Massachusetts
COMMON CAUSE

Holding Power Accountable

Early Voting:
What Other States Can Teach Massachusetts

Authored by:

Maria Hardiman
Laura Cianciolo
Eric Kashdan
Pam Wilmot

Introduction

The 2016 presidential election will be the first test of a historic election reform package passed in 2014 by the Massachusetts legislature. The new law puts our state squarely in the forefront of a national movement to remove obstacles to voting; it provides online voter registration, pre-registration for 16 and 17-year-olds, sets procedures for audits of election equipment, implements mechanisms to streamline Massachusetts election administration, and provides an 11 day period of early voting[1]. It is a big step in the right direction.

This report focuses on early voting best practices and examines the experiences of other states that now offer expanded early voting opportunities. Properly implemented, early voting will dramatically shorten the long lines many voters faced in Massachusetts during the 2012 election—three hours in some urban precincts -- and will make voting more accessible for many citizens.

Early voting helps voters fit voting into busy work, childcare, and school schedules. Experience in other states suggests the increased accessibility of elections improves voter retention and moderately boosts turnout.[2] And with a well-run voter education effort, it could expand the electorate as well. National estimates of lost votes due to long lines in 2012 range from 500,000 to 700,000, and the economic cost to people of waiting to vote is approximately $500 million.[3]

Early voting is growing in popularity; Massachusetts joins 34 states and Washington, D.C. by enacting this important reform. In 2012, 33 to 40 percent of voters nationwide voted early or by mail,[4] with benefits for both voters and administrators: election officials and staffers find that, with the reform in place, the conduct of elections is more manageable.[5] That is why it was a top recommendation of the bipartisan Presidential Commission on Election Administration last year.

The Massachusetts law will permit early voting for 11 days preceding Election Day, including one weekend.[6] Beyond this requirement, the law provides a great deal of flexibility in how it is implemented. Success will depend largely on thoughtful consideration of the hours, locations, staffing, and advertising of early voting. As the Presidential Commission on Election Administration said, "[early voting] must be administered in an equitable manner so all voters can have equal opportunity to vote."[7] An effective early voting rollout in Massachusetts will utilize the

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[1] This report reviews best practices and makes recommendations about early in-person voting (EIPV). The new law that established early voting, Chapter 111 of the Acts of 2014, does provide for early voting by mail, but this is essentially absentee voting with different rules. Many states only have early in-person voting and use absentee voting for mail returns. To avoid the confusion and early voting in this report refers to the in-person variety.

[2] Burden, Barry C., David T. Canon, Ken Mayer, and Donald P. Moynihan. "Election Laws, Mobilization, and Turnout: The Unanticipated Consequences of Election Reform." *American Journal of Political Science* 58.1 (2014): 95-109. *Wiley Online Library*. Web. 20 Sept. 2015.

[3] United States Presidential Commission on Election Administration. *Waiting in Line to Vote*. By Charles Stewart and Stephen Ansolabehere. Support the Voter, 28 July 2013. Web. 23 July 2015.

[4] *America Goes to the Polls 2012*. Rep. NonprofitVOTE, 2012. Web. 20 Sept. 2015.

[5] Kasdan, Diana. "Early Voting: What Works." *Brennan Center for Justice* (2013): 15. 2013. Web. 15 July 2015.

[6] M.G.L. ch.54 §25B. The period commences 11 business days prior to the election and ends the Friday before the election.

[7] United States Presidential Commission on Election Administration. *The American Voting Experience: Report and Recommendations of the Presidential Commission on Election Administration.* Support the Voter, January 2014. Web. 23 July 2015.

best practices established in other states as evaluated by academic experts and others.

Early voting policies vary greatly from state to state, county to county, and municipality to municipality. This inconsistency makes data collection and analysis difficult. Still, the available data does lend itself to a few simple conclusions. Successful implementation of early voting in Massachusetts would include: 1) a strong advertising/education program, so that all voters are aware of their early voting opportunities; 2) multiple early voting locations in urban and suburban areas where lines are likely to be the longest and where a single location would be the most problematic due to population and geographic considerations; 3) convenient hours (evenings and weekends) to facilitate the goals of early voting; and 4) a plan to provide recommendations and predictions for budgeting, staffing, and ballot handling to municipal officials well in advance so that implementation of early voting goes as smoothly as possible.

The Survey

In late June 2015, Common Cause Massachusetts sent emails to 637 election officials in California, Illinois, North Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, and Wisconsin, asking each to complete a survey on their state's experience with early voting. These states were selected from the list of states with early voting based on some or all of the following criteria: the presence and number of major cities[8]; administration of elections by the municipality rather than the county (Massachusetts has municipal administration); high usage of early voting[9]; and the easy access of election official contact information. As the chart below indicates, outreach was dependent on easy access to prepared lists of contact information (only urban officials were contacted in Wisconsin as a result). The survey and email template are attached in the first two sections of the appendix for reference. Of the 637 emails sent, 93 officials responded, generally with thoughtful and detailed explanations of their experience and recommendations for our state.

State	Major cities	Municipal administration	High usage of EIPV	Number of officials contacted	Number of responses
California	Yes	Some	No	50	5
Illinois	Yes	No	No	127	27
North Carolina	Yes	No	Yes	99	4
Tennessee	Yes	No	Yes	93	13
Vermont	No	Yes	No	242	40
Wisconsin	Yes	Yes	No	7	4

The most striking survey result is the sharp divide between urban-suburban early voting policies and those of rural municipalities and counties. Rural officials provided generally consistent responses and offer the most minimal administration of early voting. They have only 1 early voting location at their county or town clerk's office and operate during regular business hours. This

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[8] Defined by a population greater than or equal to 50,000.

[9] States in which early in-person voting (EIPV) represented 25 percent or more of the total voter turnout in 2008. That threshold was more than 10 percentage points above the national early in person voting rate in 2008 and 2012.

scheduling makes sense given the small number of voters who are impacted. The results of our survey are detailed below.

Hours and Peak Times

The main variation in the responses involved weekend hours. Of the eight self-identified "urban" jurisdictions, six offered some weekend hours. The two that did not are in Wisconsin, where Governor Scott Walker banned early voting weekend hours in 2014, although weekend hours were common prior to the veto.[10] Of the self-identified seven "suburban" jurisdictions, four consistently provided early voting at some point on the weekends, and one municipality in Vermont occasionally provided it for presidential elections (Two respondents that identified as "suburban" are in Wisconsin and thus could not be open on weekends). Of the eight responses that identified as "Other" (usually suburban-rural "mixed" districts), seven provided weekend hours. Many officials from "rural" areas offered weekend hours, but they usually were county-based with larger populations then the municipalities of Vermont. .

Another important highlight of the results from these urban jurisdictions is their high-traffic times. Eleven of the 15 urban and suburban offices reported a lunch hour voting surge. (Two others said turnout was high consistently throughout the day). Four of the six "Other" responses to this question also reported peak lunchtime traffic.

Other analyses show the importance of evening hours. A study of Georgia's early voting policies, which considered numerous factors in increasing early voting usage (advertising, locations, etc.), found that expanding "the hours of operation for early voting sites...appears to be the most cost-effective measure for boosting turnout."[11] The report noted that weekend and evening hours might be more convenient for voters, allowing more people to cast their ballots.

> *"Accommodating [likely] surges and providing convenient hours* **helps reduce polling location congestion."**

The survey demonstrated that accommodating these surges and providing convenient hours helps reduce polling location congestion. Maury County, a suburban jurisdiction in Tennessee, even described how its early voting system, which included hours on Saturday and until 7 pm on weeknights during Presidential cycles, allowed 22,000 people to vote early in 2012 (spread out over 14 days), with only 12,000 voting on Election Day itself. They specifically commented that lines and logistical problems had been limited on Election Day due to early voting.

Based on such responses, we recommend Massachusetts municipalities prepare for likely surge times and provide weekend and evening hours. In our survey, we found that evening hours typically run until at least 7 pm and Saturdays are often a higher priority than Sunday, due to higher usage. Massachusetts should adopt these best practices. In offices where the budget does not permit extended hours, we suggest shifting some or all of hours (of the same duration) to cover evenings and/or weekends, rather than typical 9-to-5 schedule.

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[10] Johnson, Shawn. "Walker Signs Elections Bill Banning Weekend Absentee Voting." *Wisconsin Public Radio*. WPR, 2**7** Mar. 2014. Web. 22. Sept. 2015.
The City of Madison also wrote in their survey response, "If state law would allow, we would be open on the weekends," noting their pre-2014 weekend hours.
[11] Hood, M.V., and Charles S. Bullock, III. "An Examination of Efforts to Encourage the Incidence of Early In-person Voting in Georgia, 2008." *Election Law Journal* 10.2 (2011): 103-13. Print.

Multiple Locations

A study by the Brennan Center for Justice[12] found that most states with a high usage of early voting (defined as over 25 percent of total turnout) had multiple locations distributed equitably with respect to population density. The report concluded that multiple locations are an important best practice in an urban setting. Many states require multiple locations in their early voting statute and provide mechanisms for determining the required number and locations of polling places. The Massachusetts law provides more flexibility and only requires 1 early voting site per municipality, regardless of the size.[13] However, the law permits multiple locations at the discretion of the municipality.

Our survey provided a relatively small sample of information about multiple voting locations. Of the 11 jurisdictions that reported both their number of early voting sites and their population, the average number of locations per population is roughly 1 for every 35,000 people.[14] No jurisdiction in the survey—county or municipality— with a population below 12,000 used multiple early voting polling locations. Not surprisingly, multiple locations are most common in urban areas, with Chicago reporting 1 early voting site for each of the city's 50 wards, in addition to its clerk's office.[15] The state of Wisconsin, which has both densely populated urban-suburban areas and municipal election administration, does not currently allow early voting at multiple locations,[16] although it has provided many such locations in the past.

> *"The average number of locations per population is roughly **1 for every 35,000 people.**"*

Despite the survey's small dataset, we conclude that the average number of locations it found in jurisdictions with multiple early voting sites – 1 for every 35,000 people – would be an appropriate standard in Massachusetts. There is no need for multiple voting sites in municipalities under 35,000 people. Yet it is clear that a single early voting location -- the minimum required by law -- in urban areas like Greater Boston, Worcester, and Springfield would be woefully inadequate. Such limited opportunities for urban voters compared to

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[12] Kasdan, Diana. "Early Voting: What Works." *Brennan Center for Justice* (2013): 15. 2013. Web. 15 July 2015.

[13] M.G.L. ch.54 §25B (f). - "Each city and town shall establish an early voting site that shall include the election office for the city or town…A city or town may also provide for additional early voting sites at the discretion of the registrars for that city or town."

[14] One jurisdiction that was considerably outside the norm was excluded from this calculation. Riverside California reported only 4 sites for a population of approximately 2.2 million people. This is only 1 site per approximately every 550,000 people, a figure that was far outside of the range reported by other respondents.

[15] However, Chicago's ward configuration is plagued with controversy about race and population distribution. *See* Felsenthal, Carol. "Chicago Ward Remap: A Lawsuit Waiting to Happen?" *Chicago Magazine*. Chicago Tribune Media Group, 1 Feb. 2012. Web. 20 July 2015. This issue is not unlike Boston. *See* Smardon, Andrea. "Activists Call For New Boston Precinct Map."

[16] 6 Wis. Stat. Sec. 6.855.01. 2005. 27 July 2015. "Wis. Stat. Ann. § 6.855 ("The governing body of a municipality may elect to designate a site other than the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners as the location from which electors of the municipality may request and vote absentee ballots and to which voted absentee ballots shall be returned by electors for any election. The designated site shall be located as near as practicable to the office of the municipal clerk or board of election commissioners".

their rural and suburban counterparts appears discriminatory and would not accomplish the legislature's goals for the early voting law. By contrast, the standard suggested by our survey - 1 early voting site for every 35,000 people - would provide adequate opportunity for Massachusetts urban voters to get to the polls. It would ensure sufficient locations for urban voters and should reduce the long lines that have become the norm in these cities during presidential elections. To meet the standard, Boston would need approximately 17 sites, Worcester 5, and Springfield 4. Because Boston is so large and so densely populated, fewer than 17 sites are likely sufficient to provide an adequate opportunity to vote. But for all other municipalities, the 1 location for every 35,000 people is roughly accurate.

Population Count	# of Recommend Early Voting Sites
0 – 35,000	1
35,000 – 70,000	2
70,000 – 105,000	3
And so on…	And so on…

This chart summarizes the distribution of how this standard would work.

Our survey found a wide range of workable venues for early voting sites. Election officials reported using parks, colleges, police stations, libraries, local schools, and malls. While no survey respondent directly mentioned it, other studies suggest grocery stores make good early voting sites as well. In particular, Texas has reported that stores are popular "retail voting" locations,[17] while a New York Times article about grocery store early voting in Nevada reveals their popularity in that state.[18] An analysis by Yale professor Eitan Hersh on vote centers provides additional useful information in considering early voting locations.[19] In the next section, we discuss that model and how it might relate to Massachusetts.

Vote Centers

Massachusetts should consider creating vote centers as it implements early voting. Vote centers are non-precinct based polling locations that allow voters to choose where they want to vote, either within a state, or a given municipality/county, depending on what state law permits. A vote center allows access to all ballot options for a given locality or group of localities. Vote centers can boost turnout by giving voters the opportunity to cast their ballots at more convenient times and locations, whether near work, on their lunch break, in the middle of their commute, during an errand, or more. The concentration of early voting into vote centers would also eliminate the need to get a subset of voters within a particular municipality to a certain voting site and therefore simplify advertising and GOTV efforts. The use of vote centers instead of precinct-based polling locations has been shown to increase voter turnout, boost voter satisfaction, and reduce the cost of

> *"Vote centers … [have] been shown to **increase** voter **turnout**, **boost** voter **satisfaction**, and **reduce** the **cost** of early voting."*

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[17] United States. Election Assistance Commission. Federal Election Commission. *Innovations in Election Administration*. By Margaret Rosenfield. National Clearinghouse on Election Administration, Apr. 1994. Web. 23 July 2015.

[18] Steinhauer, Jennifer. "The Decided Go in Droves to Vote Early." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 29 Oct. 2008. Web. 23 Sept. 2015.

[19] Hersh, Eitan. "Election Day Voting Centers – Backgrounder." Memorandum. Yale University. Boston. 13 April 2015. Electronic document.

early voting.[20]

Strong site selection is critical to successful vote centers. At minimum, locations must be near public transportation and parking, handicap accessible, and equipped with Wi-Fi. Centers also should be easily recognizable buildings with floor plans designed to eliminate confusion and congestion. [21]

In order to demonstrate the sort of process a municipality might undertake to select their early voting sites, we have conducted a sample analysis for some neighborhoods in Boston, located in Appendix III. There are many different considerations in selecting possible vote center locations and this represents just one attempt. At any of these sites, a Boston voter could access their particular ballot regardless of whether it is in the same ward as his or her regular precinct.

Rural feedback

While implementing early voting in rural areas will be less elaborate than in big cities, there are still best practices that Massachusetts can learn from. As in urban areas, planners must pay special attention to the needs of elderly and disabled voters. Six counties and towns[22] in the states we surveyed collaborate in some way with local retirement and assisted living communities to help

> *"Planners must pay special attention to the needs of elderly and disabled voters."*

those populations vote. These partnerships can range from determining early voting locations that are accessible for these voters (Solano County in California), to arranging mobile voting where election officials bring early voting to the retirement communities within their jurisdiction (the Town of South Burlington, Vermont).[23] The Massachusetts law requires that all voting locations be accessible to persons with disabilities, a factor municipalities will need to consider as they create early voting systems.[24]

Advertising

Advertising early voting is straightforward across the states surveyed. Sixty-one of the 93 sites surveyed announce hours and locations of early voting in local newspapers. That number would perhaps be higher if the state government of Vermont did not handle the advertising for its municipalities. Nine counties and municipalities used radio public service announcements. Seven made sample ballots and either sent them to every voter, advertised them alongside announcements in the newspaper, or published them online. Four of the respondents listed early voting hours and locations on precinct cards. Three used TV advertising. Chicago's Cook County holds a televised press conference to mark the commencement of the early voting period. Many election officials also speak at local meetings or notify local groups in order to advertise through word of mouth. Generally, early voting plugs also were included in voter guides. These practices were used in

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[20] Ibid.

[21] Ibid.

[22] City of Waukesha, Wisconsin; Loudon County, Tennessee; Johnson County, Illinois; Madison County, Illinois; Vermillion County, Illinois; Solano County, California; Town of South Burlington, Vermont; Town of Bennington, Vermont; Town of Stowe, Vermont

[23] A helpful list of retirement communities in Massachusetts can be found here: http://www.retirementliving.com/massachusetts

[24] M.G.L. ch.54 §25B (f).

addition to general announcements on the relevant government websites and social media and street signage during voting periods.

Additionally, the Election Assistance Commission found that the onset of early voting is an opportunity for political campaigns. In addition to simply encouraging citizens to vote early, campaigns can include early voting-centered events in their schedules. Travis County, TX, has seen "Super Saturday" and "The First Day to Vote" projects, as well as rallies scheduled around early voting locations and mobile voting theme days such as "Vote While You Shop," "Seniors Vote," "Vote at Work," "Vote at Play," "Vote with the Governor," etc.[25] City and town clerks can consider this additional opportunity for advertising as they plan their rollout.

> *"Officials who attempted to increase early voting turnout through advertising and outreach **succeeded in shifting turnout away from Election Day precinct voting."***

Advertising makes a difference. One study evaluated 15 advertising practices, including billboards, presentations at local civic clubs, and announcements in schools. All the methods helped boost early voting turnout, and collectively improved it by six percentage points, indicating "that those county officials who attempted to increase early voting turnout through advertising and outreach succeeded in shifting turnout away from Election Day precinct voting."[26] Partnering with local GOTV campaigns and other organizations, especially in urban areas where the need is greatest, also has proven effective in boosting voter participation. Massachusetts should adopt aggressive advertising programs, particularly as voters utilize early voting for the first time.

Cost and Staffing

Our survey showed that counties with populations ranging from 50,000 to 2,700,000 had early voting budgets that varied from $4,000 to $25,000, with most responses ranging from $10,000 to $15,000. In counties and municipalities with populations between 15,000 and 50,000, budgets ranged from had a large range $1,200 to $20,000 (an outlier), although most were from $4,000 to $7,000. Officials who work with populations below 15,000 reported budgets as low as $85; none were above $2,000, and most were a few hundred dollars. These smaller jurisdictions were concentrated in Vermont and have municipal election administration and much of their ballot printing costs covered by the state (as will be true in Massachusetts). Peoria County in Illinois, an urban county of 185,000, estimated it cost $325 per location per day to administer early voting (that shakes out to about $20,000 for three locations for three weeks). These figures all refer to presidential elections and the latter includes the cost of printing ballots.

In rural areas, low costs were the result of the use normal office hours with regular staff. Few respondents reported the length of their poll workers' shifts, but the few that did mentioned six-hour shifts for larger populations, and three-hours for more rural municipalities. As populations, locations, and hours increase, funds go increasingly to additional staffers, security, and over-time wages. Respondents who administer early voting to populations ranging from 50,000 to 2,700,000 hired up to 15 additional poll workers per location in addition to their normal staffers. Most hired

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[25] United States. Election Assistance Commission. Federal Election Commission. *Innovations in Election Administration*. By Margaret Rosenfield. National Clearinghouse on Election Administration, Apr. 1994. Web. 23 July 2015.

[26] Hood, M.V., and Charles S. Bullock, III. "An Examination of Efforts to Encourage the Incidence of Early In-person Voting in Georgia, 2008."

around seven. Populations of 12,000 to 50,000 reported adding up to 10 poll workers, and most commonly five. The smallest population range of 85 to 12,000 provided for up to 12 additional poll workers. The town of Barre in Vermont was unique in that it hires 35 additional poll workers to do three-hour shifts at two locations open from 7AM to 7PM.

> *"Officials who work with populations below 15,000 reported **budgets as low as $85**; none were above $2,000, and most were a few hundred dollars."*

From the 33 survey respondents who reported both population and approximate costs, the average cost of early voting per resident per day is generally less than a cent. Using the standard of 1 early voting location per every 35,000 people, the average cost of each extra early voting site would be $362.84 per location per full day. Information about the breakdown of costs reported by our survey respondents can be found in the fourth section of the appendix.

Conclusion

Early voting could improve Massachusetts voters' experience at the polls, shorten long lines on Election Day for high turnout elections, and even marginally improve turnout. In order to help maximize that effect, Massachusetts should employ best practices from other states. These include:

- Focusing on urban areas like Boston, Worcester, Springfield, etc., by adding hours and locations beyond the basic standard in the statute. This is important since early voting will have the greatest effect in such areas, and because having only one location would create a disproportionally negative impact on urban voters. We recommend Massachusetts follow the average standard reported by our survey respondents - 1 early voting site for every 35,000 people.
- Providing convenient voting hours, including evenings and weekends. These are proven to be effective when implemented. In cases where the budget does not allow for extending hours, we recommend an office shift some or all of their hours (of the same duration) to include evenings and/or weekends.
- Using the vote center model as a method of maximizing early voting impact. Non-traditional venues such grocery stores should also be considered for additional locations.
- Maximizing advertising and innovative partnerships with campaigns and local groups to boost participation.
- Focusing on lower income areas, which tend to be both densely populated and have low turnout. [27] Extra thought should be given to how to reach these areas with accessible early voting sites and maximum advertising.
- Ensuring access for the elderly and disabled.

Massachusetts has the unique opportunity to learn from the experience of 32 other states in implementing early voting. If the above recommendations are widely adopted, Massachusetts will be able to capitalize on the promise of early voting: shorter lines, improved voting experience, and increased participation in the most important act of democracy—voting.

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[27] Gimpel 488.

Appendix

I.   **A copy of the survey questionnaire we sent out to election officials across the U.S.**

Early Voting Best Practices Survey
To inform the implementation of early voting in Massachusetts June 2016

What is the name of your state and county/municipality?

What is the population of your county/municipality?

Is your county/municipality mostly:
- ⚪ Urban
- ⚪ Suburban
- ⚪ Rural
- ⚪ Other:_____

What are your early voting hours (including weekends)?

Where do you offer early voting?

What are high traffic hours?

What kinds of challenges have you faced in providing adequate hours?

Do you use vote centers and where are they located?

How often do you update your voter registry with early voting data?

Do you print your ballots on-site or are they pre-printed?
- ☐ On-site
- ☐ Pre-printed
- ☐ Other:_____

Do you advertise early voting hours and locations and, if so, how?

How much does early voting cost to implement in presidential elections?

How many poll workers staff each location?

Survey continued

Would you offer longer hours and/or more locations if you could and, if so, why and how much?

Do you partner with local organizations for early voting and, if so, how?

General comments, recommendations, best practices, challenges:

II.   A copy of the email we sent inviting election officials to complete the survey.

Subject
Inquiry about early voting

Banner
Research survey on early voting.

Dear Elections Official,

My name is Maria Hardiman and I work for Common Cause Massachusetts. This past year, the Massachusetts legislature passed an election reform package that includes early voting. Come 2016, Massachusetts will be implementing an eleven-day period of early voting throughout our municipalities. I am reaching out to you because, as we prepare for this change, we are hoping to learn from other states and their [COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL] officials with successful early voting practices. Common Cause is conducting this research in order to prepare recommendations for the implementation of early voting in our state.

We are contacting election officials in [STATE] with extensive experience with early voting in hopes of learning from you and your best practices. We're very interested in how you handle costs, hours, locations, and ballot handling for early voting, among other policies. To make the process quick, we created a short survey and we would really appreciate any answers you could provide. If you could fill out our survey <u>within the next two weeks</u>, that would be very helpful. Should you have any questions, please feel free to email me or call our office at **617-426-9600**.

<u>Please fill out our survey.</u>

Thank you for your time,

Maria Hardiman
Common Cause MA
617-426-9600
www.commoncause.org/ma

III. **A list of possible vote center locations in Boston for early voting**

Using voter turnout statistics, socioeconomic factors, and demographic characteristics, Common Cause looked at possible early voting locations in the city of Boston. Here are some options for Allston/Brighton/Fenway/Kenmore (Wards 21 and 22), Dorchester (Wards 13, 15, 16, and 17), East Boston (Ward 1), Hyde Park (Ward 18), Jamaica Plain/Roxbury (Wards 11, 12 19), Mattapan (Ward 14), and Roslindale/West Roxbury (Ward 20). These neighborhoods display lower rates of voter turnout, have large minority populations, and possess per capita incomes below Boston's average. They are areas where effective implementation of early voting is most needed.

The following locations fulfill *all* of the following criteria: they are located along public transportation routes, are handicap accessible, are near a parking lot, and are equipped with Wi-Fi. This is not an exclusive list. Other location may fulfill these criteria equally well. Although not on the list, we also urge the City to consider non-traditional locations such as supermarkets and community centers. National research has shown that voters prefer locations where they have other business and that are not government buildings.

<p align="center">Allston/Brighton/Fenway/Kenmore</p>

1. **Boston University, Student Lounge Room 144 (111 Cummington St, Boston, MA 02215).** This location is accessible by bus routes 57 and 57A, and by the Green Line B Branch (stops Boston University East and Boston University Central are equidistant from the student lounge).

2. **Jewish Community Housing for the Elderly, Dining Room (30 Wallingford Rd, Boston, MA 02135).** The Jewish Community Housing building is located along bus route 86, and is a short walk from the Green Line B Branch stop Chiswick Road.

3. **Boston Public Library Honan-Allston Branch, Community Room (300 N Harvard St, Boston, MA 02134).** This branch of the Boston Public Library is accessible by bus routes 64, 66, 501, and 503.

<p align="center">Dorchester</p>

1. **District 7 Fire Station (7 Parish St, Boston, MA 02122).** This firehouse location is accessible to bus routes 8, 10, 47, 171, CT1, CT3, and is a 13-minute walk from the Andrew stop on the Red Line.

2. **Viet-AID Community Center, Community Room (42 Charles St, Boston, MA 02122).** This location is along bus routes 15, 17, 18, 19, 201, 202, 210, and is a short walk from the Field's Corner stop on the Red Line.

3. **Florian Hall, Banquet Hall (55 Hallet St, Boston, MA 02124).** Florian Hall is accessible to bus routes 201 and 202, and is a 16-minute walk from the Cedar Grove stop on the Red Line Mattapan Trolley.

4. **Boston Public Library Codman Square Branch, Meeting Room (690 Washington St, Boston, MA 02124).** This branch of the Boston Public Library is accessible by bus route 26, and is a 13-minute walk from the Ashmont stop on the Red Line.

<p align="center">East Boston</p>

1. **Orient Heights Yacht Club, Function Room (61 Bayswater St, Boston, MA 02128).** This location is accessible by bus routes 712 and 713.

2. **Orient Heights Housing, Community Building (31 Vallar Road, Boston, MA 02128).** This housing facility is located along bus routes 120, 450, 459, and is an 18-minute walk from the Suffolk Downs stop on the Blue Line.

3. **East Boston High School, Gymnasium (86 White St, Boston, MA 02128).** East Boston High School is accessible by bus routes 121, 114, 116, 116/117, 117, and is a 15-minute walk from the Airport stop on the Blue Line.

<p align="center">Hyde Park</p>

1. **The Blake Estates, Community Room (1344 Hyde Park Ave, Boston, MA 02136).** This housing facility is located along bus routes 32, 39, 40, and 50.

2. **Boston Trinity Academy, Auditorium (17 Hale St, Boston, MA 02136).** This academy is located along bus routes 40 and 50.

3. **Boston Baptist College, Henderson Hall (950 Metropolitan Ave, Boston, MA 02136).** This college is located along bus routes 24 and 24/27.

<p align="center">Jamaica Plain/Roxbury</p>

1. **Roxbury Community College, Student Lounge 103 (1234 Columbus Ave, Boston, MA 02120).** This location is accessible by bus routes 14, 22, 29, 41, 66, and the Roxbury Crossing stop on the Orange Line.

2. **Brookside Community Health Center, Community Room (3297 Washington St, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130).** The Brookside Community Health Center is located along bus route 43 and the Orange Line's Green Street stop.

3. **Yawkey Boys and Girls Club, Whitlock Performing Arts Center (115 Warren St, Boston, MA 02119).** This location is accessible by bus routes 22, 45, 28, and 29.

4. **Boston Public Library Roslindale Branch, Movie Room (4246 Washington St, Boston, MA 02131).** This branch of the Boston Public Library is located along bus routes 14, 30, 34, 34E, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40, 40/50, and 50.

<p align="center">Mattapan</p>

1. **Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School, Gymnasium (270 Columbia Rd, Boston, MA 02121).** This location is accessible by bus route 16.

2. **Boston Adult Technical Academy, Large Cafeteria (429 Norfolk St, Boston, MA 02124).** This location is accessible by bus routes 14, 22, 28, 29, and 45.

3. **Blue Hill Boys and Girls Club, Lobby (15 Talbot Ave, Boston, MA 02124).** The Blue Hill Boys and Girls Club is located along bus routes 22, 28, 29, and 45.

4. **Berea SDA Academy, Library and Classrooms (800 Morton St, Boston, MA 02126).** This academy is located along bus routes 21 and 26.

<p style="text-align:center">Roslindale/West Roxbury</p>

1. **Saint Nectarios Greek Church, Banquet Hall (39 Belgrade Ave, Boston, MA 02131).** The Saint Nectarios Greek Church is located along bus routes 14, 30, 34, 34E, 35, 36, 37, 39, and 51.

2. **Holy Name Parish Hall, Gymnasium (1689 Centre St, Boston, MA 02132).** This location is accessible by bus routes 35, 36, 37, and 38.

3. **Roche Family Community Center, Function Room (1483 Tremont St, Boston, MA 02120).** This location is accessible by bus routes 35, 36, 37, and 38.

4. **Boston Public Library West Roxbury Branch, Meeting Room (1961 Centre St, Boston, MA 02132).** This branch of the Boston Public Library is accessible by bus routes 35, 36, and 37.

IV.   A table breaking down the reported costs of each survey respondent.

State	County/ Municipality	Density	Population	# EV days	Approx. cost	Cost per day
Illinois	City of Chicago	Urban	2,700,000	21		
California	Riverside County	Urban	2,189,641	29	12,500	431
Illinois	DuPage County Election Commission	Suburban	916,924	21	10,000	476
California	Kern County	Rural	874,589	15		0
California	Solano County	Suburban	450,000	15	36,000	2,400
Wisconsin	Waukesha County	Suburban	397,000	21		0
Illinois	Madison County	Mix	266,000	21	22,000	1,048
California	Marin County	Other: Urban/rural mix	260,750	15		0
Illinois	Winnebago County	Rural	250,000	21	5,000	238
Wisconsin	City of Madison	Urban	238,000	21		0
Illinois	Champaign County	Both	201,000	21	20,000	952
Illinois	Sangamon County	Other - Mix	198,997	21	4,200	200
Illinois	Peoria County	Urban	184,000	21		0
California	Napa County	Rural	140,000	15		0
Illinois	Tazewell County	Other - Mix	135,394	21		0
Illinois	Macon County	Mix	110,000	21		0
Wisconsin	City of Green Bay	Urban	104,000	21		0
Wisconsin	City of Kenosha	Suburban	99,680	21	10,000	476
Tennessee	Maury County	Suburban	89000	20	16,250	813
Illinois	Vermilion County	Rural	81,625	21		0

Illinois	City of Bloomington Board of Election Commissioner	Urban	76,610	21	2,750	131
Tennessee	Putnam County	Rural	74165	20	25,000	1,250
Illinois	Jackson County	Other: College/ rural	60,000	21	4,000	190
Illinois	Grundy County	Rural	50,010	21	6,000	286
Tennessee	Loudon County	Rural	48,556	20		0
Illinois	Stephenson County	Rural	47,711	21		0
North Carolina	Davie County	Rural	41,240	9	18,000	2,000
Tennessee	Warren County		40000	20		0
Illinois	Marion County	Rural	39,600	21		0
Illinois	Jefferson County	Rural	38,827	21		0
Illinois	Woodford County	Rural	38,664	21		0
Illinois	Fulton County	Rural	37,400	21		0
Illinois	Effingham County	Rural	35,000	21		0
Illinois	Bureau County	Rural	34,900	21	5000	238
Illinois	Christian County	Rural	34,800	21		0
Illinois	Danvillle County	Urban	33,000	21	7,000	333
Tennessee	Rhea County	Rural	32,641	20		0
Illinois	City of Galesburg Election Commission	Urban	30,000	21		0
Tennessee	Giles County	Rural	29,584	20	10,000	500
Tennessee	Henderson County	Rural	28,000	20	4,770	239
Tennessee	Hardin County	Rural	26,000	20		0
Vermont	Arlington County	Rural	23,000	20		0
North Carolina	Polk County	Rural	20,000	9	6,000	667
North Carolina	Warren County	Rural	20,000	9	17,500	1,944
Tennessee	Haywood County	Rural	18,135	20	9,000	450
Vermont	City of South Burlington	Suburban	17,800	45	3,000	67
Vermont	Town of Bennington	Suburban	15,700	45	1,200	27
Illinois	Massac County	Rural	15169	21		0
North Carolina	Perquimans County	Rural	13,600	9		0
Illinois	Johnson County	Rural	12,878	21		0
Tennessee	Meigs County	Rural	12,000	20	2,000	100
Illinois	Cumberland County	Rural	11,048	21	350	17
Vermont	Town of Barre	Rural	9,052	45	300	7
Tennessee	Houston County	Rural	8,500	20		0
Tennessee	Trousdale County	Rural	7,870	20	1,000	50
Vermont	Town of Lyndon	Rural	6,000	45		0
Tennessee	Scott County	Rural	5,222	20		0

Vermont	Town of Waterbury	Rural	5,064	45		0
Vermont	Town of Jericho	Rural	5,009	45	1,750	39
Vermont	Town of Hinesburg	Rural	4,700	45		0
Vermont	Town of Richmond	Rural	4,100	45		0
Vermont	Town of Brandon	Rural	4,000	45		0
Vermont	Town of Stowe	Rural	4,000	45		0
Vermont	Town of Barton	Rural	4,000	45	50	1
Vermont	Town of Charlotte	Rural	3,700	45		0
Vermont	Town of Highgate	Rural	3,535	45		0
Vermont	Town of Ferrisburgh	Rural	2,700	45		0
Vermont	Town of Alburgh	Rural	1,998	45		0
Vermont	Town of Burke	Rural	1,753	45		0
Vermont	Town of Wolcott	Rural	1,698	45	60	1
Vermont	Town of South Hero	Rural	1,656	45		0
Vermont	Town of Marshfield	Rural	1,600	45	125	3
Vermont	Town of Calais	Rural	1,400	45	200	4
Vermont	Town of Lunenburg	Rural	1,350	45		0
Vermont	Town of Waitsfield	Rural	1,300	45		0
Vermont	Town of Lincoln	Rural	1,271	45	100	2
Vermont	Town of Chittenden	Rural	1,250	45		0
Vermont	Town of Woodbury	Rural	900	45		0
Vermont	Town of Stockbridge	Rural	836	45		0
Vermont	Town of Wheelock	Rural	810	45		0
Vermont	Town of Panton	Rural	677	45		0
Vermont	Town of Peacham	Rural	659	45		0
Vermont	Town of Westfield	Rural	623	45		0
Vermont	Town of Plymouth	Rural	619	45		0
Vermont	Town of Holland	Rural	612	45		0
Vermont	Town of Pittsfield	Rural	547	45		0
Vermont	Town of Sheffield	Rural	456	45		0
Vermont	Town of East Haven	Rural	301	45		0
Vermont	Town of West Haven	Rural	275	45		0
Vermont	Town of Goshen	Rural	200	45		0
Vermont	Town of Norton	Rural	169	45		0
Vermont	Town of Searsburg	Rural	85	45		0