BERKELEY MEASURE Y1

EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT YOUTH VOTING

IN BERKELEY SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

Berkeley Measure Y1

Authorizes the City Council to pass an ordinance allowing 16 and 17 year-olds to vote in school board elections IF:

1. No City funds are used for any related expenses
2. All systems and procedures are technically ready
3. City elections can still be consolidated with county elections
4. It does not increase the election costs of the City

Berkeley Voters Make History

► More than 70% of Berkeley voters vote in favor of Measure Y1

► Berkeley becomes the first city in California to authorize youth voting

► Berkeley becomes one of the first cities in the U.S. to authorize youth voting, after Takoma Park and Hyattsville, Maryland

Implementing Measure Y1

- ► The Goal: An agreement between the City, the Registrar of Voters, and the School District addressing implementation issues

- ► The Challenge: No direct precedent

- ► The Plan:
  - ► Learn from San Francisco's implementation of non-citizen voting
  - ► Meet with the Alameda County Registrar of Voters

Issues to address

- Voter registration
  - Can the ROV rely on state pre-registration process?
- Casting ballots
  - Vote by mail v. voting in person
  - Ensuring voting is accessible for voters with disabilities
- Voting integrity
  - Ensuring Y1 voters receive ballots with school board races only
  - Ensuring Y1 voters can only cast a single ballot
- Poll Worker Training

The Current Technical Challenge To Implementing Measure Y1

- DIMS is the Alameda County ROV's system for tracking voters

- The ROV needs to be able to create a separate database for YI voters within DIMS

- DIMS lacks that current capacity

The Current Technical Challenge To Implementing Measure Y1 (cont.)

- ► The ROV needs to be able to consider all voters for some functions
  - ► For example, the ROV needs to know how many voters are within each voting precinct
- ► The ROV also needs to be able to treat Y1 voters separately for other functions
  - ► For example, the ROV needs to make sure Y1 voters receive ballots with only school board candidates

Reasons for Optimism

- DIMS is working to create a new system that would allow the ROV to create a separate database for YI voters within DIMS

- We believe this will be technically feasible because San Francisco's system for tracking voters has this capacity

- DIMS is motivated to create this capacity

- Motivation is likely mounting as other cities consider following suit

  - Oakland

  - Los Angeles

  - Others?

Next Steps

1. Learn more about DIMS' update
2. Determine whether ROV can acquire and use this update
3. Determine whether ROV's process for implementation of Measure Y1 meets Measure Y1's other criteria
4. City Council will decide whether to adopt an ordinance allowing youth voting
5. Move through this process as soon as reasonably possible

QUESTIONS?