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PLACER COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE

Placer County Voter Accessibility Advisory Committee October 5, 2023 Agenda

I. Elections Staff/Attendee Introductions

II. Committee Updates:

- Draft Election Administration Plan (EAP) Update
- Initial Public Workshops Discussion
- Initial Messaging Discussion
 - Voter Information Guide
 - Postcard
 - Website
- Vote Center Surveys - Updates with Mitigations
- Drop Box Maps with Locations and Hours
- Curbside Voting Devices

III. Questions & Answers

IV. Future Agenda Items

VOTER'S CHOICE ACT

Placer County is Now a Voter's Choice Act County!

What is the Voter's Choice Act?

Enacted in 2016, the California Voter's Choice Act (VCA) was designed to make voting more convenient and accessible. The law is opt-in on a county-by-county basis and allows for a county to transition from a traditional **polling place** model to a **vote center** model.



For more details, visit our Voter's Choice Act webpage at www.placercountyelections.gov/voters-choice-act/.

What happened to my polling place?

Placer County has typically had to secure 200 to 250 polling places and conduct a massive recruiting effort for poll workers for each election, both of which have become increasingly difficult tasks over the last several years. Additionally, polling places are quite restrictive in both voting time and location – voters can only vote in person at their assigned polling place and on Election Day.

Vote centers address both these issues, reducing the number of locations required and making in-person voting possible at any location for multiple days. Placer County will have fewer machines in fewer locations, be able to provide a paper ballot to every voter, and increase voters' access to in-person voting and/or ballot drop-off.

In comparison to polling places, vote centers are open for several days preceding an election and are not restricted to the voters of a particular precinct. **All voters (including those living in mail ballot-only precincts) can vote in person at any vote center. Furthermore, with the passage of Assembly Bill 626, you may bring your vote-by-mail ballot to a vote center and use the ballot scanner to have it counted on site.**

Additional Voter's Choice Act Requirements

VCA also requires counties that opt in to provide at least one ballot drop box for every 15,000 registered voters. As a convenience for its voters, Placer County has met and exceeded this requirement every election since 2020.

To ensure that every eligible voter has unimpeded access to casting their ballot during an election, VCA requires participating counties to hold regular community advisory meetings with disability and language community groups. You can learn more about Placer County's Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee and Language Accessibility Advisory Committee on our website at www.placercountyelections.gov/advisory-committee/.

All active registered voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot, as required by state law.

All active registered voters now receive a vote-by-mail ballot, which we mail out no later than February 5. We encourage voters to vote and return their ballot as soon as possible. Note that vote-by-mail ballot applications and permanent vote-by-mail status are no longer used.

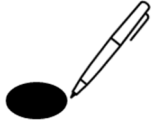
Receiving a vote-by-mail ballot does not affect your ability to vote in person at a vote center. We recommend bringing your ballot and envelope to have them voided, but this is not a requirement.

When the Official Election Mail logo on the right appears on official election correspondence, voters will recognize it as important mail and distinct from partisan political mailings. Additionally, the logo will distinguish the mail to Postal Service workers and expedite delivery.

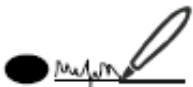


HOW TO FILL OUT YOUR BALLOT

You may use the sample ballot in this guide as a reference when filling out your official ballot.



On your official ballot, completely darken the oval next to your selection with **blue or black ink**.



If you are voting for a qualified write-in candidate, you must completely fill in the oval AND write the name of the candidate in the space provided. **Unless both steps are completed, your vote for a write-in candidate cannot be counted.**



DO NOT make partial marks when you make your selections. X marks, check marks, and other kinds of partial shading on the ovals are not the right ways to fill out your ballot.



Remember to check both sides of the ballot.



Place your ballot in the return envelope and sign your name next to the red **X** before sealing.



**Did you make a mistake marking your ballot?
Lost it? Damaged it? Never received it?**

No problem! Here are two options you have:

1. You can request a replacement ballot be mailed to you through February 27.
2. You can obtain a replacement vote-by-mail ballot at the Elections Office in Rocklin beginning February 5, or vote in person at a vote center beginning February 24. See the "VOTE" page for locations and times.

Contact the Elections Office if you have any questions. You can find our contact information on the front cover of this guide.

HOW TO VOTE IN PERSON / AB 626

How to Vote In Person

Placer County has transitioned to the Voter's Choice Act for this election. With the Voter's Choice Act, you have 29 **vote center** locations to choose from for in-person voting, as well as the main Elections Office at 3715 Atherton Road, Rocklin, CA for early voting up to 29 days before the election.

If you have voted at a polling place in the past, the experience is much the same at a vote center. However, instead of the election aides being restricted to a stack of a specific precinct's ballots, they will now be able to print your precinct's ballot on demand for you at any location. This will eliminate the problem of voters arriving at the wrong polling place and will reduce the number of cases where voters are required to use provisional ballots.

See the "VCA" page for more details and the "VOTE" page for a list of vote center locations and times.



1. Sign the roster to receive a ballot.

Take a Voter Information Guide and/or ask for a translated sample ballot if you need it for reference.



2. Vote your ballot at a voting booth.

Pens are available at the precinct desk. Make sure to completely fill in ovals and check both sides of the ballot.



3. Feed your ballot into the ballot scanner using a provided secrecy sleeve.

You will hear a ding and the total number of cast ballots will increase by one.

Assembly Bill (AB) 626

This bill became state law in 2023 and made it possible to cast a vote-by-mail ballot using the voting equipment at Placer County's vote centers.

Voters were previously able to drop off their vote-by-mail ballot at polling places in a designated ballot bag. This will still be an option, but there are several advantages to utilizing the new law:

- It is exciting to see your vote counted and know it was counted when you cast it.
- Your votes will appear in the election results released on Election Night.
- If you use this method, there is no possibility that we will have to contact you later about a missing or non-matching signature on your ballot return envelope, since you did not use it.

Simply bring your vote-by-mail ballot with you to any vote center, sign the roster as you would to receive a poll ballot, and use a provided secrecy sleeve to feed your vote-by-mail ballot into the ballot scanner.

ACCESSIBILITY / REMOTE ACCESSIBLE VOTE BY MAIL

Placer County has taken measures to ensure that our voters with specific accessibility needs can participate in the elections process.



Accessible online voter information guide and ballot: The online version of this voter information guide and the voter's precinct-specific accessible vote-by-mail ballot are both compatible with screen readers. Information on how to access them can be found at www.placercountyelections.gov.



Accessible voting equipment: Ballot-marking devices at all vote centers and the Elections Office allow voters with specific disabilities to cast their ballots in an independent and private manner. The voting equipment is compatible with audio tactile interface (ATI), sip 'n' puff, and paddles. Ballots can be presented in audio only, visual only, or both audio/visual.



Accessible voting locations: Every vote center and ballot drop box in Placer County has been surveyed by the Elections Office, and we have attempted to mitigate all barriers to make them accessible to all voters. See the vote center page for locations and times.

Remote Accessible Vote by Mail (RAVBM)

The Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system, or RAVBM, was implemented by California to make voting more convenient for voters with disabilities. Assembly Bill 37 permits any voter to cast a ballot using the RAVBM system for any election. To ensure voters' privacy, the system does not store or transmit votes over the internet. Instead, the ballot is printed and returned by mail or by hand.

Who is eligible to use the RAVBM system? Any registered Placer County voter is eligible to use the Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system. The voter must have internet access and a printer to mark, print, and return their ballot for counting.

Is the RAVBM system secure? Yes. The Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system has been certified by the California Secretary of State. The RAVBM system does not store or transmit the voter's selections over the internet. Although the RAVBM system allows voters to access and mark their ballots using a computer and their own assistive devices, the system does not allow electronic voting.

How do I access my ballot through the RAVBM system? Registered voters can apply for a remote accessible ballot by email, phone, on our website, or on the Secretary of State's website. Once the application is processed in our office, a link to access your voting materials electronically will be sent to the email supplied during the request.

How do I return my ballot? After you have finished marking your ballot, it will need to be printed and returned, either by mail or in person, for signature checking and tabulation.

When will the RAVBM system be available? Ballots will be available through this system beginning February 5 and until 8:00 PM on Election Day, March 5. Remember, if returned by mail, it must be postmarked on or before March 5, and received by the Elections Office no later than March 12, 2024, for your ballot to be considered on time and counted.

What if I have questions or need help?



Phone: 530-886-5650

Toll-free: 1-800-824-8683

TTY/Voice Communication: 1-800-877-8339

Email: vote@placer.ca.gov

In Person: 3715 Atherton Road, Rocklin, CA 95765, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM

Placer RAVBM Website: www.placercountyelections.gov/remote-accessible-vote-by-mail-2/

Secretary of State's Website: www.sos.ca.gov

Disability Rights California operates a statewide hotline Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM. On Election Day, March 5, 2024, these hours extend from 7 AM to 8 PM. Their phone number is 1-888-569-7955.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

As part of the Voter's Choice Act, Placer County Elections has established a Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee and a Language Accessibility Advisory Committee. These committees hold regular meetings to ensure elections in Placer County are accessible to all eligible voters, including those with disabilities and targeted language needs.

Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC)

The Placer County VAAC is composed of community members who meet quarterly with Placer County election officials to offer recommendations on how to improve election access for voters with disabilities.

Members examine existing election processes and materials and provide the advice, insight and information needed to ensure all eligible Placer County voters can participate in the electoral process independently and privately. Duties include:

- Evaluating Placer County voting systems and locations to identify any barriers that might limit access for those living with disabilities
- Advising on training programs to ensure effective assistance is available during an election's voting period
- Reviewing communication channels to ensure all voters have unimpeded access to critical information and education about Placer County elections

Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC)

The Placer County LAAC was created to provide community members the opportunity to meet with election officials on a quarterly basis to improve and increase voting accessibility for voters with diverse language needs.

Placer County offers targeted voting assistance in Spanish, Korean, Tagalog, and Punjabi. The purpose of the LAAC is to provide the Elections Office with the information necessary to *enhance* this language support to ensure all voters feel educated and informed about casting their ballot in Placer County.

Members of the Placer County LAAC are asked to examine existing election procedures and language support practices to help us determine if new methodologies and programs would improve and increase accessibility for all eligible voters. Duties include:

- Evaluating informational resources like the Elections website and Voter Information Guide for clarity and ease of access
- Reviewing existing voting systems and locations to identify possible barriers for non-English speakers
- Refining training programs to ensure multilingual assistance in targeted languages is available during an election's voting period

Attend a Meeting!

All VAAC and LAAC meetings are open to the public and can be attended in person, online, or by phone. For upcoming meeting times, go to our website at www.placercountyelections.gov/advisory-committee/.

If you are interested in becoming a committee member, applications for both committees are on our website. You may also email us at election@placer.ca.gov or call us at 530-886-5650 (toll-free at 1-800-824-8683) with any questions about membership.

HEAD



Ryan Ronco
Placer County Registrar of Voters
3715 Atherton Road Ste 2
Rocklin, CA 95765

www.placercountyelections.gov
Toll-free in CA 1-800-824-8683

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ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

IMPORTANT VOTER NOTICE

**OFFICIAL
VOTER
INFORMATION
FROM THE
PLACER COUNTY
ELECTIONS OFFICE**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL PLACER COUNTY VOTERS



As required by state law, ballots were mailed to all active registered voters by February 5 for the **2024 Presidential Primary Election on March 5**. If you do not receive your ballot by February 15, please visit WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov to track your ballot or call our office. We encourage you to return your ballot early!

Return Postage Paid

Postage on your ballot return envelope is prepaid, should you decide to send it by mail. Please remember to sign and date the envelope before mailing. Your signature will be compared to your voter registration affidavit and must match your signature on file, or we cannot count your ballot. Ballots sent by mail must be postmarked on or before Election Day, March 5, and received by March 12 to be counted.

Ballot Drop Boxes

Want to avoid mailing your ballot? Take your voted ballot to one of our 26 drop boxes. Some locations and hours have changed since last election. For the latest information, go to placercountyelections.gov/drop-box-locations. A list of locations is included in your county voter information guide and with your ballot. All drop boxes close at 8 PM on Election Day. Indoor boxes are subject to business hours; please check dates and times carefully.

Track Your Ballot

Want to track the status of your ballot? Sign up at WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov to receive notifications when your ballot is received and accepted. Signing up takes only a few minutes.

Vote Centers – Open Starting February 24 and March 2

You no longer have an assigned polling place. Instead, you may vote in person at any vote center. Several vote centers open on February 24 and the remaining locations open on March 2. For locations and hours, refer to your county voter information guide or the Vote Centers page on our website at placercountyelections.gov. Voters may now cast their vote by mail ballot at any vote center provided a ballot has not already been returned for this election – per Assembly Bill 626. Some circumstances may require a voter to vote provisionally.

Early Voting at the Elections Office – NOW OPEN

Our office is open now through Election Day for in-person voting. You may also drop off your vote by mail ballot here or come to the counter to receive a replacement ballot.

Placer County Elections Office

3715 Atherton Road, Rocklin and 2956 Richardson Drive, Auburn

Open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM, and the two weekends before Election Day from 10 AM to 3 PM.

Thank you from all of us here at the Elections Office!

Addendum No.2
PROPOSED VOTE
CENTER
LOCATIONS

Rocklin High School, Gym Lobby HAVA Instructions

Directional Signs



Use directional signs to direct voters to the voting area.

1. Place a sandwich board in the grass at the first entrance to the high school on Victory Lane directing voters toward the theatre at the back of the parking lot.
2. Place a sandwich board in the grass in the front of the theatre directing voters into the gym lobby.

NOTE: Be sure not to block any portion of the roadway, path of travel or doorways.



3. Place a Vote Here cone topper on 36" cone at the entrance door.

Rocklin High School, Gym Lobby HAVA Instructions

Accessible Parking



The accessible parking near the polling place entrance does not meet all the requirements and must be modified.

1. Place a van accessible sign on a 36-inch cone and place in front of the accessible space in front of the theatre furthest to the left.
2. Place (2) 36-inch cones to block the space to the right of the accessible space to create a wider access aisle.

Hazards/ Barriers



The entrance doors to the gym lobby are too heavy and do not meet accessibility requirements; therefore, the doors must remain open.

1. Keep at least one set of doors open – doors stay open automatically when opened fully. (Use provided door stops if necessary).
2. If the facility or weather is not permitting the doors to remain open, a poll worker must be assigned to open the door for every voter entering and exiting the building.

Rocklin High School, Gym Lobby

HAVA Instructions

Barriers/Hazards



The grates on the ground near the front entrance and exit doors are too wide and do not meet accessibility requirements.

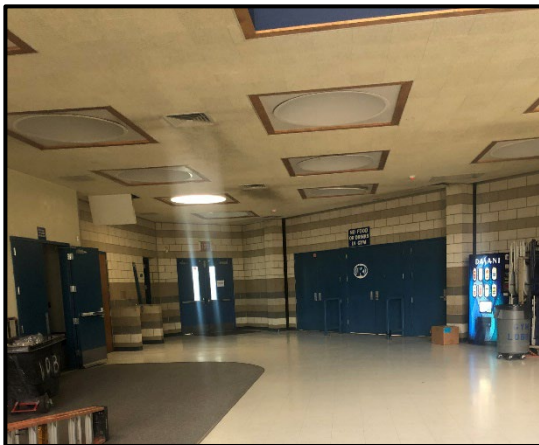
1. Place a 36-inch cone over any grate along the path of travel to mark as a hazard and serve as a cane detectable barrier.



The shelf around the ticket booth protrudes too far into the voting area and does not meet accessibility requirements.

1. Recommend to place voting booths or check-in tables in front of the shelf to block it from the path of travel.
2. If the shelf is not blocked by voting equipment or tables, place 12-inch cones at each corner of the shelf (4 total) to serve as cane detectable barriers.

Extension Cords



There are limited electrical outlets in the voting area, use the provided extension cords and power strips as necessary.

IMPORTANT: Keep all power cords out of the path of travel or anywhere that could possibly present a tripping hazard.

If necessary, use provided cord covers to cover any power cords that could possibly present a tripping hazard.

NEW SURVEYED LOCATIONS

Not Reviewed By VAAC

Mitigating Issues and Locations:

Rocklin High School – Gym Lobby, Rocklin

Accessible parking

- The accessible parking space near the gym lobby entrance does not meet all the requirements and must be modified for a van accessible space. Place a van accessible sign on a 36" cone and place it in front of the accessible space. Place (2) 36" cones to block the space to the right of the accessible space to create a wider access aisle.

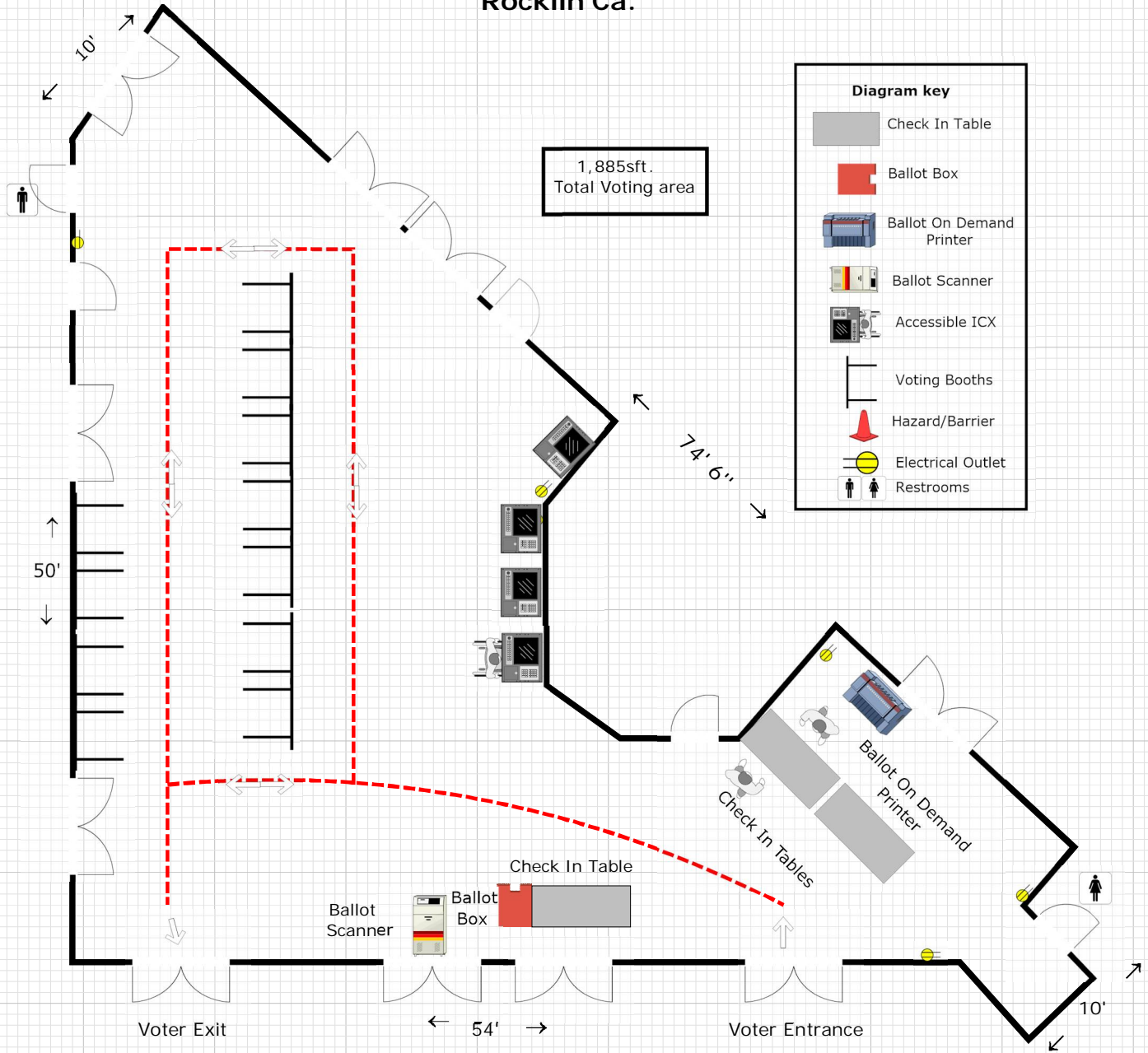
Gym lobby entrance doors

- The entrance doors are too heavy and do not meet accessibility requirements. Therefore, keep doors open during voting hours. If the weather does not permit to keep doors open, a poll worker must be assigned to open the door for every voter entering and exiting the building.

Barriers / Hazards

- The grates on the ground near the front entrance and exit doors are too wide and do not meet accessibility requirements. Place a 36" cone over any grate along the path of travel to mark as a hazard and serve as a cane detectable barrier.
- The shelf around the ticket booth counter in the gym lobby protrudes into the voting area. Place voting booths in front of the counter shelf to block it from the path of travel. Place 12" cones at areas along the counter shelf not occupied by voting equipment to serve as cane detectable barriers.

Rocklin High School-Gym Lobby Rocklin Ca.



This diagram is a suggested room set up for election days. If you find that there is a more efficient way to set up, you are welcome to do so. Remember to refer to your HAVA instructional diagram to mitigate all hazard/barriers and/or other accessibility issues as required by state law.

LOCATION PENDING SURVEY

NEW PENDING SURVEY LOCATION (NOT REVIEWED BY VAAC)

- Placer County Elections-Auburn Ca.

SURVEYED LOCATIONS IN PROGRESS

- Foresthill-High School
- Foresthill-Fire station No. 88
- Foresthill-Fire district admin office
- Foresthill-Elementary school

Placer County Drop Box Map Locations/Hours

Auburn City Clerk's Office

Address: 1225 Lincoln Way, Auburn

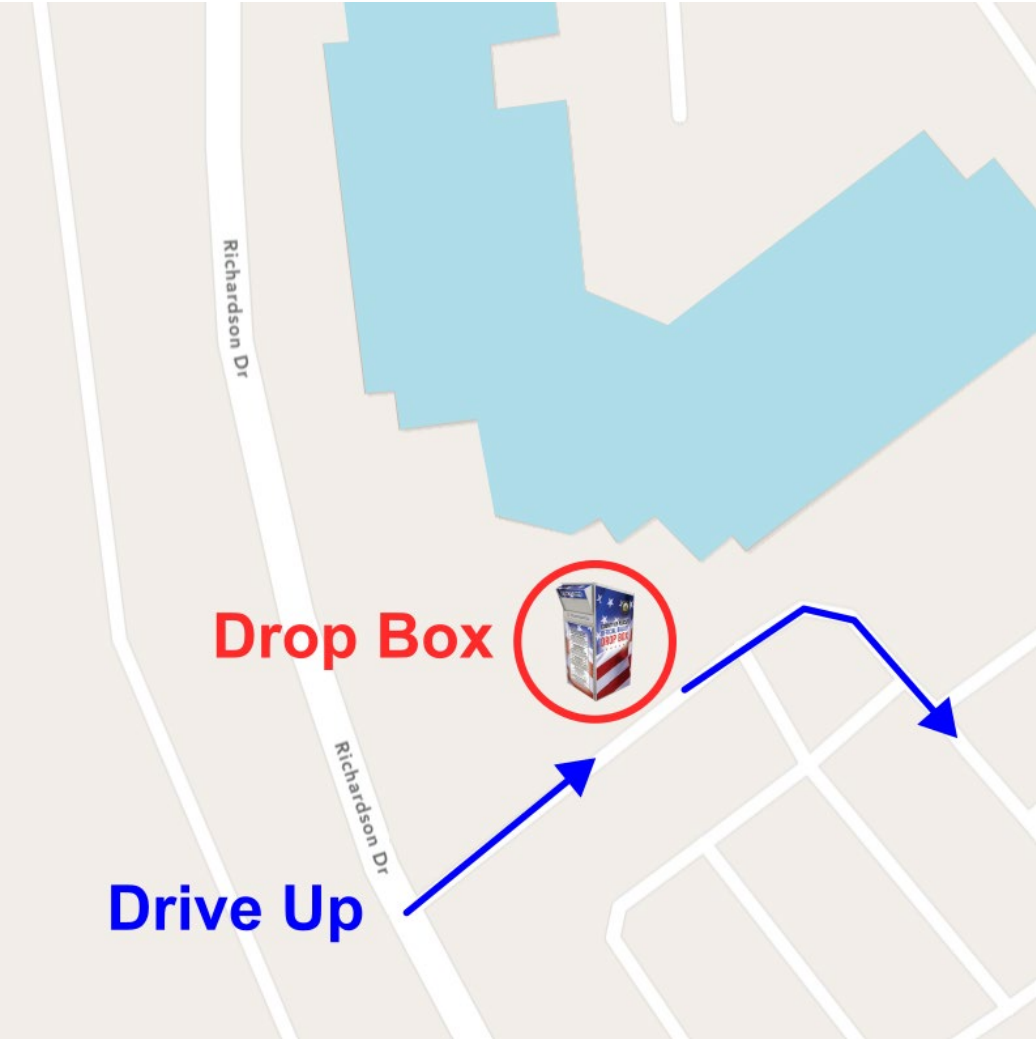
Hours: 24 / 7



Auburn Placer County Clerk-Recorder Office

Address: 2956 Richardson Drive, Auburn

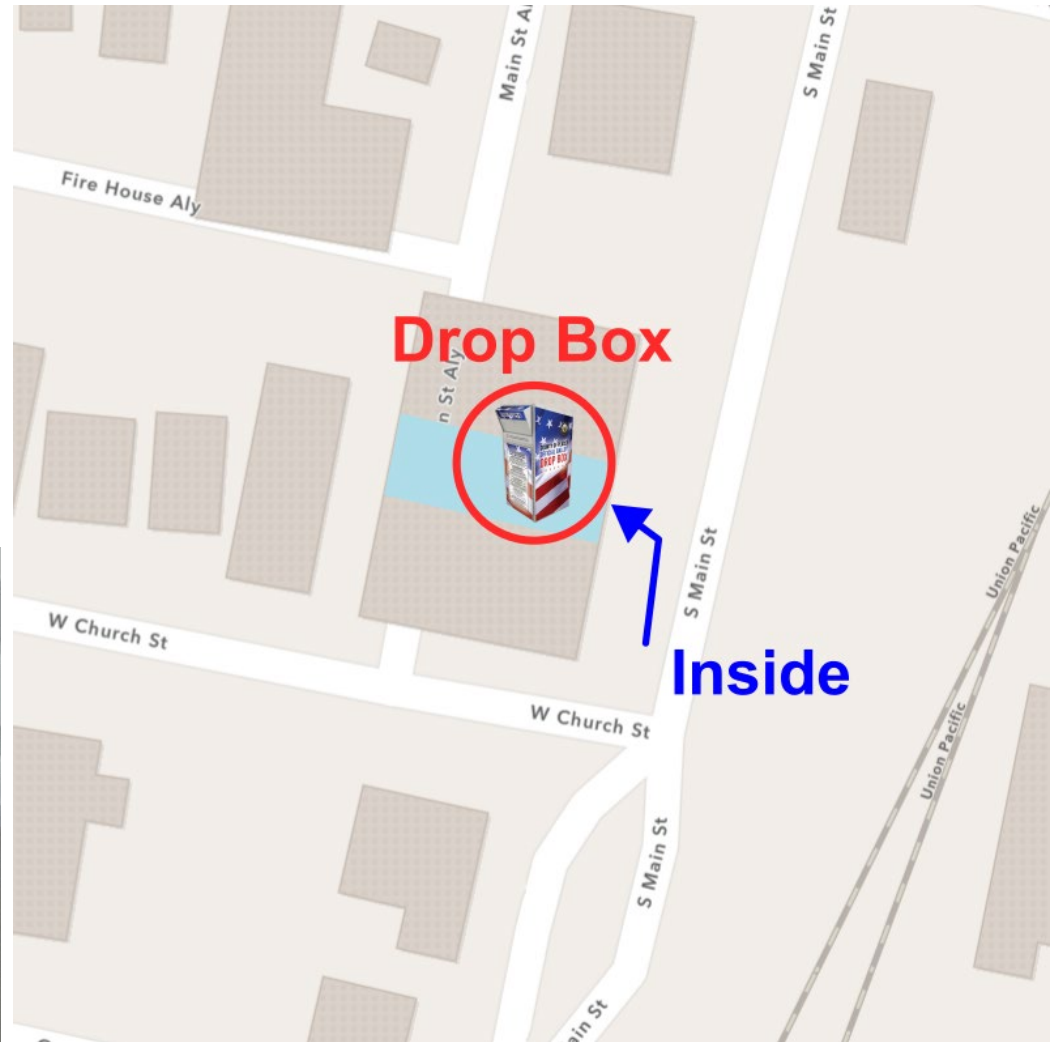
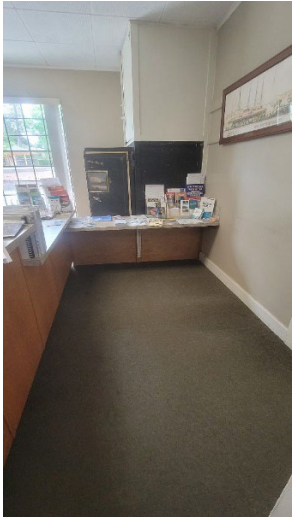
Hours: 24 / 7 - Drive Up



Colfax City Clerk's Office

Address: 33 South Main Street, Colfax

Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8 AM – 5 PM



Colfax Library

Address: 10 West Church Street, Colfax

Hours: 24 / 7



Foresthill Veterans Memorial Hall

Address: 24601 Harrison Street, Foresthill

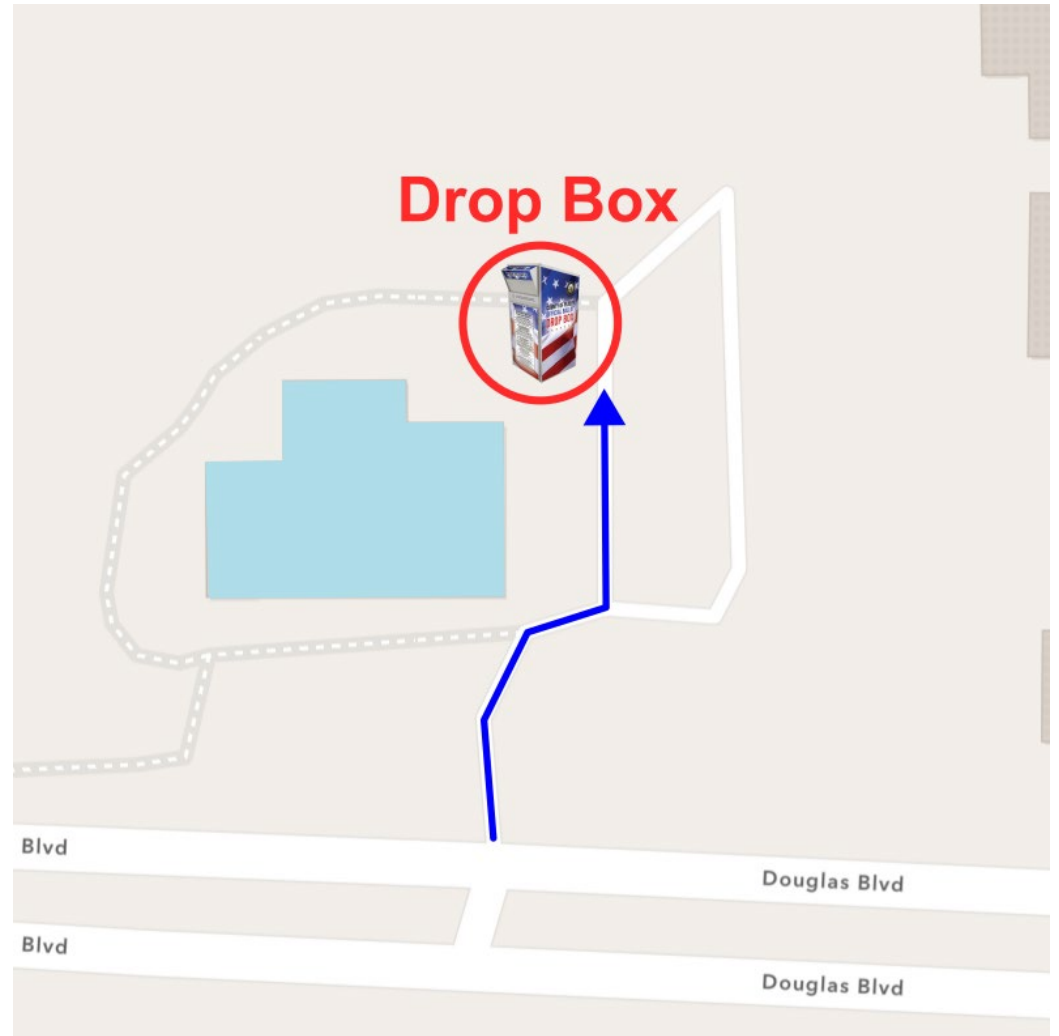
Hours: 24 / 7



Granite Bay Library

Address: 6475 Douglas Boulevard, Granite Bay

Hours: 24 / 7



Kings Beach Library

Address: 301 Secline Street, Kings Beach

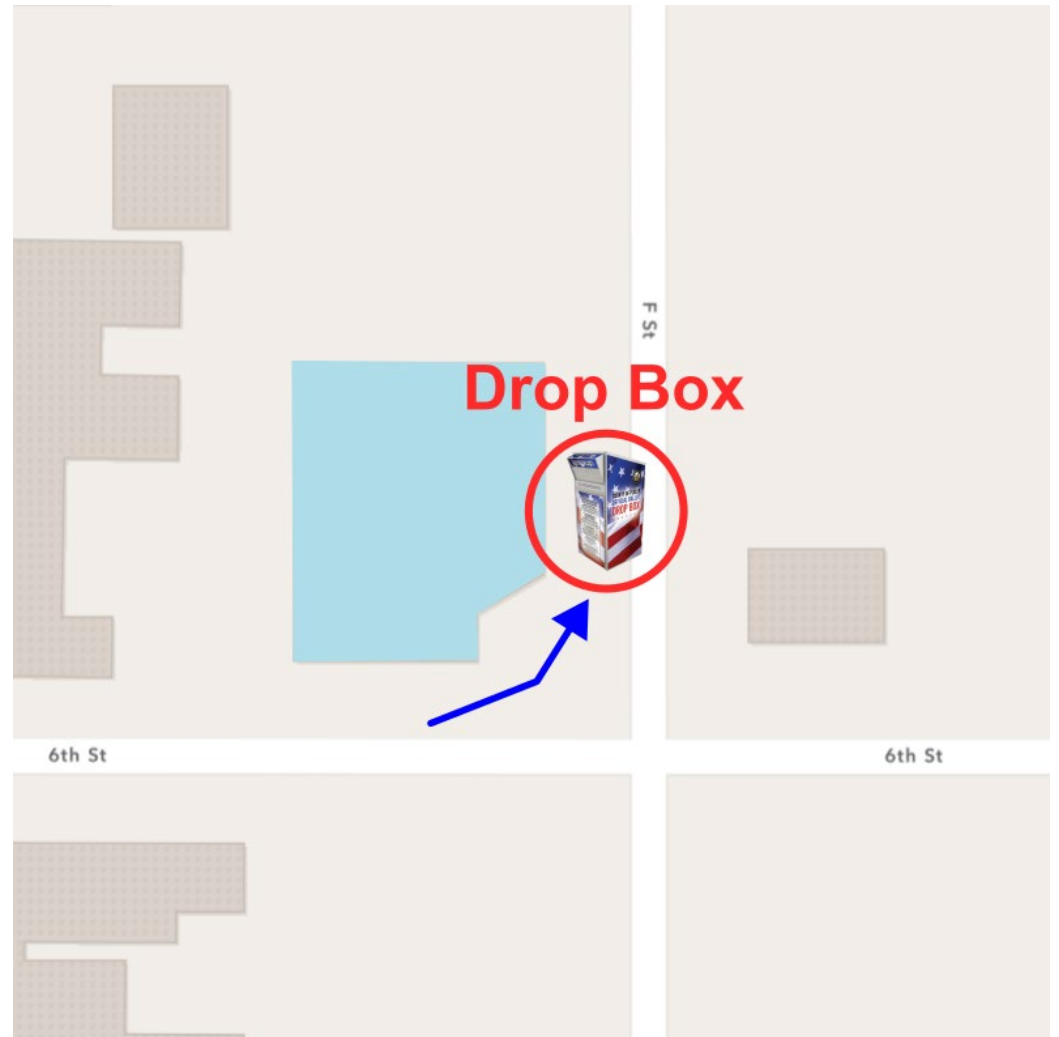
Hours: 24 / 7



Lincoln City Clerk's Office

Address: 600 6th Street

Hours: 24 / 7



Sun City Lincoln Hills Orchard Creek Lodge

Address: 965 Orchard Creek Lane, Lincoln

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8 AM – 5 PM

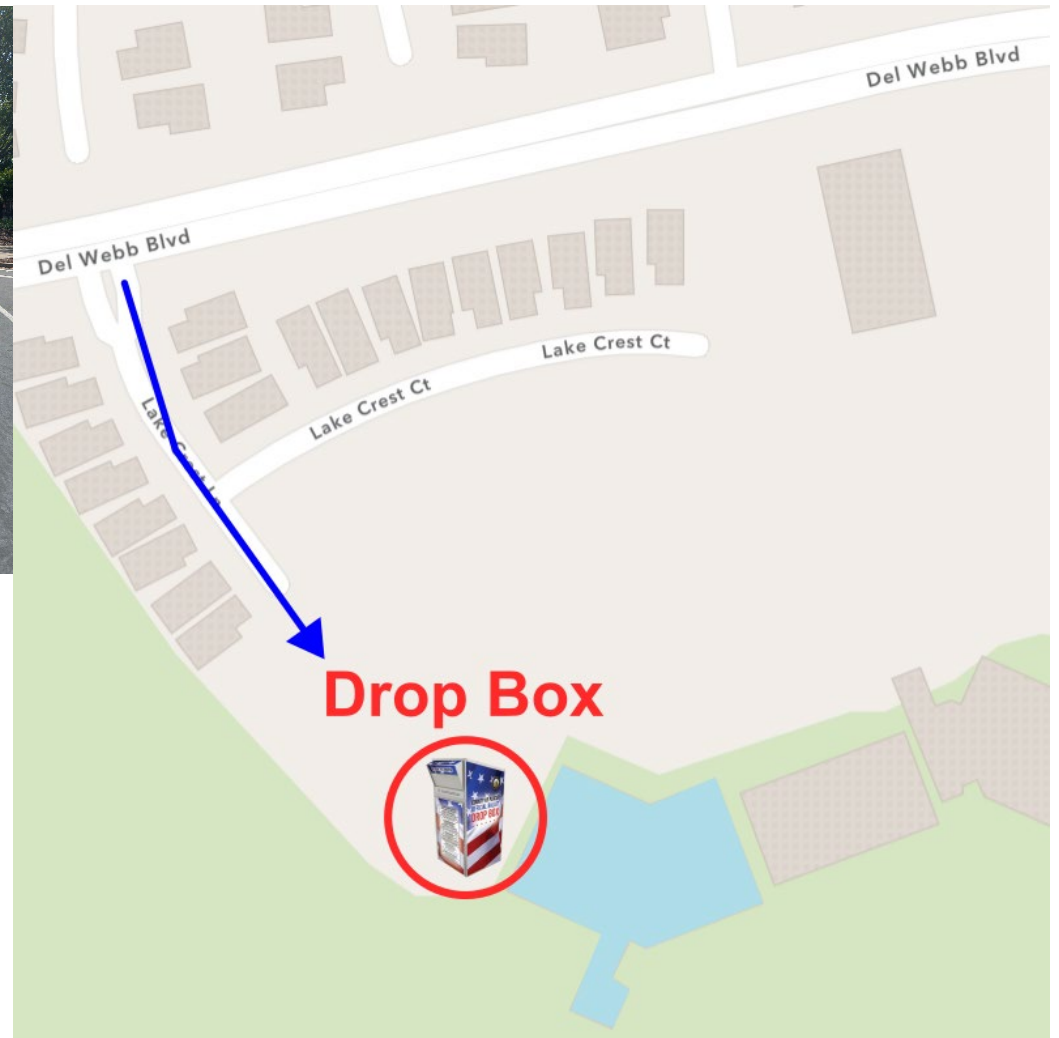
Photos will be added once the drop box is on site.



Sun City Lincoln Hills Orchard Creek Parking Lot

Address: 965 Orchard Creek Lane, Lincoln

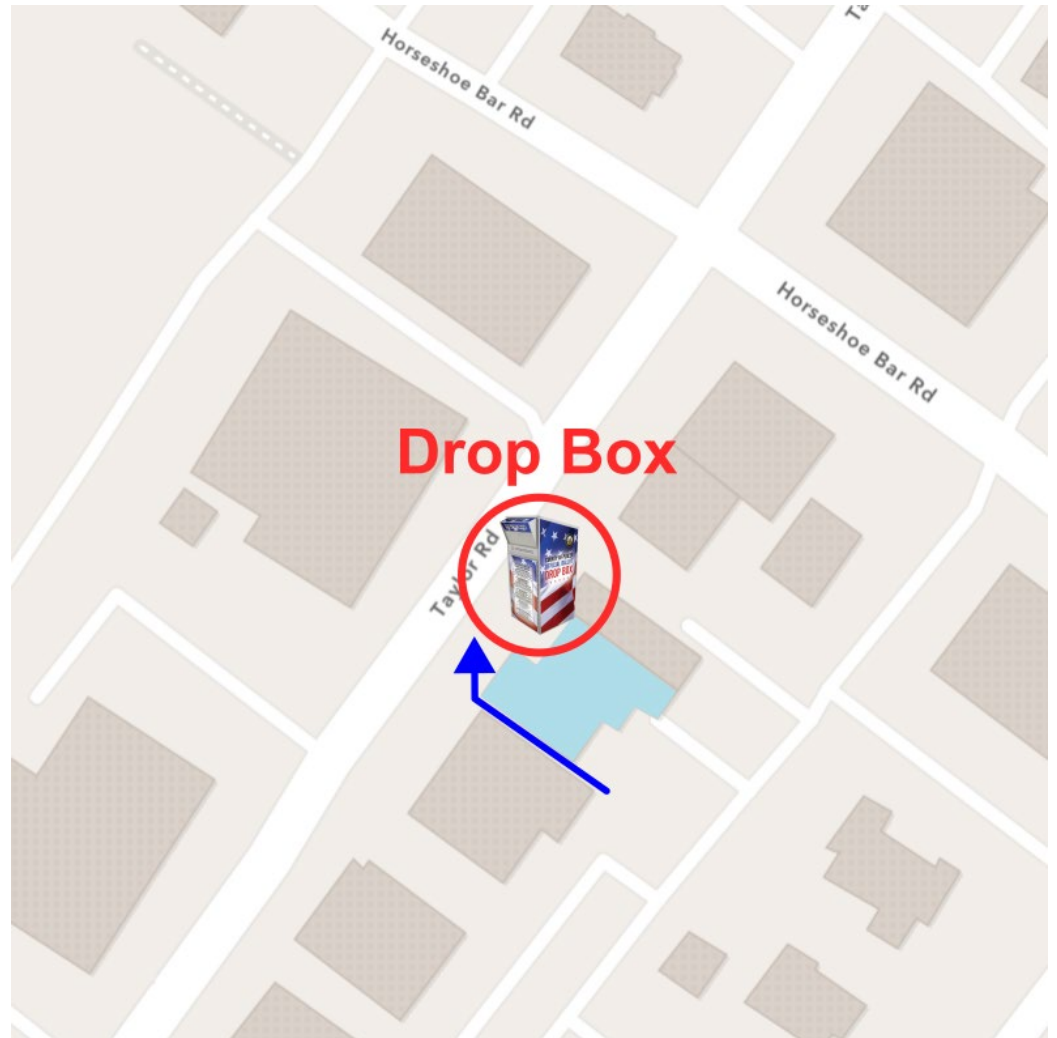
Hours: 24 / 7



Loomis Town Clerk's Office

Address: 3665 Taylor Road, Loomis

Hours: 24 / 7



Olympic Valley Public Service District

Address: 305 Olympic Valley Road, Olympic Valley

Hours: 24 / 7

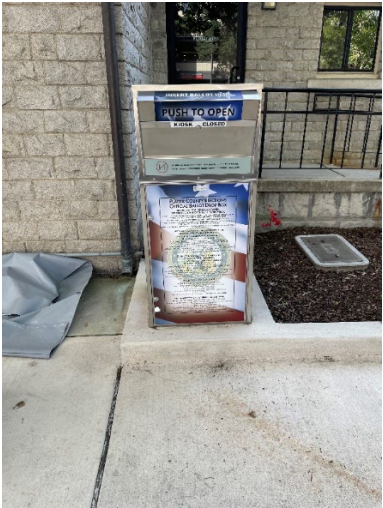
Pending Drop Box Installation



Rocklin City Clerk's Office

Address: 3970 Rocklin Road, Rocklin

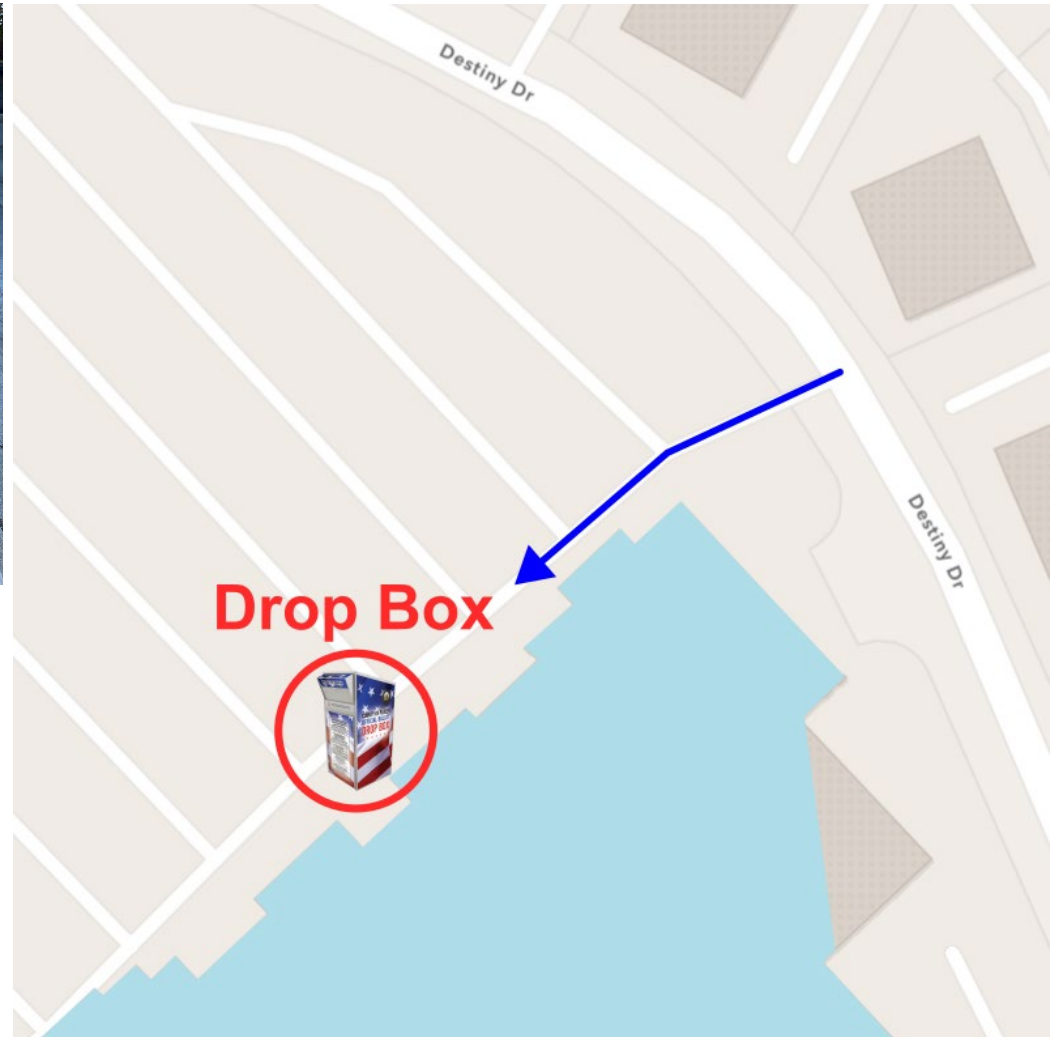
Hours: 24 / 7



Destiny Community Center

Address: 6850 Five Star Boulevard, Rocklin

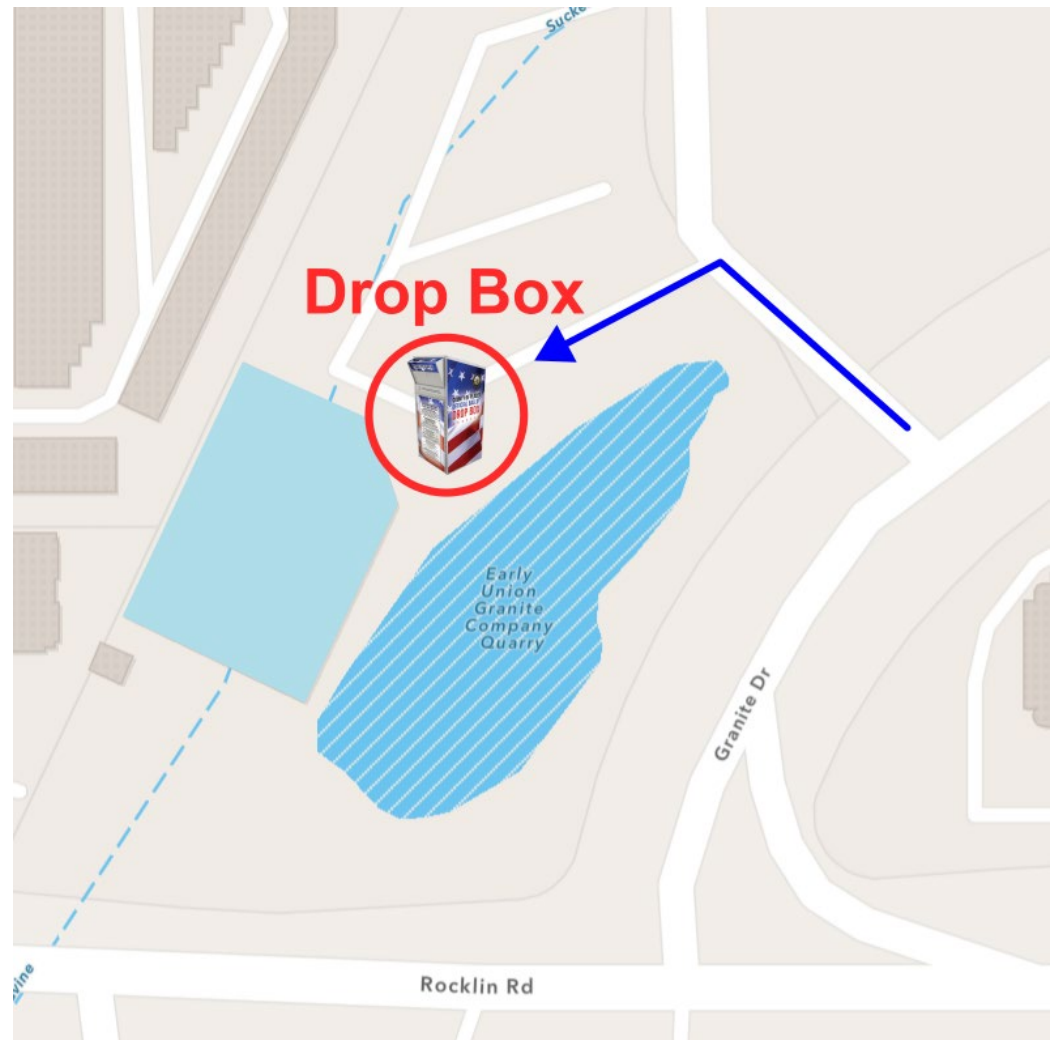
Hours: 24 / 7



Rocklin Library

Address: 4890 Granite Drive, Rocklin

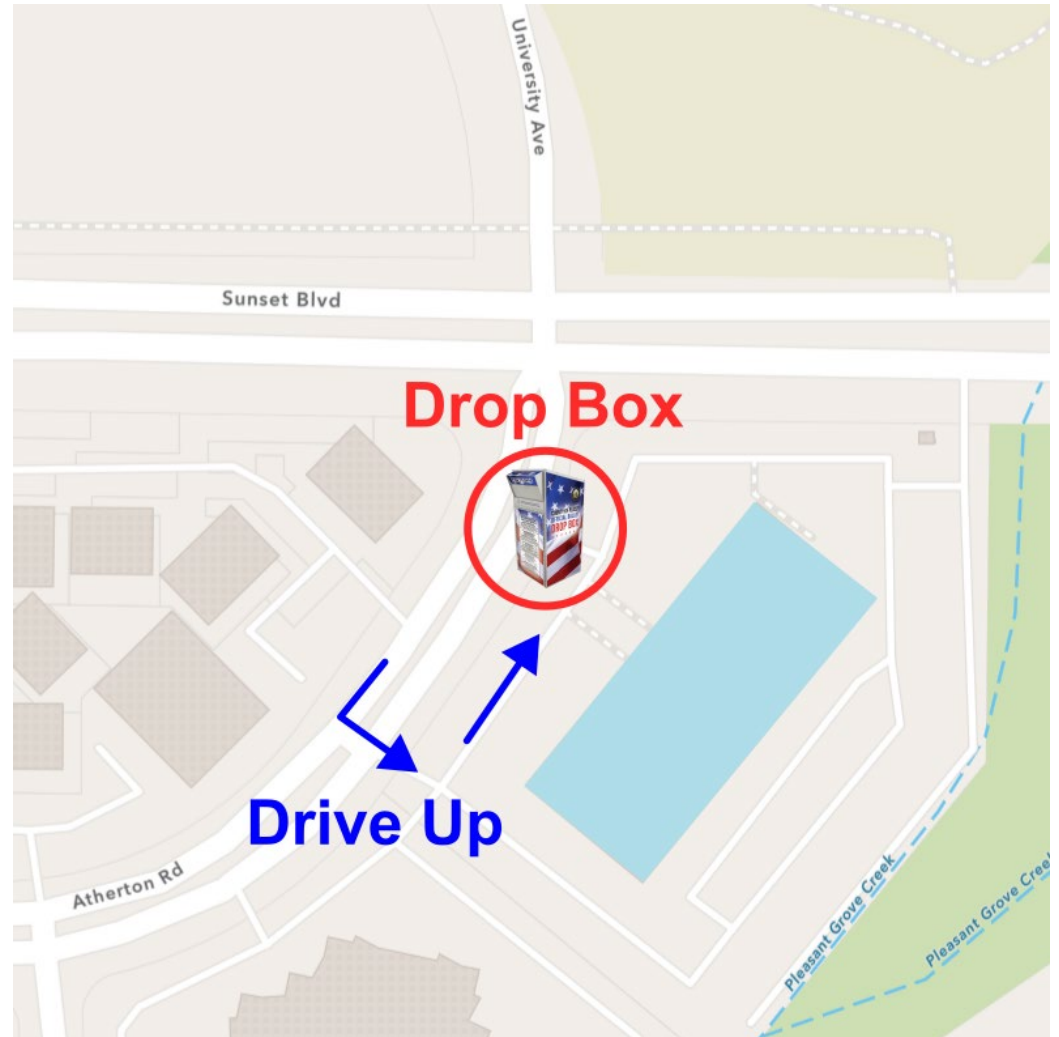
Hours: 24 / 7



Placer County Clerk-Recorder-Elections Office

Address: 3715 Atherton Road, Rocklin

Hours: 24 / 7 - Drive Up

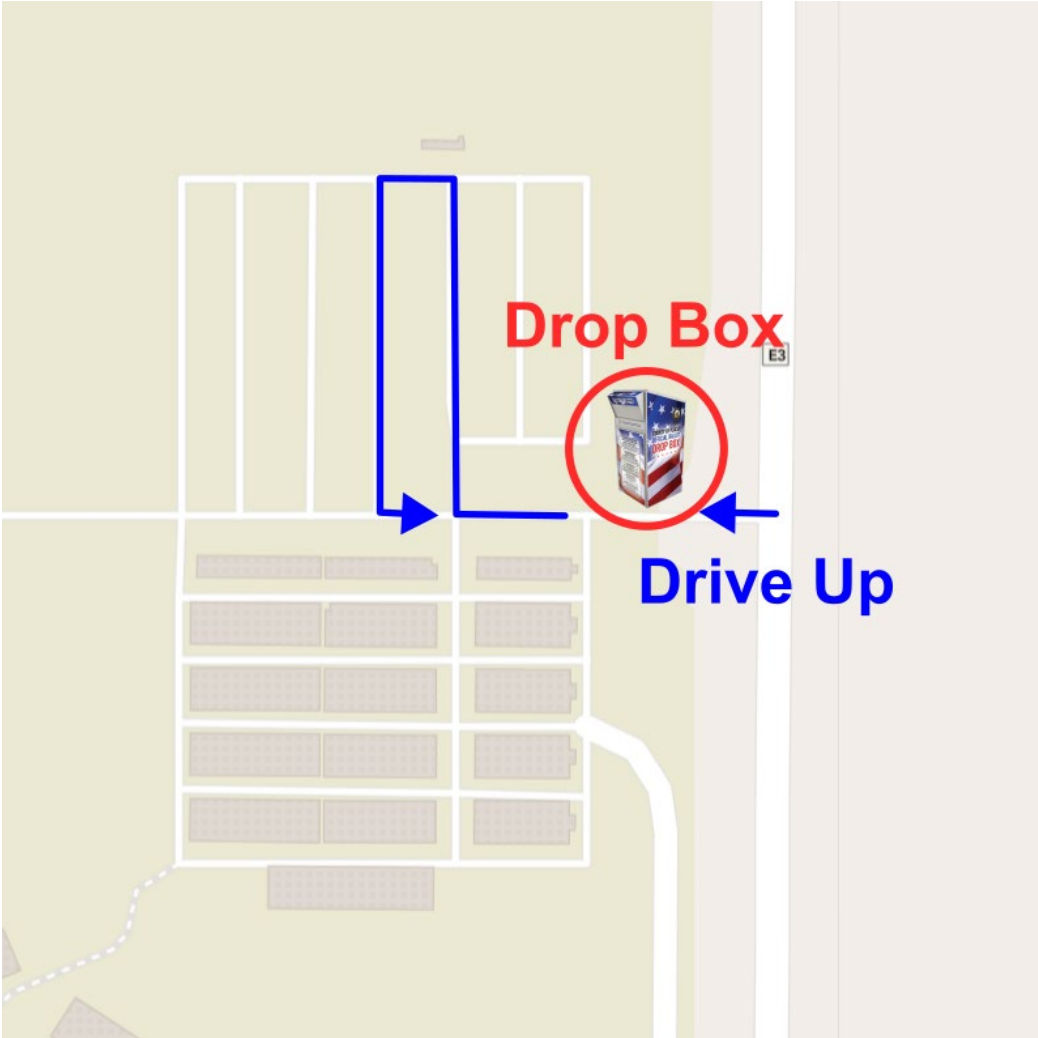


Sierra College

Address: 5100 Rocklin Road, Rocklin

Hours: 24 / 7

Pending Drop Box Approval
and Installation



Rocklin Veterans Service Office

Address: 1000 Sunset Boulevard Suite 115, Rocklin

Hours: Mon – Thurs, 8 AM – 5 PM, Fri 8 AM – 12 PM

Photos will be added once the drop box is on site.



Roseville City Clerk's Office

Address: 311 Vernon Street, Roseville

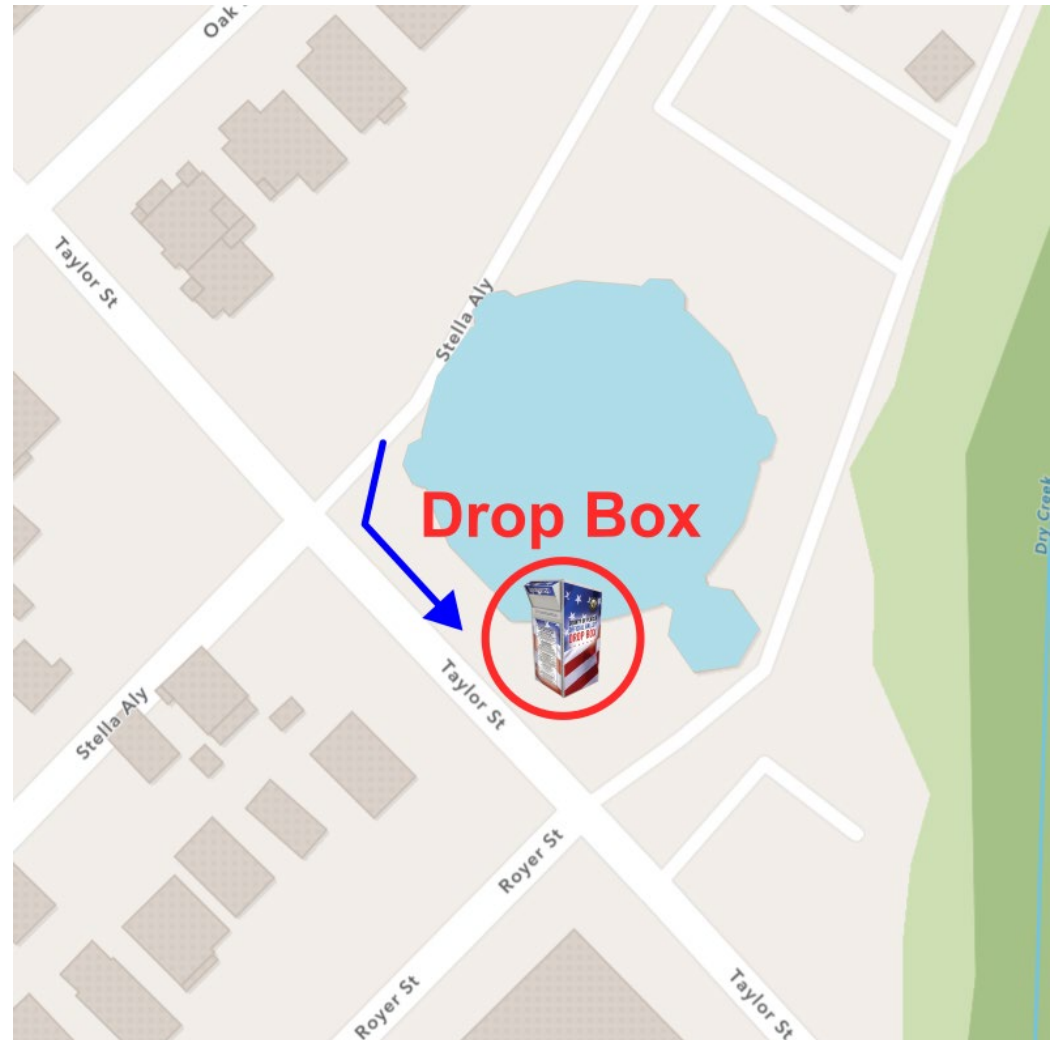
Hours: 24 / 7



Roseville Downtown Library

Address: 225 Taylor Street, Roseville

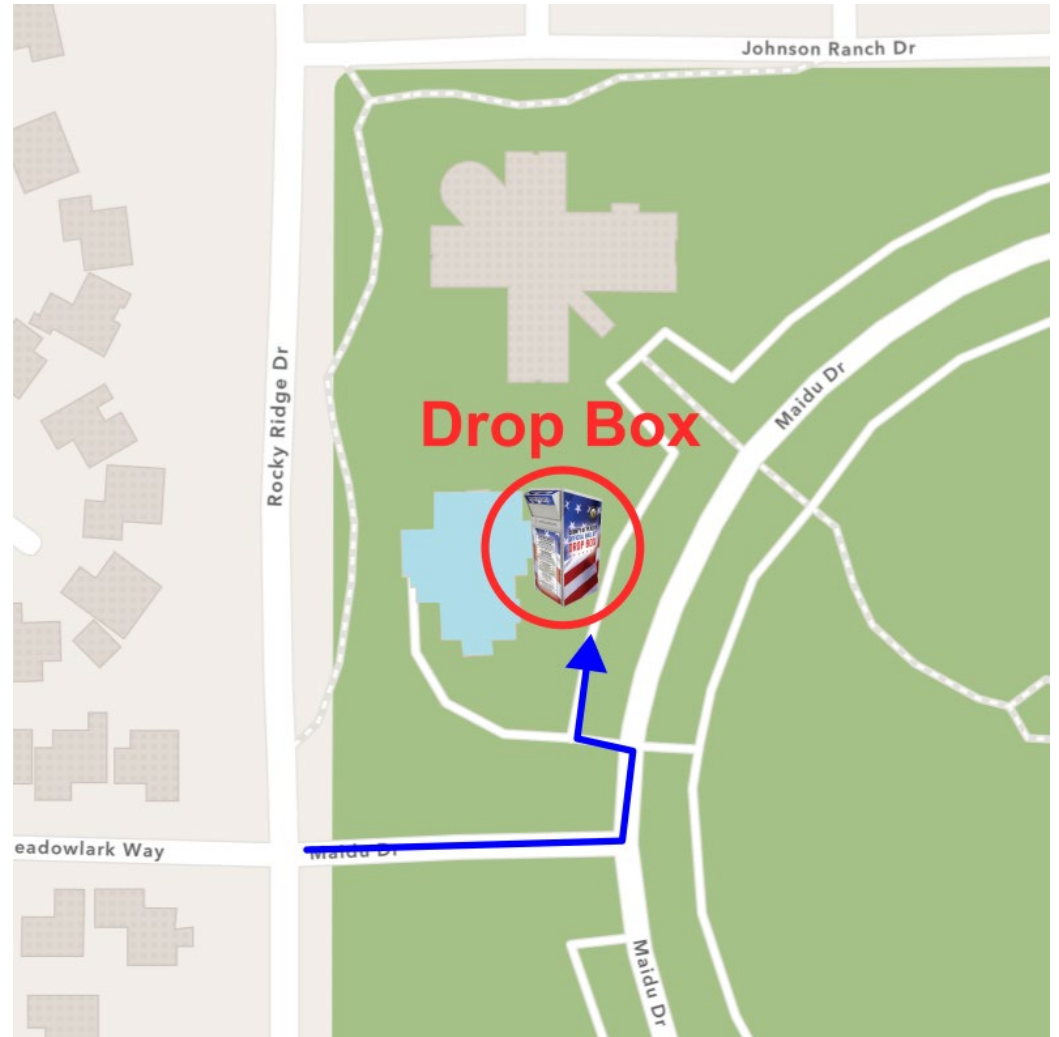
Hours: 24 / 7



Maidu Library

Address: 1530 Maidu Drive, Roseville

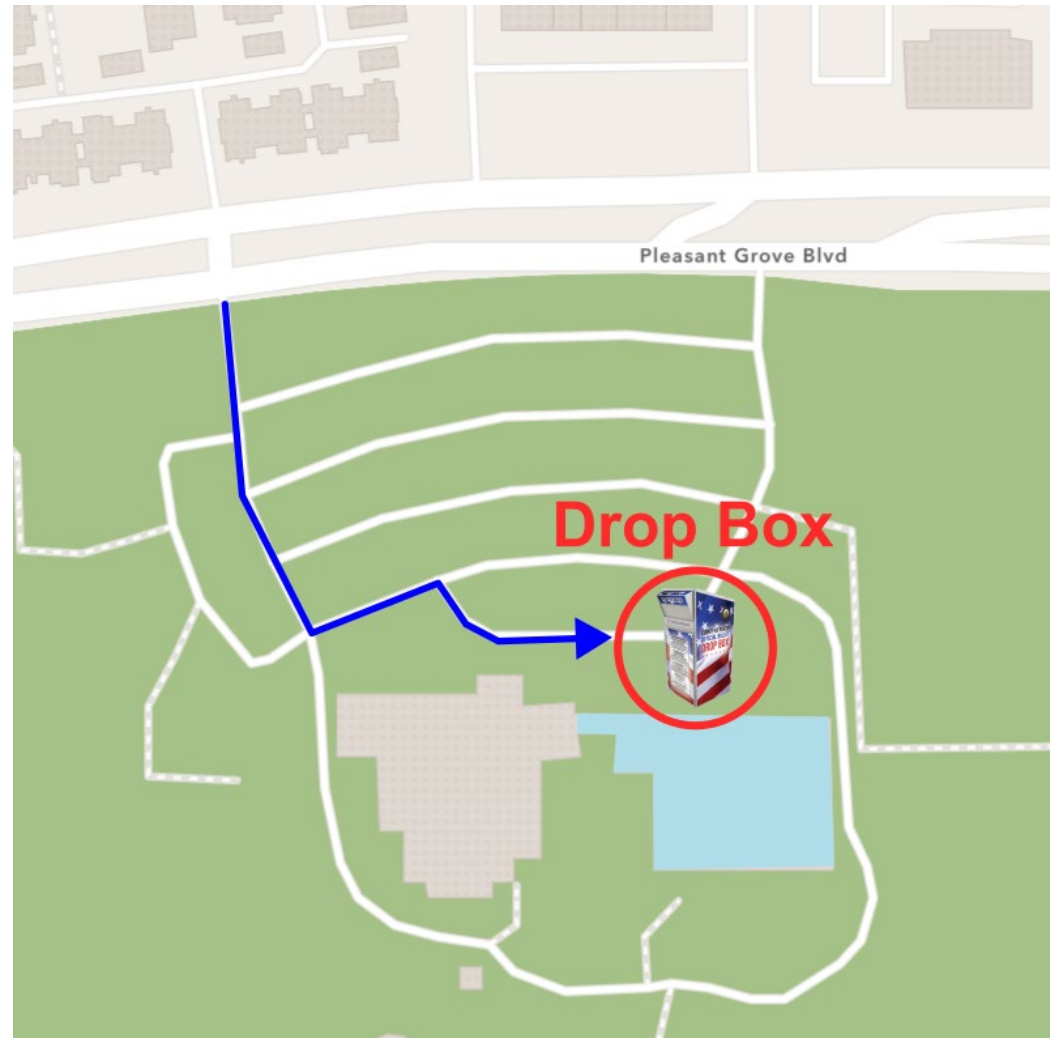
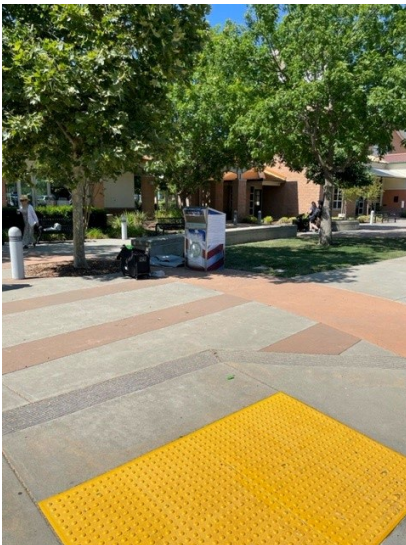
Hours: 24 / 7



Martha Riley Library

Address: 1501 Pleasant Grove Boulevard, Roseville

Hours: 24 / 7



Nugget Markets (Blue Oaks)

Address: 1509 Blue Oaks Boulevard, Roseville

Hours: Every Day, 6 AM – 10 PM

Photos will be added once the drop box is on site.



Nugget Markets (Pleasant Grove)

Address: 771 Pleasant Grove Boulevard, Roseville

Hours: Every Day, 6 AM – 10 PM

Photos will be added once the drop box is on site.



Santucci Justice Center - Revenue Services

Address: 10810 Justice Center Drive, Roseville

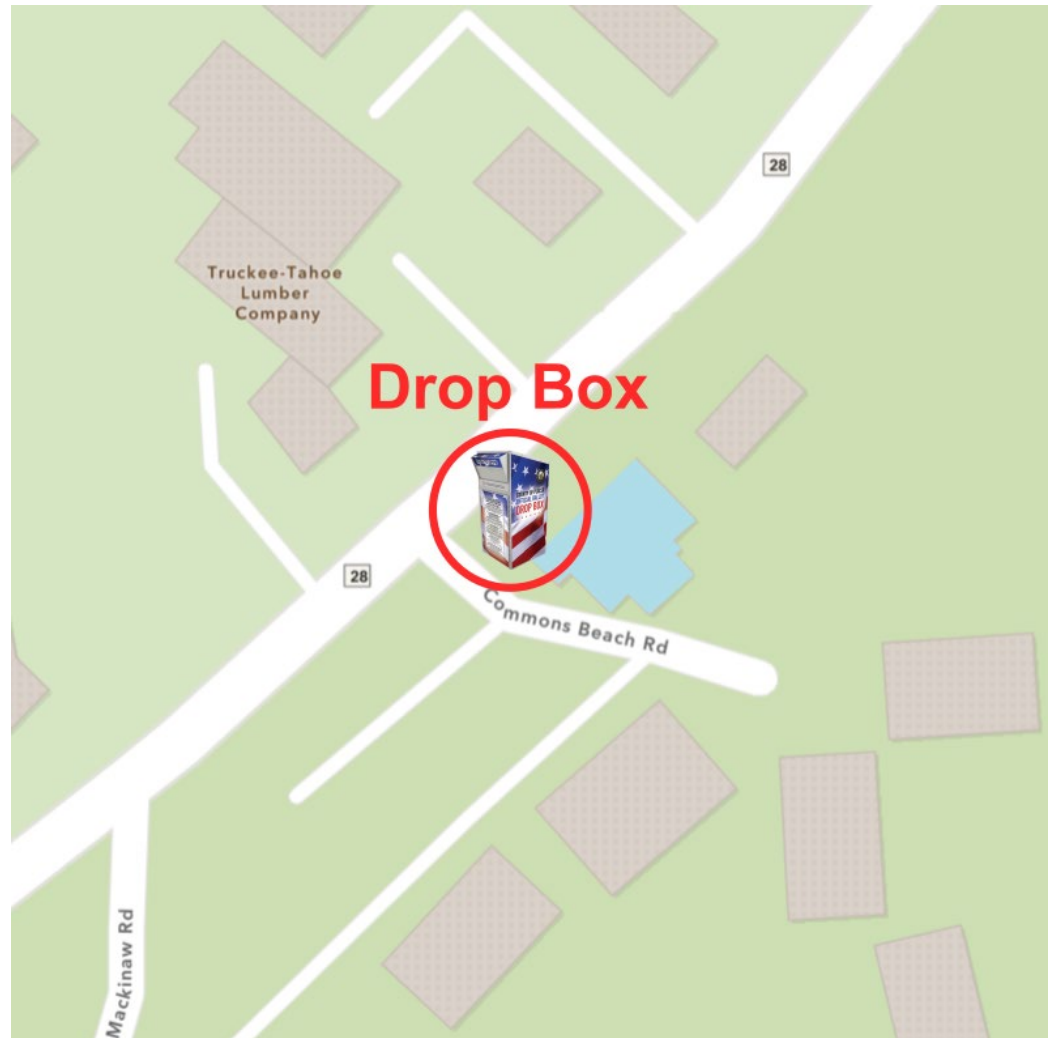
Hours: 24 / 7



The Old Firehouse

Address: 300 North Lake Boulevard, Tahoe City

Hours: 24 / 7



Whitney Ranch - The Ranch House

Address: 851 Old Ranch House Road, Rocklin

Hours: 24 / 7 - Drive Up

Pending Drop Box Survey

