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California Voter’s Choice Act

OVERVIEW
San Mateo County has been selected by the State Legislature as one of 14 pilot counties statewide authorized to conduct All-Mailed Ballot/Vote Center elections under SB 450, the California Voter’s Choice Act.

On September 12, 2017, the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors authorized the Chief Elections Officer to proceed with the implementation of the California Voter’s Choice Act and conduct the June 5, 2018 Statewide Direct Primary Election as the first election held under the Act. The November 6, 2018 Statewide General Election will be the second election under the Act.

PURPOSE
The California Voter’s Choice Act, was enacted to increase voter participation, enlist public engagement, and expand voting options for all voters. The law fundamentally changes the manner in which future elections are to be conducted, by establishing an All-Mailed Ballot/Vote Center election model, utilizing Vote Centers and Ballot Drop Boxes strategically placed throughout the County.

Under the Voter’s Choice Act, all voters will be mailed a ballot 28 days before Election Day with a postage-paid envelope to return the ballot.

YOUR VOTING OPTIONS
Voters will be able to cast their ballots by choosing one of three methods:

**Vote by Mail**
You can vote and mail your ballot in the postage-paid return envelope on or before Election Day.

**Drop Off Your Voted Ballot**
You can vote and return your ballot into a secure Ballot Drop Box. Ballot Drop Boxes will be located throughout San Mateo County starting 28 days before Election Day.

**Vote in Person at a Vote Center**
Vote Centers look and feel like polling places, but provide additional services and options for voters. You can go to any Vote Center in San Mateo County to:
- Vote on an accessible voting machine
- Vote on a paper ballot
- Access multilingual election materials and receive assistance from English, Spanish, Chinese, Filipino or Korean speaking staff
- Drop off your ballot
- Receive a replacement ballot
- Register to vote or update registration information through Election Day

Four Vote Centers will be open 28 days before Election Day. Five more Vote Centers will be open 10 days before Election Day. These Vote Centers will be open on weekdays and on the two weekends before Election Day for a minimum of 8 hours per day.

Thirty additional Vote Centers will be open three days before Election Day. All Vote Centers will be open for at least 9 hours daily.

On Election Day, all Vote Centers will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

BE PART OF THE PROCESS!
Statewide General Election, November 6, 2018

- **Oct. 9** First day Vote by Mail ballots are mailed to all registered voters in the County.
- East Palo Alto, Redwood City, San Mateo and South San Francisco 29 day Vote Centers open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Ballot Drop Boxes open throughout the County.

- **Oct. 22** Last day to register to vote; Conditional Voter Registration and provisional voting available at all Vote Centers after this date.

- **Oct. 27** Five additional Vote Centers open for a total of nine Vote Centers open each day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- **Oct. 30** Last day for voters to request a replacement ballot to be mailed.

- **Nov. 3** Thirty additional Vote Centers open for a total of thirty-nine Vote Centers open each day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

- **Nov. 6** Election Day – All Vote Centers open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Ballot Drop Box and Vote Center locations will be provided in the Sample Ballot & Official Voter Information Pamphlet. Information is also available at www.smcvote.org.