



Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DEAN C. LOGAN

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

February 4, 2019

TO: Supervisor Janice Hahn, Chair
Supervisor Hilda Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer

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

VSAP Quarterly Report – 4th Quarter, 2018

The following is the fourth quarterly update for 2018, detailing project activities and accomplishments during the period of October 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018. This report is provided to inform your Board and the public on the progress of the Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP) initiative. This report is prepared in response to a motion adopted by your Board on September 7, 2010.

During the reporting period, our office initiated a wide-reaching community effort to ensure voters know about our transition from polling places to vote centers. Since the core mission of the Vote Center Placement Project (VCP) is to identify and place accessible and convenient vote center and Vote by Mail drop box locations throughout the County, we partnered with community organizations to help us facilitate these meetings. During this first phase of community meetings, we gathered feedback from over 30 different communities. Voters told us where they wanted to vote in their community, asked questions about the process, learned about the new voting experience and engaged with our staff. This type of public engagement has been a top priority for our Department from the very start of this initiative and will continue through full implementation in March 2020.

By identifying and assessing thousands of potential vote center sites to ensure that vote centers and Vote by Mail drop box locations are distributed across the County, we will be able to provide greater access and convenience to all voters.

SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) achieved a major milestone by successfully implementing the new Vote by Mail (VBM) ballot for the California Statewide General Election in November 2018.

Starting in October, LA County Vote by Mail voters received the easy to use, full-faced, multi-card VBM ballot and materials in their preferred language. Postage was not required to return ballots by mail.

The RR/CC also expanded the number of options to vote early and return ballots. Voters had the ability to receive and return their VBM ballot daily at the RR/CC Norwalk headquarters or at 9 other Weekend Early Voting sites the 2 weekends prior to Election Day. LA County Voters could also drop off their ballots at any of the 150 additional VBM drop off sites located throughout the County. In total, the RR/CC processed 1,350,313 VBM ballots, the highest number of VBM ballots in any election.

VOTE CENTER PLACEMENT PROJECT

The first round of the Vote Center Placement Project (VCP) Grassroots Community Meetings kicked off on November 16, 2018. The RR/CC partnered with 18 Community Based Organizations to host and facilitate a total of 33 meetings across the County. We've invited members of the public to learn about the Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP), specifically the County's efforts in identifying potential Vote Center locations for the March 2020 Presidential Primary Election and beyond.

The public has been able to provide input on recommended Vote Center locations and suggest additional sites in their own community and Countywide.

The first round of meetings continued through January 2019. For a complete listing of community meetings, please visit vsap.lavote.net/vote-center-placement-project.

VCP Partners include:

Armenian National Committee of America, La Crescenta Chapter
Armenian National Committee of America, Pasadena Chapter
Armenian National Committee of America, Western Region Chapter
Arts for LA
Black Women for Wellness
California Common Cause
Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE)
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)
Disability Rights California
Empower LA
Korean American Coalition
League of Women Voters- Los Angeles
League of Women Voters- Whittier
NALEO Educational Fund
National Iranian Council
Pacoima Beautiful
SBCC Thrive LA
United Cerebral Palsy Los Angeles

2018 Vote Center Placement Project (VCP) Grassroots Community Meetings

November 16, 2018- Salvation Army in Compton, CA hosted by SBCC Thrive LA (SD 2)

November 17, 2018- Petit Park, Granada Hills Recreation Center in Granada Hills, CA hosted by California Common Cause and Empower LA (SD 5)

November 28, 2018- Pacoima City Hall in Pacoima, CA hosted by Pacoima Beautiful (SD 3)

November 29, 2018- Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, CA hosted by Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE) (SD 1)

November 29, 2018- Los Angeles Fire Station in North Hollywood, CA hosted by California Common Cause and Empower LA (SD 3)

December 1, 2018- Westwood Recreation Center in Westwood, CA hosted by California Common Cause and Empower LA (SD 3)

December 3, 2018- Sherman Oaks East Valley Adult Center in Sherman Oaks, CA hosted by California Common Cause (SD 3)

December 4, 2018- Albert O. Little Community Center in Artesia, CA hosted by Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE) (SD 4)

December 5, 2018- Long Beach Polytechnic High School in Long Beach, CA hosted by SBCC Thrive LA (SD 3)

December 6, 2018- Redondo Beach Public Library in Redondo Beach, CA hosted by California Common Cause (SD 4)

December 8, 2018- Weingarten East Los Angeles YMCA in Los Angeles, CA hosted by NALEO Educational Fund (SD 1)

December 10, 2018- South Baylo University in Koreatown, Los Angeles, CA hosted by Korean American Coalition (SD 2)

December 11, 2018- Inglewood City Hall in Inglewood, CA hosted by California Common Cause (SD 2)

December 12, 2018- University Center of Lancaster in Lancaster, CA hosted by Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) (SD 5)

December 13, 2018- H&H Jivalagian Youth Center in Pasadena, CA hosted by Armenian National Committee of America, Pasadena Chapter (SD 5)

December 14, 2018- Glendale Youth Center in Glendale, CA hosted by Armenian National Committee of America, Western Region Chapter (SD 5)

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

During this reporting period, VSAP staff met with various organizations and city officials to present on the new voting experience.

October 1, 2018- Los Angeles County Management Fellows Program

The VSAP Team provided a demonstration of the Ballot Marking Device (BMD) in the VSAP Lab at the Norwalk Headquarters to the participants of the Los Angeles County Management Fellows Program.

October 2, 2018- Pasadena Senior Center

The RR/CC Outreach Team provided a presentation about VSAP as part of the Fall Masters Series of the Pasadena Senior Center, which provided a full description of the components of the new voting experience and how the County began partnering with community members and organizations to develop VSAP.

October 2, 2018- Vote Center Placement Project Community Based Organization Training

In preparation of the start of the first round of VCPP Grassroots Community Meetings, the RR/CC and PlaceWorks held a comprehensive training for the Community Based Organizations that were selected to host and facilitate the meetings at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens.

October 7, 2018- Jack and Jill "Impact Your Vote"

The RR/CC Outreach Team gave a presentation at the "Impact of your Vote" event for Jack and Jill Los Angeles at the Law Offices of Shepard Mullin, Richter and Hampton in Century City to high school students in the 11th and 12th grades.

October 12, 2018- Black Women for Wellness

The RR/CC Outreach Team provided a presentation about how to use the new Vote by Mail (VBM) ballot and the implementation of the future voting experience at Black Women for Wellness Sisters @ 8 monthly meeting.

October 16, 2018- Long Beach City Community Forum

In partnership with the Long Beach City Clerk's office, Aaron Nevarez, Governmental and Legislative Affairs Division Manager, facilitated a presentation at a community forum designed for residents to learn about the New Vote by Mail ballot and the VSAP Project.

October 31, 2018- Regional Independent Living Center

The RR/CC Outreach Team gave a presentation about the accessibility features of each element of the new voting experience, including the Vote by Mail ballot in East Los Angeles, CA.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Did You Know Polling Sites Are Disappearing in 2020? Find Out More at the Community Meetings
Public Input on 2020 Vote Centers - Los Angeles Sentinel

<https://lasentinel.net/did-you-know-polling-sites-are-disappearing-in-2020-find-out-more-at-the-community-meetings-public-input-on-2020-vote->

[centers.html?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=](#)

For charter cities like Long Beach, future election dates hinge on legal challenge - Long Beach Post

https://lbpost.com/news/politics/for-charter-cities-like-long-beach-future-election-dates-hinge-on-legal-challenge/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

ANCA CV to Co-Host Voter Information Community Meeting with LA County - Asbarez Armenian news

<http://asbarez.com/176881/anca-cv-to-co-host-voter-information-community-meeting-with-la-county/>

L.A. County Plans to Transition to Vote Centers - LA Weekly

<https://www.laweekly.com/news/la-county-plans-to-transition-to-vote-centers-10102330>

Out with the old, in the with new - Signal Tribune

<https://signaltribunenewspaper.com/39993/news/out-with-the-old-in-the-with-new/>

Residents suggest locations of future vote centers in Long Beach - Long Beach Post

<https://lbpost.com/news/residents-suggest-locations-of-future-vote-centers-in-long-beach/>

SCV residents get chance to give input on voter centers next month - The Signal Santa Clarita Valley

<https://signalscv.com/2018/12/scv-residents-get-chance-to-give-input-on-voter-centers-next-month/>

An Invitation From Inglewood City Clerk Horton - LA Sentinel

<https://lasentinel.net/an-invitation-from-inglewood-city-clerk-horton.html>

Community meetings on 2020 vote slated - Compton Herald

<https://comptonherald.org/community-meetings-2020-vote-slated/?sfw=pass1547573974>

Community Meetings To Get Public Input on 2020 Vote Centers Begin Friday - My News LA

<https://mynews-la.com/life/2018/11/14/community-meetings-to-get-public-input-on-2020-vote-centers-begin-friday/>

Community Meetings Will Be Held Across the Region to Get Public's Input on 2020 Vote Centers - NBC4

https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Community-Meetings-2020-Vote-Centers--500568001.html?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term

LA County 'vote centers' are coming to San Fernando Valley neighborhoods. Here's your chance to weigh in - Los Angeles Daily News

<https://www.dailynews.com/2018/11/14/la-county-vote-centers-are-coming-to-san-fernando-valley-neighborhoods-heres-your-chance-to-weigh-in/>

L.A. County Registrar Dean Logan Answers Viewer Voting Questions Ahead of Election Tuesday - KTLA

<https://ktla.com/2018/11/04/l-a-county-registrar-dean-logan-answers-viewer-voting-questions-ahead-of-election-tuesday/>

Enjoy Your Local Polling Place While You Can. It Probably Won't Last – Laist

https://laist.com/2018/10/30/los_angeles_local_polling_place_voting_centers.php?fbclid=IwAR11uDiDX2fIPzYJmHsvD15wYdObucA1aeAzNNiwJ0ac3mpmZlu3c4JySr4

Here's how LA County voting will change in 2020 – KPCC

<https://www.scpr.org/news/2018/10/30/86871/here-s-how-la-county-voting-will-change-in-2020/>

Voting in 2020? It Might Not Be At a Polling Place - NBC4

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/multimedia/Goodbye-Polling-Places-Vote-Centers-Replace-2020-Elections-498331191.html>

Vote-by-mail ballots to arrive for CA residents, local event to inform about updated VSAP initiative - Signal Tribune

<https://signaltribunenewspaper.com/39342/news/vote-by-mail-ballots-to-arrive-for-ca-residents-local-event-to-inform-about-updated-vsap-initiative/>

County Registrar Mails More than 2.3 Million New, Improved Vote by Mail Ballots - SCV News

https://scvnews.com/2018/10/09/county-registrar-mails-more-than-2-3-million-new-improved-vote-by-mail-ballots/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

Counties May Switch to Vote Centers in 2020 - NBC4

<https://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Counties-May-Switch-to-Vote-Centers-in-2020-498333161.html>

Newsletter

Attached to this report is the latest issue of the quarterly newsletter, which is produced to keep the VSAP Advisory Committee, VSAP Technical Advisory Committee and the public informed on activities and developments in the project.

About the VSAP

Launched in September 2009, the Voting Systems Assessment Project was developed by the Department in response to the growing voting system needs. The project has transitioned from a research and design project to a system implementation program and as such, is now known as the Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP).

While the County's current voting system has served the voters of Los Angeles County with accuracy and integrity, the design of these systems and the age of their technology do not offer the technical and functional elasticity necessary to continue to accommodate our growing and increasingly diverse electorate.

The size and diversity of Los Angeles County and the limited voting systems market, however, make it almost impossible to reasonably consider a commercial off-the-shelf voting system solution. Any voting system solution will entail a significant development or customization process

in order to satisfy the County's needs, General Voting System Principles and technical requirements.

In response to these needs and challenges, VSAP takes an unprecedented and comprehensive approach at modernizing the County's voting system. The vision of the project is to implement a voting system through a transparent process that takes into account the needs and expectations of current and future Los Angeles County voters. The VSAP aims at achieving three goals in this process: 1) give current and future Los Angeles County voters an unprecedented opportunity to participate in the assessment and development process; 2) increase voter confidence in the electoral process through the participatory structure of the project and; 3) synthesize public input and research to acquire or develop a new voting system for the County.

Stay Connected

More information regarding the Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP) Project is available to the public online at <http://vsap.lavote.net>. The pages on our website are frequently updated with news and information and are a great way to stay connected with the progress of the project between quarterly reports. We strongly encourage public input throughout the process and look forward to continuing to work with your Board on this critical project.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly or your staff may contact Kenneth Bennett, VSAP Program Manager at kbennett@rrcc.lacounty.gov or (562) 462-2699.