

Benefits of Vote Centers: Election Day

- VOTER CONVENIENCE
 - Voters vote wherever they choose (near home or work) which has shown an increased voter turnout in other counties.
 - No polling place change for voters who have moved – voters often times give up – too much trouble.
- FINANCIAL SAVINGS
 - Fewer locations – less rental fees at churches and community club houses – approx.. \$1k per year.
 - Fewer poll workers required to appoint and train reducing labor and training expenses estimated at \$26,500 per election or \$79,500 per year.
 - Truck rental expenses for delivery – 1 truck vs 2 trucks – approx.. \$1500 per year.

REQUIREMENTS

- Certified by Coordinator of Elections
- Approved by TN House and Senate
- Use 1st tier locations (schools, libraries) which keeps last-minute cancellations from occurring (i.e. item on ballot, COVID, etc.)
- Secure Election Connection at each center
 - Via hard-wired Virtual Private Network (VPN) into Voter Registration system.
 - Internet speed of 20 mbs needed.
 - Voting information processed by a computer to be immediately accessible (real-time) to all other voting centers in the county. (VPN prevents any voter from voting more than once and prevents unauthorized access to the computerized registration).
- Sites – Fiber hard-wired, adequate space for 8 – 12 voting machines , ample parking,
- Number of voting Centers required by law is 1 per 10,000 registered voters. Currently, Blount County has 92,312 voter registrations as of 12/15/2020. Ten (10) vote centers are required by law.