

# SAN MATEO COUNTY CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PLAN



**Office of Mark Church  
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OFFICE OF  
**ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-  
RECORDER & ELECTIONS**  
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

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

March 15, 2018

Dear Fellow Voters:

I am pleased to submit to you San Mateo County's Election Administration Plan (EAP) for the implementation of the California Voter's Choice Act (Senate Bill 450). This landmark legislation authorizes 14 counties, including San Mateo, to conduct any election as an All Mailed Ballot/Vote Center Election, commencing January 2018. San Mateo County is proud to be one of the first five counties in the state that will be conducting the June 5, 2018 Statewide Direct Primary Election under the provisions of the California Voter's Choice Act.

San Mateo County's EAP is the culmination of an extensive community review and input process spanning over the course of several months. The plan was developed with the goal of providing the public detailed information on the administration of elections under the California Voter's Choice Act. It also incorporates the County's Voter Education and Outreach Plan, outlining in detail the County's voter education and outreach plans to increase accessibility to all voters, particularly voters with disabilities and language minorities.

The EAP was developed in consultation with members of the general public and the County's Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) and Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC). Additionally, the document incorporates comments received during the course of three public hearings specified by the Act. All of the 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."

The EAP has been formally submitted to the Secretary of State for final approval. The Secretary of State review and approval process will be completed by April 2, 2018. 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 of our stakeholders that have participated in the development of the Voter's Choice Act Election Administration Plan for their dedication and commitment to expanding voting opportunities for all.

Please contact Registration and Elections Division at 650.312.5222 or [registrar@smcacre.org](mailto:registrar@smcacre.org) should you have any questions regarding the Voter's Choice Act or our EAP.

Sincerely,

Mark Church



**San Mateo County  
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 67% 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.

The County's Chief Elections Officer is required under the VCA to prepare a draft Election Administration Plan (EAP) and after public comment, an Amended Draft EAP for the administration of elections under the new law. This Amended Draft EAP has been a collaborative effort prepared in consultation with our community partners and stakeholders. It has incorporated many of the recommendations obtained from our public hearings held on October 12, 2017, October 16, 2017, and January 18, 2018, with our language and disability communities and the general public.

With the posting of our Amended Draft EAP, the public was provided a 14-day comment period through March 15, 2018, to comment on the Amended Draft EAP. Upon conclusion of the 14-day comment period, the County's Final EAP was formally adopted and submitted to the Secretary of State for approval.

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 to the EAP.

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-off 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 a language other than English. 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 qualified voters to access and mark their ballot in a screen-readable format on a personal computer.

## **VOTE CENTER AND BALLOT DROP-OFF LOCATIONS**

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

Vote Center and Ballot Drop-off locations were selected in consultation with the San Mateo County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) and the Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC). Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping software and U.S. Census Data were also utilized to ensure locations are in optimal proximity to voters.

**Vote Centers:** Vote Centers will operate similar to polling places, allowing voters to cast their ballots in person, whether on paper, at an eSlate or at a Disabled Access Unit. 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 through Election Day. In addition to these considerations, potential Vote Center locations must have the empty physical space for voting equipment and be available for the election timeframe.

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.

Vote Centers will be equipped with up to 10 eSlate electronic voting machines, including three Disabled Access Units. All Vote Centers are ADA-compliant, and Elections personnel will be on site to assist voters with specific needs.

Security and contingency plans will be 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. A sample Vote Center layout diagram is provided in the Addenda.

**Vote Center Formula:** Vote Centers will open sequentially, with greater numbers of Vote Centers in operation as the election draws nearer. The County will continue its practice of opening three Vote Centers in South San Francisco, San Mateo and Redwood City, 29 days before the election. A 29-day Vote Center has been added to the City of East Palo Alto. 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 locations of Vote Centers throughout the County. These numbers are based on an estimate of 390,000 registered voters for the June 2018 Election:

<b>Days before Election Day</b>	<b>Number of Registered Voters Per Vote Center</b>	<b>Vote Centers Accessible to the Public</b>
10	50,000	8
3	10,000	39

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

Plans are for each Vote Center to be staffed by three to four Vote Center Representatives (VCRs). The County will endeavor to recruit at least one Spanish-speaking and one Chinese-speaking election worker in each Vote Center to provide language assistance. If a Vote Center is in, or adjacent to, a precinct with other language requirements, the County will endeavor to recruit a VCR fluent in the language or provide alternative methods of effective language assistance.

**Ballot Drop-off Boxes:** At least one Ballot Drop-off box is required for every 15,000 registered voters in the County for a projected total of 26 Ballot Drop-off boxes for the June 5, 2018 Election. These Ballot Drop-off boxes will be available no less than 28 days before Election Day and open during regular business hours. A Ballot Drop-off box outside the Registration & Election Division, at 40 Tower Road, San Mateo, and additional sites in Daly City, East Palo Alto and Pescadero, will be open twenty-four hours a day.

Each of the 20 City and Town Halls in San Mateo County will have a locked ballot box available for dropping off ballots during their regular business hours. Voters may also drop off a voted ballot at a Vote Center, Post Office or USPS mailbox.

A list of proposed Vote Center and Ballot Drop-off locations, along with a Vote Center and Ballot Drop-off location map, are included in the Addenda. Vote Center and/or Ballot Drop-off 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 County will deploy our existing Hart InterCivic Electronic Voting System and eSlate voting machines at all Vote Centers during the June 5, 2018 Election. Each voting machine has a Voter-Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT). A paper record is printed before a voter finishes casting his/her ballot. The voter verifies that the paper records matches his/her electronic ballot. The paper record is kept with the voting machine.

At each Vote Center, a network of computers will be linked to the County's Election Management System (EMS) through a secure VPN connection. These computers will not have access to other websites or to email for security purposes. The County's EMS is connected to the voter registration database administered by the State of California, VoteCal. This will provide access to voter registration data, enabling Vote Center staff to determine the registration and voter status of every voter in real time. This secure system was successfully deployed in the November 3, 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election.

On-demand ballot printing printers will be used for the first time in County elections to provide voters with specific ballot styles for their voting precincts. Additionally, on-demand ballot printing printers minimize the purchase and printing of extra ballots that are needed to accommodate different ballot styles.

## **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.

The conversion to an All-Mailed Ballot/Vote Center model will increase requests for information about whether registered voters have voted early or returned a vote-by-mail (VBM) ballot during the period leading up to Election Day. 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 County 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 access.

Campaigns wanting VBM data tailored to their area would pay the Registration & Elections Division's usual fee for the data.

## **DIGITAL "I VOTED" STICKER**

One of the most popular items requested from the voting public on Election Day is our "I Voted" sticker which proudly recognizes that the voter has participated in the election. "I Voted" stickers are so popular that many of our permanent VBM voters drop their ballots off at polling places just to obtain their stickers.

Given the popularity of the "I Voted" sticker, our County will be developing a digital "I Voted" sticker that can be copied and pasted on the voters' social media pages and included in their online digital signatures. This will allow voters to proudly let the world know that they are active voters and voted in the election. The digital "I Voted" sticker will also recognize the years of voting a voter has participated in previous elections. A distinctive banner will be developed indicating the number of consecutive years voters have been registered in San Mateo County. This will proudly distinguish voters for their years of participation in the democratic process.

The digital "I Voted" sticker will be accessible via the "Check my Registration/Access my Election Materials/View My Voter Information Pamphlet/Track My Ballot" link at [www.smcacre.org](http://www.smcacre.org).

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The fiscal impact of the VCA and related legislative mandates is unknown at this time.

The June 5, 2018 Statewide Direct Primary Election will be the first of its kind, both in terms of the new All-Mailed Ballot/Vote Center model and the new election laws which will be fully implemented for the June 2018 election. The combined effect of these new laws coming online at the same time in a major Gubernatorial Primary Election may increase election costs for counties statewide. On the positive side, the VCA over time, should have the effect of mitigating many of the additional costs associated with these new legislative mandates.

One of our principal concerns impacting election costs, will be the implementation of Senate Bill 415 (SB 415), the California Voter Participation Rights Act. SB 415 moved jurisdictions holding odd-numbered year elections to even-numbered year elections by 2020. This will result in a significant increase in the number of jurisdictions that will participate in the November 2018 Election. This change will lead to considerably larger even-numbered year elections, resulting in larger sample ballot pamphlets, longer and more complex official ballots, and more ballot styles.

AB 1436 Conditional Voter Registration Law and AB 1461 DMV New Motor Voter Law, will increase voter registration and the total number of voters turning out at the polls. The influx of new voters will add additional costs to the administration of elections.

Additionally, the VCA itself will incur startup expenses that may increase election expenditures in the short-term. Vote Centers will be open longer and staffed by County employees at higher hourly rates than traditional poll workers. VCRs will also require additional training to manage the complexity and technology requirements of Vote Centers. Creating multiple secure connections between Vote Centers and the County's voter registration database will result in increased expenditures due to new equipment, set up, testing, and support. We anticipate that these costs will eventually be off-set by a significant reduction in the number of voting machines, labor and capital expenses. Future elections will also require less outreach and voter education, as voters will be more familiar with the new election model, further lowering expenditures.

### **SUMMARY**

The California Voter's Choice Act is landmark legislation that will fundamentally change the way elections are conducted in the State of California. San Mateo County's successful experience with the November 3, 2015 Countywide Local Consolidated All-Mailed Ballot Election provides us the unique foundation to successfully administer elections under the VCA's All-Mailed Ballot/Vote Center election model. Successful implementation of this new method of conducting elections provides numerous benefits and opportunities to the County's voters and participating jurisdictions. School districts, municipalities and special districts, benefit through increased efficiencies and reduced billable costs resulting from the new All-Mailed Ballot/Vote Center election model. The new election model will have the positive effect of increasing voter participation, providing greater accessibility to voters with disabilities, improving our voting systems and technology, and strengthening our elections infrastructure security.

San Mateo County looks forward to continuing our tradition of excellence and innovation with the successful implementation of the California Voter's Choice Act.



**SAN MATEO COUNTY**  
**CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT**

**VOTER EDUCATION**  
**AND**  
**OUTREACH PLAN**



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# VOTER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PLAN

## **OVERVIEW**

The California Voter's Choice Act (VCA) requires the County to develop a Voter Education and Outreach Plan that informs voters on all aspects of the VCA, including Vote Center and Ballot Drop-off locations, and information specific to voters with disabilities and non-English preference voters. Public meetings will be held with community organizations and individuals that advocate on behalf of or provide services to these groups. The County will hold multiple public education workshops, with translators available for Spanish, Chinese, Filipino and Korean language speakers. All public events hosted by the County will be ADA accessible.

The County worked with its Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) and Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC) to develop the Voter Education and Outreach Plan, which will be submitted to the Secretary of State's office for review and approval.

Similar to our community outreach and public awareness efforts in advance of the November 3, 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election, the County will reach out to community organizations, agencies, schools and other groups to raise awareness of the new election model. This will be combined with a broad media campaign using direct mail, news media (including student newspapers), social media (such as Facebook and Twitter), and public access media to announce the implementation of the VCA. The campaign will promote the toll-free voter assistance hotline, inform voters how to obtain their ballot in an accessible format, and provide multilingual services and accessibility to persons with hearing disabilities.

The Registration & Elections Division will reach out to organizations hosting community events and community organizations found in the Addenda. The community events and community partners list will evolve as new ones are added and/or changed.

## **ENGAGING BUSINESSES**

The County will promote the SOS's nonpartisan Democracy at Work program through social media. The Democracy at Work program provides the opportunity for businesses, government agencies and nonprofits to partner with the SOS to encourage greater civic participation through initiatives designed to increase voter registration and voter turnout among employees and the voting public.

## **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

The Registration & Elections Division has provided information about the new voting model to more than 200 Community Partners to assist in voter outreach. Election representatives are attending community events, making presentations to organizations, and training interested individuals and groups to assist with education and outreach. Upcoming community events, community partners, and city election official contacts can be found in the Addenda. These lists will evolve as new events and partners are added and/or changed. Additions are welcome to these lists. The list will be updated on [www.smcacre.org](http://www.smcacre.org).

The County has added college organizations, veterans and other advocacy groups to its list of community partners. 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 have an Elections 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 County's Election website or copies available from the

Division's Tower Road location. An online toolkit will include messages, graphics, and other resources which can be customized for various needs.

County representatives will continue to visit local high schools to register and pre-register students and educate them about the VCA election model. While colleges in the county will not be in regular session during the voting period for the June 5, 2018 Election, the Registration & Elections Division will provide information in advance to interested campus organizations.

### **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 Registration & Elections Division to barriers to voting and provide solutions to ensure widespread awareness to the new voting model. The Division is developing a contact form on its website for this purpose and will provide office contact information at Vote Centers to receive comments.

Voters attending County educational workshops will be offered badges to wear with a statement such as, "Ask me about San Mateo County's Voter's Choices – choosing when, where and how to vote."

In the future, the Registration & Elections Division may create a Voter Participation Committee to focus on confronting barriers to voting and solutions to ensure widespread voter turnout.

### **NON-ENGLISH PREFERENCE VOTERS**

As part of its outreach efforts, the County will continue and expand its outreach to voters who prefer to use a language other than English.

A news release, distributed to all media serving San Mateo County residents, will announce the toll-free voter assistance hotline, which will provide multilingual services. Additionally, advertisements in Spanish, Chinese, Filipino and Korean media will be purchased to promote the assistance hotline.

Vote Centers which require language assistance have been identified by the California Secretary of State through U.S. Census data. Additional identification will be through the public input process, including input provided by the County's LAAC.

Media partners, including non-English language media, are in the Addenda. The County has incorporated additional media partners from public comments to the Draft EAP.

### **VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES**

The County has a long-standing commitment to working with voters with disabilities to increase accessibility in the democratic process. The Registration & Elections Division website, [www.smcacre.org](http://www.smcacre.org), provides information and resources for voters with disabilities, including details on eSlate Disabled Access Units, the Accessible Vote by Mail System, the ADA Accessible requirements for Vote Centers and the VAAC. 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 all media serving San Mateo County residents, will announce the toll-free voter assistance hotline, which will provide accessibility to persons with hearing disabilities.

Voters with disabilities may request the County to deliver a ballot to their home or have an electronic voting machine brought to their home. Voters with disabilities may also use their personal computer to download and mark their ballot through the Accessible Vote by Mail System. Vote Center staff may also bring a paper ballot replacement or the eSlate Disabled Access Unit to a car for curbside voting.

Most Vote Centers can be reached via Sam Trans, 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 Registration & Elections Division is working with the Paratransit Coordinator to expand voting opportunities for serving persons with disabilities.

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

### **ADDRESSING DISPARITIES IN PARTICIPATION**

Citizens may register to vote online directly at [registertovote.ca.gov](http://registertovote.ca.gov) or can access the state voter registration website through a link from the County Elections' website, [www.smcacre.org](http://www.smcacre.org). Citizens may pick up a voter registration form at the Registration & Elections Division, City 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. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and Secretary of State are working to establish a new California Motor Voter Program as defined by AB 1461. This new program, during DMV transactions, will automatically register any person who is qualified to vote unless that person opts out of registration. This is expected to begin in April 2018. Also, the Registration & Elections Division will mail a registration form 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 (WIC), 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 County will provide additional information and training on request to coordinators and staff at agencies.

The draft EAP included six of eight core service agencies providing safety net services to San Mateo County residents (Coastside Hope, El Concilio of San Mateo County, Fair Oaks Community Center, Pacifica Resource Center, Puente de la Costa Sur, and Samaritan House). The amended draft EAP adds the Daly City Community Service Center and YMCA Community Resource Center.

The County 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 for inmates and to the Service League and the David E. Lewis Community Reentry Center for former inmates.

The San Mateo County Transit District offers free community shuttles in Brisbane, Daly City, East Palo Alto, Foster City, Half Moon Bay, Menlo Park, San Carlos, San Mateo and South San Francisco. As part of the Get Up & Go program, the Peninsula Jewish Community Center (PJCC) operates a low-cost 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](http://www.onecalloneclick.org), maintained by the nonprofit OUTREACH, to locate services and chat with a live person or call OUTREACH Mobility Managers at 408-436-2865 for one-on-one service.

A Roving Voting set-up will be deployed to Pescadero and La Honda to address geographically remote areas where a fixed site is not needed for the small population.

### **DIRECT VOTER CONTACTS**

Direct contact from the County to voters was the most effective method to inform voters about the November 3, 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election.

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 Ballot. The first mailing will inform all registered voters of the new voting model. The second mailing will be to voters who have not previously received their ballot by mail to alert them to the upcoming ballot mailing and provide Vote Center information. The third mailing, in the final days before the election, will be to voters who have not mailed in their ballot to remind them to do so, providing information on obtaining a replacement ballot and on Vote Center locations.

Examples of postcards from the November 3, 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election are included in the Addenda to the Plan.

### **PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A Public Service Announcement (PSA) script for TV will be distributed with the request for visuals or 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.

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 blind and visually impaired.

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.

### **BUDGET**

The June 5, 2018 Statewide Direct Primary Election has been allocated \$241,000 for voter education and outreach. Additionally, the Registration & Elections Division will provide in-

house support for the preparation of graphic and outreach materials, public presentations and community outreach events.

The budget will allow the purchase of advertisements in newspapers, television, radio and social media. A portion of these funds will be allocated to language translation and braille production. The outreach budget does not include printing and postage costs for direct mailings to registered voters. Additional funds in the amount of \$200,000 will need to be added to the June 5, 2018 Statewide Direct Primary Election budget for this purpose.

In addition, The Voter's Choice California coalition has offered grants to community-based organizations to enlist their support in VCA outreach programs. Information regarding the Voter's Choice California coalition and their grant programs may be obtained at <https://voterschoice.org/>



# CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT ADDENDA



**Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



**CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT  
PROPOSED VOTE CENTERS  
&  
BALLOT DROP-OFF BOX LOCATIONS**



**Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



## Location of Proposed Vote Centers

### Open 29 Days before Election through Election Day

East Palo Alto	Lewis and Joan Platt East Palo Alto Family YMCA
Redwood City	Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder
South San Francisco	Main Library
San Mateo	County Registration & Elections Division

### Open 10 Days before Election through Election Day

Half Moon Bay	Emergency Operations Center
Daly City	City Hall
San Bruno	Skyline College
San Mateo	Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Club

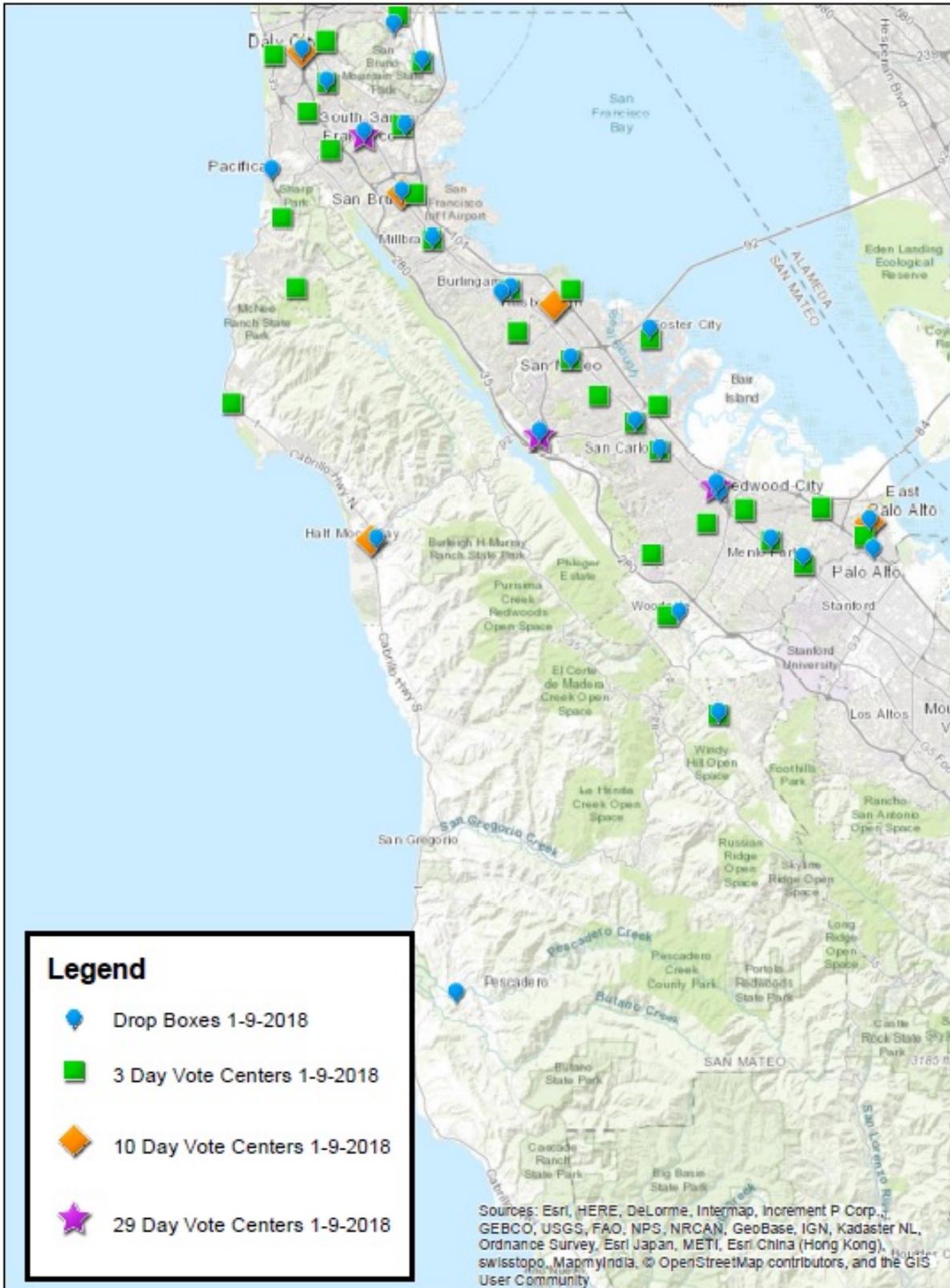
### Open 3 Days before Election through Election Day

Atherton	Menlo College, El Camino Hall
Belmont	City Hall, Emergency Operations Center
Brisbane	City Hall, Community Meeting Room
Burlingame	City Hall, Conference Room A
Colma	Emergencies Operations Center
Daly City	Gellert Park Clubhouse
Daly City	Hillside Clubhouse
Daly City	Lawson Hall
Daly City	Holy Child and St. Martin Episcopal Church
East Palo Alto	Government Center, Community Room
Foster City	City Hall
Hillsborough	Fire Station 32
Menlo Park	Arrillaga Family Recreation Center, Juniper Room
Menlo Park	Onetta Harris Community Center
Millbrae	Interim Community Center
Moss Beach	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Pacifica	Pacifica School District, Board Room
Pacifica	St. Peter Catholic Church
Portola Valley	Historic School
Redwood City	Community Activities Building
Redwood City	Woodside Fire Training Room
Redwood City	Fair Oaks Community Center
Redwood City	County Office of Education
South San Francisco	Grand Avenue Library
South San Francisco	Fire Station 64
San Bruno	Volunteer Firemen's Hall
San Carlos	Library, Conference Room
San Mateo	County Health Department Administration (Medical Center)
San Mateo	Martin Luther King Community Center
San Mateo	City Hall, Conference Room C
Woodside	Woodside Village Church

## Ballot Drop-off Box Locations Open 28 Days before Election

<b>Atherton</b>	Town Hall 91 Ashfield Road Atherton, CA 94027	<b>Millbrae</b>	City Hall 621 Magnolia Avenue Millbrae, CA 94030
<b>Belmont</b>	City Hall One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375 Belmont, CA 94002	<b>Pacifica</b>	City Hall 170 Santa Maria Avenue Pacifica, CA 94044
<b>Brisbane</b>	City Hall 50 Park Place Brisbane, CA 94005	<b>Pescadero</b>	Outside 24-hour drop-box 1200 Pescadero Creek Road Pescadero, CA 94060
<b>Burlingame</b>	City Hall 501 Primrose Road Burlingame, CA 94010	<b>Portola Valley</b>	Town Hall 765 Portola Road Portola Valley, CA 94028
<b>Colma</b>	Town Hall 1198 El Camino Real Colma, CA 94014	<b>Redwood City</b>	City Hall 1017 Middlefield Road Redwood City, CA 94063
<b>Daly City</b>	City Hall 333 90th Street Daly City, CA 94015	<b>Redwood City</b>	Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder 555 County Center, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Redwood City, CA 94063
<b>Daly City</b>	Outside 24-hour drop-box 380 90th Street Daly City, CA 94015	<b>San Bruno</b>	City Hall 567 El Camino Real San Bruno, CA 94066
<b>East Palo Alto</b>	City Hall 2415 University Avenue East Palo Alto, CA 94303	<b>San Carlos</b>	City Hall 600 Elm Street San Carlos, CA 94070
<b>East Palo Alto</b>	Outside 24-hour drop-box 2415 University Avenue East Palo Alto, CA 94303	<b>San Mateo</b>	City Hall 330 West 20th Avenue San Mateo, CA 94403
<b>Foster City</b>	City Hall 610 Foster City Boulevard Foster City, CA 94404	<b>San Mateo</b>	Outside 24-hour drop-box Registration & Elections Division 40 Tower Road San Mateo, CA 94402
<b>Half Moon Bay</b>	City Hall 501 Main Street Half Moon Bay, CA 94019	<b>South San Francisco</b>	City Hall 400 Grand Avenue South San Francisco, CA 94080
<b>Hillsborough</b>	Town Hall 1600 Floribunda Avenue Hillsborough, CA 94010	<b>South San Francisco</b>	Main Library 840 West Orange Avenue South San Francisco, CA 94080
<b>Menlo Park</b>	City Hall 701 Laurel Street Menlo Park, CA 94025	<b>Woodside</b>	Town Hall 2955 Woodside Road Woodside, CA 94062

# Proposed Vote Center & Ballot Drop-off Locations Map





# CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT VOTE CENTER LAYOUT (PROPOSED)

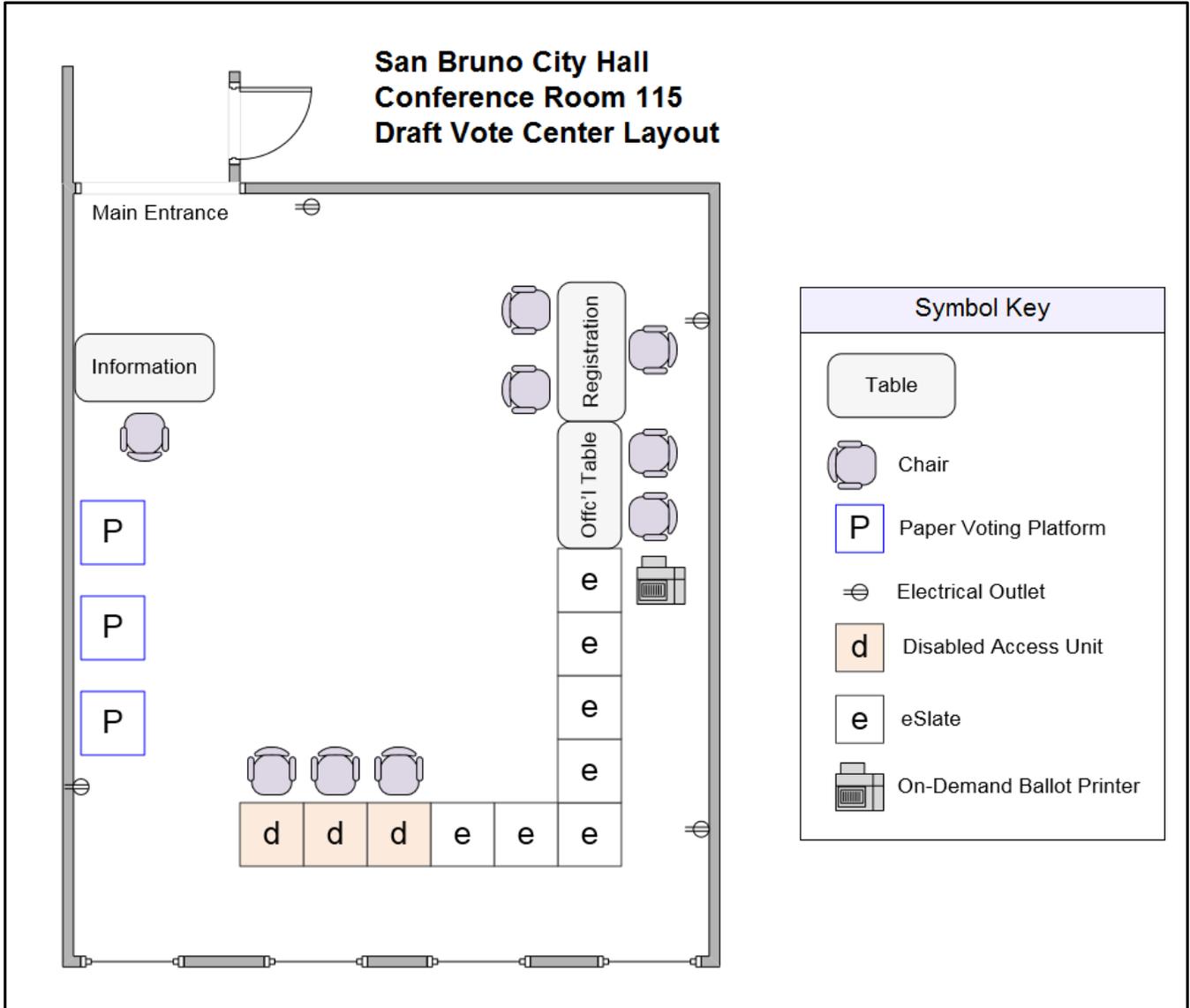


**Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



# Vote Center Layout (Proposed)

## San Bruno City Hall – Conference Room 115





# CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

## VOTING ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE & LANGUAGE ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder





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

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

## **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 2017 - 2018**

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

Fred Nisen  
Disability Rights California

Wilhelmina Riley  
Paratransit Coordinating Council

40 Tower Road, San Mateo, CA 94402  
P 650.312.5222 F 650.312.5348 **email** registrar@smcacre.org **web** www.smcacre.org



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

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

## **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 2017 - 2018**

Rosa Uriarte, Chairperson  
International Institute of the Bay Area

Wesley Taoka, Vice Chairperson  
San Mateo Japanese-American Community Center

June Chen  
Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA), Peninsula Chapter

Kelly Chew  
Self-Help for the Elderly

Julio Garcia  
Community Advocate

Mukta Vadera  
Community Advocate

# CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT CITY ELECTION OFFICIALS



**Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



## City Election Officials

### **Atherton**

Ms. Theresa DellaSanta  
91 Ashfield Road  
Atherton, CA 94027  
650.752.0529  
tdellasanta@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**

Ms. Maria Buell, Deputy  
2415 University Avenue  
East Palo Alto, CA 94303  
650.853.3127  
mbuell@cityofepa.org

### **Half Moon Bay**

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

### **Menlo Park**

Mr. Clay J. Curtin, Interim  
701 Laurel Street  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
650.330.6615  
cjcurtin@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 Tam  
610 Foster City Boulevard  
Foster City, CA 94404  
650.286.3250  
ptam@fostercity.org

### **Hillsborough**

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

### **Millbrae**

Ms. Angela Louis  
621 Magnolia Avenue  
Millbrae, CA 94030  
650.259.2333  
alouis@ci.millbrae.ca.us

**Pacifica**

Ms. Kathy O'Connell  
170 Santa Maria Avenue  
Pacifica, CA 94044  
650.738.7307  
o'connellk@ci.pacifica.ca.us

**Redwood City**

Ms. Pam Aguilar  
1017 Middlefield Road  
Redwood City, CA 94063  
650.780.7220  
paguilar@redwoodcity.org

**San Carlos**

Ms. Crystal Mui  
600 Elm Street  
San Carlos, CA 94070  
650.8024219  
cmui@cityofsancarlos.org

**South San Francisco**

Hon. Krista Martinelli  
400 Grand Avenue  
P.O. Box 711  
South San Francisco, CA 94083  
650.877.8518  
krista.martinelli@ssf.net

**Portola Valley**

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

**San Bruno**

Ms. Vicky Hasha, Deputy  
567 El Camino Real  
San Bruno, CA 94066  
650.616.7071  
vhasha@sanbruno.ca.gov

**San Mateo**

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

**Woodside**

Ms. Dora Wong  
2955 Woodside Road  
P.O. Box 620005  
Woodside, CA 94062  
650.851.6790  
dwong@woodsidetown.org

# CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT COMMUNITY PARTNERS



**Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



## Community Partners Supervisory District 1

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
A&C Health Care Services	650.689.5784	
American Association of University Women (AAUW) - North Peninsula		<a href="https://northpeninsula-ca.aauw.net/contact/">https://northpeninsula-ca.aauw.net/contact/</a>
Boys & Girls Clubs North San Mateo County	650.589.7090	<a href="mailto:bmorrison@theclubs.org">bmorrison@theclubs.org</a>
Burlingame Chamber of Commerce	650.344.1735	<a href="mailto:info@burlingamechamber.org">info@burlingamechamber.org</a>
Burlingame Long Term Care	650 692.3758	
CALL Primrose	650.342.2255	<a href="mailto:lamerkat@sbcglobal.net">lamerkat@sbcglobal.net</a>
Chadbourne Adult Activity Center	650.697.8300	<a href="mailto:jmcgovern@smace.org">jmcgovern@smace.org</a>
City of San Mateo Senior Center	650.522.7490	
Community Learning Center	650.877.8540	<a href="mailto:clc@ssf.net">clc@ssf.net</a>
El Concilio of San Mateo County	650.373.1087	<a href="mailto:or10sia@el-concilio.com">or10sia@el-concilio.com</a>
Hillsborough Beautification Foundation	650.829.5159	<a href="mailto:Kkceremsak@gmail.com">Kkceremsak@gmail.com</a>
Hillsborough City Elementary School District	650.548.4210	<a href="mailto:aranii@hcsd.k12.ca.us">aranii@hcsd.k12.ca.us</a>
Hillsborough Schools Foundation	650.344.6685	<a href="mailto:cynthia@hsf.org">cynthia@hsf.org</a>
Magnolia Senior Center	650.829.3820	
Millbrae Chamber of Commerce	650.697.7324	<a href="mailto:lorianne@millbrae.com">lorianne@millbrae.com</a>
Millbrae Education Foundation	650.648.3162	<a href="mailto:info@millbraekids.org">info@millbraekids.org</a>
Millbrae Library	650.312.5312	<a href="mailto:millbrae@smcl.org">millbrae@smcl.org</a>
Millbrae Senior Center	650.259.2370	<a href="mailto:coconnell@ci.millbrae.ca.us">coconnell@ci.millbrae.ca.us</a>
Palcare	650.340.1289	<a href="mailto:paul@palcare.org">paul@palcare.org</a>
PARCA	650.312.0730	<a href="mailto:suzanneh@parca.org">suzanneh@parca.org</a>
Peace and Freedom Party	510.465.9414	
Peninsula Post-Acute	650.652.3969	<a href="mailto:jesmith@plum.com">jesmith@plum.com</a>
Providence San Bruno	650 583.7768	
San Bruno Chamber of Commerce	650.588.0180	<a href="mailto:office@sanbrunochamber.com">office@sanbrunochamber.com</a>
San Bruno Senior Center	650.616.7150	
San Mateo County Republican Party	650.931.4596	<a href="mailto:info@smgop.org">info@smgop.org</a>
South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce	650.588.1911	<a href="mailto:info@ssfchamber.com">info@ssfchamber.com</a>
South San Francisco Community Learning Center	650.877.8540	<a href="mailto:bourdon@plsinfo.org">bourdon@plsinfo.org</a>

## Community Partners Supervisory District 2

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
American Association of University Women (AAUW) - San Mateo	650.573.1604	
Autism Society San Francisco Bay Area	650.637.7772	irmavelasquez@me.com
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	asylvester@student.ndnu.edu
Brookside Skilled Nursing Hospital	650 349.2161	Admin@BrooksideNursing.com
Carlmont Gardens Nursing Center	650 591.9601	ceborlas@carlmontgardens.com
Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities	650.645.1780 ext 201	benjaminm@cidsanmateo.org
Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities	650.645.1780 ext 118	donnar@cidsanmateo.org
College of San Mateo Disability Resource Center (DRC)	650 574.6438	csmdrc@smccd.edu
CORA (Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse)	650.652.0800	cherylem@corasupport.org
CSM Democrats	650.574.6474	millerlee@smccd.edu
CSM Republicans	650.574.6474	millerlee@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
Friends of the Mandarin Scholars in the SMFCSD	650.200.3350	friendsofmandarinscholars@gmail.com
Homework Central	650.343.3423	tdell@smhwc.org
Human Investment Project, Inc. (HIP)	650.348.6660	mailbox@hiphousing.org
Israel Peace Initiative	650.559.9847	ealonjoelson@yahoo.com
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	katheetyson@yahoo.com
Mid-Peninsula Boys & Girls Club, Inc.	650.347.9891	evanj@midpenbgc.org
NAACP San Mateo Branch #1068	650.622.9149	naacp1068sm@yahoo.com
NAMI San Mateo County	650.572.2528	execdirector@namisanmateo.org
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People	650.378.2450	naacpsanmateo@yahoo.com

## Community Partners Supervisorial District 2 (continued)

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
Nazareth Vista	650.591.2008	
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
San Mateo Adult School	650 558.2101	tdoyle@smuhd.org
San Mateo Area Chamber of Commerce	650.401.2441	cheryl@sanmateochamber.org
San Mateo Buddhist Temple	650.342.2541	henry.t.adams@gmail.com
San Mateo County Green Party	650.593.7032	
San Mateo County Health Foundation	650.573.2655	lwilliams-hurt@smcgov.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
San Mateo Garden Center	650.574.1506	sanmateogrncntr@att.net
San Mateo High School Foundation	650.575.4432	info@smhsf.org
Self-Help for the Elderly	650.342.0822	kellyc@selfhelpelderly.org
Shopping for a Change	650.488.7088	stacey@shoppingforachange.org
Silicon Valley Community Foundation	650.458.2660	ekwood@siliconvalleycf.org
Sutter Care at Home Hospice	650 696.4500	
Twin Pines Senior Center	650.595.7441	parksrec@belmont.gov
Zawayia	650.504.5965	mango.nabila@gmail.com

## Community Partners Supervisory District 3

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
AbleCloset	650.539.4437	shannon@ablecloset.com
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	sancarlos-aauw@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	
Cabrillo Education Foundation	650.286.7811	keithc.cef@gmail.com
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
Concentric Media, Inc.	650.568.4340	info@concentric.org
Critical Reach	650.726.7814	jmyers@criticalreach.org
Fair Oaks Beautification Association		madera111@yahoo.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
Holbrook-Palmer Recreation Park Foundation	650.752.0536	pattieatthepark@yahoo.com
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	
Linda Mar Care Center	650.359.4800	jashcroft@lindamarrehab.com

## Community Partners Supervisorial District 3 (continued)

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
Multicultural Services and Community Involvement, Menlo College	650.543.3771	jessica.soliai@menlo.edu
Pacifica Chamber of Commerce	650.355.4122	
Pacifica Library Foundation	650-355-5196	pacificalibrary@gmail.com
Pacifica Nursing and Rehab Center	650 993.5576	jbeaman@pacificarehab.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
Pacifica's Environmental Family	650.359-7930	marjijean1@aol.com
Pacifica-Sanchez Library	650.359.3397 ext. 227	pacifica@smcl.org
Pacifica-Sharp Park Library	650.355.5196 ext. 227	pacifica@smcl.org
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 Educational Foundation	650.590.5983	ed@scefkids.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
Sanchez Art Center	650.355.1894	cindy@sanchezartcenter.org
Second Harvest Food Bank	650.610.0800	
Senior Coastsiders: Senior Center	650.726.9056	info@seniorcoastsiders.org
Seton Coastside Long Term Care	650.563.7100	
South Coast Childrens' Services, Inc.	650.879.0013	
StarVista	650.591.9623	dwasher@star-vista.org
The Sequoias	650 851.1501	jdobson@ncphs.org
Vida Verde Nature Education	650.747.9288	Laura@Vveducation.org
Woodside Library	650.851.0147 ext. 227	woodside@smcl.org

## Community Partners Supervisory District 4

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
American Association of University Women -Menlo Atherton	650.323.4066	
Atherton Regency	650.325.8600	administrator@athertonregency.com
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	jennifer@cen.org
Child and Family Institute	650.328.2262	kris@cfamily.org
Child Care Coordinating Council	650.517.1400	dfleishman@sanmateo4cs.org
Commission on the Status Women	650.363.4872	tbeat@smcgov.org
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
Geohazards International	650.614.9050	jomo@geohaz.org
Green Salt	650.485.4877	paul@10booksahome.org
Herban Health	650.327.7894	dladine@aol.com
International Institute of the Bay	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
Latino Leadership Council	650.241.0692	leadership@llcsmc.org
Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County	650.558.0915	mshawver@legalaidsmc.org
League of Women Voters South San Mateo County	650.325.5780	ellenjhope@aol.com

## Community Partners Supervisorial District 4 (continued)

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce	650.325.2818	info@menloparkchamber.com
Menlo Park Library Foundation	650.321.1084	info@foundationmpl.org
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	650.330.7462	mcnair@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
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
Villages of San Mateo County	650.260.4569	susan.j.gerard@gmail.com
Volunteers for Outdoor California	650.298.9774	cmoyer@v.o.cal.org
Wings Learning Center	650.365.3250	rios@wingslearningcenter.org
Rosalie Rendu Center	650.473.9522	rosalierendu1998@gmail.com
Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto	650.326.6440	
Fair Oaks Health Center	650.578.7141	
Saint Francis Center	650.365.7829	

## Community Partners Supervisory District 5

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
ABS-CBN Foundation, Inc.	800.527.2820	joann_kyle@abs-cbn.com
Black Student Union, Skyline College		clayb@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	kflatham@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	650.985.7000	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
Kindred at Home	650.985.5660	
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
Seton Medical Center: Skilled Nursing Facility	650.992.4000	
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
St. Francis Convalescent Pavilion	650.994.3200	
The Arc of San Francisco	650.756.1304	awilliams@thearcsof.org
VA Outpatient Clinic	650.615.6000	

## Community Partners Out of County

Agency	Phone	E-mail Address
4 Elements Earth Education, Inc.	530.265.2036	rick@4eee.org
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
APAPA Peninsula Chapter	650.804.6125	contactjune@yahoo.com
Asian Law Caucus	415.848.7736	jonathans@advancingjustice-alc.org
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
Northern California NIAC		dmemarzia@niacouncil.org
Recovery Survival Network	415.552.1111	rsn2000@gmail.com
San Francisco Independent Living Resource Center	415.543.6222	info@ilrcsf.org
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.gov
Together We Will SF Bay Area		twwsfbay.org/join-us.html
Training for Safety, Inc.		james.oneil@trainingforsafety.com
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



# CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT COMMUNITY EVENTS



**Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



## Upcoming Community Events 2018 Event Calendar

Ongoing	U.S. Naturalization Ceremony
March 3, 2018	Community Learning Center Spanish Language Group Meeting
March 3, 2018	Holi Festival, Foster City
March 3, 2018	Persian New Year: Nowruz, San Mateo
March 15, 2018	San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee
March 17, 2018	La Honda Community Meeting
March 21, 2018	Villages of San Mateo County
April 2 - 4, 2018	50th Anniversary Commemoration of King's Assassination, East Palo Alto
April 9, 2018	City of San Carlos City Council Meeting
April 2018	Family Literacy Days and Kindergarten Readiness Events
April 2018	High School Voter Education Weeks
April 2018	Human Services Agency (San Carlos) Veterans Outreach
April 30, 2018	Fair Oaks Library: Kermes & Dia del Nino Community Festival, Redwood City
May 2018	Cinco de Mayo events
May 6, 2018	Foster City Polynesian Festival
May 19, 2018	5th Annual Shine Festival
May 2018	Streets Alive! Parks Alive! Various Cities
May 2018	Soul Stroll, Coyote Point Park, San Mateo
May 12, 2018	8th Annual Reading Bonanza, East Palo Alto
May 2018	San Carlos Airport Day
June 1–3, 2018	cityFEST 2018, Foster City

Calendar subject to change – view calendar at [www.smcacre.org](http://www.smcacre.org)



# CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT MEDIA PARTNERS



**Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



## Media Partners

### Television

Univision  
NBC Owned Television Stations  
KTVU  
Telemundo  
CBS  
ABC  
KQED  
ABS-CBN

### Radio

Univision (KBRG & KSOL)  
Telemundo  
KCBS-AM  
KQED-FM  
KGO-AM  
Cumulus Media (KNBR, KGO, KFOG, KSAN & KSJO)  
Chinese Radio Sound of Hope  
KHMB Coastside Radio 1710 AM  
Sing Tao Radio

### Newspapers/Magazines

San Mateo Daily Journal  
Daily Post  
East Palo Alto Today  
Embarcadero Publishing (The Almanac)  
Daily News Group newspapers  
SF Media Group (Examiner newspaper)  
Fox Venues (Climate magazine)  
Half Moon Bay Review  
Spectrum magazine  
Philippines Today  
News for Chinese  
El Reportero  
World News  
San Francisco Chronicle  
Manila Mail  
Asian Journal  
Fil Am Star  
Philippine Daily Inquirer  
The Skyline View

### Movie Theaters

NCM (Century Theatres)

### Posters

Titan Outdoor - BART Stations

### Podcasts

Poly by Design



**CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT**  
**EXAMPLE:**  
**DIRECT VOTER CONTACT**  
**POSTCARDS**



**Office of Mark Church**  
**Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



## Example: Direct Voter Contact Postcard I



An Official Message

***From the Desk of Mark Church***

Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder

Dear San Mateo County Voter,

I'm pleased to announce that the upcoming November 3, 2015 Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District Election will be an All-Mailed Ballot Election. This is the first such election in the history of the State of California to be conducted primarily by mail.

**Please watch for official election materials that will be sent to you over the next few weeks.**

Important things to know about this election:

- You will be mailed a ballot on October 5, 2015.
- You can vote in person or pick up a ballot at the two Voting Centers starting October 5, 2015.
- You can drop off your voted ballot at any of the 20 City or Town Halls throughout the county.
- You can vote at any of the 32 Polling Places in the County on Election Day November 3, 2015.

Please carefully look at your Sample Ballot and Voter Information Pamphlet which you will be receiving shortly. You may also go to our website [www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org) for location addresses and hours of operation.

Since we will mail you your Official Ballot and then verify your signature on your returned Vote by Mail ballot envelope, it is critical your voter registration information is accurate.

If you have changed your name, address or signature please update your registration by going to [www.registertovote.ca.gov](http://www.registertovote.ca.gov) or picking up a voter registration card at any library, city hall or post office.

Sincerely,

Mark Church

## Example: Direct Voter Contact Postcard II



An Official Message

***From the Desk of Mark Church***

Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder

Dear San Mateo County Voter,

**You will soon receive your Official Ballot in the mail for the November 3, 2015 Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District All-Mailed Ballot Election.** Although there are in-person voting options, every eligible voter in San Mateo County will be mailed a ballot on October 5, 2015.

The envelope containing your Official Ballot has the official seal of the County of San Mateo and this logo:



Important things to know about voting by mail this election:

- You may return your ballot by mail in the postage paid envelope, or return it in person.
- You must sign the return envelope in order for your ballot to count. We check that signature against the one in your voter registration record.
- Ballots returned in the mail must be postmarked by Election Day and received by our office no later than November 6 to be counted.
- Ballots dropped off must be returned no later than 8 p.m. on Election Day. Information about the drop-off locations is included with your ballot.

Information about voting in person is in your Sample Ballot and Voter Information Pamphlet and our website [www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org). Please remember to vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Church".

Mark Church

## Example: Direct Voter Contact Postcard III



# NOVEMBER 3, 2015 IS A HISTORIC ALL-MAILED BALLOT ELECTION



## Your vote counts!

Return your ballot by mail in the **postage paid envelope**, or return it in person by Election Day.

On Election Day you may cast your vote at any of the Universal Polling Places located throughout the County.

For a detailed list of Ballot Drop-Off Locations and Universal Polling Places, contact us at  
[www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org) | 650.312.5222 | [registrar@smcare.org](mailto:registrar@smcare.org)



Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer &  
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder

**Vote!**



# CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT MAPS



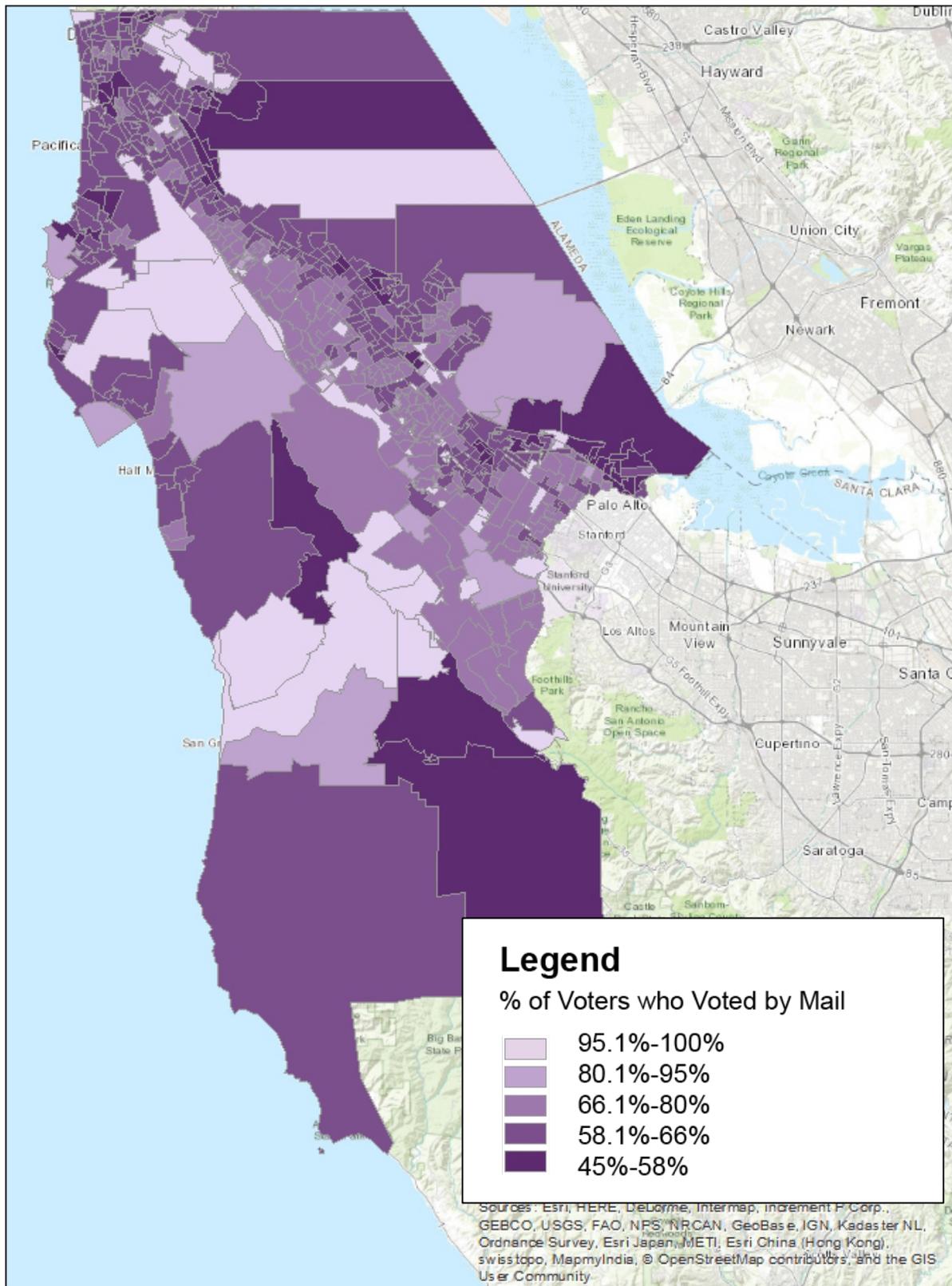
**Office of Mark Church  
Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**





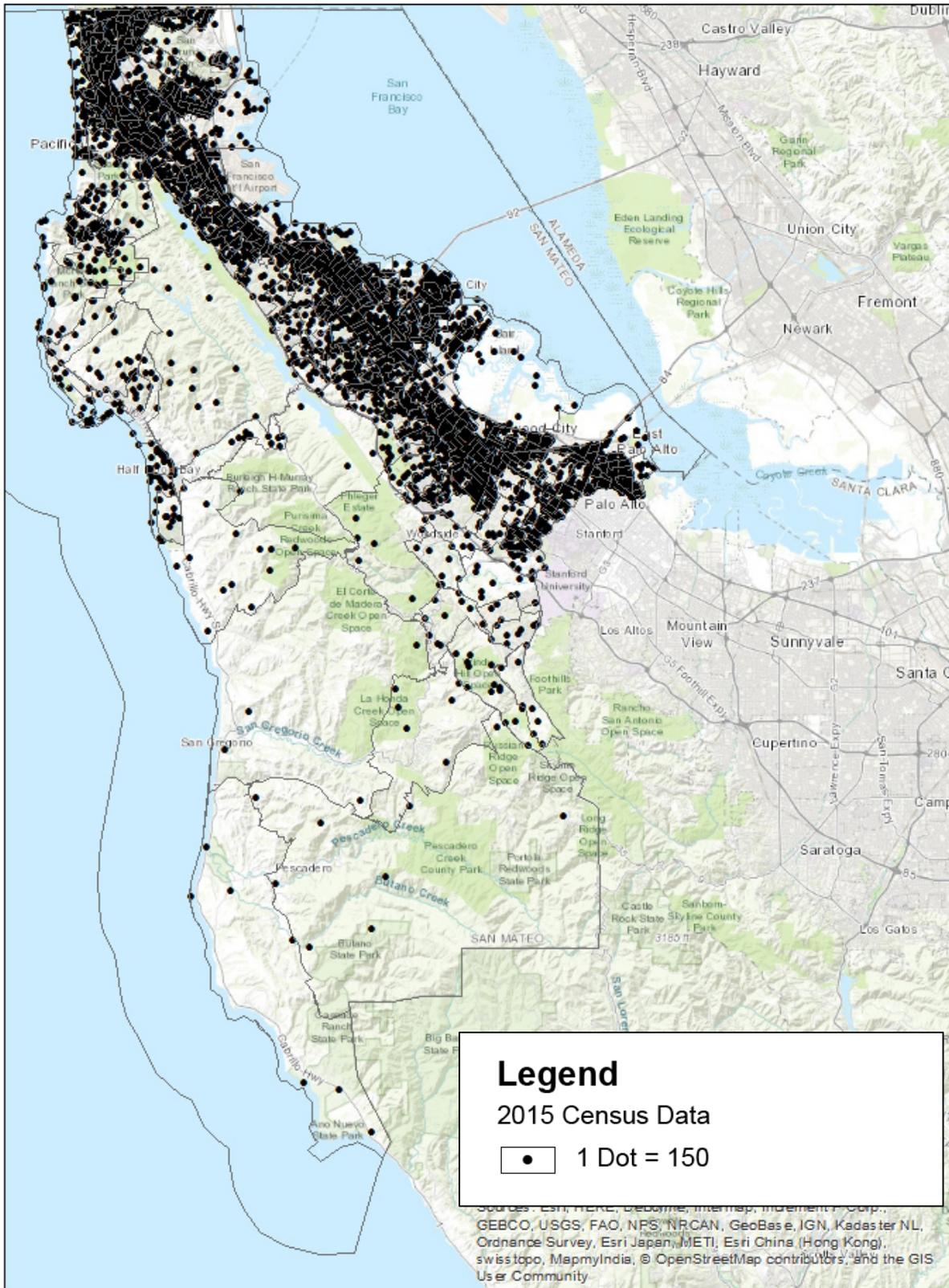
## Areas with Low Vote by Mail Usage

This map shows the percent of ballots cast by mail. The darker color indicates relatively lower vote by mail usage.



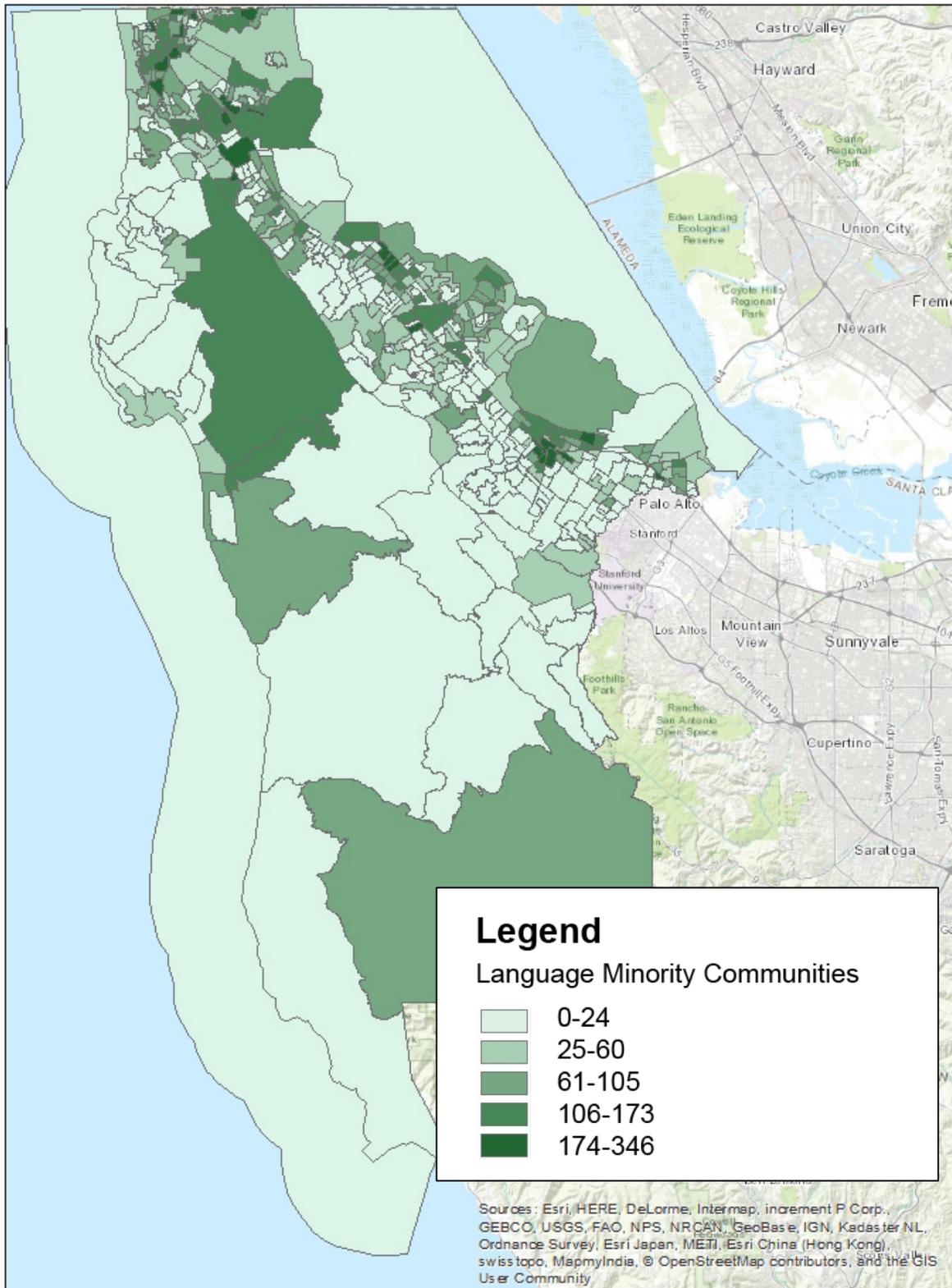
# San Mateo County Population

This map shows the population clusters around San Mateo County. The areas with the most black dots have the highest population density.



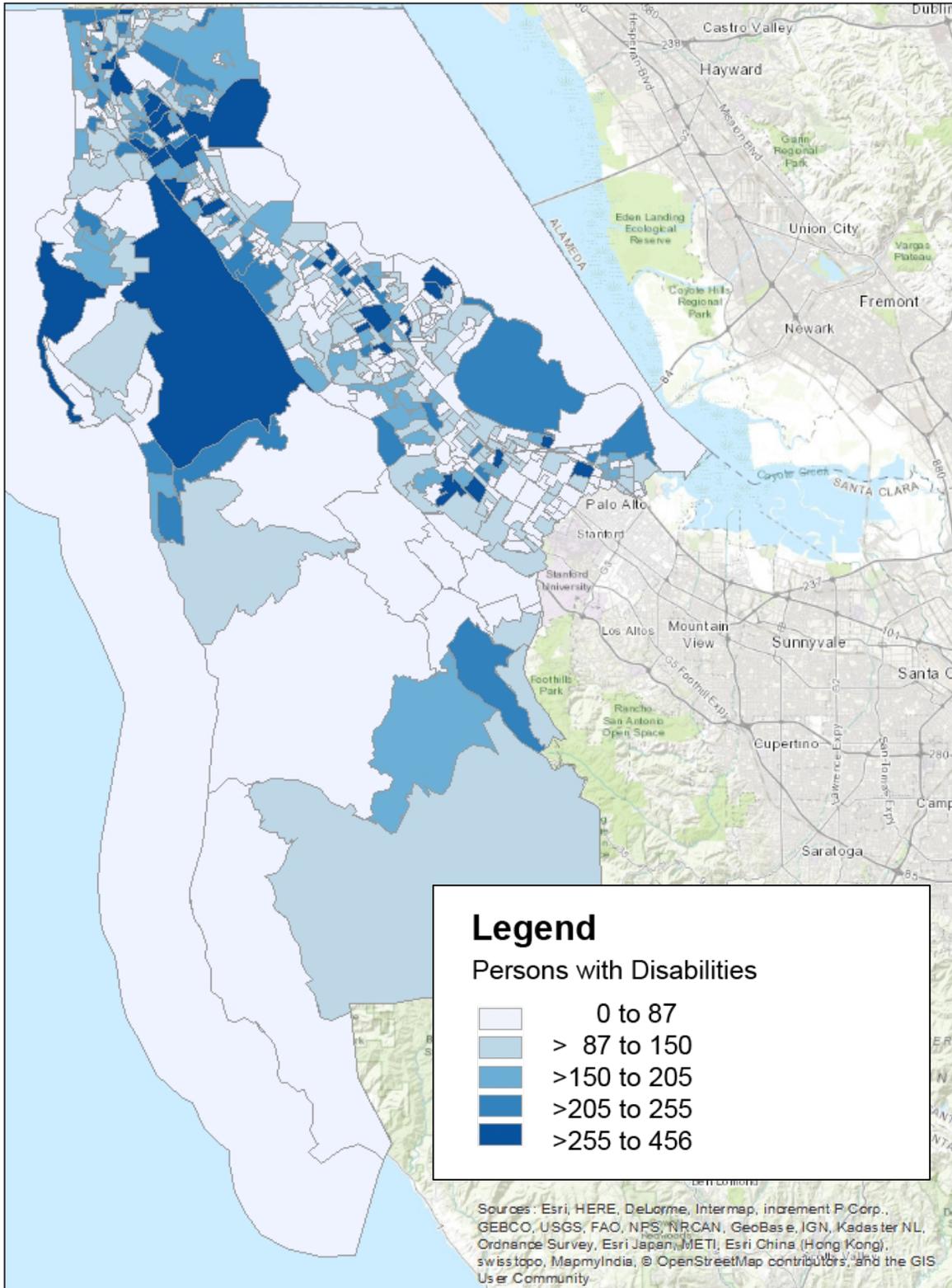
## Language Minority Communities

This map shows the population that speaks a language other than English who are not proficient in English. The darker the color, the higher the population.



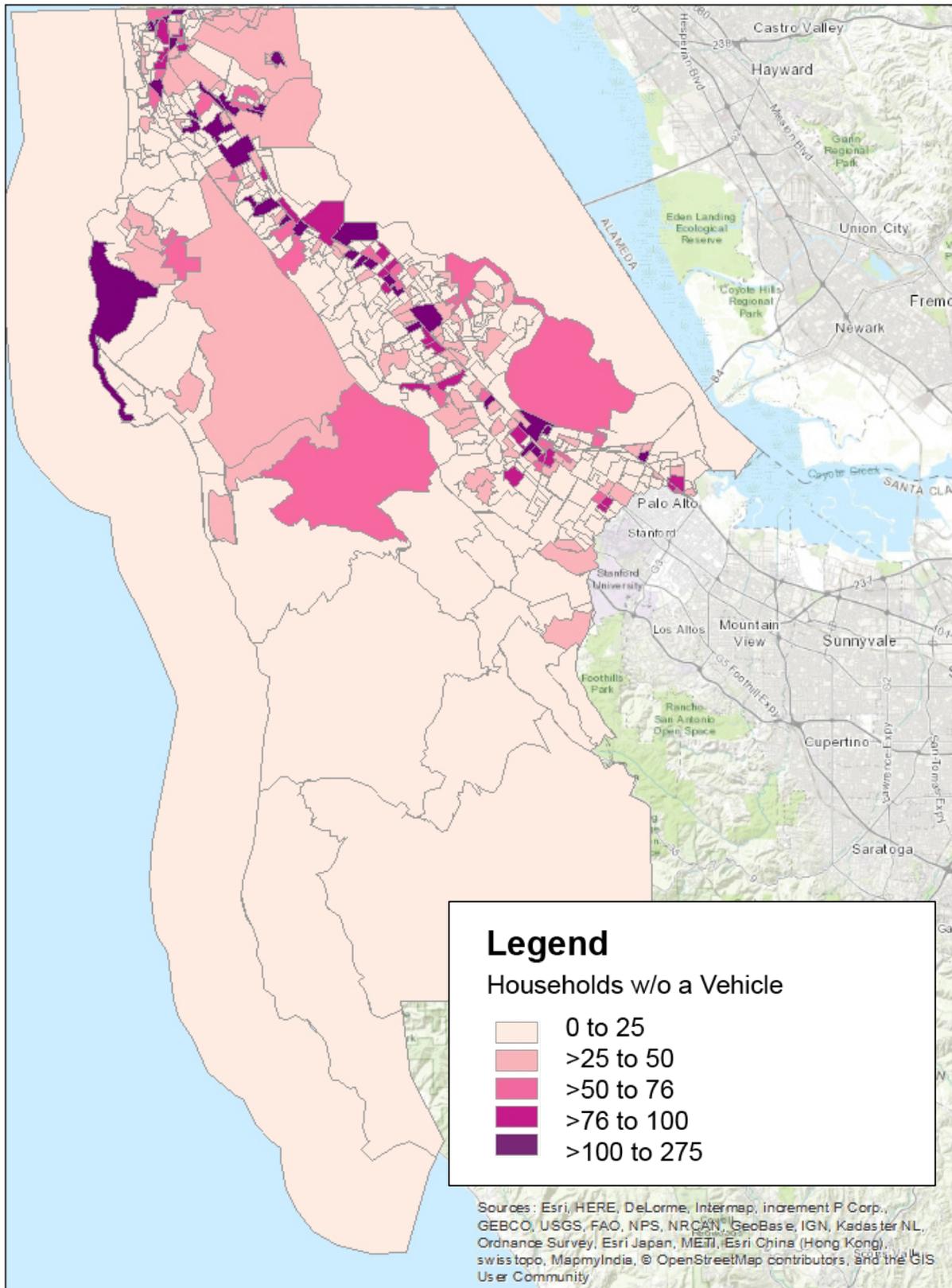
## Voters with Disabilities

This map shows the population estimates for voting age residents who have a disability. The darker the color, the more individuals in the area that have a disability.



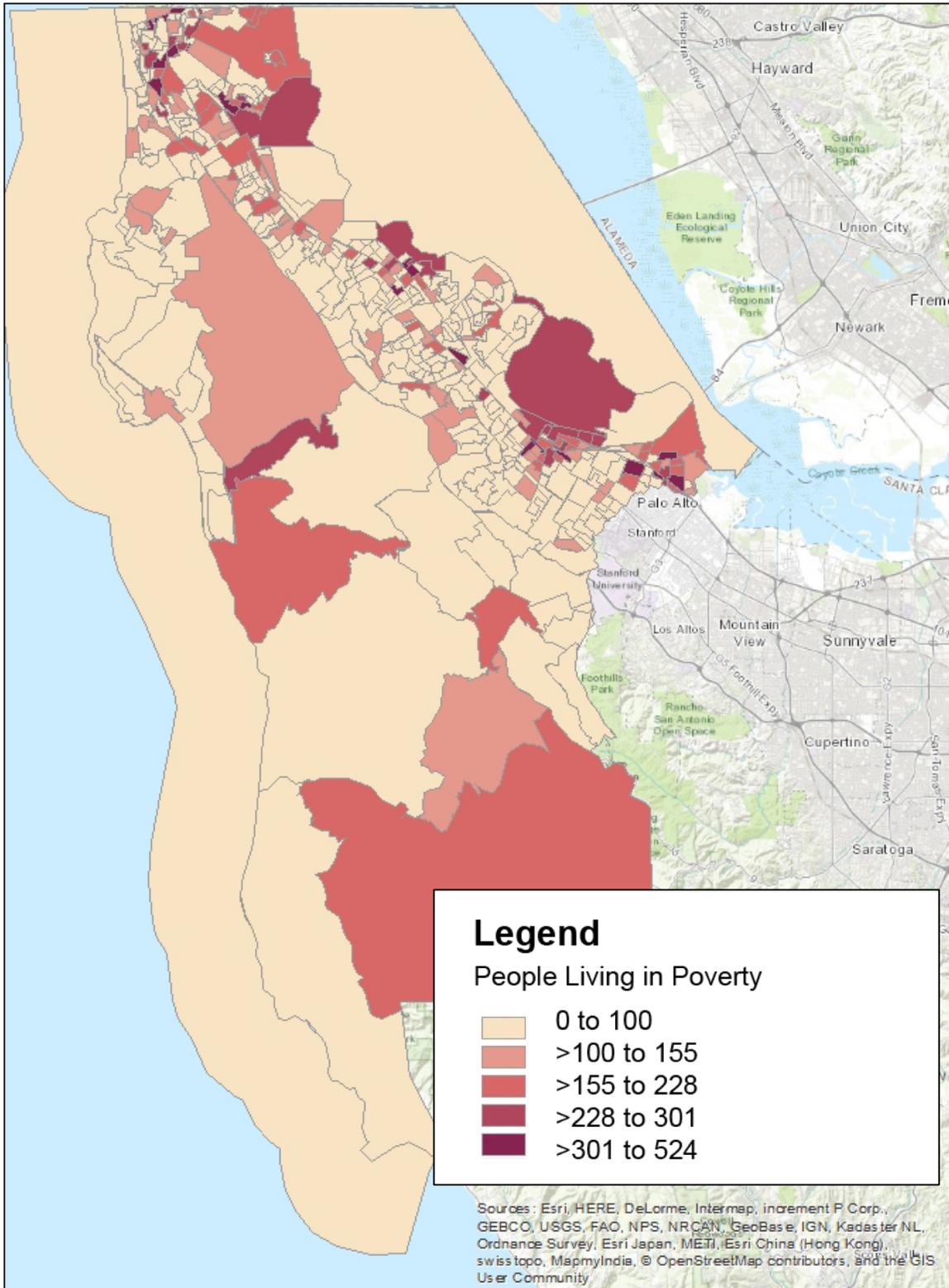
## Household Vehicle Ownership

This map shows households that do not own a vehicle. The darker the color, the more households in the area that do not own a vehicle.



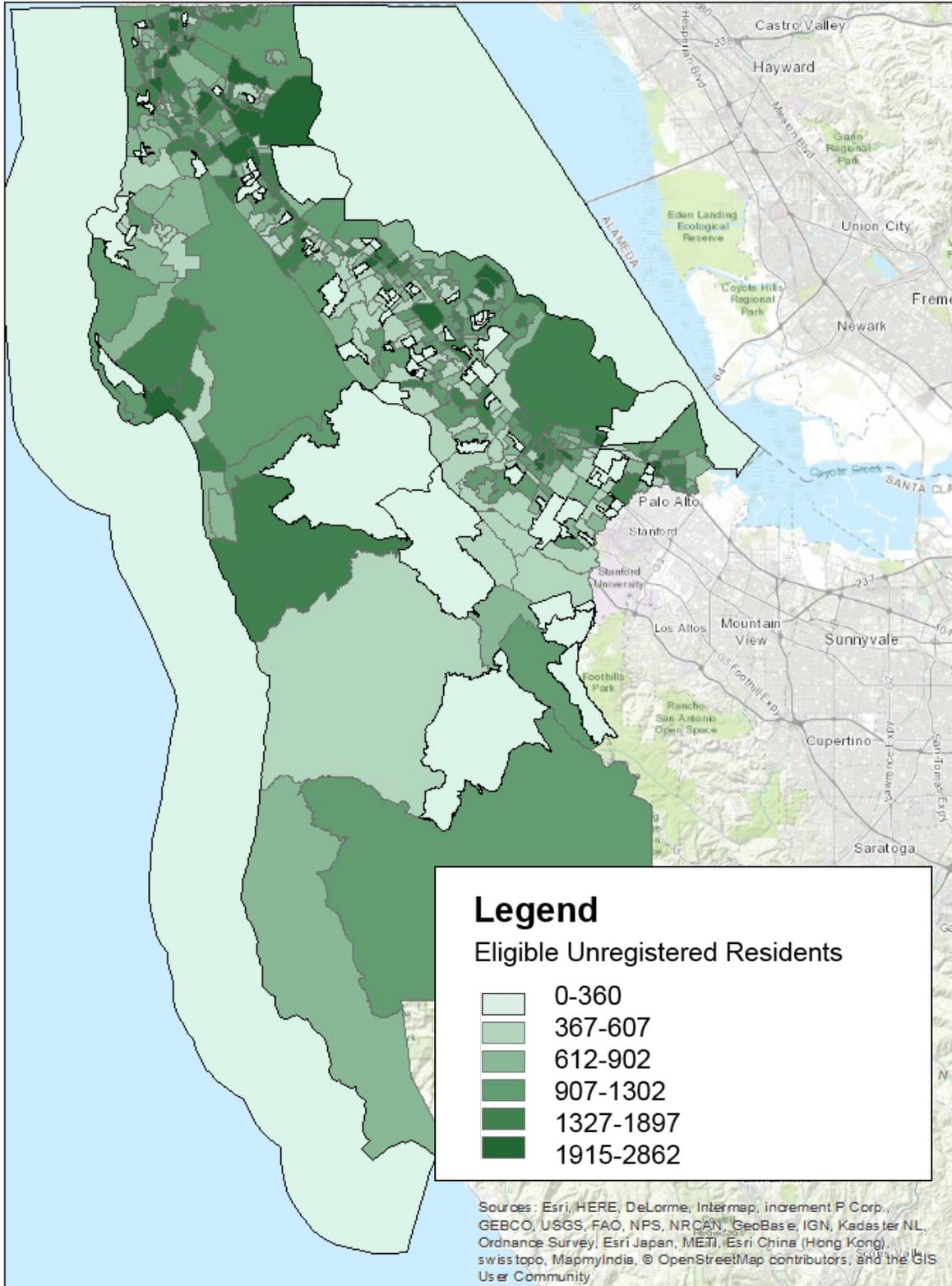
## Areas with Individuals Living in Poverty

This map shows the estimated number of people living in poverty in each area of San Mateo County. The darker color indicates a higher number of people living in poverty.



## Areas with Eligible Residents Who Are Not Yet Registered to Vote

This map shows the number of eligible residents who are not yet registered. The darker color indicates a high number of eligible but unregistered residents.



**CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT**  
**PUBLIC COMMENTS**  
**TO**  
**DRAFT EAP AND RESPONSES**

**NOTE: Comments are presented as submitted by the public**



**Office of Mark Church**  
**Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



## Public Comments (Received Electronically) and Registration & Elections Division Replies

### (1) Question/Comment from Twitter:

Here's my comment on the @smcvote 2018 Draft Election Plan. SMC should plan to audit a subset of ballots in \*every\* election and phase out electronic voting machines as soon as possible. <https://gist.github.com/kevinburke/90a11f79e66c7d70c06e8bf17f37f85b> ...  
@SupDavePine @CaroleSanMateo

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Each election must include a manual tally of a portion of the total votes cast, as a means of verifying the accuracy of the system count. Section 15360 of the California Elections Code specifies how the tally is performed. Observers are welcome.*

### (2) Question/Comment from email:

Officer Church, Supervisors, other county officials,

I'm a Belmont resident and a software engineer with a focus on security. Companies pay me to find and fix software vulnerabilities in their products, and I have reported and fixed vulnerabilities in several well-known products.

I'm concerned about the continued use of electronic voting software in the form of eSlate and Hart InterCivic Electronic Voting System devices in San Mateo County elections. These systems have the potential to be compromised and have their vote totals altered or worse.

At DefCon 2017, a conference for security engineers in Las Vegas, over 25 different voting machines were present and all of them were compromised by hackers in some form. Many of the machines contained critical components manufactured in other countries. The odds are good that an attacker would be able to compromise San Mateo County's voting machines in a similar fashion. Please read the following PDF summary of the results of that exercise. <https://www.defcon.org/images/defcon-25/DEF%20CON%2025%20voting%20village%20report.pdf>

A paper ballot system that is scanned by an optical scan machine is much less susceptible to mass compromise. Furthermore, it is the simplest to recount, as you have paper ballots that can be counted by humans.

I would also encourage you to consider audits after every election, where a subset of the paper ballots are counted and compared against the electronic tally. The closer the election, the more votes that should be audited. This matches the recommendation of Professor Matt Blaze to the United States House of Representatives last November. <https://oversight.house.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Blaze-UPenn-Statement-Voting-Machines-11-29.pdf>

I would be happy to provide further technical and professional advice free of charge, and/or sit on any advisory boards or committees you may propose.

Thank you,  
Kevin

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Registration & Elections Division takes the security of voting seriously.*

*The voting machine that was compromised at DefCon 2017 had been decertified. Attendees were unable to change votes on any of the machines and were unable to gain access to a system wirelessly. The participants were given unfettered access to the devices. This will not happen in San Mateo County under our security procedures.*

*We have security cameras and limited access to the areas where the voting equipment is stored. All voting machines are tested before an election. Our voting equipment is never connected to the internet. When the equipment is sent out to polling locations there are strict security protocols in place. All items are sealed and the seals logged. At the polls and Vote Centers, all voting machines are kept within view of the election staff. Staff is instructed to report any suspicious activity.*

*Each of our voting machines has a Voter-Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT). A paper record is printed before a voter finishes casting his/her ballot. The voter verifies that the paper record matches his/her electronic votes. The paper record is kept with the voting machine. Before the election is certified, there is a 1% manual tally. During the 1% manual tally, we randomly select 1% of the precincts in the election and hand count all of the votes cast in those precincts including the paper records from the voting machines. The hand count is compared to the electronic tally. During the years that we have used Hart Intercivic, we have never had a difference between the VVPAT and the electronic tally.*

*The Elections Division is currently evaluating new voting systems to replace the current system. We anticipate that the new system will be paper based with optical scanners. We will be doing outreach to the community to get feedback regarding the new system in 2019.*

**(3) Question/Comment from email:**

We have to devise a plan to make sure only legitimate/eligible voters are voting. We can't leave any opening for voter fraud. To me this is the only way to increase voter participation.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We follow the California Elections Code (EC) which has procedures in place to prevent voter fraud. Voter qualifications and registration provisions can be found in the EC under Division 2.*

**(4) Question/Comment from email:**

Bradley from the SMC Union Community Alliance was going to attend today and isn't able to, but sent me some questions he wanted to ask. I wanted to give you a heads up on a few. Some may fit into your presentation and others might be asked by Thrive from the floor. His list was more lengthy than this, so I'll probably put him in direct touch with you for some of the others.

1. Why is the public hearing scheduled at 1 pm, which will reduce public participation?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There were several considerations in the scheduling of the time. We will take your comment into consideration when we schedule future public hearings.*

2. How did the voter turnout for the Nov 2015 all-mail ballot compare with previous odd-year elections?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Voter turnout was perhaps one of the most positive and extraordinary outcomes of the November 3, 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election. The election resulted in the highest voter turnout for a comparable election in over 20 years. Voter turnout was 29.5%, which was an increase of 4% over the 25.4% turnout in the previous UDEL election held in 2013. The impressive increase in voter turnout was consistent throughout the County in all population and demographic groups, particularly amongst youth and minority voters.*

3. What are the voter center hours: 28 days out, 10 days out and 3 days out?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We have added this to the Amended Draft EAP.<sup>1</sup>*

4. How and when the voters who register from day 29 to election day will receive their ballots? (DR note: I think this is really two questions – when does the office stop mailing ballots out and how does Conditional Voter Registration work.)

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Voters who register by the close of registration (May 21, 2018 for June 5, 2018 election) will receive a ballot in the mail. After this date, a voter will need to come to one of the Vote Centers to complete a conditional voter registration (CVR) and they will be issued a CVR provisional ballot at the same time.*

5. How do these locations, primarily at city halls, meet the legal requirements “that Vote Centers and Ballot Drop-off locations be accessible to voters with disabilities, located near population centers, public transportation and near low-income and language minority communities.”

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*City Halls locations have been selected by cities to be convenient to their residents.*

6. Why is the county proposing to use the Registration & Elections Division office as one of the three initial voter centers, and a 24 hr drop-off center, even though it fails to meet the county’s basic criteria? The Registration & Elections Division is away from transit, population centers, and away from low-income and language minority communities.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Registration & Elections Division location is just one Vote Center location. It has been at Tower Road site for more than 50 years and the location is familiar to*

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<sup>1</sup> EAP p. 3

*many in the community. In previous elections, it had the most voters and the highest number of drop-off ballots of the three Vote Centers.*

**(5) Question/Comment from email:**

I attended the Voter's Choice meeting at the Silicon Valley Foundation today and found it informative and very useful. Thanks to you and your partners for your presentations, q & a and breakout sessions (and the nice lunch). You have a daunting task to make the changes, make sure that all communities are represented, and that voters understand the changes that are coming. After reviewing the plan in some detail, here are some suggestions:

Locations: Include College of San Mateo, Skyline, and Canada College for Voting Centers and Drop Boxes. Young voters are very under represented.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We did not include Vote Centers at these colleges because classes end between May 19 and May 25. We will consider Vote Centers or drop-boxes at the colleges for the future.*

Include more drop-boxes not located in City Halls. Some communities are uncomfortable with going to a government office to drop off ballots.

Consider locating drop boxes in BART stations and Cal Train stations that people use every day.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will be adding drop-box locations in the future, and we will take your suggestions into consideration.*

Times: Voting Centers should have some evening hours, even if it means opening later in the day. Ideally all voting centers would be open from 7am-8pm on the last 3 days to accommodate working people.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will take your suggestion into consideration in the future. The Vote Centers will be open on two weekends.*

All public hearings, except one, have been during daytime hours, which makes it very difficult for most working people to attend. Schedule some meetings to inform the public at 6:30pm or later to allow them to be able to attend.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There were several considerations in the scheduling of the time. We will take your comments into consideration when we schedule future public hearings.*

Outreach: Contact major employers, such as Facebook, Salesforce.com, Oracle, Kaiser Permanente, Box, Google (which has a large presence in Redwood City) to be able to present the changes to their employees.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added information on the Secretary of State's "Democracy at Work" program for businesses to the Voter Education and Outreach Plan.<sup>2</sup>*

Put up signs and leaflets at the DMV.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for the suggestion. We will check on their policy on posting flyers and/or leaving brochures in their facilities.*

Make sure that the ballot comes in an envelope with Ballot: Open Immediately—Do Not Throw Away in big bold letters on the outside, so it does not get ignored or tossed away as junk mail. Those who do not currently vote by mail may not be expecting it.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The envelope says OFFICIAL BALLOT - VOTE BY MAIL on both sides.*

If you want community groups to help get the word out, provide a name and/or e-mail address for your Community Partners list, so that they can be contacted by other groups working to help.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you. We have added phone numbers and email addresses for the Community Partners list in the Addenda.<sup>3</sup>*

Media: No social media is mentioned as a partner. Suggest that you contact Facebook and ask for pro bono or reduced fee ad plan, directed at San Mateo County residents. They may be willing to help since their headquarters is in San Mateo County.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*In the Voter Education and Outreach Plan, under Overview, social media was included. We have added "such as Facebook and Twitter" to make it clearer. We will be using Facebook advertising as part of our outreach.*

Thanks again for an informative meeting,

Christine

**(6) Question/Comment from email:**

I attended the Voter's Choice Act gathering yesterday sponsored by Thrive at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation offices in San Mateo. After reviewing the information provided and the location of drop boxes and vote centers. I would like to make some suggestions as to locations of these two.

In Redwood Shores, you have no drop box location and your vote center is to be located at the County Office of Education. Since the Redwood City Library in Redwood Shores is a more visible and convenient location, I would suggest you move the vote center to the library and also include a drop box as well at that location. I doubt most residents of

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<sup>2</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 9

<sup>3</sup> Addenda p. 37

Redwood Shores know where the County Office of Education is located. Parking is also much more convenient at the library versus the County Office of Education.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Voter's Choice Act sets out a number of considerations in Vote Center placement, including proximity to population centers, concentration of language minority communities and voters with disabilities, and communities with low rates of vehicle ownership, among others. We have endeavored to best place the 39 Vote Centers in accordance with these guidelines. While every city has at least one Vote Center, considering the smaller number of Vote Centers as compared to polling places, not every neighborhood will have one.*

*Based on the experience of the 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election, in which 97.5% of voters cast their ballot via mail, we believe the number of location of Vote Centers will be more than sufficient to serve the county's voters.*

In a discussion with one of your staff it appears that the Fair Oaks Community Center will be the location of the vote center. I would suggest that you also include that location with a drop box. Having a drop box located in Fair Oaks would be much more convenient for the residents.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Each Vote Center will have a drop-box.*

Other concern was the discussion of having an on-line connection at each vote center to verify voter registration and to register new voters so they could immediately vote. I am assuming you have a plan in place in the event the system goes down for whatever reason, whether county-wide or at a specific location.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will have a back-up system in place for our connection to verify voter registration and register new voters.*

Thank you for allowing my input. Michael

- (7) Thank you for our County implementing the California Voter's Choice Act (VCA) (Senate Bill 450).

This is the only true way to preserve our voting rights, who we actually voted for, and not have a corporation own our voting machines, and "democracy".

We must have one paper ballot per one voter because the Diebold voting machines flipped votes in favor of GW Bush when people were actually voting for Al Gore for president.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We do not use the Diebold voting machines in San Mateo County. We use machines manufactured by Hart InterCivic and we do a random 1% manual tally to confirm their accuracy. Voters may also use the mailed paper ballot or ask for a paper ballot at a Vote Center.*

Due to the "intellectual property" laws governing corporate rights, even our Elections Department could not get the actual votes.

Cynthia  
South San Francisco

- (8) The accessibility and convenience of Vote Center locations is key to the success of the EAP. A mobile Vote Center would add value in a number of ways, the most important being easy access to voting in geographically isolated locations and underserved neighborhoods. It would also be a visible reminder of the election and the services available to voters as it moved through the streets -- a moving billboard. Publicizing the location of "Your Vote Center on Wheels" each day would be an excellent way to keep information about the election before the public. And periodic visits to the county's community colleges would encourage many more of our young people to participate.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We plan to have a Roving Voting station,<sup>4</sup> and we will publicize where it will be located and when.*

- (9) Here is my feedback, instead of mailing you my forms in the Review Guide from Monday Jan 8 meeting in San Mateo:

1) Re locations of drop boxes for Redwood City and other cities nearby:

We avoid downtown RWC whenever possible, terrible parking, congestion, etc. So dropboxes would be of NO help to us there, and even for those who live closer to downtown, it would be easier to have drop boxes in more localized places. Woodside Plaza type of locations, where traffic is not insane and where a slow pace invites safe comfortable drop offs. I object to all the city hall, courthouse type of locations. Is this because nothing else would feel as safe from partisan tampering?? Anyway, I think this idea loses appeal and actually pressures people to trust the mailmen who handle mailbox pickups. If that is unappetizing, the third option for dropoffs are the Voting Centers, clearly NOT at all convenient to neighborhood voting.

I feel that long term voters who love to feel the patriotism of going for years to their local precinct to vote are NOT going to be in favor of this change. It takes away the personal qualities of voting and instead increases the impersonal mailbox option over the other options.

I suggest local post offices for much better locations. By local post offices, I really mean the ones inside plazas, close in to groceries, drug stores, etc., in addition to main post offices. They would be inside the post offices, and staff there SHOULD be able to be impartial watchers of their dropbox. They are much much more local, tied to their neighborhoods!

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Voters can use the post office and street-corner mail collection boxes to return their ballot in the included postage paid envelope.*

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<sup>4</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 12

2) I have uneasy reservations, because this legislation does not address machine security, and it makes me feel that most stressed people will regard the election as not more important than other junk mail!!!. I hope it will increase voter participation by some amount and that as the years go by, people in California will trust their state voting system, despite the terrible distortions of the Electoral College System, the easy electronic hacking, and voter suppression laws where new ideas pop up almost every day for how to curtail voting by certain groups. I switched to permanent absentee ballot after the corrupted national presidential elections from 2000 onward. I thought we needed paper for the best highest integrity recounts. Now that I understand that machines that will be used on any kind of ballot counting, paper or not, this is again discouraging. But European countries and Canada and others just go with a paper ballot, nothing else, and human personnel at that voting place just sitting down and counting that precinct's paper ballots at the end of the voting time that day. There could be several parties represented in the counting, recounting or whatever to make sure this is as honest as everyone can get. So, can we shoot for no machinery at all in the future of California elections? IT IS CERTAINLY WORTH THE TIME TO COUNT PAPER BALLOTS BY VOLUNTEER STAFFERS FOR THEIR OWN VOTING SITES! NOTHING MATTERS MORE TO ME THAN HONEST CLEAN ELECTIONS THROUGHOUT THE USA, AND ENHANCING CALIFORNIA'S VOTING BASE IS VERY IMPORTANT, but does not guarantee system security enough.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There have been no reported security issues with the Hart InterCivic voting machines used in San Mateo County. Voters may choose to use the machine or a paper ballot when voting in-person. The Registration & Elections Division does a 1% manual tally before certifying each election to ensure the accuracy of the count*

3)\*\*\*\*\* Please put on the address envelopes of every ballot that is mailed that people SHOULD NOT GO TO THEIR USUAL POLLING PLACES!!!!!! They need to understand that and have it repeated and repeated to them, as habit is SO great! Tell them right in the outside of the envelope in big letters that WHAT THEY ARE HOLDING RIGHT NOW IN THEIR HAND IS THEIR ONLY BALLOT FOR THIS VOTE, NOT TO LOSE IT, AND TO JUST MARK IT AND PUT IT IN MAILBOX!!! All on outside!! Inside, the other options can be listed, but if the voter just thinks that the envelope is junk mail, we are all SUNK!

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The outside of the envelope will state it is an Official Ballot. If a person loses their ballot, they can have a replacement.*

4) \*\*\*\*\* About public education, community email lists should definitely include the Nextdoor sites, such as Nextdoor.Woodside Plaza site I use. Most every community has them going. I will post my own note there and will see what reaction I get. In addition, I would post on the inside and outside of DOORS to grocery stores, drug stores, post office, restaurants willing to post, DMV and all city hall offices, willing churches, interiors of apartment buildings where mailboxes are found, all Trains, Busses, Taxi waiting areas, Airport areas, etc. All the non profits should be notified, league of women voters etc.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We do not have the manpower to post flyers in every store. Many stores do not wish to post what they consider to be political. We have notified appropriate non-profits such as the League of Women Voters. During the All-Mailed Ballot Election in November 2015, only 2.5% of voters went to one of the universal polling places. The overall returns for this election were higher than any previous countywide consolidated municipal, school and special district election.*

Thank you for this massive effort to increase voting in California!  
Martha, Redwood City

**(10) WHY IS OPEN SOURCE NECESSARY TO REPLACE " SECRET / CORPORATE " SOFTWARE FOR ELECTION SYSTEMS ?**

Although it seems elementary, some people are still a bit confused regarding why it is necessary to utilize public " open " software rather than proprietary software for elections. Microsoft affiliates will contend there is no "big difference" .

This is untrue. A properly securable environment MUST involve software that is available for public oversight. " Faith based " software that can have bugs go undetected is NEVER appropriate .. even if part and parcel to a paper ballot system. Although open source is " no panacea " ( no one ever said it was ) it is NECESSARY for proper security per NASA- The DOD - and The Air Force, as well as almost ALL computer scientists.

The key is the " first count " i.e. the initial count captured by the voting system process. With " secret /private " software that has built-in intellectual property barriers to public inspection, bad actors can insert " bugs " which will likely go undetected. There is no deterrent to this bad action as the code is encased in a " black-box " for none to see. Conversely, with open source " public " software " , the code is available for oversight by " many eyes on the code ". Indeed it must still be surrounded by a robust chain of custody, but the starting point for deterrent and bug removal is intact, rendering the environment much more secure and available to " fumigation " toward "bugging"

Some corporate folks rooting for the retention of corporate code might state paper ballots with robust audits will cure the security issue regardless of which type of software is utilized . This is false and misdirection. the fact is that if the first captured count-- the initial count -is a falsely obtained count due to bugging, the audit count can be affected by bad action to artificially reconcile with the error prone first count. This might appear fantastic to some, but not to those that know about election administration. The fact is the chain of custody and storage procedures for ballots also needs an overhaul, and this is well documented.

Regardless, the point is, since open source is regarded as more secure - more elegant- and more defensible software - why would vendors fight so hard against it ? The reason is due to the fact public software is FREE. This fact, in the opinion of Microsoft and their allies ( Verified Voting etc ) coupled with the more efficient nature of open source, creates a situation to be stifled. The problem is that their " duty to shareholders " disinformation campaign has predictably caused a severe national security crisis regarding US elections.

Recent testimony by academics and " experts " in front of governmental committees has intentionally omitted mention of the software element. This is a corporate agenda that must not be tolerated. By omitting open source from legislation and conversation, we are plating into the enemy's hand. paper ballots and audits are good, but open source software is literally priceless when addressing election system security.

Here's is former CIA Director Jim Woolsey making statement-

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/03/opinion/open-source-software-hacker-voting.html>

Best regards,  
Brent

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have reviewed Open Source voting solutions and new propriety voting systems. We have not made a decision on a future voting system. It is not a part of the EAP for June 2018.*

(11)1. Location of voting centers

Government buildings are not good locations.

Many voters are uncomfortable there and some of the proposed locations have parking issues.

Use where possible:

clinics,

libraries

community centers

schools: all college campuses should really have one if we want students to vote

or perhaps have multiple visits (well publicized) from a mobile unit.

grocery stores

If needed use county funds and authority to extend the hours of public facilities especially libraries.

West Menlo and West Atherton have no voting center at all. That is a large voting desert.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*In past years, many of our county's polling places have been located in government buildings, from libraries to city halls to a national guard facility. Our staff at the polls have always endeavored to make sure voters feel welcome and free to cast their ballot in privacy, regardless of whether their polling place was in a government facility, commercial building, or private residence.*

*Vote Center staff will only confirm a voter's identity and eligibility when they arrive to cast their vote. Identification will only be required of first-time voters who registered online, and who do not have a signature on file. Vote Center staff will not question voters on other matters.*

*We hope that voters will feel comfortable casting their ballots in those Vote Centers hosted by government facilities. However, under the Voter's Choice Act voters have*

*a variety of options in casting their ballot, which they may do at any Vote Center or by mail.*

2.. Hours of voting centers and drop boxes:

Much more evening and weekend availability is needed for working people.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Vote Centers will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on two weekends prior to Election Day.*

3. Signage on election day:

All former precincts need giant bright signs on election day that tell their previous voters where to go.

There WILL be confused voters and the phone lines to tower road WILL be jammed.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your concern. We plan to provide information to former polling places, and we do prepare to receive a higher volume of calls each Election Day.*

4. Transparency and public input

One public meeting during the working day Jan. 18 is not enough.

The deadline for public comments needs to be AFTER the meetings held for the general public

There need to be well advertised public meetings in the evening and on the weekend.

There needs to be an advisory committee for the rest of us who were not invited to the previous two workshops held for 1.the disabled and 2. the non-English speakers.

If the only choice you give the rest of us is to attend one of those two established groups, then do it soon, not in March.

Provide an interpreter for any discussion led by Fred or conducted in Spanish. Out of Fred's whole presentation I wrote down the words I understood. I got just twelve and some were repeats.

I once had a student with the same issues and only his assigned translator could understand him.

He was an excellent student but the translator was needed.

All comments you receive should be publicly shared unless the poster asks not to share them. You can omit the names.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your suggestions. We will take them into consideration for future hearings.*

5. Use of resources:

In small group discussion I heard people who are concerned about communities who do not vote at a high rate advise spending resources on community workers to go door to door or to organize small groups rather than spending on media

## 6. Outreach:

Do not wait to be invited. Reach out proactively. Work with community groups, churches and schools through meetings and newsletters.

Reach out to voters in custody or felons who have completed parole

There needs to be a proactive and well developed and publicized plan to enable these qualified voters to vote.

Reach out to shut-ins, including those in care facilities, assisted living and hospitals. There needs to be a proactive and well publicized plan for this population

## 7. Equipment:

All voting machines can be hacked.

With proprietary software, the public cannot see if they are hacked.

I attended meetings in Sacramento and in San Mateo and heard the virtually unanimous opinion of many IT experts: voting machines are not secure.

No exceptions.

Aside from issues of hacking, machines, both voting and tally machines, when produced and maintained by private corporations fail the test of transparent reliability.

Virtually all other developed nations use paper ballots, hand counted immediately at the close of the polls in the presence of witnesses.

Keep it simple and secure.

You did not buy those machines, so it is time to admit that they are not secure.

Let disabled voters who want to refuse all help and instead use the insecure machines use them but do not force the rest of us to vote in an insecure way..

[I am mobility impaired. I would rather be independent all the time but I ask for and accept help when I need it.]

## 8. Accounting for costs:

We presume this way of voting will save money.

There needs to be accountability for the cost or savings.

It is reasonable to spend any savings on making voting less confusing and encouraging left-out communities.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The County is required to prepare a report to the Secretary of State following the election and it will include cost information.*

Gail  
Menlo Park

(12) Dear Mark Church and elections officers,

The Voters Choice Act requires you to solicit feedback from members of the community. You scheduled three public hearings, two for specific communities and one for the general public. This last hearing, on January 18, is during the workday. Working residents of San Mateo County are unable to attend a meeting scheduled for 1pm on a Thursday. It seems to me that the feedback of working residents is just as valuable as the feedback of other residents.

I ask you therefore to schedule more public hearings, either in the evenings or on a weekend. In this way, all the residents of San Mateo County will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the EAP, as stipulated by the Voters Choice Act.

Sincerely,  
Yedida

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your feedback. We will take your comments into consideration when we schedule future hearings. Voters were invited to submit comments via the web, email, fax, phone, mail or in-person.*

(13) Name : Yedida

Comments :

Dear elections officials:

I'd like you to make the following changes to the EAP:

1. All comments such as mine should be made public on your website.
2. Please add more voting centers. There aren't nearly enough. If there are an insufficient number of voting centers, there will be crowding and lines, which are an obstacle to voter participation.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*While every city has at least one Vote Center, considering the smaller number of Vote Centers as compared to polling places, not every neighborhood will have one. Based on the experience of the 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election, in which 97.5% of voters cast their ballot via mail, we believe the number of Vote Centers will be more than sufficient to serve the county's voters.*

3. Voting centers open prior to the election should be open 8am -8pm. Individuals who work full-time are not able to take off work in order to go to a voting center that is only open 9am-5pm.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Vote Centers will be open the two weekends prior to the election for individuals who cannot come during the week.*

4. Please add a voting center near Skyline College. It is a heavily-trafficked location, especially for young people, with connections to public transportation.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We did not plan to have a Vote Center at Skyline College because classes will be out between May 19 and May 26. We will consider it as a possibility for the November election.*

5. Too many voting centers and drop boxes are at city halls. Certain communities do not feel comfortable or safe going to a city hall in order to vote. Please substitute city halls with libraries and other community spaces. In Belmont, for example, the voting center should be located at Good Shepherd Church. It is around the corner from City Hall and in close proximity to Caltrain.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are still determining three drop-box locations, and we will keep your comments in mind. Voters may return their ballot in a post office inside a grocery store or other retailer if they do not wish to go inside government buildings.*

6. What is the purpose of your list of community partners? Will you be reaching out to these community partners for their feedback? You have not done so yet. As a member of People Power Belmont, I expect you to take my feedback into consideration.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added more information on the purpose of the Community Partners.<sup>5</sup>*

(14) The umbrella issue is the stated purpose of SB 450, engaging more people in our democracy, by voting. An important step is engaging people in feedback on the EAP is to let people know that the County is implementing a new voting plan. A lot of people aren't going to be drawn to commenting on implementation but if the Elections Office approaches it as a focus group, creating a safe environment for input and asking citizens to talk about why they do or don't vote, people might engage. It would also help to offer food and a stipend. The focus groups ought to be held in neighborhoods and "run by" trained neighborhood leaders. Use some of the \$200,000 plus budget for outreach and allow a couple months to collect/consolidate the input.

Some of the focus groups might "gel" and could be reconvened throughout the San Mateo County "test," to motivate people to engage/vote, give feedback after the first election, about what worked well and what could be improved upon.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*In addition to the Registration & Elections Division, we are aware of discussions on the Voter's Choice Act held by the League of Women Voters, People Power, Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities and Thrive, the Alliance of Nonprofits for San Mateo County.*

I'd love to be involved as a volunteer in an effort like this. It would have the potential for meeting other community members, building trust and comradery, as well as increasing participation and buy-in to making our County vibrant.

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<sup>5</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 9

One other thing, I urge the Elections Office to place voting boxes where people are, in non-government locations, e.g. libraries, shopping centers, college campuses, on business campuses, like Facebook, Google, et al. They have everything else for employees' convenience, e.g. gyms, childcare, medical clinics, etc.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Voters can use any of the 622 mail collection boxes on streets, at colleges and businesses, or more than 125 post offices, which include non-government locations in supermarkets and drug stores.*

Finally, I urge you to make all feedback public so we who are engaged can see the range of opinions (eliminating names but including neighborhood).

Kit, Emerald Hills

(15) My comments and concerns on VCA as given:

Re: Public commentary:

- Make all comments available to the public on shapethefuture and other

Re: polling centers:

- Include as Polling Centers and for in-person voting:
- Sm Co City Colleges: CSM, Canada, Foothill, this also enables Coast side voters easier access on the 280 side if they are commuting, also at Notre Dame de Namur

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Since local community college classes end between May 19 and May 26, we will not have Vote Centers on campus. We will consider adding for future elections.*

- Caltrain stns for drop off for thousands of commuters – realize there may be security concerns but not insurmountable
- For Latin-x communities, eg North Central in San Mateo, include churches as polling centers and in person voting areas
- Use local Senior centers for polling places and in person voting e.g. San Mateo Senior Center on Alameda de las Pulgas

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Voter's Choice Act sets out a number of considerations in Vote Center placement, including proximity to population centers, concentration of language minority communities and voters with disabilities, and communities with low rates of vehicle ownership, among others. We have endeavored to best place the 39 Vote Centers in accordance with these guidelines.*

*While every city has at least one Vote Center, considering the smaller number of Vote Centers as compared to polling places, not every neighborhood will have one. Based on the experience of the 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election, in which 97.5% of voters cast their ballot via mail, we believe the number of Vote Centers will be more than sufficient to serve the county's voters.*

- For disabled citizens who have may have trouble getting to the polling centers, transportation on election day-maybe a deal w SamTrans, Paratransit, Caltrain for free or discounted fares for disabled on election day? Rides to polling centers or in person voting centers from Lyft?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There are many voting options for individuals with disabilities, including voting by mail, using the Disabled Access Unit (DAU) in a Vote Center, using a personal computer, having a DAU voting machine or paper ballot brought to their location of choice, curbside voting or having transportation arranged through our office.*

- For polling centers open 10 days and 3 days before the election day, extend hours to 8p

*Though Vote Centers will close at 5 p.m. except on Election Day, they are open on two weekends prior to the Election.*

Re: Education/Outreach efforts:

- Train and engage SF Peninsulas People Power to assist with outreach and education efforts, as well as any/all political party groups to do the same throughout the county: DSA, DFA, SMGOP, etc.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are happy to provide training to any groups who wish to assist with outreach. We will also provide an online toolkit.*

- Create a traveling group of trainers/educators to go to ethnic fairs: Lunar (Chinese) New Year 16 Feb 2018, Persian New Year 20 Mar 2018, Cinco de Mayo 5 May 2018

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We do have staff who attend fairs and festivals.*

- Send these groups to Google Facebook, Survey Monkey, Box, Franklin-Templeton, to proselytize VCA changes, and to register younger eligible voters, this effort would also reach under-represented Latino and Asian and youth voters

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will encourage businesses to join the SOS Democracy at Work program to reach voters at their workplaces.*

- Target outreach and education to ex-felons and misdemeanants that are not on parole or probation to make sure that they are aware of their rights to re-enfranchisement, and the process to do so. There are many misunderstandings about the process for re-enfranchising these citizens, and these must be addressed urgently. Also what is the process for those eligible voters in the county jail? What is the accountability process for making certain that these

citizens who are able to vote, do and their votes are taken to polling centers? Are eligible voters in County jail able to register to vote? Again, what is the accountability process?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have provided information to the Sheriff's Office to share with county inmates on their voting rights. We have added to the Amended Draft EAP that we will expand our efforts to reach inmates and former inmates through the Service League and the David E. Lewis Reentry Center. For more information, see the CA EC 18100.*

Re: Mail-in ballot design

- The mail in ballot design should be clear enough to the voter so as not to be mistaken for junk mail, perhaps a prominent flag, liberty, voter box or some signifier that makes it clear that it is the mail in ballot. T

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The envelope the ballot comes in has the following language on both sides in large letters: OFFICIAL BALLOT VOTE BY MAIL.*

Onward together, Regina

(16) Organization: ACLU San Francisco People Power

Comments:

Key Feedback Points:

1. Make sure there is a plan to avoid confusion at the previously existing polling places, i.e. ensure people get clear information about VC locations, that they can use any VC, make it clear that previously existing polling places are replaced by the VC's, drop-off boxes, etc.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will include information on Vote Center locations inside the Sample Ballot & Voter Information Pamphlet, with the Official Ballot and on our website. Information is also available by calling the Registration & Elections Division.*

2. Will there be an email address and/or phone # to use as a clearing house to contact for \*any\* issue related to Voting Choice - when in doubt, call 1-800-SMCARES or some such.....this is going to be a bit like people trying to reach the IRS before Apr 15, many people very confused needing possibly last minute help.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We currently have a trilingual tollfree phone line 888.SMC.VOTE and an receive email questions at registrar@smcare.org and registrar@smcacre.org. This information is included in our voter materials.*

3. Ensure underserved (poorer) and youth voters (or other historically low voter turnout populations) are given extra attention/treated equitably in terms of VCs.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

Yes.

4. Importance of making the simultaneous introduction of Same Day Registration clear to people (since that's new too) and that people are able to do SDR at all the VC's so they don't have to figure \*which\* VC to go to for SDR, separate from ballot drop-off decisions.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Conditional Voter Registration was introduced in 2017. We strive to make Conditional Voter Registration clear to people.*

5. Unclear on how the community outreach partners will be leveraged. Are grass-roots groups able to engage \*ongoing\* with the County to assist with rollout? Is that possible, feasible, legal?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added more information on the purpose of the Community Partners.<sup>6</sup>*

(17) Zip Code : 94062

Organization :

Comments :

The umbrella issue is the stated purpose of SB 450, engaging more people in our democracy, by voting. An important step is engaging people in feedback on the EAP is to let people know that the County is implementing a new voting plan. A lot of people aren't going to be drawn to commenting on implementation but if the Elections Office approaches it as a focus group, creating a safe environment for input and asking citizens to talk about why they do or don't vote, people might engage. It would also help to offer food and a stipend. The focus groups ought to be held in neighborhoods and run by trained neighborhood leaders. Use some of the \$200,000 plus budget for outreach and allow a couple months to collect/consolidate the input.

Some of the focus groups might be held and could be reconvened throughout the San Mateo County to motivate people to engage/vote, give feedback after the first election, about what worked well and what could be improved upon.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Registration & Elections Division has met the requirement of SB 450 to hold three public meetings about the Draft EAP.*

- (18) Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Election Administration Plan. Meeting with Mr. Church and Mr. Irizarry in December, attending the Voter's Choice meeting on January 8 and reviewing the draft EAP, has formed the basis of this feedback from both the Belmont and San Francisco Peninsula People Power Groups, which includes more than 60 people. I have included a summary of our feedback below, and have attached both the summary and detailed feedback on the plan in a Word document.

We are looking forward to attending the public meeting this Thursday. We are very interested in greater participation in the development and roll out of the Voter's Choice Act and share the desire to increase voter participation especially for those groups that have

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<sup>6</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 9

historically low turnout. We are hopeful that you will take us up on our offer of assistance. If you have any questions regarding any of the feedback contained in this email and attachments, please do not hesitate to get in touch!

Regards,  
Diane  
ACLU People Power Belmont and San Francisco Peninsula

Summary of Feedback on the Draft Election Administration Plan (EAP)  
ACLU People Power Belmont and San Francisco Peninsula groups

#### (19)Vote Centers and Drop Box Locations

Based on past elections, the majority of people will be voting by mail. Vote Centers will be used primarily by disabled voters, first time voters, and non-English speaking voters who may need personal assistance. Most of the Vote Centers and nearly all of the Drop Box locations are in government buildings. This will discourage many voters that have historically low voter participation rates, such as the Hispanic community, especially given the current federal immigration policies in place. Libraries, Community Centers and college campuses are a much better alternative and also offer the advantages of having better parking, access to public transportation and location familiarity. It is also very important to have the Vote Centers stay open in the evening.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We did not include Vote Centers at these colleges because classes end between May 19 and May 25. We will consider Vote Centers or drop boxes at the college for the future. The Voter's Choice Act sets out a number of considerations in Vote Center placement, including proximity to population centers, concentration of language minority communities and voters with disabilities, and communities with low rates of vehicle ownership, among others. We have endeavored to best place the 39 Vote Centers in accordance with these guidelines.*

#### Outreach

The current draft of the EAP is lacking a detailed marketing plan as to how the public will be educated about this change in voting procedures. The listing of Community Partners is insufficient as it does not specify how the Elections Office will work with Community Partners, what they are expecting Community Partners to do, what is the timeline or what materials will be provided to them.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added more information on the purpose of the Community Partners in the Voter Education and Outreach Plan.<sup>7</sup>*

There needs to be a calendar that clearly specifies when and where outreach events will be held, what groups will be conducting outreach, what type (publications, radio and TV, social media) of publicity will be done and to what audience it is targeted.

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<sup>7</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 9

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have updated the events we plan to attend in the Addenda and will continue to update it on our website. Most advertising will take place in the month before the election because that is when voters are most tuned in to election information.*

Involve major San Mateo County employers such as Facebook, Google, Oracle SalesForce, Kaiser. Make better use of social media in the outreach. Snail mail postcards is no longer sufficient, especially if you are trying to get younger citizens to vote.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will encourage businesses to join the SOS Democracy at Work program to reach voters at their workplaces.*

Community Involvement and Transparency

It is important that all feedback be made available to the public. In addition, many people may not be drawn to commenting on implementation plan through the web site or email. One public hearing held during the day is not sufficient to give the public the opportunity for direct input and feedback. This is especially true since the details on the public outreach plan, which is critical to the success of the Voter's Choice Act, is not included in the first draft. Would the Elections Office be open to creating ongoing advisory group that is focused on developing and implementing an outreach plan for all voters?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Registration & Elections Division has met the requirement of SB 450 to hold three public meetings about the Draft EAP. Due to limited time prior to the election, we will not implement this suggestion immediately. We will consider your suggestion for the future, but comments are welcome year-round.*

Reducing Confusion

Make sure that the ballot is designed in such a way to it is not mistaken for junk mail. Use bold colorful letters and symbols and a slogan, like Mark it, Mail it, that is used throughout the outreach program.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The envelope the ballot comes in has the following language on both sides in large letters: OFFICIAL BALLOT VOTE BY MAIL.*

At least a week before election day, former precincts should have large signs posted that indicate that voting is no longer held at this location and include where Vote Centers and nearby Drop Boxes are located. We will provide former polling places with signs.

Detailed feedback:

Location of Vote Centers and Drop Boxes

City halls are not good locations for Vote Centers and Drop Boxes. Many voters are uncomfortable going into government buildings to vote or drop off ballots. In addition, a lot of people do not know where the city hall is location and some of them have huge parking issues. Instead use community facilities such as libraries, clinics, churches, community centers and senior centers. Include College of San Mateo, Skyline, Canada College Notre

Dame de Namur for Voting Centers and Drop Boxes. Young voters are very underrepresented so making it as easy as possible for them to vote will hopefully increase participation.

For Latin-x communities, such as North Central in San Mateo and Fair Oaks, include churches as Vote Centers and Drop Boxes

Consider using major transportation hubs at BART stations and Cal Train stations for drop boxes. There may be some security issues, but they are not insurmountable.

Voting Centers should have some evening hours, even if it means opening later in the day. Ideally all voting centers would be open from 7am-8pm on the last 3 - 10 days to accommodate working people. Not everyone has time during their work breaks to go vote.

West Menlo Park and West Atherton have no voting center at all.

Outreach - Public Education and Publicity

The primary focus should be on the third of the county who are not currently VBM voters in order to have the biggest impact. This can be geographically or by voter type. (language, age, etc). People who currently VBM probably do not need as much education because they +K60 can either continue voting the way they have in the past. They are just being provided additional ways to vote, whereas other voters have to CHANGE how and where they vote. We will do additional outreach to voters who have not previously signed up to vote by mail. Non-VBM voters can still use Vote Centers if they do not want to vote by mail.

What is the timeframe for outreach? Is there an overall marketing plan listing activities, dates, responsible parties? A calendar listing all events and activities is crucial. The current listing of events is pretty limited. We have updated the events we plan to attend in the Amended Draft EAP and will continue to update it on our website. Most advertising will take place in the month before the election because that is when voters are most tuned in to election information.

What is the overall organization for community outreach? Is there one person/group that is providing overall coordination so we do not duplicate efforts or miss certain populations?

It is unclear as to what is the Community Partner list included in the EAP is for. It is currently just a long list of organizations, facilities, etc. How is it supposed to be used?

How are Community Partners contacted to get involved in outreach? If you want community groups to help get the word out, provide a name and/or e-mail address for your Community Partners list, so that they can be contacted by other groups working to help.

What materials are available for people to use in outreach and education? This would include presentations, pamphlets and other materials. Where can they be found?

There is concern about communities who do not vote at a high rate. Maybe a better way to reach them is to use resources on community workers or local resident volunteers to go door to door or to organize small group gatherings. To reach specific

communities, the Elections Office could create a focus group, creating a safe environment for input and asking citizens to talk about why they do or don't vote, people might engage. It would also help to offer food and a stipend. The focus groups ought to be held in neighborhoods and "run by" trained neighborhood leaders. Use some of the budget for outreach and allow sufficient time to collect/consolidate the input before a final plan is developed.

Do not wait to be invited. Be proactive. In addition to presentations, ask local churches, parent/teacher organizations, city recreation departments, community centers, to include information about Voter's Choice in the newsletters they send out.

The County needs to develop a catchy phrase to develop recognition for the new way San Mateo County will be voting. Even something as simple as "Mail it in!" or "Mark it and mail it", if used consistently on every mailer and media message, would be helpful. This phrase needs to be translated into multiple languages as well.

Contact major employers, such as Facebook, Salesforce.com, Oracle, Kaiser Permanente, Box, Google (which has a large presence in Redwood City) and ask them to hold on-site forums where they can present the changes to their employees. Send teams to Google, Facebook, Survey Monkey, Box, Franklin-Templeton, to proselytize VCA changes, and to register younger eligible voters. This effort would also reach under-represented Latino and Asian and youth voters.

Develop eye catching signs and leaflets in multiple languages and post them at places where people congregate like shopping centers, Starbucks/Peet's, transportation hubs, etc. Include at government offices as well such as the DMV.

Train and engage local People Power and League of Women Voters to assist with outreach and education efforts, as well as any/all political party groups to do the same throughout the county. Identify any Get Out the Vote efforts and make sure the people running those campaigns are fully knowledgeable of the Voter's Choice Act rollout and can educate new registered voters as to how and when to vote.

Create a traveling group of trainers/educators to go to ethnic fairs including:  
Lunar (Chinese) New Year 16 Feb 2018  
Persian New Year 20 Mar 2018  
Cinco de Mayo 5 May 2018

Target outreach and education to former felons who have completed parole to make sure that they are aware of their rights to re-enfranchisement, and the process to do so. There are many misunderstandings about the process for re-enfranchising these citizens, and these must be addressed urgently.

Also what is the process to get eligible people currently in the county jail registered to vote and obtaining their ballots? If ballots go to their place of residence, how can they get them redirected to the county jail? How do they turn in their ballots? What language or disability assistance is available to them in the county jail?

## Social media:

No social media is mentioned as a partner. Suggest that you contact Facebook and ask for pro bono or reduced fee ad plan, directed at San Mateo County residents. They may be willing to help since their headquarters is in San Mateo County.

Use social media aggressively to get the word out. Use text messaging, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc, to reach voters, especially the younger voters. Don't rely solely on "snail mail" postcards.

## Transparency and public input

All comments you receive should be publicly shared unless the poster asks not to share them. You can omit the names to protect people's' privacy. Make all comments available to the public on [www. Shapethefuture](http://www.Shapethefuture).

All public hearings except one have been during daytime hours, which makes it very difficult for most working people to attend. One public meeting during the working day Jan. 18 is not enough. Schedule some meetings to inform the public at 6:30pm or later so more people are to be able to attend.

There needs to be an advisory committee for the rest of us who were not invited to the previous two workshops held for the disabled and the non-English speakers Support and Tools for voters with disabilities

For disabled citizens who have may have trouble getting to the polling centers, transportation on election day-maybe a deal w SamTrans, Paratransit, Caltrain for free or discounted fares for disabled on election day? Rides to polling centers or in person voting centers from Lyft or Uber?

It is important to educate public and community partners about the availability of Mobile Vote by Mail (where the goes to voter), Accessible VBM (ballot online, results mailed) Roving vote centers.

## Language assistance

How is it determined what languages and what type of assistance is provided at each vote center?

Is this an area where volunteers can be useful?

## Miscellaneous comments

There WILL be confused voters and the phone lines to the County Elections Office WILL be jammed. All former precincts need giant bright signs on and before election day that give them the locations of where they can vote.

With increase in VBM, what steps are being taken to ensure that all ballots are counted? How do people learn that their ballot is rejected due to signature verification in a timely manner? Will they have the opportunity to get their ballot verified? What is the process for doing so? Will signatures be reviewed upon receipt rather than waiting for election day? We need to publicize that same day registration/voting is available at vote centers.

The mail in ballot design should be clear enough to the voter so as not to be mistaken for junk mail,. Make sure that the ballot comes in an envelope with Ballot: Open Immediately—Do Not Throw Away in big bold colorful letters on the outside, or perhaps a prominent flag, liberty, voter box or some other signifier that makes it clear that it is the mail in ballot so it does not get ignored or tossed away as junk mail. Those who do not currently vote by mail may not be expecting it.

(20)Name : brent  
Zip Code : 94019  
Organization : National Association of Voting Officials

Comments :

This plan is not currently acceptable as it will result in the disenfranchisement of voters within under-served communities. The plan has apparently been formulated by vendors putting their business interests ahead of the citizenry without proper regard for the foundation of our democracy. If the intent is truly to increase voter participation, the plan would add voting centers to existing poll sites rather than closing down poll sites. The burden on those without access to transportation will be a veritable poll tax and the suggested methods of a " roaming voting bus " seems insufficient at best. Those most vulnerable to disenfranchisement will be the ones most greatly adversely affected.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Draft EAP and Amended Draft EAP have been developed by the County's Registration & Elections Division. While there are fewer Vote Centers than past Election Day polling places, the Vote Centers will be open for many additional days to accommodate voters.*

The act is being advertised as a security benefit but does not address software security issues.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Hart InterCivic e-Slate is not connected to the internet.*

It also does not address issues surrounding signature matches.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The signatures of vote by mail envelopes are compared to voter registration records.*

Also,the placement planning of the " voting centers " is dubious, especially in the coastal regions.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Voter's Choice Act sets out a number of considerations in Vote Center placement, including proximity to population centers, concentration of language minority communities and voters with disabilities, and communities with low rates of vehicle ownership, among others. We have endeavored to best place the 39 Vote Centers in accordance with these guidelines. While every city has at least one Vote Center, considering the smaller number of Vote Centers as compared to polling*

*places, not every neighborhood will have one. Based on the experience of the 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election, in which 97.5% of voters cast their ballot via mail, we believe the location of Vote Centers will be more than sufficient to serve the county's voters.*

Lastly, the outreach campaign as planned is insufficient.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The details of the County's outreach campaign are still being finalized. While outreach has already begun, the emphasis will be on providing voters with information in the month before the election.*

(21) Name : Steven

Zip Code : 94061-3930

Organization : NA

Comments :

what provisions have been made to protect the integrity of the mail in ballots?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The County will follow its current procedures to protect the integrity of the Vote by Mail ballots. There has not been a previous issue. Information on requirements can be found in CA EC 15100.*

I am increasingly concerned about outside organizations interfering with the voter registration process, particularly if online voting becomes available. What provisions are in place to protect voter identification, party-identification and same-day registrants from fraudulent registrations.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There will not be any online voting for the June election. We follow the California Elections Code (EC) which has procedures in place to prevent voter fraud. Voter qualifications and registration provisions can be found in the EC under Division 2.*

Will voters by mail have the same access to confirmation of ballot mailing (out) and reception (in) as currently. Is there a mechanism to confirm that the ballot has been counted (after receipt) and what is the deadline for this? 30 days? Earlier or later than this?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Yes, vote by mail voters will still be able to confirm their ballot was mailed, received and counted by phone or through our website. Whether the vote has been counted or not, per CA EC 3019.5., will be available upon completion of the official canvass for 30 days.*

Who will be working at the election centers? What types of training will these individuals receive?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*County seasonal employees will be working at Vote Centers. They will receive a minimum of 16 hours of in-person training on their duties.*

How can I be considered for working at the election centers?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Vote Center positions are posted on the County's employment website at <http://jobs.smcgov.org/jobs>.*

How will the dropboxes be secured? What happens if one is removed/stolen? How will voters know if this has occurred and if their ballot was lost?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Inside drop-boxes are visible to Vote Center representatives, City Hall or County staff. They will also be locked to a building element. Outside drop-boxes will be securely bolted to the ground.*

*The authorities would be notified of a theft of a drop-box because this is a serious crime. It would be reported in the media for the public. If a person dropped their vote by mail ballot in a box that went missing, they could cast a ballot at a Vote Center or if it was at least seven days prior to the election, we would mail a replacement ballot. If the drop-box was located, we would not count the original vote from any voter who had cast a replacement.*

(22) Attached [below] are feedback comments from a community town hall regarding the Draft EAP hosted by OCA San Mateo County Chapter.

Chris Bush

President, OCA San Mateo County

Date: January 11, 2018; 7-8:30pm

Location: San Mateo Senior Center

Host: OCA, San Mateo County Chapter

OCA, San Mateo County Chapter is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy group. We have 4 chapters in the San Francisco Bay Area and headquartered in Washington DC. We advocate for Asian Pacific Americans by advancing their political, economic and social wellbeing.

We hope to collaborate with the elections office in the future. We held a town hall to discuss the EAP and our feedback included the following.

**DROP BOX LOCATION/VOTE CENTER LOCATIONS:**

These are locations our community members suggested that would be good locations to keep and or include.

- San Mateo County Library at 3rd/El Camino as a Vote Center or Drop Box
- College of San Mateo and the Farmer's Market would be an ideal location due to the concentration of people in one area
- Employment Centers, near high tech businesses
- Library in Millbrae/instead of City Hall; less intimidating

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Voter's Choice Act sets out a number of considerations in Vote Center placement, including proximity to population centers, concentration of language minority communities and voters with disabilities, and communities with low rates of vehicle ownership, among others. We have endeavored to best place the 39 Vote Centers in accordance with these guidelines.*

*While every city has at least one Vote Center, considering the smaller number of Vote Centers as compared to polling places, not every neighborhood will have one. Based on the experience of the 2015 All-Mailed Ballot Election, in which 97.5% of voters cast their ballot via mail, we believe the location of Vote Centers will be more than sufficient to serve the county's voters.*

**COMMUNITY LEADERS TO INCLUDE:**

These are community leaders that community members suggested to add to maximize outreach.

- Kimochi Senior Citizen Living in San Mateo
- Rotary Clubs; Foster City, Belmont
- San Mateo Chamber of Commerce
- Palo Alto Medical Foundation
- AARP• Pilgrim Baptist Church
- St. James AME Church
- Universal Unitarian Church
- Local minority owned businesses
- San Mateo the NAACP feels that it would be wise to reach out to NAACP branches in San Francisco and San Jose. The three branches collaborate when possible on important matter such as voting changes

**UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS TO INCLUDE:**

This is an event that we noticed was not included in the upcoming community events.

- Redwood City LNY Celebration; Feb 24<sup>th</sup>

**MEDIA PARTNERS:**

Some suggested media partners for furthering the outreach effort are the following.

- Real Estate magazine
- Radio Show, in Spanish Language (Burlingame)
- Social Media
- Women's March advertisement
- SF Examiner Sunday Special
- El Show de Paula Maruri
- Local "Patch" online newspapers

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will review the additional community leaders, events and media suggested. If we do not have an organization on the Community Partners list or on the Media list, we also welcome these organizations to contact us.*

PHONE BANK VOTERS:

Our community members suggested that the election office consider doing phone banking as a form of outreach to educate voters about the change.

- Assisted Living Facilities outreach

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for the suggestion on phone outreach.*

(23) Name : Kathy

Zip Code : 94403

Organization :

Comments :

Addressing disparities- request to include the following agencies:

- Office of immigrant support and coordination
- Behavioral health department Health Equity Initiatives and Office of Diversity and Equity

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have contacted the offices you suggested and have offered to provide training or give a presentation.*

How will county staff be informed of the availability of education and training?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Secretary of State has provided information on the VCA in an update to NVRA agency coordinators and NVRA agency staff.*

(24) To whom it may concern:

I'm a Belmont resident and a professional software security consultant. I would like to draw attention to this line in the Draft EAP:

At each Vote Center, a network of personal computers will be linked to the County's Election Management System (EMS) through a secure connection.

Can you elaborate on the layout for these personal computers? I am worried about the potential for compromise of the county's voter file, or of the voting machines. I can point you to resources but there is a lot of evidence out there that suggests resources like these are trivially compromised.

- Are these the personal computers of election day volunteers? If so, what steps are taken to ensure that the volunteers machines or web browsers are not compromised, or that malicious actors are not signing up to administer the election?

- Are these machines connected to the Hart InterCivic or eSlate voting devices? This would provide an avenue for remote compromise.

- Can these machines make connections to the broader Internet, or can they only access the County EMS?

- Do these machines have write permission to the County EMS? In other words, can they modify data in the EMS, or only read it? I would appreciate some sort of architecture diagram here, as the system may be designed to be read-only for polite users, but allow malicious users to write bad data to the system. Read only access would be best, especially if the data accessible via the EMS is a read-only copy of the County voter file, and the actual file that gets written to is stored in a completely separate, offline location.
- Can you plug a USB stick or an Ethernet cable into these machines? This adds to the potential for compromise. I would hope any USB connections to the devices would be bricked or covered with concrete.
- How easy would it be for one of these computers to extract the entire voter file?
- What is the procedure for monitoring for security updates to the software running on these machines and on the County's EMS software? How are software updates applied? How long does it take from notification of a security update, to actually patching the computers or the County EMS?
- Do these machines expose a web server to the Internet? If so, are these servers and/or the wifi networks password protected, and if so, what are the requirements for password security? At the very least, it would be good to know that they are not using a default password like "admin."

Answers to these questions will help determine the County's risk of software compromise, and on the flip side, the security and safety of the County's election system.

Unfortunately, I cannot attend the meeting in person on Thursday but I hope you will give these comments due consideration.

Thanks, Kevin

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Hart InterCivic equipment is never connected to the County network or the internet.*

*All new staff are fingerprinted and background checked and go through security training.*

*All servers are located behind the county data center firewall which is constantly monitored and patched by a 24-hour network operations center.*

*Laptops will be purchased for use only at Vote Centers. Each laptop will login to a Virtual Private Network (VPN) via a username and password. The VPNs will create private, encrypted connections from the Vote Center to the County network. After the VPN connection is created, a user must log on to the County network using another unique username and password.*

*Once connected, three of the laptops will only have access to EIMS and the other one will only be able to access the SOS's website for on-line voter registration. Other websites will be blocked.*

*Vote Centers will not have access to the full EIMS applications. A "light" browser-based application will be used at the Vote Centers. This means that users will be limited in what they can access and change. Users will not be able to download the entire voter registration database.*

*All unused port and connections on the laptops and other devices will be sealed and/or blocked from use. Laptops will be sealed with tamper evidence seals when not in use and stored in a secure location overnight.*

(25) Hello,

I have reviewed the EAP and have some questions and comments.

Why is the public hearing being held during the day. Many people interested in attending work. Please schedule another hearing.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There were many factors in the scheduling of the Public Hearing. Voters were welcome to provide comments via email, mail, fax, phone or in-person. We did hold the required three public meetings.*

*We will take your feedback into consideration for future hearings.*

Location of the drop boxes seem to primarily be in some sort of government buildings.

Many people are hesitant to enter government buildings particularly in light of the current administrations policy of immigration.

Locate boxes in community centers, libraries, near supermarkets, public transportation centers- where people go on a regular basis.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Government buildings provide security for the drop-boxes. We are still determining locations for three drop-boxes, and we will take your comments into consideration.*

Voting centers and disabilities

How will the location of these centers be publicized?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Vote Center addresses will be in the Sample Ballot & Voter Information Pamphlet and with the Official Ballot mailing. The addresses will also be on our website.*

How will language translation availability be chosen?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will recruit a Spanish speaker and Chinese speaker for each Vote Center. Vote Centers in or near precincts where 3% of the voters speak Filipino and/or Korean,*

*we will also recruit staff who speak these languages. If the County is unable to find staff who speak any of these languages and meet other job requirements, we will provide language assistance by phone.*

Will there be disability parking?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There will be identified disabled person parking at each Vote Center.*

Will transportation for the disabled be provided?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*If a disabled voter wishes to go in-person to a Vote Center and needs transportation, the Registration & Elections Division will make arrangements.*

Please post community questions and answers to allow the public access.

Susan  
San Carlos resident.

(26) To Whom It May Concern at San Mateo County Elections Office,

Hello, My name is Charles, representing Migrante Northern San Mateo County (Migrante NSMC). We wanted to provide feedback for the EAP and attached is our letter. Thank you for taking the time to read our feedback and please feel free to contact myself if you have any questions or need further clarification from the letter.

Sincerely,  
Charles

January 17, 2018  
San Mateo County Elections Office 40 Tower Road  
San Mateo, CA 94402

To Whom it May Concern at San Mateo County Elections Office,

We are writing on behalf of Migrante Northern San Mateo County (Migrante NSMC), a migrant workers' grassroots organization that advocates for our rights and welfare in the United States and part of the broader community of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW's). We believe in protecting and advancing the rights and welfare of Filipinos and all community members by fighting for social, economic and racial equality. Standing side by side, Migrante NSMC builds with workers to share their voice and address their concerns & issues.

Our members were able to discuss the EAP (Election Administration Plan) and wanted to provide the following feedback based on our experiences working with the community. Thank you for taking the time to read our feedback and please feel free to contact us. LAAC Feedback Considering the diversity of our voters and the opportunity to get more community members to understand the election process as well as be well informed to

make their election vote, a LAAC is very important to have. We appreciate there are other languages being representation (Spanish and Chinese dialects), but noticed potentially there is not a member from the Filipino-American community. According to the 2010, US Census Filipinos make up 33% of Daly City and almost 10% of San Mateo County's population respectively. Thus, we feel it would be a vital resource to and would strengthen LAAC's representation. If it would be helpful, Migrante NSMC could assist in finding a community member who can be on the LAAC provided someone from the elections office can explain what the time commitment and other responsibilities that are required.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Registration & Elections Division will contact you for assistance in finding a community member who speaks Filipino/Tagalog to join the LAAC.*

Voter Center Location (VCL) feedback

- For the 10 days before locations: We are concerned about the Daly City Hall location since local residents might feel uncomfortable in such a setting given the recent national and political attacks on the immigrant population and ICE raids. A suggestion for another VCL could be Gellert Clubhouse/Park which is easily accessible for public transportation and has parking spots.
- For the 3 days before location: We feel that Marchbank Park would be difficult because of the traffic congestion on a small busy community street (parking), as well the limited accommodation (only 49 max capacity). An alternative location to Marchbank Park could be at Westlake location because it is accessible for those with disabilities, family, and transportation needs. We affirm that Holy Child St. Martin is a good site accessible for community members and has ample parking.
- Other VCL Feedback o For the Operations Center in Colma, this name might be confusing so please be clear in terms of where voters can go if this is a site o Schools, churches, and community centers are all good ideas for voting centers and appreciate the variety in the VCL list. o Reviewing the San Mateo County geographic map, and for locations with limited VACs, it is good to have places in between such as La Honda to reach voters.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have cancelled plans to use Marchbank Park as a Vote Center and plan to use the Gellert Park Clubhouse.*

Outreach Suggestions Other community partner suggestions because of their reach and involvement with the community could Westlake School of Performing Arts, 200 Northgate Ave, Daly City, CA 94015, (650) 757-1244, and Faith in Action 1336 Arroyo Avenue San Carlos, CA 94070.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We welcome these organizations to contact us if they would like a presentation or training.*

For Filipino American News Outlets, we recommend contacting:

- ABS-CBN (tv),

- Newspapers
  - o Manila Mail: (650) 992-5474; 333 Gellert Blvd, Daly City, CA 94015
  - Asian Journal: <http://asianjournal.com/news/us/northern-california/>
  - Fil Am Star (SF): <https://filamstar.com/contact-us/>
  - Inquirer (Daly City): <http://services.inquirer.net/contactus/> Events Feedback

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added these news outlets to our media list.*

Our main question would be what happens at these outreaching events and what would be the plan in reaching out to the community? Other than that, it might be a good idea to outreach at these events:

- Fun, Health, and Safety Fair on Saturday, March 3, 2018, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Serramonte Center. There are many community residents in San Mateo County who visit the stores in general but then will also be accessing community services at this event.
- During April 2018, Family Literacy Days and Kindergarten Readiness Events at Jefferson Elementary School District. Not necessarily because of the students (who the majority would not be age eligible to vote) but because of the family members who are active, can vote, and can involve others.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Staff attend community events where they can speak to a group and/or set-up a table to assist voters with registration and inform them of the new voting model. We have added the events you provided, and we will contact the organizers to find out if we can attend.*

Sincerely, Migrante Northern San Mateo County

(27) To Whom It May Concern at San Mateo County Elections Office,

We are writing on behalf of the Pacific Islander Community in San Mateo County.

Within the Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center we are connected to several Pacific Islanders within our community and decided to connect with our local churches to share the Election Administration Plan.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for sharing the draft EAP with several groups.*

We believe in giving our people a voice and going to them where they are most comfortable so the information is most authentic. The Pacific Islander communities from the Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints Young Single Adult group, South Bay Tongan Catholic Chaplaincy committee, St. Timothy Lataki group, Saint Francis of Assisi Lataki group, Team Ikuna, Pacific Islander Health Ambassador and Pacific Islander Initiative. Being able to share the EAP and providing a safe space for folks to give feedback focusing around these listed below.

## Locations of Vote Centers / Drop Box

- We are concerned about the San Mateo and Foster City Hall location with the recent political climate folks are afraid to go to the local city halls.
- San Mateo; Registration & Elections Division; Folks shared that this location is out of reach due to it being on the borderline of Belmont and San Mateo.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Registration & Elections Division location is just one Vote Center location. It has been at Tower Road site for more than 50 years and the location is familiar to many in the community. In previous elections, it had the most voters and the highest number of drop-off ballots of the three Vote Centers.*

- Recommendation is to have the Drop Box or Vote Center at a kind friendly public area such as the two listed below. Both locations have an open parking lot and are in a central open area for the community, family friendly, accessible for disabilities and near public transportation.

- San Mateo Main Library
- Foster City Library

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*In past years, many of our county's polling places have been located in government buildings, from libraries to city halls to a national guard facility. Our staff at the polls have always endeavored to make sure voters feel welcome and free to cast their ballot in privacy, regardless of whether their polling place was in a government facility, commercial building, or private residence.*

*Vote Center staff will only confirm a voter's identity and eligibility when they arrive to cast their vote. Identification will only be required of first-time voters who registered online, and who do not have a signature on file. Vote Center staff will not question voters on other matters.*

*We hope that voters will feel comfortable casting their ballots in those Vote Centers hosted by government facilities. However, under the Voter's Choice Act voters have a variety of options in casting their ballot, which they may do at any Vote Center or by mail.*

## Media Feedback

Opening up the media feedback and outreach to the Pacific Islander community below are a list of places or where you can reach a massive pool of pacific islanders.

- Online
- Sharing the information through Facebook event pages for the community
- Next Door Account
- Radio / Podcast
- Big Body Radio Podcast
- Poly by Design "The Faika Podcast"
- Tongan Radio
- Church Bulletin or Announcements

- Train Stations
- Bus Stops

#### Events Feedback

- Soul Stroll; May 2018
- School Events
- Monthly Principal / Parent Coffee
- Parent Teacher Conference
- Parent Projects
- Cafesito

#### Community Organizations Feedback

- Taulama for Tongans
- Samoan Community Development Center
- Journey to Empowerment
- Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center
- Pacific Islander Health Ambassador
- Pacific Islander Initiative
- Churches

#### General other comments and feedback

- College of San Mateo Programs
- Mana High Education Program
- Umoja Program
- Puente Program
- Language Barrier; Samoan & Tongan & Fijian

#### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added several of your media suggestions to the Media Partners list.<sup>8</sup> We have also added the Soul Stroll to the list of events we should contact organizers about attending.<sup>9</sup> We would be pleased to make a presentation or conduct training with any of the groups you have named if they are interested.*

Best,

Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center; Pacific Islander Community.

(28) Zip Code : 95014

Organization : NIAC

From: The National Iranian American Council

Re: Feedback on San Mateo County's draft Election Administration Plan

Honorable Board of Supervisors,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the county's draft Election Administration Plan (EAP).

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<sup>8</sup> Addenda p. 53

<sup>9</sup> Addenda p. 49

San Mateo County is home to a vibrant Iranian-American community, with a population of about 3,000 residents - 1,600 of whom are registered to vote. We wish to ensure that our community is properly represented during the creation of the Election Administration Plan and would like to offer the following recommendations to ensure this is achieved.

#### Location

We would like to applaud the county for choosing locations that are highly accessible to the major employers in San Mateo County, which makes it more accessible to the employees of these companies. We are concerned, however, that these vote centers may see a lot of traffic as they are only open 3 days before Election day. We would recommend opening these vote centers 10 days before election days to accommodate for the large population of employees, or ensuring that there are drop boxes easily accessible to those that commute to those areas of San Mateo, rather than at city halls.

We are also concerned that, as the current map depicts, the majority of drop box locations are placed at town halls, city halls, and government offices. Many immigrant communities, particularly in the current environment, have felt some form of persecution by or distrust of the government. This may cause some communities to feel uncomfortable with entering an official government building, creating an access barrier to the drop boxes. In addition, many people are unfamiliar with the location of City Hall. We would like to see drop boxes located at familiar public places, such as libraries and community centers that immigrant communities see as a safe space.

#### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*In past years, many of our county's polling places have been located in government buildings, from libraries to city halls to a national guard facility. Our staff at the polls have always endeavored to make sure voters feel welcome and free to cast their ballot in privacy, regardless of whether their polling place was in a government facility, commercial building, or private residence.*

*We hope that voters will feel comfortable returning their ballots in those Vote Centers hosted by government facilities. However, under the Voter's Choice Act voters have a variety of options in dropping off their ballot, which they may do at any Vote Center or by mail (at the USPS, a retailer with mail services or USPS street-corner collection boxes).*

#### Community Events

We would like to see Persian New Year, known as Norouz (Spring Equinox), added to the event calendar to make sure the Iranian-American community is targeted in the outreach plan. Pre-Norouz and Norouz events are being held on the second and third week of March. For example, Pars Equality Center's Norouz event will be held on Saturday, March 3rd in Burlingame.

#### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for the information on the Persian New Year event. We have added it to our calendar,<sup>10</sup> and we will contact the organizers to find out if we can attend.*

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<sup>10</sup> Addenda p. 49

## Voter Education and Outreach Plan

Lastly, as we stated earlier, there are a large number of Iranian-Americans in San Mateo County. As such, we request that the county includes the Persian language in its outreach plan, and targets individuals from the Iranian-American community. Such efforts can include advertisements and public announcements in Persian.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The County follows the language requirements provided by CA EC 14201 (d). At this time, there is not a precinct where 3% or more of the voting-age residents speak Persian and/or Farsi in San Mateo County.*

Sincerely,

Northern California Organizer  
National Iranian American Council (NIAC)

(29) To Whom It May Concern:

We wanted to provide some feedback on the Voter's Choice Election Plan. Thank you for the time and thought that went into a well developed plan.

1. Location of Proposed Vote Centers – Thank you for your proposed locations in District 2. We strongly encourage King Community Center to be a Vote Center location and believe that College of San Mateo should be a site for a Vote Center, as should community colleges in other districts, in order to reach the underrepresented demographic of 18-25 year olds. Coupled with a vote center at community college campuses, there should also be extensive outreach to these populations.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have not been able to confirm the King Community Center as a Vote Center. (2/13/18 King Center cancelled due to scheduling issues.)*

*We did not include Vote Centers at these colleges because classes end between May 19 and May 25, but we have added the college newspapers to our media outreach list. We will consider Vote Centers or drop-boxes at local colleges in the future.*

2. Community Partners – North Central Neighborhood Association, San Mateo United Homeowners Association, Thrive Alliance of Nonprofits, San Mateo Union High School District, San Mateo-Foster School District, Youth Commission, Youth Leadership Institute & Youth Advisory Councils throughout the county, Notre Dame de Namur University, African American Community Health Advisory Committee, LifeMoves First Step for Families, Taulama for Tongans.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for the additional suggestions for Community Partners. We have added these organizations, and we hope to work closely with you on reaching out to them.*

3. Community Outreach – To target the underrepresented young adult population, outreach and education should target all college campuses including CSM, Canada, Skyline, NDNU, Menlo College, and UC Extension. Partnerships with youth advocacy/leadership groups like youth councils, Youth Leadership Institute, and high schools should be included. Furthermore, outreach venues/partners should also include congregations and libraries.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We agree that there needs to be outreach to the colleges. We have added several college groups to our Community Partner list.<sup>11</sup> We do have speakers at high schools and conduct voter registration drives during the SOS High School Education Weeks.*

4. Community Events –Some of the events listed have passed or no longer exist, and may not be reflective of the actual events taking place prior to the election.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have updated our Community Event list.<sup>12</sup> Please let us know exactly what events if you see anything on the list that has passed or no longer exists.*

Thank you!

(30)Whom It May concern,

Here are some preliminary comments on the draft EAP, being submitted on behalf of the staff of District 1:

• Proposed Vote center locations:

In Burlingame, St Paul’s Episcopal church is relatively close to City Hall; perhaps the second location should be at a location farther away from city hall

Suggestions for San Bruno TBD= library, city hall

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Upon further review, it was determined that a second Vote Center was not needed in Burlingame, and we will only have the City Hall Vote Center. We are continuing to review locations for San Bruno and appreciate your suggestions.*

• Proposed Community Partners for District 1

Add school and parent-based organizations, as they often have great regular communications with large numbers of people

☞Elementary, middle and high school PTA

☞Education foundations (not just Hillsborough; add Burlingame Community for Education, Millbrae Education Foundation, etc...)

☞Private schools (Crystal Springs Uplands School, Mercy/Burlingame)

☞These suggestions could apply to the other districts as well

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<sup>11</sup> Addenda p. 37

<sup>12</sup> Addenda p. 49

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*With the possibilities for outreach almost unlimited, the Registration & Elections Division will do outreach to the school districts and ask them to conduct outreach to the school and parent-based organizations such as the PTAs.*

*We have added the Burlingame and Millbrae Educational Foundations to the Community Partners list.<sup>13</sup> Please let us know the names of other foundations and specific contacts you would like to suggest.*

Add more faith-based community partners, including churches, synagogues, etc

1. Involve youth-based organizations, including community college district, Boys and Girls Clubs, SMC Youth Commission, youth advisory committees of the various cities.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added the Boys & Girls Clubs to the Community Partners list. We would appreciate any information on specific groups and contacts you may have for youth-based organizations.<sup>14</sup>*

We welcome the opportunity for further input at a later date, and will follow up with staff.

Regards,

(31)Hi Mark,

I hope your 2018 is off to a great start. With respect, here is some feedback that I'd like to share with you and your staff regarding the draft Election Administration Plan, and specifically related to District Four:

- According to your plan, the Vote Center for the Redwood City/North Fair Oaks location is still "TBD." I would suggest the Fair Oaks Community Center.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for suggesting the Fair Oaks Community Center. It was our first choice, too. Due to prior commitments, it is not available for a long period. It will be a three-day Vote Center.<sup>15</sup>*

- I would also like to request that there be a Vote Center in East Palo Alto that is open 29 days out from the election. There needs to be somewhere in the southern part of the County for East Palo Alto residents to vote.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Registration & Elections Division has been able to obtain the City's Community Room inside the Lewis and Joan Platt East Palo Alto Family YMCA for a 29-day Vote Center.<sup>16</sup>*

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<sup>13</sup> Addenda p. 37

<sup>14</sup> Addenda p. 37

<sup>15</sup> Addenda p. 19

<sup>16</sup> Addenda p. 19

- The EAP draft says: “the County will endeavor to staff at least one Spanish-speaking and one Chinese-speaking election worker.” It is very important that there are Spanish speakers at all the District Four Vote Centers. In fact, it would be great to have more than one Spanish speaker. Additionally, per San Mateo County’s Language Access Policy, we should strive to have translators at Vote Centers who can speak the other most prevalently spoken languages countywide: Tagalog, Russian or Arabic.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will do our best to staff the District Four Vote Centers with Spanish speakers. The Vote Center job opportunity is posted on the County job site. We note that several, but not all, Vote Center Representatives require fluency in Spanish, Mandarin and/or Cantonese, Tagalog/Filipino or Korean.<sup>17</sup>*

- Some of the District Four Community Partners that are listed have addresses that are out of date. Can you ensure that the listed contact information is accurate?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We reviewed the list for the Amended Draft EAP by checking every organization’s website and sending them an email, using a website contact form or calling them. Also our Outreach Coordinators contacted each County Supervisor’s aides to review the partner list.<sup>18</sup>*

- Additional Community Partners that I would recommend:
  - Rosalie Rendu Center
  - Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto
  - Fair Oaks Health center
  - Saint Francis Center

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for providing additional suggestions for Community Partners. We have added them to our list and have initiated contact with these organizations.<sup>19</sup>*

- I would like more information about the role that Community Partners will play in outreach and education. Is your staff preparing a training for voter registration outreach for election workers? If so, can that training and programming be packaged and shared with Community Partners so that they can easily replicate/share information with residents? Additionally, the San Mateo County Office of Community Affairs would be a good partner to help do outreach on voting.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added more information about the possible role of our Community Partners in the Voter Education and Outreach Plan.<sup>20</sup> The Registration & Elections Division is preparing an online toolkit to share with partners and interested parties to train them on voter registration and the new election model to help with outreach.<sup>21</sup> We have contacted the San Mateo County Office of Community Affairs to see how we can work together.*

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<sup>17</sup> EAP p. 3

<sup>18</sup> Addenda p. 37

<sup>19</sup> Addenda p. 42-43

<sup>20</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 9

<sup>21</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 10

- In addition to the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) and the Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC), I would love to see a Voter Participation Committee established to focus on confronting barriers to voting and solutions to ensure widespread voter turnout.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added a new group, the Registration & Elections Division Support Network, for individuals who wish to help identify barriers and provide solutions.<sup>22</sup> We may create a Voter Participation Committee in the future.*

Thanks to you and your staff for all your hard work aimed at making elections in San Mateo County successful.

Best,

Warren Slocum

(32) Zip Code: 94002

Organization: SMC DFA, Common Cause, ACLU People Power- Belmont, National Voter Corps

**Comments:**

Many thanks for volunteering to be one of the five Counties in California to test alternate ways of opening voting to be able to increase participation, especially among under-represented groups. All of us are under-represented given how few of us actually vote, so I hope you and we see double digit increases over the next 3 elections so that a healthy majority of eligible adults are voting by the next Presidential election!

My comments include:

1. It would be easy to waste the \$241K outreach budget on mass media, and I would like to volunteer to be on a sub-team developing/evaluating the outreach plan to make sure we have effective reach among eligible adults - which often does NOT mean newspaper/TV ads.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Approximately \$150,000 of the outreach budget will go to direct voter contact via mailings.*

2. Please discuss this plan ASAP with Anne Campbell, the Superintendent of Schools of San Mateo County, who has a vast network reaching 750K students and their families in a ready-made infrastructure network you need not replicate - but can take full helpful advantage of!!

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<sup>22</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 10

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have notified Anne Campbell of the new voting model and we will reach out to her again for assistance.*

3. Please set up 4 weeks in a row of voter registration and education opportunities at those schools, for parents dropping off their students or picking them up, using the school newsletters to promote the sessions - offering trained volunteers before school as well as after, to offer language assistance for voter registration (to get parents into the right language ballot for them before the wrong one is sent to them - thereby also letting them know about the upcoming election, their eligibility if they register, and the languages their personal ballot can be offered in! The earlier you do this - such as in February - the longer they have to discuss it among themselves, the longer you have to seed it with the PTAs who can reinforce the message leading up to election day - Primary first in June, then General in November.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Due to the number of schools in the County, it would not be possible for the Registration & Elections Division to take on such a registration drive, but we will share your suggestion Superintendent Campbell and she can suggest that school leaders discuss with the parent-teacher organizations.*

4. Please post large signs in all relevant/available languages at former polling sites that are no longer polling sites - with a map showing where the new sites are, with their addresses and open hours listed along the sides of the map. If those maps can be up and highly visible at least a week ahead of the two actual elections, that may be enough time to seed the idea that the voter needs to go elsewhere to vote!

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your suggestion.*

5. Please canvass neighborhoods with well trained volunteers to alert people to the opportunity to vote, going to doors where people are not yet registered (carrying registration papers), and to doors where people have rarely voted - to engage the household's people with the discussion of the new voting site for their area. And if in the last month before the Primary (and later the General), with the ballot description to help engage them in being interested in learning about the candidates and the issues. The degree to which the canvasser can choose topics that must impact that particular household for examples of impact their vote can have ~ the more effective the effort!

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*With the possibilities for outreach almost unlimited, the Registration & Elections Division does not have the staff to conduct door-to-door outreach. We can provide training and information to groups wishing to do so.*

6. Please train volunteers (through the LWV, SMC DFA, NVC, ACLU People Power, Common Cause, etc.) to table at schools, high traffic grocery stores, farmers' markets, and train stations to reach the vast majority of eligible adults who should be able to vote if registered, starting in March, and leading through to the early June Primary.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Yes, we can provide training and information to interested groups.*

7. Please look through all your materials to realize the degree to which you have schedule meetings and voting hours during most people's working hours. Please insure that at least one night a week the voting places are open until 10 p.m., and that it is well promoted throughout the County! Thank you for being open on the two weekends before the actual final election day as well - that's very helpful.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will take your suggestion into consideration the next time we schedule hearings. Since the Vote Centers will be open on two weekends, we do not see a need to have Vote Centers open until 10 p.m.*

We could all be so proud of San Mateo County and our % increase in voter participation this election!!!!Please take to heart my wish to review the Outreach plan before a penny is spent, to make sure we don't waste that money - but actually raise awareness of the opportunities.

Very many thanks,

## Public Comments Received on Comment Cards at Public Hearing and Registration & Elections Division

(33) I've heard that the vote ctrs or drop-off ctrs. located at city hall & govt offices. For immigrant communities who may be reluctant to go to such places, wouldn't it be better to have ctrs in libraries & non-threatening locations

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your comments on our draft Election Administration Plan. In past years, many of our county's polling places have been located in government buildings, from libraries to city halls to a national guard facility. Our staff at the polls have always endeavored to make sure voters feel welcome and free to cast their ballot in privacy, regardless of whether their polling place was in a government facility, commercial building, or private residence.*

*Vote Center staff will only confirm a voter's identity and eligibility when they arrive to cast their vote. Identification will only be required of first-time voters who registered online, and who do not have a signature on file. Vote Center staff will not question voters on other matters.*

*We hope that voters will feel comfortable casting their ballots in those Vote Centers hosted by government facilities. However, under the Voter's Choice Act voters have a variety of options in casting their ballot, which they may do at any Vote Center or by mail.*

(34) Vote by mail increases cost of campaigning candidates - reducing pool of potential leadership choice.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We do not have any information on costs to candidates for vote by mail vs. polling place elections.*

Vote by mail makes fraud a greater possibility if someone in household fills out everyone's ballots. Not safe & secure situation.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Though it is true that someone else in your household could fill out your ballot, the ballot is not accepted without the registered voter's signature.*

(35) Request: Bellhaven Branch Library, part of Menlo Park Library (3 or 10 day vote center).  
Request: Move EPA to a library (avoid police department).

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your suggestions. In Menlo Park, the Vote Centers will be at the Arrillaga Family Recreation Center and the Onetta Harris Community Center. In East Palo, the Vote Centers will be at the Lewis and Joan Platt East Palo Alto Family YMCA and the Government Center.*

(36) Recommend copy receipt of who/what I voted for as printed on machine - itemized for each office and measures.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Our current equipment does not allow us to provide you with a receipt showing who and what you voted for. You can see your selections before you finalize them.*

(37) 1. Create a speaker bank to assist with outreach;

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are happy to offer training to have individuals and organizations assist with voter outreach.*

2. Certificate training program for face-to-face voter registration and follow-up;

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are happy to offer training to have individuals and organizations assist with voter outreach.*

3. Program for homeless registration and follow-up;

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*County agencies providing assistance to the homeless are required to provide voter registration information.*

4. Transportation to voting centers during the last weekend;

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Registration & Elections Division will arrange for transportation to a Vote Center for disabled voters who cannot arrange for paratransit in advance.*

5. Advisory Committee for outreach and follow-up

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your comment. We will not be implementing your suggestion at this time, but we will reconsider in the future.*

(38) Suggestion - Incorporate "destructive testing" into your Quality Assurance TEST process/environment in order to ensure NO security vulnerabilities

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your suggestion. Our office is continuously looking for ways to improve our processes. We will pass your suggestion along to our Technology Team.*

(39) Dear Mr. Church

The SMC Union Community Alliance submits the following comments, questions, and recommendations regarding the county's Draft Election Administration Plan.

## Vote by Mail Ballots

- Comment: This section only describes how voters registered as of the date that ballots are mailed (29 days before the election) will receive ballots, not how or when the voters who register from day 29 to election day will receive their ballots.
- Recommendation: The county should clarify how residents who register after ballots are mailed will receive their ballots.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added information to the Amended Draft EAP on receiving ballots after the first mailing 29 days before the election.<sup>23</sup> Ballots will be mailed to voters who register by the close of registration (15 days before the election). A replacement ballot can be sent to registered voters up till one week prior to Election Day. To register at 14 days or less, a resident will come into a Vote Center to conditionally register and receive a provisional ballot.*

## Vote Center and Drop-off Locations

- Recommendation: One of three vote centers, and one of the 24-hour drop-off locations fails to meet basic criteria for these sites. The Registration & Elections Division is far from transit and population centers, and away from low-income and language-minority communities. Find a more central location for this vote center / drop-off site.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are working with several variables on the placement of Vote Centers and Drop-boxes including availability for the timeframe and space. Though the Registration & Elections Division seems far from population centers, many voters find it easy to get to us on their way to or from work since we are practically at the intersection of Highways 280 and 92.*

- Question: These locations were chosen based on county's 390,000 registered voters for June 2018. How does that distribution compare with total county population, or total population of adults 18 years of age and older?
- Recommendation: Since one of the goals is to increase voter participation, vote centers and drop-off sites should be located based on total adult population, not registered voters.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The maps used to select Vote Center and Drop-box locations are in the Addenda. You will find a map of San Mateo population as well as one displaying areas with eligible residents who are not yet registered.*

- Question: Plan states centers will only open early and remain open till 8 pm on election day. What are the voter center hours: 28 days out, 10 days out and 3 days out?
- Recommendation: provide for additional early morning and early evening hours for vote centers and drop-off sites.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added the hours to the Amended Draft EAP: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. including two weekends.<sup>24</sup>*

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<sup>23</sup> EAP p. 1

<sup>24</sup> EAP p. 3

- Recommendation: Plan states the County will try to recruit Spanish and Chinese-speaking staff. County needs to make a commitment to providing bi-lingual staff in communities where high percentage of non-English speaking residents.
- Recommendation: Use video translation service, as needed, to address the needs of non-English speaking voters.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The County would like to hire at least one English-Spanish and English-Chinese for each Vote Center. There is currently very high employment in the area, making it difficult to guarantee we will be able to hire seasonal staff with these languages skill. We have planned to use a telephone-based translation service, but we will look into the suggestion for video as well.*

Drop-off boxes

- Question: Do the drop-off box locations, primarily at city halls, meet the legal requirements “that Vote Centers and Ballot Drop- off locations be accessible to voters with disabilities, located near population centers, public transportation and near low-income and language minority communities.”

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Yes, the drop-boxes at City Halls does meet these requirements.*

- Question: How do these proposed locations compare to the previous locations of 200+ polling places?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*While every city has at least one Vote Center, considering the smaller number of Vote Centers as compared to polling places, not every neighborhood will have one.*

- Question: Why so few drop-off locations (1 per 15,000 voters as compared to ratio of 1 per 1,000 voters) for polling places?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Legislature set the number.*

*In addition to the drop-boxes, ballots can be returned in the included postage paid envelope at a post office or in one of the 622 mail collection boxes throughout the County.*

- Recommendation: provide for additional early morning or early evening hours for drop-off boxes.
- Recommendation: In addition to the 20 City Halls locations, provide as many as 20 more non-governmental locations in communities with historically low turnout, that are near population centers, public transportation and low-income and language-minority communities.

Voting Technology

- Question: How will the public access the real-time voter registration system to see how has voted, in order to encourage people to return their ballots?
- Recommendation: Without compromising the system's security, voter registration groups, campaigns, and others should be given low or no-cost access to the voter registration rolls, including who has returned their ballots.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are considering a subscription service. Interested groups or individuals would sign up on our website and we would provide a username and password to obtain access to an FTP folder. Every day at 4:30 we will place a new report into that folder.*

*On Election Day, the report will be updated hourly.*

**VOTER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PLAN: ADDRESSING DISPARITIES IN PARTICIPATION,**

- Recommendation: Most agencies listed in this section are governmental agencies. Develop and implement a plan to work with nonprofit service agencies in the county.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added more non-profits to the Community Partners list.<sup>25</sup>*

- Recommendation: Develop and implement plan to deploy the mobile Voter Center to geographically remote areas where a fixed site is not feasible, and to sites where residents have limited mobility.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are making plans for a Roving Voting station to travel to geographically distant parts of the County that are not served by a fixed site Vote Center.*

*Voters with disabilities have several options. You can find information in the Voter Education and Outreach Plan<sup>26</sup> and on our website.*

**DIRECT VOTER CONTACTS**

- Question: What is the county policy regarding purging the rolls of infrequent voters?
- Recommendation: Send one postcard to all county residents 18+ years.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We do not purge infrequent voters.*

Thank you for your consideration of these comments and recommendations.

Sincerely yours,  
Bradley

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<sup>25</sup> Addenda p. 37

<sup>26</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 7

## Public Comments at Hearing and Registration & Elections Division

*PLEASE NOTE: These questions and comments have been summarized from the January 18, 2018 Public Hearing. For the complete comment, please listen to the audio which can be found on our website. If you believe that your question or comment was not summarized correctly, please email the Registration & Elections Division at registrar@smcacre.org so that we can update the record.*

(40) What are your target statistics for voter turnout for June? What would you consider a success? For November will you reevaluate the voter turnout expectations after the June Election?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*While the Legislature's passing of the Voter's Choice Act is in part to increase voter participation, we are not setting a target. Participation varies for a variety of factors, including who the candidates are and what the measures are.*

(41) Will the rest of California Counties continue to have regular polling place Elections?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There are four other counties piloting the VCA model for the June election.*

*The Voter's Choice Act would, 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 drop-off locations, vote centers, and plans for the administration of all-mailed ballot elections.*

*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 drop-off 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.*

Will every city/town hall have a drop box?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Yes, every City/Town Hall will have a drop-box.*

Are the 4 exterior drop boxes open 24 hours/day?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have not finalized the locations for the final three drop-boxes but we hope to confirm locations which will provide 24/7 access.*

How will voters know where the drop boxes are located?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Drop-box locations will be listed in the Sample Ballot & Official Voter Information Pamphlet and on our website. Voters may also call our office for location information.*

(42) How are you checking to make sure that voters aren't registered in more than one county?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Each Vote Center will have access to the State's voter database, Vote Cal.*

Will you consider having a flat fee for the VBM voter file to allow the electoral process more accessible to smaller campaigns?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*A flat fee for the VBM voter file is being considered.*

(43) What % of your budget is for security? Insert below

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*All of our processes are conducted with security in mind. As we explore each component of the election process, security measures are also taken into account for each and every one. Although there is no specific amount in mind, it is safe to say that security is always at the forefront of every aspect of the election.*

(44) Is the number of vote centers prescribed by law or are you providing additional vote centers?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The number of Vote Centers is prescribed by the law.*

(45) Some voters may feel uncomfortable entering government facilities in today's political climate, would you consider moving the vote centers/drop boxes from city halls to libraries & other community centers? Insert below

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Some Vote Centers are in libraries and community centers.*

(46) When are you going to have more general public meetings for the public to comment? In particular, are you going to have any that are happening during hours that are more convenient for working people?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We do not have plans for additional public meetings for comments on the Amended Draft EAP, but we will take your feedback on meeting time under consideration for future meetings.*

*We received several comments from voters in advance of the hearing via email and a web form on our website.*

When will the amended plan be released?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Amended Draft EAP will be released in late February.*

What is your plan for signage at former polling places?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Our plan is to reach out to each facility that has previously served as a polling place and provide them with a sign they can put up informing voters of the change.*

(47) Will the comments from the public be included in the amended EAP?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Public Comments will be available on our website.*

And will the comments that are made subsequent to the amended EAP be included in the final EAP?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Comments to the Amended Draft EAP will also be posted to our website.*

When will the results of the Election be announced?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The results of the election will begin to be released on election night beginning at 8:05 p.m.*

Will they start being released at the beginning of the 29 day voting period?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*State Election Code 15101 (c) states "Results of any vote by mail tabulation or count shall not be released before the close of the polls on the day of the election."*

(48) What are the other legislations is impacting the June, 2018 Primary?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*AB 1436 (2012) Conditional Voter Registration Law and AB 1461 DMV New Motor Voter Law (2015), will increase voter registration and the total number of voters turning out at the polls.*

Where can I find more Information about them?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*You can learn more about these laws online at the California Legislative Information, <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov>.*

(49)How will the new Motor Voter Law impact voter registration?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Motor Voter Law will increase voter registration.*

Election Security-What does safe & secure mean to you?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Registration & Elections Division follows all of its established processes and procedures to ensure the integrity of the election is never compromised. You are welcome to visit our office and observe any process of the election.*

Are you subcontracting with any company to administer your election process?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We contract with Democracy Live to provide services for overseas voters, uniformed military and their family members, and for accessible sample ballot and vote-by-mail services.*

Is there any vetting done of the vendors who provide these services?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*These services have completed an extensive certification process with the State and undergo additional scrutiny by San Mateo County before implementation.*

(50)More outreach to Iranian American community. Would like to see materials available in Farsi.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The County follows the language requirements provided by CA EC 14201 (d). At this time, there is not a precinct where 3% or more of the voting-age residents speak Persian and/or Farsi.*

Would like to see Persian New Year added to our Outreach plan.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added the Persian New Year: Nowruz, San Mateo to our Community Events list, and we will contact the organizers to find out if it is possible to do outreach at the event.<sup>27</sup>*

(51)Why closing down polling places? In New Hampshire, they have a more secure voting system for cheaper.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Though we are not having neighborhood polling places on Election Day, the Voter's Choice Act provides for Vote Centers to be open 29, 10 and 3 days prior to Election Day, allowing many more days to get to a Vote Center where more services will be available.*

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<sup>27</sup> Addenda p. 49

Why aren't we moving in that direction? San Mateo County's Electronic Voting system is not secure. The plan is currently unacceptable.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We don't have enough information on New Hampshire's system to comment on it, but the Hart InterCivic voting equipment is secure.*

(52) For outreach focus on non-vbm voters especially young voters, ESL & formerly incarcerated voters.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added more information to the Voter Education and Outreach Plan.<sup>28</sup>*

Provide additional materials on website for other groups to provide presentations and outreach about SB450.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will be providing an online toolkit for individuals and groups to have information on the VCA for their own outreach efforts.<sup>29</sup>*

Partner with large corporations in county-use Facebook/other social media to target ads and get the word out.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added information on engaging business through the State's Democracy at Work program to the Voter Education and Outreach Plan.*

Setup an advisory committee to help work on outreach plan. Make sure to design VBM envelope so that voters don't accidentally throw away.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The envelope says OFFICIAL BALLOT - VOTE BY MAIL on both sides.*

Provide good signage at former polling places.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Our office will reach out to each facility previously used as a polling place and provide them with a sign they can put up informing voters of the change.*

(53) Make arrangements with paratransit, SamTrans, Lyft and other transportation organizations to provide discounts/fairs on election day.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*While the Registration & Elections Division agrees that it would be terrific for transportation organizations to provide Election Day discounts to voters, it is not*

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<sup>28</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 10-12

<sup>29</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 10

*directly related to our mission: "To register County citizens to vote and efficiently conduct transparent elections."*

Suggestions for outreach events: Lunar New Year, Cinco de Mayo.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have attended two Lunar New Year events added and Cinco de Mayo to our Community Events list.<sup>30</sup> We will contact event organizers to find out if it is possible to do outreach at the event.*

Work to ensure that the formerly incarcerated understand their rights.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added more to the Voter Education and Outreach Plan on helping current inmates and those formerly incarcerated understand their voting rights.<sup>31</sup>*

(54) Make sure that there is equity in vote center locations. Concerned that there is no location in west Menlo.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We took many factors into consideration when selecting Vote Center locations. There is at least one Vote Center in each city.*

Drop boxes in city halls =concerning because of parking, people don't know where they are & some people feel uncomfortable walking into government buildings. Suggestions for vote center locations: at colleges to engage young people and churches which are centers of community

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have found most City Halls to have adjacent parking lots. If a resident doesn't know where their City Hall is, this may be an opportunity to learn where it is. In past years, many of our county polling places have been in government buildings, from libraries to city halls to a national guard facility.*

*Our staff at the polls have always endeavored to make sure voters feel welcome and free to cast their ballot in privacy, regardless of whether their polling place was in a government facility, commercial building, or private residence.*

*Vote Center staff will only confirm a voter's identity and eligibility when they arrive to cast their vote. Identification will only be required of first-time voters who registered online, and who do not have a signature on file. Vote Center staff will not question voters on other matters.*

*We hope that voters will feel comfortable casting their ballots in those Vote Centers hosted by government facilities. However, under the Voter's Choice Act voters have a variety of options in casting their ballot, which they may do at any Vote Center or by mail.*

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<sup>30</sup> Addenda p. 49

<sup>31</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 12

(55) There is no "Choice", we are being forced to receive a vote by mail ballot. With the voting period extended to 29 days, it makes it more difficult for independent candidates to get their message out & for voters to make an informed decision. Concerned about the privacy of VBM ballots (other people in household, seeing/taking ballot). There is more likely to be fraudulent VBM ballots cast by people who don't actually live in San Mateo County.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*You may wish to discuss the VCA with your State representatives.*

How are you checking to make sure that the voters are actually SMC residents?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The County follows CA EC Division 2, Chapter 1, Article 2. Determination of Residence and Domicile. Also, the State voter registration database will be used to ensure a voter is not registered in another county.*

(56) Concerned about minorities and young people who are less likely to use Vote by Mail. Recommend having Vote Centers on college campuses. Increased education and outreach to first time voters (18-year-olds).

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have expanded our outreach plans to include college campus organizations and student-run newspapers. We have also expanded our outreach plans to reach more targeted minority organizations and media.<sup>32</sup>*

Extend hours of vote centers into the evenings to give more opportunities to vote for working people.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*While we will not have Vote Centers open in the evening, they will be open on two weekends.*

(57) Suggests reaching out to political parties so that they can educate & mobilize their voters about this new vote models.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added political parties to our community partners list.<sup>33</sup>*

Need to increase voter education-clarify penalties for voter fraud & explain how to report voter fraud.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We post the Voter's Bill of Rights in every Vote Center which states, "The right to report any illegal or fraudulent election activity to an election official or the Secretary of State's office. If you believe you have been denied any of these rights, or you are aware of any election fraud or misconduct, please call the*

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<sup>32</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 9 and Addenda p. 37 and p. 53

<sup>33</sup> Addenda p. 37

*Secretary of State's confidential toll-free Voter Hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683)."*

- (58) In the future, please video tape the hearings so that the information is more accessible to the people who are unable to attend in person.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There is an audio recording on our website at [www.smcacre.org/california-voters-choice-act](http://www.smcacre.org/california-voters-choice-act).*

Develop a certification program to train individuals/groups on how to successfully conduct voter registration/outreach drives

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are happy to train interested individuals or groups on how to conduct a successful voter registration drive. It is possible other organizations such as the League of Women Voters and political parties will offer this type of training.*

- (59) Would like to point out the strength of this model. It extends the voting options. For many people, voting on just one day is an obstacle. This model will overcome that obstacle.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your comment.*

- (60) Please don't forget the Veterans in your Outreach Plan. Would like to see outreach done at the VA Hospitals in both Menlo Park & San Bruno.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added the VA Outpatient Clinic in San Bruno, the Palo Alto VA Medical Center and the Menlo Park Peninsula Vet Center to our list of possible community partners to contact.<sup>34</sup>*

- (61) Have vote centers at libraries for people who aren't comfortable going into government buildings.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We currently have three Vote Centers in libraries.*

Concerned about the vote center desert in west Menlo.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Menlo Park has two Vote Centers.*

Concerned about being able to get through to Tower on Election Day.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are prepared to handle a high volume of calls and respond to emails on Election Day.*

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<sup>34</sup> Addenda p. 37

The voting machines aren't secure, paper ballots =cheaper & more secure.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There have been no security breaches to the Hart InterCivic voting equipment the County uses, but individuals may choose to vote on a paper ballot by mail or at a Vote Center if they prefer.*

(62) Future public meeting please invite Jerry Hill and Kevin Mullin, who voted for the VCA, & members of the BOS, who allocated funds for the VCA, to hear what the public response to the act is.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Though everyone is welcome to attend a public hearing, this hearing was held specifically for the Chief Elections Officer to receive feedback on the draft EAP. The Registration & Elections Division received comments from members of the Board of Supervisors' staff. The Supervisors will receive a report on the EAP at the March 13, 2018 Board meeting. You may wish to contact your representatives' offices directly with your feedback on the VCA.*

Propose a citizen's commission to measure the outcomes.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your comment. We will not be implementing your suggestion at this time, but we will reconsider in the future.*

## Public Comments at Voter's Choice Act Community Convening and Registration & Elections Division

(63) Public meeting was at a bad time. Should be in the evening as many people cannot attend during the day

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will take your suggestion into consideration the next time we schedule hearings. We did receive comments via email and our web form from some individuals and organizations who could not attend.*

(64) Get in contact with Ann Campbell. Get notice of the new election model into school newsletters.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have notified Superintendent Campbell of the new voting model, and we will reach out to her again for assistance.*

(65) Meet with PTAs or at least get the word out to them.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have notified all public school superintendents.*

(66) Do language outreach at schools and let them tell us what they need.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will be holding an educational workshop with language translation available. Our Language Accessibility Advisory Committee members will be conducting outreach in their communities.*

(67) Consider extending Vote Center hours from 9-5 to at least 6pm

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Voter Centers will be open on two weekends and until 8 p.m. on Election Day.*

(68) Outreach to students to let them know the residency requirements or that it is much easier to register in California than other states.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We agree that there needs to be outreach to students. We do work closely with the high schools.<sup>35</sup> We have added several college groups to our community partner list. We do have speakers at high schools and conduct voter registration drives during the SOS High School Education Weeks.*

(69) Some government buildings can be uncomfortable for voters.

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<sup>35</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 10

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*In past years, many of our county's polling places have been located in government buildings, from libraries to city halls to a national guard facility. Our staff at the polls have always endeavored to make sure voters feel welcome and free to cast their ballot in privacy, regardless of whether their polling place was in a government facility, commercial building, or private residence.*

*Vote Center staff will only confirm a voter's identity and eligibility when they arrive to cast their vote. Identification will only be required of first-time voters who registered online, and who do not have a signature on file. Vote Center staff will not question voters on other matters.*

*We hope that voters will feel comfortable casting their ballots in those Vote Centers hosted by government facilities. However, under the Voter's Choice Act voters have a variety of options in casting their ballot, which they may do at any Vote Center or by mail.*

(70) Ballot boxes at City Clerks need to be better attended. One in Millbrae is not secured.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*While all ballot drop-boxes are locked, we will be adding a cable to secure the boxes at City Halls.*

(71) Create advisory committee, for example Voter Outreach

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your comment. We will not be implementing your suggestion at this time, but we will reconsider it in the future.*

(72) Will the comments submitted by the public be made public?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Yes.*

(73) What other community groups or advisory boards exist outside of the VAAC or LAAC?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*At this time, the VAAC and LAAC are the only citizen advisory boards to the Chief Elections Officer.*

(74) Move Redwood Shores Vote Center from Office of Ed to Redwood Shores Library with drop box also

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your feedback, but we do not plan to change the Office of Education location to the library.*

(75) Add inside Dropbox in Fair Oaks area

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*There will be a drop-box inside the Fair Oaks Community Center when it serves as a 3-day Vote Center.*

(76) Notify City Councils of the Public Hearing so that they can mention it at Council Meetings in the next 2 weeks.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Draft EAP was hand delivered to every City/Town Clerk in early January, and it included information about the public hearing. A letter was sent to every Mayor in December and it included information about the meeting.*

(77) Send information about ballots returned to media to encourage voting.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your suggestion. We are discussing implementing this idea.*

(78) Identify the reasons for low voter turnout.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Voter turnout can be influenced by the candidates and measures on the ballot. We have no control over these items.*

(79) Best way to encourage turnout is to go door to door with personal conversation at least in Bellehaven neighborhood. Elections could pay people to do this.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Though the Registration & Elections Division wishes to see every election have high participation, it is more appropriate for campaigns and citizen organizations to conduct door-to-door outreach to encourage turnout. Our mission is to register County citizens to vote and efficiently conduct transparent elections.*

(80) Need better outreach to felons to let them know of their rights to re-register

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added more to the Amended Draft EAP on helping current inmates and those formerly incarcerated understand their voting rights.<sup>36</sup>*

(81) Make presentations at churches/schools that were former polling places

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are happy to respond to invitations to speak to any interested group.*

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<sup>36</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 12

(82) Elections Office could offer outreach training of groups to go door to door

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are happy to train interested individuals or groups. We will also offer an online toolkit to assist those interested in doing outreach on the VCA.*

(83) Attendees offered thoughts on if we had considered partnering with local agencies / nonprofits / community groups or leaders to lead outreach campaigns. Campaigns would consist of community presentations or door-to-door neighborhood outreach.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are happy to train interested individuals or groups. We will also offer an online toolkit to assist those interested in conducting their own outreach.*

(84) An attendee shared that they have learned through community outreach that voters often do not trust the voting process outside of voting at their neighborhood polling location.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Almost 65% of San Mateo County voters are already signed up to permanently vote by mail.*

(85) Do we plan to share information on the ballots returned, even before election night results releases?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are discussing a suggestion to share information on turnout in advance but the CA EC 15101 (c) states that results shall not be released before the close of the election at 8 p.m. Election Day.*

(86) We should reach out to other elected officials, specifically City Council members and make in person presentations.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We sent every City/Town Clerk a letter offering to give their City/Town Council a presentation. We are currently scheduled to do presentations in Pacifica and San Carlos.*

(87) Have we considered sending out notices to former local polling places to ensure they are aware of the change. Have we consider going to some that are Churches, Community Centers, etc. and making presentations to the leaders or people who attend these facilities to ensure they are aware of the changes.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We plan to send letters to former polling places. We are happy to make presentations upon request.*

(88) If this is a pilot implementation, it is somewhat of an experiment. Have we created a list of questions or a hypothesis we want to answer? What is our intention of implementing VCA? Do we have a core set of questions we are looking to answer?

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Since San Mateo County successfully conducted an all-mailed ballot Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District Election in November 2015 as a pilot under AB 2028, we are confident that the expanded voting options the VCA provides will increase voter participation and increase engagement.*

(89) If we did some type of partnership, would we considered opening an RFP to pay agencies to assist us with this type of support.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are considering opening an RFP for outreach. We have received a great deal of interest from civic-minded individuals and organizations to provide outreach support.*

## **Public Comments from Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities meeting and Registration & Elections Division**

(90) Have we considered or will the Elections Division consider choosing a date or several days within the Early Voting Period to visit Nursing Homes or agencies/organizations that serve people with barriers to voting and just arrange to bring DAU's to allow those people the option to vote

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Everyone will have the option to vote with the ballot mailed to their home. Some nursing homes offer transportation services for residents, and a voter may ask to be brought to a Vote Center. There are also several senior shuttle services in the County. The Registration & Elections Division will bring a DAU to a convenient location upon request for voters with disabilities. For voters with a disability who wish to go to a Vote Center, paratransit is available with at least one day's notice. If this voter wishes to come to a Vote Center on the same day, the Registration & Elections Division will arrange transportation.<sup>37</sup>*

(91) For visually impaired voters large and clear signage is crucial, many visually impaired people or hard of hearing people try to hide their disability and when there are issues with getting the right information they are discouraged and avoid it. Clear and simple signage at Vote Centers can help mitigate this issue.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for this comment. We plan to create large and clear signage for Vote Centers.*

(92) Share Tweets with partner agencies, community partners and they can retweet them directly

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will include tweets in our online toolkit. We will also inform partners of our twitter feed. They can follow and retweet our messages.*

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<sup>37</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 12

## Public Comments Received by Mail and Registration & Elections Division Responses

(93)

Date: January 17, 2018; 5:30pm-7:00pm;

Location: 2396 University Ave. East Palo Alto, CA. 94303

Host: Nuestra Casa de East Palo Alto

We are writing on behalf of Nuestra Casa de East Palo Alto a community education organization dedicated to increasing civic participation and promoting economic self-sustainability of the Latino immigrant population. Nuestra Casa works with Latino par-ents to build their knowledge, voice, and community power. We help families in East Pa-lo Alto and the mid-peninsula to achieve full participation in educational and civic life. In addition to our primary target population, we also serve individuals and families from communities of color in our geographic areas, men who are parents and caregivers, and other immigrant populations. We do not exclude individuals and families from these communities and see the positive impact their engagement with Nuestra Casa creates as an added benefit. Community workshops are a critical vehicle not only for our service delivery but for our community engagement. Our workshops are culturally relevant, accessible and tailored to the learning styles and engagement of participants. We are deeply committed to the quality and relevance of workshop programs, which are designed to engage and inform, rather than produce outcomes.

We hope to collaborate with the elections office in the future. We held a town hall to discuss the EAP and our feedback included the following.

### OUTREACH & EDUCATION PLAN:

Suggestions and thoughts:

- Plan seems to general and it needs more specificity, especially in the outreach area
- It is quite broad for example schools, but what type of schools. Middle Schools? High Schools?

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your thoughtful comments. The Registration & Elections Division would be happy to work with you in your community.*

*We have added additional details to the Voter Education & Outreach Plan.<sup>38</sup> We will be doing outreach to high schools and colleges. We have sent letters to all school district superintendents, and they may be sharing with their PTAs for other grade levels.*

- For remote areas, there is a possibility of mobile voter centers. However, the language could be problematic because it is a “maybe” and not a for sure idea.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We expect to be able to implement a Roving Voting station for remote parts of the County without the population to justify a fixed Vote Center. The only*

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<sup>38</sup> Voter Education and Outreach Plan p. 10

*reason it is not said with 100% certainty is because it is not something we have done before, and there may be an issue in its deployment that we're not expecting.*

- Look at the places where people used to vote traditionally and put educational material or a big sign that can inform the community as to what the changes are what the new location/location options are going to be at least a month before the elections.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We cannot commit to putting signs or educational material at all locations a month in advance of the election with more than 300 polling places which are not under our authority.*

- There should be some education around the people that don't know how to read and write and making sure that they know their options.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*One way we reach potential voters who may not read or write is through County agencies assisting low-income residents, those with disabilities and homeless. These agencies are required to provide voting information per the National Voter Registration Act.*

- The plan is not very specific, and it is quite general when it comes to the plan for underrepresented communities like youth and people of color.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added college newspapers to our media list. We have added outreach to several campus organizations and organizations with more people of color to the Voter Education and Outreach Plan. We have added additional ethnic festivals such as Holi, Persian New Year and Cinco de Mayo to our event list for outreach.<sup>39</sup>*

- Locations where our community members collect information on what is going on in the community is churches and schools.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have received a great deal of interest from organizations such as yours to assist with getting information out to schools and churches. All voters will receive information mailed to their homes to inform them about the new voting model.*

- It has to be more outreach to community colleges, even a mobile voter center.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added college newspapers to our media list and outreach to several campus organizations.<sup>40</sup> We also had informed the SMCCD Superintendent*

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<sup>39</sup> Addenda p. 53, p. 37, p. 49

<sup>40</sup> Addenda p. 37 and p. 53

*Galatolo of the new voting model. The community college classes end before Election Day.*

#### DROP BOX LOCATION/VOTE CENTER LOCATIONS:

These are locations our community members suggested that would be good locations to keep and or include.

- There is no way that the 29-day Proposed Vote Center should include Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder in Redwood City. It is not in an ideal. Location and very far and not accessible. Insert A better location is Fair Oaks Community Center.
- The location for the 10 days before in East Palo Alto City Hall is a great place but there is very limited parking.
- A suggestion could be the Ravenswood Clinic
- A time change would be ideal to 8am to 8pm.
- Saturdays should be open later and close later. From 10:00am-9:00pm
- We need to limit the use of San Mateo County Building for any voter center locations, we need to use community centers, churches, schools and other locations that people attend

#### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*The Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder office is in County Center. Many residents are familiar with County Center because they need to get a copy of their birth certificate, pay property tax, serve on a jury. There is a parking lot, Cal Train is nearby as our buses.*

*The Fair Oaks Community Center will open as a Vote Center 3 days before the Election; it will be open through Election Day. (It will be open on the weekend before the election.). In past years, many of our county's polling places have been located in government buildings, from libraries to city halls to a national guard facility.*

*Our staff at the polls have always endeavored to make sure voters feel welcome and free to cast their ballot in privacy, regardless of whether their polling place was in a government facility, commercial building, or private residence.*

*Vote Center staff will only confirm a voter's identity and eligibility when they arrive to cast their vote. Identification will only be required of first-time voters who registered online, and who do not have a signature on file. Vote Center staff will not question voters on other matters.*

*We hope that voters will feel comfortable casting their ballots in those Vote Centers hosted by government facilities. However, under the Voter's Choice Act voters have a variety of options in casting their ballot, which they may do at any Vote Center or by mail.*

#### UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS TO INCLUDE:

This is an event that we noticed was not included in the upcoming community events.

- 5 de Mayo: East Palo Alto Community Event.
- Redwood City Events Calendar

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added Cinco de Mayo to the event list. We have reviewed the Redwood City events calendar.<sup>41</sup>*

**MEDIA PARTNERS:**

Some suggested media partners for furthering the outreach effort are the following.

- It would be a great idea if we can include social media like Facebook, Instagram and snapchat to reach various communities.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*In the Voter Education and Outreach Plan, we included social media in the overview, and we have added language as follows: "(such as Facebook and Twitter)."*

- San Mateo County houses the Facebook headquarters and they could potentially partner to spread the word.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We have added to the Voter Education and Outreach Plan that we will promote the SOS's nonpartisan Democracy at Work program which encourages businesses to encourage greater civic participation.*

- Create a country wide campaign to attract voters including posters and flyers.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We will have posters and flyers. We will offer flyers and other materials for individuals and groups to be able to download in an online tool kit.*

- The use of text messages to educate and remind people about locations, and other events

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We do not know whether we have mobile or landline phone numbers for voters. Since some phone plans charge users per message and since we did not inform voters that we may send a text message, we will not be adding this suggestion to the Voter Education and Outreach Plan.*

Other comments our community members have:

**OUTREACH & EDUCATION PLAN**

- Great changes but it will require a lot more outreach and educating the community will be key to this new transition.
- There will be less places to vote, however it seems that the centers will be so much more equipped and ready to have people vote.

Sincerely, Nuestra Casa de East Palo

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<sup>41</sup> Addenda p. 49

(94)Dear Mr. Church,

I attended the Draft EAP Public Hearing on January 18, 2018. These are my written comments for the post 14-day comment period.

I appreciate all the preparation by your department to roll out a new program. I have been an Elections Judge and Inspector over the past 15-years and I have always been impressed by the professionalism of the Election Department to run a complex operation with minimum staff that is manned with many volunteers.

Additionally, I have run for office, been a campaign treasurer, and formed a recipient committee. The Elections Office Staff always were professional, kind, helpful and prompt.

San Mateo County has a great opportunity to set the standards for all California counties to implement the Voters Choice Act that facilitates voter turnout, a positive voter experience, and confidence in the system by voters. Attached are my comments. The spreadsheet noted is provided in electronic format.

Very truly yours,

#### CUSTODY TRAIL

1. Situation. The open election voting period is 29 days plus three days to receive ballots post marked on or before election day. There will be up to 26-ballot drop off boxes and 39 vote centers.
2. Intent. Insure a documented and transparent custody trail available to the public.
3. Recommendation:
  - a. That courier and pick up schedules be available to observers.
  - b. That observers can arrange to observe the counting of ballot when turned into Tower Road.

#### STATISTICAL REPORTING

1. Situation. The Voters Choice Act is a major change to our voting procedure.
2. Intent. Increase voter awareness and turnout and determine voter habits to better serve the electorate in future elections.
3. Recommendation.
  - c. Track ballots cast be tabulated daily and posted on [www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org).
  - d. Report the number of new registrations on and after 15 days prior to the election through election day and post on [www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org).
  - e. Attached is a suggested model to collect daily vote counts and cumulate. It has the following sheets:
    - i. Voter Registration
    - ii. Total Cast (Summary of all votes cast by snail mail, vote centers and drop boxes.)
    - iii. Snail Mail Cast (Votes sent into Tower Road.)
    - iv. Drop Box Cast (Lists the 26 drop boxes, cumulates and sums the total.)

- v. Vote Center Cast (Lists 41 vote centers, cumulates and sums totals. Breaks out vote by machine, provisional, and VBM that are dropped off.)
- vi. VBM Rejection Summary (Records the number of rejected VBM ballots received by snail mail at Tower Rd, drop boxes, and vote centers.)

f. The workbook is formatted for easy display and print out for review. Formulas are believed to be accurate but have not been fully tested.

g. Cells are color coded:

Tan Borders

Lt Tan Borders

Lt Gray Cell contains a formula

Lt Green Cell imports data from another cell

Lt Yellow Enter voter registration 15 days prior to election

Blank Enter data

## POST ELECTION REPORT

1. Situation. This is the first time the Voter's Choice Act is being implemented.
2. Intent. Make it easy for other counties to implement the Voter's Choice Act.
3. Recommendation. Publish a Post-Election Report to include lessons learned and the costs of the election. The latter needs to be in a manner that most people can comprehend.

## ELECTION INTEGRITY

1. Situation. With many options to vote and a 29-day voting window, the opportunity to vote multiple times increases.
2. Intent. Increase awareness to insure one person, one vote, in the jurisdiction they live.
3. Recommendation.
  - a. Clearly post on ballot envelopes, vote centers, and drop boxes that it is penalty to violate election law.
  - b. Clearly post on ballot envelopes, vote centers, and drop boxes how to report election violations.
  - c. Clearly post on ballot envelopes that if the person on the envelop is not at your resident to return it to the Registrar of Voters.
  - d. Define inactive voters, report the number of inactive voters and report the number that participated in the election.

### **Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*Thank you for your compliments and comments.*

#### **CUSTODY TRAIL**

1. *N/A*

2. *Prior to ballots being picked up at Vote Centers, the Vote Center Representatives (VCRs) will reconcile the ballots and document the results. The couriers will also need to sign when they receive ballot boxes. The boxes will have numbered seals, tracked on a seal log. All items will be reviewed, always under two person integrity, upon arrival at a ballot receiving station and/or at our office.*

3. a. *While we can have the schedule available, we need flexibility with the schedule due to staff availability and local traffic.*

3. b. *Observers are always welcome to observe the counting of ballots.*

#### *STATISTICAL REPORTING*

3. c. *We are considering releasing the number of ballots received on a regular basis.*

3. d. *We will take this suggestion under consideration.*

3. e. *Thank you for your workbook. We will review it further.*

#### *POST ELECTION REPORT*

3. *SB 450 requires a post-election report such as you describe.*

#### *ELECTION INTEGRITY*

3. a. *Yes.*

3. b. *We will do this at Vote Centers & Drop-boxes. The voter signs a declaration or oath on their envelope.*

3. c. *Our envelopes include our office phone number for any information. FYI - CA SOS is moving to uniform VBM envelopes - see <http://elections.cdn.sos.ca.gov/ccrov/pdf/2018/january/18007jc.pdf>.*

4. *Within 30 days of the election, it will be certified, and a Statement of the Vote will be posted on our website.*

(95) Tim

These are my thoughts, as promised to Anthony, about a speakers' bureau to spread the message that San Mateo County voting will go Mail-Mostly in June:

The proposal:

- Recruit and train a cadre of 5 to 50 San Mateo County residents as speakers who could talk to community audiences about the new method of voting. These might be 15-minute talks plus questions.
- The training could involve:
- A one-hour face-to-face training by County Elections staff (perhaps even a webinar). Will need a FAQ for most common expected questions.
- Materials in the appropriate language to leave behind for the audience.
- Printed information about the nearest and most relevant Vote Centers to voters for each audience.
- Support from County elections staff to generate and schedule bookings.

Supporting thoughts:

1. Various ethnic/languages advocates argued that one-on-one conversations would work best for spreading the word in their communities. Fortunately, the messaging would not change for these advocates, and the training might be very similar if not identical.
2. Recruit speakers through organizations that attended the January 8 session in San Mateo:

- League of Women Voters is key and doing this already, as one told me. Get more.
  - Ask each of the attending organizations (Thrive Alliance or Silicon Valley Foundation can provide a list) to commit at least one (preferably more) speaker to be trained to talk to their community. In addition, they should be asked to put a short article (provided by County Elections or another entity) in their newsletter or other internal communications. Ask for one-time commitment, then ask for multiple issues.
  - Seek speakers from the communities listed in #3.
3. County Elections should segment county voters to reach out through organizations they already know, trust and participate in. Under the Voters Choice legislation, specific language communities and the disabled communities would be prioritized. Others could include:
- Seniors in senior living facilities
  - Churches and other places of worship
  - Schools (perhaps through the County Superintendent of Schools, Anne E. Campbell)
  - Email mailing lists (listservs) in various neighborhoods of the county
  - Local government entities (cities, towns, schools, special districts, etc.)
  - Neighborhood associations
  - Service clubs (Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, etc.)
  - Book clubs
  - Etc.

**Registration & Elections Division Response:**

*We are happy to train interested individuals or groups. We will also offer an online toolkit to assist those interested. We are happy to respond to invitations to speak to any interested group. Thank you for your comments.*



# CALIFORNIA VOTER'S CHOICE ACT LEGISLATION



**Office of Mark Church**  
**Chief Elections Officer & Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder**



**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.