



Developed by the non-partisan Center for Inclusive Democracy at the University of Southern California Price School of Public Policy, the Voting Location Siting Tool helps election officials and communities identify accessible and equitable voting locations using a web-based interactive data mapping system. At the touch of a button, the Siting Tool synthesizes extensive community-level demographic and historical voting information to map potential vote center and polling place locations that would likely have the most success serving voters.

First launched in California in 2018, the Siting Tool is available in 14 states, representing just over half of the U.S. population:

- Arizona
- Nevada
- California
- North Carolina
- Colorado
- Ohio
- Florida
- Pennsylvania
- Georgia
- Texas
- Hawaii
- Virginia
- Michigan
- Wisconsin

## How does the Tool work?

The Voting Location Siting Tool uses a web-based interactive data mapping system to identify areas within a half mile in diameter where vote centers and polling places would likely best serve voters, including harder-to-reach underserved voting populations. Areas are identified through a facility allocation model that incorporates the most up-to-date local demographic and historical voting data, which can then be customized based on specific local needs. Demographic data includes: Race/ethnicity, disability status, and poverty status. Historical voting data includes: Vote-by-mail status, voter turnout rates, percent voting age citizens, and percent of eligible voters not registered.

## What are the benefits of using the Tool?

By using data-driven decision making, the Voting Location Siting Tool assists in locating vote centers and polling sites. It provides election officials a range of siting options that help them assure impartial access to the ballot box for all in the community. In addition, the Siting Tool provides a uniquely transparent and non-partisan way of site selection that the public can readily understand.

## What has been the experience of those using the Tool?

The success of the Voting Location Siting Tool has been noted by many elections officials and voter advocacy groups across the U.S. working toward the accessible and equitable siting and implementation of voting

locations. Read their [testimonials](#) to learn more.

#### **About the Center for Inclusive Democracy (CID)**

The [Center for Inclusive Democracy](#) (CID), formerly known as the California Civic Engagement Project, is part of the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy and is based in Sacramento. CID conducts a range of national and multi-state research initiatives exploring voting behavior, civic engagement, electoral and economic research, the intersection of social justice and democracy, and more. Its non-partisan research informs and empowers a wide range of policy and organizing efforts aimed at eliminating disparities in social and economic wellbeing. To learn more about CID's research, visit: [cid.usc.edu](http://cid.usc.edu).

#### **About the USC Price School of Public Policy**

The USC Sol Price School of Public Policy's mission is to improve the quality of life for people and their communities, here and abroad. The School achieves this mission through education and research that promotes innovative solutions to the most critical issues facing society. For more than 90 years, the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy has earned the public trust by creating path-breaking research and scholarship.

**For more information about this research, contact Mindy Romero, CID Director, at [msromero@usc.edu](mailto:msromero@usc.edu).**