



Larimer County Clerk and Recorder

July 3, 2003

Dear Larimer County Voter:

The election this November will offer you choices in voting never before available in Colorado. These choices have been developed in response to recent federal and state legislation, including the Help America Vote Act of 2002, or HAVA. I am writing you this letter in advance of the election to inform you of some important changes in the voting process.

As in the past, you will be able to cast your ballot by any one of the following methods:

- in person at a polling place on Election Day.
- in person at an early voting site.
- by mail via absentee ballot.

The major change is where you go to vote on Election Day and what you will need to do once you get there.

This year, we will be implementing a new concept we call "Vote Centers." There will be approximately 24 Vote Centers located around Larimer County instead of the usual 143 precinct polling places. Vote Centers were designed to provide voters with maximum flexibility and convenience on Election Day while complying with the new election laws and also reducing the cost of implementing the required changes. Voters will be able to go to any Vote Center in the county to cast their ballots. Precinct specific polling places will not be used. At the Vote Center, pursuant to new state law you will be required to show valid ID, such as a driver's license, and provide poll workers with the last 4 digits of your social security number.

You will also have the option of casting your vote prior to Election Day at one of the early voting sites in Fort Collins, Loveland or Estes Park. The early voting sites will be open from October 20 through October 31 during normal business hours. You may find this more convenient and less time consuming than waiting in line at a Vote Center on Election Day.

If you prefer, you may vote by mail via absentee ballot. Absentee ballots may be requested by completing and returning the attached absentee ballot application or by sending a letter of request. Letters requesting absentee ballots must include the following information: your printed name, signature, residence address, date of birth and the address where you want the ballot to be sent. To receive your absentee ballot by mail, we must receive your request by Tuesday, October 28. We will begin mailing absentee ballots out during the first week of October. They are due back in the elections office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 4, 2003.

As we move closer to the election in November, you will receive more details of the new identification requirements and the times and locations of the vote center sites. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 970-498-7820.

Sincerely,

Scott Doyle
Larimer County Clerk & Recorder