



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

DEAN C. LOGAN

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee

Adapted: January 23, 2025

CHARTER OVERVIEW

The Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) was founded in 2006 under the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) mandate, which ensures accessible, independent, and private voting for all eligible voters. The VAAC is dedicated to enhancing the voting experience for individuals with disabilities by assisting the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) in implementing innovative strategies to improve accessibility and participation in elections.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the VAAC is to safeguard the voting rights of individuals with disabilities, ensuring that every aspect of the electoral process is accessible. By advising on and assisting with the implementation of comprehensive voting accessibility programs, the committee strives to ensure that all voters can exercise their right to vote independently and privately in Los Angeles County.

FOCUS

The VAAC is designed to advise, assist, and provide recommendations to ensure the electoral processes meet the needs of the disability community.

- **Advisory Role:** Serve as a key advisory body to the RR/CC on voting accessibility matters, offering insights and guidance to enhance the voting process.
- **Community Collaboration:** Foster strong relationships between community groups and the RR/CC to ensure that the needs of voters with disabilities are met and their rights protected.
- **Accessibility Enhancements:** Provide input to RR/CC on election issues, election process-related community groups, and the voters of L.A. County.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Assist, advise, and provide recommendations to facilitate private and independent voting experiences for voters with disabilities.
2. Advise and recommend outreach and engagement programs for voters with disabilities.
3. Provide recommendations on useful equipment and tools for overcoming accessibility barriers.
4. Assist in surveying Vote Centers to evaluate accessibility in compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.
5. Provide advice on the creation and distribution of accessible election materials.

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

1. Open to individuals or representatives from organizations primarily serving people with disabilities.
2. Individuals or representatives from organizations with an understanding of barriers faced by voters with disabilities.
3. Members with leadership experience in their community or experience in community or public service and outreach
4. Representatives from agencies that have an in-depth understanding of election processes and laws.

5. *Individuals with a background in voter disability rights, voter education, and voters with disabilities participation.*

It's highly recommended that every member has a PC and internet connection in order to communicate effectively with the rest of the committee members.

Anyone interested in joining or wants to receive more information can contact the RR/CC Special Services Unit and Committee Co-Chair Gabriel Taylor (Disability Rights California) at the following emails:

- specialservicesoutreach@rrcc.lacounty.gov
- Gabriel.Taylor@disabilityrightscalifornia.org

COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND OPERATIONS

- Scheduled quarterly meetings, with flexibility for additional as necessary by the RR/CC.
- Meetings will be held in Microsoft Teams virtual format, but in-person meetings may occasionally be required.
- The meeting is open to the public. It is co-chaired by one member elected from the committee membership.
- Meeting minutes are available for review before the next meeting.
- Co-chairs will assist in setting meeting agendas.
- Members are considered volunteers, and as such, they are not eligible for stipends or reimbursements.

Ethical Guidelines and Conduct

- Members are expected to attend meetings and maintain a high standard of integrity and professionalism, contributing positively to discussions and respecting diverse viewpoints.

- Non-compliance with attendance or conduct guidelines may lead to removal from the committee, underscoring the importance of consistent and constructive engagement.
- The Committee may remove a member if a member has three consecutive absences within a year from the regular meetings.

CONCLUSION

The Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee ensures that elections in Los Angeles County are inclusive and accessible. The VAAC's efforts are crucial in building a more engaged, informed, and inclusive community of voters.