
REBECCA SPENCER
Registrar of Voters



ART TINOCO
Assistant Registrar of Voters

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC)
Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2022 | 10:00 a.m.

Members:

Julie Caban, Chair
John Kopp, Committee Member

Guests:

Pavel Ilie, Blindness Support Services
Scott Barron, Disability Rights California
Monika Radeva, City of La Quinta, City Clerk
Laurie McGinley, City of La Quinta, Deputy City Clerk
Vanessa Castillo, City of Indio, City Clerk Specialist

Registrar of Voters Staff:

Rebecca Spencer, Registrar of Voters
Art Tinoco, Assistant Registrar of Voters
Alma Del Carmen, Administrative Services Analyst I, Registrar of Voters

Meeting Commenced at 10:00 a.m.

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I. Welcome/Introductions

Introductions were made of the following staff: Registrar of Voters Rebecca Spencer, Assistant Registrar Art Tinoco, and Committee Chair Julie Caban. Following staff introductions, attendees of the meeting made introductions.

II. Approval of August 4, 2022 Minutes

John Kopp made a motion to accept the minutes; Julie Caban seconded. Minutes were accepted.

III. Recap of the County's Supplemental Election Administration Plan (EAP) Public Hearing on August 24, 2022

Rebecca Spencer shared that a supplemental public hearing was held via zoom on August 28, 2022 for the Election Administration Plan (EAP) under the Voter's Choice Act. Public comments were received at the meeting and in writing. Summarizing those comments, Ms. Spencer shared that there was a request for more signage at Vote Centers regarding curbside voting. For the upcoming November 8, 2022 election there will be 146 Vote Centers. Ms. Spencer confirmed that all 146 Vote Centers will have curbside doorbells with a sign. Any voter who cannot get into the facility can pull up and ring the doorbell. It is a wireless doorbell, and it will alert the poll workers inside the Vote Center that somebody needs assistance outside. There is also a sign on each doorbell with a phone number. In case the battery dies, or the wireless functionality is not alerting the poll workers inside, voters can call the phone number on the sign and notify the Registrar of Voters office that they need assistance. The office will then notify the poll workers at that Vote Center that there is a curbside voter.

Comments about signage for bilingual services were also received. All Vote Centers have assistance in English and Spanish. Certain identified locations have Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Korean. All Vote Centers will have signage indicating what language assistance is available. Bilingual poll workers will also wear a bilingual name badge. This has

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always been the procedure but there will be a greater focus on this in election officers training as one of the comments received was that poll workers did not always wear their bilingual badge and did not post the signage appropriately. The Registrar of Voters office will focus on the bilingual services procedures in the training for the November 8, 2022 election.

Ms. Spencer shared that the Election Administration Plan has not been finalized. Ms. Spencer hopes to finalize it next week, and then get it posted and sent to the Secretary of State, along with the Voter Education Workshops schedule for Riverside County. The Voter Education Workshops will be held via zoom throughout the month of October. There will be one general workshop, in English; one for each language of Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Korean, Vietnamese; and one for the disability community. The schedule for these workshops will be coming out next week, along with the Public Notices.

IV. Review of Key Dates & Timeline for the November 8, 2022 Consolidated General Election

Julie Caban shared that the November 8, 2022 election will still be conducted under the Voter's Choice Act. On October 11th, ballots will be mailed out to all eligible registered voters in Riverside County, about 1.3 million voters. Throughout Riverside County, there will be 146 Vote Centers open for 4 days and 26 Vote Centers open for 11 days. There will also be 87 Vote-By-Mail drop off locations throughout Riverside County, several of which will be at City Clerk's offices. Voters may drop off their Vote-By-Mail ballot prior to the election at any Vote-By-Mail drop off location or Vote Center.

Ms. Caban shared that there will be around 436 ballot types for the November election. The Registrar of Voters office is currently proofing all ballot types in preparation for mailing of the ballots on October 11th. County Voter Information Guides have begun to be mailed out to voters. The California Secretary of State has already mailed out State Voter Information

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Guides, containing information on candidates for state contests and propositions that will be on the ballot. The majority of Riverside County voters will have a 2-card ballot.

Ms. Caban shared that the City of Palm Desert is implementing Ranked Choice Voting for the first time in Riverside County with the November Election for the contest of City Council, District 2. The City of Palm Desert is providing their voters with information regarding Ranked Choice Voting, along with advertisements. If anyone would like more information about Ranked Choice Voting, there will be links posted for the public on the Registrar of Voters website at www.voteinfo.net. Ranked Choice Voting ballots will be available to eligible voters at any Vote Center.

Ms. Caban expanded on some items that will be available at all Vote Center locations. Ballot on Demand will be available so that Election Officers can print out a paper ballot if a voter requests a paper ballot. Accessible Voting Units, which are ballot marking devices, will also be available. Conditional Voter Registration (CVR) is also still in effect, allowing voters who miss the registration deadline of October 24th to register and vote that same day at the Vote Center. CVR Voters will complete a registration form and will receive a provisional ballot. CVR Voters can request a paper ballot or vote on the AVU ballot marking device.

John Kopp asked the Registrar of Voters office if they knew, given Riverside County's 1.3 million voters and ballots being mailed out starting on October 10th, the expected date by which the last ballots will go into the postal system.

Ms. Spencer shared that mailing of the ballots must start no later than October 10th. Ms. Spencer confirmed that ballots will start to be mailed out on October 10th, and the Registrar has five days to complete it. By October 14th, the original mailing file must all be at the post office. The bulk of the ballots will be going out the week of the October 10th. Supplemental mailing starts the week after for any new registrants or people requesting a replacement ballot. Ms. Caban shared that ballots are sent out up to seven

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days before the election.

V. Additional Discussion and/or Announcements from Committee Members

Mr. Kopp wanted more information on how people are notified when something fails to qualify for the ballot, such as the petition for the recall of Corona-Norco Unified School District Board Member Jose Lalas that failed to qualify for the ballot due to insufficient signatures. Mr. Kopp is concerned that people who are interested may not be aware of deadlines and that there are in fact petitions in circulation, not until after the deadlines have already passed.

Ms. Spencer shared that the Registrar of Voters office notifies the school district, the proponents, and the incumbents themselves that the recall is being sought. All the entities directly involved with the recall are notified what the status is. Usually, the media or reporters may publish a newspaper article.

Pavel Ilie wanted to confirm if each Vote Center in the upcoming November 8, 2022 election will have at least one unit that lets someone with a visual impairment either have something magnified or read out.

Ms. Caban confirmed that each Vote Center will have 10 Accessible Voting Units (AVU). Each AVU will have audio devices that voters can use to listen to the ballot, make their selections, and cast their ballot. Curbside doorbells will also be placed at each Vote Center location.

VI. Comments from the Public

Mr. Kopp shared his observation that at some of the Vote Center locations he had visited, there did not seem to be enough reserved parking spaces for people with disabilities, such as the Eleanor Roosevelt High School and Jurupa Community Services District Center in Eastvale. Mr. Kopp asked the Registrar of Voters office to consider if more parking spaces can be

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made available for disabled people parking at Vote Center locations.

Ms. Caban shared that the Registrar of Voters office follows, through our mitigation and survey process, the Secretary of States guidelines regarding parking spots and how many accessible parking spots we are allowed to make arrangements for. Ms. Spencer confirmed that the Registrar of Voters office will review accessible parking at Vote Center locations.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2023.