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Early Voting Options Available for Voters with Disabilities

A Service to Voters with Disabilities

November 5, 2019 Consolidated Municipal, School and Special District Election

To ensure that every citizen can vote privately, securely and independently, the Registration & Elections Division offers many accessible options for people to cast their vote. Information regarding this election is available in print, electronically as a PDF and through a screen-readable system. Registered voters with disabilities may:

- Request an Accessible Vote by Mail Ballot. The Accessible Vote by Mail system allows voters with disabilities, overseas voters, military personnel and military spouses to vote privately and independently by accessing and marking an electronic ballot in a screen-readable format on any computer at any time. Voters using this online system will log in and download their ballot to a computer, mark their choices and then print the ballot. The ballot must then be returned to the Registration & Elections Division via mail or at any available Vote Center. Voters can go online to www.smcacre.org/my-election-info and enter their information to find a link to their ballot, email us at registrar@smcacre.org or call 650.312.5222 to have a link to their ballot emailed to them.
- Request to have a Vote by Mail paper ballot personally delivered to their home at a convenient time by Elections Division staff who will assist them in marking and returning the ballot.

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- Request delivery, by the Elections Division staff, of an accessible Ballot Marking Tablet to cast a ballot privately and independently. The system includes audio ballot reading technology, an accessible tactile interface and use of adaptive interface devices such as sip-and-puff and tactile input switches. The accessible Ballot Marking Tablet can be placed on a flat surface of any height. The Elections Division staff will set up the equipment and be available to assist the voter during the process.
- Request that the Elections Division staff arrange free transportation for the voter to and from a Vote Center during the early voting period where the County's accessible Ballot Marking Tablet may be used by the voter.

Options 2 - 4 are generally available from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., 7 days a week during the early voting period starting 29 days before the election. Voters who contact the Elections Division Monday through Thursday will receive service the following day or sooner. Voters who contact us on Fridays can schedule an appointment for the following Monday or sooner, if possible. Special accommodations can be made for service outside established hours. Option 1 is available any time, day or night, during the early voting period and on election day (October 7 to November 5). Voters with disabilities can access computers with screen readers, screen magnifiers and printers at two 29-Day Vote Centers and at one 11-Day Vote Center. Specific locations can be found at www.smcacre.org/accessible-vote-mail.

These options only apply to San Mateo County registered voters. Other voters should contact their County election officials for assistance.

If you have questions or wish to schedule one of the options listed above, please contact the Registration & Elections Division at 888.SMC.VOTE (888.762.8683) or registrar@smcacre.org.

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