**HOW TO VOTE BY VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT**

Once you have obtained your ballot by following the steps outlined, you can vote your ballot and return it by mail or in person.

1. **Do I have to sign the vote-by-mail ballot return envelope?**
   * **YES.** The elections official, by comparing the signature on the vote-by-mail ballot return envelope to the signature on your voter registration card, can determine that you are the authorized voter. This is an important protection for you. Your signature will not allow anyone to determine how you voted.
   * If you omit any of the required information from your vote-by-mail ballot application, the elections official will send you a ballot, but will also include a notice that the missing information must be provided in order for the ballot be counted.
2. **When must I return the voted ballot?**
   * In order to be counted, an elections official must receive your ballot no later than 8 p.m. on November 6, 2012.
   * You can mail your ballot by November 1, 2012 or drop it off at any polling location in the County of Los Angeles on Election Day.
   * Ballots received after the polls close on November 6, 2012 cannot be counted regardless of postmarks.
   * If you return your voted ballot by mail, don't forget to put the required postage on the envelope. The post office will not deliver it without the required postage.

**ABOUT VOTE-BY MAIL VOTING**

1. **Can I always vote by mail?**
   * **YES.** You will need to fill out the permanent absentee voter application form. Once processed, you will always receive the ballot in the mail for that particular election and for all the elections that follow.
2. **If I lose the vote-by-mail ballot that was sent to me, can I get another one?**
   * **YES.** However you must sign a statement under penalty of perjury that you lost, destroyed or did not receive the first vote-by-mail ballot.
   * The elections official maintains a record of each request, and provides a list of these requests to the polling place to ensure that each voter casts only one ballot. If you vote twice by vote-by-mail ballot, even if by mistake, neither ballot will be counted.
3. **Can I give my voted vote-by-mail ballot to someone else to return for me?**
   * **YES.** You may designate a spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister or a person residing in the same household as the vote-by-mail-voter to return your voted ballot for you.
4. **If I request a vote-by-mail ballot, can I change my mind and still vote at my regular polling place?**
   * **YES.** You must bring your non-voted vote-by-mail ballot and give it to the polling place worker before voting a regular ballot.
   * If you are unable to surrender your vote-by-mail ballot, you may still cast a "provisional" ballot at your polling place which will not be counted until the county elections official can determine that you have not also voted a vote-by-mail ballot.