

## **Meeting Notes**

### **Sacramento County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee**

**Committee Chair: Courtney Bailey, Manager of Precinct Operations, Sacramento County Voter Registration and Elections**

**Held: August 16, 2017**

**6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

**Elk Grove City Council Chambers  
8400 Laguna Palms Way**

**Handouts Provided:** Agenda; California Voter's Choice Act Infographic; Guide to Voter's Choice Act and Vote Centers in Sacramento County Brochure; Vote Center Information Flyer; Election Administration Plan Discussion and Consultation Document; VAAC Open Call for Membership; and VAAC Membership Applications.

**Call to Order:** Committee Chair, Courtney Bailey, called the Sacramento County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting to order.

Attendees introduced themselves and everyone was reminded to sign in. Current VAAC member applicants in attendance included: Donald Tuttle, Inderjit Kallirai, Irene Capps, Jennifer Garets, Marianne Knoy, Margaret Johnson, and Russell Rowlings. Not present: Richard Stanley, Carol Moss, Charlene Jones, and Nick Bloise.

VAAC Committee Members will be officially appointed at the next meeting.

### **Opening Comments:**

- The Voters Choice Act (VCA) directs the implementation of a Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) to allow for community input. This committee will assist the Sacramento County Voter Registration & Elections Department (VRE) by providing input and feedback for developing the County Election Administration Plan as directed by the Voter's Choice Act.
- A two year commitment is anticipated for committee members. Member applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Paper applications are available at meetings and available online on the county's website.
- Background was given for Sacramento County's move to the Voter's Choice Act and a brief summary of the Vote Center model being rolled out in June 2018.

### **Discussion/Questions**

Discussion centered on the VAAC responsibilities and what issues will be addressed.

- Input on Vote Center locations. VRE would like input on locations that will meet accessibility and other site requirements to host a drop box for 29 days and 4 and 11 day Vote Center sites and how to best present those sites to the public.
- Resource ideas to help educate the public: We need more mechanisms to get out the word about VCA. Suggested: State resources, disability newsletters, county newsletter, and social media.
- Need to improve our website to make accessibility information more prominent on the home page. Dedicate a page just to disabilities; remote accessible voting; more comprehensive information on voters with disabilities.
- Specific media outreach suggestions. The County Media Office (CMO) controls any social media requests. Budget is limited at about \$71K. We can go back to the Board and make requests in early December. Suggestion: Are there grants available to help with outreach costs?

- A more in depth presentation of the VCA was requested to help educate the committee. Suggested: Also educate on the county's accessibility surveying process.
- A concern about duplication of efforts was voiced. It was noted that Sacramento County is one of a small group of counties to be first in implementing this new voting model.
- Public consult meeting dates are yet to be determined.

**Meeting Wrap Up Items:**

- It was agreed that it would be helpful to have notice of topics that will be discussed in advance for each meeting so there is an outline to help stay on track. Other topics suggested: Updates on location selection process, site surveying for accessibility, county web page disability resource information, voting equipment, social media use, outreach events, remote accessible voting and building the Election Administrative Plan.
- A survey for committee member's availability will be emailed to help identify best locations, days, and times for meetings.
- Courtney will send out an outline of future meeting topics and the date, time and location of next meeting.