



TOWN CLERK

SHARON, MASSACHUSETTS 02067



MARK F. HOGAN
TOWN CLERK

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BETH A. KOURAFAS
ASSISTANT TOWN CLERK

October 24, 2022

Dear Current and Future Registered Voters,

The State Election is less than a month away, November 8, 2022, from 7:00am to 8:00pm in the new Sharon High School Gymnasium. Please visit <https://www.townofsharon.net/town-clerk/pages/elections-state-election-110822> for useful links and more detailed information for all items below, and more. For your convenience, you can get to this information by scanning the included QR code and clicking on "For 2022 State Election Information".

Early/Absentee Voting By Mail:

As of the writing of this letter, we have packaged and mailed 4,421 Early/Absentee Ballots, with new requests arriving daily. The deadline to request a ballot through the mail is November 1st, by 5:00pm.

Early In-Person Voting:

Voting has begun at the Town Clerk's Office/Town Hall Lobby and will continue through Friday, November 4th.

Accessible Voting:

Voters in Massachusetts who are unable to physically mark a paper ballot have had the option to vote in person with the aid of our Automark device, or with the aid of a human assistant. They have also had the option to vote by mail with the aid of a human assistant. Those options are all still available, but now there is a new option for voting remotely. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts now offers an accessible ballot that allows voters who are unable to physically mark a paper ballot on their own the ability to vote independently.

An accessible ballot can be emailed to a qualified individual, which will allow them to vote using their own personal technology, such as screen readers. If you qualify for an accessible ballot, you can request one with an Accessible Vote By Mail Application or by selecting the Accessible option in the Online Portal. Both options can be found on the Town Clerk's page on the State Election. In order to receive a ballot, an email address must be provided. Since people who do not qualify have been accidentally requesting an accessible ballot, our office will reach out to confirm each request before sending the ballot. The deadline to request an Accessible Vote By Mail Ballot is November 1st by 5:00pm.

Tabulator Testing:

On October 27th, starting at 3:00pm at the Town Clerk's Office, we will be testing our election equipment. This is a routine requirement prior to any election. The testing is open to observation by the Public.

Advance Processing:

At 1:00pm on October 30th, and 9:00am on November 5th and November 6th, we will be Advance Processing Ballots in the Town Hall Lobby. On October 30th and November 5th, we will be opening Early Ballots (both By-Mail and In-Person). Ballots that are opened early will be locked in bins, which will be locked in our vault until November 6th. On November 6th, we will be depositing all of the opened ballots through the tabulators. There will be no results printed, and no one will know what they are. The tabulated ballots will be locked into bins and locked again in the vault. The memory cards from the tabulators will then be locked up in the vault until Election Day. When the polls close, the results from Election Day are run; then the memory cards from Advance Depositing are reinserted into the tabulators, and those results are run. The two are then added together to get the final preliminary results. Advance Processing is open to observation by the Public.

If you have any inquiries, please send my office an email at: vote@townofsharon.org, and we will be happy to help you.

Sincerely,

Mark F. Hogan
Sharon Town Clerk