



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 27, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner 
County Administrator

Re: **Update on Vote Centers Identification Process and Preparation for Upcoming Elections**

As noted in my last [March 4, 2022](#) update to the Board on Vote Centers, the Elections Department identified 129 Vote Center locations across Pima County that can serve heavily populated urban areas, as well as rural areas. As stated previously, historical polling places located in very rural areas of the County remain as Vote Center locations. Urban area Vote Centers are proposed near large residential areas, heavy traffic areas, and major employers. Other Vote Center location criteria used are the necessity for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility, electrical capacity for equipment, adequate parking, and ease of access and proximity to public transportation. In addition, preference is given to sites with at least 2,000 square feet of indoor space. However, as previously noted, some urban areas did not have locations with sufficient sized facilities, and as a result, additional locations were identified near smaller Vote Centers to mitigate long wait times and access issues. Certain members of the public requested particular locations be included; however, it should be noted that while some of the locations suggested met criteria and were considered by Elections staff, these sites were either not available or declined to serve as a Vote Center.

Public outreach included publicizing information on Vote Centers and voting equipment through all social media venues. This included soliciting public input via the Vote Centers [website](#) and correspondence my office sent to cities, towns, unincorporated communities, political parties and community organizations seeking feedback. These outreach efforts resulted in 90 comments received by the Elections Department during the 31-day comment period, with 71 comments in support of Pima County moving to Vote Centers, 3 comments in opposition and 16 comments regarding Vote Center locations.

The Elections Department has scheduled the review and approval of the Vote Center locations for the May 3, 2022 Board of Supervisors meeting. Per the recent update from the Elections Department for the May 3 Board meeting (Attachment 1), some of the voting equipment has been delivered and notice has been received that the other components have shipped. All needed equipment is expected to be delivered on time as planned. Elections staff is testing the equipment with the Information Technology Department and the vendor, Tenex. Testing of equipment is scheduled to occur between May and June. Additionally, Elections staff is currently developing, in coordination with the Recorder's office, an educational campaign on how to use Vote Centers on Election Day that will be made available to the public prior to the first in-person 2022 elections to be held in August. This information was also provided to the Elections Integrity Commission for their review and discussion at their April 22, 2022 meeting.

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors

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April 27, 2022

Page 2

Attachment 2 contains the proposed 129 Vote Center locations, their addresses, as well as reasons for any location changes made, and map. Please note that 17 location changes were necessary, or made due to either lack of facility availability or public input received. Additionally, Election's list of the public comments received is included.

I continue to recommend the Board approve the 129 Vote Center locations as proposed by the Elections Department.

JKL/anc

Attachments

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Constance Hargrove, Elections Director
Diana Durazo, Special Projects Manager, County Administrator's Office