



County of Orange Registrar of Voters



VOTE EASY.
VOTE SECURE.

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



Community Election Working Group

January 21, 2026

A solid orange horizontal bar spans the entire width of the slide at the bottom.



Housekeeping

- Please mute yourself unless speaking or presenting
- Pause for questions
- May submit questions and comments in chat or raise hand



Welcome & Introductions

- Theresa Bass, Chair
- Bob Page, Registrar of Voters
- Registrar of Voters Staff
- CEW member roll call



Agenda

- Approve minutes of September 17, 2025 CEW meeting
- Announce New and Renewing Members
- Election of Chair and Vice Chair
- Open Forum
- Election Administration Plan and VEOP



Agenda

- New State Language Requirements
- Instant Conditional Registration Pilot - 2025 Special Election
- New State Election Laws – 2026 Primary Election
- Updates from VAAC and LAAC
- Future Business Items

Approve September 17, 2025 Minutes

New and Renewing Members



New CEW Members

- Justine Chen
 - Asian Community
 - Term Ends Dec. 31, 2027
- Gracie Doran
 - Disability Community
 - Term Ends Dec. 31, 2026



New CEW Members

- Joseph R. Lloren, Jr.
 - At Large
 - Term Ends Dec. 31, 2027
- Susan Guilford
 - League of Women Voters
 - Term Ends Dec. 31, 2027



Renewing CEW Members

- City Clerks – Theresa Bass
- City Clerks – Lucinda Williams
- Asian Community – Mike Chen
- Disability Community – Gabriel Taylor
- Disability Community – BreeAnna Adner
- Senior Community – Barbara Barish
- At Large – Garrett Fahy

Terms Expire Dec. 31, 2027



CEW Members Not Renewing

- Asian Community – Long Nguyen
- Sergio Contreras – Latino Community
- Russia Chavez Cardenas – At Large
- Jan Urban – League of Women Voters



CEW Members Recruitment

- Asian Community
- Latino Community
- Vote Center CSRs
- Youth (18-25)

Actively engaging and recruiting

Election of Chair and Vice Chair



Open Forum



Election Administration Plan 2026-2029 and VEOP



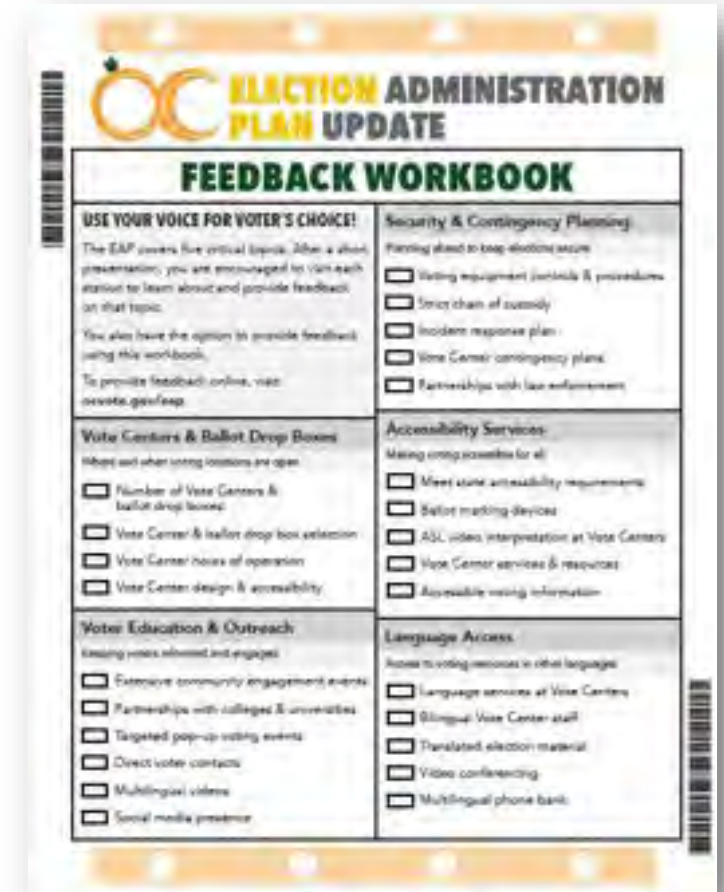
Election Administration Plan 2026-2029

- Final EAP 2026-2029 is available at ocvote.gov/eap
- Available in Chinese, English, Farsi, Gujarati, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese



EAP Public Engagement

- 240 individuals attended 30 small group meetings with community organizations
- More than 740 individuals attended 15 community workshops
- 90 individuals attended the Public Hearing
- 790 individual comments received



The image shows a "FEEDBACK WORKBOOK" for the "ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PLAN UPDATE". It is a checklist-style form with a header featuring the County of Orange logo and the title. The form is divided into several sections, each with a title and a list of items to be checked. The sections are: "USE YOUR VOICE FOR VOTER'S CHOICE!", "Security & Contingency Planning", "Voter Centers & Ballot Drop Boxes", "Accessibility Services", "Voter Education & Outreach", and "Language Access". Each section contains a list of items with checkboxes next to them. The form is designed to be filled out by voters to provide feedback on the election administration plan.

ELECTION ADMINISTRATION PLAN UPDATE	
FEEDBACK WORKBOOK	
USE YOUR VOICE FOR VOTER'S CHOICE! The EAP covers five critical topics. After a short presentation, you are encouraged to visit each station to learn about and provide feedback on that topic. You also have the option to provide feedback using this workbook. To provide feedback online, visit ocvotes.gov/eap .	Security & Contingency Planning Planning ahead to keep elections secure. <input type="checkbox"/> Voting equipment controls & procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Strict chain of custody <input type="checkbox"/> Incident response plan <input type="checkbox"/> Vote Center contingency plans <input type="checkbox"/> Partnerships with law enforcement
Voter Centers & Ballot Drop Boxes Where and when voting locations are open. <input type="checkbox"/> Number of Vote Centers & ballot drop boxes <input type="checkbox"/> Vote Center & ballot drop box selection <input type="checkbox"/> Vote Center hours of operation <input type="checkbox"/> Vote Center design & accessibility	Accessibility Services Making voting accessible for all. <input type="checkbox"/> Meet state accessibility requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Ballot marking devices <input type="checkbox"/> ASL video interpretation at Vote Centers <input type="checkbox"/> Vote Center services & resources <input type="checkbox"/> Accessible voting information
Voter Education & Outreach Ensuring voters are informed and engaged. <input type="checkbox"/> Extensive community engagement events <input type="checkbox"/> Partnerships with colleges & universities <input type="checkbox"/> Targeted pop-up voting events <input type="checkbox"/> Direct voter contacts <input type="checkbox"/> Multilingual voters <input type="checkbox"/> Social media presence	Language Access Access to voting resources in other languages. <input type="checkbox"/> Language services at Vote Centers <input type="checkbox"/> Bilingual Vote Center staff <input type="checkbox"/> Translated election material <input type="checkbox"/> Video conferencing <input type="checkbox"/> Multilingual phone bank



New Vote Center Hours



- E-10 to E-1: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Election Day: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

How can community partners help promote new Vote Center hours?

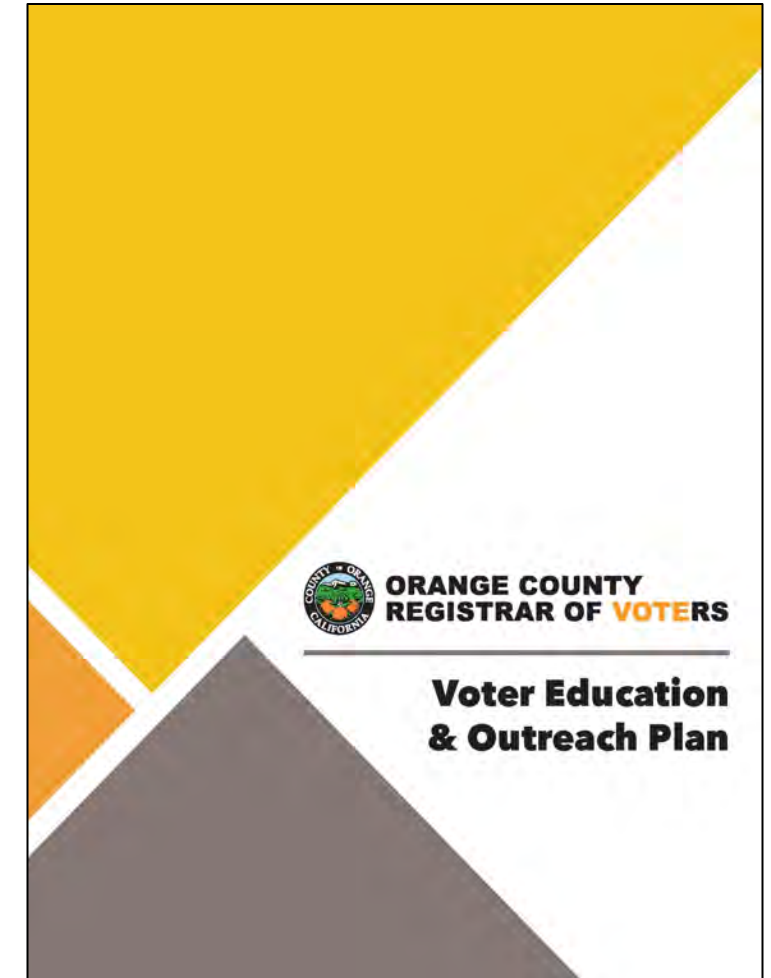


Voter Education and Outreach Plan

- Secretary of State Approved Dec. 3

Five key VEOP goals:

- Targeted outreach events
- Newly eligible voters
- Collaboration with community partners
- Pop-Up Voting
- Multi-media campaign





Voter Education and Outreach Plan

- VEOP objectives include:
 - Engage with low-propensity voters, some of which may prefer to receive information in-person
 - Leverage partnerships with colleges/universities to create opportunities for voter education initiatives
 - Build trust and transparency by combatting misinformation/disinformation

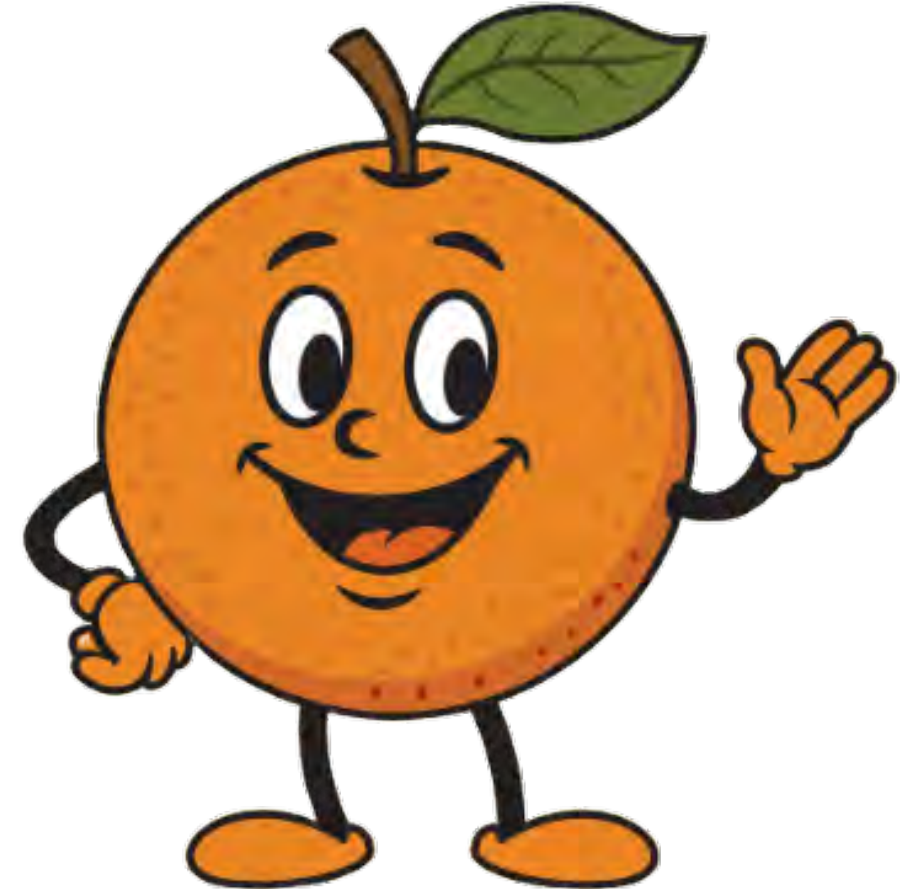
VEOP available at ocvote.gov/veop



Voter Education Partnerships

Communications Tool Kit

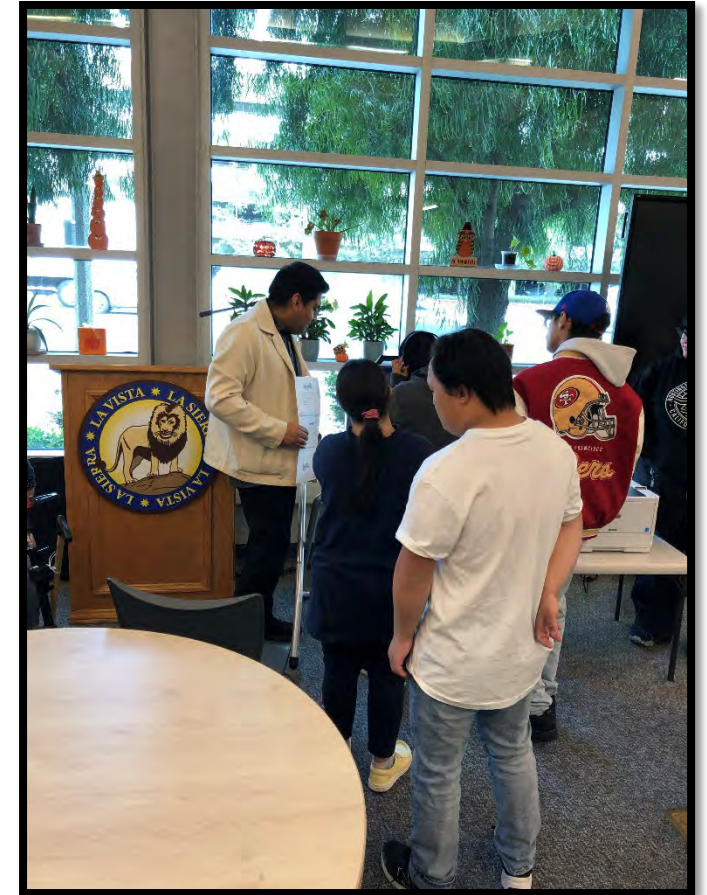
- Vote Easy. Vote Secure. Infographics
- Public Service Announcements:
Multilingual for print, audio and video
- Videos: Educational, Security and
Community Champions
- Templates: Presentations, Social Media
Posts, Newsletter Articles, Graphics,
and FAQs



Ollie the Orange

Voter Education Partnerships

- Community, College and High School Events and Presentations
- Citizenship Ceremonies
- Registration Drive Training and Supplies
- Pop-Up Voting
- Amplify ROV Social Media Posts



La Vista High School



Additional Outreach Methods

- Online Briefing and In-Person Tour for Reporters
- Paid Advertising Campaign
- Email Newsletter
- Social Media Posts/Hashtags
- Community Open House
- Podcast Interviews
- ROV Tours and Observation Ambassadors



New State Language Requirements



EC 14201 Language Determinations

Maintain

Farsi

Japanese

Tagalog

Added

Hmong

Indonesian

Khmer

Nepali

Punjabi

Not Required

Gujarati

Hindi



Implementing New State Languages

- Facsimile Ballots and Instructions
- Vote Center Staffing and Services
- Public Service Announcements
- Ballot Drop Box Instructions and Warnings

Instant Conditional Voter Registration Pilot



2025 Statewide Special Election

Instant CVR Pilot

- Continued processing online registrations through Election Day
- Did not advertise it
- Reduced provisionals by 20% countywide



2025 Statewide Special Election

UCI Vote Center Pilot

- Changed check-in flow specifically for UCI
- Did registration check first
- Offered students the opportunity to register online and vote non-provisionally
- Reduced provisionals by 75%
- Reduced wait times



2025 Statewide Special Election

- Proposition 50 - Authorized changes to the Congressional District Maps for use in 2026, 2028 and 2030
- First large county to finalize precincts for new districts

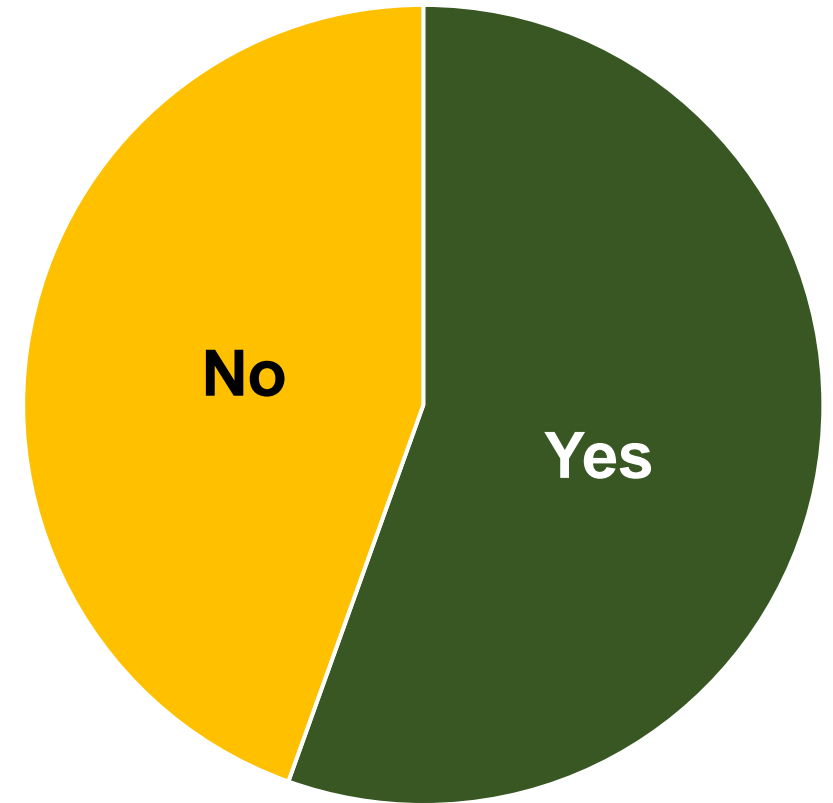




2025 Statewide Special Election

Orange County Results

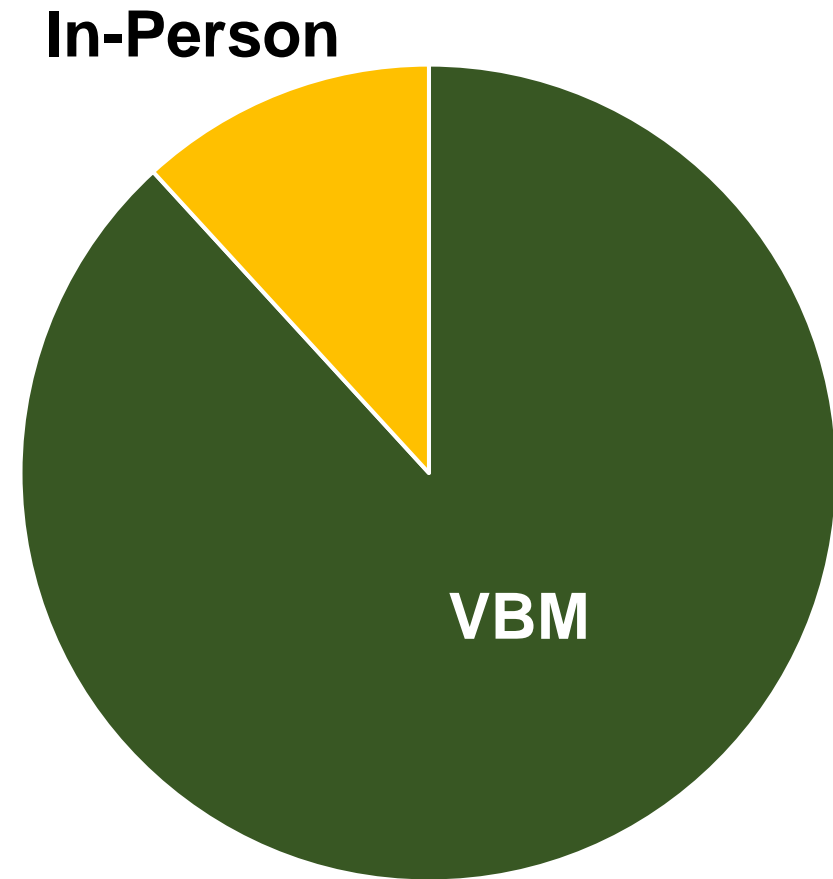
- Active Registered Voters: 1.9 million
- Ballots Cast: 999,918
- Turnout: 52.3%
 - Yes: 55.48%
 - No: 44.52%





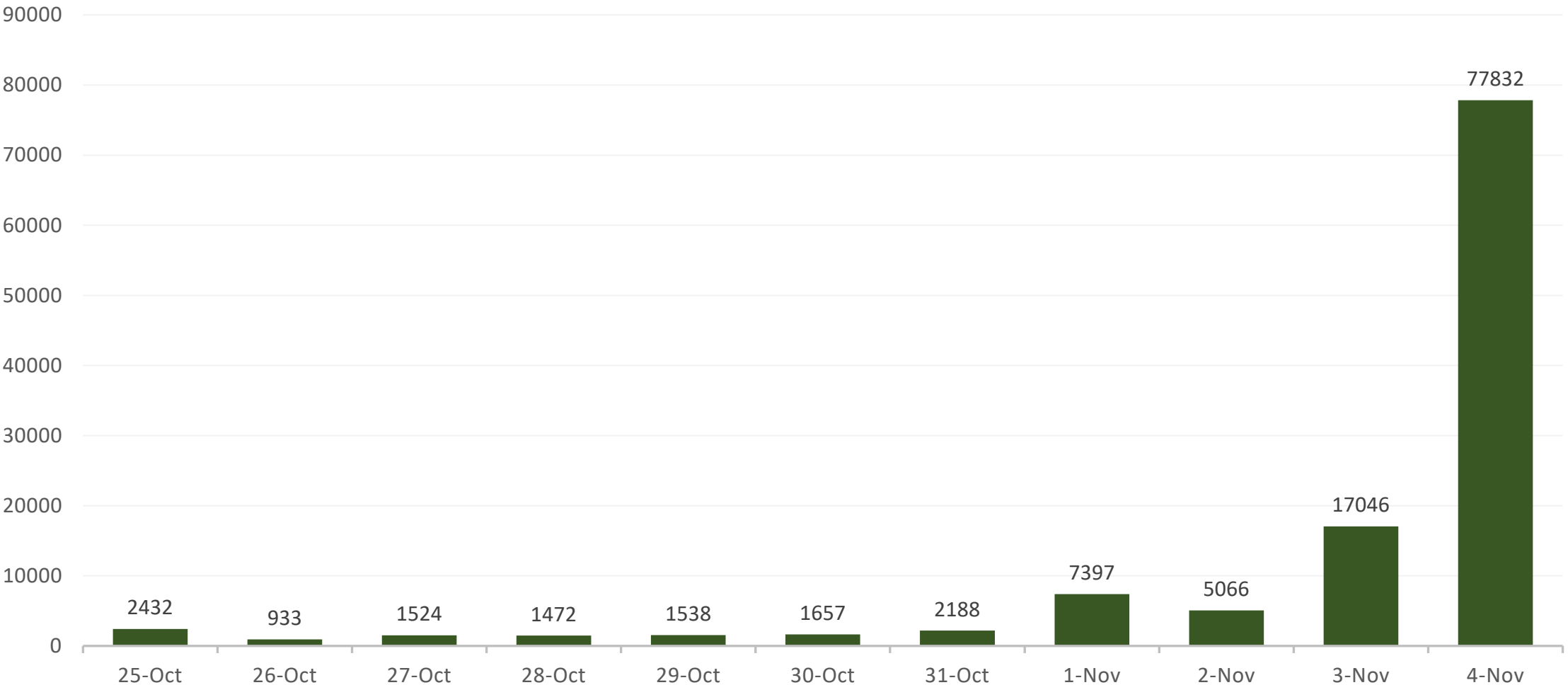
2025 Statewide Special Election

- Vote-By-Mail – 88.2%
 - Mail – 50.5%
 - Drop Box – 38.2%
 - Vote Center – 11%
- In-Person – 11.8%





In-Person Turnout by Day



New California Election Laws



New California Election Laws

- [AB 1392](#)
 - Existing elected office holders can request to be a confidential voter
 - Sent notification to local elected officials
 - Candidates will automatically become confidential voters when they file a Declaration of Candidacy
 - Candidates may opt out



New California Election Laws

- [AB 827](#)
 - Established a universal VBM ballot cure deadline of E+22 for regular statewide elections
 - Legislature set a cure deadline of E+26 for 2024 General Election and 2025 Statewide Special Election
 - For special elections, the cure deadline will remain two days before certification



New California Election Laws

2026 New California Election Laws Report

posted on website at

[2026 New Election Laws Report.pdf](#)

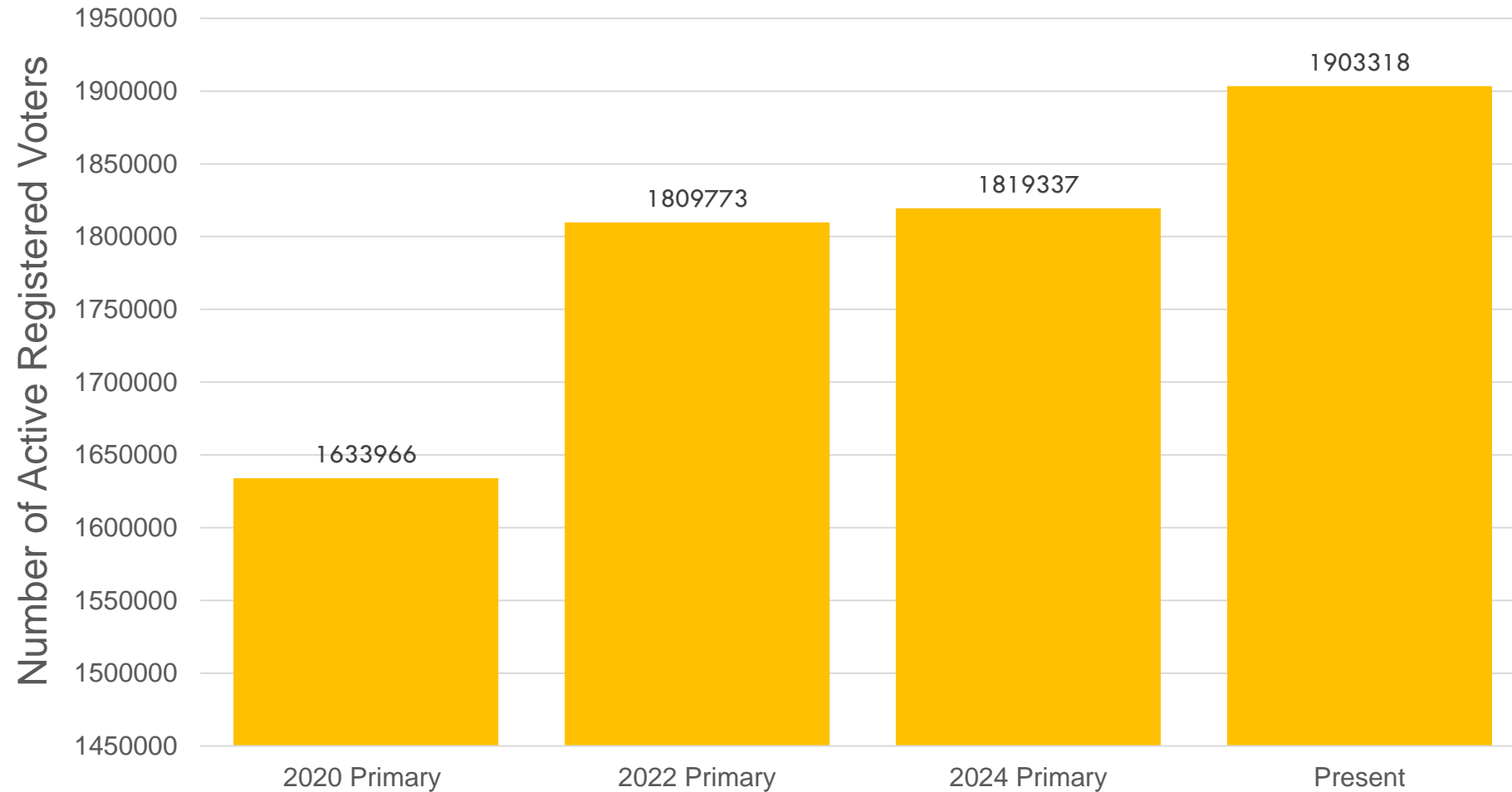


2026 Primary Election – Key Dates

- Candidate Filing: Feb. 9 – March 6
- Vote Centers/Drop Boxes Requirement: March 6
- Military/Overseas Ballots Issued: April 3 – April 18
- County VIG Mailing Starts: April 23
- VBM Ballot Mailing Starts: May 4
- Last Day for Voter Registration: May 18
- In-Person Voting: May 23 – June 2



Voter Registration Numbers at E-88





Vote Centers and Ballot Drop Boxes

For the 2024 Primary Election we had:

- 183 Vote Centers
- 122 Ballot Drop Boxes

As of today, for the 2026 Primary Election we'd need:

- 191 Vote Centers
 - 39 on E-10 adding 152 on E-3
- 127 Ballot Drop Boxes



USPS Postmarks

- In December, the USPS finalized a rule that defined what a postmark is
- The USPS operational change that impacted postmarks was published in the Feb. 28, 2025 Federal Register
 - <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2025-02-28/pdf/2025-03168.pdf>
- The delivery of 2025 Statewide Special Election ballots in OC did not appear to have been delayed given our proximity to regional processing centers

CEW VAAC and CEW LAAC Updates



VAAC Meeting Update

- Marketing partnership for new hours
- Opportunities for outreach/increased ASL support
 - QR code on VBM envelope – ASL
- Outreach/education partnerships
- Vote Center and Pop-Up Voting



LAAC Meeting Update

- Voter education and outreach
 - Colleges and universities
 - Legitimate Vote Centers
- Marketing and multilingual assets
 - Flyers, radio, newspapers, television, social media
 - Partnerships with city and community organizations

Future Business Items



Next Meeting Date

- VAAC and LAAC meet next in 2026 (date TBD)
- City Clerks and District Reps
- Local Candidates Webinar
- Next regular CEW meeting?





**THANK
YOU!**