

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS SHEILA KUEHL AND KATHRYN BARGER

September 3, 2019

COUNTY EMPLOYEE ELECTION WORKER PROGRAM

Employees of the County of Los Angeles (County) have long been a stable component of the election process since the Board of Supervisors approved the “County Employee Pollworker Program” as a permanent program in 2001. The County is now implementing a new voting process, the Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP) initiative, commencing with the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election. In addition to offering new and streamlined voting equipment designed to enhance transparency, usability, accessibility and security, the VSAP experience also introduces the vote center model as authorized by the California Voter’s Choice Act (VCA).

Under this new model, voting will take place over an 11-day period during which voters will be able to vote at any vote center throughout the County. This new model provides voters with greater flexibility in determining where and when they vote and represents a significant expansion of voting options. Staffing for the vote center model must also be expanded and the inclusion of County employees to support the new

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voting experience by serving as election workers is an important element in ensuring a smooth and successful election administration.

For the 2020 Presidential Primary Election, the voting period will begin on February 22, 2020 (e-10) with approximately 250 vote centers open throughout the County. Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (Department) staff will serve as vote center leads at each of these locations. On February 29, 2020 (e-3) an additional 750 vote centers will open for the four-day period leading up to and including Election Day. There is a need for an additional 750 County employees to serve as vote center leads at each of these locations. In addition to the 750 County employee vote center leads, an additional 5,000 County employees are needed to serve as vote center workers on Monday and Tuesday, March 2 and 3, 2020; the final days of voting.

To ensure a smooth transition with the new VSAP experience, a comprehensive training will be provided to all County employee election workers. A 1-day training is required for all County employees and an additional 2-day on-the-job training at a vote center will be required for the 750 County employee vote center leads. All training will occur during regular work hours. In addition to the regular salary received by participating County employees, a stipend will be provided by the Department for the 2-day on-the-job training and for each day served at a voting center.

The County's FY 2019/20 approved budget includes funding for a stipend for 5,000 County employees; however, a supplemental budget request has been submitted to fund the stipend for the 750 County employee vote center leads.

WE, THEREFORE MOVE, THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS approve the expansion of the County Employee Election Worker Program to support the new

VSAP voting experience and direct the Chief Executive Officer to take the following actions:

1. Send a letter to each Department Head requesting their support in encouraging participation from each Department in the County Employee Election Worker Program and reminding them of the associated Board-adopted provisions for MAPP employees related to participation in the County Employee Election Worker Program; and
2. Work in partnership with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to promote and encourage participation of all County Departments in the County Employee Election Worker Program.

WE FURTHER MOVE, THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERISORS direct the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to take the following actions in preparation for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election and for all subsequent elections conducted under the new VSAP voting model:

1. Make all necessary changes to the County Employee Election Worker Program to support the new VSAP voting model;
2. Recruit 750 volunteer County employees to serve as vote center leads for the 7-day period February 26 to March 3, 2020;
3. Recruit 5,000 volunteer County employees to serve as vote center workers for the 2-day period March 2 and 3, 2020;
4. Schedule and provide training for all County Employee Election Worker participants; and

5. Work in partnership with the Chief Executive Officer to promote and encourage participation of all County Departments in the County Employee Election Worker Program.

S: MM/County Employee Election Worker Program