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Frequently Asked Questions by Voters South El Monte General Municipal Election

Where can I register to vote?

- Voter Registration Cards are available in the City Clerk's office, Post Office, Library, and Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office.

How can I confirm if am registered to vote?

- You can look up your voter registration status on the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters website www.lavote.net. If you don't have access to the internet you can call (800) 815-2666 or (626) 579-6540.
- If you cannot locate your voter registration information and you know you registered to vote you can still vote by provisional ballot at your assigned polling place. If you are an eligible registered voter it WILL be counted.

I'm registered, but I don't know where my polling place is located?

- To find your local polling place go to www.lavote.net. Proceed to the home page, click on "Voting and Elections", click on "Locate Your Polling Place" and search using your house number and street name.

I'm registered, but I have not received my sample ballot. What should I do?

- If you recently registered to vote, an Official Sample Ballot may not make it out to you in time. You can view and download your Official Sample Ballot and also find your polling place online at www.lavote.net. If you do not have access to the internet, call (800) 815-2666 or (626) 579-6540 for assistance.

- Copies of the Official Sample Ballot are also available for viewing at your polling place.
- Did you subscribe to e-Sample Ballot? Check your email, you may have signed up to receive an electronic sample ballot? To learn more about receiving your Sample Ballot via your email, visit www.lavote.net.

What time do the polls open/close?

- The polls open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m. As long as you are in line by 8:00 p.m. you will be able to vote. If your polling place is not open at 7:00 a.m., please call (800) 815-2666 or (626) 579-6540.

Why did my polling place change this election?

- Every voter is assigned to a polling place every election; depending on what contests are on the ballot (federal, state, local). Sometimes polling place locations that were used in past elections are not available for this election. Polling places are based on availability.
- Always check your Sample Ballot, go to www.lavote.net, or call (800) 815-2666 or (626) 579-6540 to verify the location of your polling place before Election Day.

How late can I mail my Vote by Mail Ballot? I forgot to mail back my Vote by Mail ballot.

- You should not mail back your voted ballot later than the Thursday prior to the Election Day.
- You can deliver your voted ballot to any polling place location in South El Monte on Election Day. Or, you can deliver your Vote by Mail ballot any time before 8:00 p.m. on Election Day to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office at 12400 Imperial Highway, Norwalk CA 90650.
- To find a polling place near you on Election Day visit www.lavote.net or call (800) 815-2666 or (626) 579-6540.

There is an emergency which will take me out of town on Election Day and the deadline to request a vote by mail ballot has passed. What should I do?

- Call the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office at (800) 815-2666. To obtain an Emergency Vote by Mail ballot, the voter or the voter's authorized representative must provide a written request to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk. Special delivery via fax or email can be arranged, if necessary. These ballots cannot be issued by mail.

- You can also vote early by going to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office at 12400 Imperial Hwy., Norwalk, CA 90650. The office is from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday and from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday before Election Day. The office is also open for voting on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

I haven't received (or "I lost") my vote by mail ballot. What should I do?

- Check the status of your vote by mail ballot online at www.lavote.net. Click on the Vote by Mail link and search using your last name, date of birth and house number.
- If you did not receive your ballot or, you misplaced, damaged it, call the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's at (800) 815-2666 and ask to speak with the Vote by Mail section. A new ballot can be reissued.
- If there is not enough time to mail you another ballot you can still vote on Election Day. If you do not have your Vote by Mail ballot, you can vote a Provisional ballot. If you are an eligible registered voter it WILL be counted.

What is a Provisional Ballot? Are provisional ballots counted like standard ballots?

- A provisional ballot is an official ballot and counted the same as a regular ballot. The only difference is before it is counted the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office must confirm that you are an eligible voter.
- Provisional voting ensures no properly registered voter is denied his/her right to cast a ballot simply because their name did not appear on the voter roster, they don't have ID, or they are at the wrong precinct. It also allows elections officials to ensure no voter mistakenly votes twice in a given election.
- You must be registered to vote in Los Angeles County in order to cast a Provisional ballot. Nearly 90% of provisional ballots are valid and counted.

Do I have to vote on every contest on the ballot or can I skip some contests?

- No, you do not have to vote on every contest. You can vote for the contests that interest you and skip the others. All valid votes that you mark on your ballot will be counted. Be sure to check your ballot for clear marks before you hand it to the Pollworker or mail it back to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office.

Will my vote by mail ballot be counted if it is postmarked on Election Day?

- No, vote by mail ballots must be received by the registrar by the time the polls close.

- Vote by mail ballots may be hand delivered to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office at 12400 Imperial Hwy., Norwalk, CA 90650 or dropped off at any polling place in the City of South El Monte before the polls close at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

I moved and I didn't re-register with my new address. Can I still vote?

- Yes, you can still vote by going to the assigned polling place for your old address. To find your local polling place go to www.lavote.net. Proceed to the home page, click on "Voting and Elections", click on "Locate Your Polling Place" and search using your house number and street name.
- If you previously resided outside of Los Angeles County you can vote by going to the assigned polling place for your old address or by requesting a vote by mail ballot from the Registrar's office of the County you previously resided in. You will not be able to vote in Los Angeles County.

It's 7:00 a.m. and my polling place is not open. What should I do?

- Please report the issue to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office at (800) 815-2666 or City Clerk's office at (626) 579-6540.

Do I need to show ID to vote?

- No, unless you are a first time voter in a Federal Election or if you registered by mail and did not include a driver's license number or the last four digits of your social security number.

Are people allowed to distribute election related materials at the polling place?

- Electioneering is not allowed at the polling place. Any one distributing materials, other than an official poll worker, must be at least 100 feet from the entrance to the polling place.

How do I get election results?

- The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office begins posting results online www.lavote.net shortly after the polls close on Election Day, there will be an Election Results splash page that links to the results.

How do I report Election Day problems?

- Report the issue to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk's office at (800) 815-2666 or City Clerk's Office at (626) 579-6540.