

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

Spanish Language Accessibility Advisory Committee

Date: Thursday, April 14, 2025

Time: 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting – Minutes

Estela Orozco, representing the Registrar of Voters, opened the virtual meeting with a warm welcome, emphasizing the vital roles of each attendee in our collective efforts. The meeting included Sasha Ritzie Hernandez, Executive Director of Somos Familia; Alba Hernandez, representing FIAEB (Faith in Action East Bay); and Claudia Guzman, representing the Registrar of Voters. Additionally, Estela Orozco expressed gratitude for the collaborative efforts that will contribute to the success of the Registrar of Voters.

Estela discussed the resolutions concerning Pedro Hernandez's offer to provide training on Ranked Choice Voting (RCV). Claudia Guzman and Estela Orozco have communicated with management about this matter, and they sincerely appreciate Pedro Hernandez's willingness to support voter education efforts in Alameda County. They will keep him in mind for future elections as needed.

Additionally, Pedro Hernandez raised a question in the previous meeting regarding whether the touchscreen could track the language used by voters when casting their ballots for the City of Oakland Municipal Election. The Registrar of Voters was able to assist with this inquiry. During the election, 22 voters were assisted in Spanish at the Vote Centers.

Pedro Hernandez raised a pertinent question regarding the feasibility of knowing how many individuals are requesting bilingual materials from the Alameda County Registrar of Voters. Furthermore, Estela Orozco highlighted the number of comprehensive totals on the number of voters seeking bilingual materials, see numbers below:

<i>Registration by Language</i>		
Chinese	2.3%	21,744
English	95.40%	917,211
Spanish	1.70	16,631
Vietnamese	0.5%	4,676

Estela Orozco also discussed the response to Sasha Hernandez regarding Measure S. The Registrar of Voters has been in ongoing coordination with Oakland's City Clerk, with additional meetings planned to discuss the implementation details of Measure S in further detail.

Claudia Guzman discussed the review of the April 15, 2025, City of Oakland Special Municipal Election and the Ranked Choice Voting enhancements for Berkeley, Oakland, and San Leandro.

We want to inform you that the Registrar of Voters has implemented significant improvements to the Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) instructions. Additionally, we have successfully partnered with San Francisco County to introduce the Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) Practice Ballot on our website, which has received positive feedback.

Furthermore, all voters in the City of Oakland received comprehensive mailers detailing the steps to complete the Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) ballot. Every Vote Center provided flyers in English, as well as in Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

Claudia Guzman presented materials to the members that outlined the process for completing Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) ballots and provided guidance on how to request a new ballot. She explained how the materials clarified the distribution of votes in Ranked-Choice Voting (RCV) contests. The Registrar of Voters is committed to providing voters with all necessary resources to ensure a seamless voting experience.

Claudia Guzman discussed the number of voters who voted in person on Election Day:

Register Voters	4,542 (1.81% of registered voters)
Vote By Mail Ballot	90,466 (36.07% vote-by-mail turnout)

During the Oakland Special Municipal Election, nine Vote Centers were available to all Voters in the Oakland Municipal Election. Five of these Vote Centers were open for 11 days, and four were open for 4 days. Additionally, we had 18 Vote By Mail Drop-off Boxes open to the public 24 hours a day, allowing voters to drop off their ballots at any time.

Alba Hernandez mentioned that she received a text message when her ballot was received at the Registrar of Voters' office, and she was surprised and happy to see the confirmation.

Estela Orozco talked about the recruitment of Election workers and bilingual election workers. The total Election Workers was 108. (See information below per language)

<i>Language</i>	
Chinese	4
Spanish	13
Tagalog	0
Vietnamese	1
Hindi/Punjabi	1
	19 -Bilinguals (Out of the 108)

Estela Orozco discusses outreach and language education, noting that our outreach team attended 119 events across Alameda County. Among these, 10 events were specifically aimed at bilingual and multicultural communities. These events covered topics such as Ranked Choice Voting, voter education information, voter registration, and election worker recruitment.

Claudia Guzman announces that we have one vacancy and invites you to apply to the Alameda County Elections Commission, which is seeking dedicated individuals to join its Elections Committee. Your expertise and commitment to our community would be invaluable in ensuring the integrity and success of the electoral process.

Committee Overview:

The Elections Committee plays a crucial role in overseeing election procedures, ensuring compliance with regulations, and enhancing voter engagement. It meets every month from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm on the 3RD Thursday of the month.

Members will be involved in:

- Reviewing and recommending improvements to election processes.
- Assisting in the development and implementation of voter education initiatives.
- Collaborating with other stakeholders to address election-related concerns.

Commitment Expectations:

- Attend monthly committee meetings.
- Participate in subcommittees or working groups as needed.
- Contribute to discussions and decision-making processes.

We believe that your skills and experience would make a significant contribution to the committee's objectives.

The meeting concluded, and Claudia Guzman mentioned that she would send instructions on how to apply to the Alameda County Election Committee.

The meeting was adjourned.