



STATE OF VERMONT
JOINT FISCAL OFFICE

MEMORANDUM

To: Representative Maida Townsend
From: Catherine Benham
Date: January 31, 2017
Subject: Estimate Fiscal Impact of Recount for Orange 1 District

You asked for the estimate fiscal impact of the proposed recount in Orange 1.

The estimated cost is \$1,290-\$3,790 based on the following assumptions and estimates. There may be other possible other costs.

1. Secretary of State costs
 - a. Program memory cards for tabulators
4 cards (2 cards and 2 back up cards)
\$300-\$500 each = \$1,200-\$2,000
 - b. Staffing – no additional cost if recount is during normal business hours. This assumes that the secretary of state has a few staff and legislators provide additional staffing at no cost.

2. Ballot delivery and pickup – two possible options
 - a. The town clerk/the Board of Civil Authority from each town and the county clerk from superior court will deliver the ballots on the first day and pick them up at the end of the second day (or when the recount is finished).
 - b. 2 or more legislators drive from Montpelier to collect ballots from each town in one trip. They will do the same drive to return ballots at the end of the recount (86 miles for a round trip using mapquest)

Towns and estimated Mileage

Orange (16 miles) , Williamstown (15 miles), Washington (15 miles),
Corinth (33 miles), Chelsea (27 miles), Vershire (32 miles), Superior
Court in Chelsea (27 miles)

\$0.535 is the federal mileage reimbursement rate
 - c. Total cost of option a = approximately \$350
 - d. Total cost of option b = approximately \$ 90

3. Statehouse

- a. No additional costs for room. If there recount goes beyond normal business hours, there will be a cost for the Sergeant at Arms to keep security on duty.

4. Security – 2 possible options

- a. Hire sheriffs to protect the ballots overnight \$60/hour. Need two sheriffs to provide breaks. Assuming they are there for 12 hours, the estimated cost is \$1,440
- b. Use a vault (eg state of VT, Town of Montpelier) \$0-\$??
 - i. One consideration: if a vault is used, ballots may need to be delivered before the close of business, meaning that the recount could not go into the evening.

Summary of Estimates

Sec of State	\$1,200 - \$2,000
Mileage	\$ 90 - \$ 350
Security	\$ -0- - \$1,440
Total	\$1,290 - \$3,790