Let us introduce you to some of the changes and features of the new voting system to help you prepare to vote:

- More Rankings Available in Ranked-Choice Voting Contests
- More Intuitive Ballot Marking
- New Ballot-Marking Device with Enhanced Accessible Features
- Enhanced Election Transparency
- High Security Standards

**More Intuitive Ballot Marking**

When marking their ballots, voters will fill in ovals next to their selections, instead of connecting arrows as in the past. Voters will use bilingual ballots, available in English and Chinese, Spanish, or Filipino.

**New Ballot-Marking Device with Enhanced Accessible Features**

Every polling place and the City Hall Voting Center will have an accessible ballot-marking device, featuring audio and touchscreen interfaces. The device is compatible with assistive technology, such as keypads, sip-and-puff, and head-pointers.

The ballot-marking device does not store or tabulate votes. Voters will print their ballots and insert them into the ballot-scanning machine that tabulates voted ballots.

**Enhanced Election Transparency**

Every polling place will have a ballot-scanning machine that scans and tabulates voted ballots. Scanned images of voted ballots and vote count data will be stored on the machine’s memory card.

The Department of Elections will post images of scanned ballots, each with notes indicating how vote marks were interpreted and counted by the voting equipment, on sfelections.org. Members of the public can view and sort the ballot images for comparison against official election results.

Scanned ballot images will be posted on sfelections.org for public viewing.

If you wish to vote for a qualified write-in candidate who is not listed on the ballot, write the new ballot.
High Security Standards

The new voting system meets strict security standards and has been certified for use by the California Secretary of State.

No part of the system connects to the internet, or receives or transmits data through any type of external communication network.

Prior to each election, the Department of Elections conducts testing on all voting equipment to verify that the machines are mechanically functional and logically accurate. This testing is open to public observation.

San Francisco voters will begin using a new voting system in the November 5, 2019 election!