sure that the election was handled fairly and transparently. | N/A | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | Do not implement it. It is a sham!! | None | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22209 | Ranked-choice voting should be used for primary elections ONLY because the USA has a presidential system, not a parliamentary system. The ranked-choice system results in too many anomalies, such as the special election for the one Congressional seat in Alaska where a Republican state ended up with a Democratic. | What specific electoral problem would ranked-choice voting really solve? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |

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| 22209 | It weights votes and unconstitutional. One person, one vote. I am a former Maine resident and it ruined our election system there. | What is your methodology to count ranked votes? | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22213 | Do not support. Too complicated. Risk of candidates who wouldn't have won the traditional way -- 1 person, 1 vote--, of winning. Takes too long to get results. | Aren't those who vote the traditional way, just for 1 person, at a disadvantage? | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22201 | The rules governing rank-choice voting allow voters to assign more than one candidate to a rank to express their preferences. The County's plan does not consider this option. Why not? Also, if machines are to be used to count votes, they should be tested if the system is designed to process voter preferences through more than one round of voting to produce a majority winner. Currently, FEC standards do not require such testing. | RCV may actually increase the number and diversity of candidates running for office. This effect involves potential tradeoffs that should be analyzed. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22201 | I don't see any real value in ranked choice voting, and do not think it is needed here. If it is implemented, it will probably take a couple of election cycles before voters somewhat understand it, and it will likely help further division in the community. There are other things that the Board can work on that would be of more use to the community (improving economic development & quality of issues in core corridors, etc.). | Honestly, why it is needed here in the first place? It creates confusion where current elections are pretty easy to understand. It can also create divisive coalitions, and help lead wing candidates to victory. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22202 | It is difficult to get people to come out to vote once and requiring three rounds seems inefficient and inconvenient. | I don't dislike ranked voting, but three rounds is too much. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22203 | None | None | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | With RCV, it may not be clear to voters the implications of the ranking system for candidates ranked after choice #1. My hometown in the midwest instituted RCV for local races and number of candidates on the ballot ballooned, creating voter confusion and lesser desired candidates getting elected based on the ranking. Winner take all elections are straight forward, understandable, and can be completed in a timely manner. | I would be concerned about dilution of the candidate pool. While the bar for entry into races should not be exorbitant, lesser candidates may be more likely to attempt a run, cluttering the ballot. | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Favors incumbents | Why do this at all? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | The linked materials give no indication WHY you are proposing rank choice voting. This is a significant gap, because rank choice voting has been seen used by parties with vested interests in stacking multiple member organizations (such as councils or committees). | What is the exact reason this is being proposed? Is it for financial reasons (to avoid runoffs)? If that is the case, what are the estimated savings? Can you improve explanation to ensure that this is not a Democratic partisan effort to stack a group of elected positions? (I am a Democrat, by the way, but this was my first assumption when I see the proposal for rank choice.) | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22204 | Cumbersome process, Logistical nightmare that has a very real possibility of delaying results indefinitely. | None, don't see the need to change. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |

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| 22205 | Elections and politics aside, I encourage the Board to consider this change from a survey design and human psychology perspective. Please review the article written by an experienced survey developer at https://greatbrook.com/ranked-choice-voting-the-good-the-opaque-the-end-game/ . While at first glance this appears to be a straightforward alternative to traditional voting, there are many opportunities for error and unintended consequences. The math alone involved with reallocation of votes significantly reduces transparency. | What is flawed in the existing election process that warrants making a change? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22205 | There is no information provided to explain why this is being considered. | How is it better or worse than our current process? What are the implications for the Board race? I would like much more information on the rationale for making a change like this for Arlington specifically. What problem is this solving? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22205 | I believe that voters may be skeptical of the results due to the multiple iterations that must occur before a "winner" is derived. | Confusion over how to vote and causing potential voters to just skip the process | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22206 | I think it complicates the tabulation and vote counting, which could risk election results being challenged and the public not understanding and/or not trusting the results. | How does the potential benefit from this system measure against the risks of loss of public trust in the election process since the process is more complicated and difficult to understand. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | Few know RCV, it will require an extensive educational campaign and other changes that cost money. There are no obvious benefits to the RCV system based on empirical studies conducted on cities and states using RCV. Tax funds can be put to better use than for a new voting system. | Cost of converting to a new voting system and impact on Arlington resident taxes. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I was initially supportive of the idea, but am persuaded by available research that the confusion it contributes to the voting process, and the non-intuitive and potentially paradoxical effects of different ranked-choice voting strategies (https://alaskapolicyforum.org/2020/10/failed-experiment-rcv/) means that it is very likely to cause more problems than it solves (if any). There are simpler approaches that may do a better job achieving some of these ends - e.g. multi-member districts - that are worth exploring first. | See prior comments | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I'd rather see an election of multiple candidates reduced to just two then have voters return to the polls a month later to vote on one. | I don't think citizens know enough about all the candidates for ranked-choice voting. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | The one thing the County does well is run elections. Don't mess with success. | Is there any reason to do this? The Board has become a pawn for outside interests (Amazon, Missing Middle scam developers, etc) so this makes me question why the Board would even explore this. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | I don't support Ranked Choice Voting | With RCV it's no longer really one person one vote. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22207 | RCV sounds good in practice, but voter turn-out will be way down for a separate run-off election. We already have way too many election days and elections should not be decided by a very small percentage of the electorate. | How would you do the run-off election in a way that will allow for high voter turnout? Will you have the vote on a weekend? I would not want another canceled school day for a run-off election. | No | 2 - Unfavorable |

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| 22209 | The underlying issue is that the U.S. has the lowest voter turnout rate of any democracy in the world. I just don't see how making voting MORE complicated will even address that, let alone solve the problem. | See above: How does making voting more complicated possibly address our low turnout issue? | No | 2 - Unfavorable |
| 22213 | not supportive of it. | there will be unintended consequences | No | 2 - Unfavorable |

Neutral

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
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| 22201 | I don't know if this is the right direction for Arlington. I'd prefer the county find a way to conduct elections countywide with proportional representation, which would give a better chance to voters who are not Democrats to have representation. It would be nice to have some diversity of thought on the board instead of one-party rule. | None | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | I would like to try it for primaries and then review the process, not automatically move to it for general election. | This supposes that we have positions with many candidates per position, has that happened often in our elections? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22204 | This is transformative and requires significant education of the electorate. It is September 2022, and MMHS is taking up much of people's energy and focus. You need at least 12 months to educate an electorate of over 150,000 people properly. Stakeholders from underrepresented communities must be at the table and weigh in, not just the affluent. RCV is complex and doesn't assume people will understand by June 2023. If you run a pilot program, it needs to be at the same time as the regular primary, with only the official results of the primary and the pilot program used for analysis. From there, you can modify the educational aspect and go live in 2024. I want to know what the ACLU, LWV, NAACP, and others think. What happened in the New York mayoral race was confusing to everyone. | This is transformative and requires significant education of the electorate. It is September 2022, and MMHS is taking up much of people's energy and focus. You need at least 12 months to educate an electorate of over 150,000 people properly. Stakeholders from underrepresented communities must be at the table and weigh in, not just the affluent. RCV is complex and doesn't assume people will understand by June 2023. If you run a pilot program, it needs to be at the same time as the regular primary, with only the official results of the primary and the pilot program used for analysis. From there, you can modify the educational aspect and go live in 2024. I want to know what the ACLU, LWV, NAACP, and others think. What happened in the New York mayoral race was confusing to everyone. | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22209 | I am not sure about this. | Why would we do this? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | I'm interested to see how well it works in operation. | I'm going to take a wait and see approach to this. | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | Why can't we just divide Arlington into 5 districts and vote by district? | Still confused that only the second-place votes of those whose candidates are eliminated are counted in the second round. Shouldn't everyone's second-place votes count? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | Glad we are doing this for a primary in 2023. I hope the Board does a survey after that ranked choice primary. Perhaps ranked choice voting should be decided by the voters in November 2023 or later. | None | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22203 | no comment | no questions | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | Hard to figure out the ramifications from the description given. | How well has this worked in other jurisdictions? However "well" is defined | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22202 | This decision should not be made quickly. There needs be public discussions about it because there are pros and cons. | Haven't done enough research yet to have good questions. | Yes | 3 - Neutral |

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| 22209 | Is Ranked Choice Voting confusing for voters? Does Ranked Choice Voting lead to higher voter engagement and turnout? | How many preferences can I rank under Ranked Choice Voting? Do voters have to rank all the candidates, even candidates they don't like? Does the current voting equipment work for Ranked Choice Voting? | No | 3 - Neutral |
| 22207 | As long as I can continually rank my first choice, for my second, third, etc. choices, then I am ok with ranked-choice voting. If my second choice has to be something other than my first choice, then I am not ok with ranked-choice voting. | see above | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | The scheme is completely worthless, unless all five members stand for ealection at the same time. | Why not have all five members stand for election (or as is more common, reelection) if voters are going to get multiple choices? | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22202 | Do we really have enough people/issues on our ballot to make this viable? What is the goal of the plan? | Seems a really complicated idea for very small list of choices. | Yes | 3 - Neutral |
| 22201 | Ranked Choice voting in single seat primaries, as has been proposed does virtually nothing to improve the current system. Arlington should look at a multi-seat RCV system (also known as proportional representation), similar to what is used in Cambridge MA and other places, and use it in the general election. Such a system would be much more effective in lowering barriers to entry, ensuring a diverse board, and helping ensure that the Board represents the people of Arlington. (For background information, see the Arlington Civic Federation's TIGER report. TIGER's recommendations could go further, but are far better than the current proposal) | Have you considered multi-seat ranked choice voting? What are you doing to make sure Arlingtonians truly know about different voting options before adopting a new system? Why not do away with the primaries and use rank choice in the General Election, allowing everyone to participate. Will you consider doing away with staggered terms and allow Arlingotnians to elect representative candidates all at once, as in Congressional and state legislature elections. | Yes | 3 - Neutral |

Pro (4 & 5)

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Experience | Favorability |
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| 22201 | I am absolutely in favor of ranked-choice voting at every level of elections, so seeing it adopted at the county level would be great! | Would the county be able to include the School Board in its decision to move to ranked-choice voting? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I like the idea of rank choice voting. | How would it be implemented? Would results take much longer to get? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I would like to use ranked-choice voting. It would be a good process/system for elections here in Arlington. | N/A | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | NA | Would this significantly delay the releasing the results? Does Arlington have the technology to support this? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting might improve candidate quality | NA | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Ok | None | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Introducing ranked choice voting to the County Board primary in 2023 is a good move. Voters can learn about its implementation during this pilot project before such a system is more widely adopted. | Will the detailed vote counts, including tabulations from each run-off, be shared promptly with the public? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I am personally attracted to Ranked Choice Voting, but I am concerned that it could impact voters who already tend to participate less. If we were to adopt it, it would require extensive education campaigns, partnering with organizations such as LWV, NAACP, or others who could help reach voting groups who may not be as familiar with the process. | Could it depress voting in certain populations? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Campaign spending limits! No candidate can neither raise nor spend more than \$1,500 for any campaign. Even the playing field! | Why do you not also impose campaign spending limits? And, please, don't cry, "the state won't let us." It's always somebody, something other than this local government. Simple: No candidate can neither raise nor spend more than \$1,500 for any campaign. Even the playing field! | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I think it would be a good idea. | If implemented, would there be sufficient education of voters on exactly how it works? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | none | Do I understand this correctly from the explanation....."The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and voters who ranked that candidate as their first choice will have their votes count for their "next choice"? Does this mean that if the voter did not choose a "2nd choice", but instead selected a "third choice", then their "next choice" would be their "third choice"? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I'd be interested in trying it. I'd be even more interested in seeing Approval voting as an option. | I see very little information about how Arlington is considering implementing it, beyond a very general FAQ. Can we have more information? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I am in favor | would it apply to all elected positions? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | Try it for local elections. See how it goes. If many problems administering it emerge, be able to summarize them and report them to the public. | Americans are accustomed to having candidates who gain a plurality of votes win. Not sure how RCV will sit with people who think the current method is fairest. Will RCV really decrease negativity and divisiveness in elections? If so, let's try it. | Yes | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22201 | Good idea in general. Usually leads to more moderation & less extremes. Not sure it's necessary in small jurisdictions like Arlington. | Similar to my questions about the Missing Middle: would like to see statistics about results of this being used in similar areas before it is tried here. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I believe ranked choice voting would benefit the County as well as other jurisdictions by reducing the likelihood of extremist candidates, from either the left or right. Primaries typically have very low voter turnout and candidates often appeal to those most motivated to vote in a primary, more often than not the far left or far right. Ranked choice voting eliminates the primary and simply allows the most popular candidates to rise to the top, and also allows voters to rank alternative choices. I encourage the board to vote for ranked choice voting. | I would like to understand the details and timing of any proposed implementation. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Ranked choice voting allows for more choice, but flawed systems still result in some voices not having a say. It is important to allow individuals to rank as many (non-write-in) candidates as they choose. Putting a limit on number of candidates (ex. 5 in NYC mayoral primary) leads to ballots in essence not counting. If someone would only like to rank a certain number and their ballot is discarded, that is certainly valid, but to have the potential of having the ballot as essentially a vote for nobody ("inactive" in NYC results) by the final ballot should not be a forced choice. | Would this require upgrades to existing No election infrastructure? If so, at what cost? Will there be a limit on how many ranked choices individuals will be allowed to have? If so, how many? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Ranked choice voting enables more realistic consideration of candidates | How might the outcome of ranked choice voting differ from "normal" voting? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | None | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | I am in favor of trying ranked-choice voting. Introducing it in Arlington, whose population is probably more politically aware than the average Virginia locality, seems to me a wise way to determine how well it will work elsewhere, and to determine how to implement it successfully elsewhere. I have never used ranked-choice voting. I assume other jurisdictions have figured out solutions to the technical problems: how to print ballots, how to program voting machines, etc. | In a county as ethnically diverse as Arlington, I have concerns about ensuring that instructions will be available in a sufficient number of languages. How does the county propose to make sure this is not a hindrance to a significant proportion of voters? I am also concerned about visibility into the process. What steps would be taken to assure voters that the process is performed fairly? In current elections, a losing candidate may request a recount if the vote is close. Does ranked-choice voting work similarly? Can the counts be contested during all stages? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | I support ranked-choice voting. | I have no questions. | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Lets try it! | Have we ever done this in VA | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22202 | Almost anything is better than the current FPTP method, so I'm in favor of RCV in Arlington. Of course, a lot depends on the implementation and making sure voters are informed about how it works. Approval voting could be even better than ranked-choice voting, however - see here for an explanation: https://electionscience.org/library/approval-voting-versus-irv/ (I've also attached a PDF version of the article). Thanks for your consideration! | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | At first I was against it, but I think I feel differently now. I'd like to see us try it. Seems more representative of the voters with RCV. | Want to be clear that a voter can still just vote for their first choice if they want. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | It could be beneficial if there are several candidates so that a person with minimal but more than the others support could not be elected. The winner should have a large support base | Is this a burning issue in Arlington? The primary takes care of this for party nominations and the school board would be where it might come into play. | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22203 | In principle- favorable | Without soe concrete plans, I don't have questions | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | None | None | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | It seems to produce good results. | none | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | This seems to be a more efficient method of assessing voter preferences. And perhaps a more fair process, although our democracy has always rested on the premise of majority-rule. | It's unclear if this method is more vulnerable or less vulnerable to manipulation by wealthy single-interest political advertisers. The hope for me is that it would reduce the ability of money to influence elections. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | Rank Choice voting is a good idea to balance different viewpoints | It will be important to educate voters on how this works | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | I feel that RCV does a better job at achieving greater consensus in elections with large numbers of candidates. | Can RCV be incorporated into the same ballot as would be used for other elected offices? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | It's better than the current system, which could force voters to choose between the lesser of two evils. But it's still dependent on individual candidates, so inevitably voters whose preference is a minority within a district have no representation at all. | Are the Republicans going to use the consideration of ranked choice to argue for splitting Arlington into districts? Again, proportional representation is better bc it doesn't allow gerrymandering and gives minority preferences representation even within a district. Of course Republicans don't propose proportional representation bc it would hurt them nationwide. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | In favor of RCV, to reduce costs of elections | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in favor of trying it | Is it possible that the person who got the most votes would not win in the end? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting. I think it represents an opportunity to ensure candidates are favored by the majority of the community. This isn't too often an issue in Arlington, because so much of the county is solidly supportive of the Democratic party, however ranked choice voting would avoid the issue of having a candidate that only a minority approve of win in an election where multiple independent candidates run. Ranked choice voting should allow for candidates to attempt to appeal to the widest possible range of supporters, rather than just to their political base. | Would it be implemented that if a candidate wins a majority of first-preference votes, he or she is declared the winner? If no candidate wins a majority of first-preference votes, the candidate with the fewest first-preference votes will be eliminated. First-preference votes cast for the failed candidate are eliminated, lifting the second-preference choices indicated on those ballots. A new tally is conducted to determine whether any candidate has won a majority of the adjusted votes. The process is repeated until a candidate wins an outright majority. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | If introduced, the ballot instructions should be very clear and voter education extensive. Ballots should be readable by the voting machines (not need manual counting). If someone makes a mistake, such as 'voting' for a candidate more than once, count that vote in the first instance and stop -- don't invalidate the ballot. | None | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | This sounds like a great idea. | No questions. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I am for it. | I'd like to know how the votes are tabulated. Is it someone gets 1000 votes, but doesn't have the majority of the votes so if you indicated person 2 your vote now goes to them? Is that correct? If not please explain it simply. Statistically how does this reflect the voters? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I support ranked choice voting | Will rank choice voiting cost more to implement and count the votes? | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22204 | I believe rank choice voting in primary and general state run elections would allow for more democracy at the local level. But this needs to also happen in general elections. | No additional comments | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | Why don't you take this opportunity to try not only ranked choice, but on-line and remote voting as well? | See above | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | I think it's an interesting idea and encourage the County Board to try it | n/a | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22204 | None | N/A | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am a proponent of it, as it should provide for more diverse elected officials. | N/A | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am in favor of it | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | None | Would there be a limit to the number of "ranked" positions or would all candidates be ranked? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I support ranked-choice voting. Anything changes the "either/or" proposition is a good thing for the community. Ranking candidates helps voters contemplate a number of likely outcomes from their vote. In my view, it ultimately results in fairness because all votes are considered and no vote is wasted. It will also make the tone of the elections more positive. | Is there a cost associated with moving to ranked-choice voting? Does the country intend to provide 'training video' as part of the implementation to ensure everyone understands the new ballots? Will moving to ranked-choice voting increase voter participation? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting as an option | is it only applicable to local elections? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | There's a useful free app resource that can help citizens become more familiar with ranked choice vote. It's a useful tool for small-scale, low-stakes elections or votes. RCV123 is the name of the app. It's free to use. Here's the website: https://www.rcv123.org/ I work at Arlington Public Library; let me know if you're interested in doing public programs about it. jodlum@arlingtonva.us | I think it would be interesting to know whether people using ranked choice voting try to use it in a non-straightforward way. For example, would voters try to rank an undesirable candidate higher than they would personally prefer in order to knock out another undesirable candidate? If people use ranked choice the way it's intended, I think it makes a lot of sense. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I am in favor. Must be implemented--and I think this is the plan--such that voters are not required to rank all candidates. That is, a voter can make just one choice if desired, rank top 2 of 4, etc. | How will the new method be explained to voters. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | It's a great idea especially when we have multiple seats to fill. | Will they use it for the general election too? | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I like the fairness and sense of Ranked-choice voting; allowing voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference | I am not hearing objections to RCV that are making sense to me. Always open to hearing both sides. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I support the Board's proposal to use RCV in next year's Board primary, This will be a good way for voters to learn how to use this new type of voting system, without fear of too big a change at one time. | I have uncertainty and qualms about how RCV would work if we move to having a larger Board, which some are recommending. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22205 | I support a change to implement ranked choice voting | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | Let's give it a try. | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it would be a good idea to try. I'm not sure it would make much difference in County Board races, but it could result in a wider variety of candidates running. | Why not also for school board? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | As I understand it, I am in favor of ranked choice voting. | None at this time. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it would be good to test ranked-choice voting | I think I understand how it works, but a lot of people may be confused. How will the results be reported; will that include how many or % of votes from the lower-ranked choices were distributed to which higher-ranked choices? For this method to be accepted by voters, transparency about the process and outcomes will be essential. | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22206 | I'm familiar with RCV from our Arlington County Democratic endorsement caucuses, which have seemed to work well. Also, due to my close familiarity with Alaska politics thru my clients' business, I'm familiar how it's worked in Alaska, which just resulted in a moderate Democrat winning the US House seat and first Democrat in that seat in 50 years, instead of Trump-endorsed Sarah Palin (ugh) who would have won under the state's former traditional closed primary. Also, it will save moderate Sen. Murkowski from her Trump-endorsed opponent. That alone is all I need to know. | None. If they can successfully implement RCV statewide in far-flung Alaska, as well as New York City, it can be EASILY implemented in Arlington. It's not rocket science. | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | Would this be available for other county office primaries such as school board? | As long as the process is clearly explained to voters through several methods before election and at polling locations, I have no issues. I think it is an interesting step. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | While I support RCV in principle, I don't think it's the most important election-related reform the County Board should be focused on. I think more good can be done by either expanding the number of County Board seats, eliminating at-large districts, or both. | If ranked-choice voting is used in the June primary, is it possible to also implement for the November general election? Have the Arlington Democratic and Republican parties endorsed use of RCV? Do they have a say in the decision? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | I support the idea for the county to do ranked-choice voting. | n/a | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22206 | Support this as an economical approach. | No comments | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | Go for it! | Provide a very thorough explanation so that every voter understands its implications. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I attended the Committee of 100 event with the TIGER team of the civic associations on RCV, district voting, and the status quo in Arlington. Either RCV or district voting would be preferable to the current at-large system. The data and analysis the TIGER team presented were convincing in terms of making the Board more representative and accountable to diverse stakeholders throughout Arlington. | What is the plan for voter education? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting for the county board. | No questions now. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | x | x | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I've heard some of the discussions and it sounds as though it has advantages, especially where there are substantial differences between and among candidates of a party. | Would like to see pros and cons from several jurisdictions where it has been used, after the Nov. elections so that some analysis can report on how it might have made a difference in outcomes. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | Before instituting ranked-choice voting, it is imperative for the voting public to have a full understanding of how it works - both the act of voting itself and the counting. Voting systems can be complicated, e.g., the proportional representation used for municipal elections in Cambridge, Massachusetts. It is also important to state the objective, as there are different schools of thought on how progressive it is. | What elections are contemplated for ranked-choice? What type of civic education is contemplated? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it's a method that is worth trying. The Board can evaluate the effectiveness after the next election. | none | Yes | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it would encourage more people to run and would possibly eliminate one party rule in Arlington. | How will ranked-choice voting impact the cost of elections? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | Although campaign literature advises potential voters of political party affiliation of the candidates, I would prefer that information on political party affiliation be left off of the ballot. | If a voter's preferred candidate is omitted from consideration early in the process, would there be a way of expressing dissatisfaction with all remaining candidates? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | It allows for a more nuanced result | None | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22207 | I think RCV should be applied to a single non-partisan primary. I encourage you to review the operation of the Alaskan system and consider the improvements offered in a Nov 1, 2022 opinion piece in the Washington Post about RCV by Drs. Foley and Maskin. I think our current system encourages candidates to appeal to the activist base in each party rather than being responsive to the broader electorate, and leaves too many feeling that the candidate choices available to them in the general election are unrepresentative of their views. | How would the Board address the challenge of helping citizens understand the mechanics and the fairness of such a new system? How would a nonpartisan primary be implemented? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22209 | I think it's a good idea! | none | No | 4 - Favorable |

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| 22213 | I hope it prevents straight Democrat or straight Republican outcomes and forces voters to better evaluate candidates. | Will ranked-choice be phased in or started across all contests? What education of the electorate will be done beforehand? How would candidates be nominated so that we get more than two choices? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22213 | Personally, I feel it is a good way of voting. I would vote for it. | Can Arlington do it even if the State doesn't agree to it or can the State disallow it? | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22213 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting. | Will need instructions on how to fill out the ballot. | No | 4 - Favorable |
| 22201 | I think ranked voting is great. | I have no questions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Do it please it leads to a better democracy | None. I've used it at work and watch CPGrey videos on the topic | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting for all elections. It provides the voters with the best menu of options and the ability to have their voice heard, by having multiple preferences considered. It will increase turnout particularly for those who may feel disaffected. I support this proposal. | Voters will need to be educated about the benefits of ranked choice voting and how to make their selections, as many may be unfamiliar with the concept. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would greatly improve election fairness and would give third party candidates a fair shot and enable voters to more accurately represent their interests | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Big fan of ranked choice voting and I fully support it. | Will there be a maximum/cap on the number of candidates from either major political party? Will there be a maximum "top 3" (or whatever number) candidates or would all potential candidates be able to be ranked. How will the public be educated on what ranked choice voting is, the pros/cons, and other information a constituent needs to know. What will the timeframe from approval to implementation be? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting. However, I don't think Arlington residents will benefit from ranked choice voting until we move away from having staggered terms and elections for County Board members. We need an election policy that increases prospects for a Board that reflects *all* of Arlington and one that is less prone to group think and smugness.. | Will Arlington use mock elections to educate voters, shake out bugs and allow ample time for feedback and possible changes? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a good step towards diversifying the political candidate pool and making the system more equitable. I'm fully in favor. | Are there other potential voting systems being considered? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I would be in support of switching to ranked voting. | How do we ensure that information is on the change and how to now vote is widely available? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I want ranked choice voting for ALL elections at County level, not just the primary election. RCV will ensure that County-level bodies represent EVERYONE, not just the tiny fraction of voters who participate in a firehouse primary. The current system lacks legitimacy because it elects people who all have the same views - as seen in the debate on Missing Middle. We need RCV, for the Board's diversity, credibility and legitimacy. Because a primary winner can have a lock on the general election, we need RCV for ALL elections. Some will say RCV is costly and it delays determining the winner. These are not valid objections! Arlington can cut costs by learning from jurisdictions that already have RCV. As for delay - if that's what matters most, why hold elections at all? Finally: ALL County Board members should be elected at the same time. | (1) Many other jurisdictions have RCV - Yes and in some, RCV dates back tens of years. They have a lot of knowledge on how to implement RCV efficiently and transparently. How will the County Board learn from them on how to organize RCV so it is efficient and cost-effective? (2) The County Board instituted staggered terms for the Board in the 1950s in order to prevent or deter Black representation on the Board. When will the Board take a hard look at how racism shaped how Arlington chooses its elected government? Why not combine RCV with a switch to electing all County Board members at the same time? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I fully support ranked-choice voting and want to see it adopted in Arlington. | No questions at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Much better than current system | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | I'm in favor of ranked-choice voting. | If Arlington proceeds with ranked-choice voting, when would it begin? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | It's a good idea, to enable more diverse candidates and avoid small minority/plurality wins. | It's important to publish the results in full, showing how the runoffs played out. Consider also how to handle multi seat elections. I think there's a case to be made for districted board and school board elections—not necessarily rigid districts but some way to guarantee district wide (and racial) representation in currently at-large elections. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Yes! Very good idea. | No-I have a good understanding and fully support | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support implementing ranked-choice voting. I hope the county will implement a process for completing all rounds of the vote counting quickly. | I am comfortable with my understanding of the voting method. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of ranked-choice voting. | Has the board studied other places that have introduced RCV, what their experience has been, lessons learned etc.? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | i'm for it, i've heard that communicating how it works to the voters can be tricky but it seems like it works fine in practice, it allows people to try a moon shoot for a wacky candidate and still have a say in who actually wins. | none | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I would love to see Arlington use Ranked Choice Voting for all elections as soon as possible. | I have no questions and do not think it will be difficult to explain ranked choice voting to Arlingtonians. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Strongly support. As leading county in America, we should set the example, and try to provide more realistic options than the current two-party slate currently does. Realistically, our county candidates are strong and generally reasonable, so results may not change that much. But we should lead by example for the rest of the US | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Finally - this is the best way to choose candidates by a consensus, rather than having similar candidate cancel each other out and resulting in an inferior candidate win the election. | Can we also eliminate the Democratic/Republican primaries? Just have one rank-choice election without primaries. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked-choice voting is more fair and more efficient. Hooray for RCV!! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | We should absolutely adopt ranked choice voting. We have an effective one party system at the Arlington County board. This will at least allow board members to be held more accountable to voters on more specific issues without Democratic voters having to worry about enabling the election of a Republican. That is simply the reality of Arlington. I don't want to wind up with an ineffective government like DC. | Will this replace the Democratic caucus, which is an extremely insular system that is outdated? Will party ID be included on the ballot? Will we still be able to use the scanning machines for voting efficiently? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Besides educating constituents and maybe extra cost there is no reason not to move to ranked choice voting. These seem like easy hurdles to overcome to have an outcome that actually reflects the majority of voters and discourages negative campaigning. | What is an actual reason not to do it? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly support the implementation of ranked-choice voting. I would like to vote for a candidate without having to worry about being a spoiler vote. For example let's say there are 3 candidates running: A, B and C. Candidates A and B are the most popular with C the least popular. I may want to vote for candidate C but because I would rather have Candidate A over Candidate B I vote for Candidate A. If ranked-vote voting were implemented then I could rank C first, A second and B third. That way I wouldn't have to worry about wasting a vote and potentially ending with the with candidate I least prefer end up winning. | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | 100 percent supportive | Zero. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Strongly in favor! I believe that ranked-choice voting is more democratic (in that it captures more detail on voters' preferences) and produces more cooperative and moderate outcomes. | If rolled out, I would want an education campaign so people understand it's benefits (so it isn't rolled back if people are confused/misinformed) | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support rank choice voting for all election races, including Presidential, US Senate, US House of Rep, State, and local races. Let's try it out with the next County Supervisor election race. | What procedures will be established to ensure results are tabulated as quickly as possible so that a final result doesn't take weeks to attain? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked-choice voting in Arlington elections. Please do not delay any longer. | It is easy to understand if properly explained. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting supports diverse beliefs and ideas. | Would this apply to all political elections within county or just county board? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would be great! | How much voter education will there be? To the extent the county has multiple options for implementation, how will a decision be made? How much input will voters have I'm making that decision? What experts will be involved in the decision making? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Thank you. Rcv is great. This should be s stronger step. Rcv for all local elections. Multi sear rcv is the gold standard we need to eventually aim for. | What is taking you so long? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly favor ranked choice voting. | How soon can it be implemented? The sooner the better. Also, something different should be implemented to change Arlington's staggered term regime. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked-choice voting represents a big step forward towards creating a more perfect union. Other localities in the commonwealth are waiting for someone to take the lead on this. If Arlington County does not adopt ranked-choice voting soon, there will be a delay in the Commonwealth adopting it. We are fortunate to have a very competent and able General Registrar and staff that will be able to implement a successful roll out and blaze a trail for the rest of the State. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm 100% in favor of ranked-choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I am very strongly in favor of ranked-choice voting. It ought to be implemented nationwide. No candidate should be able to win election with less than a majority of votes. | What voter information campaign does the county plan to run? Will poll workers onsite be trained to clearly and concisely explain the process and answer any questions voters may have? If RCV is implemented, will the Arlington Democratic Party use it or will they seek to avoid it by having a caucus or convention? How will RCV impact the amount of time it takes to publish election results, and what is the county's plan to prepare residents for delays and explain the process? What procedure will vote tabulators follow if voters fail to rank choices and simply mark off one or more candidates, e.g. with an "X" or checkmark? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm a strong supporter. It rewards campaigns that appeal to the middle. It's less partisan. Let's be leaders and do it. | How would you educate people so they aren't surprised and confused when they arrive at the voting booth? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | RCV gives me a stronger influence in an election where my first choice is not the first choice the majority. I believe it should pressure against negative campaigning. | One of the biggest negatives to RCV may be educating the public to its advantages and thus moving away from the status quo. If necessary, does the County have the patience and guidance to make the change? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of ranked choice voting as it is a way to make our elections less partisan. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Please implement it. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly support RCV | Is it possible for RCV to be voted on via ballot measure instead of via County Board resolution? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I favor RCV as a way to allow us to vote for whom we really want, rather than against the person we fear most. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Ranked choice voting is a great way to help strengthen our democratic institutions. By allowing voters a second and third choice, it allows voters to vote for a candidate they may like best, without worrying about throwing away their vote. It is a check against extremism and a generally unpopular candidate from winning with a small plurality of the vote. In summary, I am a strong supporter of ranked choice voting for arlington. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | STRONGLY SUPPORT | HOW SOON CAN WE START? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I fully support ranked-choice voting. It will encourage candidates to consider all voters and better reflect the range of voter opinions. | Are there proposed limitations on the number of candidates? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support it. I wonder why this is limited to the primaries. My preference would be to eliminate primaries and have one non-partisan race using Rank Choice Voting in November. | Why not at the November general election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support this means of voting because it will eliminate costly additional elections. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I am strongly in favor of ranked choice voting. | I'd just want the instructions to be very, very clear so nobody is confused when they vote. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | n/a | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly endorse it, not only for Arlington, but throughout the U.S. as a way of reducing political polarization. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | This is a very admirable issue that helps enfranchise more voters in the jurisdiction, and would make elections more fair. | What will the threshold need to be for people who want to run as candidates in a ranked-choice election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | The Arlington County Board should adopt rank choice voting for all elections. The benefits far outweigh any detriments. | Why has it taken Arlington County so long to embrace rank choice voting? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting (RCV) would be a great addition to our local political system. I believe that candidates should receive at least 50% of the vote to win, and RCV guarantees that outcome where a plurality system does not (at least not every time). RCV also eliminates "spoiler" candidates (i.e., Ross Perot and Ralph Nader). I am absolutely in support of RCV in Arlington for our Board and primary election candidates. | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked-choice voting as it may result in more diverse candidates on the Board that are representative of the full community in Arlington. | When would it be implemented? Would the Board also be expanded? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I think it has a very good chance of successful implementation with few glitches in Arlington County, which has a high proportion of well-educated voters. I think Arlington would be an excellent testing ground for the rest of Virginia. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | YES! We should move to ranked choice voting. It would encourage more candidates to run for the county board. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Absolutely, makes the most sense. Do something right and adopt it. | Voters need to be educated about the process | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm in favor of Ranked Choice Voting. | How soon could it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | it's about time! | How quickly can this be implemented? Before the 2023 election? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'm for it | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | I think ranked choice voting is a great idea and will break the stranglehold that the democrats have over the County Board. For a long time, many of us have been trying to get independent voices in to the Board. Ranked choice will allow voters to vote for more than just one candidate. | I would want to make sure that voters know that their candidate may not be elected. In the past, it was virtually guaranteed that the democratic candidate was going to get elected. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I enthusiastically support ranked-choice voting. It provides the fairest outcome. | How quickly would election results be announced? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Believe RCV will allow for more fair consideration of candidates from political parties other than Dem/Rep. | Providing instructions that are easily understandable by all voters. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I strongly support RCV and I urge you to adopt it immediately. It is simpler for voters after first use, requires less guesswork. It tends to lead to more civil campaigns, and it reduces the chance a widely disliked candidate will be elected just because the field was crowded. | Like any other voting procedure, RCV requires some voter education for first time users. After the first time it becomes natural. I recommend finding trained educators at each polling place the first time it is implemented. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I would like to see Arlington adopt RCV. Currently, the Democratic primary is effectively the deciding election, and while I am a Democrat, I often dislike the candidates chosen or endorsed by Arlington's Democratic Party. County board candidates with the party's support seem to be able to stay in office indefinitely and are more responsive to the most wealthy, conservative Democrats rather than progressives or minority voters. Switching to RCV could require candidates to appeal to more voters and make races fairer, more competitive, and more representative. In RCV, the candidate with the broadest swatch of support rather than the strongest base wins, and that seems more democratic than the current process. | I do find RCV to be a bit confusing, and I have a PhD! While I support implementing it, I would ask that the county provide ample explainers in multiple languages (esp. Spanish) so that voters understand the process fully. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV and think our county should immediately implement it. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I think the problem which most needs addressing is that we have a very small slice of the Dem electorate putting its candidates into office every single time. There is much more variation of opinion within the Democratic Party in Arlington than turns up on the dais at School or County Board. We have a LOT too many 5-0 votes, for issues which are NOT 5-0 issues. If we shift to ranked choice voting, and in particular shift from our current staggered terms for Board members to electing more members at once, we will get a better representation of the opinion groups in the electorate - both inside and outside the Dems. Most Arlingtonians are Dems, so most of those elected would be Dems, but there will be much better representation of the span of opinions here. The other big problem is that Feds can't run in partisan primaries, so are excluded from running for office here - if we drop the partisan primaries, as ranked choice permits, that problem goes away | Ranked choice can enable us to get rid of partisan primaries and run the election entirely in November. I guess if there is a question, it is what kind of justification can be offered not to make that choice. Somehow the below questions don't take text for me, so I will answer here: I voted in ranked choice elections for school board caucus in Arlington and in municipal elections in Cambridge Mass | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Great idea. This approach will best reflect the full preferences of the voters. | None. I'm familiar with the approach. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Great idea. Glad you are giving it a try. | Is the County considering the possibility of combining ranked choice voting with dividing Arlington into five separate voting districts? Having all County-wide candidates reduces diversity. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | <p>Hi Arlington County Board,</p> <p>My name is Ben Silvan - I'm a young professional living near Court House. I recently completed my Masters in Technology Management at Georgetown, and did my Bachelors in Economics & Political Science at UChicago a couple years prior.</p> <p>My biggest concern with America's political structures is that we are incentivizing bad behavior. Our current plurality-wins approach contributes to this issue, and Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) would move us in the right direction. It does so in 3 ways.</p> <p>1) RCV incentivizes candidates to cater to a larger swath of the population because you want 2nd place votes too, disincentivizing extremism and incentivizing reasonableness.</p> <p>2) RCV disincentivizes negative campaigning (attack ads) for the same reason.</p> <p>3) RCV gives lesser-known candidates a chance and eliminates the "spoiler effect"</p> <p>The benefits abound.</p> <p>I'm very excited to hear that Arlington is considering the policy, and strongly urge this body to adopt it.</p> <p>Thanks, Ben</p> | <p>I would like more clarity into the financial cost of RCV. As someone who has followed these developments relatively closely, I feel this body hasn't been as transparent in this aspect as it could be. Previously, I recall discussion around the number of \$3 million. Is this still the cost estimate or has something changed? Does this sticker price solely relate to the implementation of RCV functionality in voting machines, or other benefits as well (e.g. more updated models of voting machines, better security provisions, the option to integrate additional add-ons in the future, etc)?</p> <p>Because of the incentive-related benefits of RCV, I believe a sizeable upfront cost is justified. But I would like further clarity into what that cost is.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | <p>Ranked choice voting is a great idea. It may help to elect more moderate candidates. My preferred candidate is often unlikely to win, so I would personally benefit from being able to pick a second choice as well as a first choice.</p> | <p>Is it intuitive? How can we tell if voters are getting confused and filling it out incorrectly? I'm not worried about this for myself but this system has to work for everyone.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | <p>Good evening. I hope all of you are well. Thank you for reading this comment. I am very interested in expanding the utilization of ranked choice voting and open primaries. There is much I do not know, pertaining to the impact this would have on your processes and interests. If possible, I would love to learn more and figure out how we could move forward together.</p> | <p>What are the main challenges preventing the implementation of ranked choice voting? What are its main drawbacks? Is the current status quo the most effective and representative democracy we can muster? What are you doing to slow/revert the widespread polarization afflicting society and politics?</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | <p>Sounds great.</p> | <p>None.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | <p>I support ranked choice voting as a means to ensure that the voice of the voters is more clearly heard in elections. I have dual citizen, and have experienced different t voting systems including party list systems. While such system can get complex if implemented poorly, they can also allow for greater choice while limiting some of the extremes that currently exist in the US.</p> | <p>How it is implemented is critical.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | <p>"Winner" may have a weak plurality, say only 38%, when most voters preferred someone else.</p> <p>In RCV, there are no wasted votes.</p> <p>See Mary Peltola's race in Alaska.</p> | <p>None -- RCV is preferable on all counts.</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | <p>I favor maximum shift to ranked choice voting. This includes the Board's intent to move to ranked choice primary for 2023 and I would also favor using ranked choice voting for the 2023 general. The benefits of ranked choice voting are greatest when multiple candidates are elected at the same time, and the Board should request authorization from the legislature to elect Board members all at once. I support the CivFed TiGER report on enlarging the Board. Current system does not enable the variety of communities within the County to select their representatives effectively.</p> | <p>questions? advice, maybe: look at the educational material used in other jurisdictions putting RCV into place (Maine, NYC, Albany Calif Oakland Calif San Francisco Minneapolis) and think what are best practices for voter education here. Get better voting machines for Arlington which can enable voters to rank into the teens, as I expect early elections in particular will have many candidates. The question below this one does not allow text for me, only yes/no. I have voted in RCV in school board caucus in Arlington and in Cambridge Mass</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Ranked choice voting should absolutely be implemented in Arlington. It gives minor party candidates a chance to win elections, decreases polarization, and incentivizes elected decision makers to do what's best for more of their constituents than the most engaged or extreme voters. It also improves the chances of female and minority candidates. | How will less engaged voters be educated about the switch to and how to use ranked choice voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Sounds like a good option. Let's try it. | Will the voting process take longer in RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Anything to improve the current situation with respect to voting. Might not matter much in Arlington but a start. | Does it matter if only 2 candidates are running for an office? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | While a bit more trouble than conventional winner take all races, my experience with ranked choice voting is overwhelming positive. I highly endorse it's use for Arlington elections. I think it more fair and leads to more participation in running for office. | What authority would run and monitor the ranked choice election process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would better represent voters' preferences in elections. The "winner take all" approach encourages extremism in positions and rewards partisanship. Ranked choice voting would enable a candidate to earn a broader base of support in order to be elected. | How much in advance of an election will ranked choice voting be implemented? How will the public be educated about the way it works and its implications for the candidates to be elected? How many 'elimination rounds' will there be before a winner is declared (in other words, is a candidate declared the winner when he or she reaches a plurality of votes? Or some other total?) | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Thank you for offering this option to maximize the chances that the elected officials actually align with voters' interests!! | When will we consider offering ranked choice voting for other positions? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I am in favor of anything that would reduce the 'lock' that the Arlington County Democratic Committee has on elections. I vote 99% of the time for Democrats (except for the County Board), and my message is that I feel like I have little in common with the ACDC and the ACB. The self-righteousness and arrogance of the current CB members and ACDC leadership are too much. The CB Members - except for Takis - are really skilled at LECTURING their constituents (looking at you in this order, Christian, Libby, Katie, Matt) - and it is so annoying. Even on issues that I don't care about or would even possibly agree with the Board's position, I just listen to the way they talk to people and manipulate 'public engagement'. Really disgusting. They really turn off many of my neighborhood. This isn't about Missing Middle for me as I can see some value in looking at housing - but not the way the County is going about it. Another thing - the way the ACB manipulates commissions - a joke. | Is it possible for ranked-choice voting to somehow get someone on the Board who is not lock-step with ACDC and the ACB and certain extremists on some of the commissions? If so, I'm all for ranked-choice voting. I'm also interested in the work of the TIGER group with CivFed. And also on district voting - would be great. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Voters need this! Please do it asap. Our politics favors polarization, rank order voting helps reflect voters nuanced preferences. | None, seems like a straightforward proposition. Transparency and electoral safeguards won't change right? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | This is so necessary and required. It is the only way for us to have real choices, particularly in a place like Arlington where voters are skewed so much in favor of one party. It provides real options for voters and makes elected officials more responsive | How quickly we can expand to all positions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Overall support as a fairer voting method | What are the exact rules that will be followed? Are there similar jurisdictions where this is in place that we could model Arlington's a new system? How would this be rolled out and introduced to the community? Why would this only be for Board seats? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | RCV seems like a good idea worth supporting and trying. Studies show it encourages better candidates who are more representative of the population | What ways can we explain the process better to increase understanding? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting as it makes more voices heard. | How are run-offs to be conducted? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | I urge the Board to adopt RCV for the next primary, and to strongly consider it for the general election. I'm in favor of any process that makes voting more open and accessible to everybody in a fair, ungerrymandered manner. | Will the County provide maximum education to the public on RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | It's great! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I stand by the decision to utilize RCV for all voting | How can we make it more equitable | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting would allow for voters to have more say during elections. | How do you plan to educate people to ensure they fill out ballots correctly? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | As an Arlington resident and voter, I strongly support Ranked Choice Voting. The current system allows for the possibility that candidates not supported by the majority of Arlington voters could win election. Ranked-choice voting ensures that like-minded candidates do not split votes and encourages candidates to favor less divide tactics and cross-party unity over loud, attention-grabbing, or divisive tactics. | I have no questions, the system seems straightforward enough to me. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Please use rcv | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I believe implementing ranked choice voting is a great idea! It's a great way to ensure the candidate that wins is most widely appealing. | N/A | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | We need rank choice voting for all of our elections not just the primaries. In fact the primaries are highly discriminatory and exclusive and illuminate a lot of the population so let's focus on getting ranchers voting in all of our races. With rank choice voting that political parties will not have to that the candidates anymore and we can get rid of the primaries and caucuses all together | With rank choice voting that political parties will not have to that the candidates anymore and we can get rid of the primaries and caucuses all together | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Arlington county should adopt ranked-choice voting. Given that county issues are more granular than party politics, it allows for residents to make clearer choices about policies. Especially given that Arlington County is highly liberal, ranked choice would allow for more differences between candidates who are liberal. | How can the county help move ranked-choice voting statewide? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Arlington should implement ranked choice voting to empower voters with more choice and strengthen the health of our democracy | How can voters best be educated on how to fill out their ballots under ranked choice voting? How can ballots best be designed to make this as easy as possible? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Yes! We need RCV. | N/A | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | There are a lot of benefits to RCV and Arlington should implement this system. I am in support of eliminating vote splitting, encouraging candidates to work across the aisle and ensuring a winner with majority support. This will also help me vote for the candidate I believe in versus thinking I am throwing away my vote if I don't vote for the popular candidate who may not be the one I want to vote in office. | How quickly can this process be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV, please vote yes! Voters should have the freedom to select who they want without having to worry about the spoiler effect or vote splitting. | Why wouldn't you vote for it, its a no-brainer. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I believe that for this to work you need to change the election cycle so that more board Members were up for election at the same time. I'm all for ranked choice but not if there are only two candidates in the county board race. | See above | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is a great way to make sure that people can vote based on their true preferences without having to worry about the strategic voting that a first past the post (FPTP) system necessitates. RCV would both help voters feel more empowered and help elected officials better understand what their constituents are looking for in leaders by allowing voters to express true support for unique platforms while still participating meaningfully in the electorate. We should implement RCV in Arlington as soon as possible. | Would Arlington be able to effectively educate voters on how RCV works and what it's benefits are? What can we learn from its implementation in other states (such as Maine)? I think Arlington is well placed to lead Virginia and find meaningful answers to these questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I fully support ranked choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV and want your support for RCV as well!! | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV, and think it should be implemented everywhere. It helps build consensus candidates. | I don't have any questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Why are you dragging your feet on this? We've had previous experiments, they went well. In the name of democracy, implement this instead of kicking it down the road. | What are you waiting for? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked-choice voting 100%. It promotes civility among the candidates, and ensures that the final winner has the support of the majority of voters. I see no downside. | It requires voter education, which Arlington is capable of doing. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | Ranked-choice voting would more accurately reflect the voters' opinions. it would prevent people from voting for their second choice candidate if they think their first choice candidate is unlikely to win. | How would the votes be tallied? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting. RCV means winners with closer to majority support -- you don't just have to win the Democratic Party primary, you have to win votes from the whole electorate. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. GO FOR IT! Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | Have you considered the other recommendations of the Civic Federation's TIGER group, as well? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support it. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting." RCV means winners with closer to majority support -- you don't just have to win the Democratic Party primary, you have to win votes from the whole electorate. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support the use of ranked-choice voting in future Arlington County elections. I want to be able to vote my conscience for my most preferred candidate, without having to weigh who is the most electable person that I'm content with or "wasting my vote". It also discourages candidates from extremist or negative campaigning, where the goal is to stake out a position that's unpopular with the majority but appeals to a decisive plurality. Ranked-choice voting encourages candidates to reach out for a broad consensus, and the winner is the reflection of who the majority of the voters ultimately decide is the best candidate. This is a simple and proven way to offer voters a wide diversity of candidates and positions while also protecting against the potential of abuse or electoral quirks that subvert the intent of the electorate | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I'd love to see Arlington adopt rank choice voting. | What the education campaign would be to help people understand how to use it | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22201 | Ranked choice voting is an EXCELLENT voting system IF it is implemented properly. In particular, it functions very well in MULTI-SEAT races, where it functions to allow the electorate to choose a diverse slate of candidates representing a wide range of constituencies (based on all kinds of factors). If implemented in SINGLE-SEAT races it has little to no effect. Arlington should implement RCV for County Board (and perhaps School Board) along with realigning to common election dates for all seats and, possibly, enlarging the size of the bodies by a little bit. The fear of instability is largely unfounded (see, for instance, Cambridge, MA which has reasonable long-term stability with such a system). | Like every other policy proposal, I would start with the question "What are your objectives?". State those clearly and it will be relatively clear whether RCV (and the specific implementation you are recommending) can achieve those objectives. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support ranked choice voting for primaries and elections for all levels of office, local to federal. | How will county be clear and transparent about how ranked choice votes are registered and counted? How would ballots and voting machines change to accommodate this voting method? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I support RCV. Please vote yes! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I just moved here from Minneapolis, where they have ranked-choice voting for local elections. It allowed me to vote for who I actually wanted to represent me. For this upcoming election in Arlington, I would love to vote for Adam Theo because he is actually wanting to do something about the housing crisis. He also supports striving for vision-zero by making Arlington more walkable and bike-friendly. These are both issues that I am passionate about. However, I am nervous to vote for him because of the potential to split the vote between Theo and de Ferranti, allowing Clement to take the election. Ranked-choice voting would eliminate this risk. | N/A | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22201 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting." RCV means winners with closer to majority support -- you don't just have to win the Democratic Party primary, you have to win votes from the whole electorate. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. GO FOR IT! Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | Ensuring proper funding and voter education will be important. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Please do ranked choice voting. The election system in America is clearly flawed and this new style of voting needs to have use cases that prove it can be done. I'd rather us look forward than look backwards and say "son, wtf" at our choices. | How quickly can we do it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | There only ceiling for RCV. If you're the popular candidate by a wide margin, RCV does not change that. Get 50% or more, with a substantial lead, you do not need the additional rankings. This now allows for many candidates to run, and need truly stand for something. | When can you implement? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | This is an excellent idea! Ranked-choice voting is an fantastic solution to the hyper-partisan climate in our country today. I'm particularly excited about using it in local elections to reward candidates for taking consensus-building positions. I hope the Board chooses a format similar to the Alaska model that gives as many candidates as possible a chance to run in a ranked-choice general election. The best benefits of a ranked choice model come when republicans, democrats, progressives, and others can all compete in the final stage of voting. For local elections, we only need one round of voting since the number of candidates is small (no need for a primary and general election). | How would ranked-choice voting work with the current two-step process of a primary and general election? Would it be like the Alaska model (first-past-the-post jungle primary with top 4 candidates advancing to a ranked-choice general election)? The NYC model (ranked-choice primary with first-past-the-post general)? Something else? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22202 | Ranked Choiced Voting should be implemented for the general election, Board member number should be expanded and board members should be elected in larger groups - implement the TIGER recommendations! | Why hasn't it been implemented yet? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think this is a great idea. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | YES! This is really important if the number of board members is increased and more than one opening is available. | How fast the results will be available. Faster results are much better than slow results. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Very supportive of ranked-choice voting and I commend the County Board for leading on this issue. Just please make sure that the County goes ABOVE AND BEYOND to educate people—ESPECIALLY our voters who may not be very fluent in English. | How quickly can we expand it to other offices too? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I fully support the prospect of ranked choice voting. It allows for a greater diversity of candidates and removes some of the necessity of "strategic" voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support it. It's a fairer way to determine election results that helps more diverse candidates get traction and prevents exclusively major party candidates from dominating. | I would have questions if I were reacting to a specific proposal, but I haven't read one as yet. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Please use ranked choice voting. I voted by ranked choice in local elections when I lived in Cambridge, MA and it worked well. It worked well in Alaska this year. I wish we had ranked choice for state and national elections, too. Let Arlington help lead on this | Will you use the method where one can rank up to the full slate, but can choose to rank only some candidates? That was useful in Cambridge, MA where sometimes 20 people ran and I would rank only my top 10. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support using it | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think RCV is great! I believe it will have a moderating effect on our divisive politics | How do we get the entire state to adopt RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think it is a great idea. I believe by rank-choice, this will nicely reflect the will of the citizens. | How soon would this be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I have friends who live in Alaska, which has ranked choice voting. Their experience with this approach to electing officials has been positive insomuch that it appears to help elect less extreme candidates. Based on their first-hand feedback, I am in favor of implementing ranked choice voting in Arlington County. | I have no questions at the moment. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | . | . | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I believe this a very good way and outcome to elect candidates. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Ranked-choice voting enables voters to support their preferred candidate confidently without having to consider the candidate's popularity or ability to market themself. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support it. Ranked choice voting would allow me to cast my vote for the candidate who I think best matches the issues I care about without worrying that by supporting them, I could lead to a horrible extremist to win through a plurality. | How will the county explain this, especially to older and limited English proficient populations? Will there be any timing delays? Will ballots be complex? Will the county talk to jurisdictions that have successfully implemented RCV for best practice learnings? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | This would allow me to show support for candidates who are not the republican or democratic ones and would otherwise be seen as a "wasted vote." Being able to vote for the person I support most, then next voting for who I don't actually want but would rather have would be nice. I think in that regard there might be higher voting turn out if people could vote for their candidate and there be a better possibility of doing well. | How many positions would it be implemented on? Would all local elections have it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | County Bd: Pass an ordinance/resolution ASAP to allow the Elections Commission to work through the technical details of implementation. RCV assures the winning candidate wins at least 50% of the vote; a mandate. Currently, in a 3-person race, for instance, the victor can win with just over 33% of the vote. Candidates must appeal to the entire electorate since it is to their advantage to be a voter's 2d or 3d choice. RCV also eliminates the "spoiler" effect by allowing votes to rank all candidates in preference order (or not rank anyone at all by choosing to vote in the traditional way). | None, I am a strong supporter of this electoral innovation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | This is a great idea for rejuvenating our democracy. | How much will it slow down vote tabulation? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Everything I've read about Ranked Choice Voting has convinced me it would a very positive improvement. | None at this time. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22202 | PLEASE---let's try RCV. Makes so much sense because it enables fairer, more realistic vote, and it results in a winner who is palatable to most folks. Under the current system, it seems that the candidate who can raise the most money tends to win, even though other candidates may be better qualified, but don't have the funds to advertise. | making sure that people understand how it works | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I am a strong supporter! Thank you for moving this forward. This move captures the aspirations of the voters much better. Thank you thank you | I dont have questions. I just hope this passes, so please keep the algorithm simple, so the extremists don't have anything to fight against. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support it. | I support it | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Fully support ranked-choice voting for future local elections. | Will the County provide an orientation and other guidance if this voting option is implemented in the future? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Yes, I am pro ranked choice voting | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I support RCV and would like to see it implemented. | Will the city be investing in electronic systems to help count the votes? How much of the vote counting is already done electronically? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Please do this, it makes for a more democratic systems | I don't have any questions, think it should be implemented | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I fully support the adoption of ranked-choice voting in Arlington. I hope it will spread to the rest of Virginia and ultimately be adopted for all state and federal elections. | How can ranked-choice voting be explained to all potential voters? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think the Board should adopt ranked-choice voting. It is more intuitive and allows for the candidate who is elected to truly represent the preferences of the majority, not just a plurality. | How long will it take to implement ranked-choice voting? How will you educate the public ahead of time on how it works? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Approve it, but do it for all elections! | Could the county advocate for the state to grant permission to allow those 16+ to vote in local elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I am in favor. This is a good way to reduce polarization and promote cooperation across party lines | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | It gives newcomers a better chance | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | RCV is a more precise means of determining the favored candidate. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Political scientist Dr. Francis Fukuyama, in his book, Political Order and Political Decay, makes the intuitive point that, in order for representative democracy to work, it must be representative. The gridlock, partisanship, and ineffectiveness at various levels of government are indications that our representative democracy is breaking down. There are many causes for this breakdown, but, at least one of the cause is that government is not as representative as it ought to be. Ranked-choice voting allows for representation of moderate and independent voices that would otherwise be shut-out by a 'winner-take-all' first-past-the-post voting system. | What voter education is planned to ensure a smooth implementation? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | Like it if the number of Board positions is increased. Having two openings at the same election is very different than 1. | Good info out to voters, but if Alaska can do it, Arlington can do it. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22202 | I think is necessary to broaden participation | None. Follow NYC example. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | This is a great idea and the only possible way to end the current stranglehold of Democrats on the county board. And I say this as a Democrat. We need a board that exhibits some diversity of thought, which we certainly lack now. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting should be implemented as soon as possible in Arlington. It is a fairer way of electing candidates since it allows people to vote their actual preferences rather than having to game out their choices to avoid voting for "spoiler" candidates. Fears that the voting system is too confusing for voters to understand is insulting to the intelligence of Arlingtonians. If the good people of Alaska could figure out RCV then surely we can. | Why wouldn't this method be adopted for both the general election and the primary? Can the current voting systems employed by Arlington handle RCV, or would new equipment need to be purchased? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think it is an ideal way to get the candidates that are the most popular in office. | I think they should do this for the congressional elections too and higher state offices. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I believe ranked choice voting is necessary to create a more accurate representation of the electorates desires. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | I favor it. Eliminates the effect of spoilers. | How soon can it happen? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I fully support the implementation of ranked-choice voting. Allowing citizens to rank their candidates of choice will allow for more discussions around the issues and make campaigns less about money and personality. | How soon can we implement ranked-choice voting? Arlington County needs it yesterday. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am very much in favor of ranked choice voting. It will lead to more positive campaigns, more quality candidates, and another example of ranked choice voting succeeding at a local level encouraging more state/national adoption. | Apart from showing the winners, what additional insights into the math/counting/process will be shown upon completion of ranked choice elections? Will it be a standard report? How transparent? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting is a better way to ensure that the views of the people are reflected in the leadership of the government, which is really the whole point of democracy. I totally support it, and have since first learning about it 30 or so years ago. Its a change long past due. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think this is neat! | I don't have any questions, I'm pretty aware of how it works. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please implement ranked choice voting for County Board and School Board and eliminate primaries for those contests. Primaries are redundant with ranked-choice voting. | The only question is why is the Board delaying implementing ranked choice voting | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | PRO - Without a doubt ranked choice voting is far fairer than standard plurality elections. When put in place this system would ensure our elected officials are more specifically representative of their constituents views rather than a national platform. From a societal standpoint, it is absolutely the right call. When deciding between two candidates who differed on this issue, I would support the candidate who was focused on implementing RCV without a doubt. It's all about better, more accurate representation. | N/A. I'm familiar with the system. Surely we'd need to be more supportive in our education on the system for the first few elections but after that it'd be as straightforward as standard voting. Additionally, I'd make sure we're allowing individuals to leave spots blank so they never feel like they're voting "for" a candidate they wholeheartedly disagree with. In a five candidate race, for instance, they could fill out their 1-3 spots and leave 4-5 blank with their vote essentially being "no preference" if their first three choices were eliminated. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please support rank choice voting (RCV). It allows for a more diverse and representative election. More candidates are able to run and a greater span of ideas can be presented. It allows multiple preferences to be expressed by the voter to ensure a more representative choice. It saves money on runoffs and ensures who is elected was selected by over 50% of the voters (through multiple choices). Most of all, it breaks the binary, zero-sum mentality of current first-passed the post voting which feeds partisanship and division, and encourages candidates to support each other and court their supporters for their second and third round votes. It builds coalitions instead of pitting voters against each other, keeping candidates focused on getting the most votes in the middle rather than playing to extremes. RCV has been successfully executed in multiple democracies around the world & increasingly in the US. Arlington should continue to lead the way in electoral reforms like this. | What elections would have RCV? I would want all elections at all levels to be RCV, but I understand Arlington cannot make state-wide and federal elections RCV. Still, I would hope that Arlington could be a proof-of-concept to advance and advocate for more RCV in Virginia and the US. If passed, what is the plan to education/communicate RCV to the public to ensure they are prepared to fill out a RCV ballot in the next election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Great idea! Ranked choice is a great benefit for Democracy! | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Do it | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Yes. Let's do it! | none | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | <p>Ranked choice voting is amazing and should be implemented, in my opinion, everywhere. While yes this is a system used elsewhere already, I see this an opportunity for Arlington County to be a leader in this for the nation. While I don't personally think its complicated for a voter to vote this way, there is a lot of misinformation on its efficacy and fairness. This needs to be taken seriously and cant be frivolously thrown into a vote for implementation or implementation in general. We've learned over the last 7 years that elections are a fragile system when people lose faith in them, even when their loss of faith is unwarranted.</p> <p>Overall applaud the board for exploring this.</p> | <p>Its unclear to me if this is being put to a county wide vote to implement or just the board to decide. Either way this needs to be explained properly to people before they vote on weather to implement or before they utilize it fully. If / when this is implemented I think you need to have a campaign to explain what it is and how it works. With the recent election in Alaska there was a lot of talk of confusion by right leaning voters, mostly this was spread by those that lost in an attempt to lie to their voters about rigged elections. An explainer needs to accompany at home ballots, signs at the polls, tv/ radio ads. having candidates from both sides of the isle explain to voters what it is, why its a good thing and how to do it. there is always going to be misinformation and confusion about things such as this, steps need to be taken to minimize this as much as possible.</p> | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I'm very in favor of it. I think it will lead to more democratic results. | No questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please do tanked choice! | Please make it clear so people don't mess this up but ranked choice has so many benefits! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please implement ranked-choice voting in Arlington. | How soon can it happen? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Strongly support ranked choice voting as it allows more likely to get best candidates with less hesitation on only choosing between 2 candidates | how soon can it be done? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | The two party system is only benefiting the radicals and the wealthy. The only reason to be against it is if you've been bought off or are completely insane. | Would need more details. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Na | Na | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Do it you scrubs | Why has this taken so long to implement? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Let's do it! | ? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think RCV is a great idea. I support it 100%. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I believe this is a much fairer and more equitable way to choose a candidate and will help to eliminate extreme politicians. I also believe having essentially a multiple choice not based solely on party is more inclusive. This process has proven effective where instituted. | No additional comments. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | <p>Dear Members of the Board,</p> <p>RCV is an urgent reform. It would improve interest in politics generally. In a typical D vs R election, it's usually too obvious to most voters which one they'll prefer. And of course a vote for anyone else is almost always wasted, so I hardly have to pay attention. In races with RCV (like recent local caucuses), I know that I can rank all of the candidates and my vote won't be wasted. So I have more of a reason to pay attention to the issues and to the candidates.</p> <p>With RCV in the general election, it's likely that more candidates would be on the ballot, and I can vote for my favorite because my vote won't be wasted. And it won't be obvious who is going to win. This would improve interest and engagement in local issues. So I think it would also improve turnout wherever it is used. Improving voter turnout in Arlington would give us a stronger voice in statewide elections even if we are only able to do this in our local elections for now.</p> | <p>Voters like RCV. Why are we starting with the primaries only? RCV would make the most difference in the general election, especially in a two-seat year. After success in the pilot in 2023, will the county be prepared to move quickly so that it will be used in the general election in 2025?</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | I support Ranked Choice Voting. RCV promotes candidates who build consensus, requires a majority of votes to win. RCV is very popular and easy-to-understand in localities that already use it. RCV removes the "spoiler effect" of having three or more candidates in an election. RCV can make elections more fair and competitive. RCV has a proven track record of being beneficial to minorities and women seeking office. RCV is used in localities all across the US, and for some state-wide elections. | I have no questions about Ranked Choice Voting and I support it. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I'm for it. | None at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | This sounds like a solid idea. | none | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Sounds like ranked choice voting has a lot of advantages, and it is well worth the time and effort for Arlington to try out a pilot voting project in the June election. I'm all for it. | The only downside I can think of is that it will require voters spend time researching and evaluating all the candidates in order to list them in order of preference. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support using RCV in Arlington primaries. | RCV is not an intuitive voting method. If adopted, the County must develop and implement a communication/education program that reaches all segments of the voting-age population. The ballot itself must be carefully designed to make voting easy and accurate. A poorly designed RCV could lead to confused voters and to voters marking their ballots incorrectly--see the infamous Florida 2000 "butterfly" ballot as an example. Election officers at the precincts also will need to be trained, | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support this. It's a great idea! Then my vote would matter more and we might see a broader range of candidates | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | It needs to implemented ASAP both in Arlington and nation-wide. It will lead to a more democratic and civil electoral system. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support ranked choice voting. Among the reasons I support ranked choice voting are that it: Gives voters more meaningful choices: it allows candidates from outside the two major parties to compete. It creates a richer dialogue on the issues and increases the diversity of views. Eliminates spoilers and strategic voting: it allows voters to support their favorite candidate without worrying that they might "throw their vote away," or worse, split their votes with like-minded voters and unintentionally help elect the candidate they like the least. Reduces negative campaigning: Candidates running in ranked choice elections must ask for second and third choice rankings. Voters are less likely to rank a candidate highly who is negative. Reduces the influence of money in politics: Campaigns and special interest groups spend a lot of money on negative advertising. By making negative advertising less effective, it reduces the need for, and influence of, money in politics. | How will you do voter outreach and education about ranked-choice voting? How will you ensure that the system adopted does not adopt a formula that favors the party running the most candidates? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in favor Of ranked -choice voting. It is more democratic than the traditional system and ensures that the winner is more likely to have received first or second choice votes. We have seen how the Alaska model worked, and ensured that radical figures were defeated. | Can Constutational officials (Treasurer, Sheriff, County Clerk) also be subjected to Ranked Choice? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Fully support as it's more democratic | What are the logical and budgetary impacts of the possible change? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support Ranked Choice voting for eligible local elections in Arlington County. This is a proven approach to give voters an opportunity to provide their preferences beyond supporting a single candidate. Most importantly, it ensures that the candidates with the broadest support will win. | The County will need to expend additional resources to explain ranked-choice voting to residents as it can be confusing at first. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | I am all for ranked-choice voting to provide more flexibility in user preferences on candidates and issues than first past the post which encourages just picking 1 of 2 sides. My only question is why other voting methods like approval voting are not considered. Approval voting is where users can select multiple candidates, basically all candidates that they approve of. It should be easier to implement with existing systems since it is just counting how many votes each candidate received, and is easier to explain the results of such an election. | Will the board consider having either open primaries or doing away with primaries to begin with in addition to implementing ranked choice? This is because ranked choice allows users to be able to prioritize candidates, and as a result, would benefit from having multiple candidates available to be selected. If there are only 2 candidates, then the benefits would be moot. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I love it! I wish all elections worked this way (including partisan primaries). | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Definitely support it! Best way to get good outcomes! | None- | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please do ranked choice, it's obviously better for all elections, but especially for a place with 1 main party | How do you plan on designing it so it's clear to each voter what they are doing? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting gives us more power to communicate our preferences. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I'm pro | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | We should have it! It reflects voter preferences better. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support ranked choice voting. It would increase equity by allowing people to put their true first vote, knowing that their second choice could be a more safe choice. | If rank choice voting was implemented, could early and mail in votes be tabulated before election day? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Using ranked choice seems to be a fair way to help identify candidates with the most support, and help include votes for candidates outside the major two parties | Can existing voting machinery support ranked choice or would this require procurement of new hardware? (Software updates are less of a concern although I recognize there'd still be costs incurred.) | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | RCV will help make elections fairer, more accurate, and more engaging! It can help raise the chances (and profile) of a field of candidates so that a broader diversity of voices may compete. It allows voters who are the minority in their own party to carry weight when otherwise they'd be naturally dismissed by plurality voting. And a broader range of candidates who have a better chance to win could become more engaging and salient to voters who feel uninspired by elections with foregone conclusions. | How soon can we start?! But more seriously, will there be sufficient staff to support testing and quality control before, during, and after the election? Will you use risk-limiting audits (RLAs) to provide confidence in RCV-tallying software? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in strong favor. Makes it possible to express a range of preferences. | Is the county ready to explain it well? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support ranked-choice voting. | Will the election results be available quickly? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Seems like a way to expand democracy and is the way of the future for better elections. | Is the board opposed because the legacy voting process protects insiders? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Please adopt it for the board. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | we should do rank choice voting because it is a better way to understand what the people want vs just picking one person only | since it is only in the county should be fast and accurate, but would want to make sure it is implemented correctly | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Great idea! I support it 100%. | Why wasn't it used sooner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I strongly support the implementation of ranked-choice voting for the 2023 County Board June primary election. There are plenty of other people who are likely writing in to show the benefits of the system and how it has worked in Alaska and elsewhere. All I will add is that I believe people in this county and country are looking for a different way of doing politics. If we use this system and it does not work, we can just go back to the old system. But if it works, it can be a new way forward for the people of Arlington, Virginia, and elsewhere. So let's give it a shot. | If it is deemed successful in the primary, can it be implemented for the general election? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | Ranked choice voting is the superior method of voting and will allow the voice of voters to be heard more effectively. | Ranked choice should be thoroughly explained to the voting populous. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22203 | I strongly support rank choice voting. I think it has a lot of potential and is worth trying. | Just would like to see the country implement it but also track the impact of it in terms of effective representation and system gaming. True representation is an important tenant of our democracy that is being challenged by election gaming, so I think it is important to consider initiatives like this to restore faith and trust in the system for many. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support ranked choice voting. I think it gives voters more options and helps address the issues with the two-party system. However, ranked choice ballots can be confusing if they are designed poorly, so I hope that the County Board makes sure that the ballot is well-designed. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | It's good because we want to end up with the candidate who is the best representation of what the people want, and the best way to do that is for them to have a ranked choice system where they can end up with a second favorite if their first doesn't work out. | n/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | 100% supportive. Would also like to move away from party primaries for county positions but realize that is a party choice. | What slows us down? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I support the Civic Federation task force recommendations. | Is the Board going to hold any public meetings to discuss the Civic Federation recommendations? Is there a CB vote scheduled on adopting these or similar changes? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am strongly in favor of ranked choice voting and heavily support its implementation. | How do you intend to educate the people on how to effectively use ranked choice voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I love ranked choice voting. I want this to be implemented at all levels of government and I believe it addresses a number of issues that currently exists when voting | How will the election board (or another party) educate people on the new voting method? Will the election board (or another party) have methods in place to address voting issues related to the ranked choice implementation? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think it's a great idea and would very much like to see us do it. | None-I attended a presentation by the Arlington committee of 100 on this and it was very thorough. I do think we will need good educational campaign if we do it because it is a little complicated. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I am in favor. Arlington County could use more variety in its Board. This might have that result. Although it might only have an effect after the population has gotten used to it. | What plans are there for deciding whether to continue after the first year? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22203 | I think it's an excellent idea and greatly support it. Thank you for considering it. | I have none. I think it's been well implemented elsewhere and hope we learn from those experiences | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support this and hope that it can be implemented for state and federal elections as well as local elections. | I don't have questions—I think ranked choice voting is key to opening the door to more diverse candidates and opinions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support to concept, but because it is more complicated than the traditional method, it will take redoubled educational efforts to acclimate the public, and the counting process will have to be absolutely secure and transparent at the same time. | I'm not clear as to how votes will be counted -- by machine, by hand? And what data about the vote breakdown will be available to the public? And how long will the counting process take? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | PLEASE please implement Ranked Choice Voting -- it leads to MUCH better decisions, choices -- and promotes compromise, "middle of the road" choices, rather than extremes. Our county (& country) will be a much better place with it! | Why didn't we start doing this years ago? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | <p>This is a fantastic idea. I am so glad to see this being talked about. I learned of this via FairVote Virginia, a ranked choice advocacy group I am a part of; there are many of us, especially in Arlington who are very happy to see this pilot program taking place. I hope this is here to stay, and continues beyond the local level!</p> <p>I am sure the board already knows this, but I would like to reiterate that ranked choice voting is one of the most mathematically sound ways to conduct an election. It ensures everyone's voice is heard, that no one can be accused of "throwing their vote away" if they prefer a candidate outside of the two leading parties, and it eliminates the spoiler effect (aka splitting the vote).</p> <p>This is an outstanding development. I am very happy to see it will be implemented next June!</p> <p>Thank you</p> | N/a | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support this voting method and feel it is the most authentic way to show people's choices. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support the use of Ranked Choice Voting and would like to see it put into use as soon as possible. At this time, I do not support use of Proportional Ranked Choice Voting. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I wholeheartedly support ranked choice voting. It allows for a more equitable campaign process by encouraging candidates to create a broader platform that can appeal to more voters, rather than polarizing them into two camps. I have been an Independent voter since I registered and it nearly always means if I want to have a voice in my vote, I have to align with Democrats or Republicans. Ranked choice voting will allow me to make my vote for my candidate of choice while also adding to the tally of my 2nd best choice. I also believe it will force PACs, lobbyists and "dark money" influencers to hedge their bets and not place all their monetary support behind one candidate. It also eliminates extremist candidates who are more focused on notoriety than governing. Ranked choice voting is fair, equitable and necessary for a functional democracy. | What education will be offered to help voters and candidates understand the benefit and process of ranked choice voting? How can Arlington be a model for other jurisdictions? How can the public get involved? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | DO IT. I believe it to be one of the best mechanisms for elections. I believe that it strengthens voice of individual voters. | How would you counter disinformation campaigns about it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | <p>Ranked choice voting is a great idea. It may not make much of a difference now in terms of who wins elections, given Democratic Party dominance, and assuming there will still be primaries. But the more jurisdictions use it, the faster it will be adopted nationally. That will decrease political polarization.</p> <p>Bonus opinion: I would not want to increase the number of County Board and School Board members.</p> | Will there still be primaries, and will they be ranked choice? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Yes, please! This much more accurately captures the will of the people and will eliminate someone winning with a plurality of voters' support. | None. Do it! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | It can't come soon enough. Our county's politics are dominated by retired political hobbysists who have an outsize influence. The general election should be meaningful, not a rubber stamp on a decision a few hundred party activists made in range primary 6 months earlier. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Having studied, read, and understood how ranked choice voting works and the benefits to elections, I wholeheartedly endorse Arlington adopting RCV in its elections. The system works to elect a candidate for whom a majority of voters would be comfortable with as an officeholder (usually as a first or second choice), eliminating the spoiler effect of third party or independent candidates. RCV also promotes consensus and less partisanship as candidates seek to avoid alienating too large a bloc of potential second or third choice voters. others states and localities have implemented RCV to great success. | Some localities have tried and failed to enact RCV on the basis that the system is too confusing. what does Arlington plan to do to help educate voters on RCV to help assuage the fear of implementing a new voting method? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | I am a staunch Democrat and I strongly support ranked choice voting. One party rule, no matter which party, is not good for the county. Ranked choice voting would help to eliminate the perception that only candidates with a "D" after their names can win elections. It could encourage moderate Republicans and third party candidates to run, since they would actually have a chance to be competitive. We would all be better off for some diversity of thought in county leadership. | Why hasn't the county already implemented ranked choice voting? All this stalling seems rather protectionist. If Democrats are truly putting forth the candidates whose positions are most in line with the community's, they should be able to win elections, regardless of the voting system. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting, especially as it will allow the eventual winner to have a majority of votes | I believe the county should provide explainers, with examples and in multiple languages, as it is not a surface-level intuitive approach | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Yes, please do ranked choice. We always get the same, narrow sliver of the democratic party. I'm a democrat but we need a better system to have more voices. Either ranked choice or combination of districts and at large members. | Absolutely support | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Strongly in favor of ranked choice voting. It hopefully will help moderate candidates. | Need to make sure all voters including those who don't speak English or have sight or hearing difficulties understand ranked choice voting | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | We used ranked choice voting back when back in college. Back then, pre computers, counting the votes was a royal pain. These days with computer assistance it should be a breeze. | Will the county provide totals for each round of counting? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Much needed. | Making sure there are explainers available at multiple levels of complexity to describe the intent, execution, and the impact of different voter choices in hypothetical scenarios to allay concerns about voter confusion | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | DEFINITELY in favor of ranked-choice voting - please implement this! | None! It makes total sense. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support ranked choice voting at all levels of government. It gives voters a better opportunity to vote for their preferred choice first, as opposed to choosing a "lesser evil" due to the nature of our two party system. | I don't have any particular questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | ranked-choice voting is the best way to give constituents the closest to their top choice for candidates or key county decisions. Let's try it! | None, I've studied this model and think it's a great option. To gain confidence, the county should communicate about how this approach has been rolled out in other jurisdictions across the US. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | The time for rank choice voting is here. It is important to stop polarization of America. Rank choice voting is critical to moving forward. | How will we implement rank choice voting? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | We should implement it. | No | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I know that most people will likely use this form to complain, so I just wanted to break that trend and say that I'm absolutely ecstatic that this is happening! I'm a college student studying math, and while I typically avoid politics at every chance, it is clear to anyone who spends more than a few minutes on it that Ranked Choice is, mathematically, vastly superior to Plurality voting, both at electing the candidate that best represents the people and at ensuring it's in their best interest to please the entire populace rather than just a subset. In simulations and studies, it has also been shown to significantly depolarize politics and reduce political violence. So thank you for this change! | I have none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Please implement it for all primaries. | Can we combine all party primaries into a single "open" primary? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting is a smart idea. Gives more of an accurate picture of who the voters are considering. Prevents the extremes from sneaking past the majority. | Let's give it a try. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I think it's a great idea | How do you plan to educate the voting public about the process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting should be implemented for all county elections. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | I think its a better way to cast a vote, especially if you like more than one candidate. It allows for more equity in voting. | How do we make sure the system and the counting of the votes is fair? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support RCV for Arlington, although I recognize a year in which we vote for two Board members could complicate the public's understanding of the process. RCV has the opportunity to change the dialog around campaigns, as candidates could benefit from tempering debates with other candidates to encourage the Round Two support of more voters. | What do you believe is creating the reluctance of County Board members to support RCV? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked choice is highly superior to the current voting system. Voters. I strongly favor Arlington moving to a ranked choice voting system. Unbiased education will be important in this era of certain Republicans denying election results and casting doubt on core fundamentals of democracy. | I have no questions, but many voters will have questions. Arlington should make an effort to explain and educate voters why ranked choice is superior and will not dilute their vote at all. For example, I have no doubt that ranked choice is being vilified by certain groups because it could (more accurately) cause a moderate candidate to win over a more extreme candidate or cause people to more easily cross party lines to oppose a certain candidate from the other party. Even though this result directly reflects the voters' intent (which is democracy), it's not unreasonable for people to look skeptically at a changed system. Arlington should absolutely shift but help educate why ranked-choice is more powerful, more democratic, and more fair for all, regardless of political opinion. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Very much support this! | How quickly can we implement. What is your plan to educate the public about it | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | It's great and should be used with every election | How can we make it a state wide thing? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support Ranked Choice Voting! I am member of fairvote.org and have been advocating for this change. | What are the exact implementation details? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | This is gaining in popularity and goes a long way toward battling extremism in politics. I'm all in favor, even if it means taking long count the votes. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support ranked choice voting because I think it can result in more centrist candidates winning. The recent congressional elections in Alaska are a perfect example of this. | How would ranked-choice voting affect the competitiveness of contests in this one-party town? Would it be for primaries and general elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | It is an excellent method of avoiding candidates to the extremes. However, it may initially be confusing, and thus requires a great deal of clear, simple explanation, given without any bureaucratic gobbledegook, in plain language that all can understand. If that outreach to the public is made several times before ranked-choice voting is introduced, and then maintained for each election, there should be no difficulties in implementing it. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Just do it already | I don't have any questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | I have participated in ranked choice voting. It's very easy. People prioritize what they want all the time. Prioritizing candidates in the order of preference is easy. Alaska just had their first ranked choice voting experience and it worked very well. https://alaskapublic.org/2022/09/07/five-takeaway-lessons-from-alaskas-first-ranked-choice-election/ | Is Arlington prepared to do a lot of public education on how ranked choice voting works? The Alaska Division of Elections sent out mailers and postcards about how to do it, had sample ballots online for people to show how it works. And organizations that supported ranked choice voting also had public information campaigns. I don't know how much it all cost, but you could contact the Alaska Division of Elections to find out. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Go for it. The way things are now, the Dems have all offices locked up. It's patently unfair to the independents, some of whom are very much more qualified and would be more effective than the incumbents. Plus the incumbents are obligated to do the bidding of the ADC, regardless of what other people think. It's rather have Audrey on the board than some of the others. | None, I understand it. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I'm in favor of ranked choice voting. | I think ranked choice voting gives voters the best chance for nuanced representation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | yes yes yes | how easy is it to do the paperwork to start a new political party? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am very much IN SUPPORT OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING. This methodology of counting votes is the most fair way to proceed in my opinion. | I have no questions -- I have read up on this topic and have a good sense of what it means. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support ranked choice voting. It would allow a more nuanced assessment of the preferences of voters. It might not make a big difference in most local races (we'll see) but it is better than the all or nothing approach used in the past. | Would it be made available for all races, or only local positions? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Research shows that RCV fosters civility, democracy, and representation that reflects the community. | I'd want to know what ideas there are for how it can be implemented with both accessibility and efficiency/simplicity/thrift in mind. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Do it! No reason not to. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Support | How do we establish thresholds that trigger a runoff? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support rank choice voting. | How would resolutions for ties or close elections be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting will give people a real voting right. They don't have to feel torn between two candidates, since this option would give them more freedom to vote with their true feelings. It's time for this here in Arlington--give elections back to us voters! | No questions--it totally makes sense and should happen ASAP. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support ranked-choice voting and believe it results in electing representatives who better represent most constituents. | How soon can it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support RCV so multiple independent candidates can run in the general election without pressure to drop out to not dilute the vote. | As an election officer, please make the forms very obvious with a clear consolidated result form and encourage campaign & independent observers to take a photo and independently verify the ranked-choice logic. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I think it's a good idea. | How will it be implemented in Arlington elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I fully support ranked choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked-choice voting is a fairer way of conducting elections and results and less extreme office-holders. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | We should embrace ranked-choice voting. It will help ensure that candidates who actually want to work for the good of the county will be elected to office. | I don't have any. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I strongly support ranked choice voting and would like to implement it for as many elections as possible | How long will it take to roll out? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Please start doing this. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22204 | ranked choice voting is the most easy to implement out of many superior electoral systems to our current one, it isn't the best, but will help the county select consensus candidates and eliminate the risk of supporting a "spoiler candidate". While there are superior systems, (single alternative vote, various proportional representation schemes, and multi-member ranked choice vote, I am confident that this is an improvement on our current system | which version of ranked choice voting would be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am pro ranked choice voting! | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support RCV | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support this initiative. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | RCV encourages nuanced reflection—holding the tension of considering multiple good-enough choices—not the yes/no duality | No questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Support. | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Seems like a great idea. | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked Choice Voting should be implemented in all elections, both primary and general, at all levels (local, state, federal). | Will ranked-choice voting be implemented in Arlington for the 2023 primary election? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support a ranked-choice system that would be more likely to result in the election of candidates who have broader support, even if they might not be the ones I would personally favor. Arlington has an electorate that predominantly supports Democratic candidates, and I am among that group. But that demographic can result in crowding out other voices, and ranked-choice voting offers a way to acknowledge and respect voters' real preferences. | Based on what I have learned, the Alaskan model seems to have worked well. But I'm not familiar with alternative implementations and I would like to know more about the options available to the county in choosing to adopt this system. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Ranked choice voting is far better than the current first past the post, winner take all system; it should be the future of all American voting and Arlington should be in the lead of that change | It will be important to ensure that all reasonable candidates make it on the ballot, without every loony whacko/extremist/perpetual candidate crowding on and leaving people overwhelmed and/or confused | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | RCV is a great idea that can help moderate the extremism we're seeing in elections. | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | This will work well if candidates initially undergo a 'primary' process within their affiliated party. Otherwise, the outlier candidates from the 'weirdo' party will water-down and split votes for more viable candidates. Minimum requirements to get on the ballot in the first place need to be rigorous. | Simple-simple English explanation to the public and media assistance will be essential ... Buy-in from the 'conspiracy theory contingent' will also be necessary. Otherwise it will be framed as undemocratic ... when in-fact it makes every vote actually count. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I am whole-heartedly in approval of this change. I will bring compromise rather than pandering to extremes. | How will you distribute educational materials about it? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I love the idea of Ranked Choice Voting. This system really makes sure that the winner is the candidate with the most voter support, even if they are not everyone's top pick. | how soon can it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | I support ranked choice voting. I think it will encourage more candidates to run and give voters more choices. | How will the county ensure that votes are tabulated in a timely manner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22204 | Primarily all arguments against RCV can be countered by how we already use it in our daily lives. When we go to order a drink at a restaurant we have our top few choices with a basic mindset of what is acceptable and what is not. Avoid the red herrings. My reasons for RCV are: 1. NO MORE SPOILER VOTES: I can truly vote for who I want to see get elected regardless of their ability to win and then identify other candidates that I would positively endorse in the role. This not only means I am not "throwing away my vote" I am also helping to indicate to those running for office the level of support that candidates are truly receiving. If it were objectively known that a third party was getting 20% of the first choice vote if voters voted without the risk of effects, the winning candidate may find considering the offered views to be smart. 2. POSITIVE INCENTIVES TO COLLABORATE. Winners need to work towards providing solutions with broad appeal rather than playing to a polarized base. | None: The process is straightforward and there are AMPLE advocacy groups that can help with education. Let's Go! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | Please implement ranked-choice voting as soon as possible. | Only why we don't have it already. It should be in place for national, state, and local elections. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I'm in favor of RCV | Do any rules/regs have to be changed to implement RCV in future elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support the use of ranked choice voting. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We need ranked choice voting. | Would people understand how it works | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think it's a good idea. It seems to have worked effectively, is efficient and takes into account more of the view of voters, who may have preferences across a series of candidates. | I have never understood, what happens when the two last place candidates are tied? How do their voters preferences get allocated moving forward. This is a definite possibility, given our sometimes small polls for primaries. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choicr voting is a net benefit for politics. It allows people to vote for candidates/3rd parties that more closely align with their political beliefs without feeling like they are throwing their vote away or "choosing the lesser of two evils". Competition is good for everyone, and ranked choice voting will increase competition in elections. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting produces candidates and representatives that are more acceptable to a larger percentage of the population. It helps bring the community together and should be used for all elections in Arlington. | None - it's great! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I fully support using ranked-choice voting in county elections and urge the Board to approve it. | None come to mind right now! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | YES on ranked choice. I wrote a paper and did an analysis on this in college in the late 80s and it is clearly the better way to gauge the position of the populace compared to plurality voting. While some people might try to determine if they can influence the outcome by not ranking all the candidates or just some of them, ranked choice is still clearly the superior approach. Not bad that you allowed for supporting materials to be sent, but I would certainly hope that someone has done a basic literature search on the subject. | How are you going to select winners after voting is complete? There are various ways to determine a winner(s) once the voters have done their ranking. One could assign points to each relative position and generate the outcome by tallying up who has the most points. Other alternatives involve a stepped elimination process. The ultimate goal should be to best represent the voters preferences. It is helpful to step through some simple examples and see how the outcome could change depending on the method used and again assess who is most representative. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It is a much much much better system. PLEASE ADOPT IT! | No. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am very much in favor of using ranked-choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | If this gives the Arlington taxpayer better and more choices for candidates I am all for it. The County Board is basically a politburo. | Will it gives taxpayers more choices regardless of party affiliation? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am supportive of this approach. I feel that ranked choice voting allows us to move beyond the binary choices that have resulted in winning candidates often being from one far side of the political spectrum or the other. | I do think we might find a way to avoid having a suitable number of candidates on the ballot. Max of 8? Minimum requirements that don't produce only 2! How might the County determine qualification for the ballot based on constituent support? For example would the number of signatures to put someone in the ballot change? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think it would be a very good idea to have ranked-choice voting. | I would like to know how and when it would be implemented | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked-choice voting would likely help to increase candidate diversity. | It would be important to educate the electorate about its benefits. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It will be more representative of what the people want. | I don't have any questions at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I strongly support the use of RCV for County Board (and other) elections - both primary and general elections. I support "proportional RCV" and/or Final Four/Five RCV for primary elections - where all candidates, regardless of party designation, would be on the primary ballot - with the top 4/5 vote getters appearing on the Gen Election ballot. We must ensure that Arlingtonians are represented by officials who have the support of the "majority" of voters, rather than a plurality. | Are you considering Final 4/5 RCV for the primary elections? Are you considering RCV for general elections/ | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Yes. Let's do it! | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am a strong advocate for it because it will help diminish the polarization in our current politics. People will run on the issues and not the party. | I am concerned that the public will have to research the candidates and their platform versus voting a straight party ticket. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I prefer ranked choice voting because it allows more moderate candidates on the right and left to have a chance in elections. The extremism in candidates is needed to win primaries but I don't think it reflects the majority of citizens' views and that's what we're left with in the general election. I hope it is adopted widely. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support ranked choice voting, especially for School Board and County Board. I am a Democrat, but believe Arlington would benefit from a greater diversity of opinion among its elected leaders. The group think, and lack of transparency, over School Board spending in particular is harmful to the long-term sustainability of Arlington public schools. | None. I see how it has helped in other jurisdictions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I've used this system several times, the first being way back when Ted Kennedy visited the caucus held at Kenmore if my memory serves correctly. In my mind, this seems the fairest way to vote for the voters and for those running for office. | How does the software compute ranked choice? Are the results known as soon as all votes are tallied? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | RCV is an urgent reform. It would improve interest in politics generally. In a typical D vs R election, it's usually too obvious to most voters which one they'll prefer. And of course a vote for anyone else is almost always wasted, so I hardly have to pay attention. In races with RCV (like recent local caucuses), I know that I can rank all of the candidates and my vote won't be wasted. So I have more of a reason to pay attention to the issues and to the candidates. With RCV in the general election, it's likely that more candidates would be on the ballot, and I can vote for my favorite because my vote won't be wasted. And it won't be obvious who is going to win. This would improve interest and engagement in local issues. So I think it would also improve turnout wherever it is used. Improving voter turnout in Arlington would give us a stronger voice in statewide elections even if we are only able to do this in our local elections for now. | RCV has already been proven effective. Voters like it. It would be good for democracy. It doesn't favor one party over another. We've had the ability to adopt it for a couple of years now, and the state has done some of the work to lower the costs of any municipality that adopts it. Why, then, are we starting so small, with the primaries only? RCV would make the most difference in the general election, especially in a two-seat year. After success in the pilot in 2023, will the county be prepared to move quickly so that it will be used in the general election in 2025? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I support use of Ranked Choice Voting at the Board, County-wide, and State-Wide election levels. | How will Arlington educate residents about how they should approach this vote counting method and why it is a better method for counting votes? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly recommend allowing ranked choice voting in Arlington. I think it is the best way to ensure that, when there are three or more candidates, the election is won by a candidate who has received a majority of the votes. I also think it forces candidates to compromise and to seek more of a middle ground, as they are seeking second and third place votes, in addition to first. I think that this is incredibly important in such a divided era. | I would want to know the specific procedures used to count the votes and maintain an adequate audit trail. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am strongly in favor of adopting ranked choice voting. While it is slightly more complex and will slow down vote tallying, it more closely approximates voter preferences and reduces the extremism inherent in first-past-the-post voting systems. | I do not have any questions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I highly approve of RCV and would love to see it implemented in Arlington. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | This is a good idea and should be implemented. | None, this is a good idea for Arlington. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It is a great idea. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I'm cautiously optimistic that this will result in elections that truly reflect the will of the people. Explaining how it works is critical to gaining public acceptance. Also the major parties need to buy in, which may be a hard sell because it will likely result in one party losing its historically solid control of election outcomes. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am for ranked-choice voting | What happens in case of a tie? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think ranked choice voting is a great way to select a candidate who truly has the most popular support and avoid polarizing election results | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We need district representation, but ranked choice is better than no changes, and perhaps will encourage more candidates to challenge the Arl Dems stranglehold on elected office. | Voter education and outreach about the ranked choice system will be important | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Do it. | Just to make sure the count is tabulated by professionals in the elections office and transparent so there are no disputes. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I favor it | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Support move to ranked-choice voting! | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support ranked-choice voting (RCV). I believe that RCV will increase voter engagement and voter representation. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I am strongly in favor of ranked-choice voting, it can help to increase the diversity of opinion of our elected leaders. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I support RCV. It's a way to make my vote count. It also, it seems to me, was a key factor in the Republicans winning the gubernatorial election last year; it helped the Republicans gain a candidate who was broadly attractive across the Commonwealth. It provides a transparency that is sorely lacking in behind-closed-door approaches. It also seems to me that it might promote more civil and less expensive (fewer attack ads) campaigns, since it chooses a candidate that is acceptable (enough) to (eventually) more than half the voters. | My understanding is this decision merely allows a party to use RCV to choose a candidate, if it so desires, correct? But a party does not have to hold a primary, and if it does hold a primary, it doesn't have to use RCV, correct? In addition, my understanding is that this decision does not include the option of having one multi-party primary, with candidates from all parties, to select the final candidates for the election, correct? If a party chooses to hold an RCV primary, I assume that, like now, I do not have to be a registered member of that party to vote in that primary (but can only vote in one primary!), correct? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We need RCV for general elections, not just primaries. Our current system creates the same electoral incentives for all 5 board members, namely do what's necessary to win a Democratic Primary. This doesn't create a representative government. We're a majority renter county, but we're governed by 5 homeowners. That's obscene, and RCV will lower barriers to elected office and make it easier for us to elect a truly representative county board, along with other recent recommendations from the TIGER Task Force. | No questions. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I support Ranked Choice Voting. There are many benefits including reducing negative campaigning, encourages consensus building, streamlines the election process saving costs, reduces extremism. | How would the Board educate the electorate about the new system? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting promotes candidates who are responsive to a wider range of the population. We should use it for every election in ARLington! | NA | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think ranked-choice voting is very important for Arlington County to adopt. I feel it will allow us to vote on candidates based on the issues that are most important to each Arlingtonian locally - instead of focusing on party affiliation. I believe it will increase the diversity of our elected officials and let Arlingtonians voices be heard. | I would wonder how it would be implemented and how the voting public will be educated about how to vote in a ranked-choice election - I would think it is important to make it easy, clear and spread the work across the entire county. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting makes for fairer elections that better capture the public will. I hope the county board will implement RCV as soon as possible. | No questions, other than how soon can we get this done? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I strongly support adoption of Ranked Choice Voting for Arlington County Board candidates and I hope the Board will consider expanding this method to additional county elections. | The only question I have is how quickly it can be implemented. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly urge the Board to adopt ranked choice voting (RCV). In our polarized society, with a two party system, voters often feel that their vote hasn't counted. With RCV voters are more likely to see their votes as mattering and it would encourage more candidates to compete for more votes. This is particularly true with an electorate like Arlington's where there is such a lopsided one party majority. Voters of the other party know that their vote doesn't matter. With RCV it would encourage more candidates competing for more votes. We would have less polarization and more moderate candidates. Ranked choice voting is being tried in the US. Maine uses RCV in federal elections. San Francisco, Minneapolis, Saint Paul and Santa Fe have also adopted RCV as will Alaska in the coming 2022 elections. Australia has used RCV since its founding in 1904 and other countries us multi-winner RCV (Ireland, Malta and Australia in the Senate), producing less polarization and more moderate candidates. | As with most major changes such as this, the devil is in the details. Arlington should appoint an independent task force of no more than three and thoroughly research the systems currently in use in various cities and states in the US. Some questions to consider are (i) how can we foster and encourage the development of a multi-party system? (ii) do we want to use multi-winner RCV and perhaps the top winners make up the Board?. (iii) do we need to examine and perhaps change how we implement fund raising with an RCV system? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think rank choice voting is excellent. We should be doing it in all of our elections especially primaries | When there are multiple candidates if the second choice for an eliminated candidate is already above the threshold does the vote go to the third choice candidate | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I'm very supportive of ranked choice voting and believe it has the potential to result in even more broadly representative elected officials. When having three or more candidates, ranked choice voting would result in a winner representing a true majority of the electorate rather than a plurality. This could allow true consideration of three or four candidates while reducing the likelihood of success by an extreme candidate representing only a minority of the electorate. | In discussing ranked choice voting, I've found others unfamiliar with the concept and confused by how it would work. While very worthwhile, it will need a major effort to inform and educate the electorate. This needs extra care in our current polarized political environment. If implemented well, local efforts could serve as an example for later state and national elections. To help educate kids (and indirectly their parents), could ranked choice voting be introduced in APS K-12 student elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I believe Ranked Choice Voting is important to implement in order to improve election fairness, better represent voter preferences, and discourage negative campaigning. It's a system that is more responsive to voters and can help mitigate polarization. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It was exciting in early 2020 when the General Assembly passed a bill allowing Arlington to nominate AND elect board members by RCV, and another bill allowing all local governing bodies to do so. I thought it made a lot of sense for Arlington to be a trail-blazer for this essential non-partisan pro-democracy reform. Now there's no reason to wait. Why do it only in primaries? It's more meaningful in general elections. RCV is already proven to be successful elsewhere. It would be even more helpful in a year when two seats are open. | What are we waiting for? Why only primaries? The state board of elections has already promulgated regulations for how to do it. Alaska and Maine are doing it for federal elections! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think we should give ranked choice voting a try. I'm hoping it will give us candidates that will represent the views of more voters that are seeking to find common ground on issues. | How has ranked choice voting worked in other jurisdictions? Does it help increase voter turnout.? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I like RCV because sometimes if one is ambivalent about the candidates (no stellar standout), ranking them makes sense. With the proposal allowing for prioritizing as many candidates as one like, this serves the voters when there's a standout, and when there's not. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22205 | I urge the Board to consider ranked-choice voting as an important means of preserving and defending the civility and common sense that has defined Arlington and given the County its reputation as a safe, well-run community in which we can live and work. As you know, in this era where a vocal minority can hijack a populace with extremist views (on either side of the political spectrum), ranked-choice voting works to moderate extremism and promote consensus, compromise, and coalition-building. I view this as an important safeguard in preserving civility and even the physical safety of those of us who live here. | I would like to see your implementation process, a timeline, and real-life case studies from other jurisdictions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Ranked choice voting is hugely important and one of the best democratic reforms that can be made to ensure that elections truly reflect the will of the electorate. | None, Please implement this | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | We should adopt it, post haste. Let the voters decide who they want without fear of their vote "not counting". It's rational. It's party neutral. It's the smart thing. Do it. | My only question is how soon can it be implemented, and not just for primaries. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I strongly support ranked choice voting. It works well elsewhere and appears to encourage improved political dialogue and reduced polarization. | I suggest surveying best practices elsewhere and building upon them. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | A good idea. Politics are too polarized. | I like the results where it is being used. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Yes please! | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | Please consider it. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | It helps indicate the candidate with the strongest support and eliminates second-round voting. | Who would decide to move to ranked-choice voting? Would there be training on how it works? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I whole-heartedly support Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), especially after hearing the analysis from the Civ Fed's TIGER group, who thought through RCV in depth. What a great reform!! With RCV, candidates will need to appeal to a broad coalition of voters, beyond just their base. RCV reduces incentives for negative campaigning. It's super easy to understand -- Because we get to rank more than one preference, no need to worry about "vote-splitting." RCV means winners with closer to majority support. Plus, more non-traditional candidates will win; RCV has been shown to elect more candidates who are BIPOC, women, and younger. Without the spoiler effect, more women and people of color run for office. With no vote-splitting, there's no electoral disadvantage to multiple candidates running from a particular demographic. GO FOR IT! Lead the way for Virginia and the whole country!! | What type of ballot is being used? There are many versions and that matters! Talk to FairVote and do your research! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I think ranked choice voting is a great idea and should be implemented in Arlington. | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22205 | I feel ranked-choice voting is a tool that allows nuances of voter choice to shine through, and can help mitigate the harm that gerrymandering has done to squelch voter power. | None, at this time. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I support ranked choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it is great! I've been previously unwilling to "throw away" my vote by voting for someone who may not get selected for the top tier positions, but I think that rank choice voting would allow me to express my genuine voting wishes without worrying about throwing away my vote. | I would want extreme transparency on how the results were determined, alternative scenarios for counting, etc. Since people are unfamiliar with it, it probably will need a lot more explanation and the best way for that is transparency. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I absolutely agree with ranked choice voting for Arlington | No additional questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | In general, me and my family support ranked-choice voting. For Arlington, for the foreseeable future, it wouldn't have any affect on winners and losers, but, it could save the county money not having to conduct instant run off elections. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I support the idea in principle. | Would ranked choice be employed if two or more seats are open? I don't understand how that would work, so I'm not sure I'd support ranked choice in that situation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I strongly support ranked-choice voting. | None at this time | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Any kind of RCV is better than what we have now. I like Condorcet but I recognize that IRV is currently ascendant. | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22206 | Ranked Choice Voting *should* be instituted for ALL elections local, state, AND federal. Comedian Hasan Minhaj (formerly of The Daily Show) did a segment about Ranked Choice Voting on his own show Patriot Act that explains it quite simply. The best part is that it doesn't require Congressional action to implement. Since voting is left to the States, it just requires a local law. https://youtu.be/MykMQfmLlro | All local decision makers and voters should watch Hasan Minhaj discuss Ranked Choice Voting. https://youtu.be/MykMQfmLlro | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I support it. Listen to the Radlolab podcast episode about ranked choice voting called Tweak the Vote. | No questions, but suggest moving forward quickly. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Thank you to the County Board for considering a new way of voting in Arlington. I am enthusiastically in support of ranked-choice voting. I think it better represents the diversity of opinion throughout our great county. I urge you to allow it. I also think at a time of rising frustration and division over missing middle, it would show flexibility on the Board's part. I do think there will be a powerful backlash against the Board if the multifamily housing is allowed where only single family homes are today. Most people in Arlington who actually care about missing middle are strongly against it, not for it. This is the Board's creation. It would be a severe mistake. And the people who the Board thinks it's helping will barely care. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I like the idea of being able to express multiple preferences in order. Otherwise, I have found myself trying to assess what the will of the entire electorate is, and supporting a candidate who I think will be electable, even if s/he was not my first choice. | for the Arlington county Board primary, will there be one primary for all candidates, or separate primaries by party? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I've always been in favor of RCV. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea - the "winner take all" system currently in place encourages unnecessary partisanship, whereas ranked choice would allow for a greater representation of voter opinions. | This system will be new and unfamiliar to many voters - how would the county ensure voters are prepared for the new ballot style? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I am in favor | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I am totally in favor of ranked choice voting for Arlington County Board, for use in June primaries and November general elections. It makes so much sense. It eliminates voters trying to game the system rather than just being straightforward in voting for several choices in priority order. It would encourage candidates to be less extreme in their views and rhetoric, and less negative in political ads, and would instead encourage them to try to attract the largest number of voters, including moderate or undecided voters, who might vote for them as either a first or second choice. I especially like that the RCV system creates an efficient automatic "runoff" if no one wins a majority on the first count. That's SO much better than asking voters to show up for a second round of voting. | Of course RCV will only work if voters trust the county government to run a fair electoral system, but that's probably just an issue of transparency and communication with the public regarding the results of each step in the new RCV process of counting the votes. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked choice voting is a great move, and we should use it in every election we can. | Can we implement sooner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Highly in favor of exploring this option and implementing it for future elections. | How would the county ensure fair exposure for all candidates? What restrictions would be imposed to negate perceived favoritism towards a certain candidate? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Ranked Choice voting I believe is the best method to ensure that candidates are selected by a true majority of voters. Often voters feel compelled to vote for candidates in dominant parties because they feel like their vote will be wasted if they vote for a smaller party, and in large fields multiple similar candidates can split the vote while a fringe candidate may win a plurality, but would have lost with ranked choice voting. | Ranked Choice voting should be implemented carefully with significant education opportunities for voters, doing simulated votes to ensure that votes can be processed in a timely manner and implementing the system first in some smaller elections (like primaries) before implementing for general elections. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think it is a good idea especially with all the polarized politics going on. For primaries and elections. | Very clear instructions please | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Recommend its adoption | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | Sounds great to me! | I want transparency. Just explain what is going on, because it is more complicated. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22206 | Yes, I think RCV is a good idea as it will allow people to vote for who they really believe in + a backup, instead of voting strategically by default. It will take some adjustment and education, but it is a step in the right direction. | no questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | From everything we have read about the ranked choice voting process, it sounds like a good thing. | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I'm for it! | N/A | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I agree with ranked choice. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think ranked choice voting will encourage more participation by voters and by qualified candidates | How will officials Ensure its well explained | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | In favor | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I appreciate the Board seeking to innovate in the area of electoral mechanics. Political polarization is a big problem across the country, but electoral improvements like RCV should be able to help reduce polarization by spreading the range of voter preferences and thus reducing the high stakes pressure associated with winner take all, first past the post plurality elections. Thanks for trying this out. If it doesn't work as well as we think it will, we can always revert back to traditional electoral voting. | How will you educate the voting public about RCV? This will be important since it's a new process. Also, can someone win an election if they were only the second ranked candidate on lots of ballots but almost never the first ranked candidate? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | RCV is a proven solution tin other countries that removes the stress of "I have to vote this way or my vote doesn't count" and genuinely makes those in office more representative of the populace. | I've looked at other options in the past and don't have any questions beyond, "how fast can this happen?" | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | An effective way to limit party influence and gives individuals a richer chance to express their interest, versus "either/or" | No questions. Clearly more democratic and less party-based. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | First-past-the-post necessarily leads to reduced options and more extreme outcomes. Ranked Choice is a tried and true approach to mitigating those issues. | How soon can we get started? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22206 | I think ranked choice voting is a fantastic idea, and I would love to see it implemented. I believe it would lead to more accurate representation of the community because people would have the confidence to vote for they're ideal candidate knowing that even if that candidate doesn't win, their vote will still count towards their second choice. | My only question / concern is that the process is accurately and fully explained so people understand the benefits of this type of voting. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I favor ranked-choice voting. I believe it allows more diversity and encourages more candidates to run for election. | How will the County educate the public regarding this type of voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Yes, please implement RCV. | Please provide detail on how the process will work. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Favor | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am strongly in favor. Ranked-choice voting reduces the 0-sum nature of elections and also creates more civil political campaigns. | Ranked-choice voting is not intuitively simple to undersatnd, so any move in that direction MUST be accompanied by an aggressive PR/education effort -- starting in high school as kids approach age 18. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I'm all in favor of ranked-choice voting. I think it will require candidates to focus on the desires of the majority of all voters no matter their party affiliation. | Will there still be primaries that are segregated by political party? Will there be any primaries at all? Will there be primaries under certain conditions? For example, if there are a large number of candidates (let's say 15), then would there be a "primary" to narrow the field to a smaller number (say, 5)? Can we assume that all candidates for an office--no matter their party affiliation or no party affiliation--will be listed together on the same ballot? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Strongly favor it for both primary and general elections. | Should be simple to implement. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Yes! | None! | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Preferable to plurality voting as it provides voters the opportunity to rank candidates and more fully express their preferences. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I am a strong advocate for ranked choice voting. It will help diminish polarization in our current politics and allow for more diversity in choices of candidates. I am working with UpVoteVA to help make this a reality throughout Virginia. While critics argue the process may be confusing and delay vote tallies, elections such as the recent one in Alaska show that not to be the case. While it may take some time to adapt in some instances, it will be a benefit to all in the long one, and one of the few tools we have at our disposal to bring people together and lessen the polarizing identification with political parties. I am a strong Democrat but a moderate who wants to see change in how we conduct ourselves and - hopefully - a return to some civility in the political arena. Thank you for listening. | I have no questions. Ranked Choice Voting will revolutionize American politics and I support it wholeheartedly. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am in favor of ranked-choice voting. | I have no questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Great idea! | Long term would this type of approach begin to cut down on partisan politics? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | The County should absolutely move to top-five open primaries leading to a general election with ranked-choice voting. Additionally, we should move to the proportional representation form of ranked-choice voting or institute multi-member districts to allow for better representation of Arlington's diversity and lower the threshold for third parties to get at least some representation in government. I believe giving voters more choice in elections would be good for our local democracy, and also set an example that higher levels of government could follow. | What changes would be needed to state law to implement top-five open primaries and ranked-choice voting in the general election? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | For me, living and voting in Australia with a ranked-choice voting system was straightforward and elected candidates fairly. Ranked choice voting is very popular in localities in the United States where it has recently been implemented. | How can we ensure ranked-choice voting lowers thresholds for third-party and independent candidates who wish to run for office? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | RCV empowers people to vote with their heart with their first choice, and perhaps with their head for their 2nd choice. Over the long term, it will encourage more people to run for office and more choices at the polls. Also, Arlington is a leader. RCV is a promising reform and Arlington should help introduce it to America. | Critics who say it's hard to use are always talking about some other hypothetical person. They never say it's hard for them - because the fact is America ranks everything and using RCV is easy. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Absolutely yes. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This seems like a good idea. | My only question is: Why is this field required? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support implementing ranked choice voting for primaries and elections. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think its absolutely the way to go. It makes sure everyone's preferences count to the very last candidate. And I think it helps eliminate extreme candidates. | Have none. Witness Alaska's very successful implementation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think this is the way to go. The people are heard in ranked-choice elections | How will you protect the system from someone coming along and allegations of "fraud"? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Yes! RCV is a great way to get candidates to move toward the middle and counter the winner-take-all extremism that infects too much of our current political landscape. Arlington could be a leader in convincing other jurisdictions to adopt this approach. | How would the county educate voters unfamiliar with with process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think that ranked choice voting assures the greatest democratic expression assuring that everyone's vote counts thus, hopefully, enhancing participation. | Not sure | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Strongly support wide use of RCV. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I like it! Let's be part of the change that the country and state need to reform our divided and decisive political system. | I would like to see posters showing how it works. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am highly in favor for all the reasons that are known. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support RCV as a way to broaden the diversity of voices in our election and to enhance civility. | Does Virginia law allow RCV to be done such that it can be combined with final five voting? In other words, I prefer a system like Alaska's where there's a first round of non-partisan voting where the top five vote-getters go on to compete in the RCV round. I'm not sure whether Virginia law allows for that, however. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | I would love to see great competition and feel that ranked choice voting would support that | The specifics of how the votes would be calculated | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support this! | N/A | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Support rank-choice voting for primaries and general elections | Ensure instructions are clear and printed at every voting location | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I favor it. | I don't have any questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Totally support it! | Is it possible to expand ranked choice voting to other levels of elections in the future? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I much prefer ranked choice voting over current plurality voting. | Who and how will validate the software that will process ranked voting results? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am strongly in favor of ranked choice voting. It is an excellent method for allowing the will of the people to shine through. Please proceed. | None. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I love it - we should implement rank voting. | I feel pretty comfortable about my base of knowledge about rank order voting. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Determines the candidate with the strongest support Encourages civil campaigning Reduces wasted votes Eliminates the need for multiple elections | How quickly can it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support Ranked Choice Voting for civility and saving cost. | My concern is about election-deniers and those stirring mistrust of the democratic election process in the U.S. For support and information, please see: https://www.rcvresources.org/ | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think that Arlington should adopt Ranked Choice Voting. It is the best way to allow voters to have meaningful choices with a system that is less partisan and more about the actual candidates. It provides a system that raises voters choices with less influence of money in politics and eliminates influence from outside the state. It's the most fair process where elections are not determined in the primary but through the general election. | When would it be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support ranked choice voting. I think it's the fairest way to conduct an election with more than two candidates. | Will you be disclosing the how the results were calculated, or just the winner? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Please adopt ranked-choice voting. | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This seems like a good thing to try. It seems like it might find the candidate with the most support from the community, even if that person is someone's second choice. | How will you get the voters of Arlington to come out and vote? I know that some local elections do not attract a large amount of voters. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I'm all for ranked-choice voting. It avoids two strong candidates losing to a third less popular candidate. It also negates having run-off elections and thus saves the cost and inconvenience. Candidates are also more likely to be more civil in campaigning. | Educating the voting public and creating a clear ballot would be key to getting general acceptance of the process. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked-choice voting should be a Democratic Party top priority throughout the country. | Can it be done transparently by computer? If not, it would take a very long time to count, recount, contest, recount. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Implement as soon as possible | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I would support ranked-choice voting. | N/A | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This is long overdue. Please get this in place. | Could it be implemented in primaries? Will this only be for Arlington elections? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | What are we waiting for? It is hugely rewarding to be able to vote your conscience/passion without feeling like your vote will count for nothing, if you favor someone more fringe or less likely to win. I think it will be a boost for diverse candidates-- diverse demographics and diverse ideas. For the good. | What is the plan to teach and train about it | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Support | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | It's a great idea! | None right now. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I believe this is long overdue and that it should be expanded to all elections. | What has it taken this long to use a common sense voting method? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | Ranked choice voting is a great idea and will allow voters to better choose candidates. It has already been used successfully in other parts of the country, and should be implemented in Arlington. | I would want the County Board to provide a draft plan with specifics for everyone to comment on before implementation. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support Ranked Choice Voting as a means of reducing the likelihood that extremist candidates whom most of the electorate do not support will prevail. | How much longer after the polls close would it take to announce a winner with ranked choice voting as compared to using traditional methods of determining the winner? I support adoption of RCV in any event, but am curious if there would be a delay in announcing the outcome. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am for ranked-choice voting | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked Choice voting is absolutely the best direction to go. Not only does it allow broader representation of the public's political views, it allows a more truthful image of the full spectrum of voters. It can only increase voter interest and participation, and those are both vital to a democratic society. | Is Arlington prepared to address changes to the voting infrastructure to implement it? Is Arlington prepared to provide voter education material both before and during the election cycles so that the voting public understands how to vote in a RCV poll and what their vote means. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I like the idea that it can prod candidates to avoid extremist views in special elections. | It should be done gradually to increase confidence. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | This is at the top of my low hanging fruit to help address our broken voting and democratic process. This allows people to vote their heart and still feel their vote means something by having rank choices. It works most recently in New York City and in Alaska. I think it helps give more power to moderate voters versus those at either extreme of the political spectrum who vote during primaries and candidates pander to them. In Arlington a lot of people don't feel their vote matters because the domination of democratic candidates. But at least if there was an array of Democratic candidates that would be helpful. I think it invites more people to run for office with possibly more diversity. | I have no further comments. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Ranked choice voting is far more fair and democratic than the current system, which can easily be manipulated to advance political parties rather than the public will. | If you are against it, why? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it is a great idea. | How would the county ensure that the electorate understands the process? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Great idea! Eliminates the extremes -- finds the consensus our society dearly needs. | No quesitons. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Hi. I strong endorse rank choice voting. It works well elsewhere and is a qualitative improvement. HOWEVER, I REALLY WANT TO SEE ARLINGTON ADOPT PROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION FOR FUTURE ELECTIONS. HERE IS A LINE TO INFORMATION: https://medium.com/@scholars-redistricting-reform/open-letter-to-congress-to-end-single-member-congressional-districts-and-adopt-proportional-97ad1cf6aa2e . Thank you. | Thank you for creating this initiative. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I like the concept. I believe ranked choice voting could make an election less about one person's strengths and weaknesses and more about voters' preferences among the candidates. The current "winner takes all" method of voting pits one candidate against another and leads candidates to exaggerate negative qualities in their opponents when campaigning which is very destructive. | How many positions would we be voting for during a ranked choice vote for County Board? Would the candidates be presented on the ballot without regard to their political party affiliation? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I agree that this is the best way to elect the people we want to serve Arlington County. This method should have been implemented before . | What and who is holding up the process of implementation? Why? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | Please. | There are various iterations world-wide. Am I correct in assuming we would implement what seems to work in several US states? Perhaps that requires more voter research, county explanation?? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support ranked-choice voting because it more accurately captures public sentiment. | I would love to see some Republicans on the ballot. I am concerned that Arlington has a one party system. That typically hasn't worked out too well for governments who have tried it... | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support moving to ranked choice voting. I think it is a better way to assess public opinion when voting. While it may be more complicated and take longer in some circumstances, the effort is worth it. | Given how uniform the voting population is in Arlington, in how many races would it make a difference? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am fully on board with this innovation here in Arlington; it makes perfect sense to give all voters more consideration and freedom to express preferences. Ranking candidates reflects many of those unknown but critical variables that define our values and pick well qualified leaders. It is far past time to give it a real try. | I trust our County leaders to get this right. I cannot think of any specific questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it is a good system. | No question. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support rank choice voting. It leads to less extreme platforms and policy decisions, and less partisanship. | Zero questions. I'm extremely familiar with it, and wish we would move in that direction. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I'm pretty disappointed that the Board has not yet implemented it in time for the 2022 elections. This delay leads me to prefer a challenger for the Board seat this year, whom I trust to prioritize its implementation. | N/a | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am highly supportive of rank-choice voting. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think we would get candidates who are more knowable and an electorate that would have to be more engaged. Rank choice would help break the divide between political parties, as well help independent candidates. Candidates for school board could be part of the primary process instead of the Democratic only "firehouse" voting. | How can school board candidates be included in the primary process? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am very enthusiastic about ranked choice voting. I believe this is the way to get the official or candidate or policy that best reflects the will of most people. Vote yes. | Perhaps there are boundaries about when we can employ it. Any National or state constraints? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I support RCV generally and would like to see it implemented in Arlington. I see it as one of the innovations that could help ameliorate the tribal/partisan divide in the country, and the more localities that adopt RCV the more people will become familiar with it and the likelier the chance that it will spread. | Would RCV be used in combination with final five voting, in which the top five candidates in a first round go to the RCV second round? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I am 100% in favor of ranked choice voting for all elections. It's a wonderful way to get every last preference out of a voter and boost the candidates who appeal to more voters of different political persuasions but may not be super well known | None I think it's been successful wherever it's been implemented | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Often with multiple candidate elections no candidate receives more than 50 percent of the vote. Ranked-choice voting makes the election process more democratic since the ultimate winner will have received the majority of the votes cast. | The recent Congressional race in Alaska clearly demonstrates the positive outcome of Ranked-choice voting. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | Stop the missing middle plans at once. You Will forever destroy the quality,of our neighborhoods | We deserve ward representation instead of at large board membership | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | In a large field of candidates, Ranked choice voting avoids the election being won by candidate who is no one's first choice | None—we did it at Washingtín-Liberty school before covid | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | If this is to be a pilot, then there needs to be published criteria on which the pilot will be evaluated. I would like to see more than one Board seat up for election at a time on more of a rotating basis. As it is, the one Board member who runs alone is almost always guaranteed a seat. It seems like RCV could get us closer to having constituencies represented rather than having the lack of representation that comes from all at large membership. | It is unclear to me from the description of "pilot program for the 2023 County Board primary elections" whether this applies to the PRIMARIES at which the candidates to be presented at the general election in November are chosen or whether it refers to the November election itself. If the former, would the two principal parties change their selection processes? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22207 | Absolutely in favor of ranked choice voting. | I understand clearly how it works. However this is not universally the case - I would ask how you plan to communicate with voters in advance of rolling this out, AND how the ballots will be designed to ensure that voters are well informed about the system in the moment they are voting. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | One of the simplest means to improving Democracy. | How does this relate to at-large versus districted voting? In particular, if at-large (as at present), and multiple seats open, does the ranked choice select multiple seats? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I recommend that county elections feature ranked choice voting. Ranked choice voting - 1) allows candidates from outside the two major parties to compete. 2) allows voters to support their favorite candidate without worrying that they might "throw their vote away," or worse, split their votes with like-minded voters and unintentionally help elect the candidate they like the least. 3) reduces negative campaigning, as candidates running in ranked choice elections must ask for second and, sometimes, third choice rankings. Voters are less likely to rank a candidate highly who is negative toward their preferred candidate. 4) reduces the influence of money in politics: Campaigns and special interest groups spend a lot of money on negative advertising. By making negative advertising less effective, ranked choice voting reduces the need for, and influence of, money in politics. | no questions, as I have voted in RCV elections previously | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it is a great idea to help make elections more competitive and make people feel more heard. Ranked choice voting makes people more likely to vote because their voice will be heard even if their first choice candidate does not win. Candidates do not have to be so extreme to get their base out to vote. This is good for democracy. | I like how are elections are paper ballots counted by machines. Could the ranked-choice voting be implemented also with paper ballots counted by machines? (I hope so as it is good for security, fast results with paper back up, and Virginians are used to that.) Will you look to other places already using this to see what lessons they have learned? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I strongly support ranked choice voting. It enhances the ability of voters to communicate their preferences and have the outcome of the election reflect those preferences. As a result, it can help to reduce the cynicism towards political activity that is currently so prevalent. | The main hurdle to overcome is to educate voters on how ranked-choice voting works. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | It should become the standard for board and all county elections | Why not used ranked choice? What are the downsides? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22207 | I think it's a good idea | How soon? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Let's try it! | I'm assuming if we have, say, 10 seats to fill and 20 candidates, we can rank our preferences 1-10 | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | It is very exciting to know that Arlington is interested in bringing a fair process of voting to the county! It would be an honor for our county to be one of a few jurisdictions in the country with this voting method. | I would just be curious about what it would take for the county to transition to this. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I think this is a great way to make sure Arlington residents have their preferences represented. | How will people learn about the new voting process? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Do it! | How will you combat misinformation about the mechanics? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Let's try it! | What kind of educational materials would be provided to voters? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I believe implementing ranked choice voting is an excellent idea that will strengthen democracy and reduce the negative impact of a 2-party political system. I would like to see it implemented for every office on the ballot. | Why only use this system for county board candidates, rather than the entire ballot? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I am strongly in favor of ranked-choice voting. | None. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22209 | Rank choice voting is a fantastic option to support a greater number of candidates from diverse backgrounds to participate in elections and run for office. Plurality voting traditionally creates a race between two candidates and pushes others out. In addition, we should promote ranked-choice voting because its more democratic than traditional plurality with people getting a say down the line of candidates. Also places that have begun to use this method are seeing good results and I think Arlington County should be on the forefront of that. | How will this go into affect and on what timeline? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Amazing. Love it. Please do it. I think it's the best thing and it's evidence based. | How quickly can we do it for every position. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Ranked choice voting works, and the results better reflect the will of the voters. I'm strongly in favor. | When would ranked choice voting be implemented? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I believe RCV will lead to more moderation, cooperation on problem solving in a Arlington and could over time improve government in the county. If it works in Arlington, I hope it will spread to other election races, throughout VA and the country. | There have been ballot "kinks" and mess ups in some other states, I hope operations will be carefully reviewed and guided to prevent those in Arlington. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | We need ranked choice voting. We need to set an example for the Commonwealth that good governance should always trump partisanship. | None. Please implement immediately. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I'm a proud Arlingtonian and Marine Corps veteran. I'm deeply saddened by the state of our democracy, the deep division between citizens, and the seeming inability for the current political duopoly to change the status quo of the system. I firmly believe the only way to heal the divisions and repair the lost trust, is to change the system to incentivize consensus building, not grandstanding. I believe ranked-choice voting is the only systemic means to do just this. Please, have the courage of your convictions and demonstrate that Arlington can lead not just in Virginia, but for the country in adopting ranked choice voting in ALL our elections! Thank you for your work! -Isaac Riddle | No questions! Our election machines can handle it and so can our citizens!! | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I believe it represents a better way to arrive the candidate who has the most support | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I love this idea and I think making a test of it in the primary is a good idea. | What would be required to implement it in general elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I am in favor of rcv | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | The last thing you want is an unacceptable candidate to win because the majority have different ideas as to who would be the best alternative. | I have one question: Why am I required to complete this box? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting. | Would primaries still be held be each party? Explain when RCV is applicable and when it is not. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | RCV or instant runoff voting will allow Arlingtonians to express their political preferences at the ballot box without needing to dabble in game theory and political strategizing. It will also allow outsider candidates with diverse political messages to participate in electoral politics without raising the stigma of the "spoiler" candidacy. | How will the County execute RCV in a clear and transparent way? Why is the County exploring RCV for primary elections but not general elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | Ranked-choice voting is an excellent voting initiative with the potential to reduce hyper-partisanship, give voters more choices, and reduce negative campaigning. | What steps will be taken to ensure voters understand ranked-choice voting? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I fully support ranked-choice voting! | Would it take longer to determine a winner? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I support ranked choice voting | None | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | It is an absolute improvement to the current first-past-the-post voting system and should be implemented in our district. | Which flavor of ranked-choice voting will you be implementing? Instant-runoff voting, single transferable vote, etc. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I support the idea of ranked-choice voting as it seems like a fairer solution that will allow for a wider variety of viable candidates and viewpoints in our elections. | Does the county have a plan to educate folks about such a system? As a nerd I've watched many videos about different voting systems, so im familiar with ranked choice, but I worry that some folks are used to voting one way. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22209 | I think Arlington county should implement ranked choice voting | No questions | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22209 | Ranked choice voting (RCV) is a fair, intuitive, and innovative voting method I strongly support. Arlington adopting RCV will put us at the forefront of preserving democracy. Arlington has the chance to learn from others who've implemented RCV and be instrumental at being a model for other democratic areas. Let us strive to be the best in a method which supports democracy! | How will the board learn from other jurisdictions? How will the board market and make this change understandable and favorable for people who may not be as strongly supportive? How can citizens become more involved in the marketing and general implementation process? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22210 | <p>The League of Women Voters of Arlington and Alexandria City, supports the use of RCV. It gives voters more meaningful choices and helps create a richer dialogue on the issues and increases the diversity of views available for voters to consider. In addition, RCV eliminates spoilers and strategic voting and allows voters to support their favorite candidate without worrying that they might "throw their vote away," or worse, split their votes with like-minded voters and unintentionally help elect the candidate they like the least.</p> <p>Another benefit is that RCV reduces negative campaigning: Candidates running in ranked choice elections must ask for second and, sometimes, third choice rankings. Voters are less likely to rank a candidate highly who is negative toward their preferred candidate. This also reduces the influence of dark money in politics.</p> <p>We encourage the use of RCV in the primary and general elections in Arlington.</p> | We would like to know the status of software updates to allow this. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Please institute this policy. It's better for our community and democracy. We can set an example by putting less focus on party and more on candidate positions. | How soon can we implement? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Ranked-choice voting needs to be implemented. We need to have a system similar to Alaska, where all candidates run in a top 5 primary and ranked-choice voting is used for the general election. It reduces extremism and makes sure that a majority is happy with the person who represents them. | None. It needs to be implemented. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I think it should be implemented in Arlington. | How quickly can it get done. How many people will be confused by the process and does more education need to happen? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | It's a terrific idea! Thank you! | We trust you! Look to other jurisdictions for help. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Strongly favor. | no questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I favor ranked-choice voting. in a field of three or more candidates I believe ranked-choice voting gives the voter a more precise way of expressing their electoral preference. | I have not questions other than when. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Everything I've read about RCV, either about it conceptually or in real-world scenarios, tells me that it would allow for elections whose results more accurately reflect the will of the voters. Arlington should introduce it on a trial basis, and assuming the trials are positive, make it a permanent procedure. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I am in favor of ranked choice voting for the County Board and school board in Arlington. | I've seen how it works so I know it can work. | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | Please Implement Ranked Choice, I would love to see it nationwide, but if it isnt pushed locally it may never get there. | My biggest question is how we could prevent the incumbent party from overturning it once installed. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22213 | I think RCV is an excellent idea and will reduce highly negative discourse between candidates. It also encourages less extreme positions by candidates, and allows voters to vote for who their real first choice is without worrying about "wasting" their vote. Arlington should absolutely try this! | No questions | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

Non-Arlington Residents

| Zip Code | Comments | Questions | Prior Expearence | Favorability |
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| 22301 | I hope they adopt RCV. The thing I most like about RCV is the ability to vote for the candidate I prefer, even if they may not win overall. | none | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22310 | Ranked choice voting will make Virginia's elections more positive and more representative of ALL its residents. I want to see RCV eventually implemented across the state, but Arlington is the best place to start. | Will a provision be included to allow other Arlington elections to adopt RCV in the future? | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22314 | Yes please. | No questions. | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22314 | Ranked Choice voting is a much better system compared to the current one where the person with the most votes wins. This system would allow people to vote for the candidates they actually want to win instead of the "safe" pick. Alaska implemented ranked choice voting recently and it helped Mary Peltola to win her election over Sarah Palin, after distributing the votes of the third party. This also allows candidates outside the two major parties to compete and truly represent what the people want. | Is it going to be implemented at all levels of elected government in Arlington? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |

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| 22627 | <p>We believe elected officials should represent and serve a true majority of their Ward/District or State. That's what's so great about Ranked Choice Voting - everyone must win with a true majority (over 50% in a single-seat election.)</p> <p>RCV does this and eliminates the "spoiler" effect of allowing multiple candidates to run. It enables voters to select candidates by ranked-preference. When there is no majority winner after the first round of tabulation, it requires an instant runoff process.</p> <p>RCV changes the incentives/behavior from the divisive "hate the other" politics that is destroying us. Instead, it creates issue-based dialogue and coalition building. RCV can help mature our policy solutions through the debate of ideas...more voices, more choices, better solutions.</p> | <p>Is the State Election Department allowing RCTab to be used by localities for tabulation of RCV local elections in Virginia? What is the exact cost the State Election Department is requiring from localities to adopt and implement RCV, or is that no longer a factor since VERIS is being replaced?</p> <p>Please see this report about implementation of RCV https://www.ncsl.org/research/elections-and-campaigns/ranked-choice-voting-in-practice-implementation-considerations-for-policymakers.aspx</p> | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 24153 | <p>Simply put, Approval voting (vote for all you approve of, most votes wins) is simpler and better than Ranked Choice voting. RCV is touted as fixing the "spoiler effect", but only mitigates it. This can be seen in the most recent Alaska congressional election in which Palin spoiled the election for Begich. That is, between Begich and Peltola, more Alaskans preferred Begich, but Palin caused him to be eliminated. Approval voting does not have this issue, because all dis/approvals are taken into account simultaneously. Approval voting is also much simpler to implement, because the ballots are effectively the same as existing one. Thanks to this the vast majority of voting machines already support Approval voting.</p> <p>Fun fact: The "How favorably do you feel about RCV?" poll question below is a form of Score voting, also better than RCV.</p> | <p>I am concerned that the elimination and transfer steps will be difficult to display to the public, leading to uncertainty about how the winner was chosen.</p> | Yes | 2 - Unfavorable |

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| 20112 | I am highly in favor of Ranked-Choice Voting and think this is a long-needed change. | How will the Board make sure voters are educated about Ranked-Choice Voting prior to elections? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 20301 | Our current first past the post voting system is exactly what a kindergarten would come up with. Ranked choice simply makes more sense and I think would go a long way to diffusing political tensions. | How fast can we get it started? | No | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22046 | I'm against it. | We don't need any more confusion/complication added to our elections. | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22195 | No. Primaries work just fine. This ranked choice voting seems to make it go on and on and on. | none | No | 1 - Very Unfavorable |
| 22200 | Do it! | None | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22200 | I am in favor of ranked voting. | none | Yes | 5 - Very Favorable |
| 22101 | I strongly oppose ranked choice voting. All arguments are based on the premise that voters should be controlled because they do not really know what is best for the community or understand how to choose the best candidate. This ranking system allows the manipulation of votes by the counters and has provided opportunity and proven manipulation to "provide" the best choice of candidate in spite of voter preference. The only honest voting method is: one vote by one registered voter when one slot is available for an office. For a voter to "order his list by ordering several favorites" is truly a method of cheating. The only way to "use" rank voting fairly is to allow each voter to vote (say, in a five candidate field) in each slot for the same candidate if desired, then ranked choice would be fair. Otherwise is is a system to bastardize the voters vote and insult they voters ability to vet and choose the best candidate for the office. It is an illegal suggestion for fair election. | none | Yes | 1 - Very Unfavorable |