




Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

July 1, 2019

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

Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer

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

Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP) Quarterly Report – 2nd Quarter, 2019

The following is the second quarterly update of 2019, detailing project activities and accomplishments during the period of April 1 to June 30, 2019. This report is provided to inform your Board and the public on the progress of the VSAP initiative. This report is prepared in response to a motion adopted by your Board on September 7, 2010.

The Department concluded its second round of Vote Center Placement Project (VCPP) Grassroots Community Meetings on June 29, 2019. We selected 16 new community based organizations (CBOs) and 8 returning organizations from those that conducted meetings during the first round. Participants from over 33 communities were engaged and provided valuable feedback regarding suggested locations and facilities for vote centers throughout the County. This second round of meetings focused on providing voters with an overview of the background and goals of the County's new voting experience, summarizing our community engagement efforts that included the process of identifying potential locations, facility review and informing the public of the 2,000 potential vote center sites that the Department is currently reviewing for use in 2020.

VOTE CENTER PLACEMENT PROJECT (VCPP)

Second Round VCPP Meetings:

During the second round of the VCPP Grassroots Community Meetings, the Department, in partnership with our partner PlaceWorks and 25 CBOs, hosted a total of 34 community meetings conducted over a 9-week period from May 2 through June 29, 2019. The meetings covered 30 geographic regions of Los Angeles County, with additional meetings held in Long Beach, Pasadena and a special interest meeting for voters with disabilities. CBOs conducted robust outreach efforts to ensure meeting attendance at these meetings and to engage a culturally diverse group of participants. Simultaneous language translation and language assistance were provided

in 12 non-English languages based on the needs of the focus area. In addition, American Sign Language was also available at the meetings when requested.

Meeting facilitators delivered a [presentation](#) that provided an overview of the VSAP initiative, the requirements of the California Voter’s Choice Act (VCA) along with an overview of the methodology utilized by the Department to identify a database of 2,000 potential vote centers. Participants had the opportunity to recommend and review facilities in the County and comment on sites under consideration along with suggesting new facilities not yet identified as viable locations. Participants were able to provide this feedback in written form and/or using the online portal.

Second Round VCPP Partners:

Armenian Nation Committee of America, Crescenta Valley Chapter
 Armenian National Committee of America, Pasadena Chapter
 Armenian National Committee of America, Western Region Chapter
 Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Los Angeles (AAAJ)
 Black Women for Wellness
 California Common Cause
 Disabled Resource Center
 Disability Rights California
 FarsiVoter
 First African Methodist Episcopal Church (FAME) & Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA)
 Glassell Park Improvement Association
 InnerCity Struggle
 Lake Los Angeles Park Association
 League of Women Voters, Torrance Area
 League of Women Voters, Los Angeles
 Long Beach Gray Panthers
 Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) Program
 NALEO Educational Fund
 Pacoima Beautiful
 Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs at Cal State LA
 South Bay Counseling Center (SBCC) Thrive LA
 Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) Collective
 Southern California Resource Services for Independent Living
 United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles

Second Round VCPP Schedule:

2nd Round VCPP Grassroots Community Meetings			
Date	Event	Community Based Organization	District
May 2, 2019	Shephard Church, Porter Ranch	League of Women Voters, Los Angeles	3
May 3, 2019*	McBride Park, Long Beach	Disabled Resource Center	4
May 4, 2019	Long Beach Senior Center, Long Beach	Long Beach Gray Panthers	4
May 7, 2019	Virginia Avenue Park, Thelma Terry Building, Santa Monica	League of Women Voters, Los Angeles	3
May 9, 2019	Glassell Park Community & Senior Center, Los Angeles	Glassell Park Improvement Association	1 & 5

May 10, 2019	Community Coalition, Los Angeles	Black Women for Wellness	1 & 2
May 16, 2019	Carson Civic Center, Carson	Black Women for Wellness	2 & 4
May 16, 2019	Torrance Cultural Arts Center, Toyota Meeting Hall, Torrance	League of Women Voters, Torrance Area	1, 2 & 4
May 17, 2019	UCPLA Culver City, Culver City	United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles (UCPLA) & Disability Rights California	2
May 18, 2019	C. Robert Lee Activity Center, Hawaiian Gardens	Southern California Resource Services for Independent Living	4
May 18, 2019	Armenian Cultural Foundation Center, Studio City	Armenian National Committee of America, Crescenta Valley Chapter	3 & 5
May 21, 2019	Cal State Los Angeles, Downtown, Los Angeles	Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs at Cal State LA	1, 2 & 3
May 22, 2019	University of La Verne Executive Dining Room, La Verne	NALEO Educational Fund	1, 4 & 5
May 28, 2019	Covina Public Library, Covina	Asian Americans Advancing Justice (AAAJ)	1, 4 & 5
May 28, 2019	Norwalk Arts and Sports Complex, Norwalk	Southern California Resource Services for Independent Living	1 & 4
May 29, 2019	San Gabriel Adult Recreation Center, San Gabriel	California Common Cause	5
May 29, 2019	Burbank Central Library, Burbank	Armenian National Committee of America, Western Chapter	3 & 5
June 4, 2019	Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena	Armenian National Committee of America, Pasadena Chapter	5
June 5, 2019	West Hollywood City Council Chambers, West Hollywood	California Common Cause	2 & 3
June 6, 2019	Centro Maravilla Service Center, Los Angeles	NALEO Educational Fund	1, 4 & 5
June 6, 2019	Second Baptist Church, Monrovia	Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) Program	1 & 5
June 7, 2019	Chimbole Cultural Center, Palmdale	Black Women for Wellness	5
June 8, 2019	First AME Church, Los Angeles	First African Methodist Episcopal Church (FAME) & Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA)	1, 2 & 3
June 11, 2019	Agoura Hills/Calabasas Community Center, Calabasas	League of Women Voters, Los Angeles	3
June 12, 2019	Harbor City Recreational Center, Community Room, Harbor City	South Bay Counseling Center (SBCC) Thrive LA	2 & 4
June 13, 2019	South Gate Girls Club House, South Gate	Southeast Los Angeles (SELA) Collaborative	1, 2 & 4
June 15, 2019	Old Town Newhall Public Library, Santa Clarita	Black Women for Wellness	5
June 18, 2019	Encino-Tarzana Branch Library, Tarzana	FarsiVoter	3
June 18, 2019	Hawthorne Memorial Center, Hawthorne	South Bay Counseling Center (SBCC) Thrive LA	2, 3 & 4
June 19, 2019	North Hills United Methodist Church, North Hills	South Bay Counseling Center (SBCC) Thrive LA	3 & 5
June 22, 2019	Northridge Recreation Center Gymnasium, Northridge	Black Women for Wellness	3 & 5
June 22, 2019	Jackie Robinson Park, Littlerock	Lake Los Angeles Park Association	5
June 27, 2019	Pacoima City Hall, Pacoima	Pacoima Beautiful	3 & 5
June 29, 2019	InnerCity Struggle, Los Angeles	InnerCity Struggle	1 & 5

*NBC 4 featured a live story on the 11:00am news from the meeting at McBride Park in Long Beach on Friday, May 3, 2019.

ADDITIONAL VSAP HIGHLIGHTS/MILESTONES

- Future of California Elections Conference in Sacramento: April 11, 2019.
- Voters Choice Act Debrief and Workshop in Sacramento: April 12, 2019.
 - Note: Aaron Nevarez, Manager of the Governmental & Legislative Affairs Division, presented on the overall scope of the VCPP Grassroots Community Meetings.
- The California Secretary of State approved the VSAP Pilot Plan for the November 5th Election: May 6, 2019.
- Held first of three Vote Center Test Labs from May 6, 2019 through May 17, 2019, where Department staff tested the operational procedures for the new voting experience.
- VSAP project staff and Community & Voter Outreach team members showcased the BMD EVT units at the Los Angeles County Equity Summit: May 31, 2019.
- Dean Logan, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, conducted the *Los Angeles County Elections 2020 Boot Camp: What you need to know about LA County's New and Modern Voting Experience* presentation during an event hosted by the Future of California Elections: June 6, 2019.
 - Note: The event was held at the California Endowment in Downtown L.A.
- The Department received 15 Test Lab BMDs from Smartmatic USA: June 17, 2019.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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

Additional VSAP Presentations			
Date	Organization	City	District
April 4, 2019	ACT Meeting	Pasadena	5
April 8, 2019	Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council	Rowland Heights	4
April 9, 2019	CHIRLA at VSAP Lab	RR/CC	n/a
April 16, 2019	Hawthorne Neighborhood Leadership Meet & Greet	Hawthorne	2
April 16, 2019	Norwalk City Council	Norwalk	4
April 17, 2019	Antelope Acres Town Council	Antelope Acres	5
April 18, 2019	California Association of Black Lawyers (CABLE)	Downtown LA	1
April 19, 2019	Urban League: How to Run for Office	South LA	2
April 20, 2019	Sherman Oaks Democratic Club	Sherman Oaks	3
April 26, 2019	Senior Pathfinders	Rowland Heights	4
April 27, 2019	Palos Verdes Democratic Club	Rolling Hills Estates	4
April 29, 2019	LA African American Women's PAC	South Los Angeles	2
May 2, 2019	VoteSC Webinar	Exposition Park	2
May 3, 2019	League of Women Voters at VSAP Lab	RR/CC	n/a
May 4, 2019	St. Andrews Community Group	South Los Angeles	2
May 7, 2019	Glendale City Council	Glendale	5
May 7, 2019	San Gabriel City Council	San Gabriel	5
May 10, 2019	Black Women for Wellness	South Los Angeles	2
May 11, 2019	Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains	Topanga	3

May 14, 2019	Cerritos Republican Club	Cerritos	4
May 16, 2019	OLLI #1 @ CSULB (different group from 5/20)	Long Beach	4
May 16, 2019	AARP Chapter 5353	Willowbrook	2
May 16, 2019	South Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Councils	South Los Angeles	2
May 20, 2019	OLLI #2 @ CSULB (different group from 5/16)	Long Beach	4
May 23, 2019	Foothills Community Democratic Club	Monrovia	5
May 23, 2019	DHRM (arranged through RR/CC HR)	At RR/CC	n/a
May 31, 2019	Women in Leadership: Vital Voices	Pasadena	5
June 3, 2019	Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley (DPSFV)	Van Nuys	3
June 5, 2019	Southland Regional Association of Realtors	Van Nuys	3
June 6, 2019	FOCE: LA County Elections 2020 Bootcamp	Downtown LA	1
June 7, 2019	Sovereign Park Estates Annual Meeting	Long Beach	4
June 11, 2019	DMAC / Office of Emergency Management	East Los Angeles	1
June 11, 2019	First African American Methodist Episcopal Church	Pasadena	5
June 11, 2019	La Mirada City Study Session	La Mirada	4
June 12, 2019	Willowbrook Senior Center	Willowbrook	2
June 13, 2019	Glendale City Town Hall	Glendale	5
June 15, 2019	Nat'l Council of Negro Women, Inc. - Long Beach Chapter	Long Beach	4
June 15, 2019	TRI Counties Democratic Club	Diamond Bar	4
June 15, 2019	League of Women Voters, Glendale / Burbank	Burbank	5
June 20, 2019	North Valley Democratic Club	Chatsworth	5
June 26, 2019	LA County Federation of Labor	Pico-Union	3
June 28, 2019	Southland Regional Association of Realtors Education Meeting	Canoga Park	3

MEDIA COVERAGE

May

- Dean Logan, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, and VSAP was featured on the NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt
 - Note: NBC News reporter Cynthia McFadden highlighted the new voting experience from the RR/CC's Norwalk Headquarters.
- [How We Vote In LA Is About To Change. Here's How To Make Your Opinion Known | LAist](#)
- [Has Los Angeles County just reinvented voting? | NBC News](#)

June

- [Voting Centers on the Horizon for 2020 Elections | Los Angeles Sentinel](#)
- [Vote Center Placement Project Community Meeting on Tuesday, June 11 in Calabasas | MalibuCity.org](#)
- [Learn About Voting Changes At Meeting In Monrovia | Monrovia Weekly](#)
- [Meetings to focus on voting changes | Antelope Valley Press](#)
- [County Introduces Its New High Tech Voting System to Pasadena | Pasadena Now](#)

Newsletter

Attached to this report is the latest issue of the VSAP 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 Initiative

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 VSAP Project is available to the public 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 Aaron Nevarez, Manager of Governmental & Legislative Affairs at anevarez@rcc.lacounty.gov or (562) 462-2800.



ISSUE 17
JUNE 2019

VOTING SOLUTIONS FOR ALL PEOPLE

Quarterly Newsletter

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THE LATEST



Our office received 15 production-grade VSAP Ballot Marking Devices. Currently these devices are in our Election Operations Center where both County and Smartmatic teams will create the infrastructure to test all the device hardware and software components.



Operational and technical procedures were center stage in Hawaiian Gardens and the Norwalk Headquarters as project teams presented each component of the new voting experience. This event, known as Test Lab 1 is the first of three that will occur throughout the summer months.



The second round of Vote Center Placement Project community meetings is complete. This round of community meetings focused on the specific locations that met the criteria to be a vote center within the community. Over 1,300 individuals attended one of the 34 community meetings.

CONTACT US

VSAP.lavote.net
vsap@rcc.lacounty.gov



MESSAGE *from Dean*

On Monday, June 17 our office received a glimpse of reality when the long-awaited shipment of 15 Ballot Marking Devices traveled over 6,800 miles to our very own Election Operations Center. This shipment is significant as it represents over a decade of tireless work from our staff at the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, IDEO, Smartmatic, Gartner and many stakeholders.

Although the first half of the year has been busy – conducting six elections on top of our work on the Voting Solutions for All People initiative – I am proud to see the level of detail and commitment from the project teams to get us to this point.

In the upcoming months our focus will remain on the testing and development of technical and operational procedures along with the kick-start of our community-based awareness campaign. This campaign will include reoccurring e-newsletters with project updates, timelines, outreach opportunities and educational materials to share with the community.

I look forward to our continued partnership as we take the Voting Solutions for All People into the final implementation stages.

Sincerely,

DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
Los Angeles County



FEATURED STORY

VSAP Ballot Marking Devices are in the House

June 17, 2019

In June 2016 the Voting Solutions for All People had just reached its most significant milestone in completing the Research and Design Phase of the new Ballot Marking Device. Three years since reaching that feat our Department now has in its possession the first 15 production-grade Ballot Marking Devices. These units are the first of 31,000 that will be arriving later this year in preparation for the full implementation to the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election.

On Monday, June 17 both the VSAP Executive Steering Committee and Smartmatic project teams assembled at the Election Operations Center to unveil the new devices. After recognizing this accomplishment our teams immediately went to work examining the devices and setting up the infrastructure to begin testing.



While these Ballot Marking Devices are predominately intended for testing purposes our office will offer community based-organizations the opportunity to receive live demonstrations at our Norwalk Headquarters or at a specified event – with notice. If your organization would like more information, please contact outreach@rcc.lacounty.gov.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Second round of Vote Center Placement Project Community Meetings



2019 Los Angeles County
Equity Summit



Future of California Elections Bootcamp:
L.A. County Elections 2020



VSAP SPOTLIGHT STORY

NBC News

Has Los Angeles County just reinvented voting?

For 2020, the nation's biggest voting district decided to grow its own voting machines and change the meaning of "Election Day." The reviews are glowing.



Dean Logan oversees the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, the largest voting district in the United States.

May 2, 2019, 10:00 AM PDT

By Kevin Monahan and Cynthia McFadden

LOS ANGELES — The biggest voting district in the United States came up with an audacious answer to the growing national problem of aging, malfunctioning and hackable voting machines.

It decided to build its own.

Los Angeles County, which has more registered voters than 42 states, gave NBC News an exclusive national broadcast look at what may be the future of voting systems. The county's 5.2 million registered voters will give the new system a test run in real time during California's presidential primary next March.

VSAP SPOTLIGHT STORY (CONT.)

Built with open-source technology over 10 years for \$100 million, and combined with a rethink of the voting process that lets locals cast ballots over 11 days instead of 13 hours, L.A. County officials believe their new machines will cut down on mechanical breakdowns and crowding and provide sophisticated protections against hacking.

“We thought, ‘We can’t wait any longer,’” said the man in charge of the new system, L.A. County Registrar Dean Logan.

A decade ago, Logan and his team decided the “voter experience,” as he calls it, needed an overhaul. For years, the county has been voting on technology that dates back to 1968, when Richard Nixon defeated Hubert Humphrey for president.

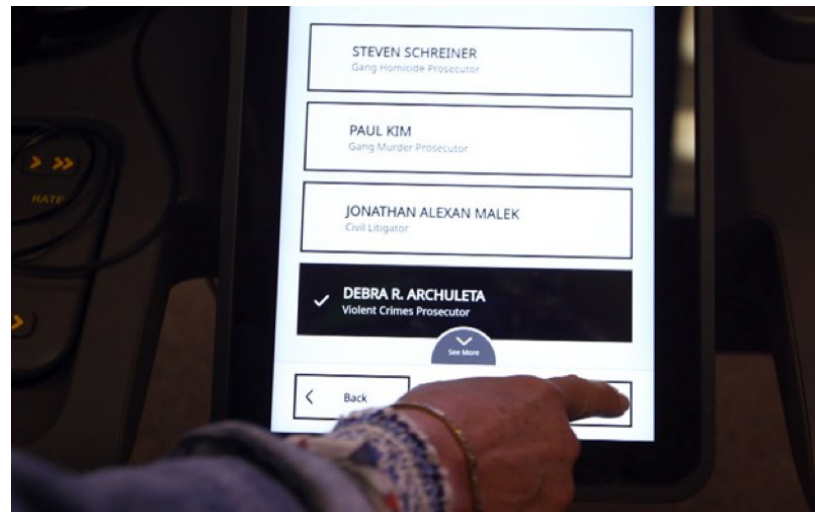
A voter’s choices are recorded on a punch card, the kind that used to be fed into bulky computers.

“The root problem was that the current system was becoming obsolete,” Logan said. “Nobody makes those card readers anymore, because IBM punch cards aren’t used to program computers anymore. We can’t replace it.”

L.A.’s predicament may seem extreme, but the problem of obsolete voting technology is nationwide. A study by the Brennan Center for Justice shows that 38 states use discontinued voting machines — machines that are no longer manufactured — in one or more jurisdictions. Another seven states use voting machines that have been discontinued in all their jurisdictions.

Machines that old are not only prone to breakdowns, but their security software also typically cannot be updated to safeguard against cyberattacks.

With nothing on the market that could meet L.A.’s needs, Logan says, the county decided to



Prototype of a new voting system in L.A. County.

build new machines itself. By using open-source technology — meaning available to everyone, instead of owned by a specific firm — the county no longer had to depend on a vendor to keep producing updates.

The machines are designed to be agile and interchangeable, Logan says. If a better part comes on the market, components can be swapped out without scrapping the whole machine.

The new L.A. voting system combines a paper ballot with a touch screen. Inside the voting booth, a person makes his or her choices on the screen. The voter then reviews the choices, feeds a paper ballot into the machine, and presses an on-screen button to complete the vote.

The paper ballot then drops into a secure box, becoming the official record of the voter’s selections as recorded using the interface on the Ballot Marking Device. Official ballots are counted independently on a separate tally system after the polls close on Election Day.

The system accommodates write-in votes, and will also allow a voter to fill out the paper ballot manually and then feed it into the machine if the person prefers. There are also 14 different languages available, large-type and earphone

VSAP SPOTLIGHT STORY (CONT.)

options, and a screen that can adjust for voters in wheelchairs.

The county's other innovation is changing the definition of Election Day. Some states have reduced crowding and increased turnout by allowing votes by mail. L.A. County believes that spreading voting over 11 days and directing residents to "voting centers," some of them mobile, will result in less chaos on Election Day, and will also save money. Without the crush of single-day voting, the county will only have to deploy 31,000 machines, half as many as in the past, and use fewer staff to check registrations and monitor the machines.

Logan concedes that "a lot" of voters will still show up on election day because that's what's ingrained, and some will show up at their old familiar polling places only to find that those sites are no longer in use.

"Hopefully, we will have socialized that to an extent that we can minimize it," Logan said. "The beauty is that in an 11-day window voting period, we're going to get a chance early on to see how things are working and correct things. We can adapt. We can get the word out to the public."

Logan also says the county may eventually be able to recoup some of the millions spent on the machines by sharing what L.A. has learned. He says the county doesn't want to go into the voting machine business, but may eventually want to provide its hardware designs and expertise to other voting districts.

Reviews from voting experts and activists have been enthusiastic.

Amber McReynolds, the former director of elections for the city of Denver and now executive director of the National Vote at Home Institute, said she has been to L.A. for a tour of the new system. "I really do believe that they have done something that's transformational in terms of how we see elections today," she said.

Lawrence Norden, deputy director of the Democracy Program at the Brennan Center, said the system addresses the frustration he hears from local election officials about the limited options in the voting machine market. Norden said, "I think everybody around the country that works in the election space is watching L.A. County and looking to see how this rolls out. And if it's a success, which I suspect it will be, it could have repercussions for the future of voting in the country."

Meanwhile, it's still 1968 in L.A. There are 200 separate elections in various nooks and crannies of the sprawling county every year, and until March those elections will still use the punch card-based dinosaurs.

"We're still using them in the meantime," Logan said. "We just had an election in the city of Compton and we're squeezing all of the life we can out of them. But come 2020, we'll be ready."

"A lot's changed since 1968 and we need to offer an experience that matches what people expect today."

NBC Nightly News:
<https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/2020-election/has-los-angeles-county-just-reinvented-voting-n1000761>

FOR MORE MEDIA COVERAGE, VISIT
VSAP.LAVOTE.NET/NEWSROOM



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HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE?

Get the latest updates and project developments at VSAP.lavote.net



You can learn more about the project through our videos, research reports, media coverage and team member blog post.

INTERESTED IN SHARING YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE PROJECT?

Submit at vsap@rrcc.lacounty.gov to be featured on our blog.

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