

Sacramento County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting Recap

September 26, 2017
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sacramento County Voter Registration and Elections Office
7000 65th St., Suite A, Training Room
Sacramento

Handouts Provided:

Meeting Agenda; 9/26/17 Meeting Summary, Polling Place Survey Presentation & Review Forms, De Minimus Departures per DAC/VAAC Suggestions, Inaccessible Polling Places- November 8, 2016, Public Hearing on Request for Approval of Voting Technology

Call to Order:

Committee Chair, Courtney Bailey, called the Sacramento County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting to order. Audience introductions were made.

Committee Members in attendance included: Carol Moss, Marianne Knoy, Donald Tuttle, Richard Stanley, Nick Bloise, and Terry Schanz.

Committee Members Not Present: Indi Kallirai, Irene Capps, Charlene Jones, Russell Rawlings, Margaret Johnson

VAAC Co-Chair Position:

Courtney requested that anyone interested in being the VAAC Co-Chair to please let her know.

Review of Previous Meeting's Recap and Action Items Results:

- No changes or additions to the previous meeting summary were requested.
- 2016 American Community Survey data at census level will come out in December. VRE will determine at that time if we will update the information.
- Map of voters over 65 presented. Data came from the county voter database. The median age of voters is 48 years.
- It is difficult to anticipate the traffic flow of VC's because voters can go anywhere in the county. With current precinct data, voters were assigned a specific polling place to cast their ballot. A map was displayed representing the number of voters who cast ballots at the polls in November 2016 by the nearest site that has said yes to a 4-Day Vote Center. Another map of Vote by Mail Ballot drop-offs at Polls was also displayed.
- Currently there are grants available through Voter's Choice California for Community Organizers and Leaders to support the effective implementation of the Voter's Choice Act. Grant amounts are \$1k to \$10K and you can apply at <https://voterschoice.org/apply-for-a-grant/>. There is also a bill for state funding (SB 113 has been signed by the governor and disbursement of the funds is in the works). A letter from advocates to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors was sent encouraging a budget increase for elections outreach and media.
- The calendar for Voter's Choice Act Implementation is still in the works.

Agenda Items and Discussion Comments:

- DAC and VAAC members were invited equipment demonstrations held right before our VAAC meeting. Democracy Live and Five Cedars demonstrated their Remote Accessible Vote by Mail ballot marking systems (RAVBM) and ES&S and Dominion demonstrated their ballot marking equipment for accessible voting at a Vote Center. Any comments on the equipment demos should be emailed to Courtney.
- Can RAVBM be used by anyone? The RAVBM is intended for voters with disabilities and overseas and military voters to use. You are not required to prove that you have a disability in order to mark your ballot with RAVBM. With our current RAVBM for military voters, voter files are uploaded daily and able to use get their ballot to mark. “At-home ballot marking” was a term suggested for use to describe this process.
- The Secretary of State’s website contains the staff reports on the voting equipment testing and certification.
- VRE website verbiage approved for Accessible Voting webpage. Courtney will send out for review and comment by VAAC members.
- Mindy Romero with California Civic Engagement Project will present a tool to help in identifying areas that need Vote Centers at the October 10th VAAC meeting.
- Courtney reviewed the physical access requirements, procedures, mitigation techniques, and forms used for Vote Center and Ballot drop-off location review. Also discussed were:
 - “de minimus departures”, or allowances just outside the state standards that the County DAC helped to establish in 2014 to help determine the severity of the barriers at a location.
 - Ratings for accessibility, lighting, availability, interest and location (visibility)
 - Public Transportation concerns were brought up over some not running and inaccessible paths of travel. Courtney to work with Regional Transit and Paratransit more closely on status of public transportation stops and services.
 - Courtney: Off-street parking required to have one van accessible parking space. If the entire parking lot has excessive slopes (a particular location in Folsom), is it misleading to put a Van Accessible sign here knowing that it is not van accessible and a wheelchair lift could not land there?

Action Items:

- When will the next consultation meetings be scheduled?
- Request for more information on polling place turnout, including seniors and AutoMARK usage
- Social Security data (from Richard Stanley) analysis on people who receive benefits by zip code needs to be completed. Also, inquire about data from DMV on temporary and permanent placard holders.

The next VAAC meeting will be held on October 10th at 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. here at the VRE Office.