

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

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Language Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting July 19, 2022, | 1:30-3:00 via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://sccgov-org.zoom.us/j/91579282004>

Meeting ID: 91579282004

Phone in: (669) 219-2599

Phone in: (669) 900-6833

ROV Staff: Evelyn Mendez, Virginia Bloom, Michael Borja, Bren Lehr, Steve Goltiao, Paulo Chang, Bob Nguyen, Liz Oviedo, Shannon Bushey, Alfred Gonzales, Rocio Renteria, Aleiah Mims, Tsai Fangchun, Grace Sullivan, Kathryn Marucot, Kristen Sodano, Matt Moreles, Rong Qian, Smita Shah, Sohyang Yoon, Vanessa Ham, Xyrill Paulino, Yael Juarez, Ingrid Ruiz, Hanh Hoang, Sheng L, Lawrence Castaneda, Cathie Muego, Yi-Ling Chen, Nabanita Ghosh, Peter Abellera, Mai Bui

Members: Sietse Goffard

Mike Nguyen (High School Student) is in attendance, in hopes of becoming a LAAC member.

Minutes

I. Review and approve minutes

A. April 19, 2022, Minutes

- a) Minutes will be available during the next meeting.

II. Reports and Updates

A. Statewide Direct Primary Election Recap (Virginia Bloom, Assistant Registrar of Voters)

- i. Recap of the June 7, 2022, Statewide Direct Primary Election. Primary Election determined which candidates will appear on the November 8, 2022, General Election ballot. The only regularly scheduled city was the City of San Jose.
- ii. Informed that the June election was the first-time voters would see the new redistricting information for all the districts line that has been drawn for many public offices based on the 2020 Census data that occurs every 10 years.
- iii. The June Primary Election had a 35.72% voter turnout. The top two from the June Primary Election will be carried out to the November ballot.

a) Vote By Mail Stats (Alfred Gonzales, Vote by Mail Division Manager)

- i. Recap on the June 7, 2022, Statewide Direct Primary Election for Vote by Mail ballot report. Alfred informed that the VBM ballots were issued 1,010,106. Out of those issued, the return ballots were 346,969, and the ballots cast at the Vote Centers were 15,797. The total VBM challenged ballots were 4,296.

- ii. Alfred gave a report on the Vote by Mail ballots challenged statistics. This includes no voter signatures, none-matching signatures, the ballot was not received on time, and the ballot missing from the envelope.
- iii. Remote Accessible Vote by Mail System (RVBM) originally created for voters with disabilities and overseas voters is now available in California to all voters.. Alfred gave an additional update on ballots issued per language and ballots returned. Added that if a voter requested a language, they would automatically get a language-specific from what language they requested.
- iv. Questions?
 - a. Sieste asked: Do all those languages including the facsimile translated by the ROV?
 - b. Alfred responded: The ROV is federally mandated for English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog and state mandates Japanese, Korean, Hindi, and Khmer languages.
- b) Vote Center Report (Paulo Chang, Precinct Operations Division Manager)
 - i. Recap on Vote Centers for the June Primary Election. Informed members that in-person voter check-ins were available at 101 Vote Centers. Had a total of 15,801 check-ins. The biggest voting age group for this election was 45 to 64. All the English ballots counted for Vote Centers were 14,936. The top three non-English ballot language requests: are Vietnamese (396), Spanish (239), and Chinese (171). The least requested language ballot was Japanese (2).
 - ii. Paulo discussed the voting method at the Vote Centers. More than 50% of those voters selected to vote by touch screen, so over 8,616 voters opted for electronic voting. Out of those, 7,176 were asked to vote on the paper ballot. Vote Centers provides curbside voting to everyone who comes to vote in person. This gives voters the option to vote in the comfort of their vehicles. Only 3 voters asked for curbside voting. Overall, in total 15,801 check-ins at Vote Centers. Paulo informed that these numbers given are preliminary and members will be able to see the final numbers once the Election results are certified.
 - iii. Paulo introduced information on the logistics for Vote Centers. The State requires that everyone who wants to work at a vote center is certified. POD has an outreach team that is out in the community year-round recruiting staff to come and work at Vote Centers. Classes are provided with full training and are required to attend. Stipend classes are also provided for stipend workers who take on the role of greeters.
 - iv. There was a total of 520 monolingual staff/ election officers who spoke English and 672 who spoke a variety of languages.
 - v. For the June 7 Primary Election there were 101 voter centers opened and operated efficiently. Paulo informed that there were two major security incidents where SJPD was involved, the vote center closed momentarily and then re-opened for voting. It did not keep voters from voting, voters were directed to nearby Vote Centers or returned later.
 - vi. Paulo encourages LAAC members to reach out and help spread the word to their community to help recruit workers for the November 8, 2022, General Election. (Extra Help, Volunteer, and High School Students).
 - vii. POD will be hosting a variety of language workshops aimed at educating all members of the community about the upcoming November 8, General Election. The workshops will be offered in thirteen languages and members can find the information at: <https://sccvote.sccgov.org/get-involved/outreach#1849274314-4175360803>

- c) Advertising and Media Day (Evelyn Mendez, Public and Legislative Affairs Division Manager)
 - i. Evelyn presented information on ROV Go Green Campaign. A campaign to get people to request to get their County Voter Information Guide electronically. Voters will get a link and they can open the CVIG instead of getting it in the mail. ROV has a goal to get 100,000 people to opt-out. ROV is committed to saving the environment and encouraging everyone to go paperless.
 - ii. Liz Oviedo (Ballot Layout Division Manager), informed members that the ROV provides languages in English, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Korean, Tagalog, Hindi, and Khmer. The facsimile languages are Gujarati, Tamil, Telugu, Nepali, and Punjabi. Ballot Layout is currently recruiting for bilingual workers to apply for the November 8, 2022, General Election.
 - iii. Recap on advertising for the June 7 Election. Advertising is done on shopping carts in different languages, billboards, Bus Ads, gas stations, newspaper print, digital, radio, Facebook ads, and Tv. For all our ads the ROV gets translated into different languages. How To Videos: Our YouTube channel has all our how to videos in all languages and in ASL. ROV had a partnership with the San Jose Sharks. ROV has official social media accounts: Instagram, TikTok, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, and Next door. The ROV is constantly posting content for voters to be informed about election information.
 - iv. Recap on Media Day, an event held at the ROV. Open to the media and public for a demo on voting machines available for voters.

B. November Election (Virginia Bloom, Assistant Registrar of Voters)

- i. Information on the November Election. The ROV certified the June Election on July 7th. The November election will include the top two runoff candidates from the Primary Election for the state offices.
- b) Candidate Filing (Bren Lehr, Candidate Services Division Manager)
 - i. Bren informed members of the key dates and deadlines for candidates that wish to file for office. The nomination period started on July 18 and runs through August 12, 2022. If an incumbent does not file, then that contest will be extended for another five days through August 17.
 - ii. ROV will hold a randomized alphabet drawing to determine the order of candidates that will appear on the ballot that will occur on August 18th at 11:00 a.m.
- c) Redistricting (Bob Nguyen, GIS Mapping Division Manager)
 - i. As mentioned previously, the November Election will consist of all school districts, special districts, cities, and city offices that are up for the election. The new district lines may affect which candidates and contests appear on your ballot beginning with the November 8, 2022, General Election. Your ballot may not look the same - candidates may have changed as district lines have changed. The ROV has a display in the Atrium to help voters learn more about redistricting. The information is open to the public and voters. To find your new district numbers go to rovservices.sccgov.org and click on "Look up Your District".
 - ii. Accessible Voting Resources (Voter Registration Division), the ROV has recently mail out a voter accessibility resources letter explaining what resources the ROV makes available to voters. Voters have the option of

touch screen ballot machines, Remote Accessible Vote by Mail Ballot, County Voter Information Guide, audio County Voter Information Guide, and Curbside Voting.

- III. Committee Member Updates
 - A. Membership recruitment is available on our website. New members wishing to join can email voterschoice@rov.sccgov.orgTBD
- IV. Next Steps
 - A. September 20, 2022

Adjourned at 2:56 p.m.