# **County of Santa Clara**

**Registrar of Voters** 

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DATE: July 30, 2021

TO: Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors

Jeffrey V. Smith, County Executive

FROM: Shannon Bushey, Registrar of Voters

SUBJECT: Under advisement from May 25, 2021 (Agenda Item No. 31): Off-

Agenda Report Regarding Local Voters Rights Act

At the May 25, 2021 meeting of the Board of Supervisors (BOS), at the request of Supervisor Chavez, the Board requested Administration prepare an off-agenda report relating to a timeline for the local Voters Rights Act (VRA) public engagement process. The Board also requested that Administration distribute outreach materials for the public engagement feedback sessions to community partners and the Supervisorial District Offices as the materials and flyers were finalized.

The Registrar of Voters (ROV) team has engaged with community partners and has recently finalized the calendar of outreach events and feedback sessions and is now sharing its finalized VRA materials with our community partners. On July 21, 2021, the ROV issued a press release announcing that the ROV will be holding VRA feedback forums, with a link to the ROV's VRA webpage for more information.

## **Partnerships**

The ROV has connected with multiple county departments, advisory committees, and community organizations. The ROV continues to partner with the Santa Clara County Office of Education and is collaborating with the League of Women Voters, the Probation Department, the Office of Reentry Services, Juvenile Hall, the William F. James Ranch, the Bill Wilson Center, and has reached out to the Office of Supportive Housing and the Valley Homeless Healthcare Program. During 2021's quarterly Language Accessibility Advisory Committee (LAAC), Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC), and Voting Education and Outreach Coalition (VEOC) meetings, the ROV discussed the VRA implementation process and solicited feedback on the presented draft materials and outreach plan.

## **Public Engagement & Outreach Sessions**

The ROV has scheduled outreach sessions at local parks and the SOFA District Farmers' Market throughout the months of July and August 2021. Park outreach sessions are held in conjunction with VIVA Parks, while the Farmers' Market sessions are held in conjunction with sjdowntown.com. In addition to the outreach events, language feedback forums are scheduled and will be held via Zoom between July 27 and September 28. The calendar of outreach events and feedback forums is attached separately and is also included in the attached VRA Tool Kit. Board members are invited to share these messages with all their constituencies.

### **Outreach Presentation Materials**

The ROV provides VRA information and outreach materials on its VRA Outreach Program and Materials webpage (<a href="www.sccvote.org/vra">www.sccvote.org/vra</a>), as well as in the VRA Tool Kit. The tool kit contains information on registering to vote, as well as information for persons formerly incarcerated, voters without fixed residential addresses, preregistration for those ages 16 and 17, and the Emergency Ballot Delivery Program. The tool kit provides ROV partners with sample verbiage, links to "How to" videos, information, and forms, as well as graphics for use with social media posts.

Once the feedback has been collected and compiled together at the end of this summer, the ROV plans to meet with County Counsel for assistance with the preparation of a local VRA Board Policy to be presented to the BOS for approval in early 2022.

#### Attachments:

- Local Voters Rights Act Flyer
- Local Voters Rights Act Tool Kit
  - Emergency Ballot Delivery Program
  - Calendar of Outreach and Feedback Forum Events
  - Feedback Forum Flyer
  - Voter Registration Pocket Guide
- Graphics
  - Emergency Ballot Delivery Program 1
  - o Reentry 2
  - Pre-Registration for Youth 2

#### cc: Chief Board Aides

Miguel Marquez, Chief Operating Officer
James R. Williams, County Counsel
Tiffany Lennear, Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
John P. Mills, Director, Employee Services Agency