



County of Fresno

COUNTY CLERK/REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

JAMES A. KUS

Fresno County LAAC Meeting Minutes Thursday, 05/16/2024 2:00 PM

Attendance and Introductions

Meeting was held via Microsoft Teams was called to order at 2:00 PM with the following members present virtually: James Kus, Nysen Armenta, Rosaura Barajas and Gloria Ayala and Rebecca Donabed with Resources for Independence Central Valley.

Review March 5, 2024 Election

We had all our 9 supported languages and also had available, State provided telephone translation services. Over 2000 Ballot Translation guides were mailed out. There was approximately a 30% voter turnout. When you have a low voter turnout, we have lower request and usage of our language materials. As much as 10 percent of voters voted in person at a Vote Center.

Review March 19, 2024 Election

Due to a much smaller election, which is one quarter of Fresno County, there were approximately 300 Ballot Translation Guides requested. These guides are also available at every Vote Center. No requests were made for usage of the State provided telephone translation services for this election. Smaller ballot size, makes it easier to

have a bilingual Spanish/English ballot. Only 2 percent voted in person at a Vote Center.

Update on May 21, 2024 Election

Covers same area and number of voters as March 19 election, also same number of Ballot Translation Guides. Full language coverage was provided, however we do face challenges in hiring translators. Translators at Vote Centers is one of our biggest challenges, we do specifically recruit and offer bilingual pay. We will have our next outreach scheduled in June and we will be hiring early in July, as soon as HR allows us to open it up.

Update on Parallel Spanish Website for Fresno County CCROV

Our intention is to go live and implement by next fiscal year, a parallel Spanish Website, however it will be available and in effect for November 2024 election.

Some portions of our website will not be available for this parallel website, such as reports and tables, they are just too complex and are continuously updated.

We do not plan at this time to offer any other language, in a parallel or mirrored website, the way that we are going to do Spanish. Spanish is a federally required 203 language, designated by the Census Bureau, the other 8 languages we provide support in are from California Law, section 14201 elections code.

Assembly Bill 884 effects in Fresno County

New legislation that is from last year, now currently in State Senate, in their Elections Government committee. It will be heard there in early June.

James Kus said he will be attending a meeting where they will be discussing bill from a county perspective and how it affects the variety of counties, at least in part, most of the meeting is for legislation as a whole. James believes that Fresno County as a whole supports the ideas of 884 but have significant fiscal concerns about its effect.

Assembly 884 updates and expands the language that is currently in elections code 14201.

Even if Assembly Bill 884 passes this year may not be implementable until after 2026.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on July 18, 2024, at 2:00 PM.

This meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.