

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

Public and Legislative Affairs

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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RESULTS CERTIFIED FOR AUGUST 16, 2016 SPECIAL ELECTION

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF. – The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters' Office has posted final, certified results for the August 16, 2016 Special Election, which was held to fill an unexpired term on the Sunnyvale City Council. Because this Special Election involved one contest in the City of Sunnyvale, only voters who live in Sunnyvale were eligible to participate.

Registrar of Voters Shannon Bushey noted that 28 polling place precincts were open throughout Sunnyvale. "We are extremely grateful to the many volunteers who staffed polling places for this Special Election," Bushey said. "Their service and dedication were truly indispensable on Election Day."

Post-Election Canvass

California Elections Code requires the Registrar of Voters' Office to perform a Post-Election Canvass before it can certify the election's final results.

During the Post-Election Canvass, the Registrar of Voters' Office counted all remaining valid ballots and performed a series of mandated audits to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the election. Election results were updated at least once daily by 5:00 p.m. during the canvass period.

Ballots Counted after Election Day

There are four types of ballots that are counted after Election Day – "last minute" Vote by Mail ballots, provisional ballots, damaged ballots, and ballots that contain write-in votes.

"Last Minute" Vote by Mail Ballots

Vote by Mail ballots that arrived on Election Day were processed and counted starting Wednesday, August 17. Vote by Mail ballots that were postmarked by Election Day and arrived by Friday, August 19, were also processed and counted after Election Day.

Vote by Mail voters who forgot to sign their return envelopes had the opportunity to complete and sign an [Unsigned Ballot Statement](#) form by 5:00 p.m. on August 24.



Provisional Ballots

Provisional ballots were cast by voters whose eligibility could not be determined at the polling places on Election Day or who had received Vote by Mail ballots but did not have them to surrender at the polls and wanted to vote in person. Provisional ballots had to be researched and verified before they could be counted.

Damaged Ballots

Some ballots were torn, damaged, or marked in such a way that the tallying machines could not read them. These ballots required additional processing before they could be counted.

Write-In Votes

Write-in votes must be tallied manually. 50 valid write-in votes were cast in the sole contest in this election.

1% Manual Tally

The Registrar of Voters' Office conducted a manual tally of ballots cast in 1% of the total precincts in this election in order to verify the accuracy of the machine count. During the Post-Election Canvass, Precinct 4039 was randomly selected for manual recount and its ballots were hand-counted for comparison with the unofficial semi-final election results.

The official elections results, published in the Statement of Votes Cast, are posted on the Registrar of Voters' website at www.sccvote.org. These official results provide a complete picture of the election with the vote totals that are broken down by precinct and the method in which the ballots were cast. Anyone may download or print a complete copy of election results at www.sccvote.org.

The Registrar of Voters' Office will release its post-election report in the near future for the August 16, 2016 Special Election. This report will provide additional statistics, facts, and figures regarding the election, voter behavior, and comparisons with previous similar elections.

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.

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