

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

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Voter Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting April 21, 2022 | 1:30-3:00 via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://sccgov-org.zoom.us/j/91841806594>

Meeting ID: 91841806594

Phone in: (669) 219-2599

Phone in: (669) 900-6833

VAAC Minutes

ROV Staff: Evelyn Mendez, Michael Borja, Virginia Bloom, Liz Oviedo, Alfred Gonzales, Bob Nguyen, Paulo Chang, Jose Posadas, Christina Rivas-Louie, Rocio Renteria, Stephanie Duarte, Mike Fong, April Bracamonte, Mikaela Ward, Yael Juarez, Steve Goltiao

Members: Lisa Quan, Christine Fitzgerald, Lisa Cohen, Matthew

I. Review and approve minutes

I. January 27, 2022 Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes by Lisa Quan

II. Reports and Updates - ROV

A. Redistricting (Bob Nguyen, Mapping Division Manager)

- Bob gave an overview of the redistricting process for the County of Santa Clara. The 2020 US Census data is the source to redraw the redistricting lines.
- Informed members that after the 2020 Census, there are 52 congressional seats, one less than the 2010 Census. There are 52 US representatives and 120 State legislators. The California State Assembly is made up of 80 districts; California State Senate is made up of 40 districts.
- The California Citizens Redistricting Commission voted 14-0 in favor of a new State Assembly and Senate district maps.
- Discussed that the ROV receives district lines from the State data. ROV uses an overlay process to display the data on top of the existing district on the map.
- Informed that redistricting affects voters. When population changes and redistricting occur, voters may reside in one precinct now, but in 10 years, they may live in another.
- Virginia explained that the mapping division took considerable time to ensure that every single individual address has the right district associated with that address. The ROV is open to the public to come in and check out the atrium set up with various maps showing district lines, as well as a tablet voters can use to look up their district.

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

- The State Direct Primary is scheduled for June 7, 2022. The ROV will begin mailing out the County Voter Information Guide to all voters. Informed members that June 7 is the first election where the ROV will be utilizing the redistricting maps. It is particularly important that voters check their district because they may see a different office on their ballot. Bob's team has helped create a voter education campaign on redistricting here at the ROV in the atrium. Everyone is welcome to come down to the ROV and see the district maps for themselves.
- For the June 7 election, there are a total of 104 ballot types for this election (2-3 ballot cards per voter) that the ROV will be mailing out to voters. The Primary election will consist of all the state contests presented to voters. The County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors, Sheriff, and the City of San Jose are scheduled for this ballot.
- Member Christine asked Virginia if there is any feedback on the new machines available for voters. Virginia responded that so far voters have enjoyed access to it, however, there is confusion around which machines voters can review their choices before submitting their ballot. It was mentioned that the voting machines are much faster, more accessible, and friendly to voters.

C. Drop Box, Vote By Mail Dates (Alfred Gonzales, Vote By Mail Division Manager)

- Alfred gave a summary of important dates for the June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election. The County of Santa Clara ROV will have 99 Official drop box locations and 3 drop boxes on the Berger Campus. All drop boxes are 24 hours and available 29 days prior to election day. Drop boxes are secure metal boxes, locked, and placed in convenient and accessible locations where voters can safely drop off their ballots.
- Drop boxes are scheduled to be dropped and delivered from May 4 to May 6th and will be open on May 9. Alfred mentioned the schedule for the pick-up of the Ballots. Pick-up will start May 9 to May 22 (Mon, Wed, Fri). Then from May 23 to June 7, Election Day ballots will be picked up daily. The last pick-up will be at 8 p.m. on Election Night, June 7. That same night ballot boxes will be sealed and locked at 8 p.m.
- Alfred discussed key dates for Vote by Mail ballots: Ballots are mailed out starting May 9, They must be postmarked no later than June 14, The last day to request a Vote by Mail ballot by mail is May 31.
- Voters have the option to vote early at the ROV office starting May 9 until Election Day (Mon-Fri from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). The ROV will have weekend voting for two weekends prior to Election Day
 - Sat, May 28 and Sun, May 29, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
 - Sat, June 4 and Sun, June 5, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Member Lisa asked if Vista Center can hold a ballot drop box at their location site. The advantage would benefit voters who come down to Vista Center who mistake their location as a ballot drop box.

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

- Paulo discussed their continuous recruitment of hiring Election workers and volunteers for the June 7, Statewide Direct Primary Election. POD still needs a few more people to work at vote centers to be an Election aid, lead, or volunteer. Asked members to please help spread the word. They can visit our website at sccvote.org/now_hiring to get more information.

- For the June election, the ROV will have 101 vote centers. 24 early vote centers will open on Sat, May 28 through Mon, June 6 from 9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. The remaining 77 vote centers will open from June 4 to June 7.
- Mentioned that the best place to find out where vote centers are located is on our webpage. Visit sccvote.org (vote in person > Official Vote Center List and Schedule). Voters have the option to use our online search tool to enter their address and find the closest vote center convenient to them.
- Paulo mentioned that on Election Day, voters have 101 vote centers throughout the County to cast their ballot from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Vote centers provide voters with assistance with languages, bilingual information, touchscreen voting as well as audio voting.
- Paulo asked members to help promote ROV's Voter Language Workshop Series. If they can help spread the word to any friends, co-workers, or family interested in the election and would like to learn more about the June 7, election. The workshops are bilingual and open to everyone. For more information visit the outreach webpage at sccvote.org.

E. Advertising and Media Day (Evelyn Mendez, Public and Legislative Affairs Division Manager)

- Evelyn discussed advertising campaigns that the ROV is doing; for example, Billboards, Bus Advertising, Car Magnets, Grocery Carts, TV, Radio, and Gas Station Ads. The ROV is happy to announce a partnership with the Sharks sports franchise.
- The Go Green campaign has been successful in reaching voters to opt to go green and view their County Voter Information Guide electronically. As of today, we have 51,400 voters who have opted to go green. Help us spread the word.
- Evelyn mentioned that PLA manages all social media accounts; Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Next Door, YouTube, and now TikTok. Follow us on all our social media platforms @sccvote. Mentioned to members that we are the best-trusted source of information for voters in the County. If members have any ideas and suggestions, please feel free to email us with them.
- The ROV has How to Videos on our YouTube channel and is subtitled in all languages and now this year PLA has added a feature to include all How to Videos in ASL.
- Media Day is on May 11 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the ROV in the atrium. LAAC members are welcome to join the ROV on Media Day. Media day will be to show the media around to all the different areas of the ROV and demonstrate voting equipment. An ASL staff will be in attendance during the event.
- Evelyn mentioned the Bay Area Collation group made up of 11 counties in the Bay area that represents over 4 million voters. We are collaborating and using each other's resources to get the message across about the election. For more information visit our new website at bayareavotes.org and follow us on Facebook.

F. Local Voters Right's Act (Virginia Bloom, Assistant Registrar of Voters)

- Virginia gave an update on the Local Voters Rights Act. The Board of Supervisors has approved and adopted a board policy regarding the Local Voters Rights Act. The policy states that the ROV office will work very closely with county partners to share all our voter education materials that go to our community. The ROV is working with the office of Reentry services in the county, which holds an education campaign to interview clientele to show the process of someone involved in the Justice System to help them regain their right to vote.

- The ROV will continue to educate voters on the new laws, emergency ballot delivery program, and CVR program that will come to you during the CVR process to help voters re-register to vote. The ROV will continue to create new materials and make sure all our voters are in the loop and aware of election information.

III. Next steps

I. Future meetings

- Our next meeting will be held on July 21, 2022
- **September 22, 2022**

Meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.