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The Marion County Vote Center Plan



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March 6, 2026

Indiana Election Division
302 West Washington Street, E-204
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Directors King and Nussmeyer:

On December 6, 2018, the Marion County Election Board submitted the first Marion County Vote Center Plan to your office. Since that time, many changes have been made to the original plan to ensure that Marion County efficiently and effectively provides many opportunities to voters.

Enclosed with this letter you will find Marion County's amended plan for the implementation of vote centers in our county. The amended plan complies with the requirements laid out in Indiana Code 3-11-18.1-4. Those requirements are further detailed in this plan.

Please notify myself, or the Marion County Election Board staff, if you have questions about this information or Marion County's amended vote center plan.

Sincerely,

Kate Sweeney Bell, Clerk
Marion County, Indiana

Timeline narrative for the plan from the Election Board:

1. On January 24, 2018, the Marion County Election Board (MCEB) adopted Resolution 01-18 providing direction to study the concept of vote centers in Marion County.
2. An election administration planning committee (EPAC), as prescribed by Resolution 01-18, held two meetings:
 - a. On April 3, 2018 at the City County Building, 200 E. Washington St., 46204. At this meeting, public testimony was taken to help develop the draft plan for Marion County.
 - b. On June 19, 2018 at Marion County Election Service Center, 3737 E. Washington St., 46201. This meeting had two vendors demonstrate e-pollbooks, which the MCEB was considering at the time, in a public setting.
3. The Marion County Election Board adopted Resolution 06-18 on July 25, 2018 to establish six (6) satellite voting locations for the November 6, 2018 General Election.
 - a. The Board operated six satellite locations as a vote center pilot, using the following election equipment: ExpressVotes and electronic pollbooks.
4. On October 3, 2018, the Board held its first public meeting on the vote center plan.
5. The second public meeting was held on November 6, 2018. At this meeting, the Board considered an amended version of the vote center plan presented on October 3, 2018. Amendments made to the original draft plan included an update to the anticipated poll site list and an update to the number of active and inactive voters in Marion County. The Board adopted an order approving the amended vote center plan.
6. The City-County Council, the county fiscal body, adopted a resolution approving the vote center plan on December 3, 2018.
7. The Mayor of Indianapolis, who is the county executive, adopted a resolution approving the vote center plan on December 4, 2018.

8. A vote center amendment was previously approved by unanimous vote of the Election Board on the following days:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. April 5, 2019 | 9. September 9, 2022 |
| 2. October 4, 2019 | 10. October 7, 2022 |
| 3. May 1, 2020 | 11. March 20, 2023 |
| 4. August 26, 2020 | 12. September 8, 2023 |
| 5. September 2, 2020 | 13. March 14, 2024 |
| 6. October 30, 2020 | 14. September 6, 2024 |
| 7. March 23, 2022 | 15. October 4, 2024 |
| 8. April 29, 2022 | 16. October 31, 2024 |

Marion County Voter Registration Information

As of February 26, 2026, at 2:30 p.m., the counts for registered voters in Marion County, as defined by 3-7-26.3-2, are expressed below: IC

- | | |
|--|---------|
| (A) The total number of voters within the County: | 629,296 |
| (B) The number of active voters within the County: | 532,296 |
| (C) The number of inactive voters within the County: | 97,000 |

In compliance with IC 3-11-18.1-13, any registered voter in Marion County will be able to cast their ballot at any of the vote centers in Marion County, representing the 621 precincts in the county. Each vote center board, regardless of size, will be able to administer the election for any precinct, and all ballot styles for voters in Marion County.

Vote Center Locations, Configuration, and Management

On January 24, 2018, the Marion County Election Board adopted Resolution 01-18, officially calling for the creation of an election administration planning committee (EPAC) to transition the county toward vote centers, and away from the current precinct model. Exhibit A is a copy of that order and outlines the steps that the Election Board expects to execute in the implementation of the vote center plan.

Resolution 01-18, also called on the Election Board to establish no more than 300 vote centers to be operational for the 2019 Municipal Election. At the time of the resolution's adoption the Marion County Election Board intended to use 286 polling locations.

- In the 2019 Primary Election, the number of polling locations was 277.
- The amendment, for the 2019 Municipal Election established 273 polling locations.

- For the June 2, 2020 Primary Election, Marion County utilized 22 polling locations pursuant to Indiana Election Commission Order 2020-40, Section 8.
- For the November 3, 2020 General Election, Marion County had 187 polling locations.
- For the May 3, 2022 Primary Election, there were 181 vote centers in Marion County.
- For the November 8, 2022 General Election, there were 185 vote centers in Marion County.
- For the May 2, 2023 Municipal Primary, there were 185 vote centers in Marion County.
- For the November 7, 2023 Municipal Election there were 186 vote centers in Marion County.
- For the May 7, 2024 Primary Election there were 186 vote centers.
- For the November 5, 2024 General Election there were 186 vote centers.
- For the May 5, 2026 Primary Election there will be 182 Vote Centers

A list of the buildings, and their physical addresses can be found as Exhibit B at the end of this plan.

Exhibit C is a map, representing the geographical location of the sites in Marion County. Exhibit D depicts a copy of the anticipated floor plan for each vote center location.

Vote Center Equipment and Pollworkers

All vote centers, with information on each registered voter in Marion County, will be linked using electronic pollbooks (e-pollbooks). At least two (2) e-pollbooks will be provided to each location. More devices will be provided at certain locations depending on the anticipated number of voters for that vote center. The e-pollbooks will be connected to a central database, that all e-pollbooks can access using a secured, wireless internet connection.

Marion County will deploy ExpressVote touchscreen ballot marking devices to each vote center. At a minimum, there will be two (2) of these machines at each vote center location. The Election Board will provide more machines to vote centers based on expected turnout at each site.

Each vote center will have only one Inspector to manage and administer the location. For each of the vote centers, the Election Board will request each major political party appoint at least one pollworker to that location. If a political party does not make an appointment for a vote center location, the Election Board shall appoint pollworkers.

The Inspector will serve as the leader of the vote center. Inspectors will ensure the vote center opens and closes on time, address voter-challenges, control the accounting of ballots, and assist the other pollworkers in their assigned duties. Locations where turnout is expected to be relatively high, more pollworkers will be assigned to the vote center to assist in processing voters. These pollworkers (or

Clerks) will be responsible for greeting each voter, checking for a valid I.D., operating the Poll Pad, assisting voters at the ExpressVote, aiding voters with disabilities, and assisting the Inspector in their duties.

Regardless of the vote center's size and staff level, the voting process will be the same in each vote center. Voters will present an I.D. to the pollworker at check-in. The voter will be identified using the Poll Pad and sign their name. If changes to a voter's profile are necessary, a Clerk will document the information in the e-pollbook as required by state law. Clerks will initial a blank ExpressVote ballot card in the space designated, after a voter has been successfully entered in the e-pollbook. Once a voter has been processed on a Poll Pad device, the ExpressVote printer will automatically print a barcode to access the voter's ballot style on a blank ballot card. Then the pollworker will hand the ballot card to the voter who will be directed toward an ExpressVote to begin voting. The voter will insert the ballot card into the ExpressVote and make their selections by touching the screen. When finished, the voter will print the voter-verifiable ballot card. They will have an option to review their selections and insert the ballot card into the DS200 to tabulate and securely store the ballot until polls close.

Election Security and Accessibility

Access to the polls and election integrity are priorities to the Marion County Election Board. Each vote center location complies with accessibility requirements that are detailed in IC 3-11-8, ensuring individuals who want to cast a ballot in-person on Election Day can efficiently and effortlessly vote.

Marion County adheres to security requirements established by the State of Indiana, found in IC 3-11-15-46.

The Marion County Election Board also operates a hotline where pollworkers can report issues at each location, so they are adequately addressed by trained staff. If vote centers experience disruptions on Election Day, contingency plans are in place to warrant the smoothest possible election still occurs. Each e-pollbook, ExpressVote touch screen, and DS200 are equipped with back-up batteries to ensure the election is uninterrupted.

In the event of internet-connectivity disruptions, the e-pollbooks store the processed voters and will transmit the information to the ePulse network once an internet connection is re-established.

Information for each voter is housed in the ePulse program, which can be accessed by each e-pollbook, as well as by the staff in the Marion County Election Board. Once a voter has cast a ballot, the ePulse information is updated to reflect this change.

The following hardware, firmware and software will be used to manage electronic poll lists:

Item	Use	Type
6 th generation iPad	Access information for e-pollbook	Hardware
Star Micronics Bluetooth label maker	Prints labels for ballot secrecy envelope at early voting locations	Hardware
ExpressVote Printer	Print voter specific information on top of ballot	Hardware
Poll Pad Printer Cords	Connects Poll Pad to ExpressVote Printer	Hardware
iOS 17.6.1	iPad Operating System	Firmware
ePulse	Voter database	Software
Poll Pad 3.5	Connects information from the database for each vote center	Software

MARION COUNTY ELECTION BOARD
MARION COUNTY, INDIANA

Vote Center Compliance Checklist as outlined in IC 3-11-18.1-4

The following are required to be included in a Vote Center Plan (the "Plan") pursuant to IC 3-11-18.1-4.

1. The total number of vote centers to be established:

For the May 5, 2026 Primary Election, Marion County will utilize 182 vote centers.

2. The location of each vote center:

A list of the buildings and physical address for each building can be found as Exhibit B at the end of this plan. Exhibit C is a map, representing the location of polling places to be used for the May 5, 2026 Primary Election.

3. The effective date of the vote center order:

On January 24, 2018, the Marion County Election Board adopted Resolution 01-18 officially calling for the creation of an election administration planning committee (EPAC) to transition the county toward vote centers. Exhibit A is a copy of that order. At its second public meeting on November 6, 2018, which was held more than 30 days after the first public meeting on October 3, 2018, the Marion County Election Board adopted an order to approve the vote center plan. The plan was approved by the City-County Council on December 3, 2018 and was signed by the Mayor on December 4, 2018. Marion County's Vote Center Plan became effective on December 6, 2018 when it was filed with the Indiana Election Division.

4. The following information regarding voter registration numbers according to the computerized list (as defined in IC 3-7-26.3-2) as of the date of the order:

As of February 26, 2026, at 2:30 p.m., the counts for registered voters in Marion County, as defined by IC 3-7-26.3-2, are expressed below:

- (A) The total number of voters within the County: 629,296
- (B) The number of active voters within the County: 532,296
- (C) The number of inactive voters within the County: 97,000

5. **For each vote center, a list of the precincts whose polls will be located at the vote center consistent with IC 3-11-18.1-13:**

In compliance with IC 3-11-18.1-13, any registered voter in Marion County will be able to cast their ballot at any of the vote centers in Marion County, representing the 621 precincts in the county.

6. **The number of precinct election boards that will be appointed at each vote center:**

Each vote center will have a minimum of one appointed board. See Exhibit E for a detailed description of Marion County vote center pollworker job descriptions and staffing levels.

7. **Designate the precincts that each precinct election board will administer:**

Each board, regardless of size, will be able to administer the election for any precinct, and all ballot styles, and splits, for voters in Marion County.

8. **The number and title of the precinct election officers who will be appointed to serve at each vote center:**

For each vote center, the Election Board will request that each major political party appoint at least one pollworker to that location. If a political party does not make an appointment for a vote center location, however, the Election Board will appoint pollworkers. See Exhibit E for a pollworker job descriptions and vote center staffing levels.

9. **For each vote center specify the following:**

(A) The number and type of ballot variations that will be provided at the vote center:

Each ballot style created for a particular election will be accessible in every vote center location.

(B) Whether ballots will be delivered to the vote center or printed on demand for a voter's use:

Marion County is utilizing a type of voting technology similar to printing ballots on demand. The technology deployed by Marion County will allow each voter to insert a blank ballot card into an ExpressVote, a ballot marking device. Once the correct ballot style is activated, the voter will mark his or her selections on the ExpressVote screen. Then the ExpressVote will print the voter's selections onto the ballot card, where the voter can review their candidate selections.

10. A detailed description of any hardware, firmware, or software used:

(A) to create an electronic poll list for each precinct whose polls are to be located at a vote center; or

- Hardware: 6th generation iPad, ExpressVote Printer, Poll Pad Printer Cord
- Firmware: iOS 17.6.1
- Software: ePulse, Poll Pad 3.5

(B) to manage data in an electronic pollbook through a secure electronic connection between the county election board and the precinct election officials administering a vote center.

Same as above in (A)

11. Description of the equipment and procedures to be used to ensure that information concerning a voter entered into any electronic pollbook used by precinct election officers at a vote center is immediately accessible to:

(A) the county election board:

Individuals who have voted will be updated in the ePulse program. The program is designed to sync every two minutes and can be manually synced by a pollworker at each vote center. The election board staff will also have access to ePulse and will have access to the universe of voters in real time.

(B) the electronic pollbooks used by precinct election officers at all other vote centers in the county

Using the ePulse program, pollworkers in each vote center will have access to the same, updated list that each vote center has access to.

12. For each precinct, the number of electronic pollbooks to be provided for each precinct:

At least two (2) electronic pollbook devices will be provided at each location. More devices may be provided at certain locations depending on the anticipated number of voters for that vote center. The electronic pollbooks will be connected to each other using a secured, wireless internet connection.

Marion County will deploy ExpressVote touchscreen devices to vote centers. More machines will be apportioned to the vote centers based on expected turnout at each site.

13. Whether each ballot card will have the printed initials of the poll Clerks captured through electronic signature:

The vote center Clerks will initial each ballot by hand. Their initials will not be printed on the ballots by a machine.

14. The security and contingency plans to be implemented by the county to do all of the following:

(A) Prevent a disruption of the vote center process.

- The county has adopted the security requirements as outlined in IC 3-11-15-46.

(B) Ensure that the election is properly conducted if a disruption occurs.

- The Marion County Election Board has a hotline for pollworkers to call on Election Day. The hotline has volunteers, election board staff, equipment vendors, and attorneys on hand to answer questions and respond to disruptions. Loss of Internet Connection: The tablets are designed to operate without an internet connection. The pollbook data is stored on each Poll Pad individually. In the event, the Poll Pad loses its internet connection, it can still operate with the data stored on it. When the connection is restored, that particular Poll Pad will sync with ePulse again.
- The Marion County Election Board has also contracted with a vendor to visit all sites and ensure that internet connectivity exists for each MiFi (internet hotspot) that will be used on Election Day. Loss of Power: The election equipment and electronic pollbooks are both designed to operate without a power source. Their internal batteries have several hours of back-up power available.

(C) Prevent access to an electronic pollbook without the coordinated action of two (2) precinct election officers who are not members of the same political party.

- Poll Pad 3.5 will require each election officer of a political party to have a code different from the officer of the other party.

15. A certification that the vote center complies with the accessibility requirements applicable to polling places under IC 3-11-8:

See Marion County Election Board Resolution and Order No. 01-18 in Exhibit F.

16. A sketch depicting the planned layout of the vote center, indicating the location of equipment and precinct election officers:

Exhibit D depicts a copy of the anticipated floor plan for each vote center location.

17. The total number and locations of satellite offices to be established under IC 3-11-10-26.3 at vote center locations designated under subdivision (2) to allow voters to cast absentee ballots in accordance with IC 3-11. However, a plan must provide for at least one (1) vote center to be established as a satellite office under IC 3-11-10-26.3 on the two (2) Saturdays immediately preceding an election day:

Marion County will operate nine (9) early voting locations for the May 5, 2026 Primary Election. The Election Board will establish one early voting satellite site in each township within Marion County. Early voting hours for the City-County building will be established by the Marion County Clerk. All other in-person absentee voting at satellite sites will begin on Saturday, April 25, and end on Sunday, May 3, 2026. The hours of operation will be 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., daily. The early voting locations are listed below:

Center Township

City-County Building
200 E. Washington Street, W122
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Lawrence Township

Indianapolis Public Library- Ft Ben
9330 E 56th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46216

Warren Township

Warren Township Government Center
501 N. Post Road
Indianapolis, IN 46219

Decatur Township

Decatur Township Government Center
5410 S. High School Road
Indianapolis, IN 46221

Perry Township

Perry Township Government Center
4925 Shelby Street
Indianapolis, IN 46227

Washington Township

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
100 W. 86th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46260

Franklin Township

Franklin Township Government Center
6231 S. Arlington Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46237

Pike Township

Indianapolis Public Library - Pike
Branch
6525 Zionsville Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Wayne Township

Krannert Park
605 S. High School Road
Indianapolis, IN 46241

18. The method and timing of providing voter data to persons who are entitled to receive the data under this title:

Voter data will be provided at 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 4:00 p.m., on Election Day, or upon request any day in which voting occurs, to the Marion County Democratic Party and the Marion County Republican Party. Any additional person who is entitled to receive the data under Indiana Code shall request access at least 72 hours prior to the day of voting.

19. That the county election board shall adopt a resolution under IC 3-11.5-5-1 or IC 3-11.5-6-1 to make the central counting of absentee ballots applicable to the county (if the board has not already done so).

Indiana Code sections 3-11.5-5-1 and 3-11.5-6-1 were repealed during the 2019 Legislative session.

20. For a plan adopted after July 1, 2014, in a county in which a majority of votes are cast on optical scan ballot cards, any additional procedures to provide for efficient and secure voting at each vote center, including ballot on demand printing.

- (A) A Marion County voter will enter the vote center and complete the sign-in process on the Poll Pad, electronic pollbook. The Poll Pad will print a barcode on the voter's ballot card that corresponds to the correct ballot style for each voter. The voter will take their ExpressVote ballot card to an ExpressVote and insert the ballot card into the Express Vote. The ExpressVote reads the barcode and will activate the correct ballot style for each voter.
- (B) On Election Day, when the voter is finished, they will first review their sections on their ballot card and then insert it into the DS200. The DS200 is the vote-tabulation machine.
- (C) During early voting, the voter will place their voted ExpressVote ballot card into a ballot secrecy envelope and into a secure box that will be stored until Election Day.