



Alameda County Council of the
League of Women Voters

*Alameda
Berkeley/Albany/Emeryville
Eden Area
Fremont/Newark/Union City
Oakland
Piedmont*

April 11, 2023

Mr. Tim Dupuis
Alameda County Registrar of Voters
1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1
Oakland, CA 94612
(sent via email to vca@acgov.org)

Re: Renewal Election Administration Plan Development (EAP), 2-year Review (Virtual)

Dear Registrar Dupuis:

I am writing on behalf of the six Leagues which comprise the Alameda County Council of the League of Women Voters (LWV-ACC). I currently serve as Chair of LWV-ACC. We had multiple comments towards the development of the Amended Alameda County EAP.

The comments and corresponding page numbers are as follow:

P.5 The informational insert with vote by mail package should clarify the hours and location of Vote Centers, location of 24-hour Ballot Drop Boxes, and ballot tracking.

p. 7 The plan refers people to the Ballot Drop Stop Tour page of the ROV website to request this service, but requests must be filed within a restricted time frame. How will organizations know that they can make a request?

p. 7 Regarding location of 24-hour drop boxes, the plan should include the names of community-based organizations the ROV consulted for consideration of placement of these boxes.

P.8 states, "The ROV will publish a list of locations on our website." That is good, but does not serve voters who do not have access to a computer to look up this information. The list of Vote Centers should be included in the sample ballot that is mailed to every voter.

P.10 mentions 2 envelopes at the vote centers. There is the CVR envelope for Conditional Voter Registration and a Provisional Ballot Envelope. Please clarify that these are the same envelope and perhaps use a consistent name when referring to this envelope, such as the "Conditional/Provisional Ballot Envelope."

P.16. lists 3 committees: Language Accessibility Committee; Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee; and the Voter Education and Outreach Committee (also referred to as a Coalition). Further on in the document, on pages 22-25 the document gives details on the first two

committees and says they meet quarterly. However, no such details are provided for the Voter Education and Outreach Committee/Coalition. How often does this committee meet, who is on it and what does it do? More information about this committee needs to be included in the EAP.

P.17. Under Voter Education, it says “Work with all organizations.” Please provide information about your efforts in working with these organizations.

P.18-19. lists newspapers and newsletters that the ROV will use to inform voters. Please review the list to ensure that the publications still exist and to add new ones. For example, the Oakland Tribune was taken over by another newspaper and should be removed. Please add the TriCity Voice to the list. The TriCity Voice is an adjudicated newspaper in Alameda County and should be included. The list does not mention popular online news-sources such as Oaklandside and Berkeleyside and the Insider that is county wide. These and other online news-sources should be listed here. Consider adding neighborhood association message boards and Nextdoor.org since many voters use these online outlets for information.

P.21 lists who will be informed and includes “unhoused.” Please include more specific plans to reach and facilitate voting for unhoused communities. Please consider including the number of unhoused who voted and which outreach strategies were successful.

P.21 lists voter education resources that are on the ROV website. Please provide a means of providing this information to voters that don’t have access to a computer, the ROV website, or social media.

P. 22 references reliance on the Language Accessibility Advisory Committee but the members are not listed. Please list members so we can be assured that diversity is represented. For Chinatown and adjacent communities, the Chinatown Coalition should be the point of contact. For the Spanish-speaking community, one important contact is Resilient Fruitvale (also a coalition of many community-based safety net organizations). The two coalitions communicate regularly with dozens of coalition organizations.

P.24, for the toll-free hotline, please include specifics about how this will be available for the hearing impaired. You have identified that “Voters who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-disabled may use the California Relay Service (CRS) by dialing 711 to use the telephone system via a text telephone (TTY) or other devices to call the Registrar of Voters' Office toll-free voter phone number.” Please clarify whether this information will be included in the educational materials such as the informational insert referred to on p.5 of the EAP.

In addition to the above comments, in areas with Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), please increase public outreach and education on the RCV Voting process. This outreach should include written, audio, and video education for each election that will include RCV.

Like you, we support removing barriers to registering to vote and casting a vote. We approve of your “More days, more ways” motto. We are also strongly in favor of public input, especially in cases where public input can help make the administration of something like this election

plan more effective for a greater number of community members. Ultimately, we hope these efforts result in increased voter registration and turnout.

As always, the League stands ready to assist the Registrar of Voters in its voter education and outreach efforts.

Sincerely,

[Syeda R Inamdar](#)

Syeda Reshma Inamdar, Chair, Alameda County Council of the League of Women Voters

cc: (via email)

Dwayna.Gullatt@acgov.org

Cornejo, Cynthia, ROV Cynthia.Cornejo@acgov.org

Presidents of All Six Member Leagues – LWV-ACC