How Can I Support Red Bank First?

Being a petition circulator and collecting signatures of Red Bank residents is the easiest way to help Red Bank First!

It's easy as 1-2-3.

1)   Circulate the petition, available for download at www.redbankfirst.com, getting as many signatures of Red Bank voters as you can (including your own, if you live in Red Bank). You do not need to live in Red Bank to circulate a petition, only to sign it.

2)   Get the petition notarized by a notary public or New Jersey attorney. You will make the circulator oath at the bottom of the petition affirming that you circulated the petition, that the signatures were made in your presence, and that you believe the signatures are genuine.

3)   Return the petition to the Red Bank First campaign. Petitions can be mailed to 15 Hudson Ave or 159 Bridge Ave, Red Bank, NJ 07701. There are also drop-off locations listed at www.redbankfirst.com.

What exactly is being proposed by the Red Bank First petition?

The confusing language located at the top of the petition is required by New Jersey state law. The details on the next page explain exactly what the top paragraph stands for:

PETITION TERM	*RED BANK FIRST* EXPLANATION
We, the undersigned, hereby request that an election be held in the Borough of Red Bank upon the following question:	Petition signers are asking that the *Red Bank First* proposal be placed on the Red Bank ballot in an upcoming election.
Shall the Mayor-Council Plan of the Optional Municipal Charter Law	This calls for the Mayor-Council form of government under the Faulkner Act. This is the most similar form to Red Bank's current government, but importantly has nonpartisan elections.
with seven council members	This expands the Red Bank council from six seats to seven, which *Red Bank First* supports in an effort to have a larger council that has a diversity of viewpoints as diverse as Red Bank.
all to be elected at large	This elects each councilmember in a borough-wide election, with Red Bank voters voting for each council candidate, identical to the current government. *Red Bank First* supports these "at-large" elections, rather than divide Red Bank into different council wards, potentially resulting in more political divisions.
for staggered terms	Staggered terms will have voters elect members of the council every two years, rather than every four years. *Red Bank First* believes staggered elections will help hold the council accountable.
at elections held in May	**This realizes *Red Bank First*'s core mission of holding Red Bank's municipal elections on a non-partisan basis. Candidates will be elected in a May municipal election, appearing on the ballot by name, not by political party.** The Faulkner Act requires non-partisan elections to start off as May municipal elections. After the Faulker Act is adopted and a new Mayor and Council are elected, the new, non-partisan government may decide to move the municipal election to November, but importantly, it will remain on a nonpartisan basis.
with the mayor elected directly by the voters	This ensures that Red Bank continues its current practice of voting directly for the mayor, rather than having the council select the mayor, like in other forms of government.
with run-off elections to be held thereafter if a sufficient number of candidates fail to attain a majority of votes	This ensures that the mayor and council must win a majority vote, or else the top candidates will then face each other in a run-off election. This will ensure that candidates cannot win office in a crowded election field with a low percentage of the vote, lacking a mandate to govern.