



# RAMSEY COUNTY

## County Board Discussion:

### Election Recap

November 17, 2020

(Following County Board meeting)

Virtual Meeting

(Board workshop will be a virtual meeting via Zoom pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § § 13D.021 and 13D.05)

## Agenda

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. Introduction           | Karen Francois, Deputy County Manager, Information and Public Records Service Team  |
| 2. Election Recap         | Heather Bestler, Deputy Director, Property Tax and Election Services<br><br>David Triplett, Elections Manager, Elections Office |
| 3. Discussion / Questions | All   |

**Board of Commissioners  
2020 General Election Recap  
November 17, 2020**

## Discussion Topics

- Acknowledgments
- General Election Turnout
- Absentee Voting
- Election Day
- Election Night Reporting
- Community Partnerships
- Efforts to Provide Transparency
- Post-Election Activities

## “It Takes a Village”

- Elections Staff
- Many County Departments:
  - Emergency Management, Public Health, Property Management, Communications, CAO, RCSO, RECERT, Assessor’s Office, IPR Admin and UT, Finance, Procurement, County Manager’s Office, HR, Policy & Planning, Libraries, IS
- 19 Community Partnerships
- SPPD
- Contract municipalities



Countywide Support for Elections



Work of our Community Partnerships

## “It Takes a Village”

- Over 100 permanent, temporary, & intern staff
  - Averaged 55hr work weeks
  - 3,134 hours of overtime
  - Worked every weekend since 9/1/20
  - Does not include the ballot board staff
- 2500+ Election Judges
  - Since May, average age of new election judges is under 40
  - Used the entire Metro Conference Center

# Record Setting Voter Participation

- 297,365 total voters
  - 22,585 more voters than 2016 Presidential Election
    - 88% of total reg. voters in 2020
    - 89% of total reg. voters in 2016
    - 83% of total reg. voters in 2012
    - 87% of total reg. voters in 2008
  
- Record number of Registered Voters in Ramsey County in 2020
  - 334,734 in Nov. 2020
  - 309,140 in Nov. 2018
  - 305,623 in Nov. 2016



## Record Setting Voter Registration

### **St. Paul 1-9 (Thomas-Dale Neighborhood)**

- 2020: 1,828 total voters (74% of Reg. Voters)
- 2016: 1,657 total voters (72% of Reg. Voters)
- Increase of 181 Reg. Voters since 2016

### **St. Paul 5-4 (Rice St-North End Neighborhood)**

- 2020: 3,192 total voters (81% of Reg. Voters)
- 2016: 2,797 total voters (82% of Reg. Voters)
- Increase of 552 Reg. Voters since 2016

### **St. Paul 6-1 (Payne-Phalen Neighborhood)**

- 2020: 1,350 total voters (87% of Reg. Voters)
- 2016: 1,164 total voters (83% of Reg. Voters)
- Increase of 143 Reg. Voters since 2016

# Dramatic Increase in Absentee Voting

- Dramatic increase in absentee voting
  - 194,433 absentee ballots (65% of all voters)
    - 145,540 by mail
    - 48,893 in-person
  - 206% increase in absentee voting from 2016
    - 63,384 AB voters in 2016 Presidential Election
- Three in-person absentee voting locations
- Seven early voting locations
- Ten ballot return locations
  - 26% of all mail ballots were returned in-person
  - Average of 3,888 in-person voters per day the final week of voting
- Online wait-time app
- Ballot Board staffed with over 100 persons

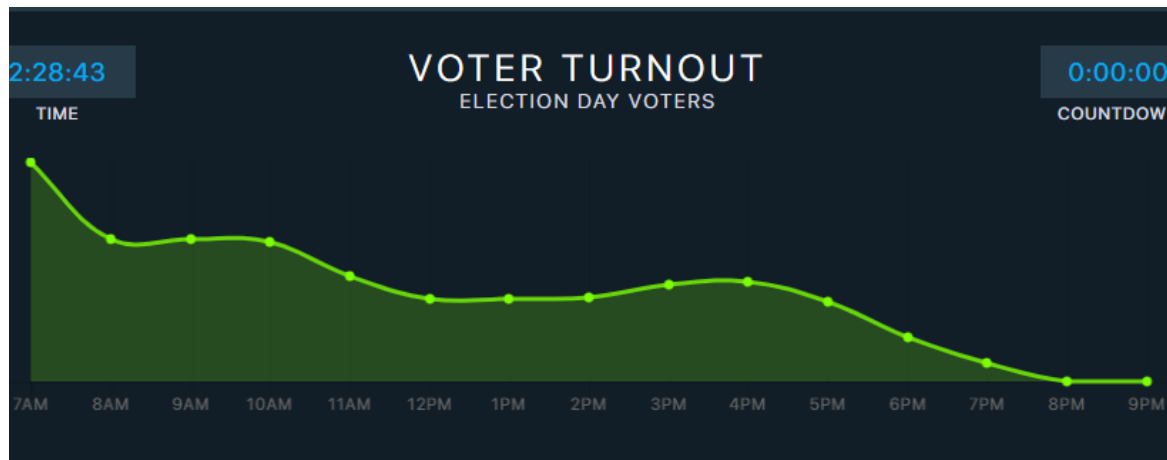


Roseville Library



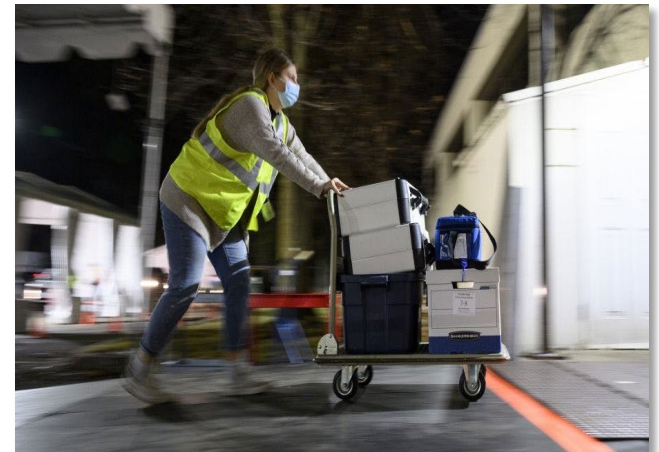
# Quiet, Smooth Election Day

- Very quiet, smooth day. Few reports of any concern
  - 102,714 Election Day voters
- Turnout trends:
  - Very busy at 7am, 14k check-ins
  - Less than 1k check-ins at 7pm
  - Dramatic slow down as day went on. Opposite of August Primary trends



## Providing a Transparent Election

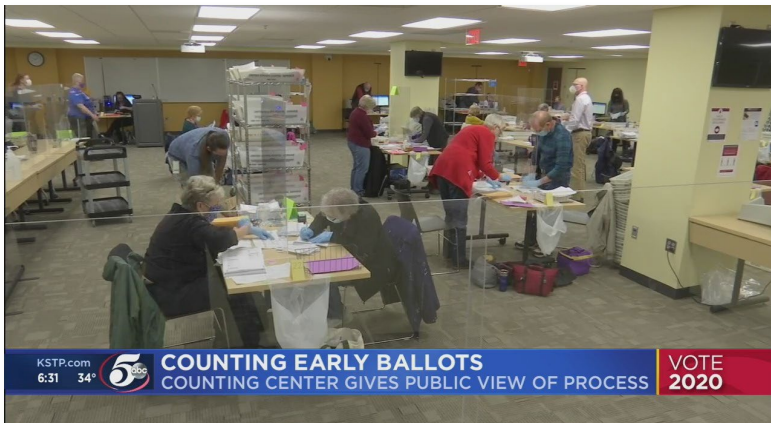
- All results reported on Election Night
  - Provides confidence in our vote totals, what you see on election night is 99% final.
  - Some Counties reported partial absentee results on election night and finished on 11/4 & 11/5.
  - Impacts on close races as seen across Minnesota.
- Post-election counting per Consent Decree
  - Counting of all 11/3 postmarked mail-ballots received 11/4 thru 11/10.
    - 193 ballots received in this time period
    - 69 were UOCAVA ballots



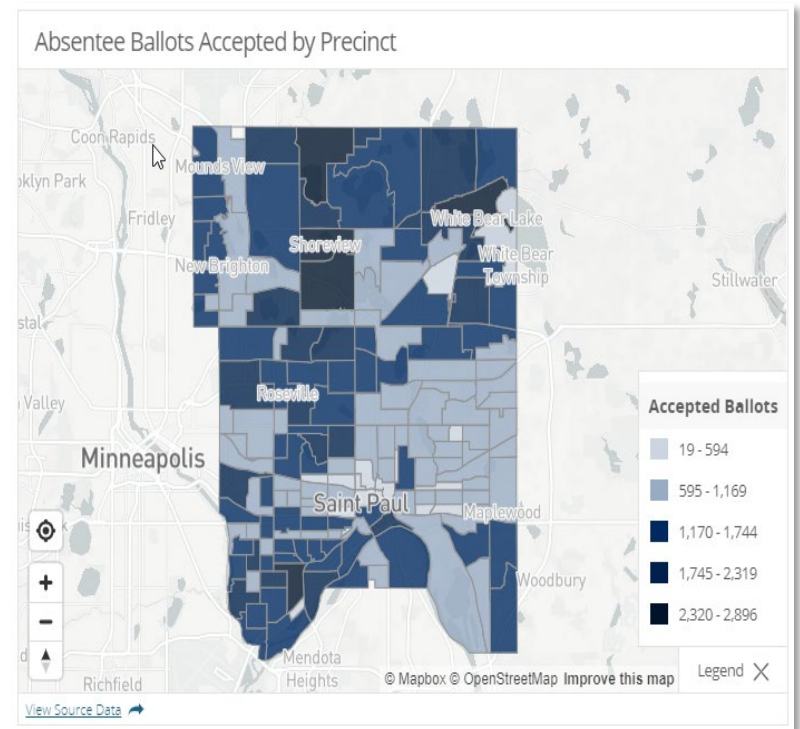
Election Night @ Plato Building

# Providing a Transparent Election

- Observers at Ballot Board
- Public Viewing & Livestream
- Media accessibility
- Public Data Portal



Public viewing area at Count Center



Screenshot of Data Portal

# Working with our Community Partners

## Community engagement activities:

- Virtual Town Halls
- 19 community partners
  - Translated Videos
  - Promotion using networks
  - Public events
    - Shelters & Community gatherings
  - Recruitment of Election Judges
  - Transportation to Polling Places
- Radio interview & Ads
  - Radio Rey
  - KMOJ
  - KLAY Somali Radio



Community Partners Fall 2020

## Post-Election Events

- Official Canvass, 11/13/20
  - County Commissioner Carter
  - County Commissioner MatasCastillo
  - Saint Paul City Clerk, Shari Moore
  - Ramsey County Court Administrator, Heather Kendall
  - Deputy Auditor, Heather Bestler
- Post Election Review, 11/16/20
  - Hand count review of 5 random precincts selected by Canvassing Board



**2020 Canvassing Board Members for August Primary**

## Post-Election Events

- Recounts
  - Vadnais Heights Council Member – scheduled for 11/20/20
  - State House 38B – possible recount
- February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Special Election for Gem Lake City Council Member
- Next Scheduled Election, Nov. 2, 2021
  - Saint Paul Mayor
  - Various School District Boards

# Questions?