

July 16, 2018

From: Chris Jerdonek

RE: June 5, 2018 Election Observations

Below are some comments and observations about the June 5, 2018 election, organized by category. I was an inspector at my home precinct.

I. Voter Information Pamphlet

Elections Commission not mentioned. At the last Elections Commission meeting, Mr. Steven Hill (one of the authors of the Charter amendment that established the Elections Commission) made a remark during his public comment to the effect that “most members of the public don't even know that the Elections Commission exists.” This prompted me to look back at some old Voter Information Pamphlets and to attach excerpts of them to this document, along with the VIP for the June 2018 election:

Election	Section about Commission?
November 2002	yes
December 2002	yes
November 2003	yes
March 2004	yes
November 2004	no
...	no?
June 2018	no

The “yes” / “no” in the right column above indicates whether the VIP for that election included a section letting the public know about the Elections Commission. It seems that VIP's included information about the Commission up until November 2004, at which point it stopped. The excerpted pages I've attached show what these pages looked like for each listed case.

II. Vote-by-mail ballots

1. **VBM voters receiving more than one ballot.** In certain cases, VBM voters receive more than one VBM ballot. An example is a VBM voter that updates their address after receiving their first ballot (the case that was discussed at our May Commission meeting). In these cases, it could help to include a note explaining that the Department knows the voter received two ballots, and telling the voter what they should do with their multiple ballots (e.g. which to cast, whether it matters, and what to do with the extras). Currently,

receiving more than one ballot can be seen as a mistake on the part of the Department of Elections, and voters might not know which ballot to cast and what to do with the other one.

III. Poll Worker Manual

1. **Highlighting changes / new procedures.** In the Poll Worker Manual, it seems like it would be good to include a section listing the new practices since the last election. This will help draw attention to new practices, so that experienced poll workers will be less likely to overlook them. This year, new practices included at least — (1) the “Not Listed in the Roster” sign, (2) the “Ballot Information” sign on the orange cone, and (3) modifications to the poll-worker script to instruct voters.
2. **“Set-Up Election Table” Diagram.** On page 20, there is a diagram of how the election table should be set up. However, the picture is “backwards” if the polling place requires voters to come in from the direction opposite that assumed by the picture (e.g. “from the left” instead of “from the right”). This requires the clerks to mentally imagine a “mirror image” of the picture when setting up the table, which I noticed was confusing for them. It would help if the manual could include two versions of the diagram — one for each direction — along with a picture of an arrow showing which voter direction the picture should be used for. This way clerks could choose which of the two diagrams they should use as opposed to setting it up the wrong way and having to fix it (or maybe never noticing the issue in the first place and/or being confused as to why the flow of voters is not working).

In addition, I also think it would be easier if the picture was reversed so that it would match what the poll-worker would see when sitting behind the table, because that is the perspective of the poll-worker throughout the day, and it will be easier to double-check that the table matches the picture throughout the day, as that is where they will be sitting. Currently, the picture shows the set-up of the table from the perspective of the voter.

3. **Ranked choice voting – glossary.** “Ranked choice voting” isn't in the glossary, even though it's an important concept that's new to many pollworkers (e.g. high-school pollworkers).
4. **Readable copy of “Not Listed in the Roster” Sign.** It would help for understanding if a copy of the “Not Listed in the Roster” Sign could be included in the poll-worker manual itself. Currently, there is only a tiny picture of the sign (on page 45) that isn't really readable.
5. **Ranked choice voting – Ballot Clerk script.** The Ballot Clerk's script begins with the words, “The ballot contains 4 cards and includes a ranked-choice contest; please check both sides of the cards for contests.” This is great to bring to voters' attentions. However, in my precinct (in District 8), this wasn't quite correct as there were two ranked-choice contests on the ballot.

IV. Pollworker Training

1. **Ranked choice voting – video.** It was great that a short introductory video on ranked-choice voting was played at the poll-worker training (about 1 min. 30 seconds long). However, it would help if the video also mentioned why San Francisco uses ranked-choice voting (namely since San Francisco voters passed a Charter amendment in 2002 called Proposition A).

V. Polling place

1. **Large polling place / windy conditions.** Every election the polling place I've worked at has had an issue with the wind constantly blowing over the large plastic polling place sign. It would be good if there was a convenient way to keep the sign stable. In the past, there hasn't been an easy way to tape the sign to something because it's outside, as it is normally leaning up against a raised landscaping area. Also, tape doesn't adhere well to concrete. Something heavy would help, and a way to secure the sign to it. It was hard to find something in the homeowner's garage that was workable.
2. **Porta Potty Locked.** At my polling place, the Porta Potty was locked with a plastic tie, and there wasn't anything to break the tie with. I had to bother the homeowner for a utility knife.
3. **100 ft. rope missing.** There were a number of campaigners at my precinct who tried to stay at the edge of the 100 foot boundary, and I had to keep reminding them to keep their distance. It would have been good to have the 100 foot rope that was available in previous elections. I couldn't find it among my supplies. My FED also couldn't seem to find one. Thus, I had to estimate by pacing, but it would have been better to have a more accurate way of measuring.
4. **Facsimile ballot language not easy to know.** The facsimile ballots don't say on the cover what language they are written in. For people that don't know the language under question, this makes it hard to tell if the ballot is e.g. Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean, or Filipino.

VI. Election Procedures

1. **Undervoting and ballot secrecy.** One voter was concerned by the fact that the Insight machine's "Undervoted" message seems to sacrifice the secrecy of their ballot. When the machine delivers that message, the poll worker then knows how the voter voted. It wasn't easy to provide an answer to the voter as to how they could cast a ballot with an undervote without losing the secrecy of their ballot. Even the voter hotline didn't have a good answer on hand.
2. **Electioneering vs. knocking on doors.** One person seemed to be doing electioneering by knocking on doors within 100 feet and talking to voters (apparently as part of a campaign's get-out-the-vote effort). I told the person they weren't allowed to be campaigning within 100 feet, but the person said there was an exception for knocking on the doors of known supporters. The Election Center confirmed this exception, but it would have been good to know this in advance.

VII. Election Results

Time to Determine RCV Winner. The media quoted Director Arntz as saying it could take five days before RCV results are known. For example, from a May 30 SF Weekly story--

“Department of Elections Director John Arntz told KQED it could be as many as five days after the June 5 primary before a winner of the ranked-choice voting contest is known.”

However, with the way this is phrased, it makes it seem like RCV takes 5 days to process, when in fact round-by-round results are known on election night. I think it would be better to tell the media that 1) RCV contests take the same amount of time as other contests to know the results for, and 2) whether it takes more days to know the winner depends on how close the race is and not on whether it is RCV.

In the end, saying 5 days wasn't right because the Mayor's race was so close. Even after five days the winner wasn't known. In contrast, the winner of the D8 Supervisor race was clear on election night.

A phrasing like I suggested above would encompass any amount of time from the winner being known on election night to taking up until the end of counting all ballots. Alternatively, the Director could give the media an idea of what percentage of ballots are expected to be tabulated after 5 days, etc, and let the media decide for themselves how close to knowing it will be.

VIII. RCV Ballot Instructions

In February 2015, I submitted a memo to the Director and to the Elections Commission suggesting that the RCV ballot instructions be improved. The reason is that some voters do not understand why ranking more candidates can help them. That memo is still valid today because the ballot instructions haven't changed since then. Perhaps when the Department gets new equipment would be a good time to revisit the language for the instructions and educational materials.

Currently, San Francisco's RCV materials seem limited mainly to the mechanics of filling out a ballot. However, this doesn't necessarily help voters understand how the rankings are used.

Consequently, even after reading some of these materials, voters could come to the incorrect conclusion for example that RCV is a “weighted” or “points-based” system (e.g. three points for first choice, two points for second choice, and one point for third choice).

Misunderstandings like this can cause voters to—

1. Leave the second or third choice blank (e.g. bullet voting), incorrectly thinking that this is better for their first choice, or
2. Mark the same candidate for all three choices, incorrectly thinking this will help their first choice even more.

In the June election, there were still many voters doing one of the two things above. Behaviors like the above, while good-intentioned, may be counter-productive to the voter. The voter may lose out on the chance to have a say in a later round of the RCV tabulation. Improved instructions or understanding could help voters cast a more effective vote.

Here is possible wording that could help voters understand better how to cast a more effective vote:

Ranking a second choice cannot hurt your first choice, and ranking a third choice cannot hurt your first two choices. Your ballot will count towards a later choice only if your earlier choices are eliminated.

And possibly also—

You maximize the power of your vote by using all three of your rankings.

The City of Minneapolis, MN uses wording like the above in its RCV brochure. Minneapolis started using RCV in November 2009. The “How to Vote with a Ranked Choice Ballot” section of their brochure reads [A4]:

1. Select your preferred candidate and fill in the oval next to the candidate’s name in the 1st choice column.
2. Indicate your 2nd choice. Your ballot will count for this candidate if (and only if) your 1st choice loses. It doesn't help your 1st choice candidate to rank him or her more than once or to not rank anyone else.
3. Rank a 3rd choice if you have one. Your ballot will count for this candidate only if your 1st and 2nd choices lose.

At least one piece of San Francisco RCV literature has language similar to this. However, the piece appears to be older (possibly predating San Francisco's first RCV election in November 2004) and does not seem to accompany the main election materials. This is one of the RCV Trifold brochures. Under the “Marking the Ranked-Choice Ballot” section, it says—

Keep In Mind: Your second choice will be counted only if your first-choice candidate has been eliminated. Your third choice will be counted only if both your first-choice and second-choice candidates have been eliminated.

If you select the same candidate in more than one column, your vote for that candidate will count ONLY ONCE.

The Ranked Choice Voting Resource Center is another resource that could have suggestions for better language.

Department Of Elections



One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place,
Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102-4634
Phone: (415) 554-4375
Fax: (415) 554-7344

September 12, 2002

Dear Voter:

The Department of Elections encourages all voters to review the location of their polling places. Even more than usual, voters may discover that their voting location changed for this Consolidated General Election. The Department needed to adjust the boundary lines for a large number of precincts in response to adjustments made to the supervisory district lines.

To confirm your voting location, look on the back page of this voter guide. You will find the address and precinct number for your polling place. If you have any questions, you can call the Department of Elections' voter information phone bank at 554-4375 and one of our staff will tell you the location of your polling place.

Early voting is available at the Department of Elections in the basement of City Hall beginning Monday, October 7th from 8:00am-5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Early voting is also available on the following weekends: October 26th & 27th and November 2nd & 3rd, from 10:00am-4:00pm.

Respectfully,

John Arntz
Acting Director Department of Elections

Elections Commission

Michael Mendelson, President
appointed by the District Attorney
Alix Rosenthal, Vice President
appointed by the Public Defender
Robert Kenealey
appointed by the City Attorney
Thomas Schulz
appointed by the Board of Supervisors
Richard Shadoian
appointed by the Board of Education
Brenda Stowers
appointed by the City Treasurer

The **Elections Commission** assumes policy-making authority and oversight of all public federal, state, district and municipal elections in the City and County of San Francisco. The Commission is charged with setting general policies for the Department of Elections and is responsible for the proper administration of the Department subject to budgetary and fiscal Charter provisions.

Ballot Simplification Committee

John M. Odell, Committee Chair
National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences,
Northern California Chapter
Allyson Washburn
League of Women Voters
Betty J. Packard
Northern California Broadcasters Association
Diane Ollis
Northern California Newspaper Guild
Julia Moll, Ex officio
Deputy City Attorney
John Arntz, Ex officio
Interim Director of Elections

The **Ballot Simplification Committee** prepares summaries (“The Way It Is Now,” “The Proposal,” “A Yes Vote Means,” and “A No Vote Means”) of measures placed on the ballot each election. The Committee also prepares a table of contents, an index of candidates and measures, a brief explanation of the ballot pamphlet, definitions of terms in the pamphlet, a summary of voters’ basic rights, and a statement as to the term, compensation and duties of each local elective office.



PURPOSE OF THE VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET

This Voter Information Pamphlet provides voters with information about the November 5, 2002 Consolidated General Election. The pamphlet includes:

	Page
1. A Sample Ballot (a copy of the ballot you will see at your polling place or when you vote by mail)	P-1
2. The location of your polling place	(see the label on the Back Cover)
3. An application for an Absentee (Vote-by-Mail) Ballot and for permanent absentee voter status	(Back Cover)
4. Your rights as a voter	4
5. Information for disabled voters	5
6. Definitions of the words you need to know	P-23
7. Information about each local ballot measure , including a summary, how the proposition got on the ballot, the Controller’s Statement, arguments for and against the measure, and the legal text	begins on P-26



Mail Delivery of Voter Pamphlets

The San Francisco Voter Information Pamphlet and Sample Ballot is scheduled to be mailed at the beginning of October. If you registered to vote on or before September 3, 2002 you should receive your Voter Information Pamphlet by the middle of October.

If you registered to vote or changed your registration after September 3, and before October 8, your Voter Information Pamphlet will be mailed after October 15. If you do not receive your Voter Information Pamphlet in a timely manner, please notify your local Post Office.



PURPOSE OF THE VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET

This Voter Information Pamphlet provides voters with information about the December 10, 2002 Municipal Run-Off Election. The pamphlet includes:

1. A **Sample Ballot** (a copy of the ballot you will see at your polling place or when you vote by mail)
2. The location of **your polling place** (see the label on the Back Cover)
3. An application for an **Absentee (Vote-by-Mail) Ballot** and for **permanent absentee voter status** (Back Cover)
4. **Your rights as a voter** (next page)
5. Information for **disabled voters** (next page)

Elections Commission

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appointed by the Public Defender
Robert Kenealeay
appointed by the City Attorney
Thomas Schulz
appointed by the Board of Supervisors
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John Arntz, *Ex officio*
Interim Director of Elections



PROPÓSITO DEL FOLLETO DE INFORMACIÓN PARA LOS ELECTORES

Este folleto de información para los Electores proporciona información a los electores acerca de la Elecciones Municipales de Desempate del 10 de diciembre de 2002. El folleto incluye:

1. Una balota de muestra (una copia de la balota que verá en su lugar de votación (consulte la etiqueta en la cubierta trasera))
2. La ubicación de **su lugar de votación** (ver etiqueta en la cubierta trasera)
3. Una solicitud para recibir una **balota como elector ausente (voto por correo)** y para lograr el **estado de elector ausente permanente** (cubierta trasera)
4. **Sus derechos como elector** (página siguiente)
5. Información para **electores incapacitados** (página siguiente)

Comisión de Elecciones

Michael Mendelson, Presidente
nombrado por el Fiscal del Distrito
Alix Rosenthal, Vicepresidente
nombrado por el Defensor Público
Robert Kenealeay
nombrado por el Abogado de la Ciudad
Thomas Schulz
nombrado por el Consejo de Supervisores
Richard Shadoian
nombrado por el Consejo de Educación
Brenda Stowers
nombrado por el Tesorero de la Ciudad

Comité para la Simplificación de la Balota

John M. Odell, Presidente del Comité
Academia Nacional de Artes y Ciencias Televisivas
División del Norte de California
Allyson Washburn
La Liga de Mujeres Votantes
Betty J. Packard
Asociación de Radiodifusión del Norte de California
Diane Ollis
Gremio de Periodismo del Norte de California
Julia Moll, *Ex officio*
Asistente del Abogado de la Ciudad
John Arntz, *Ex officio*
Director Interino de Elecciones



選民資料手冊的目的

這本選民資料手冊為選民提供2002年12月10日市複選資料。手冊內容包括：

1. 選票樣本 (即你在投票站或當你郵寄投票時看到的選票樣票)
2. 你的投票站的地點... (請看封底標籤)
3. 缺席 (郵寄投票) 選票申請表和永久缺席選民身份申請表... (封底)
4. 選民的權利.....下頁
5. 殘障選民資料.....下頁

選務委員會

Michael Mendelson, 主席
由地方檢察官委任
Alix Rosenthal, 副主席
由公共辯護律師委任
Robert Kenealeay
由市府律師委任
Thomas Schulz
由市參議會委任
Richard Shadoian
由教育委員會委任
Brenda Stowers
由市司庫委任

選票簡釋委員會

John M. Odell, 委員會主席
國家電視藝術科學學院, 北加州分院
Allyson Washburn
婦女選民協會
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北加州廣播員協會
Diane Ollis
北加州報紙業工會
Julia Moll, 當然成員
助理市府律師
John Arntz, 當然成員
選務處代理處長

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS
City and County of San Francisco



JOHN ARNTZ
Director

September 12, 2003

Dear San Francisco Voter:

Your Voter Information Pamphlet contains the following helpful information for the November 4 Consolidated Municipal Election including:

- The address for your polling place;
- An official sample ballot, which includes all of the candidates running for Mayor, District Attorney and Sheriff, and all 14 ballot measures;
- The complete text of the 14 ballot measures, along with arguments in favor of and against each measure;
- An absentee ballot application.

The Department of Elections encourages you to review the back cover of this pamphlet for the correct address of your polling place, as some polling place locations have changed since the last election. The address of your polling place can also be found on the Department's website at www.sfgov.org/elections, under "polling place lookup." If you have any questions about the location of your polling place, you can call the Department's voter information phone bank at (415) 554-4375.

The Department of Elections would also like to remind all voters about two early voting options for the November 4 Election. First, any voter may request an absentee ballot by filling out the absentee ballot application on the back cover of this pamphlet. The completed application must be received by the Department no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 28. Second, beginning October 6, any voter may vote early at City Hall, outside the Department of Elections, Room 48. The hours for early voting are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Weekend early voting will be available October 25-26 and November 1-2, from 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully,

John Arntz
Director of Elections

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place – Room 48, San Francisco, CA 94102-4634
Voice (415) 554-4375; Fax (415) 554-7344; Absentee Fax (415) 554-4372; TDD (415) 554-4386



Elections Commission

Alix Rosenthal, President
appointed by the Public Defender
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Robert Kenealey
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Phyl Smith
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Julia Moll, Ex officio
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The Ballot Simplification Committee prepares summaries ("The Way It Is Now," "The Proposal," "A Yes Vote Means," and "A No Vote Means") of measures placed on the ballot each election. The Committee also prepares a table of contents, an index of candidates and measures, a brief explanation of the ballot pamphlet, definitions of terms in the pamphlet, a summary of voters' basic rights, and a statement as to the term, compensation and duties of each local elective office.



PURPOSE OF THE VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET

This Voter Information Pamphlet provides voters with information about the November 4, 2003 Consolidated Municipal Election. The pamphlet includes:

	Page
1. A Sample Ballot (a copy of the ballot you will see at your polling place or when you vote by mail)	17
2. The location of your polling place	(see the label on the Back Cover)
3. An application for an Absentee (Vote-by-Mail) Ballot and for permanent absentee voter status	(Back Cover)
4. Your rights as a voter	4
5. Information for disabled voters	5
6. Definitions of the words you need to know	28
7. Information about each local ballot measure, including a summary, how the proposition got on the ballot, the Controller's Statement, arguments for and against the measure, and the legal text	begins on 29



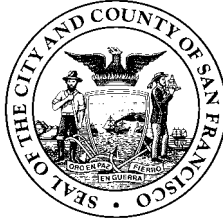
Mail Delivery of Voter Pamphlets

The San Francisco Voter Information Pamphlet and Sample Ballot is scheduled to be mailed at the beginning of October. If you registered to vote on or before September 2, 2003 you should receive your Voter Information Pamphlet by the middle of October.

If you registered to vote or changed your registration after September 2, and before October 7, your Voter Information Pamphlet will be mailed after October 14. If you do not receive your Voter Information Pamphlet in a timely manner, please notify your local Post Office.



DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS
City and County of San Francisco



JOHN ARNTZ
Director

January 9, 2004

Dear San Francisco Voter:

For the March 2, 2004 Consolidated Primary Election, the Department of Elections is providing all voters with a voter information pamphlet that contains sample ballots for each of the qualified political parties: American Independent, Democrat, Green, Libertarian, Natural Law, Peace and Freedom, and Republican. In the past, each voter received a pamphlet that contained the sample ballot of the voter's political party only.

If, when you registered to vote, you stated an affiliation with a political party, you must vote the ballot of that party. If, instead, you declined to state a party affiliation, you may vote the ballot of any of the three political parties -- American Independent, Democrat, and Republican -- that allow unaffiliated voters to participate in their primaries. **Please check the back cover of this voter information pamphlet to confirm your party registration.**

If you declined to state a party affiliation and you wish to request an absentee ballot, you can indicate which party ballot you would like to receive on the absentee ballot application located on the back cover of this voter information pamphlet. If you are a voter who declined to state a party affiliation and you intend to vote at the polls on election day, you can indicate your party choice to a poll worker.

All voters, regardless of party affiliation, may vote for or against the ballot measures.

In addition to a sample ballot for each qualified political party, your voter information pamphlet contains:

- The address for your polling place (located on the back cover);
- The complete text of the 10 ballot measures, along with the Ballot Simplification Committee's summary of each measure and the Controller's financial analysis of each measure;
- Arguments in favor of and against each measure;
- An absentee ballot application.

The polls will be open on election day, Tuesday, March 2, from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. The Department of Elections encourages you to review the back cover of this pamphlet for the correct address of your polling place. The address of your polling place can also be found on the Department's website at www.sfgov.org/elections, under "polling place lookup."

If you have any questions about the election or voting, you can call the Department's voter information phone bank at (415) 554-4375.

Respectfully,

John Arntz
Director of Elections

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PURPOSE OF THE VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET

This Voter Information Pamphlet provides voters with information about the March 2, 2004 Consolidated Primary Election. The pamphlet includes:

1. The location of **your polling place**
 2. An application for an **Absentee (Vote-by-Mail) Ballot** and for **permanent absentee voter status**
 3. **Frequently Asked Questions**
 4. Information for **disabled voters**
 5. Definitions of the **words you need to know**
 6. Information about each **ballot measure**; each local measure includes a summary, how the proposition got on the ballot, the Controller's Statement, arguments for and against the measure, and the legal text
-



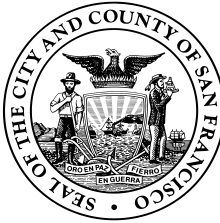
Mail Delivery of Voter Pamphlets

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If you registered to vote or changed your registration after December 30, and before February 3, your Voter Information Pamphlet will be mailed after February 10.

If you do not receive your Voter Information Pamphlet in a timely manner, please notify your local Post Office.

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS
City and County of San Francisco



JOHN ARNTZ
Director

September 12, 2004

Dear San Francisco Voter:

The November 2, 2004 General Election will be a historic election for San Francisco because it will be the first time San Franciscans use "ranked-choice voting" to elect local officials. Voters amended the City Charter in March 2002 to require the use of ranked-choice voting, also called "instant run-off elections" to elect most local officials. This November, voters in seven of the City's eleven districts –districts 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11 – will elect supervisors using this new voting method. Please turn to page 7 to view a district map if you are unsure if your district will have a contest for Supervisor.

The ballot card that lists candidates for Supervisor will look very different from the ballots San Francisco has used in the past and will have different voting instructions. Ballots for contests using ranked-choice voting will have three columns, side-by-side, and each column will have a complete list of the district candidates. The voter will be instructed to select a first-choice candidate in the first column, a second-choice candidate in the second column, and a third-choice candidate in the third column. For specific information about how to mark the ranked-choice ballot, please turn to page 10.

I recommend that voters familiarize themselves with the ranked-choice ballot in advance of the election, and share this information with other voters. I also encourage voters to attend one of the Department of Elections' weekly presentations on ranked-choice voting. These presentations are conducted in English, Spanish, Cantonese and Mandarin, and are held at City Hall and in neighborhoods throughout San Francisco.

Ranked-choice voting does not affect contests for federal or State office, or ballot measures. For this reason, voters can expect that the portion of the ballot that lists these candidates and measures will be familiar – this portion of the ballot will have the same design and voting instructions that San Francisco has used since November 2000.

In addition to information about ranked-choice voting, this Voter Information Pamphlet includes a sample of the official ballot for this election, as well as information about candidates and ballot measures. The back cover lists the address of your polling place. Since we sometimes need to relocate polling places between elections, I recommend that each voter check the location of his or her polling place before election day.

For more information about the November 2, 2004 election and ranked-choice voting, please visit our website at www.sfgov.org/election or call the Department of Elections at 554-4375.

Respectfully,

John Arntz
Director of Elections

1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place – Room 48, San Francisco, CA 94102-4634
Voice (415) 554-4375; Fax (415) 554-7344; Absentee Fax (415) 554-4372; TDD (415) 554-4386



Purpose of the Voter Information Pamphlet

The purpose of this pamphlet is to provide voters with information about candidates and ballot measures in advance of each election. In addition to the sample ballot, this pamphlet contains: information about the qualifications of candidates for local office; information about the duties and salaries of the elective offices sought by those candidates; the legal text of each local ballot measure; an impartial summary of each local ballot measure prepared by the City's Ballot Simplification Committee; a financial analysis of each local ballot measure prepared by the City's Controller; an explanation of how each local ballot measure qualified for the ballot; and arguments supporting and opposing local ballot measures. This pamphlet is also available in Chinese and Spanish.

The Department of Elections delivers the voter information pamphlets to the Post Office for delivery to individual voters. If you do not receive your pamphlet in a timely manner, please contact your local Post Office and the Department of Elections.

Este folleto también está disponible en español. Para solicitar una copia en español, por favor llame al teléfono (415) 554-4366.

這本手冊有中文版。要索取中文版，請致電 (415) 554-4367。

The Ballot Simplification Committee

The Ballot Simplification Committee prepares an impartial summary of each local ballot measure. In addition, the Committee writes or reviews other information in this pamphlet, including the glossary of "Words You Need to Know" and the Frequently Asked Questions. The Committee members have backgrounds in journalism and written communication, and they volunteer their time to prepare these informational materials for voters. The Committee members are:

Betty Packard, Chair
*Nominated by the Northern California
Broadcasters Association*

Alma Carroll
*Nominated by the National Association of
Television Arts and Sciences*

Suzanne Stassevitch
Nominated by the League of Women Voters

Julia Moll, *Ex officio*
Deputy City Attorney

John Arntz, *Ex officio*
Director of Elections



Access for the Disabled Voter

by the Ballot Simplification Committee

Before Election Day

Absentee voting— All voters may request that an absentee ballot be mailed to them, or they may vote in person at the Department of Elections, City Hall, One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 48, from October 4 through November 2.

The office hours are:

- 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday;
- 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Saturday and Sunday, October 23-24 and October 30-31;
- 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day, November 2.

In addition, all voters may apply to become Permanent Absentee Voters (see page 8). Ballots for all future elections will automatically be mailed to Permanent Absentee Voters.

Tape recordings— The San Francisco Public Library for the Blind and Print Handicapped, 100 Larkin Street, produces and distributes tape-recorded copies of the Voter Information Pamphlet for use by visually impaired voters. Voters may request a tape-recorded copy by calling Martin Magid at the San Francisco Public Library for the Blind and Print Disabled, at (415) 557-4253, or may obtain a copy at any branch of the San Francisco Public Library.

TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf)— Hearing-impaired or speech-impaired voters who have a TDD may communicate with the San Francisco Department of Elections office by calling 554-4386.

On Election Day

Assistance— Persons unable to complete their ballot may bring one or two persons with them into the voting booth to assist them, or they may ask poll workers to provide assistance.

Curb-side voting— If architectural barriers prevent an elderly or disabled voter from entering the polling place, poll workers will bring the necessary voting materials to the voter in front of the polling place.

Parking— If a polling place is situated in a residential garage, elderly and disabled voters may park in the driveway while voting, provided they do not block traffic.

Reading tools— Every polling place has large-print instructions on how to vote and special sheets to magnify the type on the ballot.

Seated voting— Every polling place has at least one voting booth which allows voters to vote while sitting in a chair or a wheelchair.

Voting tools— Every precinct has an easy-grip pen for signing the roster and an easy-grip special pen for marking the ballot.





CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS

John Arntz, Director

Dear San Francisco Voter,

April 10, 2018

With the untimely passing of Mayor Ed Lee, voters will elect the City's next Mayor during the June 5, 2018, Consolidated Statewide Direct Primary Election. We will again see the contest for Mayor on the ballot for the November 2019 election.

Also due to a vacancy, in this June election, voters who live in Supervisorial District 8 will choose their next representative on the Board of Supervisors and will again vote for candidates for this same office in the November 2018 election.

Multi-Card Ballots

Unsurprisingly, we will vote using a multi-card ballot, comprised of four cards. The ballot for the June 5 election will include federal, state, and local contests, as well as state and local measures, and one regional measure.

Ballot Worksheet

As for every election, this Voter Information Pamphlet includes a "Ballot Worksheet," which provides space to write down your selections for each contest and measure before marking your ballot cards.

Online Voter Information Pamphlet

This Voter Information Pamphlet is also available in digital versions at sfelections.org in accessible HTML and open XML formats in English, Chinese, Spanish, and Filipino. The content is formatted for smart devices, which allows voters much flexibility to review the Pamphlet and consider their voting selections.

Early Voting at the City Hall Voting Center

Voting is available to all registered voters in City Hall during weekdays beginning Monday, May 7, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. and on the two weekends before Election Day, May 26–27 and June 2–3, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

For weekend voting, enter City Hall from Grove Street or McAllister Street.

Vote-by-Mail Ballot Drop-off Stations:

The Department will continue to provide Ballot Drop-Off stations that will be located on the sidewalk in front of City Hall. However, the Civic Center will host a large event the weekend before Election Day, requiring some changes in the locations of the Drop-Off stations from past elections.

Saturday–Sunday, June 2–3, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Stations will be located on the sidewalks along both Grove Street and McAllister Street

Monday, June 4, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Stations will be located on the sidewalks along Grove Street and Goodlett Place (Polk St.)

Tuesday, June 5, 7 a.m.–8 p.m.

Stations will be located on the sidewalks along Grove Street and Goodlett Place (Polk St.)

Polls open on Election Day, Tuesday, June 5, at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m., throughout the City.

Finally, review both sides of all ballot cards, so no contest or measure is overlooked—more reason to utilize the Ballot Worksheet.

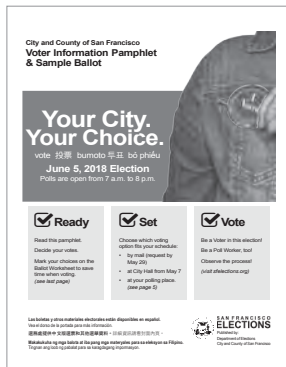
Respectfully,
John Arntz, Director



Purpose of the Voter Information Pamphlet and Voter Information Guide

You will receive **two** voter information guides for this election:

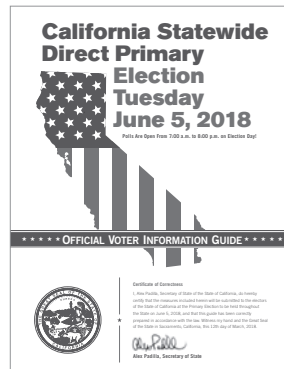
1 San Francisco Voter Information Pamphlet *(this guide)*



The San Francisco Department of Elections prepares the Voter Information Pamphlet before each election and mails it to every registered voter as required by law.

This pamphlet includes your sample ballot and information about voting in San Francisco, candidates running for local and certain state and federal offices, and local ballot measures. For details, see the Table of Contents or Index.

2 California State Voter Information Guide



The California Secretary of State produces the state Voter Information Guide, with information on candidates for certain state and federal offices and state ballot measures. You may access it at sos.ca.gov.

This pamphlet is available in various formats:

- On sfelections.org in PDF, HTML, XML, and MP3 formats
- Large print (English, Chinese, Spanish, Filipino)
- Audio on USB flash drive, cassette, or compact disc (CD)

To request a different format, contact the Department of Elections.



You may bring these guides with you to your polling place. Every polling place also has copies. Ask a poll worker if you would like to see one.



Save paper and read this pamphlet online instead: visit sfelections.org/viponline.

Ballot Simplification Committee

The Ballot Simplification Committee works in public meetings to prepare an impartial summary of each local ballot measure in simple language. The Committee also writes or reviews other information in this pamphlet, including the glossary of “Words You Need to Know” and the “Frequently Asked Questions” (FAQs).

The Committee members have backgrounds in journalism, education, and written communication. They volunteer their time to prepare these materials for voters.

The Committee members are:

Betty Packard, Chair
Nominated by:
the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences

Scott Patterson
Nominated by:
the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences

Ashley Raveche
Nominated by:
the League of Women Voters

Michele Anderson
Nominated by:
Pacific Media Workers Guild

Joshua White, *ex officio**
Deputy City Attorney

**By law, the City Attorney, or his or her representative, serves on the Ballot Simplification Committee and can speak at the Committee's meetings but cannot vote.*