



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK**

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**CONNOR B. McCORMACK**  
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

February 4, 2003

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: Conny B. McCormack, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

**NEXT PHASE OF TOUCHSCREEN VOTING - MARCH 4, 2003 ELECTIONS**

One month from today, 55 of the 88 cities throughout the County will be conducting their regular municipal elections. While we offer routine support services for all of these elections (providing lists of registered voters and other ancillary services), the City Clerks of these cities administer their own elections<sup>1</sup>. However, as a continuation of the established strategy of phasing in touchscreen voting, for the first time 7 of the 55 cities will introduce touchscreen voting equipment to their voters and pollworkers in partnership with our office.

Partnership With 7 Cities

As part of the contract with Diebold Election Systems executed by your Board in April 2002, we now own a small amount of touchscreen voting equipment. This inventory is sufficient to conduct "early voting" at numerous sites in conjunction with major County elections (as we did in November 2002 at 21 locations) and to expand the public's awareness of touchscreen voting by using this equipment for small-scale special elections as well as for a sample of city elections. Following your Board's approval today of the Agreement with the City of Los Angeles to share in the acquisition costs of the current inventory of touchscreen equipment and software, the City of Los Angeles will introduce voters to this new form of voting technology at their March 4, 2003 municipal election. This rollout entails providing any L.A. City voter with the opportunity to vote touchscreen during the early voting period from February 18-28 at 15 locations (one per council district).

Additionally, six small cities will use touchscreen voting equipment for the first time on election day, providing the opportunity to acquaint up to 75,000 registered voters with this new voting technology at a total of 57 voting precincts. The cities that volunteered to participate in this unique partnership include:

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<sup>1</sup> The cities are responsible for ordering and delivering all election supplies (including ballots and sample ballots), absentee voting, selecting voting locations, hiring and training pollworkers, tabulating their voted ballots and certifying the election results.

City	Supervisory District	Registered Voters
Irwindale	1	751
La Puente	1	12,828
Gardena	2	22,686
Beverly Hills	3	19,530
Signal Hill	4	4,472
South Pasadena	5	13,976

In addition to acquainting these City Clerks with administering an election using touchscreen voting equipment, this project will provide our own staff hands-on experience conducting elections using electronic equipment at the polling places on election day (in addition to the experience previously gained of administering "early voting" on touchscreens at multiple locations). We believe it will result in valuable, real-world knowledge about costs, training issues, equipment programming and delivery issues and many other variables in conducting a type of election that is quite different from what staff, pollworkers and voters have been accustomed to during the 35-years of using the punch card voting system.

Highlights of this joint County/Cities partnership include:

- Our Department's portion of this project is to provide the touchscreen voting equipment, computer programming, pollworker training and election day staff support including oversight/assistance with vote accumulation at each City Hall on election night.
- Each of the City Clerks of the six small cities has been provided with a touchscreen voting demonstration unit for placement in their City Halls during the weeks leading up to their March 4<sup>th</sup> elections to allow local residents to become familiar with the equipment. Each of their voting precincts on election day will have two touchscreen units available to voters.
- We are not charging these cities for loan of the equipment, programming or support. We believe that investing resources and staff time in this project will pay a dividend in experience and confidence as we move toward the future goal of deploying touchscreen voting equipment in all 5,000 voting precincts for countywide elections.

Conclusion

In you have any questions regarding this phase of the touchscreen voting rollout, please call me or Chief Deputy Kristin Heffron at (562) 462-2716.

c: David Janssen, CAO  
Jon Fullinwider, CIO  
7 City Clerks