

2012 Presidential Election Briefing

Multnomah County
Elections



Issues Unique to Presidential

- Largest election cycle every 4 years
- High voter registration
- New and infrequent voters
- National attention
- USPS
- High turnout

High Volume

- November 2008
 - Record high voter registration – 432,000+
 - Record high ballots cast – 367,540
 - 87,000 ballots cast on Election Day
 - 250 temporary employees
 - 5 contiguous 12-hour shifts to tally all ballots
- May 2012
 - 68,609 or 43% of total ballots cast received on Election Day
 - 37,000 between 6 and 8 PM

Voter Registration

- High volume
- 3rd party registration groups
 - Advocacy groups
 - Campaigns
- Higher volume of “trouble” cards
- Recertification on minor parties
- Registration Deadline vs Mailing Deadline

New and Infrequent Voters

- Not aware of deadlines
- Address changes
 - National Change Of Address (NCOA)
- Sometimes cancelled for Inactivity
 - 5 years no activity + two federal election cycles

National Attention

- National Media unfamiliar with Vote by Mail
- National Campaigns
- National Observers

U.S. Postal Service

- Reduced Revenue
- Decreased Staffing
- Good partner
- National focus on Vote by Mail
- Election Mail will receive priority over Political Mail

High Turnout

- Higher early turnout
- Early ballot scanning
 - Larger percentage of results reported at 8 PM
- Lines – updating registration
- High, last minute turnout
- “High Speed” ballot sorter

High, Late Turnout

- High volume at drop sites
 - Traffic issues solved
- “Unofficial” Drop Sites
- Up to 43% of all ballots on Election Day
- Must process all ballots on “Election Day”
 - Wednesday? Thursday?
- Close races
- Public perception

We are ready

- High speed sorter
 - More efficient and accurate sorting
 - Signature Verification 60% faster
- Front office remodel
 - Fully accessible
 - More space to queue voters inside
 - More space for voting

We are ready

- Added Security and Accountability
 - Cameras now in all ballot storage areas
 - All blank ballots publicly accounted for
 - Observers allowed in more areas
 - Signature verification observation room
 - Mandatory hand count after election