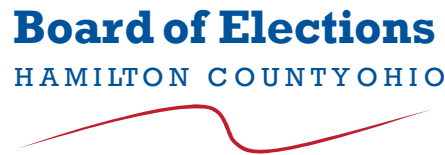


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 16, 2018

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The Board of Elections Partners with Developmental Disabilities Services To Test New Voting Machines

The Hamilton County Board of Elections is looking for input as it chooses new voting equipment. To ensure the new equipment is accessible for all, the Board of Elections is partnering with Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services (HCDDS) to test the machines.

The Board of Elections has narrowed the choice to two options and will be allowing the public to test one option on January 18 from 2-4 p.m. and the other option on January 25 from 2-4 p.m. Both sessions are at the Board of Elections, 4700 Smith Road in Norwood.

Diana Mairose and Robert Shuemak, advocates with disabilities from HCDDS, will be participating in the demonstrations and providing valuable feedback on the accessibility of the two options.

"We've had a long partnership with the Board of Elections," said Mairose. "Having the ability to exercise your right to vote is so important, and we're glad that the Board of Elections thinks about accessibility when it looks for new equipment."

Shuemak added, "I like having the ability to vote at my polling place on Election Day, so equipment that is accessible to someone like me with a visual impairment is very important."

Mairose and Shuemak will be available for photos and comments during the demo on January 18.

"We are delighted that Diana and Robert are able to participate in the demonstrations", said Sherry Poland, Director of the Board of Elections.

Sally Krisel, Deputy Director at the Board of Elections, added "We encourage all voters that have the time to stop by the Board of Elections on January 18 and January 25 from 2-4 p.m. to provide feedback in selecting Hamilton County's next generation of voting equipment."

For questions or more information about accessibility or HCDDS, contact Ryan Braun at ryanj.braun@hamiltondds.org or (513) 559-6649.

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