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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NEW BALLOT FORMAT WILL MAKE VOTING EASIER

Starting this fall, Contra Costa voters will notice that their ballot is letter-sized, the same paper size that they use daily.

The Contra Costa Elections Division is changing the ballot format by designing them to be more user friendly. The change from a 17-inch to an 11-inch length ballot card makes the ballots easier to read and handle, and also allows votes to be counted faster at the polls and in the office.

"The newly-formatted ballot cards will be similar to other pieces of mail that our voters receive and fill out on a daily basis," Contra Costa Registrar of Voters Joe Canciamilla said. "People at first may associate more ballot cards with it taking more time to vote, but that should not be the case. We're hopeful that voters will find it easier to read and use than the longer ballot cards."

There will be six ballot cards for all voters this November. The number of ballot cards will vary each election, depending on the number of offices and measures voters are asked to consider.

Postage for Vote-by-Mail ballots will be 92 cents. Voters can either mail back their Vote-By-Mail envelopes or drop them off at one of the ballot drop-off boxes located conveniently throughout the county. More information on drop-off box locations and voting by mail is available at [www.cocovote.us](http://www.cocovote.us).

Vote-by-Mail ballots will be mailed out on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

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