



## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS

Steven Koski  
Commissioner

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April 29, 2026

### VIA ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

Julie Triplett, disAbility Law Center of Virginia

[Julie.Triplett@dLCV.org](mailto:Julie.Triplett@dLCV.org)

Rachel Loria, disAbility Law Center of Virginia

[Rachel.Loria@dLCV.org](mailto:Rachel.Loria@dLCV.org)

Dear Ms. Triplett and Ms. Loria:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the disAbility Law Center of Virginia's (dLCV) 2025 polling place accessibility site survey. The Virginia Department of Elections (ELECT) and Virginia's elections community are committed to ensuring that all qualified voters have equal access to cast their ballots.

ELECT has reviewed the dLCV's 2025 survey results and findings for the 47 polling places assessed by dLCV, which showed that most of the surveyed locations were accessible, offered curbside voting with no barriers, and had officers of election who were knowledgeable about accessible voting and trained to assist individuals with disabilities. ELECT has also reviewed the dLCV's list of recommendations.

In addition to preparing this response, ELECT will share the dLCV's 2025 survey results with Virginia's general registrars and local electoral boards so they may individually assess topics addressed in the report that fall under their duties. Virginia's electoral system is built upon a framework of state and local cooperation, with localities being primarily responsible for the direct administration of elections while ELECT provides general oversight to support accurate, fair, open, secure, and uniform elections in the Commonwealth.

The following are ELECT's responses to dLCV's recommendations:

1. ELECT promotes curbside voting in a variety of ways, including by providing information on the [Accessible Voting webpage](#) of ELECT'S website. ELECT also provides guidance to general registrars and electoral boards on the requirements for curbside voting pursuant to [§24.2-649.1](#) of the Code of Virginia. ELECT's guidance includes advisories, trainings, and guidance documents, such as the General Registrar and Electoral Board Handbook (GREB). Specifically, regarding curbside voting signage, Chapter 5 of the GREB states localities must "[p]rovide clear and visible signage

informing voters of the option to vote curbside, the location of curbside voting, and how a voter is supposed to notify an election official that he/she is waiting curbside. The signage should be upright and visible in all venues and at all times while voting is taking place (e.g. at the registrar's office and any satellite offices used during the 45 days of early voting, as well as at all polling places)." ELECT will continue to promote curbside voting and continue to provide guidance to local election officials to ensure all qualified voters have access to their ballot.

2. Pursuant to [§24.2-115.2](#) of the Code of Virginia, electoral boards and general registrars train officers of election regarding the use of their locality's voting systems. ELECT will emphasize to general registrars and electoral boards that all officers of election should know how to operate the accessible voting system(s) used within their locality. Please note, voters with disabilities may use a screen, a directional pad, or other accessible device to fill out their ballot, but their vote will always be printed on a paper ballot, pursuant to [§24.2-644](#), [§24.2-646.1](#), and [§24.2-704](#) of the Code of Virginia.
3. With respect to ensuring that voting equipment is accessible, ELECT will continue to improve resources for use at the local level regarding polling place readiness. This includes ELECT issuing guidance regarding the physical setup needed to ensure an adequate facility pursuant to [§24.2-310](#) of the Code of Virginia.
4. ELECT will ensure guidance regarding street parking accessibility is included in Chapter 5 of the GREB when the latest edition is published.
5. Since 2023, dLCV has asked ELECT to provide polling place signs alerting voters with disabilities that assistance is available. In April 2025, ELECT created and uploaded such posters, which are available on the [FormsWarehouse](#) webpage of ELECT's website. ELECT also provided an advisory to all local election officials with accessibility resources, including voter assistance posters. Please note, the Code of Virginia does not require localities to display such posters inside or outside the polling place. However, ELECT has and will continue recommending that all local election officials display voter assistance posters at all polling places.
6. The selection of a polling place is made by the local governing body of a locality, usually at the request of the general registrar or local electoral board, pursuant to [§24.2-129](#) and [§24.2-310](#) of the Code of Virginia. Virginia law requires polling places to be located in public buildings whenever practicable. However, various factors make it impracticable for some localities to use polling places that are accessible to the public 365 days a year. These factors include lack of facilities in an area, unwillingness of public facilities to be available as polling places, renovation or construction interruptions, and other similar situations. Local election officials work diligently to establish polling places at buildings that are fully accessible. When no such building is available, local election officials seek polling locations that can be made fully accessible during any period of voting. ELECT

will continue to recommend that polling places be placed in public buildings whenever practicable and emphasize the importance of accessibility.

Accessibility remains a top priority for ELECT and local election officials in the conduct of elections. ELECT looks forward to future collaboration with dLCV and appreciates your agency's advocacy for the rights of Virginia voters with disabilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven Koski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steven Koski  
Commissioner