



OFFICE OF
**ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-
RECORDER & ELECTIONS**
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

MARK CHURCH
CHIEF ELECTIONS OFFICER &
ASSESSOR-COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2022

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Public Welcome to Observe Opening & Processing of Vote by Mail Ballots for the June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election

(Redwood City, CA) Beginning Tuesday, May 16, authorized staff of the San Mateo County Registration & Elections Division will begin opening and processing returned Vote by Mail ballots for the June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election. The public and the media are welcome to observe these activities.

Election officials may open the return envelopes containing voted mail ballots beginning 29 business days before Election Day. Operating hours for opening and processing will be daily Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. or when all ballots are processed for the day until the Official Canvass is complete.

For each ballot, an election official will first compare the voter's signature on the outside of the envelope to the signature on the voter's original registration application or other updated signatures on file from previous elections and the Department of Motor Vehicles.

The ballot is separated from the envelope to preserve secrecy. The envelope is saved for the mandatory retention period, and the ballot is digitally scanned. The scanned ballots will not be counted or reported until the close of voting at 8 p.m. on Election Day.

Those interested in observing this process, or any other election process, may come to the Registration & Elections Division office at 40 Tower Road, San Mateo at any time. Space is limited, and there may be a wait. Time-specific appointments may be made online by sending an email to ElectionObserver@smcacre.org. Observers will receive a copy of the Election

Observer Program Guidelines, which specifies observer rights, responsibilities and limitations, and a copy of the Vote by Mail Processing Procedures.

Voting Period Begins May 9 and Ends on June 7

San Mateo County's registered voters will receive a ballot in the mail in May. Three of the 45 Vote Centers for the June election open on May 9 for in-person voting. For more information on the June 7, 2022 Statewide Direct Primary Election, please call or text 650.312.5222, visit smcacre.org, or follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) @smcvote.

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