

SAN MATEO COUNTY

CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PLAN JANUARY 2020–JANUARY 2024



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OFFICE OF
**ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-
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COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER &
ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

January 3, 2020

Dear Fellow Voters:

I am pleased to present San Mateo County's Election Administration Plan (EAP) for the administration of elections under the California Voter's Choice Act (VCA) for the period January 2020 through January 2024.

San Mateo County's EAP preserves broad community input and retains the guidance leveraged from members of the County's Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC), Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC), and Voter Education and Outreach Advisory Committee (VEOAC). Additionally, the document incorporates comments received during a public hearing specified by the Act. All comments received during the public review process and those comments that were incorporated into the EAP, may be found in the section of the Plan entitled "Public Comments to Draft EAP and Responses."

A key element of San Mateo County's EAP is our comprehensive Voter Education and Outreach Plan. This plan outlines how we will increase accessibility for all voters, particularly voters with disabilities and language minorities. This is a vital component of the Elections Division's roadmap for the successful implementation of the VCA. Implementation of the Voter Education and Outreach Plan is subject to annual funding provided by the Board of Supervisors.

The implementation of the VCA in San Mateo County has successfully resulted in impressive increases in voter participation and accessibility to the electoral process among all voting groups. In 2018, turnout soared to 72.6%, the highest for a Statewide General Election in the County since 1998. There were equally impressive gains in voter representation, with the share of both Latino and the Asian-American voters increasing. Youth turnout (ages 18-24) was the highest for both a Statewide Primary and a Statewide General Election in San Mateo County since 2002.

This EAP introduces San Mateo County voters to our new Voting System. The Dominion Democracy Suite Voting System provides voters with an accessible, intuitive, secure, state of the art voting system at each Vote Center.

The EAP has been formally submitted to the Secretary of State for final approval. The Secretary of State's review and approval process will be completed by January 17, 2020. Once approved by the Secretary of State, San Mateo County's EAP becomes the official plan for the administration of elections under the California Voter's Choice Act.

I want to personally thank the voters of our county and all stakeholders that have participated in the development of this EAP for their dedication and commitment to expanding voting opportunities for all. Please contact the Registration & Elections Division at 650.312.5222 or registrar@smcacre.org should you have any questions regarding the Voter's Choice Act, the upcoming election, or our EAP.

Sincerely,

Mark Church

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California Voter’s Choice Act
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San Mateo County Election Administration Plan

Overview

Senate Bill 450, also known as the California Voter's Choice Act (VCA), was signed into law on September 29, 2016, authorizing 14 counties, including San Mateo, to conduct any election as an All-Mailed Ballot - Vote Center election commencing in 2018. This legislation was part of a broad collection of election reforms designed to increase voter participation, increase voter engagement, and expand voting options, fundamentally changing how elections will be conducted in San Mateo County and participating jurisdictions.

San Mateo County has been at the forefront of conducting All-Mailed Ballot Elections in the State of California, with over 74% of our registered voters choosing to be permanent Vote by Mail voters. The passage of the VCA was influenced by San Mateo County's successful November 3, 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election, conducted under the authority of Assembly Bill 2028. Many of the recommendations and methodologies contained in our AB 2028 Report to the State Legislature and the Secretary of State were incorporated into the VCA. Following the successful adoption of the VCA in 2016 by the State Legislature, 93% of ballots cast in the June 5, 2018 Statewide Primary Election and 88% of ballots returned for the November 6, 2018 Statewide General Election in San Mateo County were returned in the mail or by using a secure Ballot Drop Box location.

In an effort to continually improve the VCA elections model, the law requires the Chief Elections Officer to hold additional public hearings within two years of conducting the first election and every four years thereafter, to consider revisions of the Elections Administration Plan (EAP).

The County's Chief Elections Officer is required under the VCA to prepare a Draft EAP and, after public comment and a public hearing, an Amended Draft EAP for the administration of elections under the new law. Upon conclusion of a subsequent comment period, the County's Final EAP was submitted to the Secretary of State for approval. This EAP has been a collaborative effort prepared in consultation with our community partners and stakeholders.

The County's amendments to the 2018 EAP for the 2020 presidential election cycle incorporates proposed changes from community advisory groups and stakeholders following the June 5, 2018 Statewide Primary Election and the November 6, 2018 Statewide General Election. The public had a 14-day comment period, November 15, 2019, through December 2, 2019, to comment on the initial Draft EAP. A public hearing on the initial Draft EAP was held on December 10, 2019. Following the hearing, the Elections Division posted an Amended EAP. After a second 14-day comment period ending December 24, 2019, the Final EAP was submitted to the Secretary of State's Office on January 3, 2020. Formal adoption by the Secretary of State is scheduled on or before January 17, 2020. All EAP drafts and final versions of the document will be published on our website.

In the pages that follow, the EAP provides a brief overview of the Vote by Mail ballot process, the proposed locations of the County's Vote Centers and Ballot Drop Box locations, and elections technology that will be deployed at Vote Centers. Our Voter Education and Outreach Plan is incorporated in the EAP.

Vote by Mail Ballots

Under the VCA model, all registered voters will be mailed a ballot beginning 29 days before the election, with a postage-paid envelope to return the ballot. Voters may request a Vote by Mail ballot in Chinese or Spanish; or a facsimile ballot in Korean or Tagalog. Voters with disabilities, as well as overseas voters, military personnel, and military spouses may take advantage of San Mateo County's Accessible Vote by Mail system, which allows eligible voters to access and mark their ballot in a screen-readable format on a personal computer.

Vote Center and Ballot Drop Box Locations

The VCA establishes detailed criteria and formulas for the location of Vote Centers and Ballot Drop Box locations throughout the County. The law requires that Vote Centers and Ballot Drop Box locations be accessible to voters with disabilities, located near population centers, have easy access to public transportation and be near low-income and language minority communities.

Vote Center and Ballot Drop Box locations were selected in consultation with San Mateo County's Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC), Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) and Voter Education and Outreach Advisory Committee (VEOAC).¹ Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping software, U.S. Census Data and the California Civic Engagement Project's Vote Center Siting Tool were also utilized to ensure locations are in optimal proximity to voters. In addition to these considerations, potential Vote Center locations must have the necessary space for voting equipment and be available for the required operational days of the election.

Vote Centers: Vote Centers operate like polling places, allowing voters to cast their ballots in person, whether on paper or using an accessible Ballot Marking Tablet to print selections made or by marking paper ballots printed by Vote Center staff using a Mobile Ballot Printer. Unlike polling places, however, voters can cast their ballots at any Vote Center countywide. Voters will also be able to register to vote or update their registration at any Vote Center. Voters who have not registered before the close of registration (15 days prior to the election) will be able to complete a Conditional Voter Registration (CVR) at any Vote Center and cast a provisional ballot on the same day, through Election Day.

Vote Centers will have a secure Virtual Private Network (VPN) connection to the County's Election Management System (EMS), allowing Vote Center staff to verify, in real time, the voting status of each voter. The County's EMS is connected to the voter registration database administered by the State of California, VoteCal. Computers at Vote Centers will not have access to other websites or to email for security purposes. This secure system was successfully deployed in the June 5, 2018 Direct Primary Election and the November 6, 2018 Statewide General Election.

For the November 5, 2019 Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District Election, the Elections Division performed a pilot program of Tenex electronic pollbooks (e-Pollbooks) at four out of eighteen Vote Centers. The pilot demonstrated that the e-Pollbooks were easy for voters and staff to use for voter check-in, and they provide a dashboard which will allow voters to see wait times at all Vote Centers. Plans are underway to pilot the Tenex e-Pollbooks at all Vote Centers, during the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election. For the pilot, all voters

¹ More information on the committees can be found on pages 39 to 43.

will still fill out a paper check-in form in addition to signing the e-Pollbook. The e-Pollbooks have an encrypted connection.

When we move to using only the e-Pollbook, if a voter cannot sign the screen with a stylus, Vote Centers will have paper check-in forms available as a back-up option.

All Vote Centers meet ADA standards for accessibility (permanently or with temporary solutions) to the building and to the room used as a Vote Center. Vote Center locations throughout the County will vary in size. Depending on the room configurations and specifications unique to each Vote Center, the precise number of Ballot Marking Stations in each Vote Center may vary. Each Vote Center will have a specific layout to ensure stations are placed in such a way to maximize voter privacy. Layouts will be designed to meet accessibility requirements and will be adjusted to best utilize the differing shapes and sizes of each location. Regardless of the number of stations deployed to a Vote Center, at least three will have a braille-embossed handheld keypad, also known as an Audio Tactile Interface (ATI) on hand. To assist voters with visual impairments, headphones will also be available for these three Ballot Marking Stations.

Vote Center Representatives are trained to assist voters with options to change text size and contrast on the Ballot Marking Tablet, use of the ATI including adjusting volume and reading speed on the ATI. The ATI units are compatible with several assistive devices for voters with disabilities, such as sip-and-puff systems, paddles, and head-pointers. Ballot Marking Tablets are also programmed to be read, or listened to, in English, Spanish or Chinese.

Security and contingency plans are in place to prevent disruption of voting, and to ensure that the election is properly conducted. When Vote Centers are not in operation, the site and equipment will be secured through tested and established security protocols such as tamper-evident seals and secure storage facilities. Three sample Vote Center layout diagrams, based on room size, are provided in the Appendix.

Vote Center Formula: The County will continue its practice of opening regional Vote Centers 29 days before the election. Additional Vote Centers will open 10 days before the election, and all Vote Centers will be in full operation beginning the third day before the election.

The VCA has established the following formula for determining the quantity of Vote Centers throughout the County. The formula is based on the estimated number registered voters participating in the election. These numbers are based on the projected 450,000 registered voters in San Mateo County for the November 3, 2020 Presidential Election:

Days before Election Day	Number of Registered Voters Per Vote Center	Vote Centers Accessible to the Public
10	50,000	9
3	10,000	45

It is estimated the number of Vote Centers will be 42 for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

All Vote Centers will be open at least eight hours per day starting 10 days before Election Day, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. including weekends and holidays. Vote Centers will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

A Pop-up Voting set-up, transported by van, will be deployed to Pescadero and La Honda on Election Day to address geographically remote areas where a fixed site is not needed for the small population. Voting equipment will be set-up inside local buildings. The Pop-up Voting set-ups were well-received in Pescadero and La Honda on Election Day in June and November of 2018. During the March 3, 2020 Election, a Pop-up Voting set-up will be piloted in the City of East Palo Alto.

For the November 3, 2020 Presidential Election, the Elections Division would like to expand the Pop-up Voting set-up with the acquisition of a mobile voting unit to offer early voting in several locations not usually set-up as traditional polling places. The mobile unit will also be used for voter registration, education and stand by in case of an unexpected disaster.

Los Angeles County and Orange County purchased and deployed a “Mobile Outreach Vehicle” in previous elections, which have been utilized as fully contained voting locations. These Mobile Outreach Vehicles are designed to provide the appropriate security necessary for voting equipment and accessibility for voters with disabilities. The estimated total cost for the trailer, graphic wrap, delivery and truck is approximately \$200,000.

Ballot Drop Boxes: At least one Ballot Drop Box is required for every 15,000 registered voters in the County. Using the estimated number of 450,000 registered voters for the November 3, 2020 Presidential Election, this would project a total of 30 Ballot Drop Boxes. These Ballot Drop Boxes will be available no less than 28 days before Election Day and open during regular business hours. A Ballot Drop Box outside the Elections Division, at 40 Tower Road, San Mateo, and additional sites will be open twenty-four hours a day. To prevent physical damage and unauthorized entry, any unstaffed Drop Box located outdoors is constructed of durable material able to withstand vandalism, removal, and inclement weather. The opening slot will not be large enough to allow ballots to be tampered with or removed.

Each of the city/town halls in San Mateo County will have a locked ballot box available for receiving ballots during their regular business hours. Locked ballot boxes were successfully deployed at several libraries in 2018, and the Elections Division will continue to work with libraries to preserve this practice. The Elections Division will work with locations to post information on Election Day to provide alternative drop box sites if they are not open at 7 a.m. or if they close before 8 p.m. Signage will inform voters that a ballot box has been picked up if a location closes earlier than 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Voters may also drop off a voted ballot at a Vote Center, Post Office or USPS mailbox. Alternatively, voters who receive residential mail service may have their delivery person pick up their ballot.

A list of proposed Vote Center and Ballot Drop Box locations, along with a Vote Center and Ballot Drop Box location map, are included in the Appendix. The Elections Division has received suggestions for Vote Center and Ballot Drop Box locations other than government facilities, but many locations do not have the security, space or calendar availability to house centers or drop boxes. Vote Center and/or Ballot Drop Box locations are subject to change.

Voting Technology

The County’s voting technology is comprised of two main components, voter registration and voting tabulation. These two systems are completely separated. The voting tabulation system

is a closed system and does not have any connection to the internet.

The Elections Division implemented the first update to the County's voting technology since 2006 during the November 5, 2019 Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District Election. Dominion's Democracy Suite provides voters with a faster, more intuitive, and more accessible voting experience.

Paramount to the selection of the new voting system was ensuring that every vote is counted accurately. The security of our new voting system was our highest concern, and this system provides state of the art solutions above and beyond the requirements of the law. The California Secretary of State's Office of Voting Systems Technology Assessment (OVSTA) applies one of the most exhaustive voting system testing and certification programs in the nation. Prior to being certified for use, all voting systems undergo end-to-end testing, including functional testing, source code review, red team security testing with experts trying to "break into" the coding system, accessibility testing and volume testing.

Unlike the direct-recording electronic voting machines previously used, Dominion's Ballot Marking Tablets do not store voters' selections electronically. Instead, after marking their ballots, voters will print their ballots on a printer in their Ballot Marking Station. The printed ballot will list the voters' selections and display a machine-readable QR code label. The voters will then deposit their ballot into a ballot box. The new voting system is not connected to the internet at any time and does not receive or transmit election data electronically through any type of external network.

Vote Centers will also provide voters with the option to mark a paper ballot using Dominion's Mobile Ballot Printing solution. Each Vote Center will be deployed with no less than two Mobile Ballot Printers and will allow staff to print voters their specific ballot style for their precinct regardless of where they reside in the County. This technology reduces the Vote Center footprint by minimizing the purchase and printing of extra ballots that are needed to accommodate different ballot styles. Voters who mark a paper ballot will then deposit their ballot into a ballot box.

Ballot boxes are returned to the Elections Division, where new central high-speed scanners will count paper ballots and tabulate votes. As ballots are reviewed during the canvass period, the system creates a complete digital audit trail (as well as paper trail) documenting how each mark on each ballot was adjudicated and tallied.

The Elections Division is working with its website vendor Digital Deployment to implement a new voter lookup system in 2020. It will provide a streamlined experience for voters to lookup their registration, ballot status, nearest Drop Box or Vote Center, ability to see their districts, and the ability to opt-in to the greener electronic sample ballot.

Election night results will be available in more user-friendly formats than in the past. A new Results Portal is an interactive reporting system that includes:

- Results reporting – user can filter by contest
- Voter Turnout – mapped by precinct
- Reports – in CSV and PDF formats
 - Vote totals for each contest
 - Vote totals for each precinct for each contest for each candidate

Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is a responsibility that cannot be performed by one entity alone given the broad reaches of today's sophisticated cybersecurity threats.

The Elections Division's systems are protected in a multi-layered cyber and physical infrastructure environment. Our election systems and infrastructure are protected with the highest levels of security that bring together federal, state, local and private sector resources to bolster our cybersecurity defenses. Plans incorporate preventative and rapid-response measures to ensure continuation of election services in the event of disruption. Current security and contingency plans are posted on our website here:

www.smcacre.org/post/san-mateo-county-election-contingency-plan.

The Elections Division has established a Cyber Security Defense Team (CSDT) which includes ISD, and our external vendors who work collaboratively daily to provide the highest level of cyber defenses to the voters of San Mateo County. We serve as members of the Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EI-ISAC) and the Multi-State Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC). These partnerships provide immediate and accurate updates of cyber incidents and mitigative measures that can be implemented to neutralize all forms of cyber-attacks.

Additionally, the Elections Division's website vendor, Digital Deployment, hosting provider Pantheon, along with Drupal, the County's website platform vendor, are also members of EI-ISAC and MS-ISAC. These systems are FEDRAMP certified, meeting the highest federal security standards, and are used by the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, NASA, Department of Homeland Security and other high-level federal security agencies. They are among the securest systems in the nation.

The Elections Division has implemented several proactive measures to enhance its cybersecurity defenses. The San Mateo County Elections Division was one of the first counties in the state to retain the services of an independent cybersecurity consultant to conduct an extensive security audit and "trusted hack" of the County's voter registration system. Also, in coordination with the California Secretary of State's VoteSure initiative, voters can report suspicious content relating to election misinformation for investigation through the Elections Division website, www.smcacre.org.

County Network Security

The Elections Division's voting tabulation system and voter registration database servers are located inside the County network, behind the County firewall which is constantly monitored and patched. The County subscribes to the Department of Homeland Security's Cyber Hygiene Service whereby DHS and Elections security vendors perform regular vulnerability scans of the County's network and the internet. All users must have a unique login and password to sign into the County network. Passwords must be changed on a regular basis per County security standards. All remote users entering the County network must use a VPN connection to access the network. Multi Factor Authentication is utilized by Election employees who have the capability to update election website contents or social media platforms.

At the County, there are multiple security systems to help protect the internal users from malware and phishing. We scan all inbound emails and evaluates potential suspicious emails

that could negatively impact the computer environment. We have a 3rd party products that monitor all internet traffic, blocks known phishing sites and may block other types of malicious links so that malware can't be downloaded inside the County network.

All computers and file servers connected to the San Mateo County network must have the most recent version of anti-virus software that has been tested and approved by ISD, installed, and actively running on these devices and configured for daily virus definition file updates. Similarly, all computers and file servers must be configured to receive updates and patches. Internal vulnerability assessments are also conducted. All laptops must be protected with full disk encryption.

Elections Facility Security

All voting equipment and databases are secured in multiple locations and regularly replicated. These facilities have security systems with cameras. Access to the voting equipment warehouse, the Vote by Mail area and voter registration database servers are restricted with secured fencing and to staff with card-key access. There is role-based access control for every staff member, limiting access to physical areas of the building based on work duties. The voter registration servers are located behind locked doors with very limited access. The card keys create audit trails. In addition, ACRE has implemented a Disaster Recovery capability at a secured location in the event of a disaster occurring at the Elections Division building. All visitors must sign in at the front counter and are escorted at all times by a staff member.

Voter Election Data

With the implementation of the VCA model, the County will maintain, in an electronic format, a continuously updated index of voters who have done any of the following at a Vote Center:

- Registered to vote or updated their registration
- Received and voted a provisional or replacement ballot
- Voted a ballot using equipment at the Vote Center

Beginning no later than 10 days before the election this information will be available pursuant to the terms of Section 7 of the VCA.

An All-Mailed Ballot - Vote Center model increases requests for information about whether registered voters have voted early or returned a Vote by Mail (VBM) ballot during the early voting period. This information is often requested during each election cycle by campaigns and other entities to contact voters about the upcoming election.

To fulfill these requests, the Elections Division will provide electronic access to a Countywide Vote by Mail - Early Voting Cumulative Vote Report to candidates and campaigns daily, beginning at least 10 days prior to the election. Candidates and campaigns can subscribe to the updates to receive free access.

Campaigns wanting VBM data tailored to their area would pay the Elections Division's regular data fees.

New Design for Envelopes

San Mateo County has redesigned its Vote by Mail Official Ballot envelope in coordination with guidelines issued by the Center for Civic Design and recommended by the Secretary of State. The purpose of this redesign was to provide increased accessibility to voters and enhanced administrative and cost efficiencies. The Elections Division has also coordinated with USPS on the new design of the Official Ballot envelope to ensure compliance with mailing guidelines and regulations.

The appearance of the outer envelope used to deliver the Official Ballot to the voter has also changed. The envelope will be mainly white with color on the front left. The new colors will distinguish San Mateo County envelopes from those issued by other counties.

Voters will find three small holes in the return envelope around the signature area. This change is recommended by the Center for Civic Design to serve as guides to help voters with visual impairments or low literacy voters sign in the correct area. Two holes help visually impaired voters to tactilely identify the location of the signature space and the correct orientation of the envelope.

A third hole that goes through the bottom of the envelope allows staff to determine if there is no ballot inside. This is an efficient way to isolate the empty envelopes and provide time for the staff to attempt to contact the voter to see if this was an accident, and if so, give the voter another opportunity to vote.

“I Voted” Stickers

One of the most popular items requested by the voting public during the election period is our “I Voted” sticker which recognizes that the voter has participated in the election. “I Voted” stickers are so popular that many of our permanent VBM voters were dropping their ballots off at Vote Centers just to obtain their stickers.

Given the popularity of the “I Voted” sticker, the Elections Division conducted a pilot program to include the sticker inside the Official Ballot package sent to all registered voters in the jurisdictions holding elections during the November 5, 2019 Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District Election. Given the success of the pilot, the Elections Division will include the “I Voted” sticker in the 2020 Official Ballot package mailed to all registered voters. The sticker will also continue to be available at Vote Centers.

The Elections Division also created a digital “I Voted” sticker that can be copied and pasted on the voter's social media pages and included in their online digital signatures. This allows voters to proudly let the world know that they are active voters and voted in the election. A separate digital sticker will recognize the years a person has been registered to vote. A distinctive banner was developed, indicating the number of consecutive years voters have been registered in San Mateo County.

The digital stickers will be accessible via the [My Election Info](http://www.smcvote.org) page at www.smcvote.org.

Election Facility Accessibility and Site Improvements

With the changes to the county's election model, changes have been required at 40 Tower Road, the main office of the Elections Division, as well. Minor facility alterations are already in progress, including widening doors to facilitate installation of a new high-speed mail sorter and

security fencing providing additional protection to voting equipment. In 2021, construction is expected to begin on a new Vote by Mail processing area, designed to accommodate the process changes brought about by new equipment and legislation.

Outside the building, plans include adding a one-way road parallel to Tower Road, and relocating the Official Ballot Drop Box to the new road to reduce traffic congestion.

In conjunction with this construction, the Elections Division will also be improving accessibility at the Tower Road facility. Over a half century old, this facility was constructed well before the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the natural wear and tear over the decades has created further issues. In order to make 40 Tower Road accessible to voters with disabilities, a path of travel must be created from Tower Road to the front door, a change in elevation of 27 feet. An ADA compliant ramp was designed by BkF Engineers to address this issue, but this solution presents further challenges, including the necessarily steep grade, and the need for a crosswalk to cut through the facility's parking lot. The crosswalk would not be protected from vehicular traffic. The crosswalk would also block four parking places, a lower entrance to the facility, and the sole loading dock with access to the lower area of the building.

On October 1, 2019, the ADA ramp concept was reviewed by the VAAC. The VAAC assists the Elections Division with insight on county-wide voting accessibility matters affecting seniors and individuals with disabilities. At their October 1, 2019 meeting, the VAAC discussed the proposed ramp concept, and unanimously passed a motion rejecting it. The VAAC further committed to work with the Division to present alternative solutions to address access to the Tower Road facility. Initial proposals include, but are not limited to, installation of a limited use/limited application elevator (LU/LA) at the lower entrance to the facility and working with SamTrans to provide public transportation to the main entrance of the facility in addition to stopping at the intersection of Tower Road and Polhemus Road, approximately a half-mile away from the Elections Division facility.

Fiscal Impact

The VCA incurred numerous startup expenses, which increased election expenditures during the initial implementation period.

Creating multiple secure connections between Vote Centers and the County's voter registration database required new equipment, setup, testing, and support. We anticipate that costs in future will be offset by a reduction in the number of voting stations leased or purchased, as well as decreased labor and capital expenses. For instance, the Elections Division leased 500 of Dominion's Ballot Marking Tablets and printers to replace the previous 1,600-plus Hart InterCivic eSlate voting machines. Future elections should require less outreach and voter education, as voters will be more familiar with the new election model.

To some extent, expenditures will remain higher than was the case in polling place elections. Vote Centers are open for longer periods of time and staffed by county employees paid at higher hourly rates than poll workers, who received a stipend. Each of these county employees must pass through the full county onboarding process and background check, adding overhead costs. Vote Center Representatives also require expanded training to manage the greater complexity and technology requirements of Vote Centers. Additionally, each Vote Center must have multilingual staff members, who are paid at a higher rate.

Another legislative change which impacted election costs in 2018 was Senate Bill 415 (SB 415), the California Voter Participation Rights Act. Under SB 415, jurisdictions which previously held their elections in odd-numbered year were required to transition to even-numbered year elections by 2022. Twenty-seven districts in San Mateo County moved their elections from 2017 to the equivalent 2018 election. This change will permanently and substantially increase the size of even-numbered year elections, resulting in larger sample ballot pamphlets, longer and more complex official ballots, more ballot styles, and larger staff requirements. However, with the end of regularly scheduled odd-year elections, and the savings from consolidation of costs in even years, the long-term effects of this legislation are yet unknown.

A further change to elections administration in San Mateo County has been the shift to district-based elections. For the voters, these changes have been largely positive as single member districts provide greater opportunity for diversity in representation, especially for moderately sized, geographically concentrated groups. At the same time, the implementation and maintenance of the district system has added a new layer of complexity to the administration of elections. More districts mean more candidates and more ballot styles, with upfront costs with regards to the mapping and re-precincting required for implementation. For example, the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary will have 37 base ballots multiplied by 10 political parties or No Party Preference ballot choices. These need to be created in 3 languages.

Over the next few elections we will gain a much clearer idea as to how these costs and benefits manifest in the context of San Mateo County. Redwood City, and the other jurisdictions moving to the district system, are true 'laboratories of democracy,' and our experience will be closely watched across the state and beyond.

Two final pieces of consequential legislation were AB 1436, establishing conditional voter registration, and AB 1461, the California New Motor Voter Program. These pieces of legislation had the desired effect in increased voter registration, and the total number of voters turning out at the polls. At the same time, the influx of new voters added costs to the administration of elections, especially in the printing, mailing, and processing of paper ballots. The June 5, 2018 Statewide Direct Primary Election was the first of its kind, both with regards to the All-Mailed Ballot - Vote Center model and SB 415. The combined effect of this legislation coming into effect at the same time in a major gubernatorial primary election potentially increased election costs for counties statewide. However, in the medium to long-term it is expected that the VCA model will mitigate many of the additional costs associated with these new legislative mandates.

Election Costs Comparison

All-Mailed Ballot vs. Traditional Polling Place

Elections	Actual Costs	Turnout
June 2014 Election	\$2,431,369	27%
November 2014 Election	\$3,005,804	46%
November 2015 (All-Mailed Ballot Election)	\$2,127,772	29%
June 2016 Election	\$4,250,903	52%
November 2016 Election	\$4,674,126	82%

November 2017 Election	\$1,535,998	27%
June 2018 (All-Mailed Ballot – Vote Center Election)	\$5,154,184 ²	44%
November 2018 (All-Mailed Ballot – Vote Center Election)	\$7,341,919	72%

Elections	Outreach Costs and Estimates	In-Kind Outreach Labor Costs and Estimates
June 2018	\$449,268	\$139,558
November 2018	\$403,096	\$56,106
November 2019	\$173,000	\$35,000
March 2020	\$477,000	\$100,000

Summary

The California Voter’s Choice Act is landmark legislation that has fundamentally changed the way elections are conducted in San Mateo County. The successful implementation of this new method of conducting elections provided numerous benefits and opportunities to the County’s voters. School districts, municipalities and special districts will eventually benefit through increased efficiencies and reduced billable costs resulting from the new All-Mailed Ballot - Vote Center election model. The new election model has had the positive effect of increasing voter participation, providing greater accessibility to voters with disabilities, improving our voting systems and technology, and strengthening our elections security infrastructure.

The implementation of the VCA for the June 5, 2018 Statewide Direct Primary Election was a complete success and enthusiastically received by the voters and jurisdictions of our County. The All-Mailed Ballot - Vote Center election model increased voter participation and accessibility to the electoral process for all voters, particularly voters with disabilities and language minorities.

The November 6, 2018 Statewide General Election, the second held under the California Voter’s Choice Act, saw even more striking results. Voters had more days and more ways than ever before to cast their ballot, and they did so in large numbers. Turnout in San Mateo County was the highest since 1982, with voter registration at an all-time high.

San Mateo County looks forward to continuing our tradition of excellence and innovation under the California Voter’s Choice Act.

² June 2018 and November 2018 election costs include department labor (in-kind contribution to Voter Education and Outreach).

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— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

VOTER EDUCATION
AND
OUTREACH PLAN




OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402

phone 650.312.5222 **fax** 650.312.5348

email registrar@smcacre.org **web** www.smcacre.org

  @smcvote

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Voter Education and Outreach Plan

Overview

The San Mateo County Registration & Elections Division has received valuable input throughout the year from its Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC), Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC), and Voter Education and Outreach Advisory Committee (VEOAC) to develop this Voter Education and Outreach Plan for elections to be held between January 2020 and January 2024, under the California Voter's Choice Act. The Voter Education and Outreach Plan informs voters that their ballots will be mailed to their home, and that they have three ways to vote – vote by mail, drop off their voted ballot in a Ballot Drop Box, or vote in person at a Vote Center.

The Elections Division reviewed data from the November 6, 2018 Statewide General Election and found that 138 precincts of the 525 precincts had voter turnout below 70%. These precincts are within eight areas: Daly City, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park (Belle Haven), Pacifica, Redwood City (Fair Oaks), San Bruno, San Mateo and South San Francisco. Such findings helped inform the basis of this Voter Education and Outreach Plan.

The Elections Division is also excited to inform County residents about the new Ballot Marking Tablets, which provide voters with a simple, intuitive interface to mark their ballots. Our recently adopted voting system will change the way voters mark and cast their ballots at Vote Centers. In addition to the Ballot Marking Tablets, voters can still request a paper ballot at any Vote Center to mark by hand.

To educate San Mateo County voters about the new voting system, the Elections Division is embarking upon a robust Voter Education and Outreach Plan. This Voter Education and Outreach Plan will incorporate various strategies, including instructional videos in English, Spanish and Chinese, public service announcements for television and radio, household mailers, posts on social media, and demonstrations throughout the County.

Assistance to voters with specific needs will be an integral part of our ongoing outreach strategy. Voting rights advocates will be consulted by the Elections Division so that we can ensure adequate services are provided for voters with disabilities and non-English speakers. The Elections Division will provide multilingual public education at events held by our community partners on request. The events will include ones the Elections Division is invited to attend as well as events determined appropriate for outreach. At all 27 events that we attended between March 1 and October 31, 2019, the Elections Division provided multilingual staff.

Similar to our community outreach and public awareness efforts in advance of the November 3, 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election and the two elections in 2018 conducted under the California Voter's Choice Act, the Elections Division will reach out to community organizations, agencies, schools and other groups to raise awareness of the All-Mailed Ballot - Vote Center election model. This will be combined with a campaign using direct mail, press releases to news media (including student newspapers), social media such as Facebook, [@smcvote](#) on Twitter and Instagram, and public access media and/or community television stations, to inform voters of the All-Mailed Ballot - Vote Center model for these elections. The campaign will promote the toll-free voter assistance hotline, 888.SMC.VOTE (888.762.8683), and inform voters about accessibility and multilingual services.

In outreach materials voters will be directed to a user friendly landing page at www.smcvote.org. Here voters will easily find vital election information without needing to make several clicks – they are redirected to the main website www.smcacre.org. The smcvote address is easy to remember and shares a name with our Twitter and Instagram accounts and toll-free trilingual phone number. Large buttons take voters to webpages with complete lists of [Ballot Drop Boxes](#) and [Vote Centers](#). Buttons on the lower part of the page include [Register to Vote](#), [My Election Info](#) and [FAQs](#).

The Elections Division designs all graphics and community outreach materials in-house. Monies will be spent on the printing of collateral materials and the purchase of advertisements in newspapers, television, radio and social media as needed. Funds will be allocated for language translation. A large portion of the outreach budget is for printing and postage costs for VCA required direct mailings to registered voters.

In 2018, the Elections Division contributed approximately \$200,000 in staff time to voter education and outreach. This included graphics, writing, attending events and supporting citizen committees. The start-up costs for staff time and materials were highest in the first VCA election. The outreach budget for the March 2020 election is \$477,000. Previous elections used traditional media advertising heavily; this budget has re-allocated \$150,000 from advertising to Community Partner activities.

Community Partners

In 2018, the Elections Division provided information about the new voting model to more than 200 Community Partners to assist in voter outreach. Election representatives continue to attend community events, making presentations to organizations, and training interested individuals and groups to assist with education and outreach. The Elections Division will seek to bolster such efforts by engaging officials elected to represent these areas.

Community Partners may assist in simple ways such as placing a flyer in an office, including an article in an organizational newsletter or on a website, or having an Elections Division representative present information on the VCA to clients, members, and/or residents. Educational tools, including a presentation, flyer, and frequently asked questions, will be available to download from the Elections Division's website, www.smcacre.org, and physical copies will be available at the Tower Road office. An online toolkit, in English, Chinese and Spanish (other languages depending upon need), will include messages, graphics, and other resources which can be customized for various needs. A presentation request form is also on the Elections Division's website.

The Elections Division outreach plan has significantly changed for the 2020 election cycle. The outreach budget has moved \$150,000 from advertising to grants for Community-Based Organizations (CBOs). These grants will be subject to a contract, reports and invoices, to facilitate the community requests for face to face voter outreach by trusted local messengers. CBOs will work with partners within neighborhoods with special needs for outreach services. It is our intention to focus these outreach grants to those precincts within the lowest 20% voter turnout in previous elections, to review information on the lowest 20% eligible voter turnout to capitalize on any overlaps and seek precincts with eligible voters not yet registered. Community partners will continue to visit local high schools to register and pre-register students, and educate them about the VCA election model.

Individual Voter Network

Outreach and education activities are not limited to organizations. Individual voters may serve as part of a support network to alert the Elections Division to barriers to voting and provide solutions to ensure widespread awareness of the new voting model. The Elections Division created a contact form on its website for this purpose and will provide office business cards with contact information at Vote Centers to receive comments via web, email, text or phone.

Non-English Preference Voters

As part of its outreach efforts, the Elections Division will continue to expand its outreach to voters who prefer to use a language other than English, with assistance from the LAAC. The Elections Division is working with a variety of advocacy groups, such as the Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Asian Law Caucus (ALC) and North East Medical Services, to recruit new members to the LAAC. The Elections Division will continuously recruit active members to the LAAC through its current members and social media.

For elections, a news release, distributed to media serving San Mateo County residents, will announce a toll-free voter assistance hotline, which will provide multilingual services. Additionally, social media and/or advertisements in Spanish, Chinese, Filipino and Korean media will be purchased.

Vote Centers which require language assistance have been identified by the California Secretary of State through U.S. Census data. Additional identification will continue through the public input process, including input provided by the County's LAAC. Following the 2018 elections, the ALC provided the Elections Division with its poll monitoring report, which provided positive feedback and noted areas where we can improve language access for voters. The Elections Division has taken steps during the November 2019 Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District Election to add translated directional signage to Vote Centers and include additional training to Vote Center Representatives on ensuring facsimile ballots in Korean and Tagalog are visible.

The Elections Division will endeavor to recruit at least one Spanish-speaking and one Chinese-speaking election worker for each Vote Center to provide language assistance. If a Vote Center is in, or within 5 miles of a precinct with other language requirements (Korean or Tagalog), the County will endeavor to recruit an election worker fluent in the language, or to provide alternative methods of effective language assistance.

We will invite voters with limited English proficiency to self-identify as needing language access services upon arrival at a Vote Center using, for example, "I speak" cards, translated signs indicating bilingual Vote Center Representative language skills and name tags that bilingual vote center workers wear to indicate the languages they speak. While the use of in-person language assistance is preferred, we continue to explore options for remote assistance. Alternative methods will include calling an Elections Division staff member, a Vote Center Representative at a different Vote Center or a LAAC member to speak to a voter (each Vote Center will be issued a mobile phone). When we cannot assist someone in this way, we will use the County's contracted telephone translation vendor, Certified Languages International or AT&T USA Direct Language Line Services.

The Elections Division will continue to seek opportunities to present bilingual voter education for the required languages as stipulated in state and federal guidelines. At the time of preparing this plan, these languages are Spanish, Chinese (required Federal languages), and

Tagalog and Korean (required State languages). These workshops will be held prior to statewide elections and will provide an opportunity for the County's language communities to receive information about materials and assistance available in the specified language, in addition to clarifying the process of the new voting model. LAAC members and CBOs will assist in developing content and selecting the dates and locations for the workshops. Content will need to be flexible, to adapt to each audience as needed. The Elections Division will endeavor to provide a month's advance notice to any workshop. Voters should be aware that they have three choices on how to vote upon the workshop's completion.

Voters with Disabilities

The County has a long-standing commitment to working with voters with disabilities to increase accessibility in the democratic process. In cooperation with the San Mateo County Commission on Disabilities, the Elections Division founded the VAAC in 2015, with members representing agencies and organizations on matters affecting individuals with disabilities across San Mateo County.

The Elections Division website, www.smcacre.org, provides resources for voters with disabilities, including details on the options available on the new Ballot Marking Tablets, both at home and at a Vote Center, home ballot delivery, the Accessible Vote by Mail system (AVBM), or transportation to a Vote Center if needed. Through site visits, the Elections Division has confirmed that all voting locations are ADA accessible to voters with disabilities under ADA Title II and in compliance with guidelines set by the California Secretary of State. The County also provides information on these resources to convalescent hospitals, Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Vista Center for the Blind, Santa Clara Valley Blind Center, Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities, San Francisco Independent Living Resource Center and Peninsula Volunteers - Meals on Wheels.

A press release, distributed to media serving San Mateo County residents, will announce the toll-free voter assistance hotline, which will provide accessible assistance to persons with hearing disabilities.

Voters with disabilities have many accessible voting options in San Mateo County. The new Ballot Marking Tablets at our Vote Centers offer multiple accessible options: extra-large buttons on an Audio Tactile Interface (ATI) box that can be moved off the table, headsets to listen to the ballot, and the ability to adjust text size and change contrast. Voters can bring in their own sip and puff device, headpointer or paddles to connect to the ATI. All options are available to use in English, Spanish or Chinese.

Voters with disabilities may also use their personal computer to download and mark their ballot through the AVBM system. To access this service, voters may request an AVBM ballot through the postcard on the back cover of their Sample Ballot & Official Voter Information Pamphlet. Voters may also access an AVBM ballot through the [My Election Info](#) page on the Elections Division website or by contacting the Elections Division by phone, email or fax. The Elections Division will share information about the availability of the AVBM system with its media partners through a press release prior to each election. In addition, we will include a link to the video "Accessible Vote by Mail for Voters with Disabilities," published by Disability Rights California, on www.smcacre.org. The Elections Division will continue to promote the availability of the AVBM system through its social media platforms and traditional printed materials.

Vote by Mail ballots and Vote Center ballots provide additional accessible voting options. Every voter will receive a Vote by Mail ballot in the mail beginning 29 days before Election Day. If a replacement Vote by Mail ballot is needed, voters may simply call the Elections Division at 888.SMC.VOTE (888.762.8683) or email registrar@smcacre.org. At a Vote Center, voters may request curbside voting where staff will bring a paper ballot replacement to a car. Lastly, voters with disabilities may request the Elections Division to deliver a ballot to their home or have a Ballot Marking Station brought to their home as part of the Mobile Voting service.

Most Vote Centers can be reached via SamTrans, San Mateo County's bus service. Persons with disabilities who cannot independently use regular SamTrans bus service, some or all of the time, have access to paratransit. The San Mateo County Transit District provides paratransit using Redi-Wheels on the bayside of the County and RediCoast on the coastside. Riders may call to reserve a trip from one to seven days in advance. The Elections Division is working with the VAAC to expand voting opportunities for persons with disabilities.

A voter with disabilities may contact the Elections Division to arrange and pay for transportation services to provide a round-trip ride (within the County) from their home if they are unable to reserve a trip through paratransit to the closest Vote Center.

Per the VCA, the Elections Division will hold a voter education workshop prior to each statewide election to increase accessibility and participation of eligible voters with disabilities. The VAAC members will assist in selecting the workshop venue and date. The workshop will include, but not be limited to, education about the new voting model, voting equipment demonstrations, the accessibility of the voting equipment, ballot drop-off information, and options for obtaining an AVBM ballot electronically.

Addressing Disparities in Participation

The Elections Division regularly reviews voter turnout throughout the County to enhance our efforts to reach out to disparities in participation. Through our review, and with data contained within the 2018 Election Cycle report provided by the California Civic Engagement Project, we see that Latinos, Asian Americans and youth continued to experience much lower voter turnout than that of the County's general population. Developing strategies to help these voters are some of the ways the Elections Division and community groups can work toward the shared goal of enhancing voter participation.

While the Elections Division and its community partners often staff tables at community events to conduct voter registration, there are many other ways for County residents to register to vote. Citizens may register to vote online directly at registertovote.ca.gov or can access the state voter registration website through a link from the Elections Division website, www.smcacre.org. Citizens may pick up a voter registration form at the Elections Division, City/Town Halls, libraries and post offices throughout the County. County agencies serving low-income households and individuals with disabilities, provide voter registration forms to their clients.

Under AB 1461, the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and Secretary of State have established the California Motor Voter Program. This program, launched in April 2018, automatically registers any person who is qualified to vote during DMV transactions, unless that person opts out of registration. The Elections Division will also mail a registration form to potential voters upon request.

The Secretary of State provides National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) resources and training to County agencies serving low-income residents and individuals with disabilities. These agencies include, but are not limited to: CalFresh, CalWORKs, Medi-Cal, Women, Infants, and Children, In-Home Supportive Services, Covered California, California's Health Benefit Exchange, Department of Rehabilitation-Vocational Services, Independent Living Centers, Department of Developmental Services Regional Centers, offices contracting with the Office of Deaf Access, state and County mental and behavioral health departments, and private practitioners providing services under contract with those departments. The Elections Division will provide additional information and training on request to coordinators and staff at agencies. The Elections Division will contact the eight core County service agencies providing safety net services to San Mateo County residents to make them aware of upcoming elections, voting options and the new Ballot Marking Tablets. These agencies include Coastside Hope, El Concilio of San Mateo County, Fair Oaks Community Center, Pacifica Resource Center, Puente de la Costa Sur, Samaritan House, the Daly City Community Service Center and the YMCA Community Resource Center.

The Elections Division regularly provides information on voting rights and elections to the Sheriff's Office to share with inmates in the County's correctional facilities. Information will also be given to the Service League of San Mateo County and All of Us or None, both providing services to incarcerated and individuals returning to their communities, and to the David E. Lewis Community Reentry Center for former inmates.

We will provide voters with resources on our website, www.smacre.org, about transportation with information on possible free transit to Vote Centers. The San Mateo County Transit District and Caltrain lead a funding partnership to offer free community shuttles in Belmont, Brisbane, Burlingame, Daly City, Foster City, Menlo Park, Redwood City, San Bruno, San Carlos, San Mateo and South San Francisco. As part of the Get Up & Go senior transportation program, the Peninsula Jewish Community Center operates a door-to-door, wheelchair-accessible bus and car service for older adults who do not drive. Community members can use the online searchable database www.onecalloneclick.org, maintained by the nonprofit OUTREACH, to locate services and chat with a live person or call OUTREACH Mobility Managers at 408.678.8585 for one-on-one service. The Elections Division will provide links on www.smacre.org with transportation options.

Direct Voter Contacts

As stated under Community Partners, some funds previously directed towards media advertisements will be given to CBOs for face to face voter contact in areas where the registration of eligible voters is low and/or eligible voter turnout is low.

To reach all voters, direct contact from the County was the most effective method to inform voters about the November 3, 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election, the 2018 and 2019 All-Mailed Ballot - Vote Center Elections.

Three postcards are planned to inform voters of the new election model, in addition to information in the Sample Ballot & Official Voter Information Pamphlet and the Vote by Mail Official Ballot mailing. The first mailing will provide information to all registered voters regarding the VCA model. The 2018 Election Cycle Report produced by the California Civic Engagement Project concluded that additional outreach is needed to help increase the turnout of previous polling place voters and potential voters under the VCA model. With this in mind, a second postcard will be sent to voters who have not previously received their ballot via mail to

alert them of the upcoming ballot mailing and to provide Vote Center information. The third mailing, in the final days before the election, will be to all voters who have not returned their ballot to remind them to do so, providing information on obtaining a replacement ballot and how to find Vote Center locations.

Public Service Announcements

A Public Service Announcement (PSA) for TV will be distributed in English, Spanish and Chinese with closed captioning for voters who are deaf or hard of hearing. A radio script will include a request to stations to post the information on their companion websites to assist in reaching those voters with hearing impairments.

Artwork will be available from the County for print and online PSAs, and for government and community partners to use in their social media and newsletters. Print PSAs will be accompanied by a request to post the announcement on any affiliated websites with audio for the voters with visual impairments.

The County will provide Spanish, Chinese, Filipino and Korean language media outlets serving San Mateo County with scripts for PSAs. The scripts will inform voters of the upcoming election and promote the toll-free voter assistance hotline. Artwork will also be available.

Outreach Plan

The Registration & Elections Division remains committed to the spirit of the Voter Education and Outreach objectives and strategies contained within this plan. Statutory required expenditures will continue to be performed, as mandated. The performance of additional non-statutory expenditures, however, will be subject to the availability of funding provided to the Registration & Elections Division by the Board of Supervisors.

Objectives

The objectives of this outreach program are:

1. **Voter education**
 - a. Eligibility, how to register to vote and when you may need to re-register
 - b. New look of Official Ballot and ballot return envelope
 - c. How Vote-by-Mail ballot signatures are checked against voter registration forms
 - d. Inform non-English preference communities about language assistance
 - e. Inform voters with disabilities about accessible ballot marking devices and remote accessible vote by mail

2. **Awareness of convenient options to vote under the VCA**
 - a. Ballot mailed to all eligible voters from 29 days to 7 days prior to Election Day
 - b. Accessible Vote Centers with multilingual assistance with locations open up to 29 days, including the final two weekends before, Election Day
 - c. Options also include returning one's ballot via U.S. Mail in the postage-paid envelope included with the ballot and bringing it to any Drop Box in the County

3. **Prepare voters to use the new Ballot Marking Tablets at Vote Centers**
 - a. Ballot Marking Tablets make voting more intuitive than ever before
 - b. They provide a paper ballot for tabulation
 - c. They meet the highest security standards

Strategies

The Elections Division will:

1. Involve the VAAC, LAAC and VEOAC in these outreach efforts
2. Work with our existing network of community partners to reach out to areas with a high number of eligible voters who are not registered, have low voter registration and/or low voter turnout
3. Establish connections between our advisory groups and CBOs to maximize efforts
4. Consult with the North and Central San Mateo County League of Women Voters (LWV) and South San Mateo County LWV, which have serviced and maintained voter registration forms at more than 200 registration places in all parts of San Mateo County for several years
5. While the Elections Division does outreach to all voters through direct mailings, groups which need additional attention include:
 - Language minority communities
 - Communities of color
 - Young adults/first-time voters
 - New citizens
 - Older adults
 - Voters with disabilities
 - Voters previously involved with the criminal justice system and/or currently in County jail

Tactics

Specific tactics include:

- I. Create and mail postcards to all voters to announce the VCA model election and the Ballot Marking Tablets. The California Voter's Choice Act (VCA) requires two direct contacts with voters about the election model before each election.
- II. Propose demonstrations of Ballot Marking Stations to City Clerks to offer to their city government and residents
- III. Educate candidates and proposition campaigns, and their campaign leaders, about the VCA
- IV. Create print outreach materials in English, Spanish and Chinese
- V. Distribute and maintain outreach materials
- VI. Develop ready-made content available to community partners in English, Spanish and Chinese, to share in their newsletters, blog posts, websites, and social media accounts

- VII. Produce a video in English, Spanish and Chinese translation, for smcacre.org on how to use the Ballot Marking Tablets
- VIII. Work with City Clerks to include election information and a link to our Ballot Marking Tablet videos on their city's social media outlets
- IX. Provide public service announcement script and/or recording in English, Spanish and Chinese to Bay Area radio and television stations on election and voting options
- X. Give short presentations and Ballot Marking Tablet demonstrations at community events, assisted living facilities, senior centers, as well as at facilities and for groups working with those with disabilities
- XI. Reach out to immigrant organizations to provide voter registration and election information
- XII. Meet young people in-person and virtually; this includes 18- to 24-year-olds, at high schools, colleges, vocational/technical schools and those who are not in school
- XIII. Place translated ads in media/social media in Spanish, Chinese, Korean and Tagalog, targeting precincts with the lowest eligible voter registration/turnout
- XIV. Create and mail postcards to voters who have not selected the permanent Vote by Mail option to remind them to look for their ballot in the mail and that they do not have to use it – they can go to a Vote Center
- XV. Create English, Chinese and Spanish copy and mail postcards to voters to remind voters of the election and voting options for voters who have not returned their ballot or voted at a Vote Center
- XVI. Produce bookmarks in English, Spanish and Chinese for distribution at libraries and by the League of Women Voters
- XVII. Print election information in large fonts for use in senior centers, assisted living facilities and at outreach events

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— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

APPENDIX





OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402

phone 650.312.5222 **fax** 650.312.5348

email registrar@smcacre.org **web** www.smcacre.org

  @smcvote

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— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

**PROPOSED VOTE CENTER
AND
BALLOT DROP BOX
LOCATIONS**





OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

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  @smcvote

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Proposed Vote Center Locations

Open 29 Days before Election through Election Day

Redwood City	Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder
San Mateo	County Registration & Elections Division
South San Francisco	Main Library

Open 10 Days before Election through Election Day

Daly City	City Hall
East Palo Alto	Lewis and Joan Platt East Palo Alto Family YMCA, City Room
Half Moon Bay	Emergency Operations Center
Redwood City/N. Fair Oaks	Fair Oaks Community Center
San Bruno	San Bruno Senior Center
San Mateo	Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Club, Teen Center

Open 3 Days before Election through Election Day

Atherton	Menlo College, El Camino Hall
Belmont	City Hall, Emergency Operations Center
Brisbane	City Hall, Council Chambers
Burlingame	St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Foote Hall
Colma	Town Hall, Council Chambers
Daly City	Albert Teglia Community Center
Daly City	Bayshore Community Center
Daly City	Doelger Senior Center, Room 5
Daly City	Jefferson Union High School District, Room 200
East Palo Alto	Saint Francis of Assisi Church
Foster City	Bayside Community Church
Foster City	William E. Walker Recreation Center, Lagoon Room
Hillsborough	Town Hall
Menlo Park	Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, Sequoia Room
Menlo Park	Onetta Harris Community Center, Multipurpose Room
Millbrae	Community Center
Montara	Farallone View Elementary School
Pacifica	St. Peter Parish
Portola Valley	Historic Schoolhouse
Redwood City	City Hall
Redwood City	Community Activities Building, Room 1
Redwood City	Woodside Fire Protection District Station 19, Training Room
Redwood Shores	County Office of Education, Arroyo Room
San Bruno	City Hall, Conference Room 115
San Bruno	Skyline College, Building 19, Room PH-314
San Carlos	Library, Conference Room
San Carlos	Crestview Park Clubhouse
San Mateo	County Health Department Administration, Room 100
San Mateo	San Mateo Adult School, Saturn Room
San Mateo	Senior Center, Library
South San Francisco	Joseph A. Fernekes Recreation Building
South San Francisco	Aegis Living, Library
Woodside	Woodside Village Church

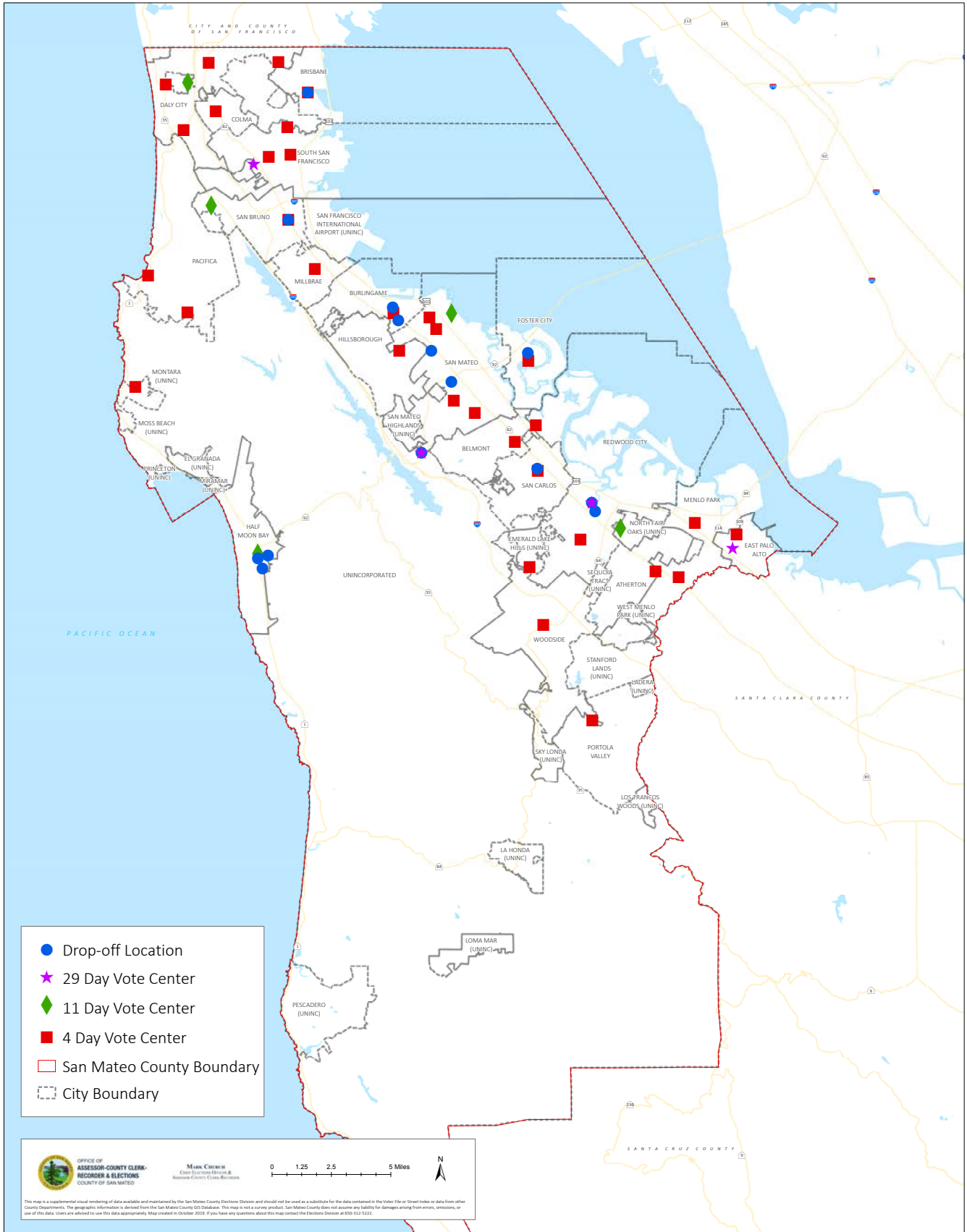
Mobile Vote Center Voter's preferred location

Pop-up Voting Service on part of Election Day: Pescadero, La Honda and East Palo Alto

Proposed Ballot Drop Box Locations

Atherton	Town Hall	150 Watkins Avenue
Belmont	City Hall & Outside 24-hour Drop Box	One Twin Pines Lane
Belmont	Library	1110 Alameda de las Pulgas
Brisbane	City Hall	50 Park Place
Burlingame	City Hall	501 Primrose Road
Burlingame	Burlingame Intermediate School	1715 Quesada Way
Colma	Town Hall	1198 El Camino Real
Daly City	City Hall & Outside 24-hour Drop Box	333 90th Street
East Palo Alto	City Hall & Outside 24-hour Drop Box	2415 University Avenue
East Palo Alto	University Circle	1900 University Avenue
Foster City	City Hall & Outside 24-hour Drop Box	610 Foster City Boulevard
Half Moon Bay	City Hall	501 Main Street
Half Moon Bay	Library	620 Correas Street
Half Moon Bay	Senior Center	925 Main Street
Hillsborough	Town Hall	1600 Floribunda Avenue
La Honda	Cuesta La Honda Guild Office (inside)	120 Scenic Drive
Menlo Park	City Hall	701 Laurel Street
Millbrae	City Hall	621 Magnolia Avenue
Pacifica	City Hall	170 Santa Maria Avenue
Pescadero	Cal Fire Station 59 Outside 24-hour Drop Box	1200 Pescadero Creek Road
Portola Valley	Town Hall	765 Portola Road
Redwood City	City Hall	1017 Middlefield Road
Redwood City	Vote Center	555 County Center, 1 st Floor
San Bruno	City Hall	567 El Camino Real
San Bruno	Senior Center	1555 Crystal Springs Road
San Carlos	City Hall	610 Elm Street
San Carlos	Library	600 Elm Street
San Mateo	City Hall	330 West 20th Avenue
San Mateo	Vote Center & Outside 24-hour Drop Box	40 Tower Road
South San Francisco	City Hall	400 Grand Avenue
South San Francisco	Main Library	840 West Orange Avenue
Woodside	Town Hall	2955 Woodside Road

Vote Center & Ballot Drop Box Locations Map



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— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

STANDARD
VOTE CENTER LAYOUTS





OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402

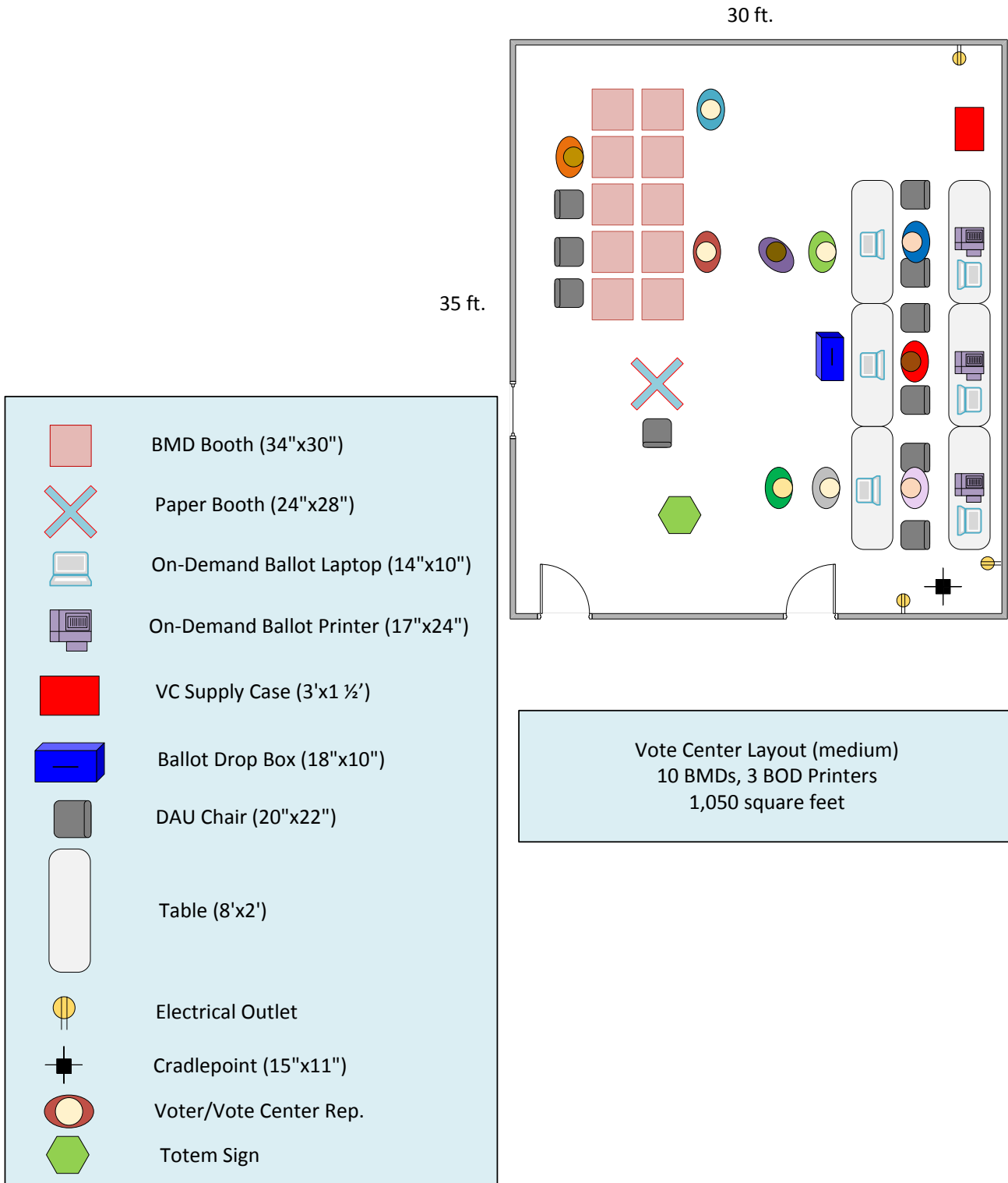
phone 650.312.5222 **fax** 650.312.5348

email registrar@smcacre.org **web** www.smcacre.org

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Standard Vote Center Layout - Medium



Large Vote Center Layout



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— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

ADVISORY COMMITTEES





OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402

phone 650.312.5222 **fax** 650.312.5348

email registrar@smcacre.org **web** www.smcacre.org

  @smcvote

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OFFICE OF
**ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-
RECORDER & ELECTIONS**
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER &
ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

San Mateo County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee

San Mateo County Registration & Elections Division established a Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) to advise, assist, and provide recommendations to the Chief Elections Officer regarding the implementation of federal and state laws relating to access to the electoral process by older adults and persons with disabilities. It is the mission of the VAAC to ensure that all persons can vote independently and privately.

Member Roster 2019 - 2020

Craig McCulloh, Chairperson
San Mateo County Health Systems Aging and Adult Services

Bill Hershon
Disability Rights California

Michael Levinson
Paratransit Coordinating Council

Benjamin McMullan
Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities

Fred Nisen
Disability Rights California

Wilhelmina Riley
Paratransit Coordinating Council

Sarah Verity
Gatepath

Meetings are open to the public. Information is posted on our calendar at www.smacre.org. If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee, please contact the Registration & Elections Division.

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San Mateo County Language Accessibility Advisory Committee

The San Mateo County Chief Elections Officer established the Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC) to advise and assist the Chief Elections Officer on matters relating to language accessibility to the electoral process by voters with limited English proficiency. It is the mission of the LAAC to assist the Chief Elections Officer to enhance language accessibility opportunities and compliance with all federal, state, and local laws.

Member Roster 2019 - 2020

Rosa Uriarte, Chairperson
International Institute of the Bay Area

Charmaine Messina
Community Advocate

Wesley Taoka, Vice Chairperson
San Mateo Japanese American Community Center

Mukta Vadera
Community Advocate

Meetings are open to the public. Information is posted on our calendar at www.smacre.org. If you are interested in becoming a member of the committee, please contact the Registration & Elections Division.

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San Mateo County Voter Education & Outreach Advisory Committee

The San Mateo County Chief Elections Officer established the Voter Education and Outreach Advisory Committee (VEOAC) to advise and assist on matters relating to voter education and outreach for the June 5, 2018 Direct Primary Election and the November 6, 2018 General Election. It is the mission of VEOAC to assist the Chief Elections Officer in enhancing education and outreach opportunities and compliance with all federal, state and local laws. All San Mateo County voters and organizations working on behalf of San Mateo County residents are welcome.

Organizations Participating Regularly 2019 – 2020

Asian Americans Advancing Justice/Asian Law Caucus

Belle Haven Resident

Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities

League of Women Voters of California, North and Central San Mateo County

League of Women Voters of California, South San Mateo County

Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County

Office of San Mateo County Supervisor Dave Pine, District 1

San Francisco Peninsula People Power

San Mateo County Health System

San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee

San Mateo County Union Community Alliance

Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Thrive Alliance

Meetings are open to the public. Information is posted on our calendar at www.smcacre.org.

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— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

CITY ELECTION
OFFICIALS





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CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

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City Election Officials

Atherton

Mr. Anthony Suber
91 Ashfield Road
Atherton, CA 94027
650.752.0529
asuber@ci.atherton.ca.us

Brisbane

Ms. Ingrid Padilla
50 Park Place
Brisbane, CA 94005
415.508.2113
cityclerk@ci.brisbane.ca.us

Colma

Ms. Caitlin Corley
1198 El Camino Real
Colma, CA 94014
650.997.8311
caitlin.corley@colma.ca.gov

East Palo Alto

Mr. Walfred Solorzano
2415 University Avenue
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
650.853.3127
wsolorzano@cityofepa.org

Half Moon Bay

Ms. Jessica Blair
501 Main Street
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019
650.726.8271
jblair@hmbcity.com

Menlo Park

Ms. Judy Herren
701 Laurel Street
Menlo Park, CA 94025
650.330.6615
jaherren@menlopark.org

Belmont

Hon. Terri Cook
One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375
Belmont, CA 94002
650.595.7413
tcook@belmont.gov

Burlingame

Ms. Meaghan Hassel-Shearer
501 Primrose Road
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.558.7203
mhasselshearer@burlingame.org

Daly City

Hon. Annette Hipona
333 90th Street
Daly City, CA 94015
650.991.8078
ahipona@dalcycity.org

Foster City

Ms. Priscilla Schaus
610 Foster City Boulevard
Foster City, CA 94404
650.286.3253
clerk@fostercity.org

Hillsborough

Ms. Miyuki Yokoyama
1600 Floribunda Avenue
Hillsborough, CA 94010
650.375.7412
myokoyama@hillsborough.net

Millbrae

Ms. Elena Suazo
621 Magnolia Avenue
Millbrae, CA 94030
650.259.2414
esuazo@ci.millbrae.ca.us

Pacifica

Ms. Sarah Coffey
170 Santa Maria Avenue
Pacifica, CA 94044
650.738.7409
coffeys@ci.pacifica.ca.us

Redwood City

Ms. Pam Aguilar
1017 Middlefield Road
Redwood City, CA 94063
650.780.7222
paguilar@redwoodcity.org

San Carlos

Ms. Crystal Mui
600 Elm Street
San Carlos, CA 94070
650.802.4219
cmui@cityofsancarlos.org

South San Francisco

Hon. Rosa Govea Acosta
400 Grand Avenue
P.O. Box 711
South San Francisco, CA 94083
650.877.8518
rosa.acosta@ssf.net

Portola Valley

Ms. Sharon Hanlon
765 Portola Road
Portola Valley, CA 94028
650.851.1700
shanlon@portolavalley.net

San Bruno

Ms. Melissa Thurman
567 El Camino Real
San Bruno, CA 94066
650.616.7070
cityclerksoffice@sanbruno.ca.gov

San Mateo

Ms. Patrice Olds
330 West 20th Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94403
650.522.7042
polds@cityofsanmateo.org

Woodside

Ms. Jennifer Li, MPA, CMC
2955 Woodside Road
P.O. Box 620005
Woodside, CA 94062
650.851.6790
jli@woodsidetown.org

— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

COMMUNITY PARTNERS




OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
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If you would like to be partner with the Registration & Elections Division, please contact us at 650.312.5222 or email registrar@smcacre.org.

Community Partners Supervisory District 1

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
American Association of University Women (AAUW) - North Peninsula		Ladushka@gmail.com
Boys & Girls Clubs North San Mateo County	650.589.7090	bmorrison@theclubs.org
Burlingame Chamber of Commerce	650.344.1735	info@burlingamechamber.org
CALL Primrose	650.342.2255	lamerkat@sbcglobal.net, contact@callprimrose.org
Gatepath	650.259.8500	info@gatepath.org
Community Learning Center	650.877.8540	bourdon@plsinfo.org
El Concilio of San Mateo County	650.373.1087	or10sia@el-concilio.com
Millbrae Chamber of Commerce	650.697.7324	lorianne@millbrae.com
Millbrae Community Center	650.259.2360	recreation@ci.millbrae.ca.us
Millbrae Library	650.312.5312	millbrae@smcl.org
PARCA	650.312.0730	suzanneh@parca.org
Peace and Freedom Party	510.465.9414	
San Bruno Chamber of Commerce	650.588.0180	office@sanbrunochamber.com
San Bruno Senior Center	650.616.7150	erangel@sanbruno.ca.gov
San Mateo County Republican Party	650.931.4596	info@smgop.org
South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce	650.588.1911	info@ssfchamber.com
South San Francisco Community Learning Center	650.877.8540	bourdon@plsinfo.org

Community Partners Supervisory District 2

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
American Association of University Women (AAUW) - San Mateo	650.573.1604	
Belmont Chamber of Commerce	650.595.8696	execdirector@belmontchamber.org
Belmont Library	650 591.8286 ext. 227	belmont@smcl.org
Black Student Union, Notre Dame de Namur	650-508-3718	nvarela@ndnu.edu
Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities	650.645.1780 ext 201	benjaminm@cidsanmateo.org
College of San Mateo Disability Resource Center (DRC)	650 574.6438	csmdrc@smccd.edu
CORA (Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse)	650.652.0800	info@corasupport.org
CSM Democrats	650.574.6141	csmstudentlife@smccd.edu
CSM Republicans	650.574.6141	csmstudentlife@smccd.edu
Foster City Chamber of Commerce	650.573.7600	ceo@fostercitychamber.com
Foster City Library	650 574.4842 ext. 227	fostercity@smcl.org
Foster City Parks and Recreation Department: Senior Wing	650.286.2585	recreation@fostercity.org
Human Investment Project, Inc. (HIP)	650.348.6660	mailbox@hiphousing.org
JACL: San Mateo Japanese American Community Center	650.343.2793	bnakagiri@gmail.com
League of Women Voters North and Central San Mateo County	650.342.5853	kuchinsa@yahoo.com
Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Club, Inc.	650.347.9891	info@midpenbgc.org
NAACP San Mateo Branch #1068	650.622.9149	naacp1068sm@yahoo.com
NAMI San Mateo County	650.572.2528	execdirector@namisanmateo.org
Newcomers' Club of San Mateo County	415.467.5780	doloreskessler@comcast.net
Organization of Chinese Americans San Mateo	650.533.3065	chrisbush2@yahoo.com
Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center	650.513.0330 ext. 302	mvilchez@pcrcweb.org
Peninsula Family Service	650.403.4300	mchavez@peninsulafamilyservice.org
Peninsula Jewish Community Center	650.212.7522	info@pjcc.org
Samaritan House	650.341.4081	bart@samaritanhousesanmateo.org

Community Partners Supervisorial District 2 (continued)

San Mateo Adult School	650.558.2101	tdoyle@smuhsd.org
San Mateo Area Chamber of Commerce	650.401.2441	cheryl@sanmateochamber.org
San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee	650.344.1714	contact@smcdems.org
San Mateo County Green Party	650.593.7032	gpca@cagreens.org
San Mateo County Health System, Aging and Adult Services	650.573.3900	cmculloh@smcgov.org
San Mateo County Libertarian Party	650.591.5270	Harrison@LPSM.org
San Mateo County Union Community Alliance	650.619.3686	jennismcuca@gmail.com
Self-Help for the Elderly	650.342.0822	phillixf@selfhelpelderly.org
Silicon Valley Community Foundation	650.458.2660	ekwood@siliconvalleycf.org
Taulama for Tongans	650.286.1500	ltaumoepeau@gmail.com
Twin Pines Senior Center	650.595.7441	parksrec@belmont.gov

Community Partners Supervisory District 3

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
American Association of University Women - Half Moon Bay	650.726.9215	sjc@csc-research.com
American Association of University Women (AAUW) - Mid-Peninsula	650.592.5822	aauw-mid-pen@earthlink.net
American Association of University Women (AAUW) – Pacifica		Marilyn_L_Richardson@yahoo.com
Atherton Library	650 328.2422 ext. 227	atherton@smcl.org
Boys & Girls Clubs – Coastside	650.712.9710	judith@bgccoastside.org
Coastside Adult Day Health Center	650.726.5067	cadhc@coastside.net
Coastside Child Development Center	650.726.7416	karen@coastsidecdc.org
Coastside Hope & Moonridge Learning Center	650 726.9071	fatima@coastsidehope.org
Indivisible Coastside		coastsideunited4action@gmail.com
Half Moon Bay Coastside Chamber of Commerce	650.726.8380 ext. 101	charise@hmbchamber.com
Half Moon Bay Library	650 726.2316 ext. 227	halfmoonbay@smcl.org
Healthy Cities Tutoring	650.703.2042	dbecht@healthycitiestutoring.org
La Costa Adult School	650.712.7224	becharr@cabrillo.k12.ca.us
La Honda Indivisible		lahondalynnette@earthlink.net
League of Women Voters- South SMC	650.325.5780	info@lwwssmc.org
Multicultural Services and Community Involvement, Menlo College	650.543.3771	jessica.soliai@menlo.edu
Pacifica Chamber of Commerce	650.355.4122	info@pacificachamber.com
Pacifica Resource Center	650 738.7470	info@pacresourcecenter.org
Pacifica School Volunteers	650.355.9432	psv.director@gmail.com
Pacifica Senior Services	650.738.7384	langej@ci.pacifica.ca.us
Pacificans Care	650.355-4479	bbanco@aol.com

Community Partners Supervisory District 3 (continued)

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
Pacifica-Sanchez Library	650.359.3397 ext. 227	pacifica@smcl.org
Pacifica-Sharp Park Library	650.355.5196 ext. 227	pacifica@smcl.org
Paratransit Coordinating Council	650.299.1442	sanmateopcc2@gmail.com
Peninsula Outreach Program	866.601.9530	ursulagm@aol.com
Peninsula Volunteers, Inc.	650.326.0665	cberry@penvol.org
Pescadero SURJ		pescaderosurj@gmail.com
Pie Ranch	650.879.0995	delma@pieranch.org
Portola Valley Library	650.851.0560 ext. 227	portolavalley@smcl.org
Puente/Pescadero Office	650.879.1691	outreach@mypuente.org
San Carlos Adult Community Center	650.802.4384	tmuela@cityofsancarlos.org
San Carlos Chamber of Commerce	650.593.1068	staff@sancarloschamber.org
San Carlos Library	650.591.0341 ext. 227	sancarlos@smcl.org
San Carlos Together, Inc.	650.703.4827	tom@tomdavids.com
San Mateo County Democratic Party	650.344.1714	cecily999@sbcglobal.net
Second Harvest Food Bank	650.610.0800	tweatherby@shfb.org
Senior Coastsiders: Senior Center	650.726.9056	info@seniorcoastsiders.org
South Coast Childrens' Services, Inc.	650.879.0013	
StarVista	650.591.9623	dwasher@star-vista.org
Woodside Library	650.851.0147 ext. 227	woodside@smcl.org

Community Partners Supervisorial District 4

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
All of Us or None (Legal Services for Prisoners with Children)		info@prisonerswithchildren.org
American Association of University Women - Menlo Atherton	650.323.4066	programs@aauwmh.org
Boys & Girls Clubs - Peninsula	650.561.3331	
Canada College Disability Resource Center	650.306.3259	canadadrc@smccd.edu
Center for Excellence in Nonprofits	650.517.5855	information@cen.org
Child Care Coordinating Council	650.517.1400	
Commission on the Status Women	650.363.4872	tbeat@smcgov.org
Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto	650.326.6440	
Compass High School	650.720.4248	rwylde@compasshigh.org
David E. Lewis Community Reentry Center	650.853.3188	jcabera@smcgov.org
Devonshire Oaks Nursing Center	650.366.9503	
East Palo Alto Community Alliance and Neighborhood	650.473.9838	rjones@epacando.org
East Palo Alto Library	650.321.7712 ext. 227	eastpaloalto@smcl.org
East Palo Alto Senior Center	650.329.5900	epharr@cityofepa.org
Fair Oaks Adult Activity Center	650.780.7525	lswartzel@peninsulafamilyservice.org
Fair Oaks Community Center	650.780.7500	havila@redwoodcity.org
Fair Oaks Community Center - Hispanic Community	650.780.7500	tchin@redwoodcity.org
Fair Oaks Health Center	650.578.7141	
International Institute of the Bay Area	650.780.7514	ruriarte@iibayarea.org
JobTrain	650.330.6429	svea@jobtrainworks.org
Kainos Home and Training Center, Inc.	650.363.2423	andrew.frisch@kainosusa.org

Community Partners Supervisory District 4 (continued)

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
Latino Leadership Council	650.241.0692	leadership@llcsmc.org
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County	650.558.0915	mshawver@legalaidsmc.org
Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce	650.325.2818	info@menloparkchamber.com
Menlo Park Senior Center	650.330.2280	aysamardar@menlopark.org
Mental Health Association of San Mateo County	650.368.3345	melissap@mhasmc.org
My New Red Shoes	650.241.3911	minh@mynewredshoes.org
Nuestra Casa	650.330.7472	JGarcia@nuestracasa.org
One East Palo Alto Neighborhood Improvement Initiative	650.980.1809	info@1epa.org
One New Heartbeat, Inc.	650.440.0567	Waynette@onenewheartbeat.org
Palo Alto VA Medical Center (Menlo Park)	650.614.9997	
Peninsula Family Service: Fair Oaks Adult Activity Center	650.780.7525	info@peninsulafamilyservice.org
Peninsula Vet Center	650.617.4300	
Redwood City Veterans Memorial Senior Center	650.780.7306	butecht@redwoodcity.org
Redwood City Chamber of Commerce	650.364.1722	amy@redwoodcitychamber.com
Rosalie Rendu Center	650.473.9522	rosalierendu1998@gmail.com
Saint Francis Center	650.365.7829	schristina@aol.com
Sequoia Adult School	650.306.8866	bchavez@seq.org
Service League of San Mateo County	650.364.4664	info@serviceleague.org
SparkPoint at Canada College	650.381.3550	cansparkpoint@smccd.edu
SV Links	650.646.5610	mac@svlinks.org
Thrive Alliance	650.654.7993	info@thrivealliance.org
WeVote Redwood City	650.304.2618	

Community Partners Supervisory District 5

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
Black Student Union, Skyline College		clayb@smccd.edu
Skyline College	650.574.6510	baileym@smccd.edu
Brisbane Chamber of Commerce	415.467.7283	mitch@brisbanechamber.org
Brisbane Library	415.467.2060 ext. 227	vargas@smcl.org
Brisbane Village Helping Hands	415.508.2185	brisbanevillagehelpinghands@gmail.com
Daly City Community Service Center	650.991.8007	
Daly City Partnership	650.301.3300	pat@dcpartnership.org
Daly City Public Library Associates	650.224.2356	info@dcpla.org
Daly City Youth Health Center	650.877.5700	contact@dalycityyouth.org
Daly City-Colma Chamber of Commerce	650.755.3900	staff@dalycity-colmachamber.org
Doelger Senior Center	650.991.8012	
Filipino-American Democratic Club – San Mateo County	650.740.4799	mark4life@hotmail.com
Jefferson Adult Education	650.550.7891	fwentw@juhsd.net
Jericho Project	415.656.1700	cjerichoproject@aol.com
Kababayan Learning Community at Skyline College		gubatinaa@smccd.edu
Lincoln Park Community Center	650.991.5722	angeloi@dalycity.org
Liwanag Kultural Center (Filipino)	650.641.2891	lkctruong@gmail.com
Migrante - N. San Mateo County	650.733.6152	mdalupo@gmail.com
National Asian American Coalition	650.952.0522	info@naac.org
North Peninsula Food Pantry & Dining Center of Daly City	650.994.5150	fooddc@comcast.net
Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center	650.992.9110	
Skyline College EOPS & CARE	650.738.4139	hotepl@smccd.edu
South San Francisco Adult School	650.877.8844	sredmond@ssfusd.org
SparkPoint at Skyline College	650.738.7035	skylinesparkpoint@smccd.edu
VA Outpatient Clinic	650.615.6000	

Community Partners Throughout County/Out of County

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
ACLU Mid-Peninsula Chapter (SF office address)	415.621.2493	midpen.ACLU@gmail.com
ACLU North Peninsula Chapter (SF office address)	415.621.2493	npenaclu@gmail.com
All of Us or None (Legal Services for Prisoners with Children)	415.255.7036	info@prisonerswithchildren.org
American Muslim Fund	844.426.3863	info@AMuslimFund.org
APAPA Peninsula Chapter	650.804.6125	contactjune@yahoo.com
Asian Law Caucus	415.848.7736	jonathans@advancingjustice-alc.org
Building Skills Partnership	650.383.0237	ahoyt@buildingskills.org
California Civic Engagement Project		msromero@usc.edu
Council on American-Islamic Relations	408.986.9874	
Disability Rights California	510.267.1200	
Filipino American Democratic Caucus	510.825.9530	contactFADC@gmail.com
Filipino Community Center	415.333.6267	lkcramilo@gmail.com
Goodwill SF/SMC/Marin Corporate Offices	415.575.2100	info@sfgoodwill.org
Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired	415.431.1481	info@lighthouse-sf.org
MAC's Children and Family Services, Inc.	415.704.2920	pedmonds@macs-services.org
MapLight	510-868-0894	info@maplight.org
Northern California NIAC		dmemarzia@niacouncil.org
Recovery Survival Network	415.552.1111	rsn2000@gmail.com
Rural California Public Broadcasting	707.584.2034	nancy_dobbs@norcalpublicmedia.org
San Francisco Independent Living Resource Center	415.543.6222	info@ilrcsf.org
San Francisco Peninsula People Power		sfpeninsulapp@gmail.com
Senior Center Without Walls	877.797.7299	SCWW@jtm-esc.org
SIREN	408.453.3003	
State Council on Developmental Disabilities	510.286.1250	Sheraden.Nicholau@scdd.ca.org
The Arc of San Francisco	650.756.1304	

**Community Partners
Throughout County/Out of County (continued)**

Together We Will SF Bay Area		C2A@twwsfbay.org
Vista Center for the Blind	650.858.0202	info@vistacenter.org
Working Partnerships USA	408.809.2120	maria@wpusa.org
Your Filipino Professionals Association	415.999.8365	getintouch@yfpasf.com

— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

COMMUNITY EVENTS




OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

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If you would like the Registration & Elections Division to attend your event, please contact us at 650.312.5222 or registrar@smcacre.org.

Community Events 2019 - 2020 Calendar

March 30	3rd Annual District 5 Together Community Event, Daly City
April 27	Children's Day/Book Day. San Bruno
May 10	Community Benefits & Resource Fair, San Mateo
May 18	Shine Festival, Daly City
June 1	Community Day in the Park, San Bruno
June. 7	Veteran's Resource Fair, Princeton-by-the-Sea
June 15	7th Annual Pride Initiative, San Mateo
July 4	4th of July Family Festival, Redwood City
August 5	City Clerk Voting Station Demonstration, Town of Portola Valley
August 8	Commission on Disabilities Inclusion Festival, San Carlos
August 10	Community Blockfest 2019, East Palo Alto
August 17 - 18	Arts & Fun Festival, Pescadero
August 24 - 25	Summer Days, Foster City
September 3	City Council meeting, East Palo Alto
September 5	Future Leaders Civics Academy, Half Moon Bay
September 10	Library Voting Station Demonstration, Burlingame
September 14	Ravenswood Community Health & Wellness Fair, East Palo Alto
September 15	Autumn Moon Festival, San Mateo
September 16	Community Voting Station Demonstration, Redwood City
September 21	Latinx Heritage Month Celebration, Daly City
September 24	National Voter Registration Day (NVRD), South San Francisco
September 24	NVRD – Elections Night Out, Half Moon Bay
October 2	Town Council Voting Station Demonstration, Atherton
October 5	Annual Resource Expo, Belmont
October 5	Girl Scout-League of Women Voter's Voter Girl, Belmont
October 5	Farmers' Market Voting Station Demonstration, San Carlos
October 6	Japanese Culture Festival, Millbrae
October 8	City Council Voting Station Demonstration, Millbrae
October 12	Transition to Independence Fair

Community Events 2019 - 2020 Calendar (continued)

October 12	Annual Kasayahan Sa, Daly City
October 15	League of Women Voters Voting Station Demonstration, San Mateo
October 26	Back to School Health Fair, East Palo Alto
October 26	Health and Safety Fair, San Bruno
January 11	Senior Showcase Health Fair, Millbrae
Early 2020	Voting Station Demonstration, City of Redwood City
Early 2020	Young Professionals Halaqa, Belmont
Early 2020	Family Harvest, Pacifica
Early 2020	Various Farmer's Markets – Daly City at Serramonte, Half Moon Bay, Pacifica, Skyline College, and others

— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

MEDIA PARTNERS





OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402

phone 650.312.5222 **fax** 650.312.5348

email registrar@smcacre.org **web** www.smcacre.org

  @smcvote

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Media Partners

Online

Facebook.com/County of San Mateo
Instagram.com/smcvote
Patch News – San Mateo County communities
Twitter.com/smcvote
YouTube – County of San Mateo
YouTube – San Mateo County Registration & Elections Division

Television

ABS-CBN (Filipino)
Azteca KEMO (Spanish)
Crossings TV (Chinese and Filipino)
KEMS (Korean)
KTSF (Chinese)
Sing Tao (Chinese closed circuit)
Telemundo (Spanish)
Univision (Spanish)

Radio

KHMB Radio (English)
Radio Sound of Hope (Chinese)
Sing Tao Radio (Chinese)
Univision (KBRG & KSOL; Spanish)
Vake Talifolau (Radio Tonga)

Newspapers

Alianza News (Spanish)
Asian Journal (English/Filipino)
East Palo Alto Today (English)
El Mensajero (Spanish)
El Observador (Spanish)
El Reportero (Spanish)
Embarcadero Publishing (The Almanac; English)
Half Moon Bay Review (English)
Korea Times (Korean)
News for Chinese (Chinese)
Pacifica Tribune (English)
Philippines News (Filipino)
Philippines Today (Filipino)
Sing Tao Daily (Chinese)
The Skyline View (Skyline College; English)
World Journal (Chinese)

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— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

**EXAMPLE:
DIRECT VOTER CONTACT
POSTCARDS**




OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
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phone 650.312.5222 **fax** 650.312.5348

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Example: Direct Voter Contact Postcard 1




OFFICE OF THE
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER
 REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

November 5, 2019 Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District Election
MORE DAYS, MORE WAYS TO VOTE!


Ballots will be mailed out between October 7 and October 29.




Vote by Mail



**Use an Official
Ballot Drop Box**





**Visit a
Vote Center**

 **Drop off your voted ballot or vote in person at any of our 18 Vote Centers:**

Dates Open	Number of Vote Centers	Business Hours
October 7 to October 25*	Two Vote Centers will be open.	Weekdays and October 26 to 27 (Weekend) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
October 26 to November 1	Four Vote Centers will be open.	
November 2 to 4	Total of Eighteen Vote Centers will be open.	Weekdays and November 2 to 3 (Weekend) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
November 5 (Election Day)	All Eighteen Vote Centers will be open.	7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

*Vote Centers will be closed on Monday, October 14, due to Columbus Day.


For a detailed list of Ballot Drop Box locations and Vote Centers, visit
 Web: www.smcvote.org Call or Text: 650.312.5222   @smcvote

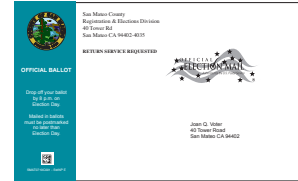
Postcards sent in English, Spanish and Chinese based on voter's language preference selected on their voter registration form.

Example: Direct Voter Contact Postcard 2

Dear San Mateo County Voter,

Your Official Ballot for the November 5, 2019 Municipal, School and Special District Election will be mailed out between October 7 and October 29.

Your Official Ballot envelope will have a new look, however it will still have the County seal and "Official Ballot" printed on the front. 



You can vote and mail your ballot in the postage-paid envelope or drop it off at any Official Ballot Drop Box location or Vote Center.



Remember to sign the return envelope for your ballot to count. We compare that signature to the one in your voter registration record.

Ballots returned in the mail must be postmarked by Election Day, Tuesday, November 5 and received by Friday, November 8, in order to be counted. Ballots dropped off must be returned no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day.

At any Vote Center you can: vote in person on an accessible Ballot Marking Tablet or paper ballot, receive multilingual assistance, register/re-register to vote and cast a provisional ballot. **Avoid lines by going before Election Day** – Vote Centers are open beginning October 7 and on the two weekends before the election.

Vote Center and Ballot Drop Box locations are listed in your Sample Ballot & Official Voter Information Pamphlet, at www.smcvote.org, or you can call or text 650.312.5222. Please vote!



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REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

Example: Direct Voter Contact Postcard 3



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REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

November 5, 2019 Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District All-Mailed Ballot - Vote Center Election

All registered voters in areas holding elections were mailed an Official Ballot earlier this month. There is still time to **return your ballot!** You can mail your ballot in the postage-paid envelope, drop it off at a secure Ballot Drop Box location or go to any accessible Vote Center. If you choose to return your voted ballot by mail, it must be **postmarked by Election Day, Tuesday, November 5, 2019** and must be received by November 8, 2019 in order to be accepted.

Didn't get a ballot? Need a new one? Need to update your address or know someone who needs to register?
We can help at any Vote Center.

At a Vote Center you can:

- Vote in person on an accessible Ballot Marking Tablet
- Drop off your voted ballot
- Receive multilingual assistance
- Register/re-register and vote on the same day, through Election Day

 **vote today!**

We also offer a new way for voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently at home. Call or go online to find out more about our Accessible Vote by Mail service.

* * * * *
For a detailed list of Ballot Drop Box locations and Vote Centers
Call or Text: 650.312.5222 Email: registrar@smcacre.org
Web: www.smcvote.org   [@smcvote](https://www.instagram.com/smcvote)

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— SAN MATEO COUNTY — CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

MAPS





OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402

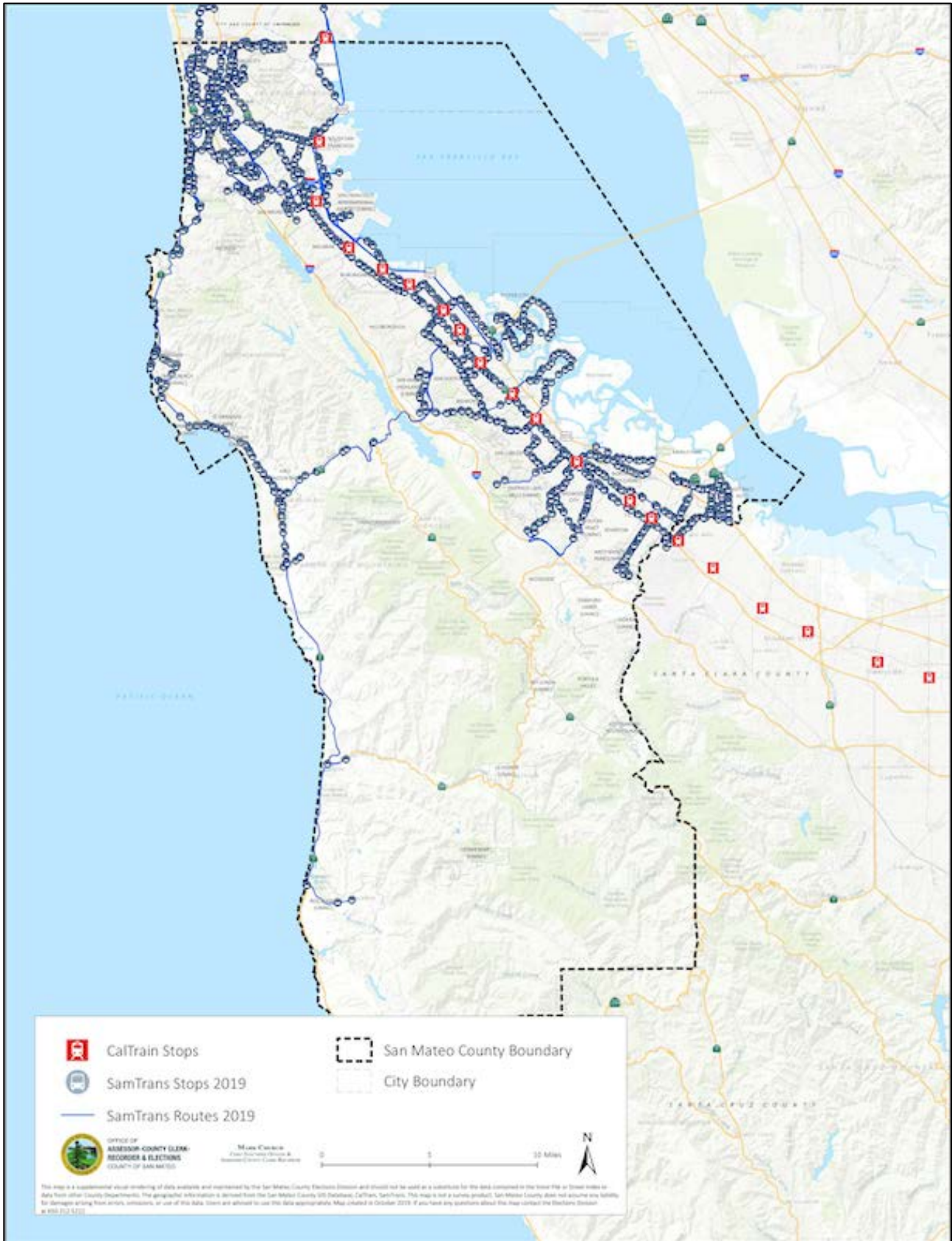
phone 650.312.5222 **fax** 650.312.5348

email registrar@smcacre.org **web** www.smcacre.org

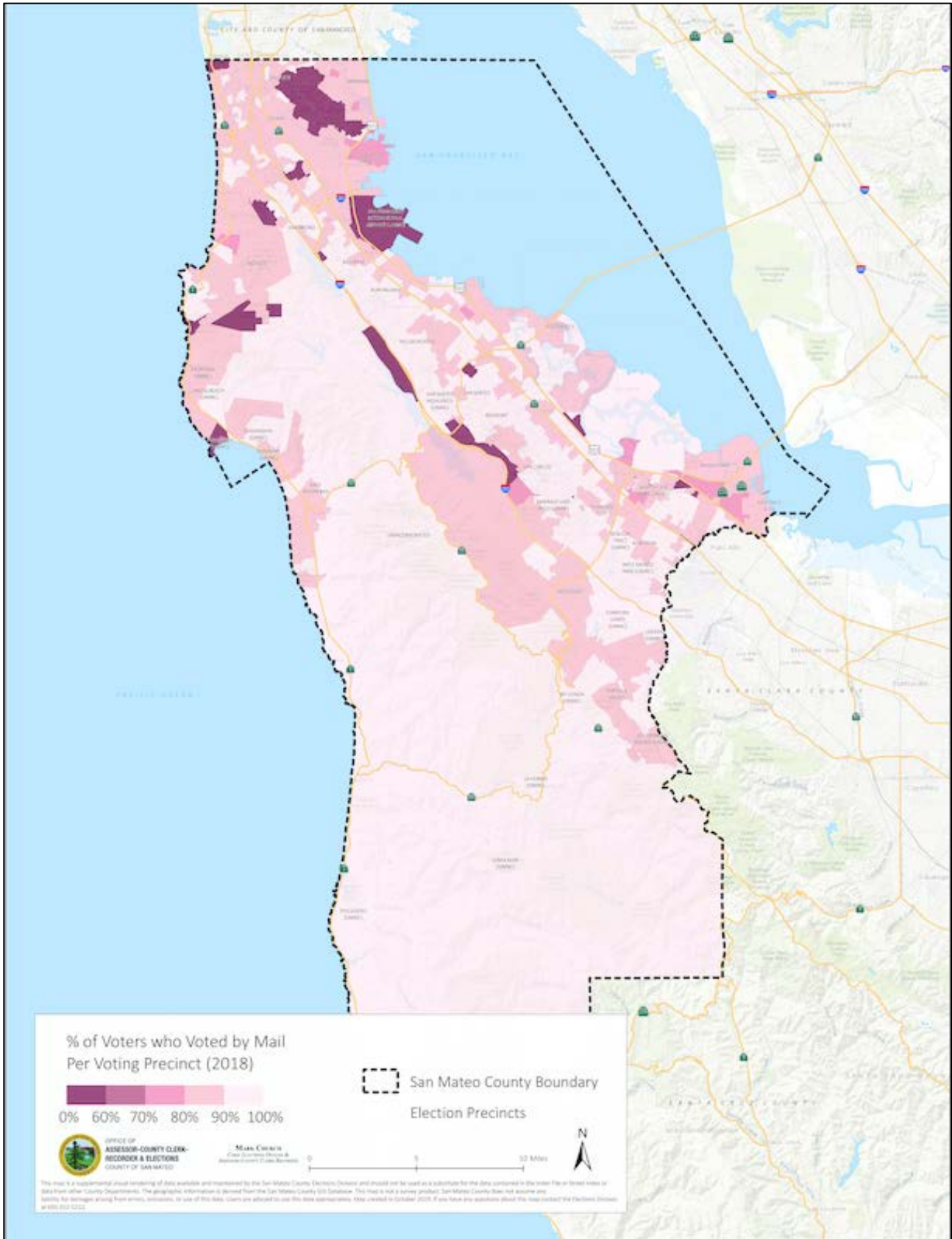
  @smcvote

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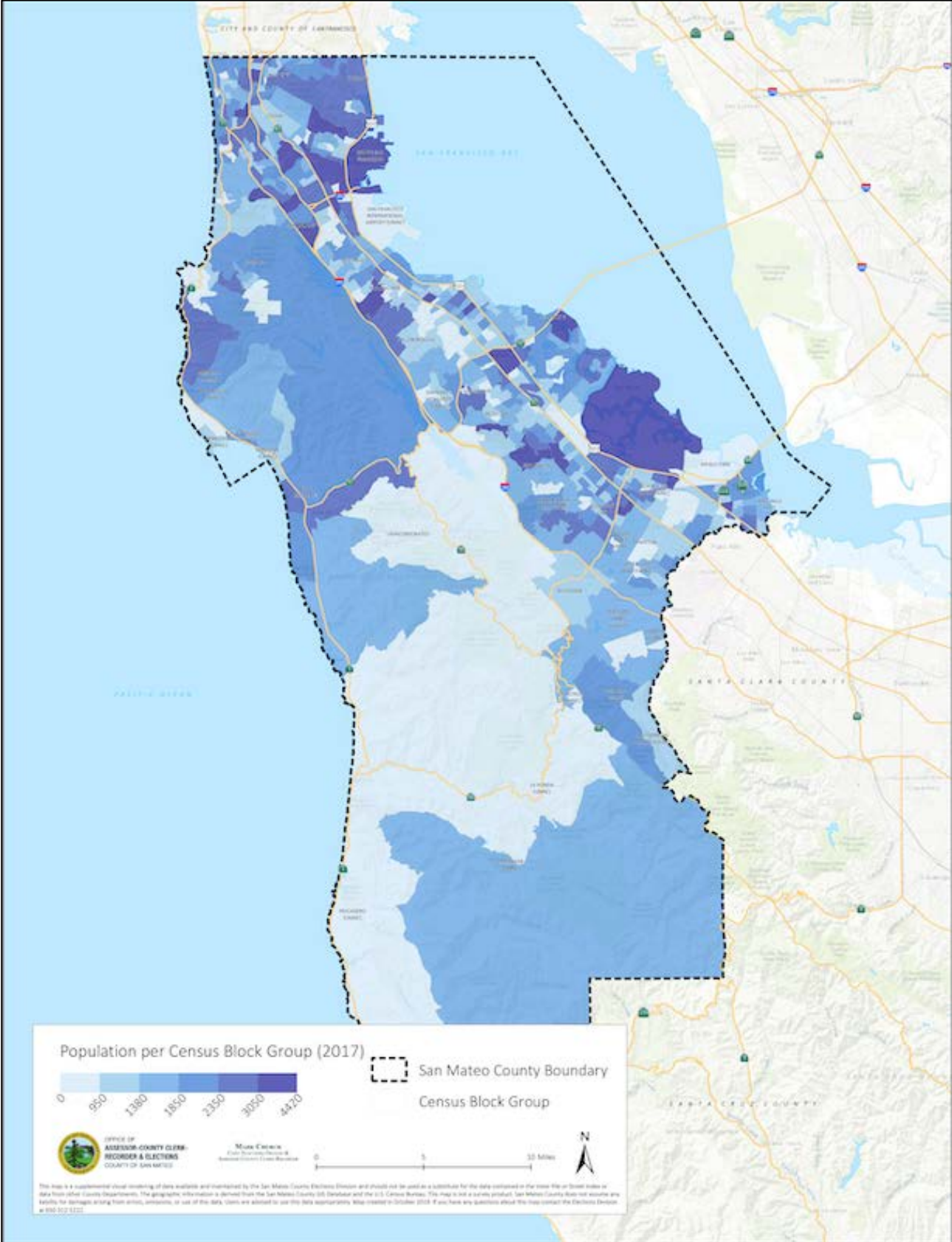
Public Transit Routes in San Mateo County



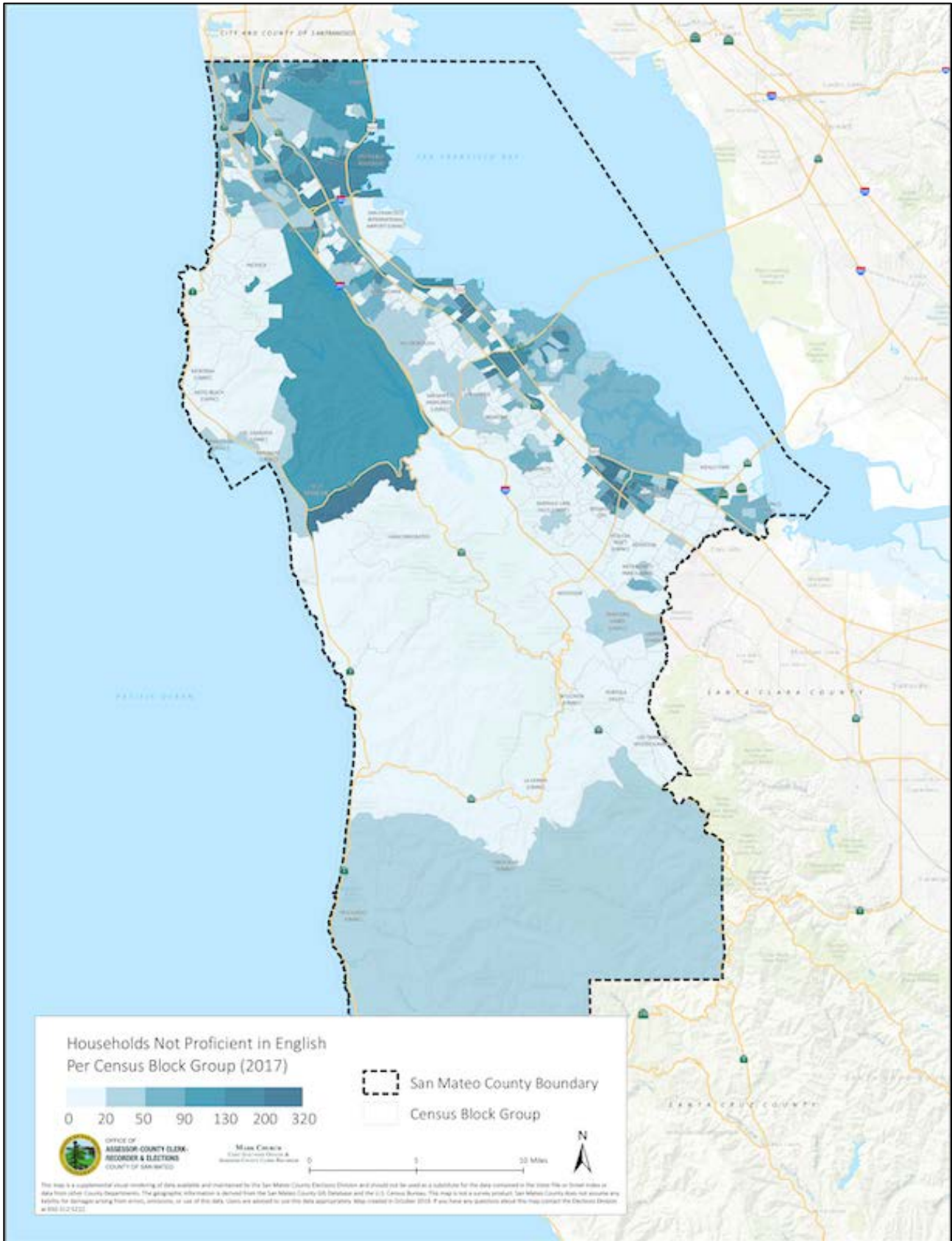
Areas with Low Vote by Mail Usage



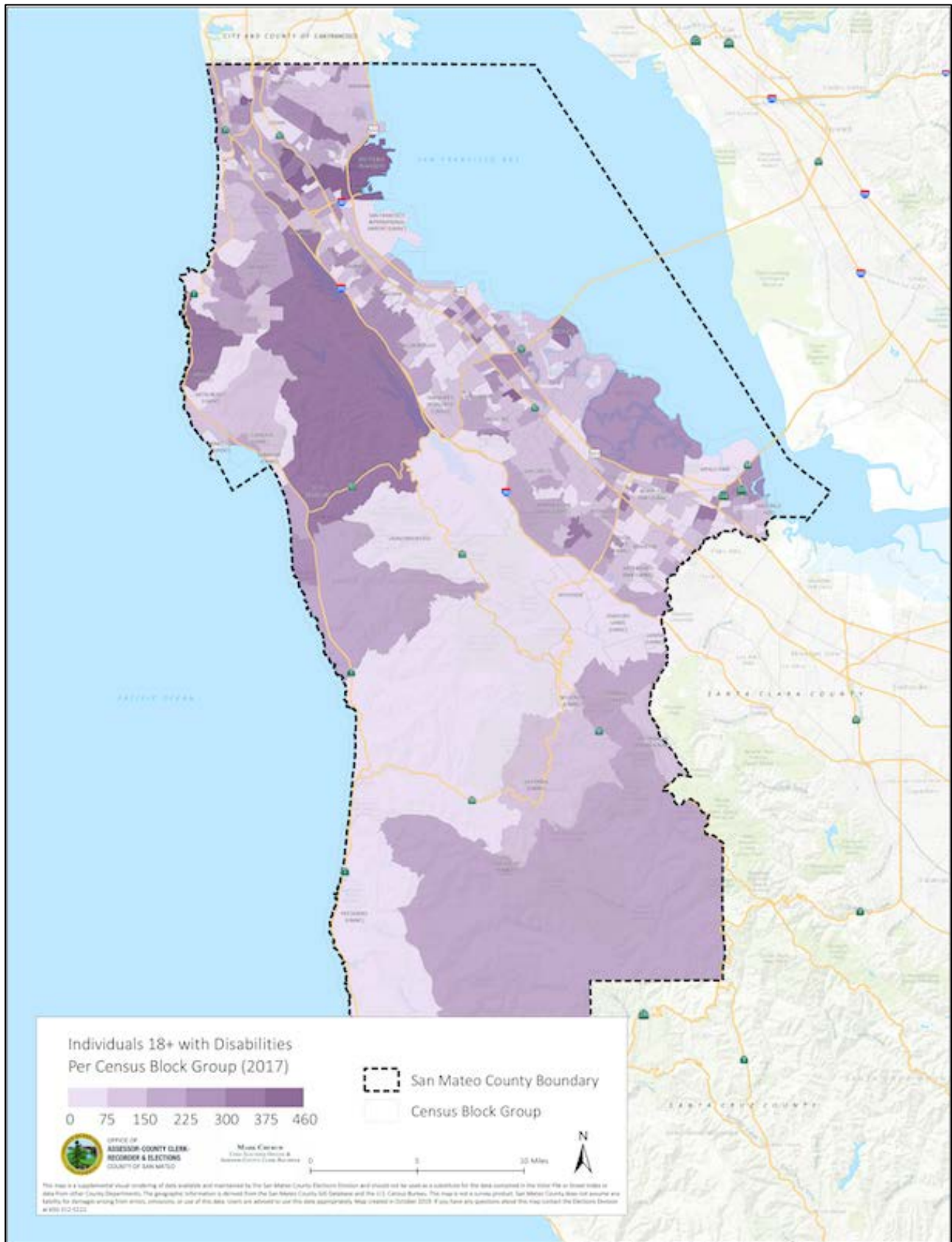
San Mateo County Population



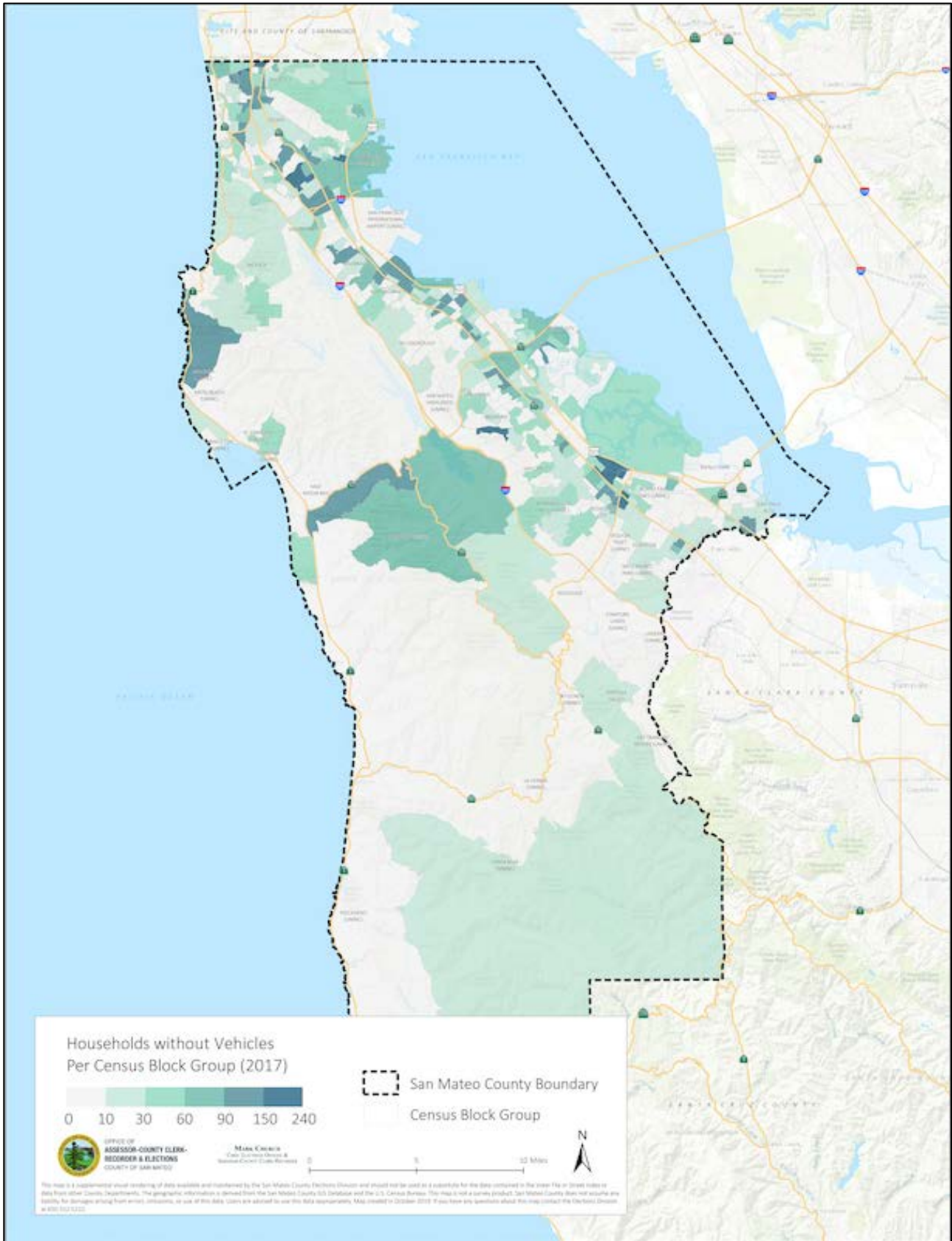
Language Minority Communities



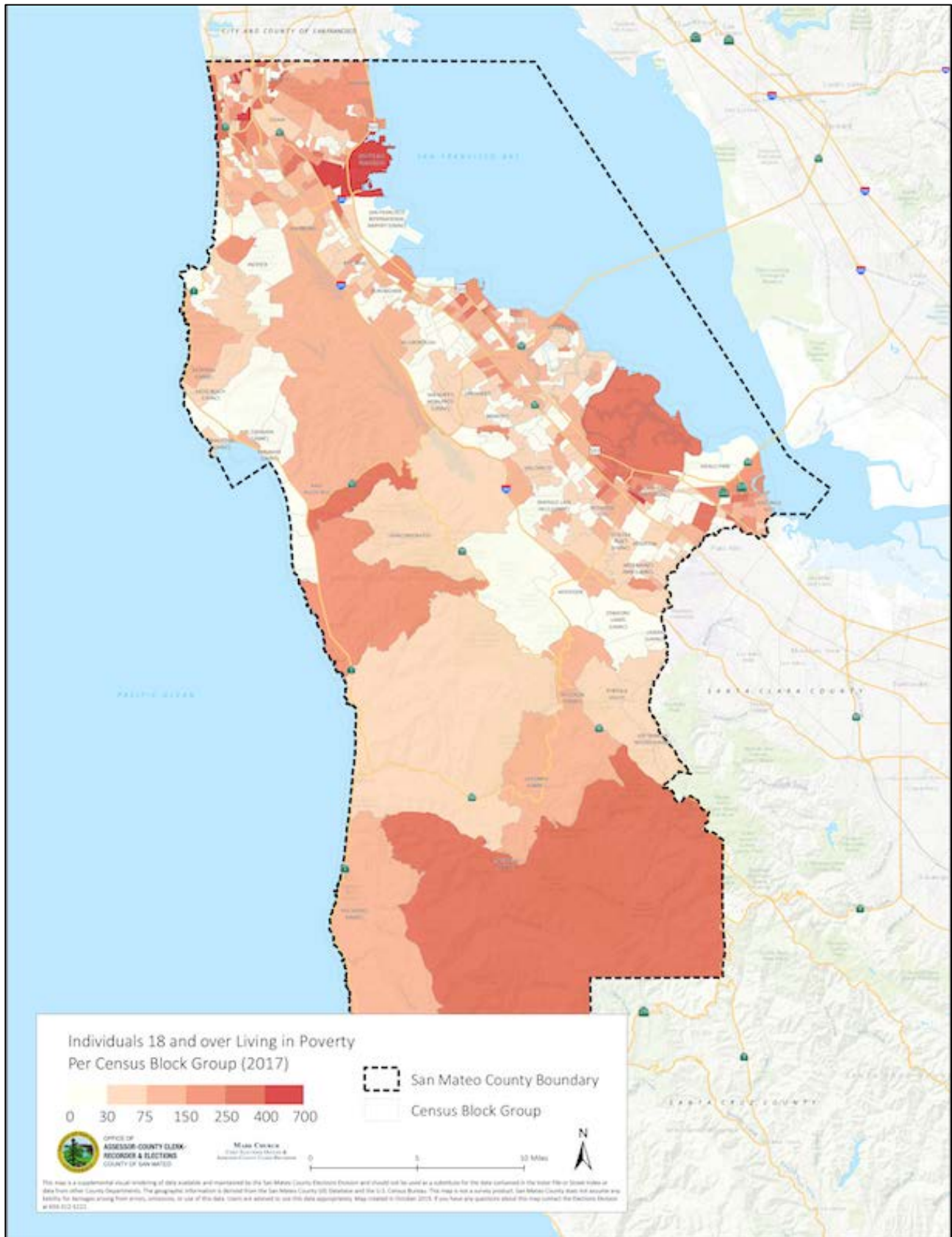
Individuals Ages 18 and over with Disabilities



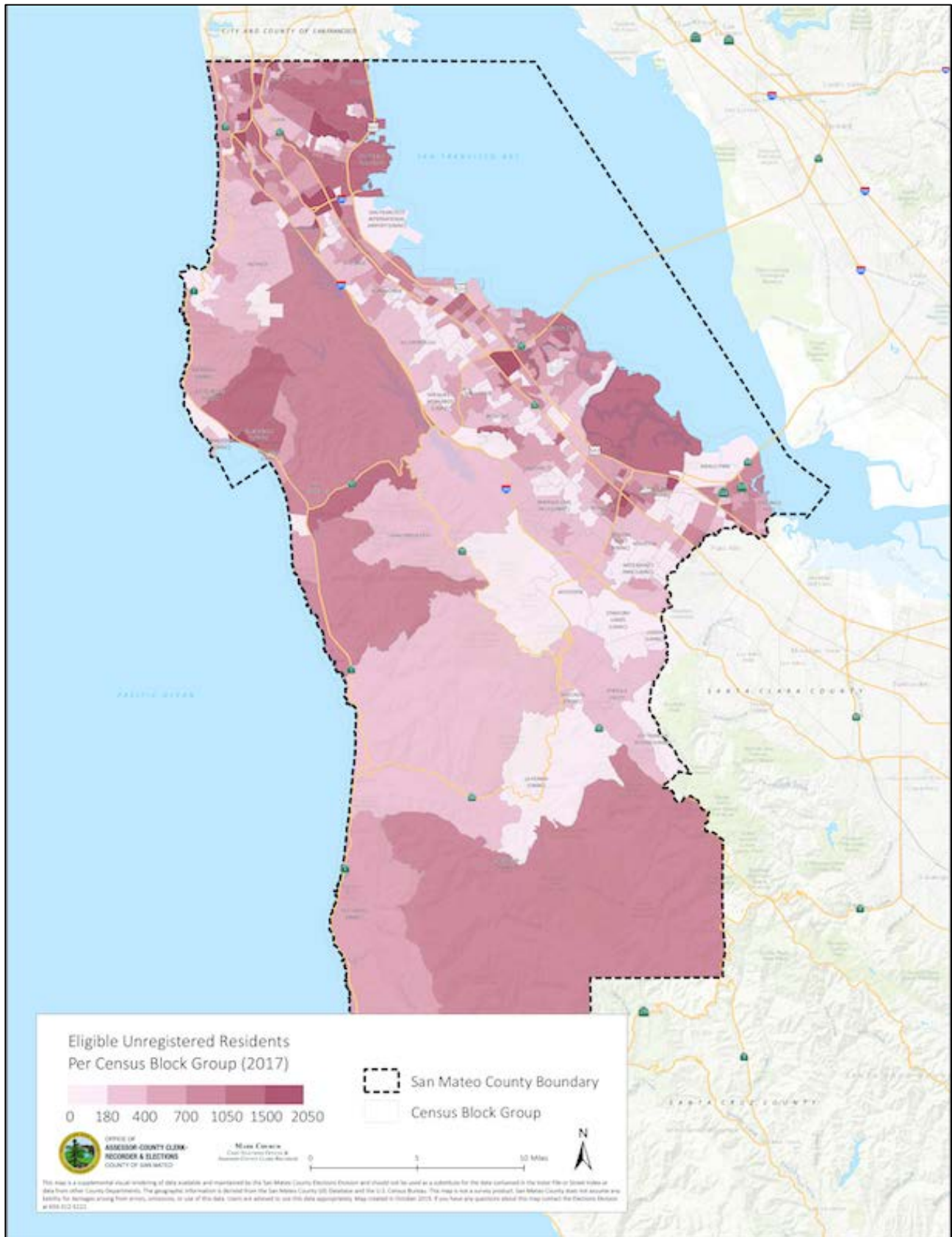
Households without Vehicles



Individuals Ages 18 and over Living in Poverty



Eligible Residents Who Are Not Yet Registered to Vote



— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
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PUBLIC COMMENTS

NOTE: Comments are presented as submitted by the public





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All comments received during the Public Review Periods are published below with responses from the Registration & Elections Division.

Name: Giuliana **Zip Code:** 94303 **Organization:**

Comments: Our community needs more voting centers and educational resources for voters in East Palo Alto.

Registration & Elections Division reply:

Dear Giuliana,

Thank you for your comments. We are working with the City of East Palo Alto government and community-based organizations on both issues.

If you are interested in providing voter education in East Palo Alto, please contact us again. You may also wish to contact the League of Women Voters South San Mateo County. Their web address is my.lwv.org/california/south-san-mateo-county and email for voter registration and outreach is votersvc@lwvssmc.org. Another active non-partisan group you may wish to contact is San Francisco Peninsula People Power (SFPPP) – www.sfppp.org/ or sfpeninsulapp@gmail.com.

Name: C. **Zip Code:** 94005 **Organization:**

Comments: The mail-in ballot envelope needs to be changed to NOT have the required verification signature on the OUTSIDE of the envelope. You made this change in Nov. 2019 and I know of many people who DID NOT VOTE because they did not want all their personal name, middle name, address, and signature in full view to the public. Please don't rationalize this by saying that it is a cost reduction measure for processing ballots. The goal should be to encourage people to vote and anything you do to DISCOURAGE THAT is a travesty. Identity theft is a rampant problem and an issue for many people. Change the envelope, please!

Also, the new election system you describe in this plan whereby one can see how they have cast their ballot but it is encapsulated in a bar code for collection/counting is subject to fraud. I have heard of fraud in other states where what voters were being shown as the votes they were casting DID NOT MATCH the coding. Several non-profits promoting safer and more reliable voting have said that too many such systems are subject to hacking or deviation and voters never know. Please review the security of the voting systems you are using!

Registration & Elections Division reply:

Dear C,

Thank you for your feedback.

As you noted, the new signature area allows for faster processing and counting of ballots. We share your concern regarding privacy and hold it as one of our highest priorities. We take exhaustive measures to ensure your privacy is maintained throughout the entire voting process. Your signature is only visible to Official Elections staff and to United States Postal Service staff. Just as you entrust the Postal Service with sensitive documents such as taxes and bills, you can rest assured they will deliver your ballot to our office with the same sensitivity, respect and haste.

To provide you alternative return options, we have placed Official Elections Ballot Drop Boxes throughout San Mateo County in which you may deposit your ballot, allowing you to deliver your ballot directly to us. We conduct regular pickups via two-person teams to ensure your ballot is returned directly, safely and quickly to our office for immediate processing.

If you would like additional information on your voting and return options, please visit www.smcvote.org.

In regard to your concern about the security of our new voting system, we would like to let you know that the new Dominion voting system, called Democracy Suite, is a state certified, fully integrated voting system platform providing the highest degree of election security and transparency to the voting public. Dominion has a proven track record in California, operating successfully in at least 40 counties.

The California Secretary of State certification program is one of the most strenuous voting system testing and certification programs in the country. Any new voting systems in California must receive certification and undergo months of testing, including functional testing, source code review, red team security testing that involves experts trying to “break into” the voting system, and accessibility and volume testing.

Before every election, San Mateo County conducts a comprehensive system testing and validation process. We test each the Ballot Marking Tablets to make sure they work as expected. This process, known as Logic & Accuracy (L&A) testing, ensures that votes are counted as they have been cast. The public is welcome to observe this process. We issue a press release with the dates and times before each election, and we post these on our website. Please check www.smcacre.org/elections-press-releases-0 throughout January for this information or contact our office by phone/text at 650.312.5222.

After the election, the Registration & Elections Division conducts a post-election manual tally of the votes cast, that serves as an audit to validate the results before they are made official. There are many other security features—both in the process and in the equipment and software—built into the election cycle. This process is also open to the public to observe. It is expected to take place in late March for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election. Please check www.smcacre.org/elections-press-releases-0 throughout March for this information or contact our office by phone/text at 650.312.5222.

In the case of a recount, the Registration & Elections Division is required by state law to use the paper record as the official vote tally.

Thank you.

November 27, 2019

Dear Mr. Church,

We acknowledge the tremendous amount of work that went into producing this amended Elections Administration Plan (EAP) as well as your office's continued openness to feedback from both advocates and community members. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with you and your office, to ensure that the Voter's Choice Act is implemented in a way that is accessible for immigrant communities, limited English proficient (LEP) communities, people with disabilities, and youth.

We want to recognize a number of best and leading practices that your office has adopted and mentions in this updated EAP. We strongly applaud your office for advocating with community leaders to the Board of Supervisors for \$150,000 to go toward community-based organizations for targeted in-person outreach. This allocation of funds and shift in approach to voter engagement demonstrates the ROV's understanding of the important role community based organizations play in voter outreach and how their work is most effective and sustainable when fully funded. Additionally, we commend your office for placing ten accessible ballot marking stations at each vote center.

We also would like to highlight areas where your office can modify the EAP to better serve voters from underrepresented communities.

First, we recommend that the ROV add greater detail about how it plans to engage limited English proficient (LEP) communities and other underrepresented groups. For instance, page 13 of the EAP mentions bilingual voter education workshops but provides little information about how the ROV will improve attendance and participation at these workshops in light of the low turnout at language workshops in 2018. Some potential suggestions include publicizing bilingual voter education workshops at least a month in advance of the chosen date using translated announcements and ethnic media ad placements, and by visiting community, faith, labor, and school events where large LEP communities already congregate to share the information. We recommend partnering with trusted community leaders who speak requisite languages and have large networks they can leverage to turn out members of their communities. A replay of the language workshops in 2018 should not be tolerated.

Additionally, the ROV should be more explicit about how it plans to conduct multilingual education at events. On Page 11, the EAP mentions, "the Elections Division will provide multilingual public education at events held by our community partners," but does not describe the format of this education and how the outreach will be tailored to each LEP community that is reached.

Secondly, the section entitled "Addressing Disparities in Participation" on pages 15- 16 points out that disparities in voter turnout exist amongst Latinos, Asian Americans, and youth, but the paragraphs to follow fail to mention how the ROV will in fact tailor its outreach to encourage registration and turnout in these particular communities. This section describes the ROV's plans to connect with core County service agencies and work with the Sheriff's Office to

engage low-income residents and incarcerated folks. We applaud the ROV's attempt to reach these populations but urge the ROV to be clearer about outreach plans that specifically address the needs of Latino, Asian American, and youth voters. For instance, according to the recent CCEP report "Examining San Mateo County's Adoption of the California Voter's Choice Act: 2018 Election Cycle," we know that 27% of surveyed youth found out about the location of their vote center from friends or family and a high percentage of youth learned about the VCA model or their vote center location through social media. This data might indicate that parent outreach and strategic social media usage can increase the number of informed youth voters. Additionally, partnership with the Sheriff's Office should be considered carefully. Some incarcerated and returning individuals will likely write off voter participation – not embrace it – if approached about it by law enforcement. Partnering with organizations like All of Us or None, which serve incarcerated and returning individuals and their families, may be a better option.

We also recommend that the ROV clearly state in the EAP which materials it intends to translate. For instance, on page 12, the EAP mentions "educational tools, including a presentation, flyer, and frequently asked questions, will be available to download from the Elections Division's website." This page of the EAP also mentions an online toolkit. A sentence should be added that explains that each of these important digitally available materials will be fully translated into at least the federally covered languages (Chinese and Spanish) and Tagalog and Korean if possible. Additionally, community members should review translated versions of these materials before finalization to ensure the meaning of the text translates accurately.

The ROV should also use the most effective voter turnout data available to inform its outreach strategy. It is our position, as stated in the letter sent to Mr. Irizarry and Ms. O'Brien on November 11th, that the ROV should target in-person outreach to the lowest 20% eligible voter turnout precincts as opposed to the lowest 20% registered voter turnout precincts in 2018. We acknowledge that the ROV made a slight amendment to the draft EAP to indicate that your office will "review information on the lowest 20% eligible voter turnout to capitalize on any overlaps." However, we believe that as a matter of best practice the ROV should use eligible voter turnout data as your base dataset to identify high priority precincts for outreach. As researcher Mindy Romero from the California Civic Engagement Project (CCEP) has asserted, eligible voter turnout data provides the clearest picture of areas in the county that still face the greatest barriers to registering to vote and accessing the vote. Ultimately, if the ROV still chooses to use registered voter turnout as its primary dataset, it should at least make this clear on page 13 in the EAP.

We encourage the ROV to improve its practices around assigning bilingual vote center workers to vote centers and ensuring language assistance at vote centers is fully visible to LEP voters. On Page 13, the EAP mentions that "if a vote center is in, or adjacent to, a precinct with other language requirements, the County will endeavor to recruit an election worker fluent in the language." This means that LEP Tagalog and Korean speakers in the County who do not live in a vote center precinct or an adjacent precinct will not have access to in-person language assistance at a vote center near their home. We suggest your office use criteria similar to the Sacramento County ROV, which assigns bilingual vote center workers to any vote center that is within a 5-mile radius of a precinct that is covered for a state mandated language. On Page 13, the EAP also mentions that LEP voters can learn about language assistance through

translated signs but it fails to mention the name tags that bilingual vote center workers wear to indicate the languages they speak. This too should be explicitly included in the EAP.

Just as bilingual vote center workers should be easy to identify, translated voting materials should also be easy to locate at vote centers. On page 29 of the EAP, the vote center layout diagram should have a clear symbol marking the location of the language assistance booth/display of materials so that all vote center workers know where to place these important resources. This display should be placed close to the entrance, so voters notice it upon entering the vote center and before they obtain their ballot.

We encourage the ROV to make the objectives and strategies section of the voter outreach and education plan on page 17 of the EAP more comprehensive. First, under the heading “voter education,” the ROV should also include the objectives of informing LEP communities about language assistance (translated ballots, facsimiles, and bilingual vote center workers) and voters with disabilities about accessible voting machines and remote accessible vote by mail. Under the second objective entitled increasing “awareness of convenient options to vote under the VCA,” the ROV should also mention the third way to vote under the VCA, which is returning one’s vote by mail ballot to any drop box in the county. We also want to emphasize that under the “strategies” header, item #4 is not actually a strategy but rather a list of the relevant groups the ROV plans to pay special attention to throughout its outreach. This section should be replaced with more concrete strategies of how your office will actually engage these communities in voter outreach.

We also have a few recommendations to bolster the “tactics” section of the EAP on page 18. Tactic VI mentions the ROV will create a video about how to use the Ballot Marking Tablets. However, we encourage your office to also strongly consider producing videos about the different options to vote under the VCA if you have not done so already. CCEP’s recent report demonstrated that 50% of surveyed voters were not aware of the new Voter’s Choice Act model and therefore most likely did not understand the many options available to them under the VCA. Creating a video on this subject can help to address this gap in awareness and achieve the ROV’s second objective outlined on page 17 of increasing “awareness of convenient options to vote under the VCA.” Such a video should be optimized for sharing on social media and translated into all covered languages in the county.

We want to propose some additional tactics that the ROV has not mentioned in its list of current tactics. To whatever extent possible, the ROV should commit to tactics that involve in-person outreach. One way the ROV can coordinate this is by offering train the trainer workshops at which church leaders, school teachers/counselors, and other community leaders can get informed about options to vote under VCA, how to use ballot marking tablets, etc. and then disseminate this information out into their communities. Another tactic that the ROV should take advantage of is educating candidate and proposition campaigns to spread the word about the Voter’s Choice Act. According to the recent CCEP study exploring VCA implementation in San Mateo County, only 4.7% of surveyed voters had found out about the VCA through political campaigns. This is a serious missed opportunity.

The ROV should encourage not just candidates but also their staff to participate in a VCA training. The ROV should provide candidates with more than just a VCA packet once they successfully file for candidacy. The ROV should also strongly encourage candidate campaigns

to include unified messaging about the VCA in their outreach mailers, TV ads, social media posts, and so on. The best way to do this is by providing campaigns with pre--prepared text, graphics, hashtags, and messaging so that campaigns can easily insert information about the VCA model into their existing outreach. Lastly, we also recommend that the ROV employ targeted translated social media outreach (Facebook ads, etc.) that are specific to the precincts with the lowest eligible voter turnout in the County in 2018.

We also want to highlight the importance of meaningful community partnerships. It has come to our attention that the list of community partners on pages 45-54 of the EAP is outdated. The listed organizations are not all currently active nor does the ROV have a robust relationship with all of these stakeholders. In order for this list to be useful and an accurate picture of the outreach work your office is doing now, the ROV should update this list to highlight or only include the partners who your office is collaborating closely with to engage voters.

Thank you for your time and consideration and we look forward to hearing how we can work with our office to implement these changes to both the EAP and your office's voter outreach plans.

Sincerely,
Nicole Wong
Community Advocate – Voting Rights and Census
Asian Americans Advancing Justice – Asian Law Caucus

Registration & Elections Division reply:

Dear Ms. Wong,

Thank you for your extremely thoughtful letter. We value our collaborative relationship with the Asian American Advancing Justice – Asian Law Caucus and appreciate your suggestions to build upon the draft Election Administration Plan (EAP).

We are also looking forward to working with the Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), particularly the CBOs who were awarded grants through the San Mateo County Voter Engagement 2020 Initiative, on the bilingual voter education workshops. We concur that collaboration with the CBOs on publicizing these workshops as far in advance as possible using translated announcements will greatly enhance this process. The Elections Division is counting on the assistance from these trusted community leaders who speak the requisite languages to leverage their large networks for well-attended events.

As to the format of education, we believe it is important for the Elections Division to work closely with the CBOs on how best to target and tailor the education to specific groups. For instance, high school students may require a different format than a senior citizens' group.

The Elections Division has much to learn from CBOs about outreach that specifically addresses the needs of Latino, Asian American and youth voters. We will work with CBOs, as well as our LAAC, VAAC and VEOAC, to encourage registration and turnout in these communities. We agree with you that parent outreach and social media usage are important. In 2018, we provided flyers in English and Spanish for all Cabrillo Unified School District

students about the election and voting options to take home to their parents. Social media has also been used in 2018 and 2019, and we expect it to be used even more widely in 2020.

Thank you for providing information about *All of Us or None*. We have traditionally worked with the Sheriff's Department to reach incarcerated individuals, but if they allow organizations such as *All of Us or None* to speak to population within the correction centers, we would be happy to have them provide registration and election information. We will add them to our Community Partner list in the Appendix and contact them to help encourage registration and turnout among returning individuals and their families.

We appreciate your suggestion to clearly state in the EAP which materials we intend to translate for our online toolkit. Though some new materials may be created, and other materials may be retired, we can commit to translating materials in the federally covered languages in the EAP. Beginning with the November 2018 election, we have included either Chinese or Spanish on one side and English on the other side of our quarter sheet handout, handout card and one-page flyers. Other items, such as the Vote Center-Drop Box Location flyer, are produced separately in Chinese, English and Spanish since the material uses both sides of a sheet of paper.

The Elections Division contracts with court-certified translation firms to translate outreach materials. The materials are then reviewed by professionally experienced and qualified proofreaders in-house and finally reviewed by native language speakers working in other offices for San Mateo County. Through this three-step process, we have found the translations to be accurate as well as consistent with other materials we produce (such as the Sample Ballot & Voter Information Pamphlet). Our publication deadlines are code-driven, and our experience has shown that unpaid reviewers have not been able to assist us with producing translated materials in a timely manner. We will be happy to consider feedback from community members and organizations, such as yours, for improvements on updates to our materials.

The Elections Division mission statement is: *To register County citizen to vote and efficiently conduct transparent elections*. We agree that identifying areas with low voter registration is very important for registering voters.

Thank you for providing the criteria Sacramento uses for assigning bilingual Vote Center Representatives to vote centers within a five-mile radius of a precinct that is covered for a state mandated language. We will add this criterion to the EAP. As you rightly note, our bilingual Vote Center Representatives wear tags to indicate the languages they speak – this will also be referenced in the EAP. As we aim to continuously improve our processes, we are working on new language identification tags for our bilingual Vote Center Representatives to wear for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

We have added a green hexagon to mark the location of our “totem sign” with our display of materials in the three sample Vote Center layouts in the Appendix. While all Vote Center Representatives receive training that includes where to place the display, it was an excellent idea to add this to our layouts.

We agree with your recommendations to include informing LEP communities about language assistance and voters with disabilities about accessible ballot marking devices and remote accessible vote by mail under Objectives – Voter Education. We will also add returning one's ballot to any drop box in the County under the second objective as you suggested.

In addition to the video on how to use the Ballot Marking Tablets, we have created a thirty second video for use as an advertisement, public service announcement or use with social media, to show the different options to vote under the VCA. It will be available for the March 3, 2020 election in English, Chinese and Spanish in a version optimized for the web and a version for television stations. Both versions include closed captioning.

The Elections Division is committing to tactics that involve in-person outreach through the San Mateo County Voter Engagement grant program. Thrive Alliance has discussed with us its interest in providing the type of train the trainer workshop with community leaders you mentioned, and the Elections Division has stated that we would provide any support they need.

We agree with you that we can add educating candidates and proposition campaigns about the VCA as a tactic. We currently do this as part of our candidate seminars where their staff is also welcomed to attend. We will also add as a tactic targeting translated social media outreach to the precincts with the lowest eligible voter turnout.

The Elections Division plans to continuously update the list of community partners. We will also work with the VEOAC for advice on who should be on the list. We reviewed the Santa Clara County EAP and did not find a list of community partners. In reviewing the partners list in the Orange County EAP, we found a statement at the beginning to email the Registrar of Voters team if you would like to partner with them. We will add this type of statement to our partner list.

Once again, we would like to thank you and the Asian Americans Advancing Justice –Asian Law Caucus (ALC) for your excellent suggestions for the County of San Mateo EAP. We think highly of the ALC and truly appreciate you as one of our strong community partners.

November 27, 2019

Dear Mark Church,

As the Executive Director of Taulama for Tongans and a longtime community leader in San Mateo County, I write to you with deep knowledge of the Tongan community and the barriers our communities face with voting and general participation in any election events. Taulama for Tongans is a nonprofit, community-based organization that serves the Tongan community by providing health outreach and education that is culturally and linguistically appropriate. We also provide a connection to our local health programs, resources and services.

Below are my recommendations for how the San Mateo County Registrar of Voters (ROV) can actively improve its Election Administration Plan (EAP) so that it better serves the County's sizeable Pacific Islander community and contributes to the creation of a more diverse electorate.

One of the most effective ways to reach a large section of the Tongan community is through targeted Facebook ads. So many people in the Tongan community, both youth and elders, are active on Facebook. Posts about voting should be translated into Tongan in order to catch the attention of community members and should only use simple messaging and words. On Page 18, the "Tactics" page, the EAP mentions that the ROV intends to create videos on how to use

ballot marking tablets and to put on short demonstrations at community events. In order to inform the Tongan community about these devices and upcoming events, please publicize the demonstration dates on Facebook posts that you produce for the Tongan community and include the ballot marking tablet videos, as well.

Another way that you can tailor your outreach to the Tongan community is by creating a Public Service Announcement (PSA) for television that includes Tongan youth speaking in Tongan. It is important for members of our community to see people they recognize in these PSAs in order to pique their interest and to inspire engagement. The PSA should be succinct with a simple sentence in Tongan emphasizing the importance of voting. You might consider featuring the “Tahuli e Kakala Tongan Youth Dance Group” for this PSA.

In addition to tailored PSAs, I encourage the ROV to consider adjusting its Media Partner List to include local Tongan media groups to ensure it reaches the Tongan community. We urge the ROV to add Vake Talifolau (Radio Tonga) to its list of intended radio partners. This Tongan-only radio program runs 24/7 and everyone in our community listens to it. If your office can pay for radio time, Tongan community leaders along with myself, can speak on the show about different ways to vote and other key dates and information.

I also encourage your office to prioritize placing more vote center locations at churches. Not only do community members know where churches are located but they also feel comfortable approaching these locations to vote and churches usually offer plenty of parking. Additionally, churches are natural gathering spots for the Tongan community. For these reasons, we recommend that the ROV dedicate funding and/or staff time to make short announcements and pass out brochures about voting in Tongan at the most well-known Tongan churches in the county.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Leafa Taumoepeau

Registration & Elections Division reply:

Dear Ms. Taumoepeau,

Thank you for contacting the Elections Division with recommendations on how we can improve our Election Administration Plan (EAP) to better serve San Mateo County’s Pacific Islander community. We agree with you that turnout figures have been very uneven across diverse communities. The good news is that our own research, conducted by the California Civic Engagement Project, has shown that the Voter’s Choice Act (VCA) model, while still new, is already increasing participation among some of these communities, including Asian Americans, Latinos and youth. With thoughtful contributions to our EAP such as yours, we hope to continue to promote greater civic participation and allow more community members to participate in the public policy process and influence decisions that impact their lives.

We would like to work with you, and others in the Pacific Islander community, on creating Facebook posts in Tongan to help reach the large Tongan community in the county. During 2018, Facebook put in place many rules about political ads to prevent misinformation, but the rules have also limited legitimate organizations such as ours from purchasing truthful informational ads. We faced a similar problem with strict restrictions on political ads with SamTrans, but fortunately, we were able to eventually show them that our ads to promote the were not political. Unfortunately, Facebook is a much larger entity than SamTrans, making it much more difficult to work with them on changes to continue to prevent misinformation while allowing verifiable Registration & Elections Divisions such as ours, to place ads on the VCA options, ballot mailing dates, Vote Center and Drop Box locations as well as the same day voter registration.

Would you please provide us with a list of television stations in the area which would air a public service announcement in Tongan? We are not familiar with any television stations with Tonga-language programming, and we would appreciate your assistance.

You asked us to include local Tongan media groups to our Media Partner List and specifically suggested that we add Vake Talifolau (Radio Tonga) to our list of intended radio partners. We have added Vake Talifolau. Could you provide us with contact information for this program and/or this station? We will contact the program to find out more about it and the fees. Are there any other local Tongan media groups you can suggest to us?

We were working with the Fale Hufanga Tongan Methodist Church in San Carlos to see if it could become a Vote Center in March, but we were not able to finalize it in time with our deadlines over the holidays being a very busy time there. We will definitely keep it in mind for the future. We are also working with five other churches, belonging to various denominations, to serve as Vote Centers for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election. The churches include St. Paul's Episcopal in Burlingame, St. Francis of Assisi in East Palo Alto, Bayside Community in Foster City, St. Peter Catholic in Pacifica and the Woodside Village Church.

The county is federally mandated to provide election information in Chinese and Spanish; we are mandated by the state to provide some election information in Korean and Tagalog. There have been no mandates for San Mateo County to provide election information in Fijian, Samoan or Tongan yet, nor are we funded to provide for translation into these languages. We would be more than willing to work with you or other nonprofit community-based organizations to translate and print our two most popular outreach items – a quarter-sheet for wide distribution at churches and a small poster with VCA information as well as Vote Center and Drop Box locations. We will email samples of these items to you. If there are any translation services you can recommend to us, we would appreciate your suggestion. We would like to ask Taulama for Tongans to review the translation for accuracy.

We would like to see trusted messengers from your community make short announcements in Tongan and distribute information to parishioners at Tongan churches, rather than have our staff do this. Thrive, the Alliance of Nonprofits of San Mateo County, has discussed with us the idea of offering a train the trainer workshop at which church leaders, schoolteachers (and counselors), and other community leaders can get informed about options to vote under the VCA, how to use ballot marking tablets, and so on and then disseminate this information out into their communities.

We sent you information about our Voter Engagement 2020 Initiative when we received your EAP comments. We hope you had an opportunity to apply for a grant and/or send the information to others in the local Pacific Islander community to do so.

We look forward to collaborating with you on this very important work. We would like to invite you to attend our next Voter Education and Outreach Advisory Committee meeting on Wednesday, January 15. The meeting will run from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the Sobrato Center for Nonprofits, 350 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood Shores. You are also welcomed to also attend our next Language Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting. It will be held on Monday, February 10 from 6:15 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. at our office at 40 Tower Road in San Mateo.

Thank you once again for your feedback to our EAP.

December 2, 2019

Dear Mr. Church,

We are active community leaders in the Filipin@ community in San Mateo County, who have been working with and within the Filipin@ community. We write to you concerned that the areas with the lowest eligible voter turnout for Asian Americans in San Mateo County in both the primary and general election in 2018 were in North County: Daly City, Colma, and South San Francisco. Also, we want to highlight that youth present a huge voter education and outreach opportunity in San Mateo County since 33.8% of eligible youth voted in the 2018 general election compared to 58.6% of all eligible voters. It troubles us to see such lower turnout from our youth who have the power to help shape the future of our community.

In this letter, we offer our suggestions for how the San Mateo County Registrar of Voters (ROV) can modify the Elections Administration Plan to more effectively inform members of the Filipino community and youth about the recent changes to voting in San Mateo County with the Voter's Choice Act and thoroughly engage them around elections. This letter incorporates feedback from Charmaine Mesina, a member of the Language Advisory Accessibility Committee (LAAC) and as well as students and staff from the Skyline College community. We look forward to collaborating throughout this process.

Vote Centers

- Prioritize placing vote centers at more schools, including high schools, since these are trusted locations for members of our community to visit.
- Jefferson Union High School is a good vote center site because it is located in the middle of where the Filipino community lives, has ample parking, and is easily accessible by public transit.
- South San Francisco High School (400 B St., South San Francisco) would also be a strong vote center option. They have a long parking lot, students know about this location, and many students live in the area.

Drop Boxes

- We must make voting more convenient for students who understand the importance of voting but do not always have the time or ability to turn out. We recommend that you add a drop box at Skyline College.
- The sidewalk in front of Seafood City Supermarket is a great drop box location for the Filipino community who shops here. This site receives plenty of foot traffic.
- Please consider placing a drop box in King Plaza Center where Manila Oriental Market (950 King Dr. #112, Daly City) is located because this plaza also gets a lot of traffic from our community.
- Lastly, we recommend placing a drop box outside the Sprouts Farmers Market (301 Gellert Blvd, Daly City) because many Filipino students work here and their families frequent here as well.

Voter Outreach and Education Tactics

- Filipino youth are the key to getting their parents, peers, and elders in the Filipino community out to vote. The ROV should focus on voter engagement for Filipino youth.
- We recommend that the ROV host after school voter education workshops with partners at Westmoor High School (131 Westmoor Ave, Daly City) and South San Francisco High School (400 B St., South San Francisco). Increasing the number of opportunities for family and students to discuss voter engagement may help increase voter turnout in our communities. For example, teachers held a successful Daly City Youth Forum at Westmoor High School last October that saw active engagement and a high turnout.
- Also please consider reaching out to the student populations at nontraditional schools like Baden High School (825 Southwood Dr., South San Francisco).
- The elections office should partner with influencers who have a large following on Instagram to spread the word about the upcoming election.
 - @ameliaandadinah
 - @rocktheschoolbells
 - @skylineass
- The EAP mentions that the ROV plans on giving “short presentations and Ballot Marking Tablet demonstrations at community events...” To engage youth at these events, we highly recommend that you distribute fun giveaways, stickers, and food prizes.

Events

- Please add to the EAP list of “Past & Upcoming community Events” the free community market that takes place every Thursday at Skyline College Lot D starting at 11 am. Numerous members of the Filipino community attend this market and begin waiting in line as early as 9 am (the market opens at 11).
- Another event that should also be added is the Daly City Farmers’ Market that takes place at Serramonte Center every Thursday.
- The biggest event for the Filipino community in fall is the Pistahan parade and festival. Although this event takes place in San Francisco, a large population of Filipino

residents from Daly City attend and this is a great opportunity to reach out to other Filipino orgs.

Media

ABS-CBN and Crossings TV are traditional media outlets that are more popular among older Filipinos.

- The best media channel to reach Filipino youth through is Instagram whereas newspapers are a better way to reach older members of our community.
- We highly recommend that the ROV engage the Filipino community through a podcast where folks can listen in to receive regular election updates and information.
 - Many students do not listen to music on their drives but do listen to podcasts.
 - Some schools like South San Francisco High School create podcasts led by students.

The ROV can either introduce a recurring voter education segment on an existing popular local podcast or create its own podcast. The podcast can be in English or Tagalog and should be interactive so people can call in with questions. Community Partners

- We suggest the ROV reach out to the following community partners/groups and add them to the EAP:
 - The Kababayan Learning Community at Skyline College
 - Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center (2121 Junipero Serra Blvd, Daly City) – many people go here to access social services.
 - Liwanag Kultural Center (222 Lausanne Ave, Daly City)

Please reach out to Charles at LKCRamilo@gmail.com with any questions. We greatly appreciate your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alvin Gubatina
Interim Student Life Manager at Skyline College

Charles Ramilo
Migrante Northern San Mateo County Liwanag Kultural Center

Registration & Elections Division reply:

Dear Mr. Gubatina and Mr. Ramilo,

Thank you for offering your suggestions on ways the Elections Division can better inform members of the Filipino community and youth about the Voter's Choice Act (VCA) elections model and how we may engage communities around elections. Like you, the Elections Division is committed to working with community partners and stakeholders to increase the low voter turnout by our youth and eligible voters in the northern part of San Mateo County. We

also appreciate that you took the initiative to solicit feedback from students and staff at Skyline College, as well as Ms. Mesina, and incorporated it within your letter.

Pre-VCA, the Elections Division often used schools for one-day polling places. Moving to the VCA model requires us to find locations which have space for four- and eleven-day Vote Centers. The four-day center is closer to a six-day center because we need to deliver voting equipment the day before the Vote Center opens, and pack and move the equipment out the day after Election Day. Many schools are not able to provide space for Vote Centers for six to thirteen days. The Vote Center days include at least one weekend at a minimum; many centers include two weekends. The schools are often closed on weekends, and their staff is brought in on overtime to open doors, maintain restrooms, and so on. In addition, schools, generally speaking, do not want strangers on their campuses when they are in session.

In Montara and San Bruno, we have set-up Vote Centers in schools because of a lack of better alternatives. Unfortunately, our Vote Centers at Farallone View Elementary School and Skyline College have not been well-utilized. We would appreciate your help to increase the use of the Skyline College Vote Center. Skyline College offers students a wonderful campus, but area residents have trouble finding the Vote Center on the sprawling campus.

The Vote Center you referred to as being located at Jefferson Union High School is inside the district administration area next to the high school. The administration space is what makes this location work for us. High Schools generally have large parking lots filled by students and staff. And while students live in the area and know the location, only the senior class and some members of the junior class will be eligible to vote.

We have reserved the Albert Teglia Community Center and Doelger Senior Center for Daly City Vote Center locations for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election. These sites replace the Hillside Clubhouse and the Holy Child and St. Martin Episcopal Church which we used in November 2018. We have found that area residents are usually familiar with the community center and senior center locations in their cities. The Teglia site offers us a large space while the Doelger site is easily accessible by public transit and has ample parking.

Since we emailed you to find the right person to contact at Skyline College, you are aware that we have been following up on your suggestions for new Drop Box locations in northern San Mateo County. At this time, we do not have any of the recommended locations confirmed other than the Drop Box inside the Vote Center at Skyline College.

Thank you for the recommendations for voter outreach and education tactics. We are expecting to see more activity in this area by community-based organizations (CBOs) because of the Voter Engagement 2020 Initiative grants. Thrive, The Alliance of Nonprofits for San Mateo County, has expressed interest in offering train the trainer workshops to provide church leaders, teachers (and counselors) and community leaders with information about the options to vote under the VCA, how to use ballot marking tablets, and so on, and then disseminate this information out into their communities. We would like to see trusted messengers from within your community lead after school voter education workshops, and the Elections Division will provide support as determined in cooperation with the partners. We agree with you about the need to reach out to non-traditional schools such as Baden High School. We did get in contact with several non-traditional school during the spring 2019 High School Voter Education Weeks

but received no interest in having presentations since it was not a major election year; we expect there will be a great deal of interest in 2020 though.

We appreciate your suggestions about partnering with social media influencers and distributing fun giveaways at events. We are eager to partner with those whose social media reach extends further than our own. Please reach out to your contacts and encourage them to spread the word about the upcoming elections. It is more likely your encouragement as community influencers will lead to students including election information on their podcasts. We would be happy to be a resource for you and them but see more interest in election information coming from trusted messengers within the community.

One community partner, San Francisco Peninsula People Power, has told us of their success at events with a spinning wheel to select a question and giveaway prizes. Once again, as the Elections Division provides financial assistance to CBOs, we see these groups participating in local events and having the ability to purchase fun giveaways which they know will be appropriate for their audience. We have added the community market and Daly City Farmers' Market to our event list in the Appendix as a suggestion for possible CBO attendance or for the Elections Division to attend if others conducting voter registration and providing VCA information do not participate.

We are happy to add the organizations you suggested to our community partner list: Kababayan Learning Community at Skyline College, Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center and the Liwanag Kultural Center. We see Mr. Ramilo is with the Liwanag Kultural Center. Mr. Gubatina, would you be an appropriate contact for us to reach the Kababayan Learning Community at Skyline College? Could either of you provide us with a contact for the Pilipino Bayanihan Resource Center?

Thank you both for your feedback to the EAP. We look forward to working together to improve our communication with the Filipino community and youth.

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— SAN MATEO COUNTY —
CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

LEGISLATION:
SENATE BILL 450





OFFICE OF MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER & ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS DIVISION

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  @smcvote

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Legislation
Senate Bill No. 450
CHAPTER 832

An act to amend Sections 3017 and 15320 of, to add Sections 4005, 4006, and 4007 to, and to add and repeal Section 4008 of, the Elections Code, relating to elections.

[Approved by Governor September 29, 2016. Filed with
Secretary of State September 29, 2016.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 450, Allen. Elections: vote by mail voting and mail ballot elections.

Existing law requires all vote by mail ballots to be voted on or before the day of the election and requires the vote by mail voter to return the ballot by mail or in person, as specified, to the elections official who issued the ballot.

This bill would require an elections official who receives a vote by mail ballot that he or she did not issue to forward that ballot to the elections official who issued the ballot no later than 8 days after receipt. By requiring an elections official to forward a ballot to the elections official who issued the ballot, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law authorizes cities with a population of fewer than 100,000 persons, school districts, and special districts to conduct an all-mailed ballot special election to fill a vacancy on the legislative or governing body of those entities under specified conditions.

This bill, the California Voter's Choice Act, would, on or after January 1, 2018, authorize specified counties, and on or after January 1, 2020, authorize any county except the County of Los Angeles, to conduct any election as an all-mailed ballot election if certain conditions are satisfied, including conditions related to ballot dropoff locations, vote centers, and plans for the administration of all-mailed ballot elections. The bill would require the Secretary of State, within 6 months of each all-mailed ballot election conducted by a county pursuant to these provisions, to report certain information to the Legislature regarding that election. The bill would require the county that conducted the all-mailed ballot election to submit to the Secretary of State the information needed for the Secretary of State to prepare the report.

This bill would, on or after January 1, 2020, authorize the County of Los Angeles to conduct any election as a vote center election if certain conditions are satisfied, including conditions related to ballot dropoff locations and vote centers. The bill would, on or after January 1, 2020, authorize the County of Los Angeles to conduct a special election as an all-mailed ballot election pursuant to specified provisions that apply to every county that chooses to conduct a special election as an all-mailed ballot election.

This bill would also require the Secretary of State to establish a taskforce that includes certain individuals to review all-mailed ballot elections conducted pursuant to these provisions and to provide comments and recommendations to the Legislature within 6 months of each all-mailed ballot election or vote center election.

This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 3017 of the Elections Code proposed by AB 1921 that would become operative only if AB 1921 and this bill are both chaptered and this bill is chaptered last.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the California Voter's Choice Act.

SEC. 2. Section 3017 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

3017. (a) All vote by mail ballots cast under this division shall be voted on or before the day of the election. After marking the ballot, the vote by mail voter shall do any of the following: (1) return the ballot by mail or in person to the elections official who issued the ballot, (2) return the ballot in person to a member of a precinct board at a polling place or vote center within the state, or (3) return the ballot to a vote by mail ballot dropoff location within the state that is provided pursuant to Section 3025 or 4005. However, a vote by mail voter who is unable to return the ballot may designate his or her spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, or a person residing in the same household as the vote by mail voter to return the ballot to the elections official who issued the ballot, to the precinct board at a polling place or vote center within the state, or to a vote by mail ballot dropoff location within the state that is provided pursuant to Section 3025 or 4005. The ballot must, however, be received by the elections official who issued the ballot, the precinct board, or the vote by mail ballot dropoff location before the close of the polls on election day. If a vote by mail ballot is returned to a precinct board at a polling place or vote center, or to a vote by mail ballot dropoff location, that is located in a county that is not the county of the elections official who issued the ballot, the elections official for the county in which the vote by mail ballot is returned shall forward the ballot to the elections official who issued the ballot no later than eight days after receipt.

(b) The elections official shall establish procedures to ensure the secrecy of a ballot returned to a precinct polling place and the security, confidentiality, and integrity of any personal information collected, stored, or otherwise used pursuant to this section.

(c) On or before March 1, 2008, the elections official shall establish procedures to track and confirm the receipt of voted vote by mail ballots and to make this information available by means of online access using the county's elections division Internet Web site. If the county does not have an elections division Internet Web site, the elections official shall establish a toll-free telephone number that may be used to confirm the date a voted vote by mail ballot was received.

(d) The provisions of this section are mandatory, not directory, and a ballot shall not be counted if it is not delivered in compliance with this section.

(e) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a vote by mail voter's ballot shall not be returned by a paid or volunteer worker of a general purpose committee, controlled committee, independent expenditure committee, political party, candidate's campaign committee, or any other group or organization at whose behest the individual designated to return the ballot is performing a service. However, this subdivision does not apply to a candidate or a candidate's spouse.

SEC. 2.5. Section 3017 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

3017. (a) All vote by mail ballots cast under this division shall be voted on or before the day of the election. After marking the ballot, the vote by mail voter shall do any of the following: (1) return the ballot by mail or in person to the elections official who issued the ballot, (2) return the ballot in person to a member of a precinct board at a polling place or vote center within the state, or (3) return the ballot to a vote by mail ballot dropoff location within the state that is provided pursuant to Section 3025 or 4005. However, a vote by mail voter who is unable to return the ballot may designate any person to return the ballot to the elections official who issued the ballot, to the precinct board at a polling place or vote center within the state, or to a vote by mail ballot dropoff location within the state that is provided pursuant to Section 3025 or 4005. The ballot must, however, be received by the elections official who issued the ballot, the precinct board, or the vote by mail ballot dropoff location before the close of the polls on election day. If a vote by mail ballot is returned to a precinct board at a polling place or vote center, or to a vote by mail ballot dropoff location, that is located in a county that is not the county of the elections official who issued the ballot, the elections official for the county in which the vote by mail ballot is returned shall forward the ballot to the elections official who issued the ballot no later than eight days after receipt.

(b) The elections official shall establish procedures to ensure the secrecy of a ballot returned to a precinct polling place and the security, confidentiality, and integrity of any personal information collected, stored, or otherwise used pursuant to this section.

(c) On or before March 1, 2008, the elections official shall establish procedures to track and confirm the receipt of voted vote by mail ballots and to make this information available by means of online access using the county's elections division Internet Web site. If the county does not have an elections division Internet Web site, the elections official shall establish a toll-free telephone number that may be used to confirm the date a voted vote by mail ballot was received.

(d) The provisions of this section are mandatory, not directory, and a ballot shall not be counted if it is not delivered in compliance with this section.

(e) (1) A person designated to return a vote by mail ballot shall not receive any form of compensation based on the number of ballots that the person has returned and no individual, group, or organization shall provide compensation on this basis.

(2) For purposes of this paragraph, "compensation" means any form of monetary payment, goods, services, benefits, promises or offers of employment, or any other form of consideration offered to another person in exchange for returning another voter's vote by mail ballot.

(3) Any person in charge of a vote by mail ballot and who knowingly and willingly engages in criminal acts related to that ballot as described in Division 18 (commencing with Section

18000), including, but not limited to, fraud, bribery, intimidation, and tampering with or failing to deliver the ballot in a timely fashion, is subject to the appropriate punishment specified in that division.

SEC. 3. Section 4005 is added to the Elections Code, to read:

4005. (a) Notwithstanding Section 4000 or any other law, on or after January 1, 2018, the Counties of Calaveras, Inyo, Madera, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Sacramento, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Shasta, Sierra, Sutter, and Tuolumne, and, except as provided in Section 4007, on or after January 1, 2020, any county may conduct any election as an all-mailed ballot election if all of the following apply:

(1) (A) At least two ballot dropoff locations are provided within the jurisdiction where the election is held or the number of ballot dropoff locations are fixed in a manner so that there is at least one ballot dropoff location provided for every 15,000 registered voters within the jurisdiction where the election is held, as determined on the 88th day before the day of the election, whichever results in more ballot dropoff locations. For purposes of this subparagraph, a vote center that includes an exterior ballot drop box counts only as a single ballot dropoff location. Ballot dropoff locations shall comply with the regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 3025.

(B) A ballot dropoff location provided for under this section consists of a secure, accessible, and locked ballot box located as near as possible to established public transportation routes and that is able to receive voted ballots. All ballot dropoff locations shall be open at least during regular business hours beginning not less than 28 days before the day of the election, and on the day of the election. At least one ballot dropoff location shall be an accessible, secured, exterior drop box that is available for a minimum of 12 hours per day including regular business hours.

(2) (A) The county elections official permits a voter residing in the county to do any of the following at a vote center:

(i) Return, or vote and return, his or her vote by mail ballot.

(ii) Register to vote, update his or her voter registration, and vote pursuant to Section 2170.

(iii) Receive and vote a provisional ballot pursuant to Section 3016 or Article 5 (commencing with Section 14310) of Chapter 3 of Division 14.

(iv) Receive a replacement ballot upon verification that a ballot for the same election has not been received from the voter by the county elections official. If the county elections official is unable to determine if a ballot for the same election has been received from the voter, the county elections official may issue a provisional ballot.

(v) Vote a regular, provisional, or replacement ballot using accessible voting equipment that provides for a private and independent voting experience.

(B) Each vote center shall have at least three voting machines that are accessible to voters with disabilities.

(3) (A) On the day of the election, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., inclusive, and on each of the three days before the election, for a minimum of eight hours per day, at least one vote center is provided for every 10,000 registered voters within the jurisdiction where the election is held, as

determined on the 88th day before the day of the election. At least 90 percent of the number of vote centers required by this subparagraph shall be open for all four days during the required times. Up to 10 percent of the number of vote centers required by this subparagraph may be open for less than four days if at least one vote center is provided for every 10,000 registered voters on each day.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for a jurisdiction with fewer than 20,000 registered voters, a minimum of two voter centers are provided on the day of the election and on each of the three days before the election within the jurisdiction where the election is held.

(4) (A) Beginning 10 days before the day of the election and continuing daily up to and including the fourth day before the election, for a minimum of eight hours per day, at least one vote center is provided for every 50,000 registered voters within the jurisdiction where the election is held, as determined on the 88th day before the day of the election.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for a jurisdiction with fewer than 50,000 registered voters, a minimum of two vote centers are provided within the jurisdiction where the election is held.

(C) The vote centers provided under this section are established in accordance with the accessibility requirements described in Article 5 (commencing with Section 12280) of Chapter 3 of Division 12, the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.), the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.), and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

(D) The vote centers provided under this section are equitably distributed across the county so as to afford maximally convenient options for voters and are established at accessible locations as near as possible to established public transportation routes. The vote centers shall be equipped with voting units or systems that are accessible to individuals with disabilities and that provide the same opportunity for access and participation as is provided to voters who are not disabled, including the ability to vote privately and independently in accordance with Sections 12280 and 19240.

(E) (i) The vote centers provided under this section have an electronic mechanism for the county elections official to immediately access, at a minimum, all of the following voter registration data:

(I) Name.

(II) Address.

(III) Date of birth.

(IV) Language preference.

(V) Party preference.

(VI) Precinct.

(VII) Whether or not the voter has been issued a vote by mail ballot and whether or not a ballot has been received by the county elections official.

(ii) The electronic mechanism used to access voter registration data shall not be connected in any way to a voting system.

(5) A method is available for voters with disabilities to request and receive a blank vote by mail ballot and, if a replacement ballot is necessary, a blank replacement ballot that voters with disabilities can read and mark privately and independently pursuant to the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.).

(6) (A) Except as otherwise provided for in this section, election boards for the vote centers established under this section meet the requirements for eligibility and composition pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 12300) of Chapter 4 of Division 12.

(B) Each vote center provides language assistance in all languages required in the jurisdiction under subdivision (c) of Section 12303 or Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.) in a manner that enables voters of the applicable language minority groups to participate effectively in the electoral process. Each vote center shall post information regarding the availability of language assistance in English and all other languages for which language assistance is required to be provided in the jurisdiction under subdivision (c) of Section 12303 or Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

(i) If a vote center is located in, or adjacent to, a precinct, census tract, or other defined geographical subsection required to establish language requirements under subdivision (c) of Section 12303 or Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.), or if it is identified as needing language assistance through the public input process described in clause (ii), the county elections official shall ensure that the vote center is staffed by election board members who speak the required language. If the county elections official is unable to recruit election board members who speak the required language, alternative methods of effective language assistance shall be provided by the county elections official.

(ii) The county elections official shall solicit public input regarding which vote centers should be staffed by election board members who are fluent in a language in addition to English pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 12303 and Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

(iii) The county elections official shall provide notice in the sample ballot, in vote by mail materials, and on his or her Internet Web site of the specific language services available at each vote center.

(C) Each vote center provides election materials translated in all languages required in the jurisdiction under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

(D) Each vote center provides reasonable modifications and auxiliary aids and services as required by the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.) and the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 701 et seq.).

(7) (A) Beginning 10 days before the election, the county elections official maintains, in an electronic format, an index of voters who have done any of the following at one of the voter centers established pursuant to this section:

(i) Registered to vote or updated his or her voter registration.

(ii) Received and voted a provisional ballot or replacement ballot.

(iii) Voted a ballot using equipment at the vote center.

(B) The index required by subparagraph (A) includes the same information for each voter as is required to be included on copies of the index of affidavits of voter registration that are posted pursuant to Section 14294. The index required by subparagraph (A) shall be updated continuously during any time that a vote center is open in the jurisdiction.

(8) (A) Beginning 29 days before the day of the election, the county elections official mails to each registered voter a vote by mail ballot packet that includes a return envelope with instructions for the use and return of the vote by mail ballot.

(B) The county elections official delivers to each voter, with either the sample ballot sent pursuant to Section 13303 or with the vote by mail ballot packet, all of the following:

(i) A notice, translated in all languages required under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.), that informs voters of all of the following:

(I) An all-mailed ballot election is being conducted and each eligible voter will be issued a vote by mail ballot by mail.

(II) The voter may cast a vote by mail ballot in person at a vote center during the times and days specified in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (4) or on election day.

(III) No later than seven days before the day of the election, the voter may request the county elections official to send a vote by mail ballot in a language other than English pursuant to Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.) or a facsimile copy of the ballot printed in a language other than English pursuant to Section 14201.

(IV) No later than seven days before the day of the election, the voter may request the county elections official to send or deliver a ballot that voters with disabilities can read and mark privately and independently pursuant to the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.).

(ii) A list of the ballot dropoff locations and vote centers established pursuant to this section, including the dates and hours they are open. The list shall also be posted on the Internet Web site of the county elections official in a format that is accessible for people with disabilities pursuant to Section 11135 of the Government Code.

(iii) A postage-paid postcard that the voter may return to the county elections official for the purpose of requesting a vote by mail ballot in a language other than English or for the purpose of requesting a vote by mail ballot in an accessible format.

(C) Upon request, the county elections official provides written voting materials to voters with disabilities in an accessible format, as required by the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.) and the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 701 et seq.).

(9) (A) The county elections official establishes a language accessibility advisory committee that is comprised of representatives of language minority communities. The committee shall be established no later than October 1 of the year before the first election conducted pursuant to this section. The committee shall hold its first meeting no later than April 1 of the year in which the first election is conducted pursuant to this section.

(B) The county elections official establishes a voting accessibility advisory committee that is comprised of voters with disabilities. The committee shall be established no later than October 1 of the year before the first election conducted pursuant to this section. The committee shall hold its first meeting no later than April 1 of the year in which the first election is conducted pursuant to this section.

(C) A county with fewer than 50,000 registered voters may establish a joint advisory committee for language minority communities and voters with disabilities.

(10) (A) The county elections official develops a draft plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section in consultation with the public, including both of the following:

(i) One meeting, publicly noticed at least 10 days in advance of the meeting, that includes representatives, advocates, and other stakeholders representing each community for which the county is required to provide voting materials and assistance in a language other than English under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

(ii) One meeting, publicly noticed at least 10 days in advance of the meeting, that includes representatives from the disability community and community organizations and individuals that advocate on behalf of, or provide services to, individuals with disabilities.

(B) The county elections official, when developing the draft plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section, considers, at a minimum, all of the following:

(i) Vote center and ballot dropoff location proximity to public transportation.

(ii) Vote center and ballot dropoff location proximity to communities with historically low vote by mail usage.

(iii) Vote center and ballot dropoff location proximity to population centers.

(iv) Vote center and ballot dropoff location proximity to language minority communities.

(v) Vote center and ballot dropoff location proximity to voters with disabilities.

(vi) Vote center and ballot dropoff location proximity to communities with low rates of household vehicle ownership.

(vii) Vote center and ballot dropoff location proximity to low-income communities.

(viii) Vote center and ballot dropoff location proximity to communities of eligible voters who are not registered to vote and may need access to same day voter registration.

(ix) Vote center and ballot dropoff location proximity to geographically isolated populations, including Native American reservations.

(x) Access to accessible and free parking at vote centers and ballot dropoff locations.

(xi) The distance and time a voter must travel by car or public transportation to a vote center and ballot dropoff location.

(xii) The need for alternate methods for voters with disabilities for whom vote by mail ballots are not accessible to cast a ballot.

(xiii) Traffic patterns near vote centers and ballot dropoff locations.

(xiv) The need for mobile vote centers in addition to the number of vote centers established pursuant to this section.

(C) The county elections official publicly notices the draft plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section and accepts public comments on the draft plan for at least 14 days before the hearing held pursuant to subparagraph (D).

(D) (i) Following the 14-day review period required by subparagraph (C), the county elections official holds a public meeting to consider the draft plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section and to accept public comments. The meeting shall be publicly noticed at least 10 days in advance of the meeting on the Internet Web sites of the clerk of the county board of supervisors and the county elections official, or, if neither the clerk of the county board of supervisors nor the county elections official maintain an Internet Web site, in the office of the county elections official.

(ii) After the public hearing to consider the draft plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section and to accept public comments, the county elections official shall consider any public comments he or she receives from the public and shall amend the draft plan in response to the public comments to the extent he or she deems appropriate. The county elections official shall publicly notice the amended draft plan and shall accept public comments on the amended draft plan for at least 14 days before the county elections official may adopt the amended draft plan pursuant to subparagraph (E).

(E) (i) Following the 14-day review and comment period required by clause (ii) of subparagraph (D), the county elections official may adopt a final plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section, and shall submit the voter education and outreach plan that is required by clause (i) of subparagraph (I) to the Secretary of State for approval.

(ii) The Secretary of State shall approve, approve with modifications, or reject a voter education and outreach plan submitted pursuant to clause (i) of subparagraph (I) within 14 days after the plan is submitted by the county elections official.

(iii) The draft plan, the amended draft plan, and the adopted final plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section shall be posted on the Internet Web site of the county elections official in each language in which the county is required to provide voting materials and assistance under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.), and the Secretary of State's Internet Web site in a format that is accessible for people with disabilities pursuant to Section 11135 of the Government Code.

(F) Public meetings held pursuant to this paragraph shall, upon request, provide auxiliary aids and services to ensure effective communication with people with disabilities.

(G) Within two years of the adoption of the first plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section, the county elections official shall hold public meetings in accordance with the procedures described in subparagraphs (C) to (F), inclusive, to consider revising the first plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section. Every four years thereafter, the county elections official shall hold public meetings in accordance with the procedures described in subparagraphs (C) to (F), inclusive, to consider revising the plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section.

(H) (i) With reasonable public notification, a county elections official may amend a plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section no more than 120 days before the date of an election held pursuant to this section.

(ii) With reasonable public notification, a county elections official may amend a plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section more than 120 days before the date of an election held pursuant to this section if he or she provides at least 30 days to accept public comments on the amended plan.

(I) The plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section, includes all of the following:

(i) A voter education and outreach plan that is approved by the Secretary of State and that includes all of the following:

(I) A description of how the county elections official will use the media, including social media, newspapers, radio, and television that serve language minority communities for purposes of informing voters of the upcoming election and promoting the toll-free voter assistance hotline.

(II) A description of how the county elections official will use the media, including social media, newspapers, radio, and television for purposes of informing voters of the availability of a vote by mail ballot in an accessible format and the process for requesting such a ballot.

(III) A description of how the county elections official will have a community presence to educate voters regarding the provisions of this section.

(IV) A description of the accessible information that will be publicly available on the accessible Internet Web site of the county elections official.

(V) A description of the method used by the county elections official to identify language minority voters.

(VI) A description of how the county elections official will educate and communicate the provisions of this section to the public, including:

(ia) Communities for which the county is required to provide voting materials and assistance in a language other than English under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.). The county elections official shall hold at least one bilingual voter education workshop for each language in which the county is required to provide voting materials and assistance in a language other than English under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

(ib) The disability community, including organizations and individuals that advocate on behalf of, or provide services to, individuals with disabilities. The county elections official shall hold at least one voter education workshop to increase accessibility and participation of eligible voters with disabilities.

(VII) A description of how the county will spend the necessary resources on voter education and outreach to ensure that voters are fully informed about the election. This description shall include information about the amount of money the county plans to spend on voter education and outreach activities under the plan, and how that compares to the amount of money spent on voter education and outreach in recent similar elections in the same jurisdiction that were not conducted pursuant to this section.

(VIII) At least one public service announcement in the media, including newspapers, radio, and television, that serve English-speaking citizens for purposes of informing voters of the upcoming election and promoting the toll-free voter assistance hotline. Outreach made under this subclause shall include access for voters who are deaf or hard of hearing and voters who are blind or visually impaired.

(IX) At least one public service announcement in the media, including newspapers, radio, and television, that serve non-English-speaking citizens for each language in which the county is required to provide voting materials and assistance under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.) for purposes of informing voters of the upcoming election and promoting the toll-free voter assistance hotline.

(X) At least two direct contacts with voters for purposes of informing voters of the upcoming election and promoting the toll-free voter assistance hotline. The two direct contacts are in addition to any other required contacts including, but not limited to, sample ballots and the delivery of vote by mail ballots.

(ii) A description of how a voter with disabilities may request and receive a blank vote by mail ballot and, if a replacement ballot is necessary, a blank replacement ballot that a voter with disabilities can mark privately and independently.

(iii) A description of how the county elections official will address significant disparities in voter accessibility and participation identified in the report required by subdivision (g).

(iv) A description of the methods and standards that the county elections official will use to ensure the security of voting conducted at vote centers.

(v) Information about estimated short-term and long-term costs and savings from conducting elections pursuant to this section as compared to recent similar elections in the same jurisdiction that were not conducted pursuant to this section.

(vi) To the extent available at the time of publication, information on all of the following:

(I) The total number of vote centers to be established.

(II) The total number of ballot dropoff locations to be established.

(III) The location of each vote center.

(IV) The location of each ballot dropoff location and whether it is inside or outside.

(V) A map of the locations of each vote center and ballot dropoff location.

(VI) The hours of operation for each vote center.

(VII) The hours of operation for each ballot dropoff location.

(VIII) The security and contingency plans that would be implemented by the county elections official to do both of the following:

(ia) Prevent a disruption of the vote center process.

(ib) Ensure that the election is properly conducted if a disruption occurs.

(IX) The number of election board members and the number of bilingual election board members and the languages spoken.

(X) The services provided to voters with disabilities, including, but not limited to, the type and number of accessible voting machines and reasonable modifications at each vote center.

(XI) The design, layout, and placement of equipment inside each voter center that protects each voter's right to cast a private and independent ballot.

(vii) A toll-free voter assistance hotline that is accessible to voters who are deaf or hard of hearing, and that is maintained by the county elections official that is operational no later than 29 days before the day of the election until 5 p.m. on the day after the election. The toll-free voter assistance hotline shall provide assistance to voters in all languages in which the county is required to provide voting materials and assistance under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

(J) The plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to this section is posted in a format that is accessible to persons with disabilities on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State and on the Internet Web site of the county elections official.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 4000 or any other law, on or after January 1, 2018, the Counties of Calaveras, Inyo, Madera, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Sacramento, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Shasta, Sierra, Sutter, and Tuolumne, and on or after January 1, 2020, any county may conduct a special election as an all-mailed ballot election under this section if all of the following apply:

(1) The county elections official has done either of the following:

(A) Previously conducted an election as an all-mailed ballot election in accordance with subdivision (a).

(B) Adopted a final plan for the administration of elections pursuant to clause (i) of subparagraph (E) of paragraph (9) of subdivision (a), in which case the county elections official shall complete all activities provided for in the voter education and outreach plan that is required by clause (i) of subparagraph (I) of paragraph (9) of subdivision (a) before the day of the special election.

(2) (A) On the day of election, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., inclusive, at least one vote center is provided for every 30,000 registered voters. If the jurisdiction is not wholly contained within the county, the county elections official shall make a reasonable effort to establish a vote center within the jurisdiction where the special election is held.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for a jurisdiction with fewer than 30,000 registered voters, the county elections official makes a reasonable effort to establish a vote center.

(3) (A) Not less than 10 days before the day of the election, for a minimum of eight hours per day, at least one vote center is provided for every 60,000 registered voters. If the jurisdiction is not wholly contained within the county, the county elections official shall make a reasonable effort to establish a vote center within the jurisdiction where the special election is held.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for a jurisdiction with fewer than 30,000 registered voters, the county elections official makes a reasonable effort to establish a vote center.

(4) (A) At least one ballot dropoff location is provided for every 15,000 registered voters. At least one ballot dropoff location shall be located within the jurisdiction where the special

election is held. All ballot dropoff locations shall be open at least during regular business hours beginning not less than 28 days before the day of the election, and on the day of the election.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), for a jurisdiction with fewer than 15,000 registered voters, at least one ballot dropoff location shall be provided.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the election day procedures shall be conducted in accordance with Division 14 (commencing with Section 14000).

(d) The county elections official may provide, at his or her discretion, additional ballot dropoff locations and vote centers for purposes of this section.

(e) The return of voted vote by mail ballots is subject to Sections 3017 and 3020.

(f) For the sole purpose of reporting the results of an election conducted pursuant to this section, upon completion of the ballot count, the county elections official shall divide the jurisdiction into precincts pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 12220) of Chapter 3 of Division 12 and shall prepare a statement of the results of the election in accordance with Sections 15373 and 15374.

(g) (1) (A) Within six months of each election conducted pursuant to this section or Section 4007, the Secretary of State shall report to the Legislature, to the extent possible, all of the following information by categories of race, ethnicity, language preference, age, gender, disability, permanent vote by mail status, historical polling place voters, political party affiliation, and language minorities as it relates to the languages required under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.):

(i) Voter turnout.

(ii) Voter registration.

(iii) Ballot rejection rates.

(iv) Reasons for ballot rejection.

(v) Provisional ballot use.

(vi) Accessible vote by mail ballot use.

(vii) The number of votes cast at each vote center.

(viii) The number of ballots returned at ballot dropoff locations.

(ix) The number of ballots returned by mail.

(x) The number of persons who registered to vote at a vote center.

(xi) Instances of voter fraud.

(xii) Any other problems that became known to the county elections official or the Secretary of State during the election or canvass.

(B) The report required by subparagraph (A) shall be posted on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State in a format that is accessible for people with disabilities pursuant to Section 11135 of the Government Code.

(C) The report required by subparagraph (A) shall be submitted to the Legislature in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(D) If an election is conducted pursuant to this section, the county shall submit, to the extent possible, to the Secretary of State the information needed for the Secretary of State to prepare the report required by subparagraph (A).

(2) The county elections official shall post on his or her Internet Web site a report that compares the cost of elections conducted pursuant to this section to the costs of previous elections. The report shall be posted in a format that is accessible for people with disabilities pursuant to Section 11135 of the Government Code.

(h) The Secretary of State shall enforce the provisions of this section pursuant to Section 12172.5 of the Government Code.

(i) For purposes of this section, "disability" has the same meaning as defined in subdivisions (j), (m), and (n) of Section 12926 of the Government Code.

SEC. 4. Section 4006 is added to the Elections Code, to read:

4006. For any election conducted pursuant to Section 4005, the county elections official shall make a reasonable effort to inform a voter of either of the following:

(a) If the voter's vote by mail ballot envelope is missing a signature.

(b) How the voter can correct the missing signature.

SEC. 5. Section 4007 is added to the Elections Code, to read:

4007. (a) On or after January 1, 2020, the County of Los Angeles may conduct any election as a vote center election if all of the following apply:

(1) The county elections official complies with all the provisions of subdivision (a) of Section 4005 that are not inconsistent with this section.

(2) Every permanent vote by mail voter receives a ballot.

(3) At least two ballot dropoff locations are provided within the jurisdiction where the election is held or the number of ballot dropoff locations are fixed in a manner so that there is at least one ballot dropoff location provided for every 15,000 permanent vote by mail registered voters within the jurisdiction where the election is held, as determined on the 88th day before the day of the election, whichever results in more ballot dropoff locations.

(4) Within the jurisdiction where the election is held, at least one vote center is provided for each city that has at least 1,000 registered voters according to the official report of registration submitted by the county elections official to the Secretary of State before the last general election.

(5) On the day of the election, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., inclusive, and on each of the three days before the election, for a minimum of eight hours per day, at least one vote center is provided for every 7,500 registered voters within the jurisdiction where the election is held, as determined on the 88th day before the day of the election. At least 90 percent of the number of vote centers required by this subparagraph shall be open for all four days during the required times. Up to 10 percent of the number of vote centers required by this subparagraph may be

open for less than four days if at least one vote center is provided for every 7,500 registered voters on each day.

(6) Beginning 10 days before the day of the election and continuing up to and including the fourth day before the day of the election, for a minimum of eight hours per day, at least one vote center is provided for every 30,000 registered voters within the jurisdiction where the election is held, as determined on the 88th day before the election.

(7) Precincts with fewer than 500 registered voters are designated as all vote-by-mail ballot precincts.

(8) Voters residing in a legislative or congressional district that lies partially within the County of Los Angeles and that also lies within another county that is conducting an election pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 4005 receive a vote by mail ballot if they are eligible to vote in that election.

(9) Voters in a precinct that is either more than a 30 minute travel time from a vote center or in which the polling place in the most recent statewide general election is more than 15 miles from the nearest vote center are mailed a vote by mail ballot.

(10) The vote centers are located within a reasonable travel time of registered voters.

(11) The county elections official conducts a service area analysis of the vote center plans, identifies services gaps, and publicly reports those findings.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 4000 or any other law, on or after January 1, 2020, the County of Los Angeles may conduct a special election as an all-mailed ballot election pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 4005.

(c) No later than four years after conducting the first vote center election pursuant to this section, the County of Los Angeles may conduct all-mailed ballot elections pursuant to Section 4005 and shall not conduct vote center elections pursuant to this section.

SEC. 6. Section 4008 is added to the Elections Code, to read:

4008. (a) The Secretary of State shall establish a taskforce that includes representatives of all of the following:

(1) County elections officials.

(2) Individuals with demonstrated language accessibility experience for languages covered under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

(3) The disability community and community organizations and individuals that advocate on behalf of, or provide services to, individuals with disabilities.

(4) Experts with demonstrated experience in the field of elections.

(b) The taskforce shall review elections conducted pursuant to Section 4005 or 4007 and provide comments and recommendations to the Legislature within six months of each election conducted pursuant to Section 4005 or 4007.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2022, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2022, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 7. Section 15320 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

15320. Vote by mail ballots and mail ballot precinct ballots returned to the elections office and to the polls on election day that are not included in the semifinal official canvass phase of the election, including any ballots returned to another jurisdiction in the state and forwarded to the elections official who issued the ballot pursuant to Section 3017, shall be processed and counted during the official canvass in the manner prescribed by Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 15100) and pursuant to the requirements of Section 3019.

SEC. 8. Section 2.5 of this bill incorporates amendments to Section 3017 of the Elections Code proposed by both this bill and Assembly Bill 1921. It shall only become operative if (1) both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2017, (2) each bill amends Section 3017 of the Elections Code, and (3) this bill is enacted after Assembly Bill 1921, in which case Section 2 of this bill shall not become operative.

SEC. 9. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.