

# County of Santa Clara

## Registrar of Voters

Public and Legislative Affairs

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www.sccvote.org



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BALLOTS FOR MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SPECIAL ELECTION IN PALO ALTO UNIFIED AND CAMPBELL UNION SCHOOL DISTRICTS MAILED**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF.** --The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters mailed over 86,000 ballots to voters in the Palo Alto Unified School District and the Campbell Union School District for the special mail ballot election on May 5<sup>th</sup>.

For both the Palo Alto Unified School District and the Campbell Union School District, the ballots each contain a single contest - a parcel tax measure. Only registered voters who live in these districts are eligible to participate in the election.

Because this is as an all-mail ballot election, there will be no polling places on Election Day. Instead, all registered voters in the districts will automatically be sent a ballot. No postage is required to return a ballot in a mail ballot election.

“It is important for voters to participate in these local special elections because one vote can determine the success or failure of a contest,” said Shannon Bushey. “Since every voter automatically receives a ballot in the mail, participating is easy and convenient.”

Special mail ballot elections have become common in Santa Clara County; there have been ten held in the last five years. Mail ballot elections typically have voter turnout rates in the 35-45% range. The turnout tends to be higher than most other local special elections but lower than countywide primary or general elections. Palo Alto Unified School District consists of 42,084 registered voters and the Campbell Union School District consists of 43,924 registered voters.

The last day to register to vote in the election is April 20<sup>th</sup>. One can register online at [Register to Vote](#). Voters who want to check their registration status may do so on the website at [Check Your Registration Status](#).

A voter should complete a new registration form if he or she has moved, changed a name(s), or would like to change his or her political party preference. To register to vote in Santa Clara County, a voter must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old, a Santa Clara County resident, and not in prison or on parole for a felony.



Online registrations will be accepted as long as they are completed before midnight on April 20<sup>th</sup>, paper registration forms that are postmarked on that date will also be accepted. Paper registration forms are available at post offices, public libraries, fire stations, city halls, and most local government offices.

Additionally, voters who want to find out if they live within either the Palo Alto Unified School District or the Campbell Union School District can look up their districts using the online tool at [Look Up Your Districts](#).

### **Returning Ballots**

Ballots can be returned by mail using the purple postage-paid return envelope included in the ballot packet. Voters are encouraged to return their ballots as soon as possible to allow enough time for them to be received by Election Day. Ballots that are returned in-person must be received by 8:00 pm on Election Day, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Ballots returned by mail must be postmarked on or before Election Day and must be received by Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> (three days after the election).

For added convenience, the Registrar's Office has ballot drop boxes at city halls and the Campbell Library, available during normal business hours. There is also a drop box inside the County Government Center at 70 West Hedding Street and a 24-hour drop box in the parking lot of the Registrar of Voters' Office at 1555 Berger Drive in San Jose.

Additionally, staff from the Registrar's Office will set up Drive-Thru Ballot Drop-Off Sites in the parking lots of the Campbell Library and Palo Alto City Hall on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Voters can cast a ballot in-person at the Registrar's Office during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Early Voting** is open to all registered voters in Santa Clara County. Any voter can vote early at the Registrar of Voters' Office **1555 Berger Drive, Building 2, San Jose, CA 95112**

<b>Day(s)</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Monday – Friday	April 6 – May 5	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday	April 25	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday	May 2	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday	May 5 (Election Day)	7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Ballot Drop-Off Sites:** Beginning April 6<sup>th</sup> through Election Day. Voters will have the option of dropping off their voted ballots at the following locations:

### **Open during normal business hours**

- Santa Clara County Government Center – 1st Floor, 70 W. Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110
- Campbell City Hall – City Clerk Office - 70 N. First Street, Campbell, CA 95008
- Campbell Library - 77 Harrison Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008
- Los Altos Hills Town Hall – City Clerk Office - 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022
- Los Gatos Town Hall – City Clerk Office - 110 E. Main Street, Los Gatos, CA 95030
- Monte Sereno City Hall – City Clerk Office - 18041 Saratoga/Los Gatos Road, Monte Sereno, CA 95030
- Palo Alto City Hall – City Clerk Office - 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301
- San Jose City Hall – City Clerk Office - 200 E. Santa Clara Street, Wing 2, San Jose, CA 95113
- Santa Clara City Hall – City Clerk Office - 1500 Warburton Avenue, Santa Clara, CA 95050
- Saratoga City Hall – City Clerk Office - 13777 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga, CA 95070
- Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters – 1555 Berger Drive, San Jose, CA 95112

**Open 24 hours a day until 8 pm on Election Day**

Registrar of Voters – Parking Lot near flagpole, 1555 Berger Dr., San Jose, CA 95112

**Drive-Thru Ballot Drop-Off Site:** Open Saturdays (April 25<sup>th</sup> & May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Voters will have the option of dropping off their ballots without getting out of their vehicles at convenient Drive-Thru Ballot Drop Off Sites. The sites will be located at:

Campbell Library - 77 Harrison Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008

Palo Alto City Hall - 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301

For more information, contact the Registrar of Voters' Office at 1-408-299-VOTE (8683) or toll-free at 1-866-430-VOTE (8683), or visit [www.sccvote.org](http://www.sccvote.org).

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