Presentation Feedback

Slide 8: What is the minimum number of precincts needed in Marion County? (Applying the Indiana law of 1200 voters per precinct divided by approximately 640,000 registered voters, the minimum is about 534 precincts.)

Slide 14: Why fewer polling locations in last election than previous elections? Why are there 3 non-voting precincts? (They exist to encompass large parcels like the reservoir, speedway, airport.)

Slide 15: Can we work with superintendents of school districts as individual school administrators create issues on Election Day by changing entrances to voting, etc.?

Slide 16: Are people leaving political yard signs on polling location property violating any local ordinances or the terms of the contract? Are polling locations vetted before they are assigned? General comment to encourage visiting the sites before making assignment to ensure they are viable for Election Day voting.

Slide 19: Is it practically possible to find 3 sites per 25 council districts to accommodate up to 10,000 voters?

Slide 22: Have there been concerns about security at polling locations? (Nothing reported to the Election Board directly.)

Slide 39: Is there a hidden population of voters with disabilities not participating on Election Day? Do many voters with disabilities opt to use absentee voting than vote at a precinct? Is the lack of participation by people with disabilities due to not registering to vote, lacking ID or non-accessible sites?

Slide 45: What is the technology needed to aid in connectivity for vote center counties like Austin, Texas?

Slide 49: Are employers required to give employees time off to vote on Election Day?

Responses to Questionnaire

Question 1: What stood out to you in the best practices for polling place selection?

1. Accessibility and familiarity
2. Get school superintendent and/or school board members onboard to help with any school principal issues; preview a precinct voting site prior to approval
3. Accessibility is vital
4. All the steps involved in selecting sites
5. Importance of making sure all is accessible
6. Ability to create ‘super’ precincts
7. Sending out contractual agreements to polling place locations; enhanced requirements is good idea
8. Mail-in ballot option in Fort Collins, CO (i.e. Colorado’s law permitting a standing request to vote absentee)
9. Public; accessible; familiarity
10. Accessible restrooms; number of car/van parking spaces for those who have disabilities

Question 2: If you were advising the Election Board directly, what is important to you and your organization/constituents regarding polling place selection and accessibility?
   1. Selecting locations that are ADA/HAVA compliant that also have adequate parking
   2. Convenience; clearly marked; an absence of confusion; an air of welcomeness; well-informed and well-trained poll workers
   3. Keep it local and as close to the center of the precinct as possible
   4. Opportunities for early voting are essential to full access to voting
   5. Convenient for voters
   6. Drive through voting service for those with mobility challenges
   7. Convenience for the voter; ability to encourage more voter participation
   8. Feedback from voters
   9. Early voting options seem to help make voting easier, whether for precinct or vote centers
   10. Flow of polling space; compliant host staff on site
   11. Ease of access for pedestrians via sidewalks; parking count for disability parking
   12. Important that selection of voting locations & its access allows those who want to vote to do so; with as little bias to outcome as possible

Question 3: After the group discussion on question 2, please note your top three (or more) points about polling place locations and accessibility.
   1. Accessibility must be complete and includes many factors; vote centers do not appear to likely improve accessibility; familiarity with location cannot be minimized as an important factor & can help the voter plan ahead
   2. Parking; access to building; access to machines
   3. Adequate space for people/parking; accessibility of sites, equipment; consistency of locations is important; any change requires public education
   4. Accessibility; parking; extended hours
   5. Parking availability; liability; floor plan
   6. Located in ‘high traffic’ areas; ease of egress; recognition that different sites can accommodate different voters; i.e. walk-up, driving, bus
   7. Proximity to polling place & disability accessible; parking; unknown if those with disability cannot go to voting site
   8. Bullet points listed above PLUS accessible guaranteed path from parking lot
   9. Fully accessible route to polls; ease of access to main entry; restroom facilities
   10. Seems likely that those with disabilities are under-represented & may be intimidated by access concerns; technology may help address intimidation if used proactively to collect votes

Question 4: Anything else you would like to note.
   1. Poll worker training can improve the process; it should start early
   2. Since there are 9 townships, how many polling locations would you possibly have in each township?
3. Does the Mayor’s office currently control the polling locations? In vote centers would this then be the duty of the Election Board?
4. Polling sites should be free of bias/not promote self-reflection of voters in one way or another; virtual polling should be considered as a pro-active measure to reduce physical burden on polling locations & make voting more accessible for those with disabilities

**General Information Section**

**Question 1: What new information did you hear tonight?**
1. Horses can be service animals
2. Experience in other states with vote centers
3. ADA and election process
4. How the Mayor’s office deals with polling locations
5. Requirements for accessible locations
6. There is a place (Austin) that made it work by transitioning current polling sites; I want to hear more about this
7. Challenges and methods of approving voting sites

**Question 2: What topics or concepts need further discussion and explanation?**
1. We need to have access to sample voting machines & technology which we currently utilize. We need to see how machines work & understand what is required to make machines run.
2. Practicality of vote centers
3. Equipment accessibility: what voting equipment or set-up of stations would improve voter access?
4. Checklist for polling site requirements
5. Will vote centers save money or encourage higher turnout?
6. More about place like Austin; seems to have worked there and would here in Marion County
7. Allowable assistants (human or animal) approved for polling sites

**Question 3: What additional materials or data can we provide to make this process more helpful and meaningful?**
1. What options are there for expanded voting that uses current precincts? How about cost comparisons to vote centers?
2. Checklist for polling site requirements
3. Having the speaker from the Mayor’s office come in was information and listening to the other counties with vote centers will be helpful
4. More information about vote centers that work
5. Online access to notes made during meeting