

County of Santa Clara

Registrar of Voters

Public and Legislative Affairs

1553 Berger Drive, Bldg. 1

San Jose, CA 95112

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 612350, San Jose, CA 95161-2350

1 (408) 282-3008 1 866-430-VOTE (8683) FAX: 1 (408) 282-3115

www.sccvote.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2015

CONTACT: Philip Chantri
Media Officer
1-408-282-3008

VOTING HAS STARTED FOR NOVEMBER 3 ELECTION

Over 32,818 Ballots Mailed to Voters

SANTA CLARA COUNTY, CALIF. – Voting began today for the November 3 Election as the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters mailed over 32,818 ballots to voters who have requested to Vote by Mail.

The ballots include a contest for a seat on the Board of the Orchard School District, a parcel tax measure for Union School District and a bond measure for the City of Los Altos. Only registered voters who live in the City of Los Altos and Orchard or Union School Districts are eligible to participate in the election. Voters who want to find out if they live within these jurisdictions can look up their districts using the online tool [Look Up Your Districts](#).

Vote by Mail voters account for approximately 75% of the 43,968 voters in this election.

Vote by Mail voters who prefer to cast their ballots in person can vote early at the Registrar of Voters' office. Voters who would like to vote by mail can mail their ballots, drop off ballots at one of our ballot drop-off sites in their neighborhoods, visit one of the 25 polling places on Election Day or even drive thru a weekend ballot drop-off site.

Beginning with this election, the Registrar of Voters will include a postage-paid return envelope with every Vote by Mail ballot. In previous elections, voters had to pay the cost of return postage, which frequently exceeded a single first-class stamp.

Notably, Santa Clara is only the second county in the state to feature prepaid postage for Vote by Mail ballots. Registrar of Voters Shannon Bushey stated, "There is no more important action in a democracy than voting. The Registrar of Voters' Office is passionate about increasing voter turnout and we hope that we will make it easier to vote by providing prepaid postage for all Vote by Mail ballots."

Sample ballot pamphlets mailed the week of September 21 included an application to request a Vote by Mail ballot. Vote by Mail ballots may be requested by completing that application, applying on the website at [Request a Vote by Mail Ballot](#) or calling us at 1-408-299-VOTE (8683) or toll free at 1-866-430-VOTE (8683). The last day to request a vote by mail ballot is Tuesday, October 27.



Returning Vote by Mail Ballots

Vote by Mail ballots that are returned in person must be received by 8 p.m. on Election Day, November 3. Vote by Mail ballots that are returned by mail must be postmarked on or before Election Day and must be received by Friday, November 6 (three days after the election). Voters are encouraged to mail their ballots as soon as possible. Voters must sign the return envelope themselves so the signature can be compared to the voter registration form to confirm the voter's identity.

Vote by Mail ballots can be returned in person at the Registrar's office, any Santa Clara County polling place on Election Day or at a designated ballot drop-off site. A complete list of ballot drop-off locations and hours is included in the Vote by Mail ballot packet and online at [November 3 Special Consolidated Election Ballot Drop-Off Sites](#). Voters can track the status of their ballots online at www.sccvote.org or by using the free [SCCVOTE mobile app](#).

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

Day(s)	Date(s)	Hours
Monday – Friday	October 5 – November 2	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday	October 24	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Saturday	October 31	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday	November 3 (Election Day)	7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Ballot Drop-Off Sites: Beginning October 5, 2015 through Election Day, Vote by Mail (VBM) voters will have the option of dropping off their completed ballots at the following locations:

Open during normal business hours

Los Altos City Hall – City Clerk's Office – 1 N. San Antonio Road, Los Altos, CA 94022

Los Altos Main Library – Near Front Entrance – 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos, CA 94022

Santa Clara County Government Center – 1st Floor, 70 W. Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110

San Jose City Hall – City Clerk's Office, 200 E. Santa Clara Street, Wing 2, San Jose, CA 95113

Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters – 1555 Berger Drive, Building 2, San Jose, CA 95112

Vineland Branch Library – Outside of Community Room – 1450 Blossom Hill Road, San Jose, CA 95118

Drive-Thru Ballot Drop-Off Site: Open Saturdays (October 24 & 31, 2015) from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Vote by Mail (VBM) 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:

Hillview Community Center – 97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022

Park and Ride VTA – Camden Avenue at Highway 85, San Jose, CA 95124

Registering to Vote in the Election

The last day to register to vote in the election is Monday, October 19, and can be done 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 on or before Election Day, a Santa Clara County resident and not imprisoned or on parole for a felony.

Online registrations will be accepted as long as they are completed before midnight on October 19; paper registration forms that are postmarked prior to or on October 19 will also be accepted. Paper registration forms are available at post offices, public libraries, fire stations, city halls and most local government offices.

November 3, 2015 Consolidated Election

Orchard School District consists of 4,286 registered voters. Union School District consists of 21,914 registered voters and the City of Los Altos consists of 17,768 registered voters.

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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