



County of Tuolumne Voter's Choice Act (VCA)

Supplemental Plan September 4, 2020

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Introduction

This supplement addresses changes to Tuolumne County's Outreach, Education and Election Operations plans for the November 3, 2020 General Election, in response to changes in the law and the COVID-19 Pandemic.

These changes are mandated by Governor Gavin Newsom's recently issued executive orders and the California Legislature's recently passed bills addressing the same issues as the Governor's orders.

Tuolumne County conducted its first election in compliance with SB 450, the Voters Choice Act for the March 2020 Statewide Primary. This supplement addresses changes being implemented for the November Presidential General Election to ensure all registered voters can vote safely during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

This supplement specifically addresses the following:

- A reduction in Vote Center availability from 11 days to 4 days
- Health and safety practices being implemented at vote centers designed to keep vote center workers and voters safe in accordance with state and county public health standards
- Steps voters can take to ensure they have access to in person accessible voting and can vote safely
- Voter outreach and education required under California Elections Code section 14201 to inform voters of their voting options

Tuolumne County is committed to providing a safe and efficient voting experience for all voters.

Changes to Vote Center Operations and Protocol

Days of Operation

Tuolumne County will be reducing the number of days Vote Centers are open for in person voting from 11 days to 4 days. All 4 vote centers will be open beginning Saturday October 31, 2020 through Election Day. See the vote center listing included as exhibit A for locations and hours of operation.

Health and Safety

Tuolumne County will be implementing specific measures during in person voting at vote centers designed to keep vote center workers and voters safe in accordance with State and County public health standards.

Those measures include:

- All vote center workers will be required to wear protective face coverings and voters will be strongly encouraged to wear them.
- Social Distancing protocols will be implemented inside and outside vote centers.
- Vote center workers will be socially distanced at all time and protective barriers will be in place between vote center workers and voters.
- Voting stations will be spaced six feet apart.
- A vote center workers will be sanitizing frequently touched surfaces and equipment throughout the day.
- Limit the number of voters allowed inside the vote center at a given time based on size of the center and ability to maintain social distance.
- All vote centers will have the following personal protective items available to voters that need them:
 - Face Masks
 - Hand Sanitizer
 - Disposable Gloves
 - Face Shields

How Voters Can Ensure They Vote and Return Their Ballot Safely

Tuolumne County Elections supports our voter's choice on how they would like to vote. Since the implementation of the Voters Choice Act for the March 2020 Presidential Primary, all registered voters receive a ballot in the mail. For the November Presidential General Election, the mailed ballots will enter the mail stream on October 5, 2020.

There are several alternatives for voters to mark and return their ballot safely. To minimize potential exposure to COVID-19, voters can mark the ballot they receive in the mail in the privacy of their own home any time before or on Election Day. When complete they can return their ballot in the postage-paid envelope provided with the ballot using any of the following methods that avoids contact with others.

US Postal Service

Insert the marked ballot in the postage paid return envelope, sign the envelope and deposit it in any US Postal Service mailbox. The ballot will be delivered directly to the Tuolumne County Elections Department.

Drop Boxes

Insert the marked ballot in the return envelope, sign the envelope and deposit it in any of the ballot drop boxes located throughout the county. Most of the boxes have 24-hour access and all envelopes deposited in drop boxes are retrieved by a Tuolumne County Election Officials regularly. A list of locations and available hours of the drop boxes is included as Appendix B.

Vote Center Drop Of

Insert the marked ballot in the return envelope, sign the envelope and deposit it in the receptacle for vote by mail ballots at each vote center. A list of Vote Center locations and hours is included as Appendix A.

For the November 2020 Presidential General Election, Tuolumne County will make the Remote Access Vote by Mail (RAVBM) system available to any voter upon request.

Voter Education and Outreach

The Tuolumne County Elections Department (County) will be informing the public of the adjustments being made to our operations for the November 3, 2020 presidential Election utilizing traditional media, social media, mailings to voters, in the Voter Information Guides.

Additionally, the County will hold remote meetings with minority language and disabled communities to ensure they have an opportunity to provide input and are informed and educated about the adjustments being made to voting for the upcoming election.

Media for Access to Ballots and Public Service Announcements (PSA)

§4005(a)(10)(I)(i)(II), §4005(a)(10)(I)(i)(VIII)

The County will utilize multiple media outlets and PSA's in accessible formats to promote VBM and how to request one in an accessible format. The media outlets and methods we will use include the following:

- Newspaper
- Radio
- Social Media and Department Website
 - Facebook – /TuolumneCountyElections
 - Twitter – @TuolumneCoElect
 - County Website: www.co.tuolumne.ca.us/elections
- Bus Banner
- Street Banners

In order to reach all voters, including those with disabilities, the County will produce PSAs in visual and audio formats to inform voters of the changes being implemented in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the availability of the Election Departments toll-free assistance hotline. The outlets being targeted for the PSAs are radio stations, newspapers, and public transit busses.

Voter Education Workshop for Minority Language Voters

4005(a)(10)(I)(i)(VI), §4005(a)(10)(I)(i)(VI)(ia)

The County will hold a bilingual voter education workshop for Tuolumne County's federal and state currently required language, Spanish.

The workshop will be held virtually and will occur in September, just prior to ballot packets being dropped in the mail, with the goal of reaching as many minority language voters as possible. They will provide an opportunity for the County's language communities to receive information about materials and assistance available in their specified language, in addition to information about the changes being made to ensure a safe voting process. Publicity for the virtual meeting will occur no less than 10 days in advance of the meeting date.

Voter Education Workshop for the Disability Community

§4005(a)(10)(I)(i)(VI), §4005(a)(10)(I)(i)(VI)(ib)

The County will hold virtual voter education workshops to educate voters with disabilities about changes being implemented to ensure a safe voting process for voters with disabilities. The workshop will be held virtually in September, just prior to ballot packets being dropped in the mail with the goal of reaching as many disabled voters as possible. The workshop will include the measures being taken as a result of COVID-19 pandemic as well as the options to vote such as RAVBM, use of drop-off locations and vote by mail. Information about the workshop will be announced at least 10 days in advance of the meeting date.

Appendix A

Vote Center Locations and Hours

All voters can vote in person at a Vote Center. All voters can drop-off their vote-by-mail ballot at any vote center or ballot drop-off location.

All vote centers will be open 7 am to 8 pm Election Day, November 3rd.

Voter Centers			
Name	Address	Opening Day	Hours
Tuolumne County Elections Department	2 South Green Street Sonora, CA 95370	Weekdays starting October 5 th	8 am – 5 pm
		Weekend - October 31 st and September 1 st	8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Tuolumne Library	18636 Main St. Tuolumne, Ca 95383	October 31 st	8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Wilson Realty Building	18125 Main Street Jamestown, Ca 95327	October 31 st	8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Groveland Library	18990 Hwy 120 Groveland, Ca 95321	October 31 st	8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Twain Harte Bible Church	18995 Twain Harte Drive Twain Harte, CA 95383	October 31 st	8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Appendix B

Drop Box Locations and Hours

All voters can drop-off their vote-by-mail ballot at any ballot drop-off location.

Ballot drop-off location boxes will be open on October 5th, and close at 8pm Election Day, November 3rd.

Ballot Drop-off Locations			
Name	Address	Opening Day	Hours
Tuolumne County Elections Department	2 South Green Street Sonora, CA 95370	October 5 th	Weekdays, 8 am – 5 pm
Sonora Library	480 Greenley Rd Sonora, CA 95370	October 5 th	24 hours
Junction Shopping Center	13775 Mono Way Sonora, CA 95370	October 5 th	24 hours
Mi-Wuk Library/MAHA	24411 Sierra Park Rd Mi-Wuk Village, CA 95346	October 5 th	24 hours
Columbia Elementary	22540 Parrotts Ferry Rd Columbia, CA 95310	October 5 th	24 hours
Groveland Library	18990 Main St, Groveland, CA 95321	October 5 th	24 hours
Twain Harte Library	18701 Tiffeni Dr. Twain Harte, CA 95383	October 5 th	24 hours
Willow Springs Clubhouse	20522 Willow Springs Dr. Soulsbyville, CA 95372	October 5 th	24 hours
Rocca Park, Jamestown	18218 Main St. Jamestown, CA 95327	October 5 th	24 hours