

## **ELECTION CHALLENGE: 2021 VENICE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ELECTION**

Some three decades ago, a highway patrol officer flagged me down for appearing to roll through a stop sign. He that every citation given prevented seventeen traffic accidents. It gave me food for thought during traffic school.

Such statistics apply to voting. Without prior metrics, we can't know how many Venice stakeholders were deprived of their right to vote by the City Clerk's ballot application procedures. The experiences catalogued in this transmission can be employed only as a starting point for producing a projection of how many Venice stakeholders were failed by the error-prone ballot application and submission procedure. What existing data aggregation CAN do is affirm that the process was so flawed that it convinced even highly motivated stakeholders to abandon a process that caused them not to vote.

The process failed the following Venice resident groups:

- elder stakeholders
- stakeholders without computer experience
- stakeholders without computers
- stakeholders without cellphones
- stakeholders without time to follow up on persistent digital portal failures

The process favored the following groups:

- non-resident stakeholders who own Venice property
- non-resident stakeholders who run or work in Venice businesses

Failures to send ballots to all eligible resident stakeholders deepens the de facto suppression of voting by Venice residents, whose current voter registration data is available in public records.

**As such, you must set aside this election's results and perfect - or, at the least, improve - the process so as to produce a trustworthy result from a second effort.**

I look forward to your positive response and action. Feel free to contact me with any questions at 310.800.3845 or by reply email.

Sincerely,



Jed Pauker

*For information only:*

Venice Resistance

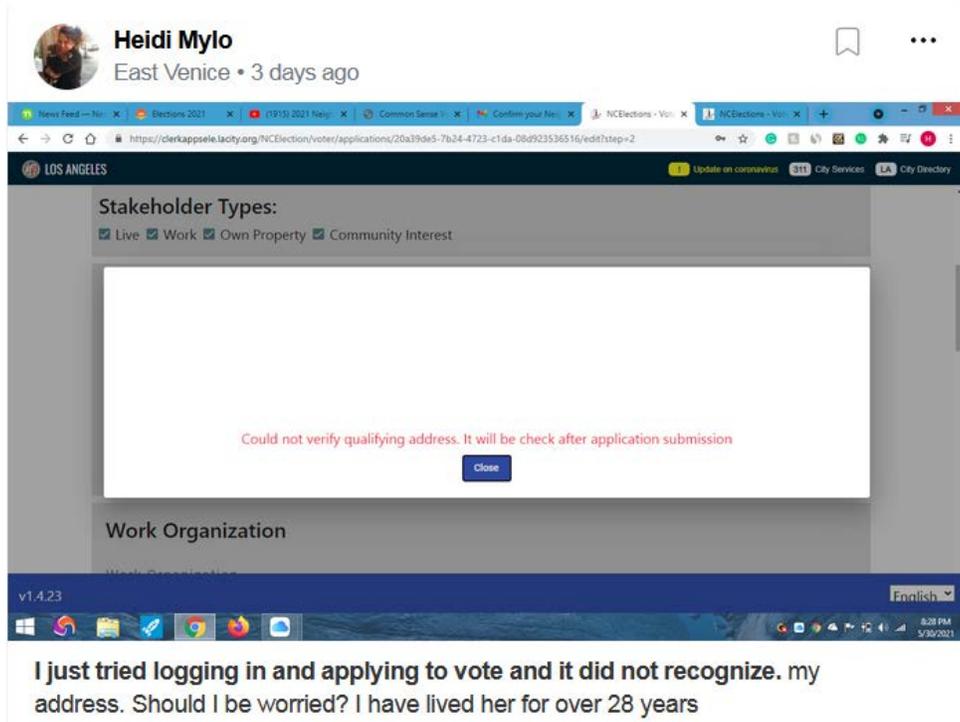
Los Angeles County Voters Action Coalition

Indivisible CA-33

**References:**

1. Nextdoor respondents:

[Aiman Shawaf, Mar Vista Flats](#) - (via DM) I tried once to register for a ballot at the beginning and had technical problems online. I simply gave up after that. Not sure why we have to "apply" in order to vote!



**Marjorie David** • East Venice

Horrible, buggy site. It wouldn't upload the photo of my license at all. I just downloaded the application and sent with a printout of the license photo. If it is postmarked tomorrow, I think you are okay and it is really easy.

2 days ago [Agree](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#) 😊 +1 2

**Cyndi Kahn** • East Venice

I had that problem. Turned out I needed to put in the 5 digit zip code with a hyphen and the following 4 digits (90291-2925).

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**Marjorie David** • East Venice

I did that! Just a mess.

1 day ago [Agree](#) [Reply](#) [Share](#) +1 1

**Shay Beebe** • East Venice

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It's likely that you forgot to select a council area. I remember when I signed up many weeks ago, it was giving me same message and then I realized I forgot to select council area.....

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**Marjorie David** • East Venice

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No, I swear, I did this. It just tossed up an error message every time I tried to upload. I wish there were just something I forgot and thanks to all for ideas. I read them and double-checked. No go. Anyway, I tried to mail in the form (wish I had seen the post about filling in by hand and sending a photo of app and DL by email, but too late) and maybe it will get there on time. Anyway, Jed is right about what a pain this was. And I still haven't even seen a ballot! (edited)

**Cyndi Kahn** • East Venice

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Marjorie David, you can call the City Clerk-Election Division @ 213/978-0444 and see if your application went thru and was accepted. I spoke to them yesterday, they were very nice. Another thing- for the stakeholder part I clicked on resident and homeowner and for some reason I was getting the same error message. (I don't know why it allows you to put in 2!) I finally took out homeowner and just kept resident and that's when my application went thru. The whole thing took me over an hour to navigate thru those frustrating errors. I completely get it!

**Sarah Sweeney** • Mar Vista Hill

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I tried to sign up for the mail in ballot last night, but our neighborhood didn't show up in the pull down menu, so I figured I was too late. The deadline was yesterday, and this was about 9:30pm, so I thought it would be okay, but I guess not.

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**Elizabeth Clay** • Venice - Canals/Silver Triangle

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I've received an inordinate number of complaints regarding ballots not yet being received. My own ballot took 10 days to arrive. Additionally when we email ballots to the Clerk's assistants sometimes they email reply to both the primary and the cc or sometimes just the cc. It's become impossible to ascertain what has been received. On one occasion proof of employment was attached and not read delaying the approval. Some applications I sent last week or being trumped by ones sent today (i guess some people are faster with their pile!). I can go on but clearly they have systemic issues with this system that they have never tried before. If today is the cut off they will not have enough time to receive all the return ballots before the election window is upon us.

**Evy Nelson** • Mar Vista Flats

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Regarding the online application, I was able to upload my documentation file, but then I was told there was no documentation when I tried to submit the application. I trashed the file in the application portal and uploaded the exact same file, and then I could submit. Go figure.

**john riley** • Northwest Del Rey

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Fill out my ballot information. I receive a confirmation stating that I would get a ballot. I never did. Call to say and the city told me that my military id was not good enough and I would need to show my driver licenses, but since the vote is tonight it is too late to get me a ballot.

Terrible...

This is absurd. I registered on time on May 13. My husband got a ballot. I didn't. I emailed the LA City clerk last Thursday clearly stating that I, Tori Knight did not get a ballot with a screen shot of my application received. They resent my husband a second ballot without even reading the email!!

They said my DL was not valid so the application was never processed. Why does my DL need to be valid to show proof of age and address? I was searching in my inbox for a notification from the LA clerk and found nothing. It turns out a private email was sent from Joyce Kim on May 23, 10 days after I submitted my application. Why are they sending emails from a random person rather than LA Clerk? Why did they not even read my email which clearly said Tori Knight did not receive a ballot and just send another ballot to my husband? There are bar codes on the ballot so I cannot use it.

I have been a resident of Venice and property owner for more than 10 years. I deserve to have a voice