

REV UP MA November 2026 Meeting

Thursday, November 12, 2026

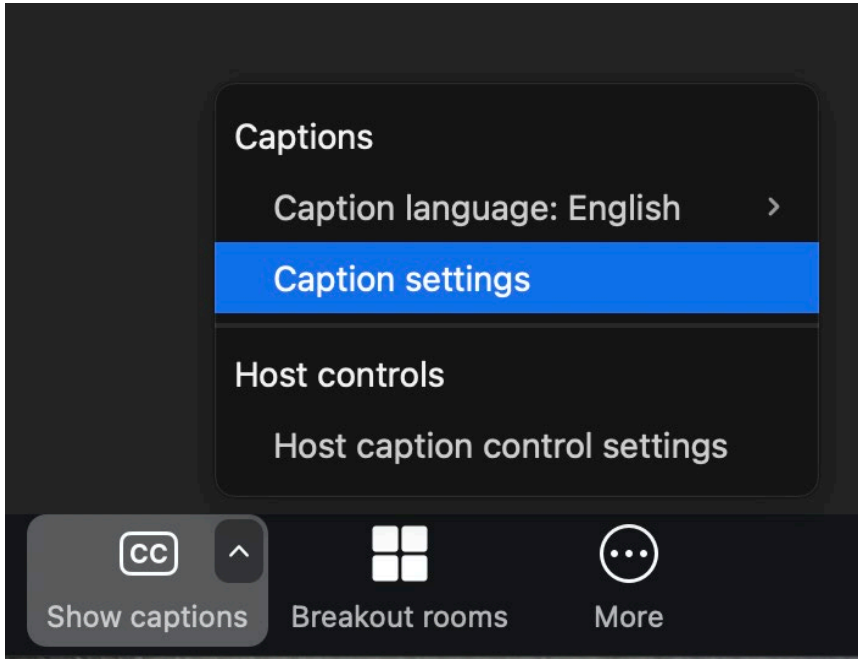
1 PM – 2 PM

Zoom

Housekeeping & Accessibility

Accessibility

- **Keep chat use to a minimum if you are able**
- **Captioning:** CART Captioner Denise is providing captions
  - **To view captions:** Click the ‘CC’ or ‘Show Captions’ button at the bottom of your Zoom screen (it may also be under the ‘More’ button depending on your device.)
  - **To adjust font size and color:** click the carrot or ‘up’ arrow ^ and ‘Caption Settings.’
  - **Streamtext link provided in chat**



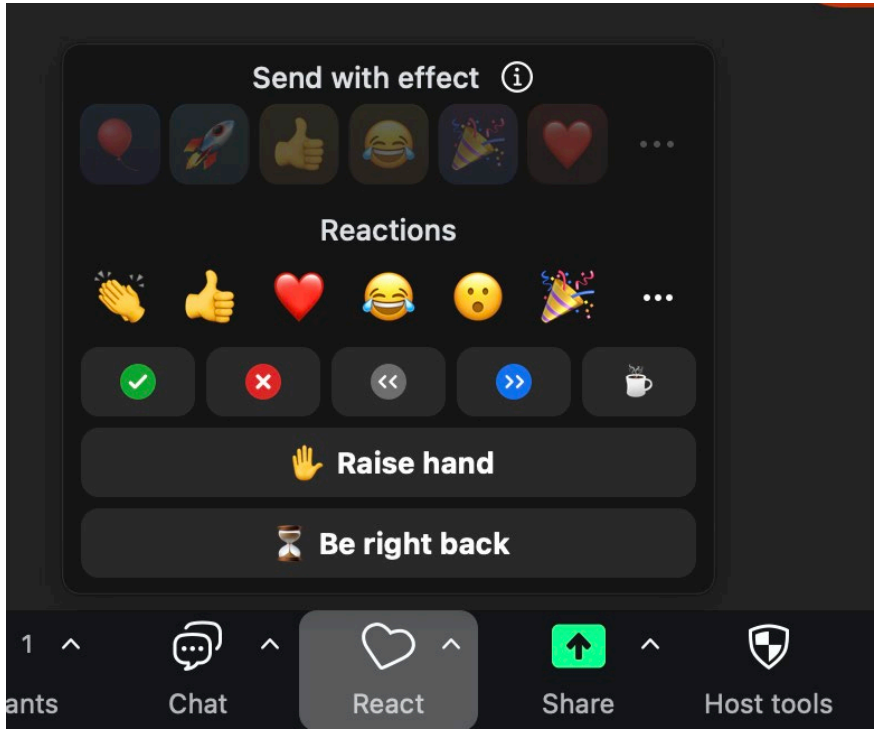
Accessibility, continued

- **ASL interpreters** will be spotlit/readily visible on your screen while they interpreting.
  - In case of tech issues, you can pin the interpreters on your screen by clicking the three dots on the right of the ASL interpreters' screens and pressing 'Pin.'
  - If you hear the ASL interpreters speak, they are interpreting for someone who is speaking ASL.

Please let us know if you have any issues with accessing CART captions or viewing ASL interpreters!

Housekeeping

- **Say your name before you speak.**
- **Use the raise hand feature** by clicking the ‘Reactions’ and ‘Raise hand’ buttons at the bottom of your screen. If you are joining by phone, dial *9 to raise and lower your hand.
- **Mute/unmute** by pressing the microphone button at the bottom left of your screen. If joining by phone, dial *6 to unmute/mute yourself.



Any other access needs?

Feel free to speak up or message Brianna in the chat!

Today’s Agenda

Today’s Meeting Agenda

Skipping Introductions – say your name and organization when you speak or in the chat

- Housekeeping and Accessibility (2 minutes)
- Brief intro to REV UP MA (if new members) (2 minutes)
- Debrief on last week's election (40 minutes)
  - Polling place accessibility surveys
  - Share your voting experiences
- Discuss next steps (15 minutes)
  - Advocacy on new accessible voting machines
  - Follow-up advocacy on polling place accessibility

Introduction to REV UP MA

- **REV UP stands for "Register, Educate, Vote, Use your power!"**
- REV UP MA is a statewide coalition of organizations and individuals. We:
  - Educate people with disabilities about voting rights
  - Advocate for accessible voting processes
  - Help people with disabilities to register to vote
  - Encourage civic engagement of people with disabilities
- **Learn more:** visit REV UP MA's website and sign up for our email list!

Polling Place Accessibility Surveys

- Surveys received so far (more to come)
  - Berkshire County (AdLib region): Lanesborough, Pittsfield, Williamstown
  - Bristol County (Independence Associates region): Taunton
  - Cape Cod (CORD region)
  - Greater Boston (BCIL region): Boston, Chelsea, Malden, Waltham
  - MetroWest (MWCIL Region): Dover, Foxborough, Framingham, Holliston, Hopkinton, Medfield, Medway, Millis, Norfolk, Plainville, Sherborn, Weston, Wrentham
  - Northeastern (NILP Region): Lowell, Lawrence
  - North Shore (DRC region): Danvers, Lynn, Marblehead, Peabody, Salem, Wenham
  - Pioneer Valley (Stavros Region): Amherst, Greenfield, Montague, Shelburne, Springfield
  - Southeastern/South Shore (SECIL Region): Fall River,
  - Western Worcester County (Your Access Advocates Region – BZ surveyed): Brookfields and Spencer

Areas of Concern: Exterior

- Parking:
  - Lack of clear/compliant signage or paint
  - Noncompliant or no access aisles
  - Noncompliant width of parking spaces
  - Not enough or no accessible parking spaces
  - Lack of curb cuts provided at accessible parking spaces
  - HP spaces obstructed (by cones/vehicles without placards)
- Path of Travel:
  - Lack of signage directing voters to accessible entrance
  - Uneven surfaces, changes in level
  - Noncompliant curb cuts
  - Disabled voters having a longer path of travel than nondisabled voters

Areas of Concern: Entrances

- Entrances:
  - Heavy doors
  - Noncompliant ramps: noncompliant slope, changes in level, too narrow
  - Narrow doorways
  - Obstructed entrances/ramps/doorways (leaves, etc.)
  - No railings/noncompliant railings
  - Locked accessible entrances
  - Lack of accessible hardware on doors (could not be opened with a closed fist)
  - Electronic push-button openers turned off/not functioning on Election Day

Areas of Concern: Interior

- Interior:
  - Interior path of travel/voting area too narrow, obstructed (difficult for mobility device users to navigate)
  - No sample ballots/voting information posted
  - Sample ballots/voting information posted inaccessibly (too high, out of view of wheelchair users, obstructed)
  - No accessible booths for marking paper ballots, or noncompliant (too narrow, too high or low, etc.)
  - Lack of seating for voters with disabilities

Areas of Concern: AutoMARK

- AutoMARK:
  - Table/booth holding the AutoMARK was noncompliant: too narrow, too high/too low, or no space underneath (difficult for mobility device users to comfortably vote at)
  - Machine was not functioning: e.g., error messages
  - No headphones provided
  - Staff not trained on how to use the AutoMARK, do not know who can use it (anyone)
  - Lack of privacy

Share Your Voting Experiences

- Please feel free to share if you feel comfortable!
  Did you experience or notice any accessibility issues while voting?
  Did you notice any new voting machines to test out at your polling place?
  Any other voting issues you'd like to raise?

Share Your Voting Experiences!

- **DLC wants to know about your voting experiences!**
  - Fill out DLC's short survey to share your voting experiences
  - Reach out to the Disability Law Center by phone at: 617-723-8455
- **OR Contact Your Town or City; or the Secretary of State's Office**
  - **Contact** your Local Election Office or ADA Coordinator
  - **Contact the Secretary of State**
    - Call 800-462-VOTE (8683) (toll free) or 617-727-2828.
    - Email elections@sec.state.ma.us

Background: Accessible Voting Equipment Vendor Fairs (August 10 – 14)

- Fairs took place in Middleton, Northampton, Brockton, Watertown, and Worcester
- Four vendors participated: DemocracyLive with OmniBallot Tablet, ES&S with AutoMARK 2, LHS with Dominion ImageCast X BMD, and Smartmatic
- Over 200 attendees

Secretary of State's Office Seeking Feedback on Accessible Voting Equipment

From the Secretary of State's office: Here are questions that we would like to learn more from you about the accessible voting options presented at the fairs.

1. Which vendor fair did you attend?
2. What brought you to the vendor fair? How did you hear about us?
3. Have you used accessible election equipment prior attending the 2026 vendor fair?
4. After reviewing the options at the fair, which equipment did you like best and why?
5. Which equipment did you least like and why?
6. Any additional comments?

Send Feedback to the Secretary of State's Office

- Send your feedback to the Secretary of State's office Project Manager Bridget Simmons Murphy
  - Email: bridget.murphy@sec.state.ma.us
- Let us know if you share feedback (email/cc info@revupma.org or bzimmerman@dlc-ma.org)

Keeping Up Advocacy on Accessible Voting Equipment

- REV UP MA's goal:
  - Advocate for accessible voting equipment to be rolled out soon: ideally for 2028 elections

Resources

- You can visit the Secretary of State's website to track your mail-in or accessible vote by mail ballot.
- Learn how ballots are counted in Massachusetts.
- Keep track of election results: Learn about where you can find unofficial and official election results.
  - Ballotpedia Election Results - MA

Wrapping Up

Planning Ahead

Discussion of next steps/action items

- Continued advocacy on accessible voting machines
  - Advocate for accessible voting equipment to be rolled out soon: ideally for 2028 elections (All)
  - Op-eds on the importance of accessible voting equipment (Commonwealth Beacon or local newspapers) (All)
  - Submit your feedback on equipment to Bridget Simmons Murphy (all)
  - Invite Secretary's office to an upcoming meeting? (BZ can invite)

Planning Ahead, Continued

- Polling Place Accessibility
  - Independent Living Centers and Disability Law Center to follow up with local election offices on issues we found
  - Plan ahead for accessibility surveys during town and city elections (Spring and Fall 2027)
- Sharing future events
  - If you are holding future events such as voter registration drives, candidate forums, trainings, etc. share information with info@revupma.org or bzimmerman@dlc-ma.org. We can share with our email list/social media.
  - Can share info to the national dashboard: https://www.mobilize.us/rev-up-aapd/c/dvrw-2026/event/create/

Upcoming Meetings

- December meeting date TBD

Sign up for REV UP MA emails & check out our website!

For upcoming meeting/event information, voting advocacy updates, and resources…

Sign up for REV UP MA emails!

Check out our website

Brianna's Contact Information

Brianna Zimmerman (She/Her/Hers)
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Disability Law Center, Inc.
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