VOTER’S CHOICE ACT
CA Legislation SB 450

Passed by the State in 2016

California Voter's Choice Act authorizes specified counties, including Orange County, to conduct "Vote Center" elections

In this model, vote-by-mail ballots are sent to all registered voters and polling places are replaced by Vote Centers and vote-by-mail drop-off boxes
Orange County Board Decision

Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to move Orange County elections to the Voter’s Choice Act in February 2019

Voter’s Choice Act Briefing Document

• Information on comparison between polling place model and Vote Center model, including
  • Costs
  • Survey findings; and
  • More!
Voter Trends

Increasing vote-by-mail voters

Decreasing in-person voters

Increasing vote-by-mail voters dropping off ballots in-person
Vote-By-Mail Growth

+6,507% increase

1,109,000
Vote-By-Mail Growth

Year over year growth since 1996

- 2016: 61%
- 2018: 72%
- 2020: 83%
- 2022: 91%
In-Person Ballot Drop Off

Voters’ changing habits mirror benefits of Vote Centers
Every voter in Orange County would receive a vote-by-mail ballot and would have the opportunity to mail it, drop it off at permanent ballot drop-box, or vote in person at any one of 188 vote centers throughout Orange County.
Voting Improvements
How is Voting Changing?

All registered voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot.

Choices mailing ballot, dropping ballot off, voting in-person at Vote Centers and Ballot Drop Offs throughout Orange County.

Hired, professional staff at Vote Centers.
Vote Center Security

- Electronic check-in with real-time updates
- Controlled chain of custody
- Enhanced security measures for vote-by-mail
What Are Vote Centers?

In-person voting at Vote Centers, no more polling places

A voter can vote at any Vote Center

Multiple days and hours:
38 locations open for 11 days (including Election Day)
188 locations open for 4 days (including Election Day)
Vote Center Services

Services at Vote Centers include:

- Register, update address or change your party
- Vote in-person or drop off your ballot
- Get a replacement ballot
- Receive language assistance
- Use accessible ballot marking device
Vote Centers

- Ballot box
- Drive Thru
- Ballot Drop off
- Electronic check-in
- Ballot-on-demand
- Accessible voting
How do Vote Centers Compare?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEATURES</th>
<th>POLLING PLACE</th>
<th>VOTE CENTER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electronic voting units</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop off ballot at any site</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accessible voting</td>
<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ballot on-demand</td>
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<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secure electronic check-in</td>
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<td>Provisional ballots eliminated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trained employees</td>
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<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vote at any location</td>
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<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multiple days to vote</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔️</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reduced costs</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔️</td>
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</table>
What Are Ballot Drop Boxes?

110 Ballot Drop Boxes located throughout Orange County

- Secure, Accessible and Locked

- Conveniently located

- Open for 30 days (including Election Day), 24/7
# Vote Center Voting Calendar

## 30 Days of Voting

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</table>

- **29 days before Election:** drop-off boxes open for vote-by-mail ballots
- **10 days before Election:** Select Vote Centers open for in-person voting with business hours
- **4 days before Election:** All drop-off boxes and Vote Centers are open for voting with extended hours

*County of Orange, California*
Vote Center Selection

What do we consider in picking Vote Center locations?

- Public transportation
- Population centers
- Language communities
- Low income communities
- Low rates of household vehicle ownership
- Traffic patterns
- Vote-by-mail usage
Vote Center Selection

The Registrar of Voters uses voter and population data to choose community based locations for Vote Centers throughout the county.
Vote Center Selection

Public transportation
Vote Center Selection

Public transportation
Vote Center Selection

Public transportation
Population centers
Vote Center Selection

Public transportation
Population centers
Language communities
Vote Center Selection

Public transportation
Population centers
Language communities
Low income communities
Low rates of household vehicle ownership
Vote Center Selection

Public transportation
Population centers
Language communities
Low income communities
Low rates of household vehicle ownership
Traffic patterns
Vote-by-mail usage
Vote Center Selection

With everything considered:

Requirements by law
Location availability
Public feedback

The Registrar of Voters will select Vote Center locations.
Vote Center Selection Public Input

Voters are able to provide suggestions for Vote Centers through the website.

We can go through a few suggestions now.
Community Involvement

Community Election Working Group (CEW)
Quarterly meetings of diverse 25-member community advisory board

CEW LAAC & VAAC Subcommittees
Quarterly meetings of subject matter experts in voting language and disability access

Community Workshops & Public Hearing
26 workshops seeking public input on site selection focused on data-driven criteria

Roadshow to Vote Centers 2020
Traveling monthly update meetings

PUBLIC INPUT
Community Support

Strong community support among a variety of organizations

- OCLWV Voting advocates
- CCAC OC City Clerks Election officials
- NALEO Language advocates
- Disability Rights CA Disabled advocates
- AAAJ Language advocates
- OC Political Parties and Organizations
Vote Center Plan Timeline

The Election Administration Plan (EAP)

- Community workshops over Summer 2019
- Draft EAP 8/15/19
- Public hearing on draft EAP 8/29/19
- Publish EAP after public comment 10/4/19
2019 Vote Center Timeline

Through the end of 2019

- **February 26, 2019**: Board of Supervisors decision to move to Vote Centers
- **June 2019**: Community Workshops
- **July 2019**: Begin to assemble EAP draft plan
- **August 2019**: Public hearing
- **October 2019**: Vote Centers & ballot drop boxes locations established
- **2020**:
Additional Workshops

26 workshops scheduled to take place in June and July 2019

A full list is available:

- Printed flyers at information table
- Online at ocvote.com/votecenter
Additional Workshops
Follow Us on Social Media

Twitter @OCRegistrar
Facebook /OCROV
Instagram /OCRegistrar
More Information Available Online

ocvote.com/votecenter
Vote Center Survey

1. Zip code of residence: ____________

2. Age range:  0  22 and under  1  23 – 38  2  39 – 54  3  55 – 73  4  74+

3. Do you prefer assistance in any other language(s) at a Vote Center?  0  Yes, please move onto the Question 4  1  No, please continue answering below.

4. Please check any other language(s) if you would like to receive assistance at a Vote Center:  0  Spanish  1  Korean  2  Tagalog  3  French (Francophone)  4  Other

5. If you are unable to travel to a parent language assistance service at a Vote Center, please check all other language assistance service(s) you would prefer to use:  0  Having translated written materials  1  Speaking with someone who speaks my language over a phone call  2  Video-conferencing with someone in my language (similar to FaceTime)  3  Using receiving-in-person language assistance

4. Please rate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

- I am willing to travel to a Vote Center that is less than 3 miles away:
  - Strongly agree 0  Agree 1  Neither agree nor disagree 2  Disagree 3  Strongly disagree
- I am willing to travel to a Vote Center that is 3 – 6 miles away:
  - Strongly agree 0  Agree 1  Neither agree nor disagree 2  Disagree 3  Strongly disagree
- I am willing to travel to a Vote Center that is more than 6 miles away:
  - Strongly agree 0  Agree 1  Neither agree nor disagree 2  Disagree 3  Strongly disagree

5. Please rate the importance of the following criteria for selecting Vote Center locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Extremely Important</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Moderately Important</th>
<th>Slightly Important</th>
<th>Least Important</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public transportation</td>
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<td>Restrooms available to the public</td>
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<td>Accessible to voters with disabilities</td>
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<td>Handicap-friendly voting hours</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Please provide any additional feedback you may have (i.e., suggestions on Vote Center locations and services):

________________________________________________________________________________________

7. Please provide your email if you would like to subscribe to our Newsletter for Vote Center updates:

________________________________________________________________________________________
THANK YOU!