



Voting Modernization Board

Modernizing Voting Equipment in California

John A. Pérez, Chair
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DATE: October 23, 2002

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters (02313)

FROM: _____
Jana M. Lean
Staff Consultant, VMB

RE: Accessibility Plan Guidelines

At the request of the Voting Modernization Board, we are providing the counties guidelines for your accessibility plan to consider when completing your Project Documentation Package.

For the counties that have not applied for Proposition 41 funding, please disregard this notice.

The guidelines will be available on the Prop 41 website at <http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/vma/home.html>.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly at 916/653-5144 or the executive assistant to the Board, Debbie Parsons at 916/653/1424. Thank you.

Proposition 41 – Voting Modernization Board Accessibility Plan of Voting System Guidelines

While compiling your county's Accessibility Plan for your new voting system, you may want to consider the following guidelines to assist you with creating a complete plan.

1. General Provisions

- A. Does your county have an active Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee? If so, has this committee reviewed the proposed voting system?
- B. Does your county provide audiotapes of state and local measures?
- C. Are polling places in your county accessible under Secretary of State guidelines to persons with mobility impairments? (If a voter cannot get to the voting machine, it does not innately matter if the machine has features of accessibility).
- D. Does your county have an outreach program to the disabled community?
- E. Is there at least one touch screen voting machine available at each polling place in your county?
- F. Does your county provide a touch screen machine for early voting purposes?

2. Voting System Specific

- A. Is the machine/booth accessible to wheelchairs?
- B. Is the machine able to provide a meaningful curbside voting option (i.e., is the machine fully portable, or if it is a touch screen can it operate on battery power)?
- C. Is your new voting system a touch screen system? If so, does the machines have the following capabilities:
 - Does the machine have a tilt-screen capability to adjust the screen angle?
 - Does the machine have large font capability for low vision voters?
 - Is there at least one machine in the polling place that includes an audio version, with blank screen, to permit secret and private voting?
 - Is a voter able to cast a ballot with a mouth stick?
- D. Does your voting system contract provide for automatic accessibility upgrades?