



---

# County of Orange Registrar of Voters



**VOTE EASY.  
VOTE SECURE.**

ORANGE COUNTY REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



---

# Community Election Working Group

January 21, 2026



# 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

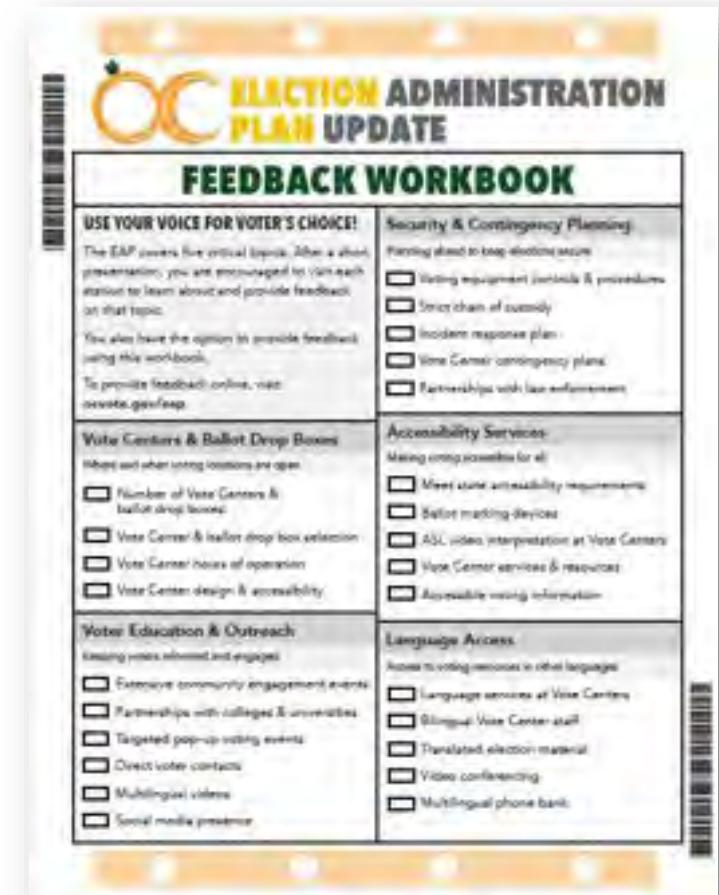
- Final EAP 2026-2029 is available at [ocvote.gov/eap](http://ocvote.gov/eap)
- Available in Chinese, English, Farsi, Gujarati, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese





# 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





# 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?

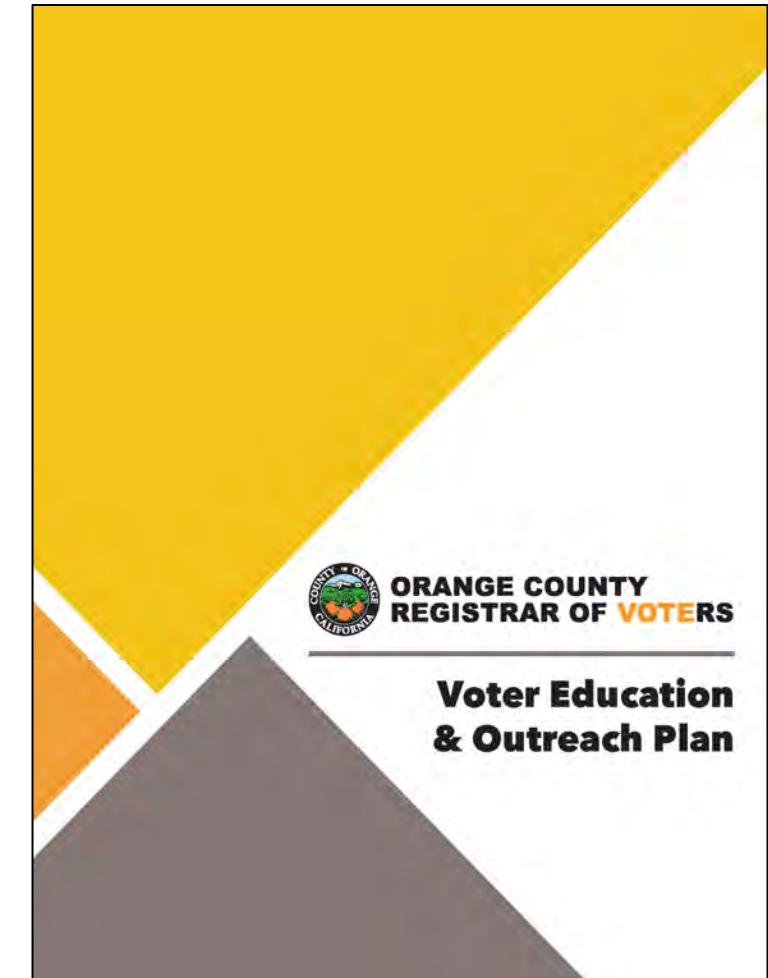


# Voter Education and Outreach Plan

- 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](http://ocvote.gov/veop)

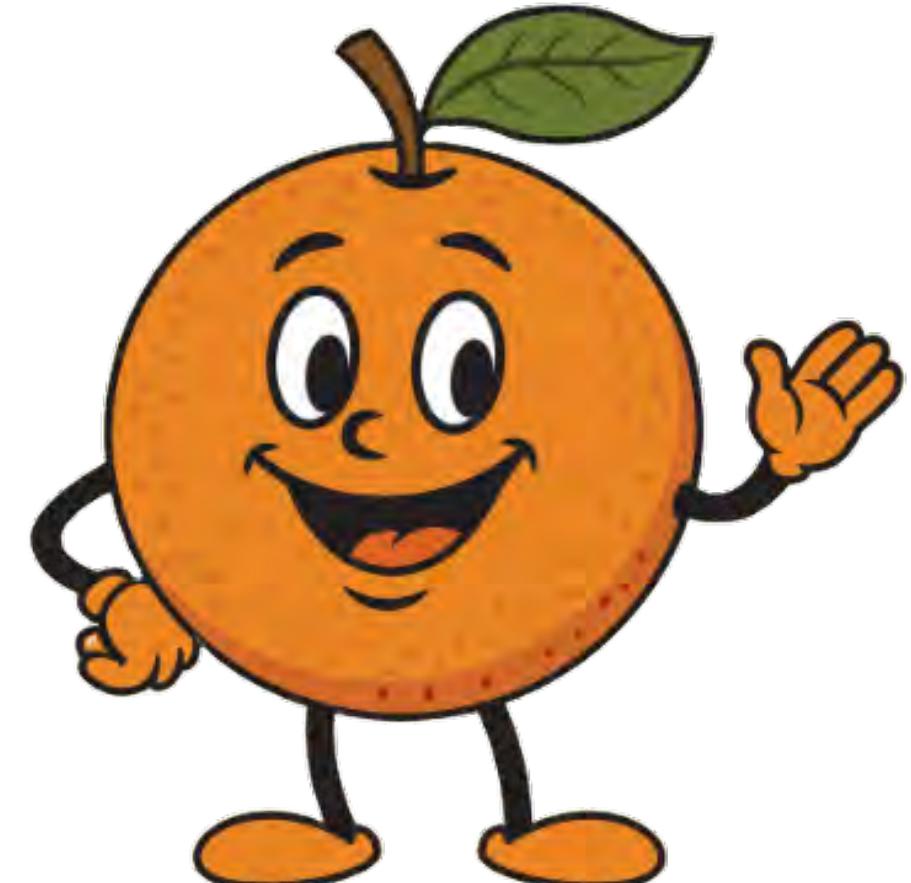


# Voter Education Partnerships

---

## 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	Added	Not Required
Farsi	Hmong	Gujarati
Japanese	Indonesian	Hindi
Tagalog	Khmer	
	Nepali	
	Punjabi	



# 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



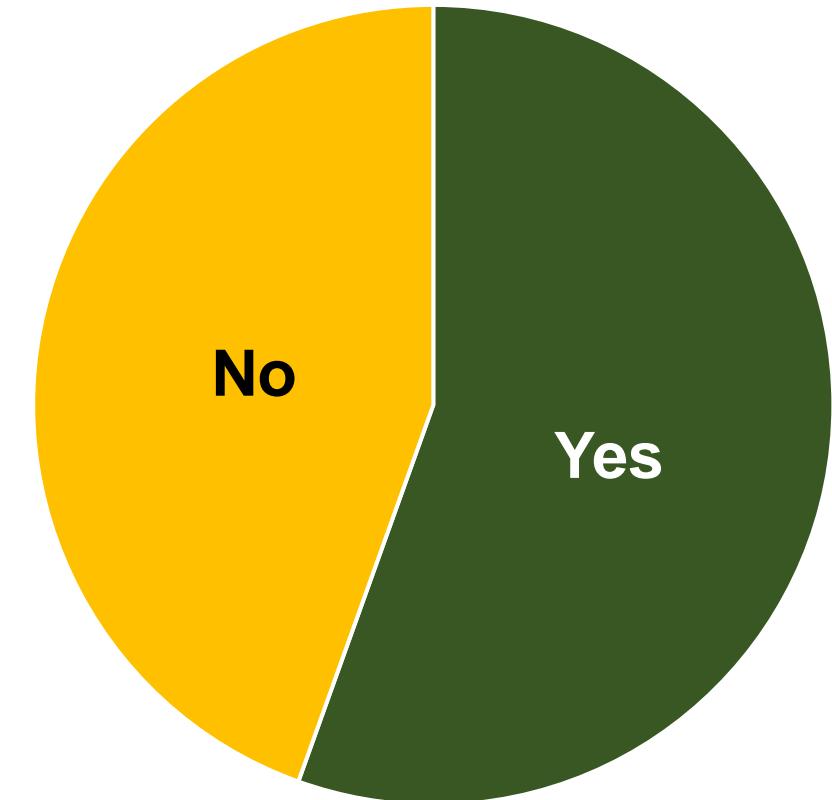


# 2025 Statewide Special Election

---

## Orange County Results

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

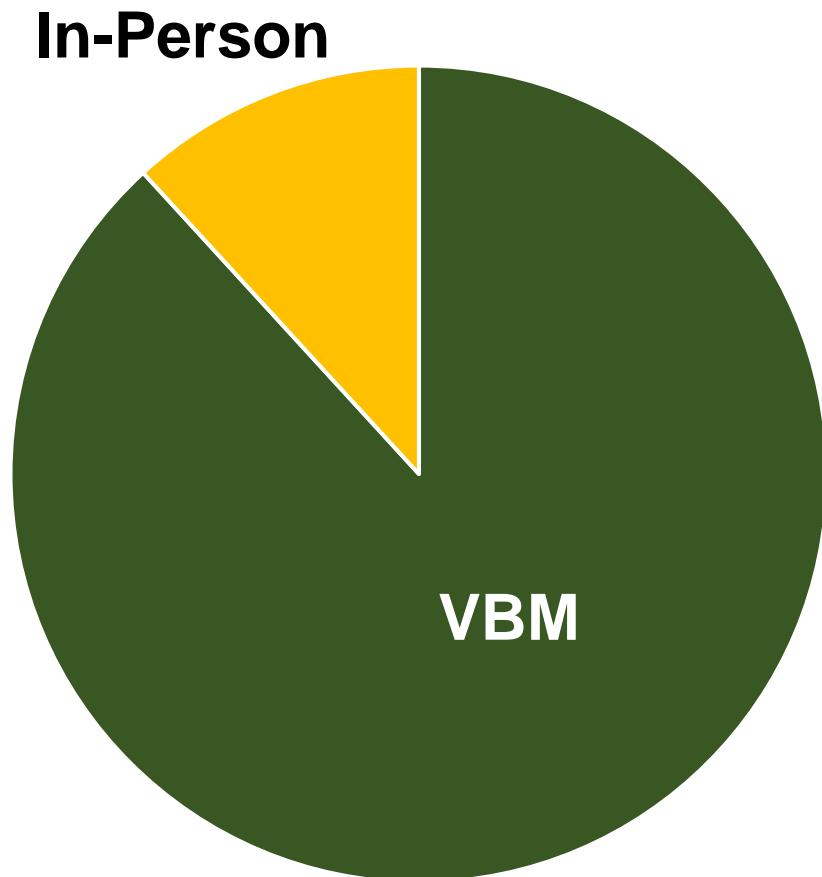




# 2025 Statewide Special Election

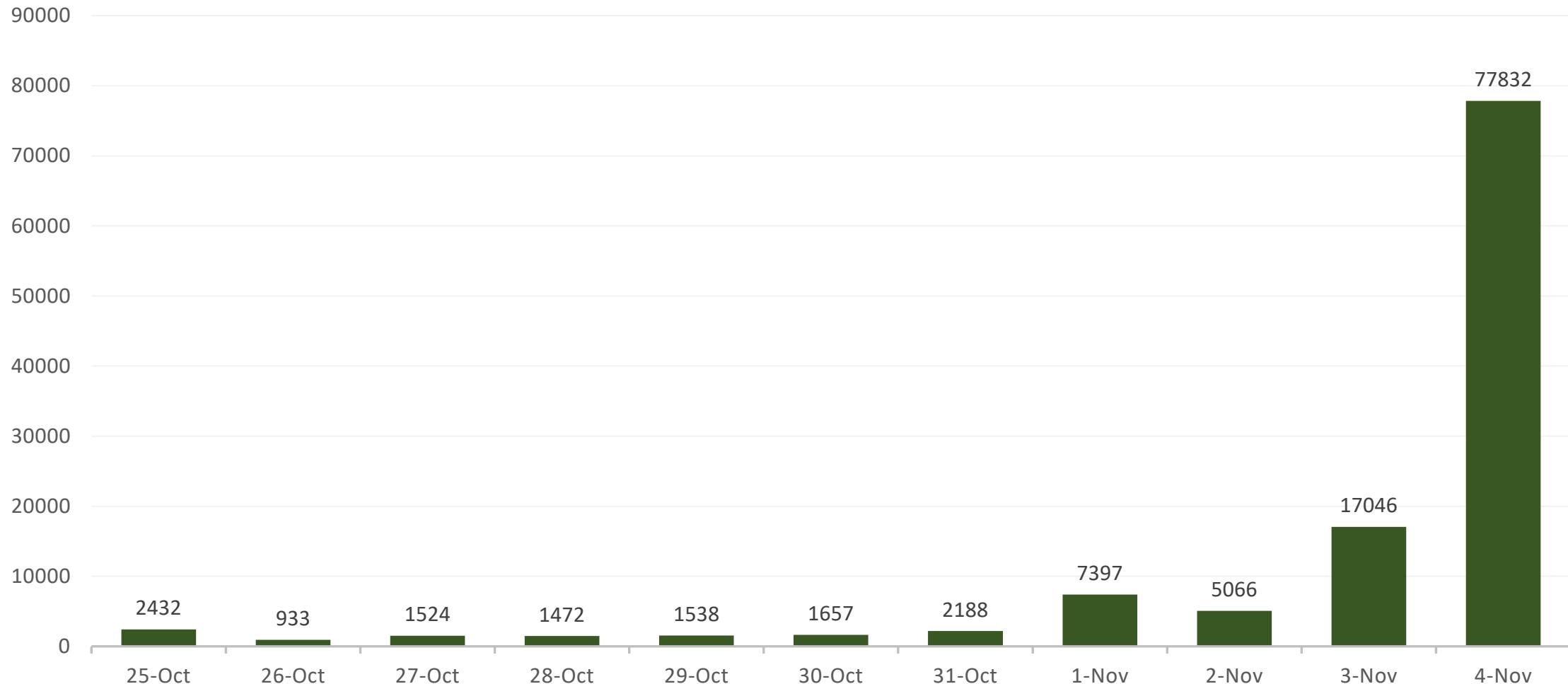
---

- 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](#)



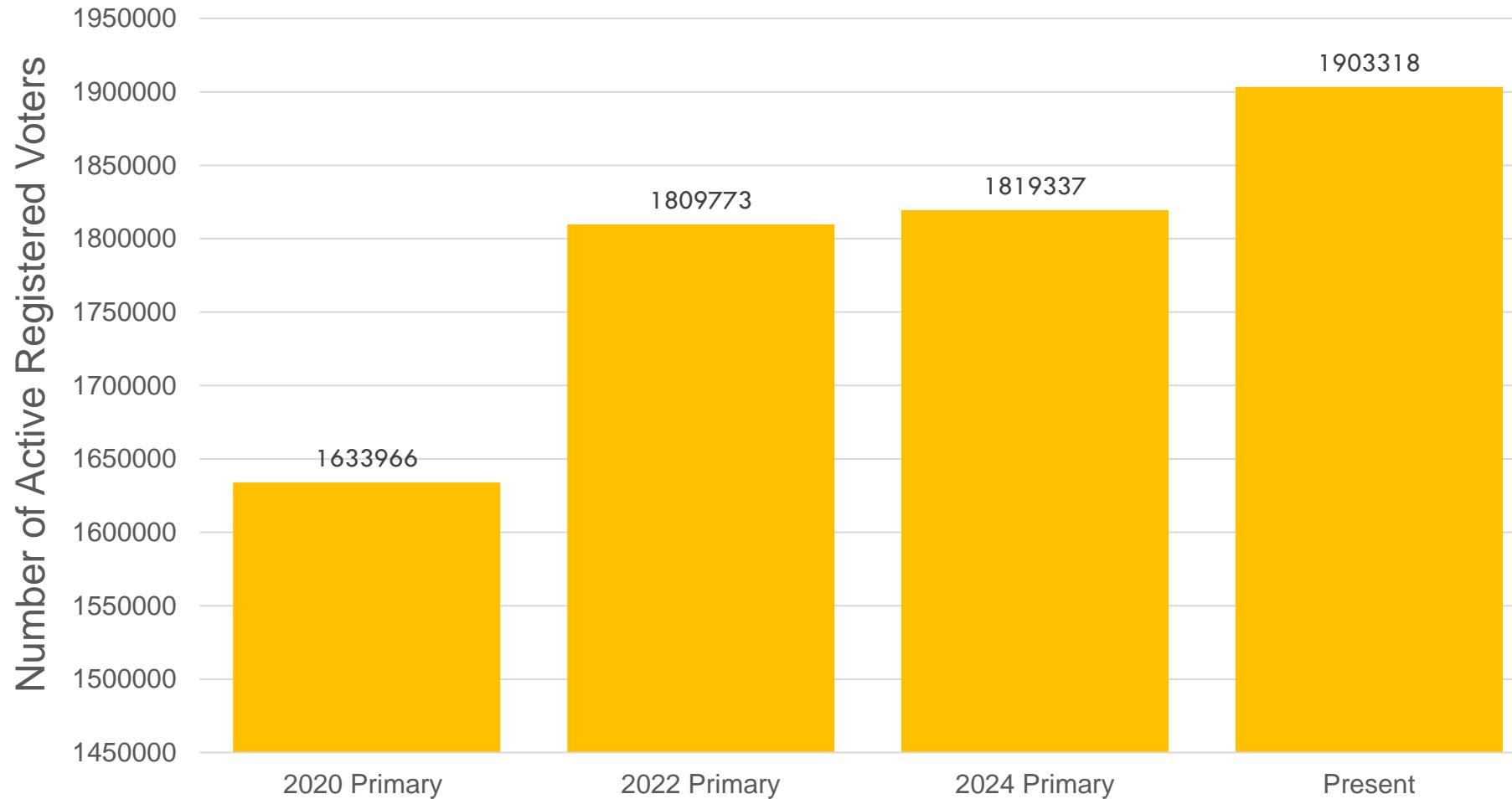
# 2026 Primary Election – Key Dates

---

- 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!**