



Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DEAN C. LOGAN Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

April 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

VSAP Quarterly Report – 1st Quarter, 2019

The following is the first quarterly update of 2019, detailing project activities and accomplishments during the period of January 1 to March 30, 2019. 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 this reporting period, the Department and its manufacturing partner Smartmatic achieved a significant milestone by completing the Engineering Validation Testing (EVT) phase of the VSAP development. Additionally, in this period, the Department submitted a Pilot Program Plan to the California Secretary of State seeking approval to use new VSAP equipment in the November 2019 Election. The Department also selected a vendor, Knowlnk, to provide the County's ePollbooks, which are the physical devices that will allow the County to move forward with the new vote center model under VSAP. These devices will replace traditional paper rosters currently used at polling places. They will allow our vote center staff to check in voters at any vote center throughout the County, and also allow voters to register to vote or update their registration in-person.

The Department also concluded its first round of Vote Center Placement Project (VCPP) Grassroots Community Meetings on January 19, 2019. Participants from over 33 communities were engaged and provided valuable feedback regarding suggested facilities for vote centers throughout the County. The application and onboarding process to select and train Community Based Organizations (CBOs) that will conduct the next round of VCPP meetings began on February 4, 2019 and ended on February 25, 2019. This second round of meetings will focus on providing voters with an overview of the background and goals the County's new voting experience, summarizing our outreach efforts including the process for facility review and securing facilities for vote centers, and informing the public of the final 2,000 potential sites that the Department is currently reviewing for use as possible vote centers beginning in March 2020.

ENGINEERING VALIDATION TESTING (EVT) DEMO AT SMARTMATIC

On March 4, 2019, Smartmatic, the developer of the County's new Ballot Marking Device (BMD), presented the Department with the first look at the County's new voting equipment and a demonstration of how each BMD will function inside a secure election environment that included a simulated warehouse and vote center. The next phase will focus on completion of the design and delivering machines to the California Secretary of State for testing and certification before County voters use them to mark their ballots in future elections.

VOTE CENTER PLACEMENT PROJECT (VCPP)

First Round VCPP Meetings:

During the first round of the VCPP Grassroots Community Meetings, the Department, in partnership with PlaceWorks and 18 Community Based Organizations (CBOs), hosted a total of 33 community meetings conducted over a 9-week period from November 16, 2018 through January 19, 2019. The meetings covered 30 geographic regions of Los Angeles County, with three additional meetings held, respectively, for people with disabilities, Koreatown and the Pasadena area. CBOs worked to engage a culturally diverse body of participants and simultaneous language interpretation was provided at 13 meetings in Spanish, Korean, Chinese, and American Sign Language. Informal language assistance was also provided in 9 additional languages at 16 meetings.

Meeting facilitators delivered a presentation that provided an overview of the background and goals of the VCA along with an overview of the methodology utilized to review and select the final vote centers. Participants had the opportunity to recommend and review potential facilities in the County and comment on sites under consideration and suggest new facilities not yet identified as viable locations. Participants were able to provide this feedback in written form or using the online web-based portal. Participants were also asked complete a survey and provide feedback about characteristics in their communities.

First Round VCPP Partners:

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 South Bay Counseling Center (SBCC) Thrive LA United Cerebral Palsy Los Angeles

2019 Vote Cen	ter Placement Project (VCPP	Grassroots Community Meetings	
Date	Event	Community Based Organization	District
January 5,2019	Legacy Commons for Active	Black Women for Wellness	_
	Seniors in Palmdale		5
January 5, 2019	SBCC Thrive in Wilmington	SBCC Thrive LA	4
January 6, 2019	Newhall Community Center in Newhall	Black Women for Wellness	5
January 7, 2019	Malibu City Hall in Malibu	League of Women Voters LA	3
January 9, 2019	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in Leimert Park	Black Women for Wellness	2
January 9, 2019	La Crescenta County Library in La Crescenta	Armenian National Committee of America, Crescenta Valley Chapter	5
January 9, 2019	Rose Goldwater Community Center in Canoga Park	League of Women Voters- Los Angeles	5
January 10, 2019	Jackie Robinson Community Center in Pasadena	California Common Cause	5
January 10, 2019	Arcadia Public Library in Arcadia	Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE)	5
January 11, 2019	United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles in Culver City	United Cerebral Palsy and Disability Rights California	2
January 12, 2019	The Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles	Arts for LA	1
January 12, 2019	Liberty Community Plaza in Whittier	League of Women Voters- Whittier	4
January 12, 2019	Mexican American Opportunity Foundation in Montebello	NALEO Educational Fund	1
January 12, 2019	Beverly Hills Public Library in Beverly Hills	National Iranian American Council	3
January 14, 2019	New Start Housing Corporation in Huntington Park	Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)	1
January 19, 2019	Reseda Recreational Center in Reseda	National Iranian American Council	3

Second Round VCPP Meetings:

Round two of the VCPP Grassroots Community Meetings will occur between April 28 and June 30, 2019. To date, we have selected 16 new CBOs and 8 returning organizations that conducted meetings during the first round. The meetings will be held in the same 30 geographic areas as in round one, with additional meetings serving voters as needed.

For a complete schedule of community meetings, please visit vsap.lavote.net/vote-center-placement-project.

Second Round VCPP Partners:

AltaMed Health Care Services Armenian Nation Committee of America, Crescenta Valley Chapter Armenian National Committee of America, Pasadena Chapter Armenian National Committee of America, Western Region Chapter Black Women for Wellness



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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 9SELA Collective

Southern California Resource Services for Independent Living

United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles & Disability Rights of California

ADDITIONAL VSAP HIGHLIGHTS

- Selected ePollbook solution through Request for Bids (RFB) process
 - Knowlnk was selected on January 15, 2019 to provide initial 100 Poll Pads.
 - o Protest period concluded on February 21, 2019
 - Knowlnk officially on board on February 25, 2019
- Obtained Board approval for certification funding and pilot plan
 - Received Board approval to submit Pilot Plan to the SOS and transfer funding for certification testing on January 15, 2019.
- Submitted Pilot Program Plan to Secretary of State
 - Submitted letter and plan to the Secretary of State on February 5, 2019, to provide notice that the Department intends to implement a pilot program during the November 5, 2019 Local and Municipal Elections and will implement the use of the County's new voting equipment.
- Executed amended work order with Digital Foundry
 - Amended Work Order was sent to the Board on January 16, 2019
- Released Transportation Request for Information (RFI)
 - o Transportation RFI was released on January 25, 2019
 - o Hosted a Vendor Day for interested parties on February 13, 2019
 - o RFI closed for responses on March 8, 2019
- Selected dates for the Countywide Mock Election
 - o The Mock Election will be held on September 28-29, 2019

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

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

<u>January 30, 2019 – Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce</u>

Dean Logan provided a presentation to Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce Government and Fiscal Affairs about the new voting experience and the overall VSAP Project.

February 13, 2019 – Florence-Firestone Leaders

Jeff Klein, Manager of Voter Education, Outreach and Community Relations, provided a presentation at the Florence-Firestone Community Leaders Meeting about the VSAP project.

February 21, 2019 - Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 721

Jeff Klein, Manager of Voter Education, Outreach and Community Relations, and Phil Verbera, RR/CC Manager of Community & Voter Outreach, provided a presentation at the COPE Meeting about Vote Centers and the overall VSAP project.

February 26, 2019 - Hawaiian Gardens City Council

Aaron Nevarez, Governmental and Legislative Affairs Division Manager, provided a presentation at the Hawaiian Gardens City Council meeting about the Vote Center Placement Project and the overall VSAP project.

March 5, 2019 - Long Beach City Council Election Oversight Committee

Aaron Nevarez, Governmental and Legislative Affairs Division Manager, provided a presentation to the Long Beach City Council Election Oversight Committee about the new voting experience and the overall VSAP Project.

March 7, 2019 - Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 721

Phil Verbera, Manager of Community & Voter Outreach, provided a presentation to the African American Caucus at SEIU 721 about Vote Centers and the overall VSAP project.

March 8, 2009 Leadership Torrance 2019

Jeff Klein, Manager of Voter Education, Outreach and Community Relations, provided a presentation at the Leadership Torrance City & County Government Day conference about Vote Centers and the overall VSAP project.

March 9, 2019 - Scale 17x Conference

Dean Logan and Kenneth Bennett, VSAP Program Manager, led a discussion about charting an open technology path for elections, Los Angeles County's new publicly-owned voting solution.

March 12, 2019 – Los Angeles County Democratic Party

Dean Logan provided a presentation at the Los Angeles County Democratic Party's Monthly Membership Meeting about Vote Center Placement Project Grassroots Community Meetings.



March 17, 2019 – Palos Verdes Democratic Club

Phil Verbera, Manager of Community & Voter Outreach about the new voting experience and the overall VSAP Project.

March 20, 2019 – Empowerment Congress Senior Committee

Jeff Klein, Manager of Voter Education, Outreach and Community Relations provided a presentation to SD2 Field Staff and Empowerment Congress Senior Committee about the new voting experience and the overall VSAP Project.

March 28, 2019 - National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), Long Beach

Jeff Klein, Manager of Voter Education, Outreach and Community Relations provided a presentation to the National Council of Jewish Women about the implementation of the VSAP Project and a discussion of the California Voters Choice Act

MEDIA COVERAGE

January

- Black Women for Wellness set to host vote center meeting for SCV residents The Santa Clarita Valley Signal
- Help Decide Where People Will Vote in 2020 Los Angeles Downtown News
- Community Meeting Will Ask Pasadenans Where They Want New Voting Center to be Located – Pasadena Now
- Voters receive information about vote centers, provide suggestions to potential locations
 The Santa Clarita Valley Signal
- Radio: New way to vote coming in 2020 KPCC
- District-based elections, vote centers mark first city meetings of new year Claremont Courier
- LA County residents can weigh in on where voting centers replacing polling places should be – 89.3 KPCC
- West Hollywood Residents Invited to Help Identify Locations for Voting Centers for 2020
 Wehoville
- LA County Seeks Community Input On Location Of Santa Clarita Voting Centers The Proclaimer Santa Clarita Valley

March

 California wants new voting machines for next year. Most counties will have to spend to do it – Daily Breeze

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.



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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.

Attachment





VOTING SOLUTIONS FOR ALL PEOPLE

Quarterly Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

MARCH 2019

Message from Dean

Featured Story

Community Engagement

Spotlight Story

Stay Connected

THE **LATEST**



The first round of the Vote Center Placement Project community meetings is complete. Our office conducted 33 meetings from November 2018 to January 2019. Nearly 1,000 residents attended the meetings and 265 of those attendees suggested potential vote center sites. We received over 1,400 suggested vote center locations.



The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved two plans that will push VSAP into the next stages of implementation. First, our Department will engage a Stateapproved testing agency to conduct the testing and certification for the entire VSAP solution. Second, the Board authorized our plan to submit a pilot program for the November 5, 2019 Municipal Election that allows our office to utilize the new VSAP equipment in a pilot capacity.



The Department has awarded VSAP's electronic pollbook contract to KnowINC. The electronic pollbook is a critical component to the vote center model that will allow voters to visit any vote center within the County.

CONTACT US

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



MESSAGE from Dean

On Monday, March 4 a group of us headed to Santa Monica for an Engineering Verification Testing session with our manufacturing contractor Smartmatic. The walk-though was exciting as it provided us with a glimpse into the near future.

We saw two fully functional Ballot Marking Device units and how LA County voters will be able to use the new technology to mark their ballots using other features such as the Interactive Sample Ballot at future vote centers and see how those votes will be counted using tally.

We are less than a year away from launching the voting experience of the future, and we have been busy making sure we are making it a reality for LA County.

In the next few months we will be focused on a second phase of community meetings, to gather feedback from different communities on where they want to vote in their community and for more input and engagement.

We look forward to checking off more exciting milestones in the coming months. Stay tuned for more updates, we are close to the finish line.

Sincerely,

DEAN C. LOGAN

Deanc. Logan

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

Los Angeles County



FEATURED STORY

A VSAP Milestone: First look at LA County's New Voting Equipment.

March 9, 2019

early 10 years after the Registrar-Recorder kicked off our efforts to modernize Los Angeles County's voting system, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk Dean Logan and his team were presented this week with ballot marking devices (BMD) manifactured by Smartmatic. This delivery of validation devices coincides with the end of the Engineering Validation (EVT) Testing phase of Smartmatic's system manifacturing effort.

The Registrar's team visited the Santa Monica offices of Smartmatic, the County's chosen contractor in charge of the design completion, engineering, and manufacturing of system components. The system was designed by and for Los Angeles County during prior phases of the Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP) initiative that focuses on transparency, accessibility, usability, and security.









On March 4, 2019, Smartmatic staff provided the Registrar with a demonstration of how each BMD will function inside a secure election environment that included a simulated warehouse and vote center. The next phase will focus on completion of the design and delivering machines to the California Secretary of State for testing and certification before Los Angeles County voters use them to mark their ballots in future elections.

The new system will make it easier for all voters including those with disabilities, and voters with limited English proficiency, to cast ballots. The system is unique in that it was designed by Los Angeles County and will be publicly owned and operated by the County. Smartmatic was chosen to manufacture the devices after an extensive vetting process in accordance with Los Angeles County's competitive procurement policies. Smartmatic has extensive experience in manufacturing secure and customized election technology all over the world.

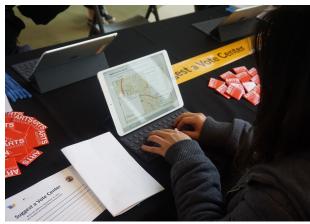
The new voting system is slated to be in place in time for the March 2020 California Presidential Primary election—with plenty of testing and pilots beforehand.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In January our office presented at 19 various community meetings which included public meetings surrounding the Vote Center Placement Project, League of California Cities General Membership Meeting, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce Government and Fiscal Affairs, Florence and Firestone Community Leaders Meeting, La Cañada-Flintridge City Council meeting, March Torrance City and County Government Day and Palos Verdes Democratic Club.

Arts for LA – Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavilion





United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles



SBCC Thrive – Wilmington



CA Common Cause Pasadena





CHIRLA – Huntington Park





League of Women Voters Los Angeles



Black Women for Wellness – Newhall Community Center



ATTEND OUR NEXT COMMUNITY MEETING:

March 28: National Council of Jewish Women, Long Beach April 26: Senior Pathfinder Board.

VSAP SPOTLIGHT STORY

LA WEEKLY

L.A. County Plans to Transition to Vote Centers



Tom Arthur/Wikicommons

oters in Los Angeles County will have up to 11 days to vote in the March 2020 presidential primary election, and the option to vote anywhere in the county at Vote Centers, on what looks like a touchscreen tablet.

Those changes are being discussed at community meetings across the county, from Inglewood to Glendale to Reseda, and will continue through Jan. 19.

Through a project called Voting Solutions for All People, or VSAP (VSAP.lavote.net), the Los Angeles County Registrar-

Recorder/County Clerk plans to create a new voting experience to make it easier for all voters, including voters with disabilities and multilingual voters. Why the change?

"Part of the reason why is that voting equipment now is outdated — the voting system that is in place now is functional but, as time progresses and technology becomes available, we want to improve our voting system and be able to provide to voters options and more access to be able to vote," says Mike Sanchez, public information officer.

VSAP SPOTLIGHT STORY (CONT.)

"It's multilayered," Sanchez says. "On top of the new technology we will be using in 2020, the Vote Center model in general allows for 11 days to vote. Currently, elections are held on one day, a Tuesday. Other options like vote-by-mail will still be available, but the in-person component is very restrictive.

"Los Angeles County started early weekend voting, it's fairly new, the last few years. The office in Norwalk is open to early voting but that is not convenient if you live far away. ... The 11-day period is a very drastic change."

And, there will be the option to vote anywhere in the county, Sanchez says. Additionally, Vote Centers will serve as vote-by-mail drop-off locations.

Senate Bill 450, signed by Gov. Jerry Brown in 2016, called for improvements to the voting experience. Among the changes are the switch to Vote Centers from polling places, a longer voting period (up to 10 days before Election Day) and the ability to vote anywhere in the county.

In some counties, such as Sacramento and San Luis Obispo, the new voting options were available beginning this year, according to information from Brown's office. By 2020, all counties in the state would be allowed to adopt the changes.

Los Angeles County is home to nearly 5 million voters, making it the largest voting jurisdiction in the United States.

"The devices and design are unique to Los Angeles County," Sanchez says, although other counties have implemented the 11-day voting period. "We do have eyes on us. I think once we establish a successful outcome for 2020, other counties might pick our brain. We haven't crossed that bridge yet."

The new Vote Centers, which will be determined after public input from the community meetings that are taking place, also will allow a person to update outdated voter registration information.

"It would nearly eliminate provisional ballots," Sanchez says. "This past election, there were several hundred thousand. There is a stigma associated with provisional ballots, that they don't count or your vote is not good. But that's a safeguard to cast a ballot on Election Day."

A VSAP video shows voters will have the option of a digital sample ballot on what looks like a smartphone app.

Referred to as an interactive sample ballot (ISB), Sanchez describes it as a web application to look at all the information that you would find on a paper sample ballot. "You can pre-mark it and go through the remainder of the ballot," he says. "All selections made on the sample ballot will not be transferred. It is all stored on the individual's personal device."

This then generates a poll pass, which will work similarly to a boarding pass, Sanchez says. It will be scanned at the Vote Center, can be reviewed and changed, and then one can move forward and cast their vote.

"Also remember that 2020 will still use a physical paper ballot," Sanchez says. "It is important to note that when you go through ISB you still need to show up and physically vote at a Vote Center."

The new machines/tablets have a standalone power source, he says. After a selection is made on the touchscreen, a paper copy is printed that shows a summary of all your selections, along with a QR code that serves as a security measure. The paper summary is then placed back into the

VSAP SPOTLIGHT STORY (CONT.)

machine and secure box that is part of the voting unit.

For those who may not consider themselves tech-savvy, Sanchez says there will be staff at every Vote Center to instruct and assist voters as needed.

Sanchez also says that part of the design and research of the new machine is based on focus groups with the elderly and people with accessibility concerns including the blind. All the information acquired was put into this design.

"It is very easy to read and navigate the system," Sanchez says. "We are confident that whether you have a lot of experience or no experience with technology, you can utilize this and have a positive experience."

Sanchez also said paper sample ballots are not going away, as they are required by law. Sample ballots also provide election information, and where and how to vote, along with candidate and measure statements.

The VSAP video is a good source to get a glimpse of the new machines — Sanchez says that is "almost exactly what they will look like."

There are also discussions about pop-up voting sites at large sporting events and at locations such as convalescent homes, where people may have difficulty getting to a Vote Center, he says.

And next year, there are plans for a mock election.

"It will be one of the first times the public as a mass will be able to see and use [the machines]," Sanchez says. That could take place by fall 2019 at multiple locations across the county. It will serve as an awareness campaign and a way to test the equipment before it goes live in March 2020.

For more information about the community meetings for Vote Centers or to watch a video about the new technology, visit VSAP.layote.net.

Link of the story:

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

Our office will kick off the second round of vote center community meetings in April 2019. Information on the locations and dates will be available on vsap.lavote.net in late March or early April.

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.





