

**TAYLORSVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

**MEETING DATE:** February 4, 2015

**AGENDA ITEM:** (Under "Reports") Information on Options Regarding the 2015 Taylorsville Municipal Election

**PUBLIC HEARING REQUIRED:** YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO  X

**RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE REQUIRED:**

**ORDINANCE** \_\_\_\_\_ **RESOLUTION** \_\_\_\_\_ **NONE**  X

**PRESENTER:** *Salt Lake County Clerk/Elections Division*

**ISSUE SUMMARY:** Council Member seats for Council Districts 1, 2, and 3 are up for election this year. As we contract with Salt Lake County to conduct our municipal elections, we have invited a representative from the Salt Lake County Clerk's Office/Election Division to present information on our options for the 2015 Municipal Election. Several of the cities in Salt Lake County are going to a citywide vote by mail program and the County is encouraging that option to reduce costs and increase voter response; however, that option is still up to the City. If we don't choose to conduct a citywide vote by mail election, the County will still be consolidating our polling locations rather drastically this year and we will probably only have three voting locations in Taylorsville (one in each applicable Council District) for the 2015 election.

It should be noted that if we choose the citywide vote by mail program, we would not be conducting "Early Voting" at Taylorsville City Hall; however, voters would still have the option of dropping their ballots at a ballot box at City Hall for a period prior to Election Day or coming out to vote in person on Election Day at a "Voting Center" set up at Taylorsville City Hall.

The County is prepared to describe the vote by mail program and will answer any questions on the processes followed.

NOTE: We will need to have a decision on our election option in time to consider a resolution on our contract with the County for election services during our February 18<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** Discussion and direction on election options.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** 2015 Election Information (provided by Salt Lake County)

**CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFO:** Cheryl Peacock Cottle, City Recorder

# 2015 Election Information



SALT LAKE COUNTY CLERK  
ELECTION DIVISION



*Our mission is to work together to conduct fair, open and honest elections. We maintain integrity in elections, thereby protecting and instilling public confidence in the democratic process. We are dedicated to providing professional service and accurate information. We provide the people of Salt Lake County the opportunity to exercise their right to vote, and through education and outreach, we encourage participation in the electoral process.*

[www.clerk.slco.org](http://www.clerk.slco.org)

**(385) GOT-VOTE  
(385) 468-8683**

## From the County Clerk

Dear City Recorders,

We look forward to working with you in administering your 2015 elections. We continue to look for ways to improve our processes and work to reduce the cost of election administration. We are excited to offer options for your city and your voters.

Conducting your elections by mail is one of the options we are offering. Voting by mail continues to grow in popularity among voters. It gives every registered voter the opportunity to vote regardless of work schedules, transportation, or health issues.

We hope to continue to grow our vote by mail program and in preparation In 2014 we purchased and implemented new high speed scanners to improve the speed in which we can tabulate ballots. We are reviewing addresses for voters, especially those in apartment complexes. We are working with

the Assessor's Office to identify multi-unit dwellings and ensure that we have apartment numbers for those voters.

In advance of the election, we send a postcard to voters who may have moved or where we have a question about their voter registration. We let the voters know that we will be conducting the election entirely by mail and we need them to confirm their address with us so that they will receive a ballot.

We send our voter list through the NCOA process with the post office. If the voter has moved and notified the post office we will confirm the address change with the voter. This process helps to ensure that voters get the correct ballot style at the correct address.

We look forward to partnering in the election process. Thank you.

Sherrie Swensen  
Salt Lake County Clerk

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO.

RETURN SERVICE REQUIRED

OFFICIAL ELECTION MAIL  
Authorized by the U.S. Postal Service

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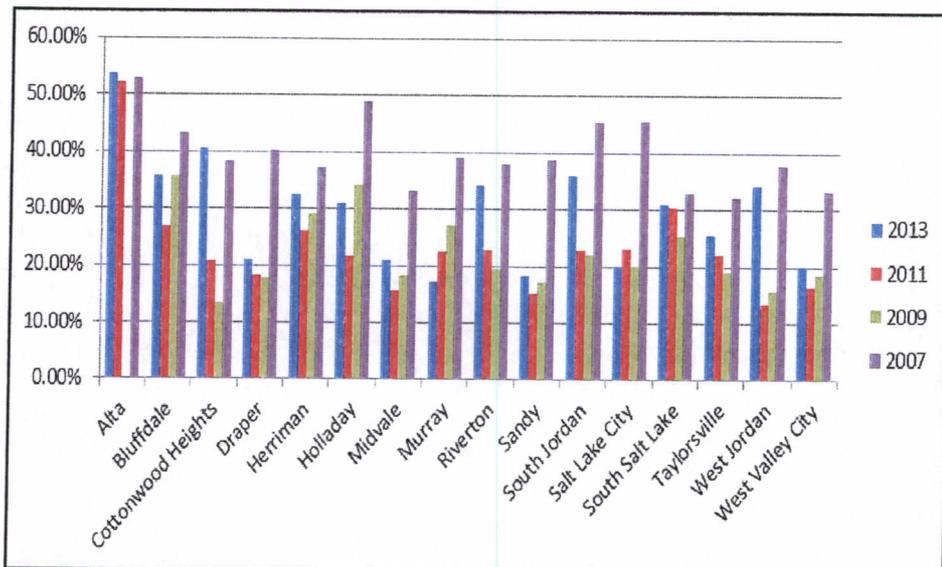
## Important Election Dates

\*\*Dates are subject to change based upon the 2015 legislative session

E-mail candidate declarations through filing period	June 1 thru June 8, 2015
Certify list of Candidates	June 9, 2015
E-mail or fax copy of candidate withdrawals	Ongoing
*Last day to have name removed from ballot	June 18, 2015 Sept 10, 2015
E-mail or fax copy of write-in candidate declarations	Ongoing thru Sept 4, 2015
Sign-off on Official Ballot	June 18, 2015 Sept 10, 2015
Submit Statewide Information Website Candidate Bios	June 26, 2015
Can submit any time but this is the deadline	Sept 4, 2015
E-mail, fax or hand deliver	
Candidate Financial Disclosure Reports	Ongoing
Entirely City's responsibility	
Penalty to candidates for failing to meet filing deadlines	
In-Office Voting Period	July 13 thru Aug 7, 2015 Oct 5 thru Oct 30, 2015
Early Voting Period	July 28 thru Aug 7, 2015 Oct 20 thru Oct 30, 2015
Military and Overseas Ballot Mailing	June 26, 2015
E – 46 days	Sept 18, 2015
1st Absentee Mailing	July 13, 2015 Oct 5, 2015
Sign-off on sample ballot and polling place notice	Aug 6, 2015 Oct 29, 2015
Election Day	Primary, August 11, 2015 General, November 3, 2015
Certify Elections	
Board of Canvass meeting	Primary, Aug 18, 2015 General, Nov 17, 2015

## Municipal General Election Turnout By City

The comparison of turnout is shown as an overall percentage. In 2007, the turnout was extremely high based on public interest regarding the Jordan School Board Split and the School Voucher Referendum. While that level of turnout is extraordinary for a municipal election it is worth noting that in 2013 both Cottonwood Heights and West Jordan conducted their elections by mail and their turnout substantially increased or even exceeded 2007 turnout.

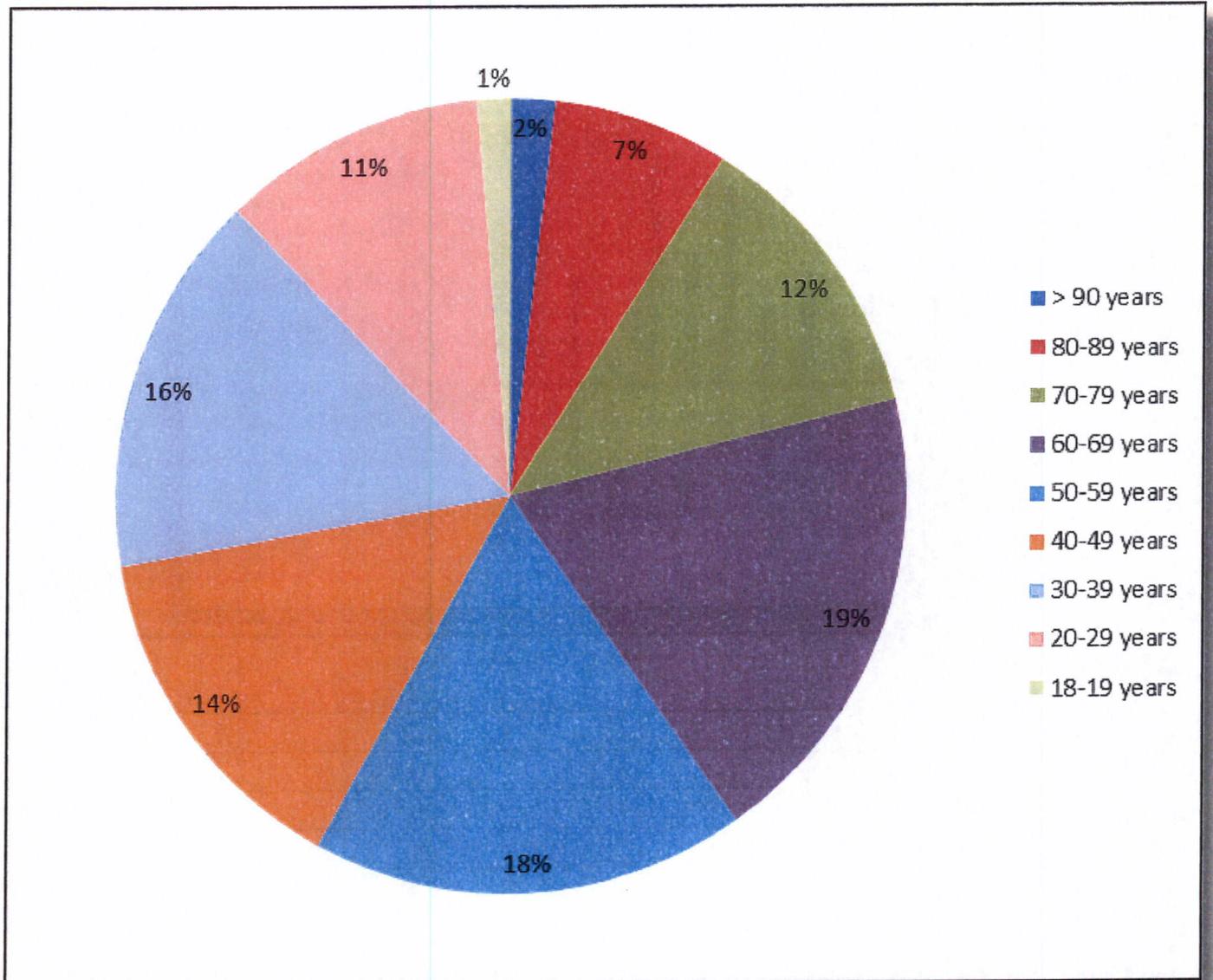


Turnout by City expressed in percentage to total number of active registered voters

	2013	2011	2009	2007
Alta	53.79%	52.34%		52.94%
Bluffdale	35.88%	26.79%	35.75%	43.33%
Cottonwood Heights	40.61%	20.91%	13.50%	38.28%
Draper	21.07%	18.25%	17.76%	40.36%
Herriman	32.42%	26.22%	29.27%	37.28%
Holladay	31.03%	21.78%	34.30%	49.09%
Midvale	21.11%	15.65%	18.31%	33.16%
Murray	17.24%	22.59%	27.27%	39.13%
Riverton	34.34%	22.73%	19.60%	38.01%
Sandy	18.32%	15.32%	17.37%	38.74%
South Jordan	36.00%	22.89%	21.98%	45.38%
Salt Lake City	19.97%	23.09%	20.01%	45.79%
South Salt Lake	30.94%	30.39%	25.36%	33.06%
Taylorsville	25.64%	22.09%	19.13%	32.15%
West Jordan	34.32%	13.56%	15.85%	37.91%
West Valley City	20.02%	16.57%	18.43%	33.11%

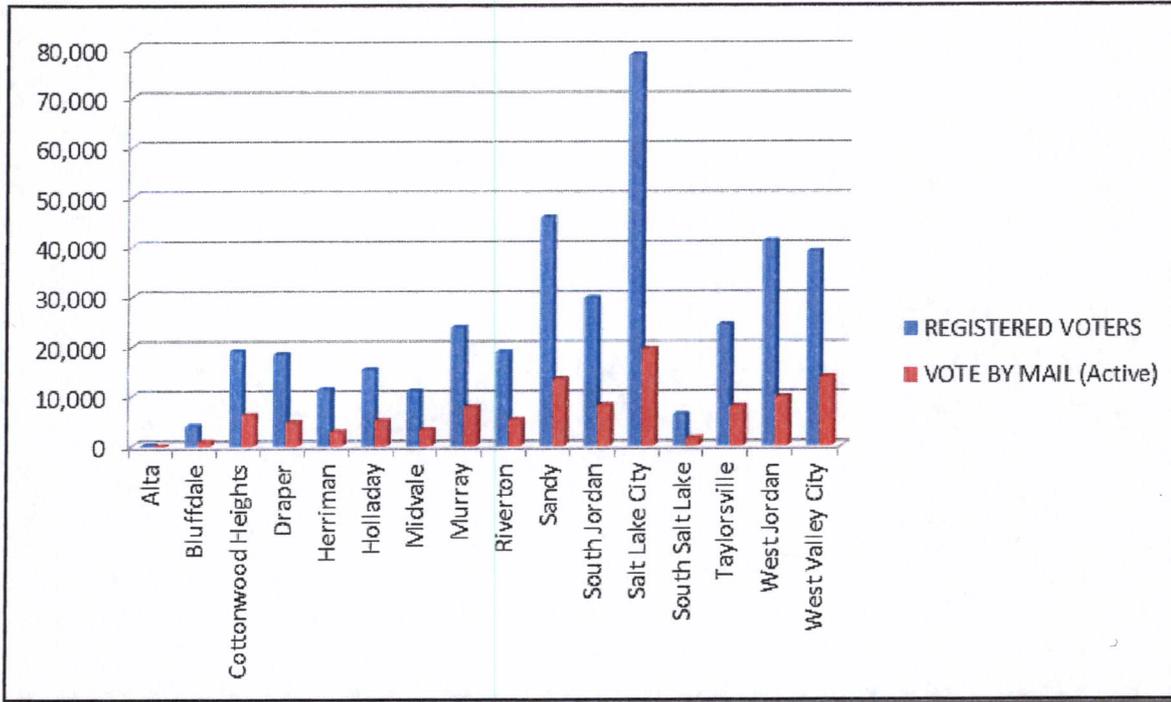
## Demographics of Permanent Vote by Mail Voters

This chart defines the age demographic breakdown of voters who participate in the Permanent Vote by Mail Program within Salt Lake County. The distribution among the various age groups is relatively equal showing that all ages participate in this method of voting.



## Active Registered Voters by City

This graph shows the ratio of active voters on our Permanent Vote by Mail Program to the active voters within each municipality. The chart below breaks down the actual numbers per municipality as well as the percentage of voters per city that is participating in our Permanent Vote by Mail program.



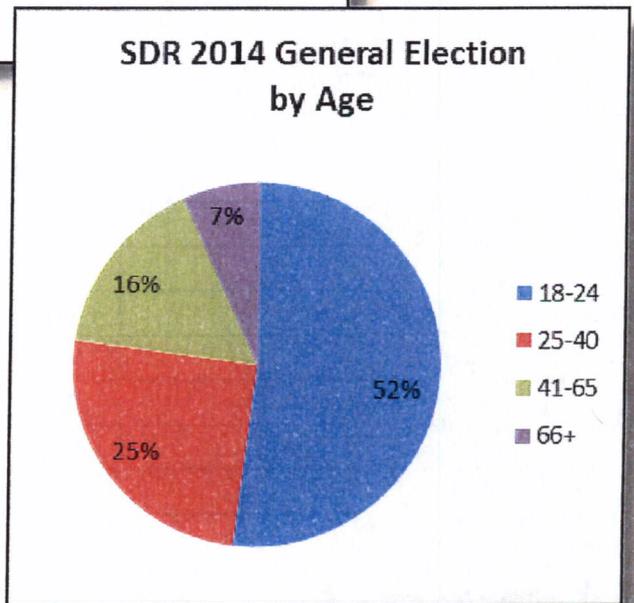
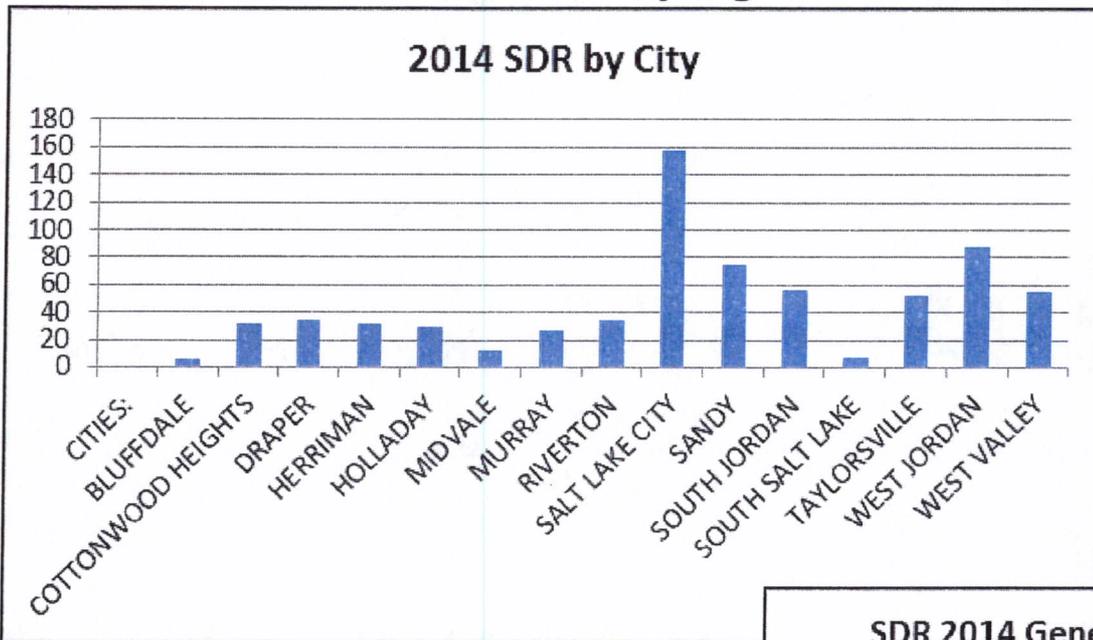
	Active Voters	Vote By Mail (Active)	Percent of Voters on PVBM
Alta	131	18	13.74%
Bluffdale	4,078	898	22.02%
Cottonwood Heights	19,070	6,182	32.42%
Draper	18,415	4,772	25.91%
Herriman	11,272	2,834	25.14%
Holladay	15,347	5,050	32.91%
Midvale	10,961	3,303	30.13%
Murray	23,793	7,803	32.80%
Riverton	18,849	5,221	27.70%
Sandy	45,809	13,437	29.33%
South Jordan	29,724	8,105	27.27%
Salt Lake City	78,534	19,427	24.74%
South Salt Lake	6,289	1,539	24.47%
Taylorsville	24,265	7,919	32.64%
West Jordan	41,023	9,819	23.94%
West Valley City	38,878	13,812	35.53%

## Increasing Voter Turnout

A practical solution is a vote-by-mail system, where every registered voter receives a ballot in the mail and must simply fill it out and send it back. The two California counties with the highest turnout in the recent primary election, Alpine (69%) and Sierra (64%), already utilize vote-by-mail.

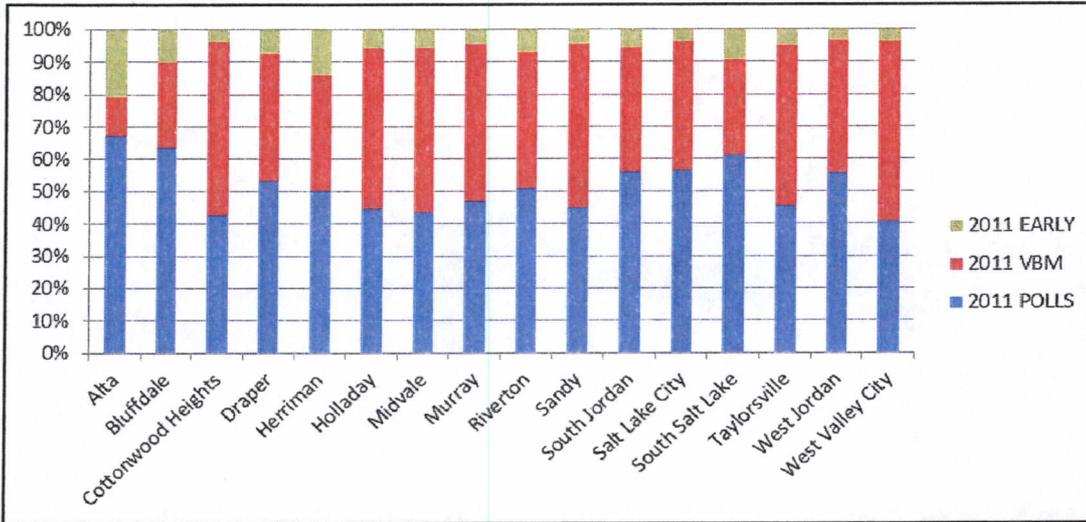
Voting by mail greatly reduces the perceived costs of voting by eliminating the hassle of carving time out of the day to go to the polls. It has therefore drastically increased voter participation in the areas where it has been implemented. Oregon has voted exclusively by mail since the 1990s and it consistently has one the highest voter turnout rates in the nation.

### Election Day Registration



## Comparison of Votes Cast by City for 2011 and 2013

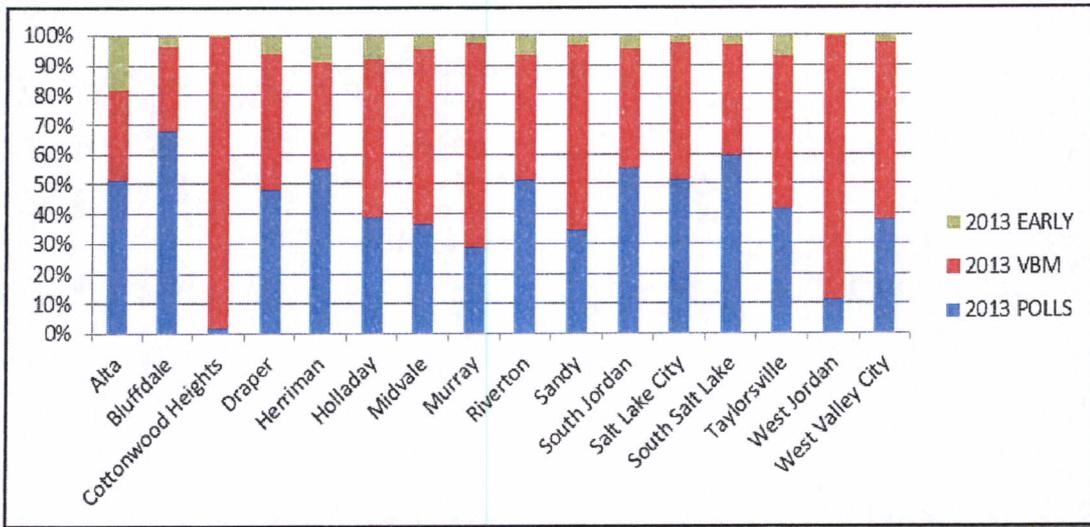
Salt Lake County allows multiple ways in which to vote. This bar chart represents the breakdown of those types of voting per municipality. This gives each city an understanding of how their active voters chose to cast their ballot and compares the total turnout for both elections. In 2013, both Cottonwood Heights and West Jordan conducted their elections by mail and a comparison of total turnout for both cities shows a significantly higher participation rate when the election was done by mail. Additionally, a voting center(s) was available for voters on Election Day to ensure those who wanted to vote in person and did not vote early still had that opportunity.



**2011 Turnout**

	2011 POLLS	2011 VBM	2011 EARLY	2011 TOTAL TURNOUT
Alta	75	14	23	52.34%
Bluffdale	624	257	100	26.79%
Cottonwood Heights	864	1,096	75	20.91%
Draper	1,888	1,390	257	18.25%
Herriman	873	620	242	26.22%
Holladay	1,000	1,104	131	21.78%
Midvale	482	568	62	15.65%
Murray	1,509	1,555	139	22.59%
Riverton	1,256	1,044	175	22.73%
Sandy	3,546	3,983	342	15.32%
South Jordan	2,034	1,373	211	22.89%
Salt Lake City	10,807	7,591	717	23.09%
South Salt Lake	1,239	604	187	30.39%
Taylorsville	1,409	1,546	156	22.09%
West Jordan	3,139	2,297	196	13.56%
West Valley City	2,754	3,799	242	16.57%

## 2013 Turnout



	2013 POLLS	2013 VBM	2013 EARLY	2013 TOTAL TURNOUT
Alta	40	24	14	53.79%
Bluffdale	931	392	51	35.88%
Cottonwood Heights	119	7,447	4	40.61%
Draper	3,702	3,510	477	21.07%
Herriman	1,924	1,245	302	32.42%
Holladay	1,905	2,589	398	31.03%
Midvale	837	1,338	109	21.11%
Murray	1,193	2,838	120	17.24%
Riverton	3,369	2,754	411	34.34%
Sandy	2,982	5,398	263	18.32%
South Jordan	5,857	4,249	483	36.00%
Salt Lake City	4,759	4,261	229	19.97%
South Salt Lake	1,183	740	65	30.94%
Taylorsville	2,641	3,233	431	25.64%
West Jordan	1,423	11,284	20	34.32%
West Valley City	3,027	4,702	206	20.02%

**Exhibit "A"**  
**2015 Municipal Elections**  
**Scope of Work**

The County shall provide to the City an Official Register as required by Utah Code Ann. § 20A-5-401, U.C.A. (as amended). The City shall perform all administrative functions related to candidate filing requirements and all other requirements of Utah Code Ann. § 20A-9-203 (as amended), including all administrative functions related to financial disclosure reporting.

The City agrees to the consolidation of all election administrative functions to ensure the successful conduct of multiple, simultaneous municipal elections and the County agrees to conduct a vote by mail/consolidated polls election for the City.

In a consolidated election, decisions made by the County regarding resources, procedures and policies are based upon providing the same scope and level of service to all the participating jurisdictions and the City recognizes that such decisions, made for the benefit of the whole, may not be subject to review by the City.

Services the County will perform for the City include, but are not limited to:

- Ballot layout and design
- Ballot ordering and printing
- Machine programming and testing
- Delivery of supplies and equipment
- Provision of all supplies
- Election Vote Center/Early Vote Locations
- Absentee Ballot administration
- Updating state and county websites
- Tabulating, reporting, auditing and canvassing election results
- Conducting recounts as needed
- All notices and mailings required by law (except those required by Utah Code Ann. § 20A-9-203)
- Direct payment of all costs associated with the election to include poll workers, training, polling places, rovers.

The City will provide the County Clerk with information, decisions, and resolutions and will take appropriate actions required for the conduct of the elections in a timely manner.

The County will provide a good faith estimate for budgeting purposes (Exhibit "B"). Election costs are variable and are based upon the offices scheduled for election, the number of voters, the number of primaries, the number of jurisdiction participating as well as any direct costs incurred.

The City will be invoiced for its pro-rata share of the actual costs of the elections which will not exceed the estimate in Exhibit B. In the event of a state or county special election being held in conjunction with a municipal election, the scope of services and associated costs, and the method of calculating those costs, will remain unchanged.

**Exhibit "B"**  
**2015 Election Estimate**  
**Taylorsville**

Below is the good faith estimate for the upcoming *2015 Municipal Election* for the city of Taylorsville. The city will be billed for actual costs, which will not exceed this estimate.

Assumptions for providing this estimate consist of the following:

- A. Active voters (as of 12/5/2014): 14,023
- B. Permanent Vote by Mail voters (as of 12/5/2014): 5,152
- C. Worst case primary election.
- D. General election for the 2015 offices below.

<b>2015 Offices</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
Council #1	
Council #2	
Council #3	
Vote By Mail Election	\$54,970.16
Consolidated Polls Election	\$58,025.03

Your estimate for traditional polls would have been \$61,701.20. However, we are not offering that option this year.