

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

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Language Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting January 24, 2023 | 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://sccgov-org.zoom.us/j/92319496044>

Meeting ID: 923 1949 6044

Phone in: (669) 219-2599
Phone in: (669) 900-6833

Minutes

Attendees:

LAAC Committee Members: Francisco Valenzuela, David Kim

ROV Staff: Evelyn Mendez, Michael Borja, Shannon Bushey, Bren Lehr, Steve Goltiao, Paulo Chang, Bob Nguyen, Liz Oviedo, Alfred Gonzales, Jose Posadas, E Rudholm, Aleiah Mims, Rachel Cayabyab, Vanessa Hamm, Ruth Luo, Rachel Lam, Sachiko, Tsai Fanchun, Julia Saenz, Bren Lehr, Christina Rivas-Louie, Steve Goltiao, Mike Fong, Paulo Chang, Vikas Moudgil, Debbie, Grace Sullivan, Smitha Shah, Xyryll, Thuytien Bui, Amy Nguyen, Shirley Wang, Rocio Renteria, Balinda Martinez

I. Review and approve minutes.

- I. Introductions
- II. September 20, 2022, minutes (tabled for approval for next meeting, there was only one member available in the beginning of the meeting)

II. Reports and Updates

- I. ROV Committee Member Reports

Gubernatorial General Recap

a. Ballot Reports (Alfred Gonzales, Vote by Mail Division Manager)

Alfred gave a presentation on the **November 8, 2022, Gubernatorial**

General Election:

Total registered voters: 1,009,422
VBM ballots returned: 514,747.
Ballot cast at Vote Centers: 40,713
Undeliverable: 25,812
Total VBM ballots: 1,020,501
Total VBM ballots accepted: 510,588.
Total VBM ballots challenged: 4,159.

VBM Ballots Returned Statistics:

Mail: 46% or 235,052

Drop Box Locations: 40% or 208,685

Vote Center Drop Boxes: 14% or 70,553

Fax – 0% or 451

VBM Challenged Statistics:

No Voter Signature: Total challenged ballots 910

Still Challenged: 24% or 218

Cured: 76% or 692

Nonmatching signatures: 2,390

Still challenged: 59% or 1,419

Cured: 41% or 971

Ballots not received on time: 2,510

Ballots missing from envelope: 12

b. Voter Registration Stats (Julia Saenz, Voter Registration Division Manager)

Julia shared voter registration statistics and information on the number of provisional ballots received for the November Election. We received 3,280 Conditional Voter Registration (CVR) ballot envelopes, 90% of the ballots were counted. For Provisional Voters (PV), we received 329 ballots. We counted 8 provisional ballots, and most provisional ballots were not counted. PV Ballots were from voters who were registered out of county, others were from voters that had incomplete information on the PV envelopes.

Currently, we are at 1,0013,290 registered voters and 7,165 pre-registered voters.

The following is a list of registered voters by language:

1. English: 942,963
2. Chinese: 15,533
3. Hindi: 477
4. Japanese: 375
5. Khmer: 147
6. Korean: 2,962
7. Nepali: 1
8. Punjabi: 53
9. Spanish: 18,289
10. Tagalog: 1,996
11. Tamil: 8
12. Telugu: 5
13. Thai: 109
14. Vietnamese: 30,372

c. Vote Center Report (Paulo Chang, Precinct Operations Manager)

Paulo provided statistics on the Vote Centers. In the 2022 Gubernatorial General Election we had 103 Vote Centers. 11-Day sites opened on October 29 and all 103 sites open from November 1 through Election day on November 8th, 2022. The Vote Center roles were Leads, Aides, Volunteers and High School Students.

There was a record voter turnout at Vote Centers, with early voting at 7,886 voters and 32,619 election day voters. ROV hired 1,411 Vote Center staff that included 1,411 Election Officers, 664 monolingual staff and 747 bilingual staff.

The ROV conducted Election Officer Certification Classes. The classes spanned from September through end of October 2022. Three classes were offered for the different Vote Center roles.

There were 13 Voter Language Workshops held on Zoom from September 27 through October 20. These workshops saw the biggest turnout since the implementation of the Voter's Choice Act. The languages included: Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Hindi, Spanish, Nepali, Punjabi, Telugu, Tamil, Gujarati, Japanese, Khmer, Korean. All workshops were presented in English along with the respective language. QR Flyers were created for Voter Language Workshops to help advertise.

At the Vote Centers ballots were request in the following languages:

- English: 38,991
- Spanish: 580
- Chinese: 398
- Korean: 51
- Hindi: 18
- Tagalog: 17
- Punjabi: 11

Single digit requests where ballots were requested in Gujarati, Nepali, Telugu, Japanese, Khmer

Top Vote Centers – November 2022

- Central Park Library: 1,237
- Cambrian Branch Library: 1,059
- Milpitas Library: 948
- Almaden Community Center: 938
- Saratoga Library: 907
- Edenvale Branch Library: 875
- Campbell Community Center: 863
- Evergreen Branch Library: 851
- SJSU Event Center: 814
- Tully Branch Library: 793

Vote Centers alternative voting methods. There were 12 voters that used the English Audio touchscreens, 6 voters that voted with English Curbside touchscreens ballots, and voters that voted with the Curbside paper ballot option.

Vote Center staff tracked anytime voters ask for assistance and leads are asked to log into **acceptation** logs so we can track assistance request.

d. Social Media/Advertising (Evelyn Mendez, Public and Legislative Affairs Division Manager)

Evelyn reported on the social media statistics and current subscribers.

- Facebook: 5,326
- Instagram: 3,172
- Twitter: 1,640
- YouTube: 174
- TikTok: 254
- LinkedIn 44

With the increase in followers on Instagram and TikTok, pre-registration numbers continue to rise. with youth.

Braille Flyers & How to Videos were also created in ASL are available.

All the following How to Videos are posted on our YouTube channel.

@Sccvote: How to Register to Vote, How to Vote by Mail, How to Vote at a Vote Center, How to Vote a Military of Overseas Ballot, and How to Vote Remote Access Vote by Mail

PLA conducted extensive Now Hiring and Recruitment Campaigns Including print, digital, radio, TV, sports franchises, billboards, bus advertising, car magnets, LED Billboards, Mall Advertising, social media, and paid Ads. In addition, we partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank, SJSU and the San Jose Sharks.

e. Assembly Bill 1416 (Liz Oviedo, Acting AROV – Ballot Layout Division Manager)

Liz shared a presentation on Assembly Bill 1416 which was signed by Governor last September. An analysis was shared on how this will affect our official ballots. This requires state propositions to contain a list of supporters and opponents as part of the official ballot label. The list includes nonprofit organizations, businesses, or individuals that meet certain criteria taken from the signers of the arguments printed in the voter information guides. It also provides the option for counties to include the list in local measures labels.

f. Membership Recruitment (Evelyn Mendez, Public and Legislative Affairs Division Manager)

The State and County LAAC is searching for committee members to join. Applications for the county LAAC can be found on the ROV website.

g. Candidate Services Overview (Bren Lehr, Candidate Services Division Manager)

Bren presented on highlights of Running for Office and Nomination Period

The election cycle starts with the Candidate Services Division (CSD); this division serves as an information clearinghouse for anyone desiring to run for an available office. The average number of candidates who run for office in a Primary or General Election is between 300-400. During the Nomination Period, we help determine eligibility to run for office, assist with nomination documents, and help candidates understand codes and regulations. We assist jurisdictions who desire to call for a measure election. The average number of measures to be placed on a ballot might range between 20-30 depending on the type of election. CSD prepares reference materials such as office holder list, election calendars, candidate guides and packets for ballot arguments, initiatives and recalls.

We assist candidates with Fair Political Practice Commission (FPPC), financial documents and requirements related to their campaign.

On August 27, 2013 the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. NS-19:40 that places limitations on the amount of contributions made to receive by a County Candidate running for County Office: Supervisor, Assessor, District Attorney, Sheriff. Candidate filing of Voter Expenditure Limit (VEL) agreements and recommendations are submitted at the same time they file their FPPC form 501. The VEL are \$250,000 per elections for Board of Supervisors and \$500,000 per election for Assessor, District Attorney and Sherriff.

The total amount of contributions an individual can make if the candidate agrees for an individual may contribute up to \$1,000/election. If the candidate does not agree an individual may contribute up to \$500.00/election.

III. LAAC Committee Member Reports

Mike Nguyen not available to present.

Francisco Valenzuela- I would like to request a flyer and I know a few folks right of hand that would be a good representative.

Action items for PLA to get a flyer.

IV. Next steps

- I. Future meetings
 - I. April 2023
 - II. July 2023
 - III. October 2023
 - IV. Future agenda items