Best Practices for County Elections Websites

Use this guide to review your county election website and advocate for improvements if needed. Find your county election website at: www.sos.texas.gov/elections/voter/links.shtml#County

1. Does the county have a website page devoted solely to election information?
2. Is the election information so easy to find that voters can't possibly miss it? I.e.:
    a. A limited number of clicks to find the election information
    b. Plain, recognizable words and icons, such as: Elections, Voting, Voter Information, Register to Vote, Vote by Mail.
    c. Remember: Voters do not know that the information might be on these pages:
        i. County Clerk
        ii. Tax assessor/Collector
3. Is the following information up-to-date and accurate?
    a. Dates
        i. Election Day
        ii. Early voting period
        iii. Deadline for voter registration application
        iv. Deadline for mail ballot application
        v. Deadline for receipt of mail ballot
    b. Polling locations for early voting and Election Day
    c. Sample ballot(s)
    d. Election results (present and/or past)
4. Is voter information provided for those who are:
    a. Military and overseas voters
    b. Student voters
    c. Voters with special needs
5. Is voter ID information provided, accurate, and easy to read?
    a. List of seven acceptable photo voter IDs
    b. List of other documents accepted if no photo ID and the need to sign a simple form (Impediment Declaration form)
    c. Name on ID and voter registration card must be substantially the same but not identical
    d. Voter address on ID and official list of voters need not match at time of voting
    e. Election officials and poll workers may not question a voter about voter ID issues
6. Are links to Texas Secretary of State election-related sites provided?
    a. www.VoteTexas.gov (English)
    b. www.VoteTexas.gov/es (Spanish)
    c. Voter ID information (English) www.votetexas.gov/faq/index.html#2071
    d. Voter ID information (Spanish) www.votetexas.gov/es/registrese-para-votar/necesita-identificacion.html
    e. Voter registration information www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/index.html
7. Is there a link to your local League of Women Voters website? Or www.LWVTexas.org
8. Is there a link to the LWV nonpartisan *Voters Guide?* www.VOTE411.org

You can learn more about best practices for election websites at:
    a. Texas Association of Counties (website content tips & legal requirements for Texas websites) www.cira.state.tx.us/default.aspx?name=cira.Education.WebsiteTips
    b. Civic Design (guidelines that election officials can really use) https://civicdesign.org/fieldguides/