

LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

May 27, 2022

TO: Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, Chair Supervisor Hilda L. Solis Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Janice Hahn Supervisor Kathryn Barger

FROM: Dean C. Logan Dean C. Logan Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

ELECTION STATUS UPDATE – June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election

This report is to inform your Board of our preparation and operations for the June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election. The election status update supports the Department's ongoing commitment to fair, accessible, and transparent election services. There are an estimated 5.7 million registered voters for this election.

Vote by Mail

The Department completed the initial mailing of Vote by Mail (VBM) ballots to all active registered voters on May 9. We mailed VBM ballots to all voters who registered by the close of registration deadline on May 23. The Department encourages VBM as the safest and most convenient method for voting.

A variety of VBM resources are available on our <u>website</u>. Voters may also request VBM ballots and materials in nineteen languages, sign up for <u>"Where's My Ballot"</u> to track their ballot, and request a replacement VBM ballot. The last day for a voter to request a replacement VBM ballot is May 31.

We have received 295,577 VBM ballots as of May 26.

Vote by Mail Ballot Return Options

Voters have three options for returning a VBM ballot:

(A) Ballot Drop Box: There are 400 Ballot Drop Box locations established for this election. Most locations are accessible 24-hours with some locations limited to regular business hours. Included in every VBM packet is a list of the six (6) nearest Ballot Drop Box locations to that registered voter. Additionally, voters can find a Ballot Drop Box near them by using the locator tool on our <u>website</u>. Voters may return their VBM ballot at any Ballot Drop Box up to 8:00 PM on Election Day. Ballots are retrieved daily by authorized County staff.

- (B) United States Postal Service (USPS): Voters may return their VBM ballot by mail, using the postage-paid return envelope provided in their VBM packet. Ballots must be postmarked by Election Day to qualify for the election. Under a recent revision to the Elections Code, the Department can accept ballots postmarked by Election Day for up to 7 days following the date of the election.
- (C) Vote Center: Voters may drop off their completed ballot at any Vote Center. Vote Centers are open from May 28 through June 7. Vote Centers are open from 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM daily before Election Day and 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM on Election Day (June 7). The Vote Center Locator Tool assists with finding a location and is available on our <u>website</u>.

Early Voting and Election Day at Vote Centers

Voting services are available at the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk headquarters in Norwalk. Voters can vote in-person Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. On Election Day (June 7), voters can vote from 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

A total of 642 Vote Centers located across the County are secured and scheduled for this election. The first 120 Vote Centers open on May 28. On June 4, an additional 522 Vote Centers will open. Vote Centers will be open from 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM daily before Election Day and 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM on Election Day. Our office is conducting a pre-check at vote centers on May 27. During the pre-check, Vote Center Leads and Assistant Leads will perform a walkthrough and ensure all systems are operational in preparation for the first day of voting on Saturday, May 28.

Votes can use the Vote Center Locator Tool to find a Vote Center. The Vote Center Locator Tool is available on our <u>website</u>. A Vote Center Postcard was mailed to every registered voter in the language of their choice. This postcard informs voters of the nearest 11-day vote center and the three (3) nearest 4-day Vote Centers. Voters can go to any of the 642 Vote Centers located across the County.

Conditional Voter Registration (CVR) is a service through which any eligible voter can register and vote in the election, even after the official close of registration. CVR is available at all Vote Centers and the RR/CC headquarters. Through CVR we can ensure that eligible voters have the opportunity to participate in the election.

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Vote Center Services for Voters Experiencing Homelessness

The RR/CC continues to provide access to voting services for voters experiencing homelessness. A residential address is not required to register to vote in California, and we have systems in place to ensure access to the ballot regardless of one's housing status. Voters may register at a shelter or other services provider and may also register using cross streets as a geographic reference point. There are currently 7,012 voters registered at either a homeless shelter or cross streets.

Conditional Voter Registration is available to all voters including those without a residential address. Our office has developed a precincting tool that ensures all voters have access to the appropriate federal, state, and local contests.

Mobile Voting Program

Mobile, Flex, and Pop-Up Vote Centers will be deployed across the County for this election. We are targeting 90 Flex Vote Center events where we will deliver voting services to geographically isolated voters, seniors, voters with disabilities, services for people experiencing homelessness, and underserved communities. We are targeting 45 Mobile Vote Center events at a mix of large-scale high foot traffic events and locations with essential workers.

As part of our contingency planning, we have five (5) Pop Up Vote Center teams located across the County. These teams allow us to respond to emergencies at our Vote Centers and restore voting services if disrupted. These teams are deployed on an as-needed basis.

Los Angeles County Safe Election Plan at Vote Centers

The Los Angeles County "Safe Election Plan" aligns with California's "Election Administration Guidance under COVID-19." This plan was developed in consultation with relevant health authorities using the best public health information available, including guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and California public health officials.

The following guidelines are implemented at all vote centers:

- Voters are encouraged to wear a face mask inside the Vote Center. Masks are strongly encouraged for all election workers, and higher quality masks such as N95/KN95 masks are provided.
- A Stop Station will be present at the entrance of each Vote Center. Personal protective equipment such as masks and hand sanitizer will be available for the public.
- Social distancing will be encouraged while in line and in the voting area.
- All Electronic Pollbooks and Ballot Marking Devices will be sanitized after each use.

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• Curbside voting will continue to be available for any voter who is unable to enter the Vote Center.

Vaccination Mandate Tracking and Enforcement

In compliance with your Board's COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate, the Department ensures that all community election workers are vaccinated. All community election workers are required to provide proof of vaccination via email at <u>ElectionWorkerVerification@rrcc.lacounty.gov</u> or in person. All other Election Workers for this election are County employees deployed as Disaster Service Workers (DSW) who are fully compliant with the Board's adopted vaccination mandate.

Community and Ethnic Media Roundtable

On May 25, the RR/CC hosted a virtual panel with community leaders along with local and ethnic news media. The community-based organizations invited included representatives from African American, Asian America, Pacific Islander, and Latinx communities. The objective of this activation was to pitch and generate local and ethnic media news coverage to ensure all residents and voters are aware of their voting rights ahead of the June Primary Election. The panel discussed various topics such as the importance of voting, how voters can find trusted resources in multiple languages, and the various accessible voting options available.

Departmental Resources and Contacts

Tools for Voters

The most important tool for voters is our website <u>www.lavote.gov</u>. Here they can check if they are registered to vote; check the status of their Vote by Mail Ballot (VBM); find a Vote Center or Ballot Drop Box; access their Interactive Sample Ballot, and follow live election results on Election Night. We encourage you to share these resources with voters who call your office. Key tools for this election include:

Voter Information Page:	This can be found on our website under <u>Find</u> <u>My Election Info</u> . This page helps voters check their registration status, look up their sample ballot, and access other helpful election information.
Interactive Sample Ballot:	This allows voters to view and mark their sample ballot utilizing an electronic device. The <u>Interactive Sample Ballot</u> generates a Poll Pass, which helps expedite the in-person voting process.
BallotTrax:	This is linked on our website under <u>Voting by Mail in</u> Los Angeles County. It allows voters to track their

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VBM Ballot. Voters can sign up to be notified when their ballot is sent, received, and counted.

Replacement Ballot Tool: Voters who damage their VBM Ballot, are traveling, need a ballot mailed to a temporary mailing address, or who need a replacement ballot for any reason can do so at: Replacement Vote by Mail Ballot.

Contact Information for Voters

Phone:(800) 815-2666Email:voterinfo@rrcc.lacounty.govWebsite:www.lavote.gov

Resources for Media/Communications Deputies

Election Results Fact Sheets News Releases Outreach Toolkit

Media/Communications Contact

Michael Sanchez, Communications Manager 562-462-2648 – office 562-274-3938 – mobile <u>msanchez@rrcc.lacounty.gov</u>

We look forward to working with your offices in our efforts to serve voters and allow them to exercise their fundamental right to vote. If you have any questions, your staff may contact Adrian Avelar, Executive Assistant at (562) 345-8372 or aavelar@rrcc.lacounty.gov for any urgent or pressing matters.

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