

# New Voting Equipment in Anoka



Voters in the City of Anoka will see new tabulator machines when casting their ballots in the upcoming elections. The basic voting process will remain the same, with voters completing a paper ballot to insert into the vote tabulator. However, advanced technology and improved features in the updated equipment will enhance the voting process.

Significant improvements in optical scan and tabulation technology in elections equipment has improved over the years. The previous optical scan vote tabulator equipment that was being used was over ten years old and had reached the end of its useful life. In 2012, all cities in Anoka County entered into a Joint Powers Agreement with Anoka County on the purchasing of new election equipment.

The new ES&S DS200 equipment combines our familiar paper-based ballot system with the flexibility and efficiency of the most advanced digital image technology. The new equipment offers a number of advantages:

- **Flexibility:** Processes a variety of ballot sizes and designs.
- **Convenience:** Lightweight, compact, easy for election workers to set up and easy for our voters to use.
- **Compliance:** Usability, accessibility, and security enhancements comply with the Federal 2005 Voluntary Voting Systems Guidelines.
- **Independence and privacy:** People with special needs can election workers for assistance marking their ballots, or they can use the AutoMARK ballot marker to mark their ballots. Once marked, the voter inserts their ballot into the new vote tabulator for counting.
- **Flexible communications.** 12" LCD touch screen makes it easy for election workers to operate the system and for our voters to cast their ballots.



If you'd like to view a demonstrational video on the use of the equipment you may do so by going to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6y5Nta4G3v8>

For more information or to request a demonstration of the equipment, please contact the Anoka City Clerk at 763-576-2712.