

# **Commissioner Sue Gunzburger**

## *Broward County Commission, District 6*

In addition to selecting a president, a representative in Congress and state and local officials on November 4, Broward County voters will also cast ballots on a number of state and local referenda.

In Broward County, voters will be asked to vote on ten amendments or revisions to the Broward County Charter, our local “constitution,” which was adopted by voters in 1974.

The local ballot questions were developed and submitted to the electorate by the Charter Review Commission (CRC), which conducted a series of meetings during the past two years. Voters will be asked to mark their ballots “Yes” to approve or “No” to not approve the ten questions. I have included a brief summary of the Broward County Charter amendments and revisions:

**Question 1, Creation of a Metropolitan Transit Authority:** Would create an advisory body to be known as the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

**Question 2, Non-Interference in County Administration:** Would prohibit the County Commission from interfering directly with County employees.

**Question 3, County Commission Meetings, Rules and Voting (Recusal):** Would require Commissioners who recuse themselves from voting because of a financial conflict to leave the Commission chamber and not communicate or participate in any discussion.

**Question 4, Broward County Housing Council:** Would create a Broward County Housing Council to serve as a non-taxing advisory board to facilitate coordination between the County, municipalities, businesses and not-for-profit groups.

**Question 5, Broward County Regionalism Policy Statements:** Would add a policy statement to the Broward County Charter defining Broward County government’s duty to develop and implement programs, policies and budget with a countywide and regional focus, without limiting services on a less than regional basis.

**Question 6, Broward County Parks Preservation:** Would designate County-owned parks as either natural area parks or regional parks, and would prohibit the sale, transfer or change of use of such parks without an affirmative vote of sixty percent (60%) of the electorate.

**Question 7, Broward County Environmental Policy Statement:** Would add an environmental policy statement to the Broward County Charter.

**Question 8, Broward County Ethics Commission:** Would create a Broward County Ethics Commission for the specific purpose of preparing a Code of Ethics.

**Question 9, Redistricting Process:** Would provide for the use of an independent redistricting consultant to develop plans for redistricting of the County Commission’s single-member districts.

**Question 10, One Year Hiatus between End of Management & Efficiency Study Committee (MESC) and Beginning of Charter Review Commission:** Would require the MESC to meet in 2009 and every six (6) years thereafter in order to provide for a one (1) year hiatus between meetings of the CRC and MESC.

For more detailed information about the proposed Charter amendments and revisions, or to view the Broward County Charter, visit [www.broward.org/charter](http://www.broward.org/charter).

As always, feel free to contact me or share your concerns and priorities – you can e-mail me at [sgunzburger@broward.org](mailto:sgunzburger@broward.org) or, if you wish, call me at 954-357-7006.