



Policy Type: Board

Category: Administrative Practices

Policy Name: Local Voter Rights Act Policy - Board Policy 3.72

[← Previous Policy Manual Section](#)

[Next Policy Manual Section →](#)

3.72 LOCAL VOTER RIGHTS ACT POLICY (Adopted 3-8-22)

Purpose

The purpose of this Local Voter Rights Act Policy is to declare the County of Santa Clara's unwavering commitment to ensuring that all residents of the county that are eligible to vote are empowered to register to vote and to exercise their right to vote. The County, through this policy, reaffirms its commitment to sustaining and expanding access to the ballot through policies including, but not limited to, language access programs, disability accessibility initiatives, voter education and outreach programs, and other initiatives to provide voters with more flexibility in when, how, and where they vote. Through this policy, the County intends to support making voting a cultural norm throughout the county. This policy further aims to ensure that to the maximum extent possible, and to the extent permitted by law, all departments and agencies in the County participate in voter engagement efforts coordinated by the Registrar of Voters.

Registrar of Voters as Lead Voter Engagement and Outreach Coordinator

The Registrar of Voters, as the County of Santa Clara's elections official, shall serve as the lead department in the County charged with coordinating voter engagement and outreach activities. In that capacity, the Registrar of



Voters will, to the extent permitted by time and resources and consistent with applicable law, maintain voter engagement and outreach materials and plan and execute meetings, forums, and other activities designed to inform community organizations and voters about voter registration, election processes, and specific upcoming elections. The voter engagement and outreach materials may include a range of materials from flyers and posters to more fulsome explanations of voter rights and responsibilities. Such materials will be available in those languages designated for election materials pursuant to state law to the extent appropriate for such materials. The Registrar of Voters will include in its outreach and education plan, to the extent time and resources permit, efforts and materials targeted to specific populations such as new citizens, young voters, justice-involved individuals, homeless and unhoused voters, students, senior citizens, voters with disabilities, voters who need language assistance, and the hospitalized and homebound. As a part of the Local Voter Rights Act voter education and outreach plans coordinated by the Registrar of Voters, the Registrar of Voters will seek to work with other County agencies and departments, particularly those that serve targeted populations, as well as other local jurisdictions, school districts, community organizations, members of the public, and state and federal agencies such as designated voter registration agencies.

Collaboration of County Agencies and Departments Collaborate in Voter Engagement and Outreach

All County agencies and departments shall, to the maximum extent possible, as time and resources permit and consistent with applicable law, become familiar with existing voter engagement materials provided by the Registrar of Voters (including locally created materials as well as those created by state and federal agencies and community organizations) and collaborate with the Registrar of Voters to share materials with members of the public. Priority shall be given to informing residents who



interact with County agencies and departments for social safety net services of voter registration and upcoming elections, including members of the public who are new citizens, young voters, justice-involved individuals, homeless and unhoused voters, students, senior citizens, voters with disabilities, voters who need language assistance, and the hospitalized and homebound. Each direct service County agency and department shall identify at least one point of contact for coordinating with the Registrar of Voters on voter education and outreach activities to identify opportunities for improving the reach and efficacy of the County of Santa Clara's Local Voter Rights Act voter engagement and outreach program.

Related Policies

- None.

Related Forms and Information

- None.

History

Date	Changes Made
3/8/2022	Policy adopted. View legislative file.