ELECTION CENTRAL



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Missed the voter registration deadline? Vote with Same Day Registration

What is Same Day Registration (SDR)?

Previously, after the voter registration deadline, there was no ability to register to vote. Oct 15 was the registration deadline for this election cycle. The General Assembly implemented SDR in the 2022 after introducing it in 2020, giving the ability to register anytime up to and during Election Day.



How do I vote through SDR?

On Election Day, visit the polling location your current address is assigned to. To find your polling location, visit https://rva.gov/elections/precincts. Make sure to bring an acceptable ID (i.e. driver's license or student ID). When you arrive at your polling location, let an Election Officer know that you need to do SDR. A Provisional Ballot Election Officer will then assist you with your registration and provisional ballot.



What is a Provisional Ballot?

Provisional ballots are used by voters who do not appear on the list of registered voters at their polling location. The provisional ballots are not scanned into the voting machine at the time of voting, but rather are subject to approval by the electoral board prior to the ballot being counted.



After you vote, you will be given a notice with the date, time, and place where the local electoral board will make a decision regarding your provisional ballot. You are entitled to attend this meeting, but you are not required to attend in order for your ballot to be counted.



The story behind the new "I Voted" sticker.



Our office has received many questions from voters regarding the new "I Voted" sticker for the City of Richmond. "What is the animal?" "What does a possum have to do with voting or Virginia?"

Asia Rorick, the artist behind the sticker gave her reasoning in a recent interview with VCU News.

"Richmond is such a creative city, and I think voters appreciated a unique artistic design and - hopefully - a cute possum," Rorick said.

Rorick also said she received support from r/rva on Reddit.

"Opossums are specific to North America - as opposed to Australian possums - and their full 'title' is actually the Virginia Opossum," Rorick said.

Rorick's sticker highlights both native species to North America and the quirk of Richmond.

"I think their silly, fun, unconventional nature just connects with Richmonders. Plus, they live a dual life of city and nature dwelling, and I think Richmond encompasses that same nature-loving, cityliving vibe," Rorick said.

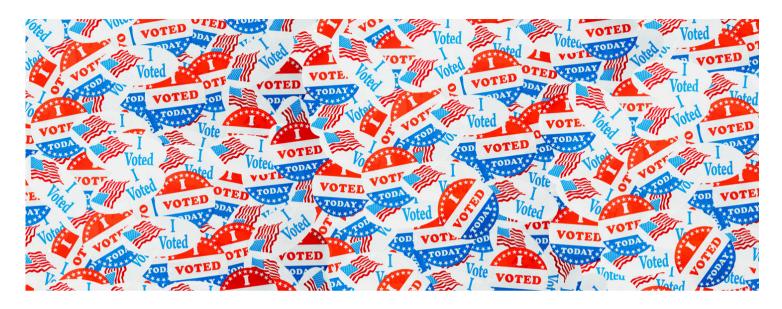
Governor Glenn Youngkin and Senator Tim Kaine were both seen wearing Rorick's sticker after early voting at the Office of Elections.



Self portrait of Rorick.

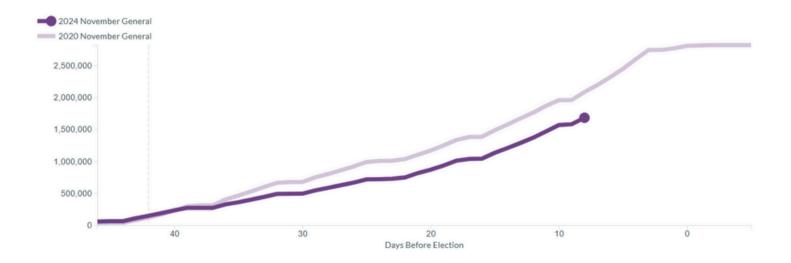


Comparison: Early Voting in 2020 vs. Early Voting in 2024



City of Richmond is heading towards reaching 30,000 voters for Early Voting (both in-person and vote by mail) this year. Compare to Early Voting in 2020, the numbers are lagging behind. However, the lag is not a bad thing.

Four years ago, to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, voters opted to vote early or to vote by mail. As the pandemic died down over the years, voters are waiting to vote in-person on Election Day in this upcoming election.



Early Voting numbers between 2020 and 2024. Courtesy of Virginia Public Access Project.

We are expecting high turn out on Election Day this year. Regardless of what the numbers show, every individual who is eligible to vote should make a plan to vote in this upcoming election. On Election Day, the polls will be open from 6AM to 7PM. Make sure your voice is heard!