

Election Administration Plan

E.C. 4005 (a)(10)(I)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION
SECTION 1 – ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PLAN – VOTE CENTER MODEL 4
1A - GENERAL INFORMATION4
Estimated Costs Under This Plan4
Consideration for a Mobile Vote Center5
Toll-Free Phone Access
1B - BALLOT ACCESS6
Receiving a Vote-by-Mail Ballot6
Requesting an Accessible Ballot - Vote Centers
Requesting a Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail Ballot
Requesting a Replacement Ballot
1C - VOTE CENTER ESSENTIALS7
General Information
Security of the Voting Process at Vote Centers, Secure Vote Center Voting7
Preventing Disruption, Continuing Vote Center Operations
Staffing Vote Centers
Services for Voters with Disabilities
Design and Layout of Vote Centers
Quantity of Vote Centers to Be Established
The Location and Hours of Each Vote Center
Vote Center Location Maps
1D - BALLOT DROP BOX ESSENTIALS
General Information 11
Quantity of Drop Boxes to Be Established
Location and Hours of Operation of Each Ballot Drop Box
Ballot Drop Box Location Maps
1E – AFTER ELECTION ACTIVITIES
Addressing Significant Disparities in Voter Accessibility and Participation
Assistance to the SOS with Report to the Legislature; Provide Election Statistics

SECTION 2 – VOTER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PLAN	13
2A - THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LANGUAGE AND VOTER ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES (LAAC AND VAAC).	13
2B - IDENTIFYING LANGUAGE MINORITY VOTERS	
2C - WEBSITE TO HAVE AVAILABLE ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION	
2D - USE OF THE MEDIA FOR VOTER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH	
2E - COMMUNITY PRESENCE TO EDUCATE VOTERS ON THE VOTER'S CHOICE ACT	E
2F - USE OF RESOURCES FOR VOTER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH	15
2G - DIRECT MAIL CONTACT WITH VOTERS	16
2H - POSTAGE-PAID POSTCARD FOR REQUESTING MATERIALS	16
2I - VOTER EDUCATION WORKSHOP FOR ALL VOTERS	16
2J - PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR ALL VOTERS	16
2K - OUTREACH TO VOTERS AT HIGHER EDUCATION CAMPUSES	17
2L - OUTREACH TO VOTERS WITH A CRIMINAL HISTORY	17
Appendix A Proposed Vote Center Locations	19
Appendix B Proposed Vote Center Location Considerations	20
Appendix C Proposed Vote Center Location Map	22
Appendix D Proposed Drop Box Locations	23
Appendix E Proposed Drop Box Location Considerations	24
Appendix F Proposed Drop Box Location Map	25
Appendix G Sample Vote Center Layout	26
Appendix H Outreach Cost Comparison	27

INTRODUCTION

In 2016, Senate Bill 450 created the California Voter's Choice Act (VCA). VCA is an election model that provides every registered voter with a Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot. In addition, Vote Centers replaced the traditional polling locations and are operated for more days offering voters more opportunities to cast a ballot. Fourteen counties were offered the opportunity to pilot the VCA model in 2018 with 5 choosing to do so and since then, additional counties have elected to change their election models to VCA including Los Angeles and Fresno counties.

In June of 2020, due to the restrictions on gathering due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Newsom signed executive orders authorizing counties to conduct the November 2020 General Election using a VCA-like model, which Kings County took advantage of.

In July of 2021, emergency legislation was adopted to allow counties to again utilize the VCA-like model for the September 2021 Gubernatorial Recall Election. In addition, Assembly Bill 37 was signed into law by Governor Newsom requiring all active registered voters to be mailed a VBM ballot for all elections after January 1, 2022.

In light of the experiences with the VCA-like model used in the 2020 General and 2021 Gubernatorial Recall Elections, and with the passage of Assembly Bill 37, the Kings County Elections Department determined it would be beneficial to move from the traditional poll place model to VCA. The Kings County Elections Department developed an Election Administration Plan (EAP) in collaboration with our community, input from our Language Accessibility Advisory and Voter Accessibility Advisory Committees (LAAC and VAAC), using lessons learned and guidance from other VCA counties and the California Secretary of State's office. Approval of the initial EAP was issued by the Secretary of States' office on April 6, 2022, and the first election conducted under the VCA model occurred on June 7, 2022.

California Elections Code requires EAP renewals must occur within two years of the adoption of the first EAP and then every four years thereafter. Kings County will complete the 2-year renewal in 2023 due to the upcoming 2024 Presidential Election cycle.

SECTION 1 – ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PLAN – VOTE CENTER MODEL

1A - GENERAL INFORMATION

Estimated Costs Under This Plan - California Elections Code \$4005(a)(10)(I)(v), \$4005(g)(2)

The Elections Department administers elections that are fair, legal, and transparent with the highest level of integrity and commitment. We strive to effectively inform and educate current and future voters about registration requirements, the Vote-by-Mail process, Vote Centers, and Ballot Drop Box locations. To achieve this goal, extensive voter education and outreach is required. California Elections Code Section 4005, which the VCA model is codified as, requires that two separate mailings be sent to all voters before any election. This is in addition to any mandatory mailings, such as Voter Information Guides and other election related material. The following table shows a breakdown of the costs that were incurred for the required VCA mailers for both the June 7, 2022 Gubernatorial Primary and November 8, 2022 General elections.

Election	VCA Mailer 1	VCA Mailer 2	Total
June 2022 Primary Election	\$9,716.16	\$14,999.70	\$24,715.86
November 2022 General Election	\$9,567.97	\$17,111.43	\$26,679.40

The difference in costs between VCA Mailer 1 and 2 is due to the amount of information incorporated into the second VCA mailer. This includes information as to when ballots were mailed out, locations and hours of operation of Vote Centers, Ballot Drop Box locations, and contact information for the department. Funds remaining from the 2021 Recall Election covered the cost of mailers for the June 2022 Primary Election while funding from the Secretary of States' office covered the cost of the mailers for the November 2022 General Election. As future funding is not secured, the county should be prepared to spend approximately \$30,000 for VCA mailers per election. The Elections Department will continue to seek additional funding from the Secretary of States' office as well as lobby for changes in the number of outreach mailers required by VCA regulations and election code.

As of January 2023, data communication costs for the KNOWiNK Poll Pads amounts to \$25.00 per Poll Pad per month. That amounts to \$750.00 per election for all 30 Poll Pads or \$1,500.00 per election cycle. Although all 30 Poll Pads are not issued to Vote Centers, we must have them ready to be deployed in the event a center needs a replacement.

The following table shows rates that were paid to Poll Workers, Inspectors, and Locations under the VCA Model:

Poll Worker Rate	Inspector Rate	Location Rate
\$150.00 per day	\$200.00 per day	\$125.00 per day

The table below shows the expanded costs of Poll Workers and Locations along with the number of workers and sites utilized for the past two elections under the VCA model:

Election	Poll Worker Cost	Location Cost	Number of Workers	Number of Locations
June 2022 Primary Election	\$41,275.00	\$3,500.00	62	7
November 2022 General Election	\$41,250.00	\$3,910.00	62	7

The reason for cost difference between the two elections were due to two sites charging for janitorial services not included in June 2022.

The Elections Department is projecting the following costs for future scheduled elections. Note the cost is per election:

Poll Worker Cost	Location Cost	Mailer Costs	Number of Workers	Number of Locations
\$42,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$30,000.00	60	7

Estimated costs related to VCA are shown in Appendix F.

Consideration for a Mobile Vote Center - California Elections Code §4005(a)(10)(B)(xiv)

When the County was first exploring the prospect of transitioning to the VCA Model, the department conducted research on the procurement of a Mobile Vote Center. The Elections Department interacted with various other Elections Departments around the state regarding the use of Mobile Vote Centers. The Registrar of Voters toured Mobile Vote Centers from surrounding counties. During the process, the department identified several concerns including the following: How accessible is a Mobile Vote Center; where do we store the center when not in use; how do we transport the center from location to location; and finally, what would be the cost of a unit that we would likely use twice every two years. It was estimated at the time that a modest trailer and a heavy-duty truck to transport it would cost the department between \$200,000 to \$250,000 after conversion and branding costs. This did not include ongoing fees such as maintenance costs, registration fees, parking fees, etc.

The department has opted instead to offer the services of "Pop-Up" voting locations as requested. The "Pop-Up" voting location would offer all the same services as the standard Vote

Center but would operate for limited hours as opposed to the required time frames of a standard Vote Center. Any "Pop-Up" voting locations would be planned in advance and would give the department ample time to disseminate key information to community groups as well as our social media outlets.

Toll-Free Phone Access - California Elections Code §4005(a)(10)(I)(vii)

Information promoting the Kings County Elections Department toll-free voter assistance number is provided on all documents containing the department letterhead in addition to all pre-election mailings, including but not limited to address confirmation mailings (8d2 and 2225(b) mailings) and Voter Information Guides. The toll-free voter assistance number is also published on the County Elections website. The Elections Department offers toll-free support during all business hours. The toll-free number is 1-800-289-9981 ext. 4401. Voters who are deaf, hard of hearing or have a speech disability can contact the Elections Office using the California Relay Service by calling 711.

1B - BALLOT ACCESS

Receiving a Vote-by-Mail Ballot – California Elections Code §3000.5

In accordance with California Elections Code §3000.5(a) and VCA regulations, all registered voters will be mailed a ballot 29 days before the election with a <u>postage paid</u> returned envelope. The enclosed ballot can be marked and returned in the identification envelope included with the Vote-by-Mail packet. The return envelope is clearly marked to indicate that postage is paid. The ballot return envelope also contains two deliberately placed holes surrounding the signature box. This is to aid visually impaired voters in locating where to sign the return envelope and to ensure their ballot is enclosed.

The Kings County Election Department will continue to offer the "Where's My Ballot?" ballot tracking services available to all voters. The service allows voters to receive updates on the delivery status of their ballot as it progresses through the mail and through processing by the Kings County Elections Department. Voters who register can receive automatic emails, SMS (text), or voice call notification about their ballot. "Where's My Ballot?" is a secure software application that locates ballot envelopes via the A.V. ID (Absentee Voter Identification) number, a unique number that is changed at each election. BallotTrax works with Elections Officials and the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to send voter messages when their ballot is received and accepted. Voters can continue to register for BallotTrax at wheresmyballot.sos.ca.gov or by contacting the Elections Department.

Requesting an Accessible Ballot - Vote Centers

All active Kings County registered voters can use the accessible ballot marking devices at any Vote Center. As voters are checked in, Vote Center staff will inquire if the voter would like to vote a traditional paper ballot or use the ballot marking device. If the ballot marking device is chosen, a session is activated and the ballot can be marked using the touch screen display,

provided audio tactile device, or their own assistive technology. The accessible voting machines are arranged to allow all voters the opportunity to cast their ballot privately and independently.

Requesting a Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail Ballot – California Elections Code §3016.7

The Kings County Elections Department will continue to make available the Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system for those who request an accessible Vote-by-Mail ballot. The Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system was originally created to securely deliver ballots to voters with disabilities, military, and overseas voters. However, due to the passage of Assembly Bill 37 in 2021, any voter may request use of the Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system. The Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system provides voters with the ability to request a Vote-by-Mail ballot be delivered electronically to the voter from an authorized and secure website. The electronic ballot can be accessed via the voter's computer, marked privately and independently, and then printed. The ballot can then be returned via mail, drop box, or returned in person to any Vote Center or the Elections Office to be processed. Procedures on how to request a Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail ballot is shared on our website, at public outreach events, and in required elections mailings. A return postage paid Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail request card is included in the Vote-by-Mail packet. Voters may also request access by contacting the Elections Office by phone or e-mail.

Requesting a Replacement Ballot – California Elections Code §3014(a)

Any voter may request a replacement ballot by completing the California Replacement Vote-by-Mail Ballot Application. The form can be obtained by contacting the Elections Department by email, telephone at 1-800-289-9981 ext. 4401 or (559) 852-4401, in person, or downloaded from our website. Once the application has been returned and the signature has been verified against the voter's record, a replacement ballot will be issued. The form can be returned to the Elections Department by e-mail to:elections@countyofkings.com, fax at (559) 585-8453, via USPS or courier delivery, or in person.

1C - VOTE CENTER ESSENTIALS

General Information

Vote Centers will continue to be utilized, allowing voters to cast their ballots in person, whether on paper or by using an accessible ballot marking device. Voters can cast their ballots, request and receive replacement ballots, and update their registration at any Vote Center. Voters who have not registered before the close of registration (15 days prior to the election), will be able to utilize the Conditional Voter Registration Process at any Vote Center and cast a provisional/conditional ballot through Election Day.

Security of the Voting Process at Vote Centers, Secure Vote Center Voting - California Elections Code §4005(a)(10)(I)(iv)

The KNOWiNK Poll Pad system will be deployed to all Vote Centers to ensure accurate and proper voting is taking place. The KNOWiNK "E-Pulse" on-line suite will be used at the

Elections Office to ensure that voter records are updated within the Election Management System (EMS) in real time. Development of the "Gateway" to our EMS was completed and utilized for the June 2022 Primary and November 2022 General Elections. The gateway allows for data between E-Pulse and our EMS to be shared without the need for staff to manually upload reports. This in turn updates the verification status of voters on the poll pads deployed to the Vote Centers in real time.

All voting services conducted at a Vote Center adhere to the Secretary of State's security standards, Kings County security procedures, regulations in the California Elections Code and the California Voting System Use Procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring all equipment at the Vote Center is sealed, delivered, stored, and used in compliance with these regulations. All election equipment goes through extensive Logic & Accuracy (L&A) Testing to ensure each piece of equipment is in proper working order prior to any deployment.

Current procedures require that at least three election workers be present at all times when the site is open to the public and all members be present at the time of performing opening and closing procedures at the Vote Center.

Prior to opening of the Vote Center on each day of voting, all security seal numbers on all devices must be verified against the numbers recorded by the Elections Office at the time of deployment of the equipment. This will be done by the Vote Center Inspector and one other member of the Vote Center staff. Any equipment found with missing or altered seals will be immediately put out of service and reported to the Registrar of Voters and/or Elections Supervisor.

Closing procedures at the Vote Center include securing the following items inside the secure security cage deployed to all Vote Centers: activation cards to the ballot marking devices, the KNOWiNK Poll Pads, key to the Mobile Ballot Printer security cart, and Poll Worker ID badges. Only the Vote Center Inspector and Elections Office staff have a key to the secure security cage.

All ballots, including Vote-by-Mail ballots, ballots cast in-person, conditional voter registration and provisional ballots, spoiled and surrendered ballots will be transported securely to the Kings County Elections Office on a daily basis. The Elections Department will verify the total number of ballots returned against the ballot chain of custody and ballot accounting forms completed by Vote Center staff.

Preventing Disruption, Continuing Vote Center Operations - California Elections Code §4005(a)(10)(I)(iv)(VIII)(ia), §4005(a)(10)(I)(iv)(VIII)(ib)

The Kings County Sheriff, the Kings County Office of Emergency Services, local Police Departments, Fire Departments, utility companies, and California Highway Patrol Departments that serve Kings County are furnished with a list of all Vote Centers and Ballot Drop Box locations. It is requested that should an issue arise, the agency contact the Kings County Registrar of Voters or the Elections Supervisor immediately to provide information on the disruption. Vote Center staff will contact the Elections Office to inform them of any disturbance encountered. The Elections Department will provide direction and dispatch a field team to assist

as needed. An emergency procedures book is included with the Vote Center supplies detailing best practices for handling natural and man-made disasters.

All staff, including those working the Vote Centers, and those providing technical and compliance support, will attend training on the operation of the voting equipment, setting up a Vote Center, assisting and processing voters, securing sensitive equipment each night, and the proper procedures in case of an emergency.

The Elections Department has 12 Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) batteries that can be deployed to assist with energy needs in the event of an emergency. All locations will have a cell phone.

The Kings County Elections Department will immediately work to resolve any disruption at a Vote Center and each disruption will have its own response. Generally, if a single Vote Center is disrupted, the Elections Department will immediately have the staff redirect voters to other Vote Centers and will inform local police, the Secretary of State's office, and provide updates via our webpage and social media to ensure voters are informed. If there is a natural disaster or other disturbance occurs that affects a Vote Center or a Ballot Drop Box physical location, additional notifications, signage and staff will be available to direct voters to an alternate location. Should all activities at a Vote Center be ceased, staff will immediately secure that Vote Center's voting equipment and account for all voting materials in accordance with California Elections Code and the Ballot Manufacturing and Finishing guidelines if safe to do so. The Kings County Elections Department will attempt to open a replacement Vote Center and immediately disseminate information to the public about the change.

Staffing Vote Centers - California Elections Code §4005(a)(10)(I)(vi)(IX)

Kings County anticipates a minimum of five staff at each Vote Center and will provide additional staff as needed. The County will recruit election personnel who can provide language assistance in Spanish and Tagalog. Voting materials and ballots are in both English and Spanish per Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act. Vote Center locations will also be supplied with appropriate signage and facsimile ballots in Tagalog per requirements of California Elections Code section 14201.

Services for Voters with Disabilities - California Elections Code §4005(a)(10)(I)(vi)(X)

Vote Centers will be fully accessible to all voters and will comply with all federal and state accessibility requirements. Accessibility surveys will be conducted by trained Elections Staff and any necessary modifications will be noted in the Vote Center's Inspector Handbook.

Each Vote Center will have a minimum of three fully accessible touch-screen ballot marking devices. The devices are certified by the Secretary of State for use in California elections and allow each voter to mark their ballot independently and privately. Vote Center staff will receive training on setting up the equipment, assisting voters with the equipment including voters with disabilities, trouble-shooting issues with the equipment and the proper storage of the equipment. Additionally, training on how to provide service in a thoughtful and professional manner at the

polls to voters who have a disability will be provided at poll worker training. The training will follow the standards set by the Secretary of State office.

Each Vote Center will offer curbside voting in addition to traditional voting. Members of the community wishing to utilize this service can call the 1-800 number listed on the Voter Information Guide after parking in the designated "Curbside Voting" spot. Alternately, voters can send a representative into the Vote Center and request use of the service on the voter's behalf. Voters can also contact the Elections Department ahead of time and schedule an appointment to use the curbside voting option. The voter will inform the person who answers what location they are at and would like to request a curbside ballot. Members of the Vote Center staff will take a KNOWiNK Poll Pad to the voter to be checked in. Once checked in, the staff member will obtain the proper paper ballot and return to the voter to have them vote. The ballot will then be given back to staff members in a secrecy sleeve to be deposited in the ballot box. The Elections Department is currently exploring the option to purchase a portable "Call Bell" system for use at each of the Vote Centers. Additionally, the Elections Department is also exploring the possibility of purchasing a cart in an effort to create a portable ballot marking device used for curbside voting. This service will be offered at all Vote Center locations.

Design and Layout of Vote Centers - California Elections Code §4005(a)(10)(I)(vi)(XI)

Layout guidelines will be used to ensure voting booths and accessible ballot marking devices are placed in a manner that allows a voter to mark their ballot independently and privately. Layouts will be sensitive to accessibility needs of voters, be adjusted to accommodate the varying shapes and room sizes of each location, and be designed with a one way directional pathway in mind. See Appendix C for a sample layout.

Quantity of Vote Centers to Be Established - California Elections Code $\S4005(a)(10)(I)(X)(vi)(I)$

The Kings County Elections Department will continue to follow guidelines for determining the number of Vote Centers in Kings County (for full text please see California Elections Code 4005 (a)(3)(A) and (a)(4)(A)). Registration totals are determined by the number of registered voters at the close of business on the 88th day before an election. Our current registration counts based on the 2023 odd number year report of registration is 61,276. Based on that number, the following number of Vote Centers would be mandated by California Election Code:

Days before Election Day	Number of Registered Voters per Vote Center	Required Number of Vote Centers for Kings County
10 days	50,000 voters	2 centers
3 days	10,000 voters	7 centers

The Location and Hours of Each Vote Center - California Elections Code \$4005(a)(10)(I)(X)(vi)(III), \$4005(a)(10)(I)(X)(vi)(VI)

The plan is to continue to have the first two of seven Vote Centers located in the communities of Hanford and Lemoore and would be in operation for a total of 11 days. Vote Centers three through seven are anticipated to be deployed as follows: two additional centers in the City of Hanford, one additional center in the City of Lemoore, one center in the cities of Avenal and Corcoran. All Vote Centers will be open continuously from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on their designated days of operations and from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day. The five additional centers will be in operation for a total of 4 days. See Appendix A for a list of proposed locations and Appendix B for details regarding selections of the location.

Vote Center Location Maps - California Elections Code §4005(a)(10)(I)(vi)(V)

Maps showing the location of Vote Centers are shown in Appendix F. These maps will be updated, as necessary. Voters may also locate the nearest Vote Center by using the interactive mapping tool located at <u>votekingscounty.com</u>.

1D - BALLOT DROP BOX ESSENTIALS

General Information

Ballot Drop Boxes will continue to be utilized for all elections. Voters will be able to deposit their signed envelope into one of the many secure Ballot Drop Boxes available throughout the county. Two (2) Ballot Retrievers will collect the ballots from the boxes on a schedule mandated by the California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 7, Chapter 3, Article 1, §20136(d) and in accordance with the Ballot Retriever and Chain of Custody procedures established by the Kings County Elections Department.

Quantity of Drop Boxes to Be Established - California Elections Code \$4005(a)(10)(I)(vi)(II)

At minimum, one Ballot Drop Box is required for every 15,000 registered voters in Kings County. Based on the number of registered voters, Kings County is required to provide five Ballot Drop Boxes. However, the Kings County Elections Department will continue to have at minimum 11 secure, accessible, and easily identifiable Ballot Drop Boxes available for use. Ballot Drop Boxes will have their openings located no higher than 48 inches above ground level, require no more than 5 lbs of pressure to open the flap of the ballot drop box to insert ballot envelopes, and will have side approach access for voters who utilize mobility devices (electric wheelchairs, standard wheelchairs, etc.) Accessibility surveys will be conducted at Ballot Drop Box locations as needed.

Location and Hours of Operation of Each Ballot Drop Box - California Elections Code 4005(a)(10)(I)(vi)(IV), California Elections Code 4005(a)(10)(I)(vi)(VII)

Kings County intends to utilize the same locations used in the November 2022 General Election. Each drop box is at a well-known, fully accessible location. All Ballot Drop Boxes will be

available 24 hours a day until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day and many of the boxes are drive up accessible. The complete list of locations and hours of operation, can be found in Appendix C. Justifications used for selections of the Ballot Drop Box Locations can be found in Appendix D. Both appendices will be updated as necessary.

Ballot Drop Box Location Maps - California Elections Code $\S4005(a)(10)(I)(vi)(V)$

Maps showing the location of the Ballot Drop Boxes are shown in Appendix G. These maps will be updated, as necessary. Voters may also locate the nearest Official Ballot Drop Box by using the interactive mapping tool located at <u>votekingscounty.com</u>.

<u>1E – AFTER ELECTION ACTIVITIES</u>

Addressing Significant Disparities in Voter Accessibility and Participation, As Required By Subdivision (g) - California Elections Code \$4005(a)(10)(I)(iii)

Following each election conducted under VCA, the Kings County Elections Department will review comments received from voters and will solicit input from community partners on data collected in compliance with Section 4005(g). The Kings County Elections Department will make reasonable efforts to address significant disparities identified on an item-by-item basis.

Assistance to the SOS with Report to the Legislature; Provide Election Statistics - California Elections Code \$4005(g)(1)(A)

Kings County will provide statistical data, to the extent possible, to the Secretary of State, including the information listed in Section 4005(g)(1)(A).

SECTION 2 – VOTER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PLAN

2A - THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LANGUAGE AND VOTER ACCESSIBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES (LAAC AND VAAC).

Kings County established the Language Accessibility Advisory Committee and Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee in October 2021.

The Language Accessibility Advisory Committee advises and assists with the implementation of federal and state laws relating to accessing the electoral process by non-English preference voters.

The Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee advises and assists with the implementation of federal and state laws relating to accessing the electoral process by voters who may have disability needs.

Both committees are made up of members of the local community along with advocacy groups who advocate on behalf of those groups. Both committees are separate entities and recruitment is always ongoing. Members of the community are invited to join any committee by contacting the Elections Department.

<u>2B - IDENTIFYING LANGUAGE MINORITY VOTERS - CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS</u> <u>CODE §4005(A)(10)(I)(I)(V)</u>

The Registrar of Voters will use the voter's language preference selection shown on their voter registration card to identify language of minority voters. Voters may contact us by telephone or email to update their language preference or provide their language preference to Vote Center staff during an election.

<u>2C - WEBSITE TO HAVE AVAILABLE ACCESSIBLE INFORMATION - CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE §4005(A)(10)(I)(I)(IV)</u>

Information on the Kings County Elections website (<u>votekingscounty.com</u>) is in accessible formats and is publicly available. This includes the Election Administration Plan, translated in both Spanish and Tagalog, and other information related to VCA, information about registering to vote, and getting involved in the election process. Election specific information is available on the website in an accessible format. The information provided includes the following:

- All voters will receive a Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballot.
- The option to use an accessible voting device at any Vote Center, and how to use the device.
- The method for requesting, marking and submitting an accessible ballot through the County's Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system.
- The option and instructions on how to utilize curbside voting.
- The process of using/requesting a facsimile ballot

<u>2D - USE OF THE MEDIA FOR VOTER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH - CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE §4005(A)(10)(I)(I)(I), §4005(A)(10)(I)(VIII)</u>

Kings County is committed to providing extensive voter education and outreach. We will continue to participate in events that have been attended in the past as well as develop effective ways of communicating with our voters. The Kings County Elections Department has worked to increase our presence and visibility in the community. We continue to establish and maintain partnerships and meet with committees and organizations as well as with our LAAC and VAAC. Our goal is to work with our community partners and provide them with resources and information that they can share with their larger networks.

Information regarding the Voters Choice Act, Vote-by-Mail, Vote Centers, Voting Accessibility, and Language Accessibility will be disseminated using the following outlets and methods:

- Newspapers (Hanford Sentinel and Corcoran Journal)
- Digital Newspapers (The Leader <u>mylemooreleader.com</u>)
- Department's Website (votekingscounty.com)
- Department's Facebook Page (facebook.com/kingscountyelections)
- Department's Twitter Page (@votekingscounty)
- County of Kings Website (countyofkings.com)
- Official County of Kings Facebook Page (<u>facebook.com/CountyofKingsCalifornia</u>)
- Official County of Kings Twitter Page (@KINGS_COUNTY_CA)
- Information sharing with the county Public Information Officer
- Sharing materials with groups such as community partners, elected officials for their newsletters, cities, special districts, school districts, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, and Public Information Officers
- Availability for media sessions
- County Departments (such as Human Services Agency, Veteran Services, Probation, and Child Support Services)

Kings County does not have local television/radio stations that serve primarily Kings County residents. Rather, Kings County residents are served by regional television/radio stations most of which are located in the Fresno area and serve the greater Central Valley region. Kings County will reach out to the regional television stations/radio stations to make ourselves available for media sessions.

To mitigate this limitation, the Kings County Elections Department will initiate an intense effort to educate voters, as suggested by stakeholders during our VAAC and LAAC meetings. Stakeholders have indicated that voters in their communities are most likely to respond to outreach efforts conducted through local organizations, groups and agencies with whom they already have existing relationships with. Accordingly, the Elections Department plans to conduct presentations with community partners.

<u>2E - COMMUNITY PRESENCE TO EDUCATE VOTERS ON THE VOTER'S CHOICE ACT - CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE §4005(A)(10)(I)(III)</u>

Kings County's community presence will provide Vote Center information directly to the voters and attendees of a wide variety of events. Kings County's goal is to coordinate with our community partners, the LAAC and VAAC, to identify opportunities to educate our voters, offer demonstrations of the voting equipment, and explain how to request and obtain an accessible ballot. Kings County will make every effort to reach all areas of the County. Voters will have many opportunities to learn about the Vote Center model and their voting options via, but not limited to, the following:

- Department Website (www.votekingscounty.com)
- Presentations to various audiences:
 - County Board of Supervisors
 - o City Councils
 - Town Hall style meetings
 - School District Boards
 - o Special Districts Boards
 - o County Central Committees and Political Committees
 - o Faith-based communities
 - o Language communities
 - o Philanthropic organizations (Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.)
 - o Presentations at Community Events
- Department's Facebook Page (facebook.com/kingscountyelections)
- Department's Twitter Page (@votekingscounty)
- County of Kings Website (countyofkings.com)
- Official County of Kings Facebook Page (<u>facebook.com/CountyofKingsCalifornia</u>)
- Official County of Kings Twitter Page (@KINGS_COUNTY_CA)
- Information sharing with the county Public Information Officer
- Department Voter's Open House
- County Departments (such as Human Services Agency, Veteran Services, Probation, and Child Support Services)

<u>2F - USE OF RESOURCES FOR VOTER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH -</u> CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE §4005(A)(10)(I)(VII)

Kings County will spend the necessary resources to ensure voters are informed about the Vote Center model voting process. Current plans include the following:

- A minimum of 2 direct mailers to voters
- Voting Education demonstrations at community events
- Presentations at various community meetings (Lion's Club, Latino Roundtable, City Council, School Board, Political Party Central Committees, etc.)
- Advertising on mass transit and digital billboard
- Other activities as needed

<u>2G - DIRECT MAIL CONTACT WITH VOTERS - CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE</u> §4005(A)(10)(I)(X)

Kings County will contact each registered voter a minimum of two times, by mail, to provide information on the upcoming election and the availability of Kings County's toll-free voter assistance hotline. The two direct contacts will include information about an all-mail ballot election, Ballot Drop Box locations, dates and hours of availability, Vote Center locations, dates and hours of availability, information regarding the Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail System, information about available facsimile ballots, and additional information regarding the upcoming election. Approximate mail dates for the direct contact mailers include 40 days and 29 days before the election.

<u>2H - POSTAGE-PAID POSTCARD FOR REQUESTING MATERIALS - CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE §4005(A)(8)(B)(III)</u>

All registered voters receive a postage-paid postcard as a part of their Vote-by-Mail voting materials for requesting materials in languages other than English and to request a Vote-by-Mail ballot in an alternate format. Information is included in the Voter Information Guide and on the Kings County Elections website for requesting translated and accessible ballots as well.

2I - VOTER EDUCATION WORKSHOP FOR ALL VOTERS - CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE §4005(A)(10)(I)(I)(VI), CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE §4005(A)(10)(I)(VI)(IA)

The Elections Department will hold a voter education open house in each of Kings County's federal and state required languages.

The open house will be held approximately 3 weeks before each election and will provide an opportunity for the voting communities to learn about the Vote Center Model, voting equipment demonstrations, the accessibility of the voting equipment, ballot drop-off information, how to vote via curbside voting, the process of requesting/using a facsimile ballot, and options for obtaining an accessible Vote-by-Mail ballot electronically.

<u>2J - PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR ALL VOTERS - CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS CODE §4005(A)(10)(I)(I)(IX)</u>

The Kings County Elections Department will use Public Service Announcements (PSAs) via newspaper, social media postings, and updates to the elections website to inform voters of the upcoming election and the toll-free voter assistance hotline. All public notices shall be in the required languages as prescribed under California Election Code §14201.

2K – OUTREACH TO VOTERS AT HIGHER EDUCATION CAMPUSES.

The Kings County Elections Department will continue to work with support groups at the local Community Colleges to engage with students and faculty about the importance of voting and how to register to vote. We will support the groups in the following ways:

- Be available for public presentations about voting and how to register to vote.
- Providing an information booth at any college sponsored function that we are invited to.
- Providing both department and state created flyers, pamphlets, and forms to support groups as needed.
- Working with support groups to have "Pop-Up" voting locations and Ballot Drop Boxes available for students, faculty, and public use.

<u>2L – OUTREACH TO VOTERS WITH A CRIMINAL HISTORY.</u>

Kings County will continue to reach out to voters with a criminal history to inform them of their rights regarding restoration of their vote. This will be done via:

- Informational flyers that will be available at all VCA related events.
- Information posted in the County Voter Information Guide.
- A portion dedicated to Voting Rights for persons with a criminal history on the Elections website.
- Continued compliance with California Elections Code §2212 required mailings.

In addition, the county will continue to implement the Inmate Voting Program established in 2018. The program is inclusive of the following:

- Approximately 6 weeks before the election, the County Jail will establish a staff member to act as the Inmate Voting Program Coordinator. The coordinator will be the primary contact for the Elections Department.
- The Elections department will create Inmate Voting packets that consist of the following:
 - o Flyers informing inmates of their voting rights to be posted in the common areas.
 - o A sign-up sheet for interested parties to obtain a ballot.
 - o A voter registration card.
 - o An eligibility establishment form.
- Eligibility Establishment forms and registration cards will be returned to the Elections Department before the close of registration. Any forms returned to the department that indicate an inmate claims residency in another county will be forwarded to the county indicated.
- Registration cards will be entered into the EMS and VoteCal, the state registration database, will have final determination regarding eligibility.
- All eligible inmates will be issued a Vote-by-Mail ballot along with a state and local Voter Information Guide. The ballot will be delivered to the inmate by the Jail Voting Coordinator.

- o Ineligible inmates will be given a rejection letter along with contact information to the Secretary of State's office if they have any questions.
- o Inmates indicating residency outside of Kings County will receive a letter stating the registration form has been forwarded to the county provided along with the contact information of said county if they have any questions.
- Inmates will be given the opportunity to vote in private if they so choose per established County Jail procedure. Once the ballot has been sealed in the return envelope, the inmate will either return it to the Voting Coordinator who will return it to the Elections Department on their behalf or place it in the outgoing mail per County Jail procedure.

Appendix A Proposed Vote Center Locations



COUNTY OF KINGS ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

1-800-289-9981 ext. 4401 / 559-852-4401 FAX: (559) 585-8453 Lupe Villa
Registrar of Voters
1400 W. Lacey Blvd. Bldg. #7
Hanford, California 93230
Elections@CountyofKings.com

NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION OFFICIAL VOTE CENTER LOCATIONS

	NAME OF LOCATION	PHYSICAL ADDRESS	CITY	Number of Days Open
1	KINGS COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER	1400 WEST LACEY BLVD.	HANFORD	11 days
2	KINGS COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION – LEMOORE SERVICE CENTER	876 EAST D STREET	LEMOORE	11 days
3	AVENAL RECREATION CENTER	717 EAST MONTEREY STREET	AVENAL	4 days
4	RECREATION ASSOCIATION OF CORCORAN GYMNASIUM	900 DAIRY AVENUE	CORCORAN	4 days
5	LONGFIELD CENTER	560 SOUTH DOUTY STREET	HANFORD	4 days
6	SIERRA PACIFIC HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM	1259 NORTH 13TH AVENUE	HANFORD	4 days
7	LEMOORE CIVIC AUDITORIUM	435 C STREET	LEMOORE	4 days

Voting locations will operate:

- 11 Day Centers Saturday, October 28th through Monday, November 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 8th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 4 Day Centers Saturday November 5th through Monday November 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 8th from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Appendix B Proposed Vote Center Location Considerations

AVENAL RECREATION CENTER – 717 Monterey Street Avenal

- Location is a former Poll site.
- Recently renovated with improved A.D.A. access on the west side of building.
- Used as a Vote Center during the 2021 Recall Election and the 2022 Election Cycle.
- Located near Mass Transit stops.
- Located next to Floyd Rice Park and the local High School.

Corcoran RAC Gymnasium – 900 Dairy Avenue Corcoran

- Location is near a former poll site (senior center behind gym).
- Used as a Vote Center in the 2020 General, 2021 recall election, and the 2022 Election Cycle.
- Centrally located in the City of Corcoran.
- Located in Corcoran Community Park, near the local High School and shopping complex.

Lemoore Civic Auditorium – 435 C Street Lemoore

- Located near mass transit stops.
- Centrally located in the city of Lemoore (between the City of Lemoore Council Chambers and the Kings County Library).
- Used as a Vote Center during the 2020 General, 2021 Recall Election, and the 2022 Election Cycle.
- Located near Veterans Park and Lemoore Elementary School.

Kings County Office of Education – Lemoore Center (11 Day Center) - 876 East D Street Lemoore

- Located near mass transit stops.
- Used as a Vote Center for the 2022 Election Cycle.
- Newer building with improved A.D.A. access.
- Located near Kings Christian School and doctors offices.

Longfield Center – 560 South Douty Street Hanford

- Located near mass transit stops.
- Used as a Vote Center during the 2020 General, 2021 Recall election, and the 2022 Election Cycle.
- Located in South Hanford near Lincoln Elementary School and Coe Park.

Appendix B Proposed Vote Center Location Considerations (Cont.)

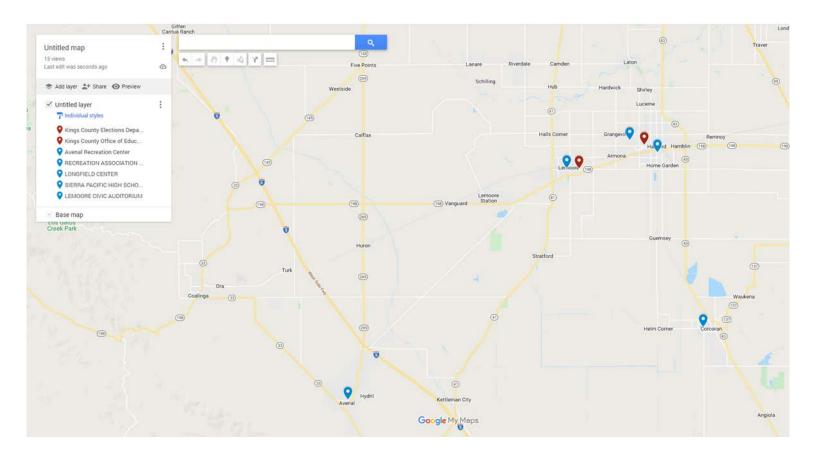
Sierra Pacific High School – 1259 North 13th Avenue Hanford

- Located near mass transit stops.
- Used as a Vote Center during the 2020 General, 2021 Recall election, and the 2022 Election Cycle.
- Newer buildings with improved A.D.A. access.
- Located in Northwest Hanford next to College of the Sequoias (C.O.S.).

Kings County Government Center (11-day Center) - 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford

- Former Poll place location and now Vote Center.
- Location of the County Elections Department.
- Located near mass transit stops.
- Located near Health and Human Services, Tax Collectors Office, and Clerk-Recorders Office (well known area for all county citizens).
- Used as a Vote Center during the 2020 General, 2021 Recall election, and the 2022 Election Cycle.

Appendix C Proposed Vote Center Location Map



Locations with a Red Marker are 11-Day Vote Center Locations.

Appendix D Proposed Drop Box Locations



COUNTY OF KINGS ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

1-800-289-9981 ext. 4401 / 559-852-4401 FAX: (559) 585-8453 Lupe Villa
Registrar of Voters
1400 W. Lacey Blvd. Bldg. #7
Hanford, California 93230
Elections@CountyofKings.com

NOVEMBER 8, 2022 GENERAL ELECTION OFFICIAL BALLOT DROP BOX LOCATIONS

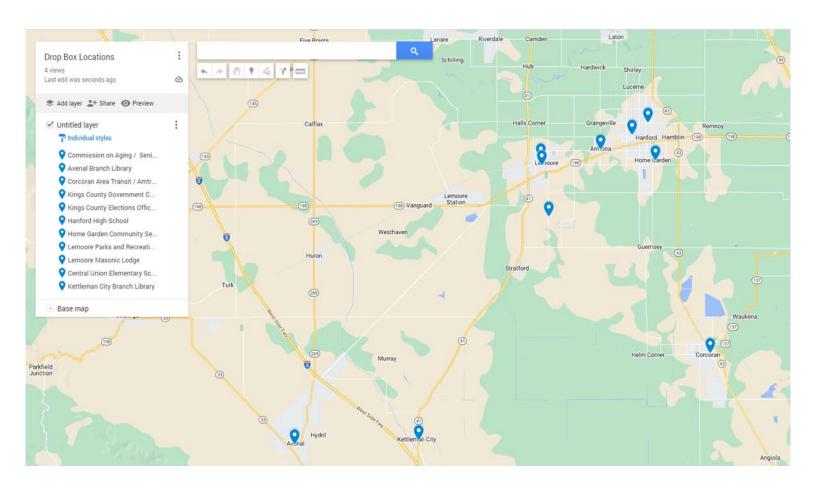
ARMONA	COMMISSION ON AGING / SENIOR CENTER - 10953 14 TH AVENUE.
AVENAL	AVENAL BRANCH LIBRARY - 501 E. KINGS STREET.
CORCORAN	CORCORAN AREA TRANSIT / AMTRAK STATION - 1099 OTIS AVENUE.
	KINGS COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER - 1400 W. LACEY BLVD.
HANFORD	KINGS COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE – 1400 W. LACEY BLVD.
	HOME GARDEN COMMUNITY SERVICE DISTRICT - 11677 2 ND PL.
	HANFORD HIGH SCHOOL - 120 E. GRANGEVILLE BLVD.
LEMOORE	LEMOORE PARKS AND REC. DEPARTMENT - 721 W. CINNAMON DR.
LEMOOKE	CENTRAL UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 15783 18 TH AVENUE.
	LEMOORE MASONIC LODGE – 647 W. BUSH STREET.
KETTLEMAN CITY	KETTLEMAN CITY BRANCH LIBRARY – 104 BECKY PEASE ST.

The 24/7 Ballot Drop Box locations will be available starting October 8th through November 8th at 8:00 p.m.

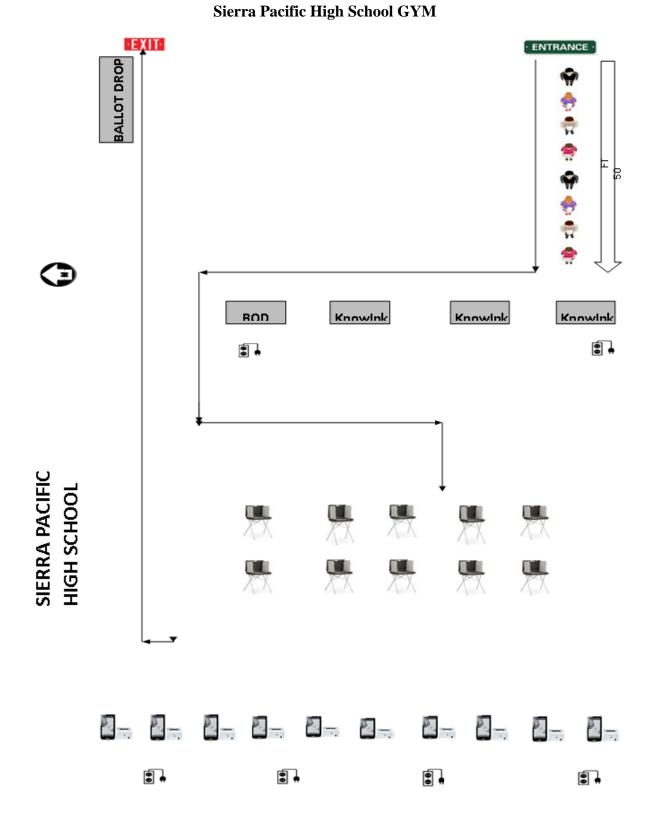
Appendix E Proposed Drop Box Location Considerations

- Commission on Aging / Senior Center 10953 14th Avenue Armona
 - Former Poll Site.
- Avenal Branch Library 501 East Kings Street Avenal
 - Former Poll Site.
- Kettleman City Branch Library 104 Becky Pease Street Kettleman City
 - Box placed there for citizens of underserved community.
- Corcoran Area Transit / Amtrak Station 1099 Otis Avenue Corcoran
 - Mass transit hub for the community of Corcoran.
- Lemoore Parks and Rec Department 721 West Cinnamon Drive Lemoore
 - Site of utilities payment center and Recreation Center.
- Lemoore Masonic Lodge 647 West Bush Street Lemoore
 - Former Poll Site.
- Central Union Elementary School 15783 18th Avenue Lemoore
 - Former Poll Site for rural voters and within close proximity to Santa Rosa Rancheria Reservation.
- Home Garden Community Services District 11677 2nd Place Hanford
 - Box placed there for citizens of underserved community.
- Hanford High School 120 East Grangeville Boulevard Hanford
 - Location in North Hanford population center.
- Kings County Government Center Parking Lot 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford
 - Drive up drop box for voters who wish to drop and go.
- Kings County Elections Office 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Bldg. #7 Hanford
 - For voters who prefer to drop ballots off in-person.

Appendix F Proposed Drop Box Location Map



Appendix G Sample Vote Center Layout



Appendix H Outreach Cost Comparison

Outreach Activity	2022 Primary Election	2022 General Election	Future Elections (estimate)
Newspaper Publications (Legal Notices and Advertisements)	\$1000.00	\$900.00	\$1,250.00
Radio PSA (Script development, interview availability, translation services)	0	0	Unknown
Television PSA (Script development, interview availability, translation services)	0	0	Unknown
Direct Voter Contact Mail (Direct mail to each registered voter as described in 2-G)	\$24,500	\$26,500	\$30,000
Public Workshops/Meetings (Required workshops, LAAC Meetings, VAAC Meetings, other events as referenced in 2-E)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,500
Equipment Demonstrations (Voting Equipment Demonstrations at required workshops, LAAC Meetings, VAAC Meetings, other events as referenced in 2-F)	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,500
Digital Billboard Advertising	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$6,000
Mass Transit Advertising	0	0	\$7,000