

FRESNO COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION PLAN

FIRST AMENDMENT

August 2020

Introduction: Fresno County's Elections Administration Plan is dated November 2019. The plan was used to conduct the March 2020 Presidential Primary Election. This First Amendment is necessary to update the Plan as it relates to the November 2020 Presidential Election. In general, the changes to the plan relate to the COVID-19 Epidemic, which has caused state-wide changes to election procedures. Changes to the plan are listed here:

A. **LANGUAGES:** Previously, Fresno County was required messaging and voter information to be translated in Spanish, Punjabi, Hmong, Chinese, Korean, Khmer, Vietnamese and Tagalog. Laos has been added to the list of languages for Fresno County. Any listing of the various languages in the Plan will now include Laos.

B. **VOTE CENTERS:** All Vote Centers will be open for four days, October 31st through November 3rd. There will not be any 11 Day Vote Centers. Whenever possible, Vote Center locations utilized in March 2020 will be used again. Some sites are not available and some sites are too small to allow for the necessary social distancing. It is anticipated that approximately 10 locations will change. The County will utilize replacement locations in the same general area whenever possible. A new listing of Vote Center locations will be available on the website and mailed to every voter in the County Voter Information Guide.

C. **COVID-19:** Precautions will be taken at all Vote Centers to create a safe environment for workers and voters. Voting equipment will be set up to encourage social distancing. Voters will be asked to wait in line six feet apart, which may mean that voters will wait outside the Vote Center if necessary. Plexiglass shields and pull up screens will be placed at workstations to separate workers and voters. All workers will wear face masks or shields. Voters will be asked to wear face masks and face masks will be provided for voters who do not have them. Equipment will be cleaned on a regular basis. Hand sanitizer will be provided for voters entering and leaving Vote Centers. Whenever possible, doors will be left open to allow for air movement.

D. **DROP BOXES:** Additional Ballot Drop Boxes will be added throughout the County. Fresno County is required to have 32 Drop Boxes. In addition to the 43 Drop Box locations utilized in March 2020, approximately 20 more Drop Boxes will be added for a total of 63 Drop Boxes. Voters will be encouraged to use Drop Boxes to return their ballots. A new listing of the Drop Box locations will be on the website and mailed to every voter with their ballot. Drop Box locations will also be listed in the County Voter Information Guide.

E. VCA TOOLKIT/COMMUNICATIONS: The VCA Toolkit has been updated and is on the County website. Other messaging will continue to be updated as needed. Every active registered voter will receive two mailings about the voting process. The first mailing is scheduled to be mailed early August 2020, and the second mailing will be the third week of September 2020.

F. WORKSHOPS: Due to Governor's Executive Order N-67-20, Bilingual Workshops are being scheduled for August and September 2020 utilizing video conferencing. A new PowerPoint has been developed for Bilingual Workshops and is being translated. The PowerPoint will be available in the Toolkit. Individual groups are encouraged to use the PowerPoint to help members of the community understand the voting process.

Due to Governor's Executive Order N-67-20, a Disability Community Workshop will also be held utilizing video conference. The date for this workshop is September 24, 2020. The VAAC (Voter Accessibility Advisory Committee) and organizations who work with the disability community will be encouraged to repeat this workshop within their organizations.

G. COMMITTEES: The County will continue to hold regularly scheduled video conferencing meetings for the VAAC and the LAAC (Language Accessibility Advisory Committee) in line with Governor's Executive Order N-67-20.

H. RAVBM: Assembly Bill 860, chaptered on June 18, 2020, makes Remote Accessible Vote-By-Mail available to any voter who wishes to use this service in the November 2020 statewide general election. Messaging about RAVBM availability will be updated on the website, social media and the County Voter Information Guide.