MARYLAND

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONSP.O. BOX 6486, ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401-0486 PHONE (410) 269-2840

Michael R. Cogan, Chairman Patrick J. Hogan, Vice Chairman Malcolm L. Funn Kelley Howells William G. Voelp



Linda H. Lamone Administrator

Nikki Charlson Deputy Administrator

Contact:

Julie Scharper jscharper@hillmanpr.com

Get Your Ballot Sent by Mail, Not Email, to Save Time and Money

ANNAPOLIS (Sept. 8, 2020) – The Maryland State Board of Elections reminds Marylanders that receiving their 2020 ballot by U.S. mail is free and more convenient for the voter than receiving their ballot by email.

Due to COVID-19, all Marylanders are encouraged to vote by mail and must request a mail-in ballot from the State Board of Elections or their local board of elections by October 20, 2020. The Board automatically sent most eligible voters an application for a mail-in ballot along with a postage-paid return envelope in late August.

While voters may request that their ballot be emailed, it is free and more convenient to request that it be sent by U.S. Mail. When a voter requests that their ballot be sent by first-class U.S. mail, they will also receive a first-class postage-paid return envelope. A voter only needs to fill out the ballot, sign and seal the envelope, and return it in the postage-paid return envelope at their earliest convenience. Voted ballots can be mailed to the local election office or dropped into a ballot drop box.

When a ballot is sent to a voter by email, the voter must print the ballot, fill out the ballot, find an envelope, and pay for postage. Local election officials are also required to copy any ballot printed on standard paper onto an official ballot to be scanned and counted.

"Receiving your ballot by mail is free and more convenient than receiving it by email," said Linda Lamone, Administrator of the State Board of Elections. "To save time and money, request that your ballot be mailed. This will also make Maryland's vote counting process more efficient because local election judges will not have to hand copy ballots."

Voters are urged to return their applications for ballots as soon as possible. After receiving a mail-in ballot, there is no need to wait. Complete it, sign the envelope, and send it at your earliest convenience. Mail-in ballots must be postmarked on or before November 3. Putting your ballot in a mailbox on November 3 does not mean it is postmarked. Voters may also drop their voted ballots in a ballot drop box located in their respective jurisdictions. Locations and availability of drop boxes will be announced in the near future.

To learn more about mail-in ballots, ballot drop boxes, early voting, and in-person voting on Election Day, visit elections.maryland.gov/2020.

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TITLE 33 - STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Subtitle 08 CANVASSING

Chapter 05 Post Election Verification and Audit

Authority: Election Law Article, §§2-102(b)(4), 2-202(b), 9-403, 11-201, and 11-309(f), Annotated Code of Maryland

.01 Definition.

- A. (text unchanged)
- B. Terms Defined.
 - (1) (3) (text unchanged)
- (4) "Precinct" includes an election day vote center as defined in .01 of this chapter, and an early voting center in Regulations .02 [.06] .09 of this chapter.
 - (5) (6) (text unchanged)
 - (7) "Election Day Vote Center" includes a voting location used on November 3, 2020.

.04 Selection of Precincts.

- A. After 8 p.m. on election day, each local board shall randomly select for post-election verification and auditing, the greater of:
 - **[**(1) Three precincts with at least 300 registered voters; or
- (2)] (1) 5 percent of all precincts used in the election[.], including at least one election day vote center used on November 3, 2020.
 - B. D. (text unchanged)

Explanation: The proposed changes:

- a) Define an election day vote center and amends the definition of a precinct to include an election day vote center;
- b) Removes the requirement for the precinct verification and audit of an election day voting center to include precincts with at least 300 registered voters. This change is needed because polling places defined by precincts with a predetermined number of registered voters will not be used on election day. Instead, the 5% requirement remains, with the minimum number of election day vote centers to be audited being one; and
- c) Extends the definition of precinct through Regulation .09 of the Chapter, to allow for election day vote centers to be audited as a precinct in the manual audit that takes places after the election is certified.

This change is being proposed as an emergency change. This means that this change would be effective for presidential general election only.

Date:	2020-11-												ELECT	ION DA	lΥ									
	Chief Judges					Provisional Judges				SDI	R Judges		Voting Operations Judges			Polling Places			Total Judges				ast Comments	
LBE	Required	Trained	Unassigned	Dropped Out	Required	Trained	Unassigned	Dropped Out	Required	Trained	Unassigned	Dropped Out	Required	Trained	Unassigned	Dropped Out	Total Precincts	Confirmed	Required A	Apps on File	Trained Una	assigned Dropp	ed Und	dated
Allegany	12	8	3 0	0	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	10	0	0	6	6	119	119	22	0	0 9/1	0/2020 Chief Judges perform SDR
Anne Arundel	66	(0	0	101	0	1	1				0	1042	200	407	43	28	28	1209	1960	200	408		0/2020
Baltimore City	60		0	0	0			0	0			0	1500			0	25	25	1560	4331	0	0	0 8/1	7/2020 We do not assign until they train. We do have recruits to f these locations at this time. We have 2100 volunteers on
Baltimore County	62		14	35	31		7	25	31		10	25	806		367	185	31	31	930	708	0	398	270 8/1	9/2020
Calvert	10			0	5			0	N/A			0	60			0	5	5	75	75	0	0	0 8/1	7/2020 Provisional Judge perform SDR
Caroline	9		0	2	6		0	1	0			0	38		0	12	3	3	53	55	0	0	15 8/1	4/2020 Chief Judges perform SDR
Carrol	52	(0	0	26	0	0	0	N/A			0	240	0	0	0	13	13	318	400	0	0	0 9/1	0/2020 Prov performs SDR, apps on file is a cumulative
Cecil	12		0	15	6		0	0	6		0	0	180		0	62	6	6	204	204	0	0		4/2020 Training starts 9/16/2020
Charles	18	()	0	9	0		0	9	0		0	384	0	0	0	9	9	420	420	0	0	0 9/10	0/2020 We begin training September 14th. Right now we have a surplus of 100 judges.
Dorchester	6		0	0	3		0	0	0		0	0	84		0	0	3	3	93	93	0	0	0 8/18	Provisional Judge performs SDR. At this time all positions 8/2020 are filled and judges scheduled for training. Approximately 40 Alternates scheduled to be trained.
Frederick	28			0	14			0	14			0	308			0	41	41	364	364	0	0	0 8/1	9/2020
Garrett	12	(0	0	3	0	0	0	0			0	24	0	0	0	3	3	39	0	0	0	0 9/	2/2020 Chief Judges perform SDR
Harford	36	36	3	0	36	24		0	18	12		0	288	401		0	18	18	378	1536	473	0	0 9/3	We do not assign until training is complete. We have 280 judges scheduled for training in the next couple of weeks. Additional judges will be used during canvass.
Howard	51		-37	0	34		0	0	34		0	0	476		-27	0	17	17	595	659	0	-64	0 8/2	4/2020
Kent	12	(0	0	12	0	0	0	N/A			0	24	0	0	0	3	3	48	42	0	0	0 9/1	0/2020 Provisional Judge perform SDR
Montgomery	80	(0	0	301	0	182	0	N/A			0	1469	0	-4203	0	39	39	1850	6031	0	-4021	0 9/3	Interested applicants are encouraged to apply because priority for assignment is based on training date, not application date. Bilingual Election Judges especially needed.
Prince George's	80		0	0	0		0	0	240		0	0	2480		0	0	40	40	2800	2910	0	0		2/2020 Provisional Judge performs SDR functions.
Queen Anne's	8			0	4			0	4			0	76			0	4	4	92	92	0	0	0 9/1	0/2020 We do not assign until trained. We have started a wait lis that will be used for those that drop out and for canvassin
St. Mary's	14		0	0	7		0	0	7		0	0	210			0	7	7	238	238	0	0	0 9/1	0/2020
Somerset	6			0	6			0	6			0	22			0	3		40	6	0	0		8/2020 Chief Judges perform SDR
Talbot	8	()	0	8	0		0	0			0	67	0		0	4	4	83	116	0	0	0 9/	2/2020 Prov performs SDR
Washington	24			0	22			0				0	273			0	11	10	319	503	0	0	0 8/1	8/2020 Provisional Judge performs SDR
Wicomico	0	(0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 9/	3/2020
Worcester	16			0	8			0	8			0	125			0	4	1	157	0	0	0	0 8/1	9/2020
Total	682	44	-23	52	649	28	190	27	377	12	10	25	10276	611	-3456	302	323	316	11984	20862	695	-3279	406 8/14	4/2020

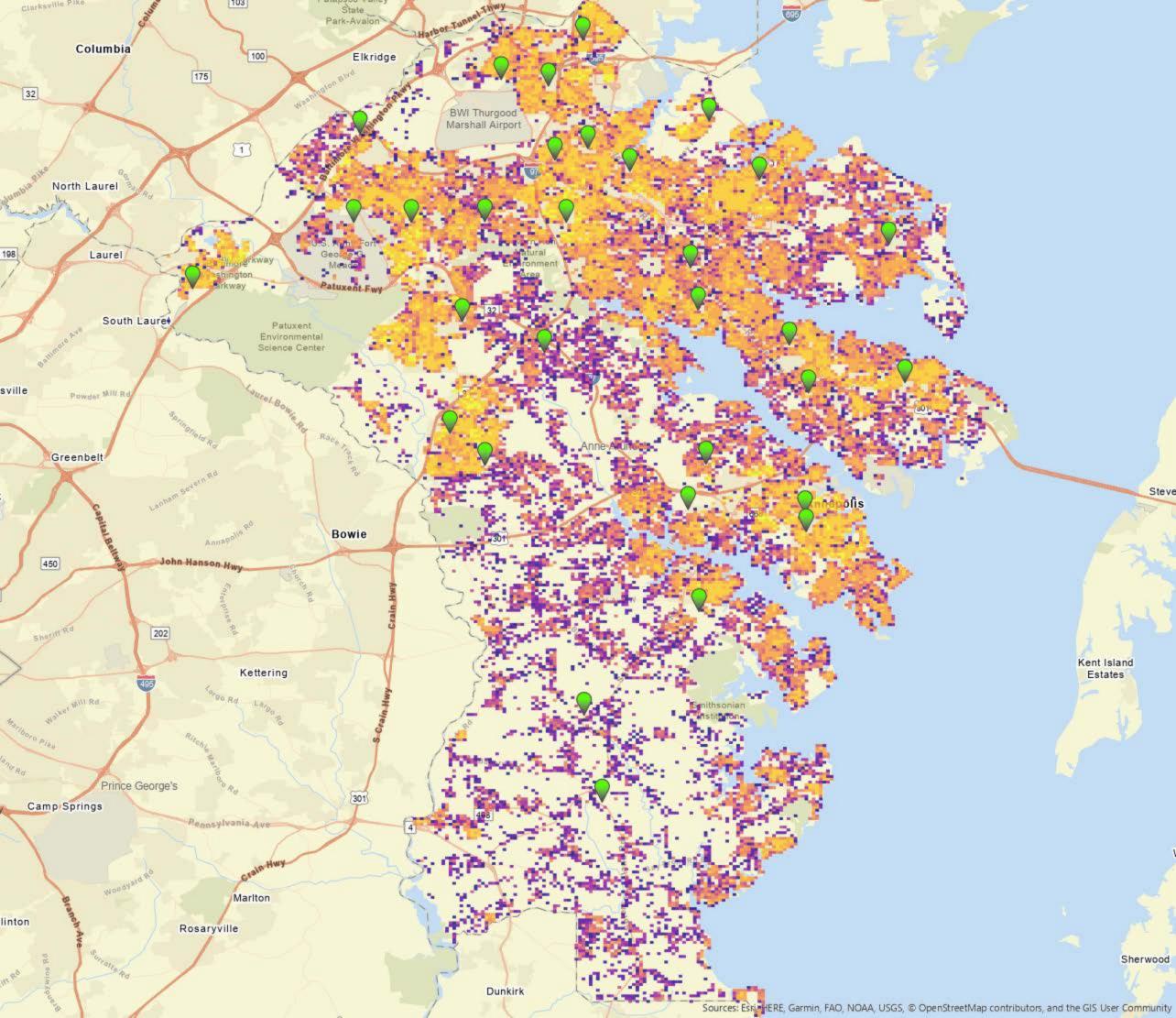
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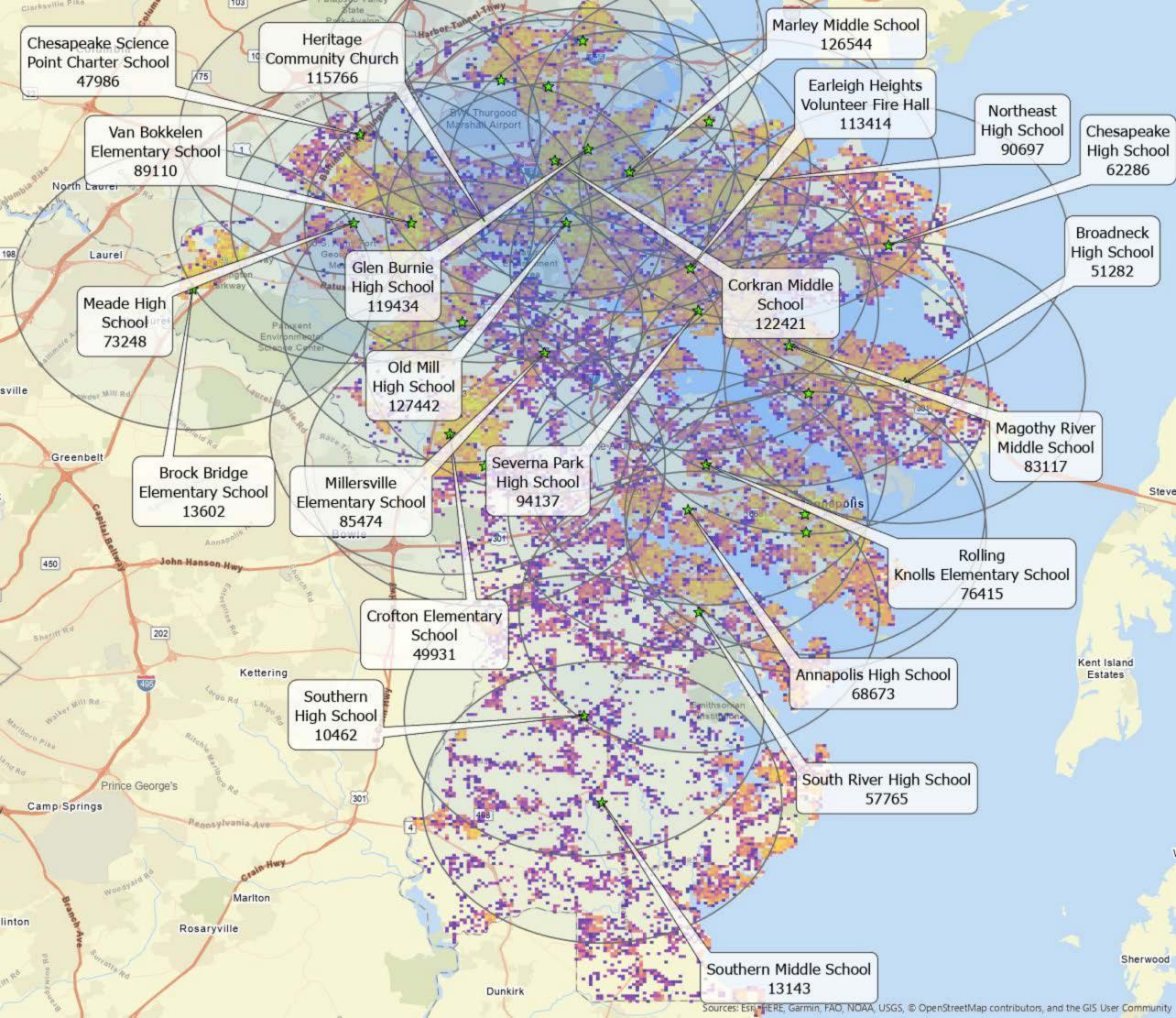
Date	: 2020-11-												EARL	Y VOTI	NG											
		Chief Judges			Provisional Judges				SDR Judges				Voting Operations Judges			Polling Places		Total Judges						Comments		
LBE	Required	Trained	Unassigned I	Dropped Out	Required	Trained	Unassigned Dr	ropped Out	Required	Trained	Unassigned	Dropped Out	Required	Trained	Unassigned	Dropped Out	Total Precincts Confirme	d Requi	red Apps	on Tra	nined Unass	signed Drop	ped ut	Last Updated	Comments	
Allegany	16	5	0	0	8	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	2	. 0	0	1	1	88	88	11	0	0	9/10/2020	Chief Judges will perform SDR	
Anne Arundel	30		0	0	30		1	0	0	0	0	0	376		136	4	7	7	436 1	000	0	137	4		EFS will Perform SDR	
Baltimore City	98	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	8	8 2	298	0	0	0	0	8/17/2020	we do not assign until they train. we do have recruits to fill these locations at this time.	
Baltimore County	176		0	25	88		29	10	88		23	15	1100		1335	500	11	11 14	452 1	452	0	1387	550	8/20/2020	numbers for all 9 days	
Calvert	16			0	8			1 0	N/A			0	72			0	1	1	96	96	0	0	0	8/17/2020	Provisional Judge perfom sdr	
Caroline	16		0	2	8		0	1	0			0	40		0	12	1	1	64	64	0	0	15	8/14/2020	Chief Judges perform SDR	
Carrol	64	0	0	0	32		0	1 0	I/A	0	0	0	256	0	0	0	2	2 3	352	100	0	0	0	9/10/2020	apps on file is cumulative for all positions	
Cecil	16		0	0	8		0	0	8		0	0	160	0	0	84	1	1 1	192	192	0	0	84	8/14/2020	Have staffed Early Voting. Training in October	
Charles	32	0	0	0	16	0		0	16	0		0	616	0		0	2	2 6	680	680	0	0	0	9/10/2020		
Dorchester	16		0	0	8		0	0	0			0	64		0	0	1	1	88	88	0	0	0	9/2/2020	Provisional Judges perform SDR. At this time all positions are filled and judges scheduled for training. Approximately 40 Alternates scheduled to be trained.	
Frederick	64		0	0	32		0	0	32		0	0	768			0	4	4 8	396	896	0	0	0	8/19/2020	Required indicates one-day shifts. Assigned indicates those interested, not assigned. We do not assign until they train. Number who serve multiple days will decline due to longer hours. Provisional # includes SDR.	
Garrett	56	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	2	2	172	50	0	0	0	9/2/2020	Chief Judges perform SDR	
Harford	64	66		0	64	24		0	36	12		0	648	401		0	4	4 8	312 1	536	503	0	0	9/2/2020	We do not assign until we train. We have 280 scheduled for traning starting in a couple of weeks.	
Howard	120		32	0	80		32	0	40		0	0	1160		220	0	5	5 14	400 1	116	0	284	0	8/24/2020		
Kent	20	0	0	1	10	0	0	2 1	I/A			0	48	0	0	0	1	1	78	78	0	0	3	9/10/2020	Provisional Judge perfom sdr	
Montgomery	176	0	0	0	220	0	0	0	N/A			0	3564		2493	0	11	11 39	960 1	071	0	2493	0	9/3/2020	Required indicates one-day shifts. We do not assign to roles until they train. Number of applications on file indicates subset of Election Day applicants who have specifically committed to working early voting.	
Prince George's	22		0	0	0		0	0	132		0	0	1320		0	0	11	11 14	474 3	090	0	0	0	8/22/2020	Required indicates one-day shift. PJ's are crossed trained and perform as SDR.	
Queen Anne's	32	0		0	16			0	16			0	184			0	2	2 2	248	248	0	0	0	9/10/2020	We do not assign until trained. We have started a wait list tha will be used for those that drop out and for canvassing.	
St. Mary's	16		0	0	8		0	0	8		0	0	30		0	0	1	1	62	62	0	0	0	9/10/2020		
Somerset	16			0	16			0	16			0	64			0	1		112	112	0	0	0		Chief Judges perform SDR	
Talbot	16	0	1	0	16	0	9	0 r	ı/a			0	150	0		0	1	1	182	154	0	10	0	9/2/2020	Planning on 4 teams to work two non-consecutive days for the eight days	
Washington	16		0	0	16		0	0	0		0	0	200			0	1	1 2	232	32	0	0	0	8/19/2020	Provisional Judge performs SDR	
Wicomico	36			0	20			0	20			0	152			0	1	1 2	228	0	0	0	0	8/24/2020	Wicomico does not assign Early Voting Judges until training is complete.	
Worcester	32			0	16			0	16			0	200			0	1	1 2	264	0	0	0	0	8/19/2020	# based on 8 days of early voting with one early voting center	
Total	1166	71	33	28	736	28	71	13	428	12	23	15	11536	403	4184	600	81	80 138	366 12	205	514	4311	656	8/14/2020		

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		EL	ECTION JUDGE	S		
Election Judge Type	Required	Apps on File	Trained	Unassigned	% Unassigned	Dropped Out
Chief Judges	682	903	44	-23	-3.37%	52
Provisional Judges	649	371	28	190	29.28%	27
SDR Judges	377	404	12	10	2.65%	25
Voting Operations Judges	10276	19184	611	-3456	-33.63%	302
Election Day Total Judges	11984	20862	695	-3279	-27.36%	406
Chief Judges	1166	765	71	33	2.83%	28
Provisional Judges	736	299	28	71	9.65%	13
SDR Judges	428	624	12	23	5.37%	15
Voting Operations Judges	11536	10517	403	4184	36.27%	600
Early Voting Total Judges	13866	12205	514	4311	31.09%	656
GRAND TOTAL	25850	33067	1209	1032	3.99%	1062
		POLLING	PLACES			
	Total Precincts	Confirmed	Dropouts	Consolidated	Co-located	
Election Day	323	316	0	0	0	
Early Voting	81	80	0	0	0	

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Media Contacts: Press@oag.state.md.us 410-576-7009

PRESS RELEASE

Attorney General Frosh Joins Motion for Preliminary Injunction Against Postal Service Disruptions

BALTIMORE, MD (September 10, 2020) – Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh, together with a coalition of other states, <u>filed a motion for a preliminary injunction</u> to immediately halt the U.S. Postal Service's (USPS) operational changes that have led to cratering postal performance. The changes also threaten the ability of the USPS to properly handle the November presidential election, which is expected to have a record number of mail-in ballots due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"For weeks, we have heard from Marylanders who have been impacted by Postmaster DeJoy's policies, which have disrupted the operations of the USPS," said Attorney General Frosh. "The slowdowns in USPS service have caused Marylanders to miss delivery of crucial prescription medications, legal documents, election mail, paychecks, benefit checks, and more. These stories are heart wrenching, and completely avoidable but for DeJoy's disruptive policies. This needs to stop now, so Marylanders, and people across the country, can once again rely on the postal service to do its job."

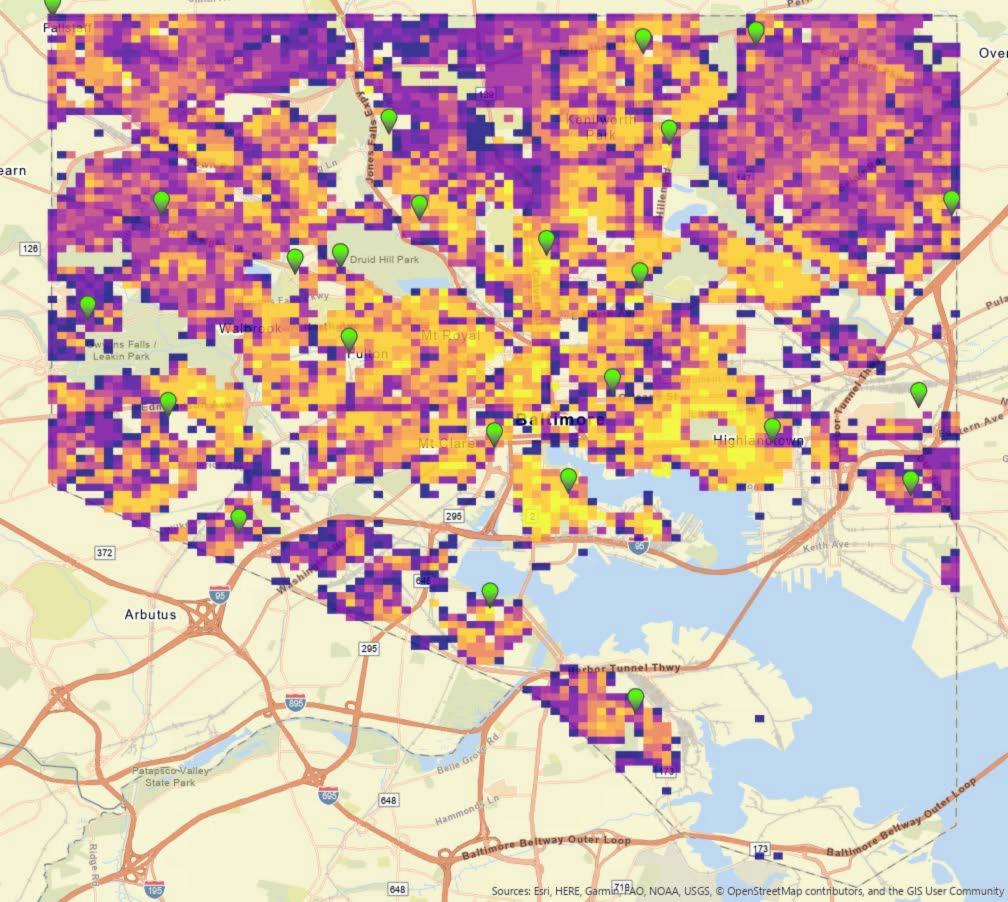
The motion for preliminary injunction, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington, seeks the following:

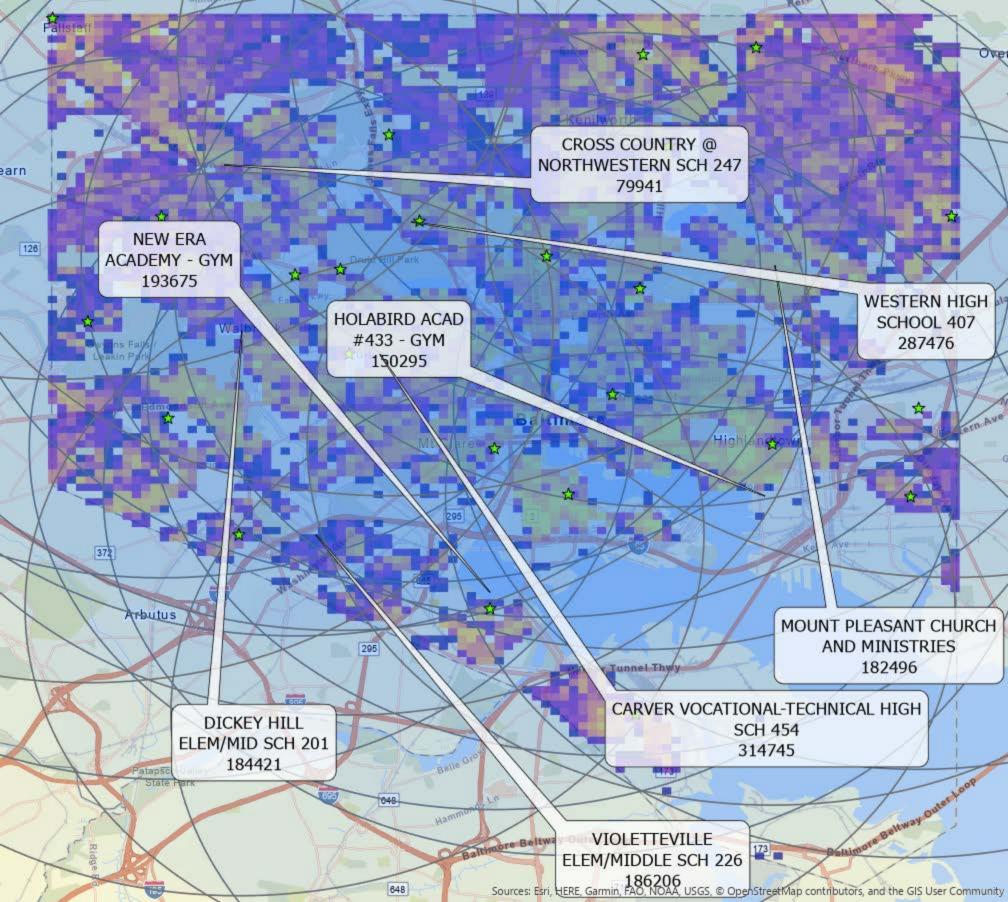
- Immediately stop the Postal Service's "leave mail behind" policy, where postal trucks are required to leave at specified times, regardless if there is mail still to be loaded;
- Require the Postal Service to continue its longstanding practice of treating all election mail as First Class mail, regardless of the paid postage;
- Require the Postal Service to replace, reassemble, or reconnect any removed mail-sorting machines that are needed to ensure timely processing and delivery of election mail;
- Require the Postal Service to abide by Postmaster General DeJoy's commitment to suspend the recent policy changes that have affected mail service until after the election

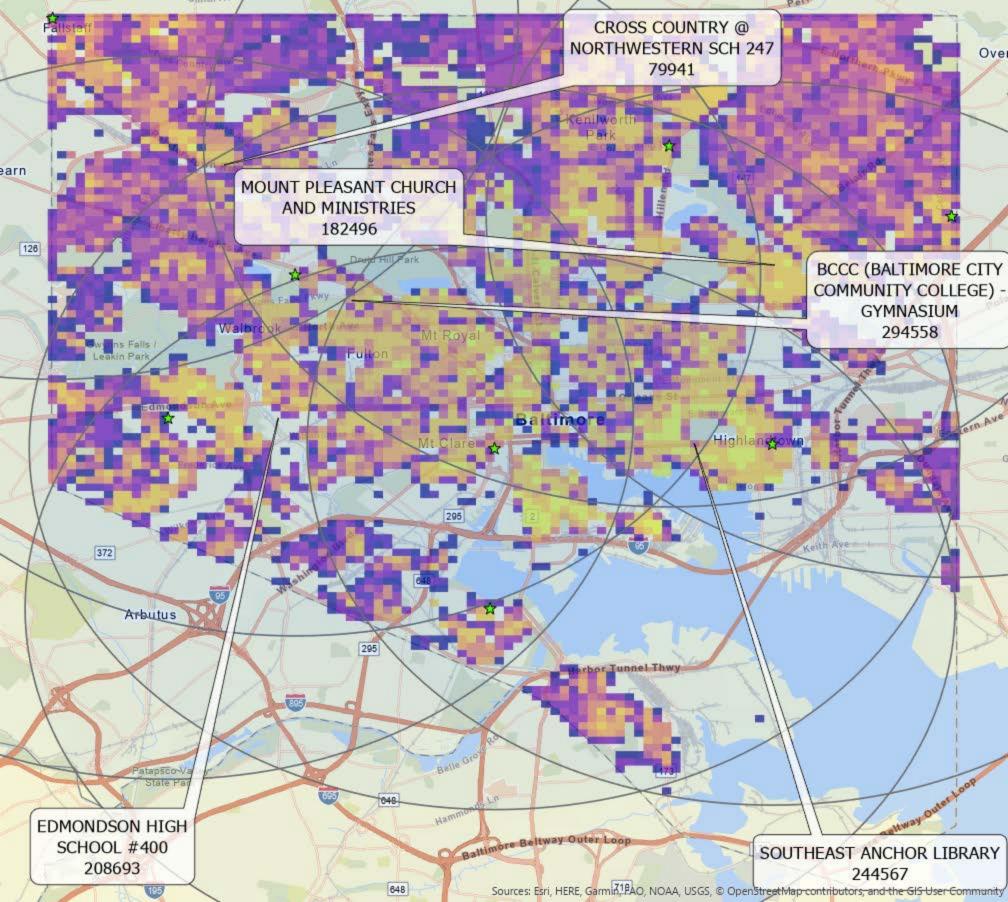
Attorney General Frosh, along with 13 other attorneys general, filed a lawsuit over the changes to the Postal Service last month. The USPS changes, including eliminating or reducing staff overtime, halting outgoing mail processing at state distribution centers and removing critical mail sorting equipment, threaten the timely delivery of mail to millions of Americans who rely on the postal service for everything from medical prescriptions to ballots.

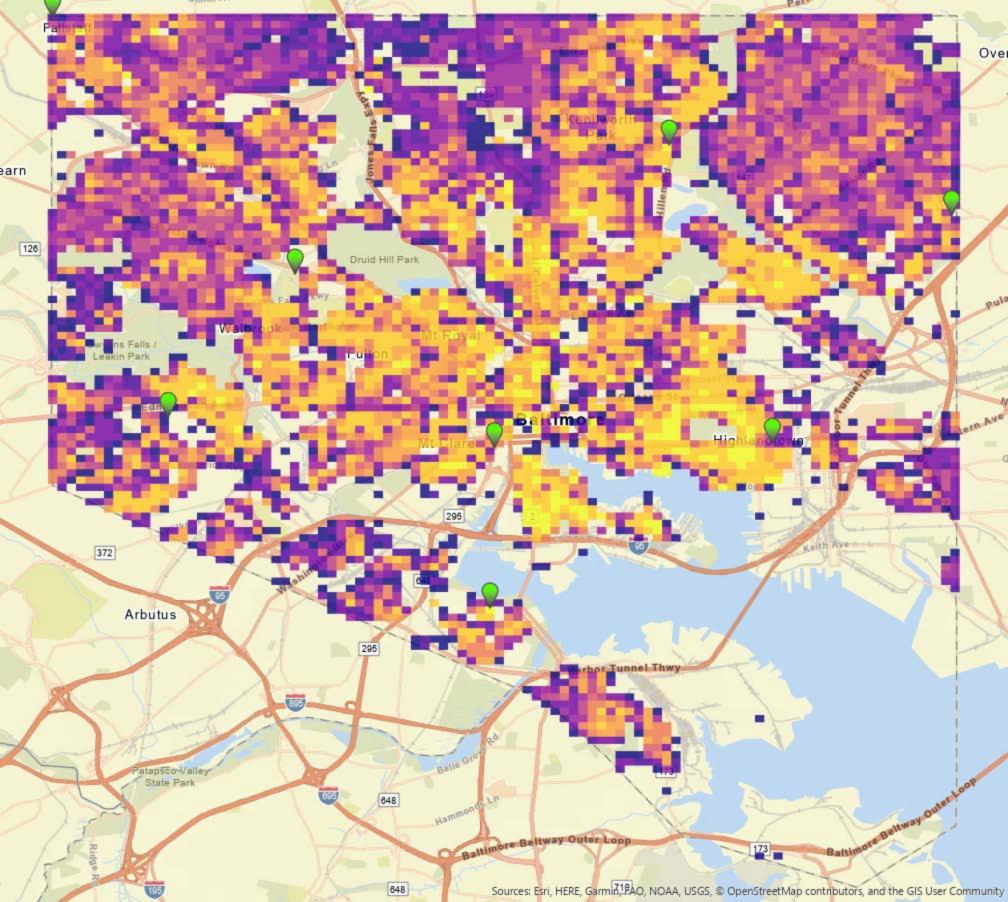
A hearing on the preliminary injunction motion is scheduled for September 17.

Attorney General Frosh is joined in the motion by the attorneys general from Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.











Nikki Charlson -SBE- <nikki.charlson@maryland.gov>

Ballot marking device

1 message

Abigail Goldman -SBE- <abigail.goldman@maryland.gov>

Thu, Sep 3, 2020 at 2:25 PM

To: Nikki Charlson -SBE- <nikki.charlson@maryland.gov>, Armstead Jones <armstead.jones@baltimorecity.gov>

Nikki

Baltimore City is asking for the use of 4 BMDs for Election day Vote Centers.

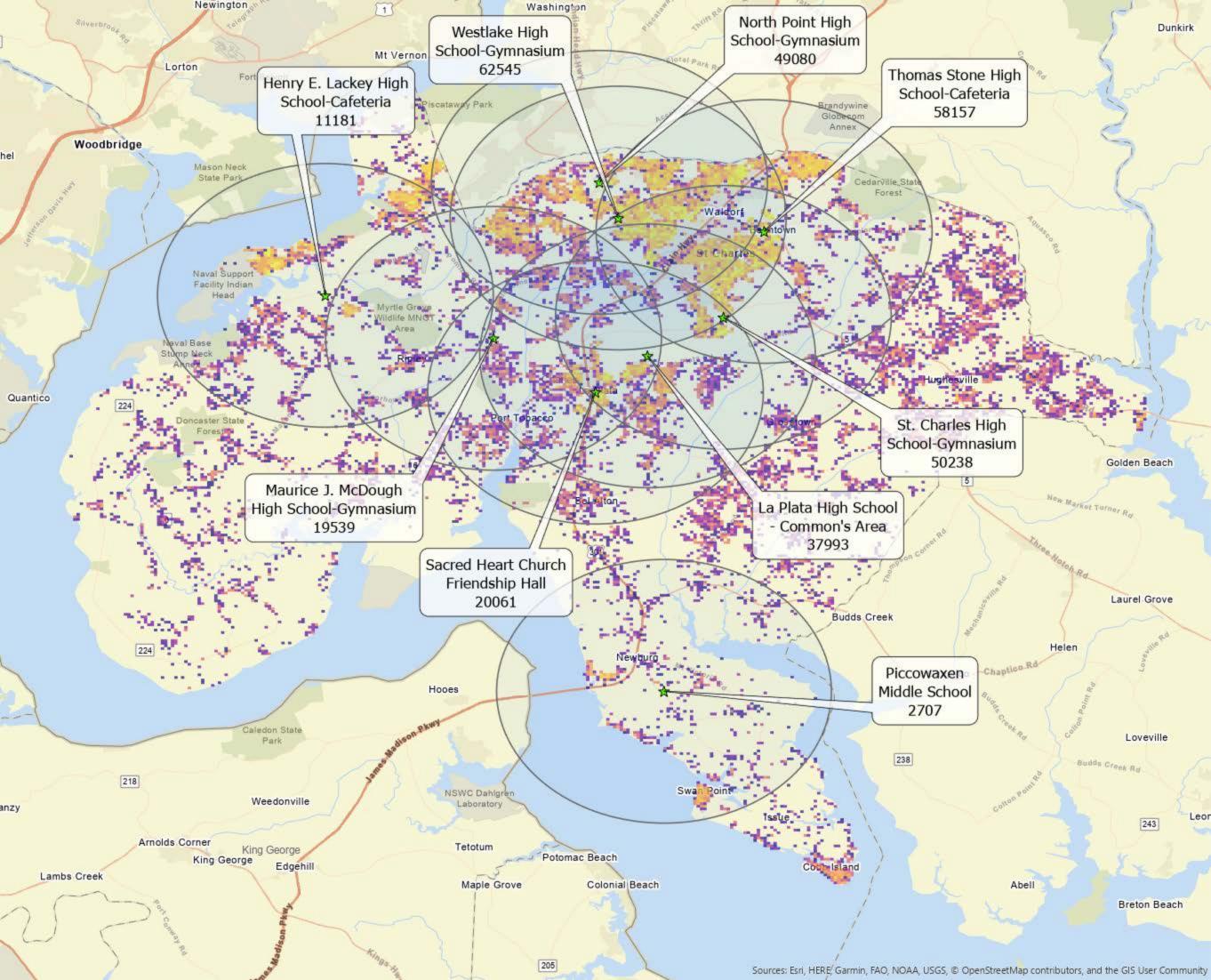
Thanks

Abigail

Abigail Goldman, CERA **Deputy Election Director for Baltimore City** Benton Office Bldg. Room 129 417 E. Fayette Street

Baltimore, MD 21202 Phone: 410-396-5570 410-962-8747 Fax:

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September 10, 2020

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Voter Services Cyndy Cartwright Web Master

Vacant

VIA E-MAIL (nikki.charlson@maryland.gov)

Michael R. Cogan, Chairman Linda Lamone, State Administrator State Board of Elections Members: Patrick J. Hogan

Malcolm L. Funn Kelley A Howells William G. Voelp

151West Street, Suite 200 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Mr. Michael R Cogan and Board of Elections Members:

It goes without saying that 2020 is a unique election year, without precedent for the number and types of variables that have and will impact voter behavior. Regardless of the way a voter chooses to vote, the League of Women Voters is dedicated to "ensuring that our elections are free, fair and accessible."

The League of Women Voters of St. Mary's County strongly encourages the St. Mary's County Election Board to approve a second Early Voting Center located in the southern hub for the 2020 General Election.

- A second Early Voting Center, open for eight 13-hour days, will add an additional 104 hours of voter access in the southern county.
 - The proposed alternative, the addition of an Election Day Voting Center at Lexington Park Elementary School and another at Spring Ridge Middle School, adds two single 13hour days, for a total of 26 hours of additional voter access.
 - Removing the second Early Voting Center from GMHS denies 78 hours of additional voter access in the southern county. The difference between the original plan (Attachment 1) and the revised plan (Attachment 2) is striking in its reduction of access.
- An additional 78 additional hours of in-person voting access should reduce voter density, reduce wait times, shorten lines, result in easier enforcement of social distancing, all of which results in a safer environment for voters and election judges.
- A second Early Voting Center, at GMHS or other suitable facility in the southern county, also adds seven additional days of in-person voting. This is an immeasurable opportunity for working and/or parenting voters.



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Since voters often vote on their way to or from work, and since voters can now vote at any Voting
Center, a southern Early Voting Center will also provide convenient access to those who work in
the employment center of the county.

A second Early Voting Center will increase voter accessibility for St. Mary's County. In light of recent attacks on mail-in voting; i.e., predictions for mail delays, allegations of massive fraud, and reports of ballot rejection, increased in-person voting accessibility is an imperative.

We note that at the September 4th meeting of the Board of Elections there was discussion regarding St. Mary's County and it was determined that your office would reach out to the County Commissioners. Unfortunately this does not appear to have happened as our discussions with Commission Colvin lead us to believe they have not been consulted regarding an additional early voting center which is very disappointing.

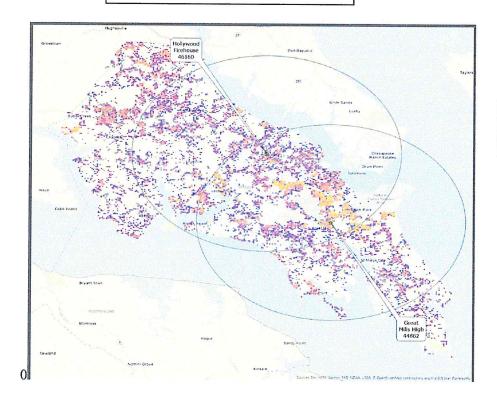
Sincerely

Kathleen M. Werner

Vice-President, League of Women Voters of St. Mary's County, Maryland

Attachment 1: August 28, 2020 proposal to the SBE Attachment 2: September 4, 2020 proposal to the SBE

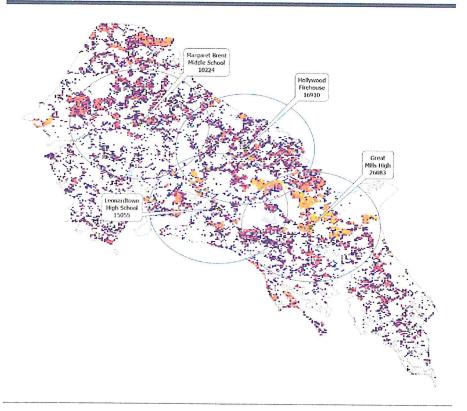
August 28, 2020 Proposal to the SBE



2 Early Voting Centers 79% of voters w/i 5 miles



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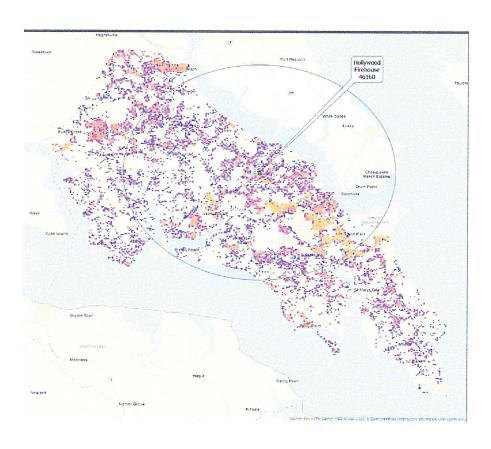
4 Election Day Voting Centers 76% of voters w/i 5 miles



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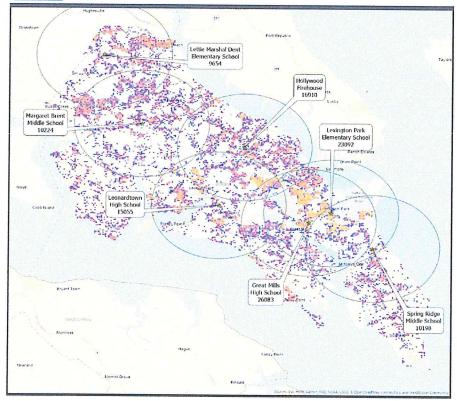
September 4, 2020 Proposal to the SBE

1 Early Voting Center 65% of voters w/i 5 miles Loss of 14%





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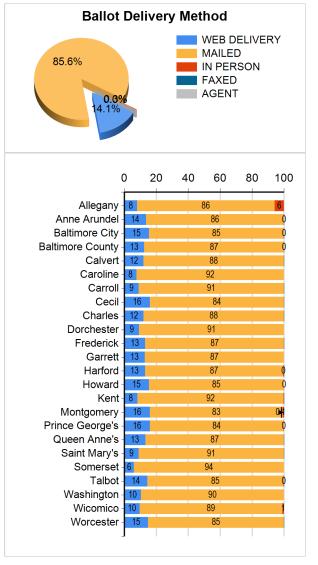


7 Election Day Voting Centers 89% of voters w/i 5 miles Gain of 13% 76%

Mail-in Ballot Requests by County

Election: 2020 Presidential General Election As of: September 10, 2020

COUNTY	AGENT	1				
Allegae		FAXED	IN PERSON	MAILED	WEB DELIVERY	TOTAL
Allegany	0	0	200	2,912	274	3,386
Anne Arundel	0	11	1	64,691	10,253	74,956
Baltimore City	0	33	9	40,225	7,302	47,569
Baltimore County	0	24	8	82,414	11,778	94,224
Calvert	0	2	9	8,057	1,106	9,174
Caroline	0	0	0	1,935	159	2,094
Carroll	0	10	1	18,904	1,869	20,784
Cecil	0	1	0	3,933	746	4,680
Charles	0	9	5	17,245	2,359	19,618
Dorchester	0	0	0	1,580	159	1,739
Frederick	0	2	0	23,955	3,608	27,565
Garrett	0	0	0	1,083	158	1,241
Harford	0	9	100	18,161	2,719	20,989
Howard	1	12	4	38,163	6,936	45,116
Kent	0	2	2	2,025	180	2,209
Montgomery	1	41	1,182	135,342	26,067	162,633
Prince George's	2	4	170	55,666	10,673	66,515
Queen Anne's	0	2	0	3,751	572	4,325
Saint Mary's	0	4	7	11,364	1,125	12,500
Somerset	0	0	0	1,118	71	1,189
Talbot	0	1	11	3,172	533	3,717
Washington	0	0	0	9,108	1,049	10,157
Wicomico	0	0	76	6,013	643	6,732
Worcester	0	3	0	2,473	429	2,905
TOTAL	4	170	1,785	553,290	90,768	646,017





St. Mary's County Branch #7025

Post Office Box 189 Lexington Park, Maryland 20653 (240) 317-7047

Email: <u>stmarysnaacp@gmail.com</u> <u>www.stmarysnaacp.org</u>

September 8, 2020

Michael R Cogan, Chairman Linda Lamone, State Administrator State Board of Elections Members: Patrick J Hogan Malcolm L Funn Kelley A Howells William G Voelp 23250 Hollywood Road Leonardtown, MD 20650

Dear Mr. Michael R Cogan and Board of Elections Members,

I am writing in response to the discussion and questions asked during the September 4, State Board of Elections meeting. The discussion with the St. Mary's County Board of Elections Director centered on the need for an Early Voting Center to service the southern end of St. Mary's County. The State Board of Elections approved Great Mills High School as a location to meet this need during its August 28, 2020, meeting.

The St Mary's County Branch of the NAACP strongly supports a county Early Voting Center in the Lexington Park and Great Mills area, an area which makes up St. Mary's County's largest population center. In previous letters sent to the St Mary's County Board of Elections, the first letter sent in April, we have highlighted the need for improved voting access to citizens from the southern end of the County due to the large population and the lack of strong public transportation.

The State Board of Elections supports Early Voting to help alleviate Election Day problems, especially the problem that some Election Day Centers would likely be overwhelmed since citizens may choose any voting center. When the St. Mary's County Board of Elections selected Great Mills High School as an Early Voting Center, a security plan was developed to ensure citizens could vote without endangering the safety of the students. If the security plan remains viable given the changes proposed by St Mary's Public Schools, the Voting Center should remain at Great Mills High School. If security has now become an issue, we recommend the following locations for consideration:

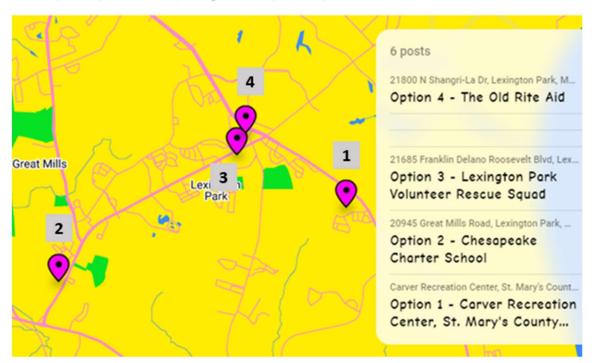
- 1. Carver Recreation Center 47382 Lincoln Ave, Lexington Park, MD 20653
- 2. Chesapeake Charter School 20945 Great Mills Road, Lexington Park, MD 20653
- 3. Lexington Park Volunteer Rescue Squad 21685 Franklin Delano Roosevelt Blvd, Lexington Park, MD 20653
- 4. Rite Aid located in the Plaza at 21800 N Shangri-La Dr, Lexington Park, MD 20653

Citizens are confused by the many changes adopted for the general election process: the application to receive a ballot, drop boxes and drop box locations for returning ballots, how to vote, when to vote, and where to vote. An Early Voting Center in the southern section of St. Mary's County, open for the 8 days before Election Day, would give those citizens an additional 104 hours of access to voting allowing opportunity to clarify misconceptions of the general election. Please assist the citizens of St Mary's County and provide easy access and ample voting opportunities in the Lexington Park and Great Mills areas. Support an Early Voting Center there to serve the population.

D I G N I T Y

Early Voting Options

Proposed options for early voting in St Mary's County



We appreciate all the work that you've done so far. We look forward to your response. Feel free to contact me at 205-566-0418.

Respectfully,

Willian R. Hall III

President, St. Mary's County NAACP

Cc: Senator Jack Bailey

Delegate Jerry Clark Delegate Brian Crosby

Delegate Matt Morgan

Willie Flowers, Maryland State Conference President

St Mary's Board of County Commissioners

St Mary's County Board of Elections

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT BALLOT QUESTION G FOR BALTIMORE CITY VOTERS

Please note that the language on the ballot for "Question G – Charter Amendment – Vetoes" is incorrect. The correct language is as follows:

Resolution No. 20-20 is for the purpose of reducing the number of votes by City Council members that are needed to override a mayoral veto from three-fourths of the members of the City Council to two-thirds of those members.

If you wish to vote in this contest, please mark your ballot in the space provided for voting on Question G. Your vote will be counted as a vote for the corrected version of Question G set forth on this Notice.



September 10, 2020

Members, Maryland State Board of Elections 151 West Street, Suite 200 Annapolis, MD 21401 cc: Linda H. Lamone, State Administrator

Dear Chairman and Members of the Board:

Each election cycle, countless voters are excluded from participating in the electoral process as a result of their pretrial detention and misdemeanor status. They are prevented from accessing voter registration forms, mail-in request forms, the ballot, and critical information on voting.

For the first time, the State Board of Elections (SBE) has agreed to work with advocates to provide eligible incarcerated voters in state and local correctional facilities with access to these materials for the general election. Below is a detailed outline of our collective efforts to ensure access to voting in the coming weeks.

The State Board of Elections has already or agreed to:

- Send an email to all wardens and administrators of local correctional facilities requesting the number of eligible voters in their facilities.
- Arrange for the printing and mailing of materials to be sent to all local correctional facilities in the state. SBE has started the procurement process for some of the mailing already.
- The mailings will include:
 - o Insert #1: Two-sided cover letter (one side with address information for local boards of elections on the other with information specifically for voters in local correctional facilities)
 - o Insert #2: Two-sided voter registration application (instructions on one side and application on the other)
 - o Insert #3: Two-sided application to request a mail-in ballot (instructions on one side and application on the other)
 - o Insert #4: Envelope with return paid postage with a blank mailing address. The voter would use the address information on the back of Insert #1 to write the address of the appropriate local board of elections
- SBE has also confirmed that Spanish materials will be made available for Prince George's County and Montgomery County correctional facilities.
- Send detailed instructions to all wardens and administrators of these local correctional facilities, outlining who is eligible to vote and how to distribute and handle materials.

Advocates and others have been able to:

- Secure lists of eligible incarcerated voters who have been provided from Washington County Detention Center, Howard County Department of Corrections, Charles County Detention Center, Carroll County Detention Center, Howard County Detention Center, Montgomery County Detention Center, Dorchester County Detention Center. This outreach was led by Out for Justice who secured the lists and shared them with SBE. They continue to lead outreach to other facilities throughout the state.
- Confirm that Montgomery County correctional facility will be actively working to ensure eligible voters have access to voting. SBE will be sending them the cover letters to incorporate in these efforts.

Recommendation

- SBE should provide secure collection boxes to all local correctional facilities for safe collection of completed voter forms and ballots.
- SBE should direct the local boards to include their one or two correctional facilities in their rounds for picking up ballots from drop boxes.
- SBE should request local correctional facilities add the Out For Justice non partisan
 voter hotline phone number to their free call list. This number will assist voters who have
 questions about the election process or want to report complaints.
- SBE should support non-partisan educational materials and ask for help from local advocates

Recommended Timeline

- Instructions on how state and local correctional facilities need to facilitate voting should be sent to correctional facilities before September 18, 2020
- All voter registration and mail-in ballot forms should be sent to state and local correctional facilities by September 18, 2020
- Secure collection boxes should be made available for at these local correctional facilities by the week of September 28, 2020
 - If small drop boxes cannot be made available for local correctional facilities, the local boards should come up with another process for safe collection of completed voter registration forms, mail-in ballot applications, and mail-in ballots
- Voter registration and mail-in ballot applications should be picked up once a week from **September 21, 2020 through October 13, 2020**.
 - Pick ups should increase to at least every two days before every deadline, on the evening of that deadline.
 - Ballot applications from eligible incarcerated voters should be processed quickly because of inherent mail delays due to correctional procedures for both incoming and outgoing mail in the facilities. Ballots start being mailed out September 24th. After this deadline, local boards of elections should try to pick up ballots consistently twice a week. When in person voting begins, local boards should try to visit facilities more often.
 - After October 13th, the voter registration deadline will have passed. Local boards should shift to weekly pick up of ballots.

- SBE should inform the local boards that voter registration and mail-in ballot applications
 from local correctional facilities must be prioritized because of mail delays, putting the
 locals on notice that the mail will take longer in both directions.
- Ballots should be picked up once a week from through October 23, 2020.
 - Pick up should increase to at least every two days leading up to Election Day.
 - o Last pick up of ballots should occur on the evening of Election Day, before 8pm.

Baltimore City Correctional Facilities

After the primary, a Baltimore City Senator was able to work with the Maryland Department of Public Safety & Correctional Services to ensure the facilities in Baltimore City sent lists of eligible incarcerated voters to SBE. Eligible voters in these facilities will be receiving election materials in the coming week, but no efforts have been made to ensure access to voters in other state facilities.

Other State Correctional Facilities

While we recognize the Maryland Department of Corrections has produced an Inmate Voting and Procedures policy, this document was only recently made available. We are not confident this policy was implemented by DSPCS during the primary election and do not believe they have the ability to implement a secure process for voting by November 3rd as it does not involve local or state election officials. We hope the SBE will follow through on the commitments listed above and consider following the recommendations listed above. We also hope the SBE will make access to voting for eligible incarcerated voters a priority in all future elections.

Out for Justice ACLU Maryland Life After Release Maryland Justice Project Common Cause Maryland League of Women Voters of Maryland Job Opportunities Task Force Campaign Legal Center

