

LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

October 27, 2025

TO: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Chair

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath

Supervisor Janice Hahn

FROM: Dean C. Logan Can C. Logan

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

ELECTION STATUS UPDATE – NOVEMBER 4, 2025 STATEWIDE SPECIAL ELECTION

This report is to inform your Board of our preparation and operations for the November 4, 2025 Statewide Special Election. This election was called for on August 21, 2025, which was 75 days before Election Day. The Department is administering this election under a compressed timeline, creating a challenging environment.

The election status update supports the Department's ongoing commitment to fair, accessible, and transparent election services.

Vote by Mail

As of October 27th, the Department issued 5,855,005 ballots, and 894,164 have been returned. Voters are returning their ballots through our Ballot Drop Boxes and the United States Postal Service. The Department encourages the use of Vote By Mail (VBM) ballots as the safest and most convenient method for voting.

A variety of VBM resources are available on our <u>website</u>. Voters may request to receive their VBM ballot and materials in English and 18 additional languages. Voters can also sign up for <u>"Where's My Ballot?"</u> to track their ballot and request a replacement VBM ballot. The <u>Ballot Drop Box Locator Tool</u> assists voters in finding a location of their preference.

We have observed a higher VBM return rate for this election. While other factors should be considered, the rate of VBM returns can, at times, serve as a preliminary indicator of overall turnout. The early returns are a positive sign for our operations, as we can begin processing those ballots and have more ballots ready for the official tally on Election

night. We are also monitoring the potential impact of elevated turnout on our in-person voting operations and preparing to maintain efficient service levels on Election Day.

Vote Centers

In-person voting services are available at the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) Headquarters, in Norwalk, Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. On Election Day (November 4th), those hours are extended to 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

A total of 251 Vote Centers located across the County are secured and scheduled for this election. The first 111 Vote Centers opened on Saturday, October 25th. As of October 27th, there have been 17,380 check-ins across our Vote Centers.

On Saturday, November 1, an additional 140 Vote Centers will open. Vote Centers are open daily from 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM before Election Day and 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM on Election Day. The <u>Vote Center Locator Tool</u> assists voters in finding a location of their preference, driving directions, and a wait time indicator.

A Vote Center postcard mailing was mailed to every registered voter listing the nearest 11-day location and the three nearest 4-day locations to each voter's residence. The postcard also includes instructions on how voters can expedite their in-person experience using the Quick Check-In Code provided in the Sample Ballot or the Poll Pass, as well as options for returning VBM ballots. The distribution of the Vote Center postcard mailing was completed on October 23rd.

Mobile Vote Centers and Voting in Jails

Due to the compressed timeline for conducting this election, the Mobile Vote Centers are being used for contingency operations. There are five Pop Up Vote Center teams stationed across the County and ready to respond to any emergencies or disruptions. These teams are deployed on an as-needed basis to assist with issues such as equipment failures, staffing challenges, and expanding capacity at high-turnout Vote Centers.

The Voting in Jails Program is underway and will bring in-person voting to all LA County jail facilities for the Statewide Special Election. This program is conducted leveraging our Flex Vote Centers in partnership with the Sheriff's Department. Flex Vote Centers offer the full range of voting options and services provided by our Vote Centers. This includes the Electronic Pollbook, Ballot Marking Device (with language and accessibility features), and Conditional Voter Registration services.

Additional Mobile Vote Centers resources are being deployed to serve voters in the areas impacted by the Eaton and Palisades fires.

Services for Fire-Impacted Areas and Voters

The devastating impacts of the Eaton and Palisades Fires this year continue to be felt by Los Angeles County residents. The Department is committed to assisting voters in the fire-impacted areas and providing them with the information and services they need to vote in this election. A page on our website has been created https://www.lavote.gov/recovery to provide critical information regarding voter registration, mailing address changes, interacting with the United States Postal Service, and accessing vital records.

Since January 2025, the Department has led a broad voter engagement effort across Los Angeles County, including community workshops, digital/social campaigns, and multilingual education initiatives to increase awareness of voting options. Most recently, I participated in a Pasadena Area Voter Information Town Hall to inform voters about available resources, accessible voting methods, and upcoming election timelines.

For the Statewide Special Election, the Department conducted targeted voter outreach to individuals impacted by recent wildfires to ensure their continued access to voting. Efforts included direct email notifications and robocalls to voters whose ballots were returned as undeliverable, providing instructions on how to request a replacement ballot, update their registration, or vote in person at any Vote Center.

In addition to voter education and outreach efforts, the Department is providing inperson voting services specifically intended for voters in the fire-impacted areas. There are two Mobile Vote Centers engagements for the Statewide Special Election:

Eaton Fire Collaboratory

540 W Woodbury Ave, Altadena, CA 91001

• Date: Thursday, October 30, 2025

Voting Hours: 10:30 AM – 6:00 PM

Calabasas One-Stop Permit Center

27001 Agoura Rd, Suite 250, Calabasas, CA 91302

• Date: Wednesday, October 29, 2025

• **Voting Hours:** 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Election Safety and Incident Response

Election safety and continuity of operations are of critical importance. In the lead up to the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election, multiple offices of elected officials and trusted community partners have raised concerns about potential election disruption and violence. To respond to this potential heightened level of election tension, the Department has implemented new enhancements onto existing election practices and tools.

The Department convened an Election Safety Working Group composed of key internal operations, to develop a multi-pronged plan to prepare for potential election-related disruption. This plan includes expanded training and reporting for Election Workers and roving Troubleshooters. In collaboration with the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations (HRC), the Department created an Election Safety pilot project that deploys Election Resource Liaisons (ERLs) with the Department's Troubleshooters. These liaisons are de-escalation-trained Human Relations Commission staff and volunteers who have experience working with and responding to law enforcement activity and protests.

These efforts are designed to improve the Department's ability to monitor, report, and respond to election violence or disruptions. As we look forward to the 2026 elections, when political tensions may be even higher, we hope to learn from and improve on our Election Safety procedures to be better prepared.

Election Observer Program

The Department conducts an extensive *Election Observer Program* as part of our commitment to open and transparent elections. The Election Observer Program provides an opportunity for public observation of election processes to maintain integrity, encourage participation, and build voter confidence. Election Observers are provided access to Vote Centers, Check-in Centers, and the Ballot Processing Center to observe voting and election procedures. Observable activities occurring at the Ballot Processing Center are:

- Logic and Accuracy Testing.
- VBM operations (incoming ballots, Automated signature verification, data processing, ballot extraction, remakes, Ballot preparation for tally).
- Processing provisional and conditional ballots received at the Vote Center.
- Ballot transportation and delivery at a Check-in Center.
- Ballot intake, preparation, and storage.
- Vote tally and reporting on Election Night.
- Post-election canvassing and retention of election materials.

The Election Observer Program at the Ballot Processing Center runs from October 6th to December 2nd, the tentative date for the certification of the election results. Election observers are encouraged to check the public schedule of events on the Public Observation page and must comply with all Election Observer Panel Plan Rules and Guidelines.

The Department is collaborating with the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office Government Relations section on an election observation opportunity for the California Congressional Delegation. Members of the delegation and their offices have been invited to observe the election process at the Los Angeles County Ballot Processing Centers located in the City of Industry. This is a unique opportunity for lawmakers and their staff to learn more about election operations in Los Angeles County and receive a

tour of the Ballot Processing Center, which was recently recognized by the Los Angeles County Quality and Productivity Commission.

Multilingual Election Worker Recruitment Efforts

Multilingual election workers are a critical component of the Department's in-language access to voting services. These workers are provided in addition to the in-language Ballot Marking Device experience, in-language VBM ballot experience, and multilingual hotline that can be accessed at any Vote Center for assistance in any of our supported languages.

Internal recruitment targets are set using a data-driven process that takes Census data and information modeled on a surname survey conducted by Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California. The Department assigns multilingual election workers where their skills are most needed based on the needs of the community.

Election worker recruitment targets have been met or exceeded for 11 (Spanish, Armenian, Bangla, Burmese, Chinese, Hindi, Mongolian, Russian, Tagalog, Telugu, and Vietnamese) of the 18 supported languages (not including English). The recruitment status for the seven remaining languages is as follows:

Khmer	Japanese	Thai	Korean
39 recruited of	38 recruited of	68 recruited of	97 recruited of
123 targeted	123 targeted	123 targeted	114 targeted
32%	31%	55%	85%
Gujurati	Farsi	Indonesian	
91 recruited of	105 recruited	6 recruited of 9	
106 targeted	of 109 targeted	targeted	
86%	96%	67%	

The recruitment of multilingual election workers was particularly impacted by the compressed timeline for this election. Multilingual election worker recruitment begins as early as six months before a regularly scheduled major election. This recruitment sprint will continue during the voting period.

All Vote Centers are equipped with phones and direct lines to the Multilingual Hotline where live translators are ready to assist in 18 languages, as needed. Based on the high need for Spanish-language assistance, the Department has increased the number of people available to respond to call in Spanish; assistance requested in other languages has come in at a steady but lower rate.

Departmental Contacts

Contact Information for Voters

Phone: (800) 815-2666

Email: voterinfo@rrcc.lacounty.gov

Website: <u>lavote.gov</u>

Resources for Media/Communications Deputies

Election Results
Fact Sheets
Press Releases
Outreach Toolkit

Media/Communications Contact

Michael Sanchez, Communications Manager (562) 462-2648 – office (562) 274-3938 – mobile msanchez@rrcc.lacounty.gov

Election Contact

We appreciate the partnership with your offices in our efforts to serve voters and allow them to exercise their fundamental right to vote. Your respective offices have been provided with a dedicated contact to assist in resolving any issues.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (562) 462-2716 or email dlogan@rrcc.lacounty.gov. Your staff may also contact Adrian Avelar, Manager of Policy and Program Compliance, at (562) 345-8372 or email aavelar@rrcc.lacounty.gov.

DCL:JJ:KF MS:AA

Attachment

November 2025 Statewide Special Election Status Update Dashboard



Vote Centers

- 251 total Vote Centers available for the 2025 Statewide Special Election
 - o 111 Vote Centers opened on Saturday, October 25th
 - o 140 Vote Centers scheduled to open on Saturday, November 1st
- 17,380 Voter Check-ins



Vote by Mail

- 5,855,005 Vote by Mail Ballots Issued
- 894,164 Vote by Mail Ballots Returned



Ballot Drop Boxes

- 418 Ballot Drop Boxes
 - o Opened on October 2, 2025
 - o Ballots are retrieved daily at all locations
- 308,427 ballots returned via Ballot Drop Boxes

Language Access

Over 411,000 VBM ballots were requested in a language other than English

Languages	Voters Requesting Materials	Languages	Voters Requesting Materials
Spanish	284,885	Russian	1,466
Chinese	52,519	Khmer	1,532
Korean	39,764	Hindi	633
Vietnamese	14,055	Bengali	381
Tagalog	5,451	Burmese	254
Japanese	3,128	Indonesian	182
Thai	3,241	Gujarati	165
Armenian	2,165	Telugu	60
Farsi	1,822	Mongolian	42