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## PLACER COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE

### Placer County Language Accessibility Advisory Committee Meeting

#### November 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 11-02-23

**Time:** 3:30 – 3:56 p.m.

**Location:** Training Room, Placer County Elections Office, 3715 Atherton Road, Rocklin, CA 95765

#### **Present In-Person:**

- LAAC Members Mohinder Sohi (Punjabi community), Marisela Barbosa (Spanish community).
- Elections Staff Ryan Ronco, Philip Chantri, Stacy Robinson, Tina Belding, Marcus Smith, Tracy Hyde, Dillon Dineen, Mason Gray, Hana Uhler.
- IT Staff Jeremy Kelley.

#### **Present Online:**

- LAAC Members Kim Unidad (Tagalog community), Sietse Goffard (Asian Law Caucus).

### **Minutes**

#### **I. Elections Staff/Attendee Introductions**

- LAAC members and other attendees were welcomed to the meeting. LAAC members and Elections staff introduced themselves.
- Reminder that LAAC meetings are still monthly and will likely become quarterly after the March primary.

#### **II. Committee Updates:**

- a. Election Administration Plan (EAP)
  - i. Placer County is now officially a Vote Center County.

## b. Staffing

- i. Inspectors will now be called Senior Election Aides, and Clerks will be Election Aides.
- ii. All persons working in vote centers will be background-checked employees and get an hourly wage.
- iii. An email will be sent to all poll workers in our database driving them to the county application site, and when that's done, the Elections Office will get those names back.

## c. Legislation

- i. AB 626. Counties can look up and instantly verify if a voter has not yet voted by mail, and if they haven't, they can feed their VBM ballot into the scanner in the vote center.

## d. Drop Box Locations

- i. Roseville Oriental Market and Roseville Gudwara Sahib Sikh Temple have been added as drop box locations, bringing the total up to 30.

## e. Vote Center Locations

- i. Cooley Middle School changed the room to one that was more accessible to the public and was surveyed again.

## III. Old Business:

### a. Voter Information Guide Pages

### b. Postcard

### c. Website

### d. Public Workshop(s)

- i. Voter Information Guide Pages, postcards that follow Vote By Mail Packet, website and public workshops. More feedback from LAAC members was encouraged.
- ii. Facsimile Ballot Letters are now pre-emptively mailed to voters who have a request for one on file and reside in a language-targeted precinct.
  - Marisela asked if a voter needs to both have a request for a facsimile ballot on file *and* be in a targeted precinct for them to get one. Mr. Chantri confirmed that is the case; because there are so many different ballot types, the Elections office only translates the ballot types that have targeted precincts. He emphasized that Punjabi, Korean, and Tagalog were very specific parts of the county and will likely only be translated for a couple ballot types, while Spanish would be translated for more ballot types.
  - Marisela asked if the sample facsimile ballot would be sent to LAAC members once translated into the four targeted languages. Mr. Chantri answered that it would, and also invited them to critique the English part on

it to minimize requests from the community to alter the English part, as the English part has to be the same regardless of the language into which it's being translated.

#### **IV. Questions & Answers**

- a. Sietse asked what the new pay scale for Election Aides would be. Mr. Chantri answered that the HR website says it starts at \$16.22 for Election Aides, and Senior Election Aides start at \$16.95 per hour.
- b. Dillon asked if Election Aides were eligible for overtime rates. Mr. Chantri confirmed that they would be eligible.
- c. Sietse asked if LAAC members could get the reference (facsimile) ballot to ensure that the language is clear and accessible to voters that they should not mark the facsimile ballot. Mr. Chantri answered that the sample facsimile ballot would be emailed to members as soon as the meeting was over.
- d. Staci asked Sietse if, from his experience, the term Reference Ballot was less confusing than Facsimile Ballot, and he confirmed that was the case. Dillon added that, in the letter, the term Translated Sample Ballot is used most often.
- e. Mr. Chantri welcomed the Asian Law Caucus or any LAAC member to reach out to Placer County's Korean-speaking community or provide contacts from that community to try getting a Korean speaker on the committee.

#### **V. Future Agenda Items**

- a. There were none. Mr. Chantri encouraged members to email any future agenda suggestions to the Elections Office.