



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 29, 2024

EARLY VOTING UPDATE: MORE PARKING AND STAFF, EXTRA DAY ADDED IN ST. CHARLES COUNTY

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO – With a historic surge in early voting, St. Charles County Election Authority is adding parking for its main office and expanding capacity at its satellite voting location.

- **Election Authority office** (397 Turner Blvd, St. Peters) — To fix major issues with traffic and parking, the Election Authority office has added off-site parking with a shuttle bus. The new parking is at The Crossing at Mid Rivers, located at 6000 West Geneva Drive. (Accessed by taking Highway 79 to the Pearl Drive exit.) The shuttle parking is about 5 minutes from the Election Authority office.
- **Element Church** (100 Mall Parkway, Wentzville) — The satellite voting site will open one extra day due to high demand. Element Church will open to voters Monday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (The last day at Element was originally planned for Friday, Nov. 1.) ***Element Church is not open for voting on Saturdays.***

Also, extra staff and equipment have been added at Element Church to process voters more quickly — 60% more staff, 50% more voter check-in stations, and double the ballot printers.

“This is the first presidential election where no-excuse absentee voting has been part of the process in Missouri,” says Kurt Bahr, St. Charles County Director of Elections. “The turnout is way, way more than anticipated. It far exceeded any projection we had. And not just us — other counties are seeing the same thing.”

Bahr says his team had planned on up to 2,500 voters per day during the two weeks of no-excuse absentee voting. On Monday, the main office alone had over 3,500 come through.

Over 25,000 have voted since no-excuse absentee voting began Oct. 22, compared to less than 9,300 during the prior four weeks of traditional absentee voting.

Bahr reminds voters they need to bring an approved photo ID with them to cast their ballot. Anyone who is in line by 4:30 p.m. at the Election Authority or 3 p.m. at Element Church will be able to vote.

Voting Hours

- **Election Authority office** (397 Turner Blvd, St. Peters) — Monday-Saturday until Nov. 4, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Curbside voting available.
- **Element Church** (100 Mall Parkway, Wentzville) — Monday-Friday until Nov. 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Curbside voting **not** available.

Voters waiting until Election Day to cast their vote can do so at their assigned polling place from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 5. The Election Authority is also open for voting during those hours for any registered voter in the county.

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About St. Charles County:

St. Charles County, Missouri, founded in 1812, is one of the fastest growing counties in Missouri. With a population of over 415,000, it is the state's third largest county. It is home to 21 scenic county parks of which three are in reserve, encompassing 4,509 acres.

With one of the largest economies in the state, St. Charles County is home to multinational companies including General Motors, Citi, MasterCard Worldwide and Boeing. It is ranked among the top 25 counties in the nation in high-tech job growth by the Progressive Policy Institute and consistently has the lowest unemployment rate in the Metropolitan St. Louis area.

St. Charles County Government has more than 1,170 employees in more than 30 departments and offices who work to make the county an excellent place to live, work and shop. For more information, please visit sccmo.org.