MORE SECURE AND ACCESSIBLE VOTING IN PIMA COUNTY

A PRESENTATION ABOUT POLLBOOKS & VOTE CENTERS

Presented by:
Pima County Elections Department
and
Pima County Recorder’s Office
Pima County currently uses precinct-based voting on Election Day where voters are required to vote at their assigned polling place in order for their vote to be counted.

During the 2020 primary and general election, Pima County operated 240 polling places.
A vote center model means that any Pima County voter could vote at any of the vote centers open on Election Day.

It is our contention that Pima County would benefit from moving to a vote center model.
ELECTION ADMINISTRATION IN PIMA COUNTY

- In Pima County, the Recorder’s Office administers early voting and voter registration.

- The Recorder’s Office maintains the voter database for all registered voters in Pima County.

- The Elections Department administers Election Day Voting and tabulation.
Vote centers were first established in Larimer County, Colorado in the mid-80s. Since then, vote centers have been used in 18 states for Election Day voting, including Arizona.

Arizona Revised Statute (A.R.S. § 16-411 (B)(4)) allows a County Board of Supervisors to authorize the use of vote centers in place of polling places.
VOTE CENTERS HAVE BEEN IN ARIZONA FOR 10 YEARS

- Yavapai County was the first in Arizona to adopt a Vote Center model in 2012.
- Since then, 10 other counties in Arizona have adopted some form of Vote Center model.
VOTE CENTER MODEL HAS BEEN TESTED IN ARIZONA

- Pima County would be joining 11 other counties in Arizona that already utilize some form of the vote center model.
VOTE CENTERS IN PIMA COUNTY

Pima County has had vote centers since 2002!
Pima County Elections Department has been exploring vote centers since 2014.

All Arizona counties except Pima County use e-pollbooks for checking in voters.
In January of 2021, when Recorder Gabriella Cázares-Kelly took office, the Elections Department invited the Recorder’s Office to begin to collaborate on voting related projects, including re-visiting the use of e-pollbooks and vote centers.
Since February of 2021, the Recorder’s Office and the Elections Department have been meeting several times a month to explore the feasibility of e-pollbooks and a vote center model.
In November of 2021 we performed a pilot, for the small Vail bond override election, administered by the Recorder’s Office.

The technology performed well.

The team then began exploring a sole source contract with Tenex.
Why Vote Centers?
EARLY VOTING IS INCREASING

Voting Trends
Registration vs Early Voting

- Total Registered
- Early Voting Total


TOTAL REGISTERED

- 2008: 40,000
- 2010: 50,000
- 2012: 55,000
- 2014: 50,000
- 2016: 55,000
- 2018: 60,000
- 2020: 65,000

VOTED EARLY

- 2008: 20,000
- 2010: 22,000
- 2012: 25,000
- 2014: 22,000
- 2016: 25,000
- 2018: 30,000
- 2020: 35,000
VOTING AT POLLS IS DECLINING

Voting Trends
Registration vs Voting at Polls

ELECTION YEAR

Total Registered

Election Day Voting
One of the greatest benefits to moving to vote centers is the near elimination of provisional ballots.
PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

- 18,687 provisional ballots were voted – that equates to 28% of the voters at the polls
- 12,220 people were issued an early ballot and then voted at a polling location
- 656 votes were disqualified due to voting at the wrong polling place
- Voter confidence is affected by voting provisional
- It cost Pima County over $100,000 to process those provisional ballots
## VOTE CENTER MEANS FEWER PROVISIONAL BALLOTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Actual provisional ballots</th>
<th>Estimate of Provisionals with Vote Centers</th>
<th>83% Decrease</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>18,687</td>
<td>2,933</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>18,359</td>
<td>2,168</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>21,377</td>
<td>3,010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FEWER PROVISIONAL BALLOTS MEANS

- Processing time decreased
- Savings of $100,800 per election
- Voter Confidence
Another great benefit is a more automated check-in process at the polls.
PROVISIONAL ENVELOPE

SIGNATURE

AUGUST 4, 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT INFORMATION

PRECINCT 006

Ballot Color

Democrat: The Signature Roster will have BLU next to the voter’s name.

Republican: The Signature Roster will have SAL next to the voter’s name.

Libertarian: The Signature Roster will have YEL next to the voter’s name.

Green: The Signature Roster will have GRN next to the voter’s name.

Democratic: These ballots are for Democratic voters who live in the Town of Marana.

Republican: These ballots are for Republican voters who live in the Town of Marana.

Libertarian: These ballots are for Libertarian voters who live in the Town of Marana.

Green: These ballots are for Green voters who live in the Town of Marana.

Brown: These ballots are for voters who are not registered in a recognized party and only want to vote on the Town candidates.

Democratic: These ballots are for Democratic voters who are marked FED, BLU and GRAY on the Signature Roster.

Republican: These ballots are for Republican voters who are marked FED, SAL and GRAY on the Signature Roster.

Libertarian: These ballots are for Libertarian voters who are marked FED, YEL and GRAY on the Signature Roster.

Voting Area: ________

Page of __________
The process for checking in a voter includes:

- Searching a name in a roster
- Filling out the General Voter ID Slip
  - Enter the Register Number
  - Pollworker initials
  - Situation list
  - Ballot stripe color
  - All above information is double checked by a roster judge
- Marking the roster
  - Collecting a signature
  - Manually writing an “E” if the voter was issued an early ballot (either via mail or at an Early Voting Site)
- Creating an entry in a poll list (4 part carbon, needing to press very hard)
  - Writing a person’s name and register number
- Filling out the Provisional Ballot envelope
CHECK-IN WITH E-POLLBOOK

STEP ONE – SELECT FORM OF ID SHOWN

Voter must present a valid form of identification to cast a ballot. Select the form of ID voter presented from this list.

- Bank Statement
- Military ID
- Utility Bill
- Government Check
- Paycheck
- Other Government Document
- St/Fed Govt Photo ID
MANUAL SEARCH
SIGNATURE

Read voter oath and sign

Name: GROUCHO MARX
Birth Year: 1980

Please sign below

[Signature]

HAND BALLOT AFFIDAVIT FORM AND MARK SIGNATURE FIELD WITH "X"
E-Pollbook always sends correct ballot to printer

The voting voucher is verified

The voter is given the correct ballot
BENEFITS OF BALLOT ON DEMAND

No ballots are printed until a voter is checked in.

There are no un-voted ballots at the end of an election.

The right ballot is always printed for the voter.
ISSUES WITH STAFFING

Pollworkers

- Average age is over 60
- 27% over 71 years old
- 70% of Jurisdictions had a hard time recruiting pollworkers in 2018.*
  2020 was even more difficult.

ISSUES WITH STAFFING

Election Staff

- More and more fatigue with outdated systems
- Dealing with disgruntled voters
- Elections workers are feeling unsafe in their jobs

* After a Nightmare Year, Election Officials Are Quitting
The draining work of 2020 has spurred resignations and retirements. In a recent survey, one in three officials said they felt unsafe in the jobs.

* BCJ-129 ElectionOfficials_v7.pdf (brennancenter.org)
STAFFING BENEFITS WITH VOTE CENTERS

Pollworkers
- Recruitment
- Ease of system
- Difficult situations are programmed into the e-pollbook

Election Staff
- Automating procedures
- Easy processes
- Better tools for supporting the voters
- Faster training of processes
**BENEFITS OF AUTOMATED ELECTION DAY REPORTING**

- No need to process addendums
- Up to the minute lists of voters
- Simplified end of day reporting/audit
BENEFITS RECAP

1. Faster, more convenient and less confusing for voters
2. More secure
3. More accurate
4. Time savings for all processes
5. Lessen the burden on election staff who are already experiencing unprecedented levels of job fatigue
6. Election results will be available faster
7. Up to the minute automatic Election Day “tear sheets” (poll lists) will be available for press and political parties.
## CONSIDERATIONS WHEN CHOOSING VOTE CENTER LOCATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical Requirements</th>
<th>Area Accessibility Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facility availability for extended hours</td>
<td>Proximity to communities with historically low vote by mail usage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 square feet</td>
<td>Proximity to population centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 to 80 free regular parking spaces and 5-10 disabled spaces</td>
<td>Proximity to language minority communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy access from the road</td>
<td>Proximity to voters with disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADA compliant for accessibility</td>
<td>Proximity to communities with low rates of household vehicle ownership.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proximity to public transportation</td>
<td>Proximity to low-income communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restrooms available</td>
<td>Proximity to geographically isolated populations, including Native American reservations</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Precinct Central has been certified by National Testing Systems (NTS) and SLICompliance.

Multiple attacks were simulated and Tenex adequately prevented them as well as simulated malicious attacks from a pollworker.

American with Disability Act (ADA) compliant
Server runs on Amazon Web Services (AWS) platform.

Database can only be accessed within Tenex infrastructure

Only accessed with unique encryption communicating between our pollpads and the database.

Database is removed after election.
All Ipad units must be registered with Tenex Software to connect

No external ports or access to applications

All activity is auditable

Ipads have kill function
TENEX BY THE NUMBERS

Other Counties Using Tenex Software

Sacramento, CA
Hudson, NJ
San Diego, CA
Sioux, SD
Woodbury, IA
Jackson, MO
Erie, NY
Cuyahoga, OH
Dallas, TX
Franklin, PA
# Challenges and How We Will Address Them

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in Tradition</td>
<td>• Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Advertising</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Website modelled after Pima County VoteSafe Website of 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Outreach to political parties and community organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connectivity</td>
<td>• Testing in Rural Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Purchasing Additional Equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Contingency Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voter Confidence</td>
<td>• Same Voting Locations in Geographically Remote Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Voters Able to Access Any of the 100 Vote Centers</td>
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</tbody>
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