



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Luc Hatlestad
Arapahoe County Public Information Officer
Mobile: (720) 635-9350
Email: lhastlestad@arapahoegov.com

Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder's Office Wins U.S. Election Assistance Commission 2020 Clearinghouse Award *Annual "Clearie" Awards Recognizes Elections Division for Curbside Pickup Program*

March 4, 2021— ARAPAHOE COUNTY— The Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder's Office was recognized by the United States Election Assistance Commission (EAC) as a 2020 Clearinghouse Award winner in the "Outstanding Innovations for Elections" category for their [Curbside Ballot Pickup program](#) in the 2020 election cycle.

The service allows voters to call the County's Elections Hotline and schedule a location and time to pick up a mail or replacement ballot in a designated parking space. Election officials bring the ballot to the voter's car, check the voter's ID, and provide instructions to the voter on options to return their voted ballot.

"We developed Curbside Pickup primarily to keep voters and elections judges safe during the pandemic, but it was also popular with voters with disabilities that make going into a voter service center difficult, and voters with tight schedules who were able to schedule a ballot pickup at a location and time that fit their schedules," said Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder Joan Lopez.



"It's terrific to be recognized by the EAC for our work to provide this service, and we look forward to continuing to offer it, and expand it, in future elections."

The [EAC](#) awarded the [2020 Clearinghouse Awards](#), also known as the "Clearie" Awards, to election service providers across the U.S. for best practices in election administration in 2020.

“During an incredibly challenging year, election officials rose to the occasion by developing new, innovative solutions to serve voters,” EAC Commissioner and 2020 Chairman, Ben Hovland said. “As a result of their creativity and perseverance, millions of voters had their voices heard in extremely well-run elections with record turnout.”

Now in its fifth year, the Clearie awards recognize the innovative efforts of election officials across America. Entries were judged based on each initiative’s depiction of positive results, innovation, sustainability, outreach efforts, cost-effectiveness, and replicability. More information about each awardee is available on [the EAC’s website](#).

Award categories include innovation in election administration; improving accessibility for voters with disabilities; best practices in recruiting, training, and retaining poll workers; and creative and original “I Voted” sticker design. Winners were selected by two independent panels of election officials from the EAC’s advisory boards.

Established by the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), the EAC is charged with serving as a clearinghouse for election administration information. To further this mission, the EAC launched the Clearies in 2016 to promote best practices in elections and celebrate the accomplishments of election officials.

“This year we are pleased to receive a record-breaking number of 137 Clearie submissions, more than tripling the 2019 submissions,” said EAC Chairman Donald Palmer. “The number of Clearie submissions highlights that even though this was a challenging election year, officials continue to modernize and develop programming that will serve as helpful best practices for the coming years. The job of an election official is never done, and we hope to see even more submissions and exceptional examples in 2021.”

###