



ARAPAHOE COUNTY
COLORADO'S FIRST

Joan Lopez
Clerk and Recorder

OFFICE OF THE CLERK AND RECORDER
Elections Division

November 3, 2020 General Election Proposed Designation of Voter Service & Polling Centers

Pursuant to C.R.S. 1-5-102.9(1)(c)(II), the Elections Division of the Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder is seeking public comments on this proposed designation of voter service and polling centers (VSPCs) for the November 3, 2020 General Election.

Share your comments on this proposal through this [online form](#) by **Monday, April 27, 2020**. You may also send suggestions directly by email to elections@arapahoegov.com or by mail to the Clerk and Recorder's Office at 5334 South Prince St., Littleton, CO 80120. Also, watch for an announcement of details for a public meeting to be held in early April, where you can hear from Clerk Joan Lopez and Election Division personnel and voice your comments in person.

The Proposal

Based on updates to Colorado's election law last year, Arapahoe County has been adding new VSPCs and 24-hour drop boxes across the county. Tracking through recent elections shows that our voters vastly prefer to return a mail ballot rather than vote in person, with over 90% of Arapahoe County voters casting that mail ballot in the last November Presidential Election of 2016. But VSPCs are an important part of Colorado's gold standard election system, providing a place for voters to get replacement ballots, register to vote for the first time, update registration, vote in person, vote with accessible ballot marking devices, and another location to drop off a mail ballot.

For the November 3, 2020 General Election, Arapahoe County is planning to open **29 VSPCs and 32 drop boxes (open 24-hours)**. The VSPCs will be opening in two different Phases to accommodate early voters and then maximize locations for the final high turnout days leading into November 3. We have included a [proposed VSPC and Drop Box map](#) for reference in reviewing this proposal.

Proposed VSPC locations

We are seeking public comment on the proposed VSPC designations in the chart below. Under Colorado law, we consider several factors when designating VSPCs, including:

1. Proximity to public transportation lines and availability of parking.
2. Geographic features, such as mountain passes, that tend to affect access and convenience.
3. Equitable distribution across the county so as to afford maximally convenient options for electors.
4. The existence and location of population centers.
5. Access for persons with disabilities.
6. Use of existing voting locations that typically serve a significant number of electors.
7. Use of public buildings that are known to electors in the county, especially to the extent that using such buildings results in cost savings compared to other potential locations.
8. Polling locations shall be in public locations wherever possible. A private location may be used only when no appropriate public location is available.

9. Proximity to historically under-represented communities.

Some of the designated VSPCs have been used before in a November General Election. The chart below includes in-person voting totals for these locations in the most recent 2018 General Election. Other VSPCs have been added more recently or will be used for the first time in the November General Election, such as the two locations at Community College of Aurora which are required under new state law provisions that increase voting locations on higher education campuses.

We are seeking public comment and suggestions on these proposed locations and their use in Phase 1 or Phase 2 based on these factors. For example, we would like to locate VSPCs in public locations wherever possible and phase out the few private (mostly religious) sites. We hope that county voters, community organizations and other representatives will provide suggested public facilities that can serve the needs of our voters in various geographic locations during this public comment period.

Location	Address	City	2018 Traffic
Phase 1 (Oct. 19 - Nov. 3)			
Arapahoe Community College	5900 S. Santa Fe Dr.	Littleton	*NEW*
Arapahoe County CentrePoint Plaza	14980 E. Alameda Dr.	Aurora	1232
Arapahoe County Lima Plaza	6954 S. Lima St.	Centennial	999
Arapahoe County Administration Building	5334 S. Prince St	Littleton	926
City of Glendale	950 S. Birch St.	Glendale	466
Englewood Civic Center	1000 Englewood Pkwy.	Englewood	470
Kelver Library	404 E. Front St	Byers	163
Mission Viejo Library	15324 E. Hampden Cir.	Aurora	1137
Smoky Hill Library	5430 S. Biscay Cir.	Aurora	1505
Southglenn Library	6972 S. Vine St	Centennial	665
Tallyn's Reach Library	23911 E Arapahoe Rd	Aurora	776
Phase 2 (Oct. 30 - Nov. 3)			
APS Educational Services Center 4	1085 Peoria	Aurora	376
APS Professional Learning and Conference Center	15771 E. First Ave.	Aurora	<i>not used in 2018</i>
Central Recreation Center	18150 E Vassar Pl	Aurora	*NEW*
Cherokee Trail High School	25901 E. Arapahoe Rd.	Aurora	291
Cherry Creek Schools Instructional Support Facility	5416 S. Riviera Way	Centennial	455
City of Aurora	15151 E Alameda Pkwy	Aurora	668
City of Greenwood Village	6060 S. Quebec St	Greenwood Village	456
Community College of Aurora - CentreTech Campus	16000 E CentreTech Pkwy	Aurora	*NEW*

Community College of Aurora - Lowry Campus	710 Alton Way	Denver	*NEW*
Heather Gardens Clubhouse	2888 S. Heather Gardens Way	Aurora	362
Hope United Methodist Church	5101 S Dayton	Greenwood Village	421
Martin Luther King Jr. Library	9898 E. Colfax Ave.	Aurora	<i>not used in 2018</i>
Mississippi Avenue Baptist Church	13231 E. Mississippi Ave.	Aurora	480
Pickens Technical College	500 Airport Blvd.	Aurora	238
Potter's House of Denver	9495 E. Florida Ave.	Denver	827
Rangeview High School	17599 E. Iliff Ave.	Aurora	714
St. Thomas More Catholic Parish	8035 S. Quebec St.	Centennial	460
Vista Peak Preparatory School	24500 E. 6th Ave	Aurora	216

Dates and Hours

VSPCs will be open the following dates and times:

- Monday, October 19 – Thursday, October 29: Phase 1 VSPCs open 8am to 5pm (M-F only)
- Friday, October 30 – Monday November 2: Phase 1 & 2 VSPCs open 8am to 5pm (M-F and Saturday, no Sunday)
- Tuesday, November 3: Phase 1 & 2 VSPCs open 7am to 7pm

Public comment sought regarding whether voters would benefit from extending evening hours on Monday November 2 to 7pm to alleviate wait times on Election Day

24-hour Drop Boxes

In addition to the 29 drop boxes already open in Arapahoe County and included on the proposed map, we will be installing **three new drop boxes** for use starting in the November 3 General Election. We are seeking public comment and suggestions for potential sites for these new drop boxes.

Drop boxes are monitored 24/7 with a security camera and the video footage must be retained by the county for a required period of time after the election. Therefore, any location for a drop box should be close enough to a location where the Elections Division can install the camera, recording equipment and storage device. Public buildings are preferred, but private property could be used if acceptable criteria are met and an agreement can be reached between the County and the property owner.

Currently, Arapahoe County does not have any drop boxes at RTD Light Rail stations unlike other jurisdictions. We are specifically requesting public comment regarding usefulness for voters of a drop box at one of the following RTD stations (in the parking/drop off area, not station rail platform):

- Littleton-Mineral (C and D lines)
- Dry Creek (E, F and R lines)
- Iliff (H and R lines)

Thank you for sharing your feedback on this proposal!