



Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

Man

April 6, 2020

The Honorable Alicia Weintraub
Mayor of Calabasas
100 Civic Center Way
Calabasas, California 91302

Dear Mayor Weintraub:

Thank you for your letter dated March 5, 2020. I acknowledge, respect and share your concern regarding difficulties that some Los Angeles County voters, more specifically City of Calabasas voters, faced in the March 3, 2020, California Presidential Primary Election.

I take your concerns very seriously and my office is committed to addressing them in a proactive manner that improves the voting experience and safeguards the electoral process for all voters. The significance of these issues on public trust and confidence in the elections process and voter participation is of great concern. I sincerely regret the impact on your community and all affected voters.

As an update regarding Measure FD (Ballot Group #152) a total of 93 vote by mail (VBM) voters were affected and provided a supplemental ballot. Of the 93 affected voters, 10 voters opted to vote in person at a vote center and 34 voters returned their VBM ballots. Of these 34 returned ballots, only 9 were returned without the supplemental ballot. In summary, per the Statement of Votes Cast, the City of Calabasas had a total of 7,720 votes cast on Measure FD, of which 4,294 votes were cast through VBM ballots.

In response to other concerns noted, immediately following Election Day, I leveraged an existing engagement with Gartner Consulting to assist in reviewing the problems and determining the corrective actions that will address the barriers faced by voters, such as ensuring sufficient deployment of resources at Vote Centers and increased training for vote center personnel.

Additionally, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors passed a motion on March 10, 2020, directing the County's Chief Executive Officer to retain an independent consultant to review the challenges voters experienced in the days leading up to the election, and on Election Day, and to review and validate corrective action plans developed by my

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Department. As part of that process, we will engage with voters, community election workers and stakeholders to provide a comprehensive and transparent response. Your letter will be shared with the independent consultant and the issues you identified will be addressed.

As we move quickly to refine and improve our election processes – including how to deal with the coronavirus public health situation – it remains important to build on the outreach and community partnerships established ahead of the March 3, 2020 election in developing the Voting Solutions for All People plan.

Its initial implementation demonstrated that voters wanted and valued features such as mobile and flexible vote centers that provide access to demographics and communities often underrepresented in voter participation; flexibility in day, time and location for voting; increased options for accessibility that enable voters with disabilities to vote independently; and enhanced language access services that allow limited-English-speaking voters to customize audio and language-specific options on ballot marking devices.

As we look into challenges voters faced on Election Day and prepare corrective measures, we must address these issues head-on and ensure that the systems designed to make the voting process better are not cut short by a lack of attention to and planning for staffing resources, support protocols and facility capacity. Regarding your request to be involved in the review of the City of Calabasas ballots and sample ballots, we will work with your City Clerk or designated staff and welcome their participation in the review process.

I look forward to sharing our action plan with you upon its completion. In the meantime, my Manager of Government and Legislative Affairs, Aaron Nevarez, along with his team, are available to assist you and your staff. Aaron can be reached at (562) 462-2800 or by email at ANevarez@rrcc.lacounty.gov.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly should you have further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

c: All members, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors