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Dear Friends,

The election is here! The last day to vote may be November 3, but ballots are being sent out today -- and the voting is getting underway.

You will start receiving Vote -by- Mail ballots this week. This is an important election, and things like voting by mail, special Ballot Drop Boxes, and Vote Centers instead of local precincts are still new to a lot of people. I have compiled from the website of the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder (who runs the elections), answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about the election process:

#### Q: Will all registered voters be mailed a Vote by Mail ballot?

A: Yes. The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder, who runs the elections, will mail all registered voters a Vote by Mail ballot to ensure voters have a safe and accessible voting option during COVID-19.

Q: When does voting by mail begin?

A: Vote by Mail ballots will be sent out starting Monday, October 5. Check your mailboxes!

### Q: Can I track my vote by mail ballot?

A: Yes. Voters can track their Vote by Mail ballot and receive notifications by subscribing to Where's My Ballot at <a href="http://california.ballottrax.net">http://california.ballottrax.net</a>. You can begin tracking your ballot October 5.

## Q: How do I fill out the Vote by Mail ballot?

A:Instructions are included in the Vote by Mail packet. Use a black or blue ink pen when filling in your selections. You MUST sign and date the envelope. No postage is necessary. More detailed instructions at: <u>https://bit.ly/30P7IU7</u>

## Q: How do I turn in my completed Vote by Mail ballot?

A: You have a lot of choices: by mail, in a special Ballot Drop Box, or at a Vote Center.

## **Return options:**

By Mail: must be postmarked by Election Day – remember no postage is required.
Vote by Mail Drop Box: drop your ballot in any of the 400 Drop Boxes throughout LA County.
Vote Center: all Vote Centers also act as a Vote by Mail Drop Box location.

#### Q: Can I get a ballot in a language other than English?

A: Yes. Call the Los Angeles County Registrar's Multilingual Services Section at (800) 815-2666, option 3 to request election materials in another language. Los Angeles County provides fully translated voting materials in Armenian, Chinese, Cambodian/Khmer, Farsi, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog/Filipino, Vietnamese, Hindi, Japanese, Thai and Russian. Additionally, facsimile ballots are available upon request in Burmese, Telugu, Gujarti, Indonesian, Mongolian and Bengali.

# Q: When should I return my Vote by Mail ballot?

A: As soon as you can! If you return your ballot by mail, it must be postmarked by Election Day, November 3, and received within 17 days after Election Day.

#### Q: Where can I find a list of Vote by Mail Drop Box locations?

A: A list of more than 400 Vote by Mail Drop Box locations are available on <u>http://LAVote.net</u> -- and a list of Drop Boxes near you will be included in the Vote by Mail packet. <u>https://bit.ly/3jJjHKl</u>

# Q: What do I do if I do not receive my ballot?

A: Contact the Registrar's office at (800) 815-2666, or email votebymail@rrcc.lacounty.gov with your full name, date or

birth, and address. You can request a replacement ballot at <u>http://LAVote.net/ReplaceBallot</u> by October 27.

#### Q: How can I be sure my ballot was received and counted?

A: You can track the status of your ballot after you send it in at: https://lavote.net/av\_inquiry

#### Q: Can I still vote in person?

A: Yes. Select Vote Centers will be available beginning Saturday, October 24 and all Vote Centers will be available Friday, October 30. Vote Centers will be open every day beginning October 24 from 10 AM to 7 PM, and from 7 AM to 8 PM on Election Day.

#### Q: Will in-person voting be safe during this pandemic?

A: Yes. All Vote Centers will follow State and County public health and safety guidelines. All voters who vote in-person will be required to wear a facial covering – facial coverings and gloves will be provided if needed. All Election Workers at the Vote Center will wear facial coverings, gloves, and wipe down surfaces and devices on a regular basis. All Vote Centers will practice social distancing. More info at: <u>https://bit.ly/2F3GRMg</u>

## **Q: How can I find a Vote Center?**

A: A list is available on <u>http://LAVote.net</u>. The locator tool will include a "wait time" feature so you know which location has the shortest wait time. Voters will be mailed a list of locations. <u>https://bit.ly/2EYzwxk</u>

# Q: What should I do if I damage or lose my ballot?

A: You can request a replacement Vote by Mail packet prior to Oct 27 by calling (800) 815-2666, option 2, or emailing votebymail@rrcc.lacounty.gov.

#### Q: Do all registered voters receive a sample ballot?

A: Yes. All registered voters will be mailed a Sample Ballot book as early as 40 days before Election Day. Voters can also access their sample ballot online at <u>http://LAVote.net/ISB</u>.

#### Q: Can I register to vote online?

A: Yes. Right here: <u>https://registertovote.ca.gov</u>. Registration must be submitted by Oct 19 to be mailed a Vote by Mail ballot.

# **Q: How do I verify my voter registration status?**

A: You can check your registration status at <u>http://LAVote.net/vrstatus</u>. If you have moved, changed your name, or want to change your political party affiliation you must re-register to vote.

### Q: Can I register by mail, or in-person?

A: Yes, you can get a form at the post office and mail. It should be postmarked by October. 19. Eligible, non-registered voters can register and cast a ballot via Conditional Voter Registration at any Vote Center in LA County.

### Q: Am I eligible to register to vote?

A: To register in CA you must be a US citizen, a CA resident, at least 18 years old on Election Day, not currently in state/federal prison or on parole for a felony conviction, not currently found to be mentally incompetent to vote by a court.

FYI: In addition to the presidential race and all the other offices on the ballot, there are also more than a dozen state, county, local, and school ballot questions. In LA County, the presidential contest is at the very end of the ballot.\_

With all the new voting procedures and voting locations for this election, the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder advises you to make a plan. To do so, visit: <u>https://plan.lavote.net</u>

Warm Regards,

MIKE BONIN Councilmember, 11th District

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