



Alameda County Elections Commission

Meeting Agenda

May 21, 2026 4:00 p.m. 1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1
Oakland CA 94612
Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82013048475>

Teleconference Location: City Hall, 34009 Alvarado-Niles Road, Union City, CA 94587. Pursuant to Government Code section 54953(b), this notice and agenda will be posted, and members of the public may attend and provide public comment at the teleconference location.

Pursuant to California Government Code section 54957.5, any public records related to a matter subject to discussion at this meeting that are distributed to a majority of the Elections Commission's members less than 72 hours before the meeting will be made available for public inspection at the Registrar of Voters' Office, 1225 Fallon Street, Oakland, California 94612, Room G-1.

1 Call to Order / Roll Call

2 Swearing-In of New Commissioners – none

3 Agenda Changes

4 Approval of Meeting Minutes

Attachment - pp. 3-5

5 Announcements and Communications on non-agenda items

No discussion on these items.

- a. From staff
- b. From commissioners

6 Public Comment on Agenda Items

If there are 5 or less commenters, they will have up to 3 minutes each. More than 5 commenters will be limited to 2 minutes each. More than 15 people will be limited to one minute each. We encourage and appreciate written comments to be emailed to the commission at eoc@acgov.org.

7 Monthly Update from Registrar of Voters Office

Attachment - p. 6

8 Regular Agenda Items

8-A Ad Hoc Committee Reports - Temporary and task-specific committees were formed to address particular issues. *The point person for each committee has an asterisk by their name.*

8-A(1) Voting Participation (Seabrook,* Moore, Whitehurst, Lindsay, Hernandez) – Discussion Only
This committee is looking into how the ROV can increase voter participation in Oakland Districts 6 & 7.

Attachment – p. 7

8-A(2) Youth Participation (Varlack,* Whitehurst, Butter) – Action Item

This committee is working to support efforts to strengthen youth civic engagement regarding elections, and to coordinate with the Registrar of Voters on outreach and program development. Approval of Commissioner Ritzie-Hernandez joining this committee will be considered.

8-A(3) Budgeting for Elections (Wagner,* Pham, Lindsay) – Discussion Only

This committee is working with the ROV office to produce a written fee schedule that clearly defines exactly how jurisdictions will be charged with an explanation of those charges, including RCV, Youth Voting, and the reallocation of five or more ballot measures, for the 2026 elections.

8-A(4) Rules and Procedure (Dieter,* Henderson) – Discussion Only

This committee is updating the commission's rules and procedures
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GU2L78YxbJDk2wrHAt1afm49YGXQI-jF/view>. Commissioners are invited to provide feedback on amending the attached provisions. Attachment - pp. 8-9

8-B Scheduling Another Commission Meeting – Action Item

The January Elections Commission meeting was cancelled due to a lack of a quorum. The commission must now schedule another meeting in 2026 to ensure that the commission meets 10 times this year as required by county ordinance. The months of August and December are available. The commission will consider what month to schedule the meeting.

8-C Voter Information Guide – Discussion Only

The commission will get an overview of the differences between the county and state voter guides. Commissioners should bring their voter guides from home and be prepared to discuss the strengths and weaknesses, which will help inform the June post-election assessment. Attachment - pp. 10-12

8-D General Administration – Discussion Only

On May 12, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Registrar of Voters to sign two agreements with the Secretary of State dealing with cybersecurity and voting systems replacement. These deal with reimbursements to the county. The ROV will describe both. Attachment - p. 13

9 Special Report from the ROV – Discussion Only

At the request of the Youth Participation Committee, the ROV's Youth Outreach Team will outline their work to partner with high schools to empower future voters. Attachment - pp. 14-24

10 Public Comment on Agenda or Non-Agenda Items (15 minutes)

The 15 minutes here is a fixed allocation of time and will be divided equally among all who wish to comment, with a maximum of 3 minutes per person. If your comments are complex or if you didn't have enough time, we always appreciate it if you send your input to the Elections Commission at eoc@acgov.org.

11 Adjournment (by 6:30 p.m. if viable)

The next meeting will be Thursday, June 18, 2026 at 1225 Fallon Street, Room G1, Oakland.

If you would like to receive email notifications for upcoming agenda postings, please send an email to https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAALAME/subscriber/new?topic_id=CAALAME_467



Alameda County Elections Commission
Unapproved Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2026

4:00 PM

1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1
Oakland CA 94612
Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87981215132>

1 **Call to Order / Roll Call**

The Elections Commission meeting convened at 4:10 p.m. with President Dieter presiding as chair.

Present

Karen Butter, Irene Dieter, Susan Henderson, Jim Lindsay, Alissa Moore, Alexander Ramon, Alexandra Ritzie-Hernandez, Karl Seabrook, Tiega Varlack, David Wagner, and Allie Whitehurst.

Registrar of Voters: Cynthia Cornejo, Noe Lucio, and Charles Smithline.

County Counsel: Jason Allen and Brandon Fields

Absent

Commission Members: Judy Belcher and Thai Nam Pham.

2 **Swearing In of New Commissioners**

There were no new commissioners to swear-in.

3 **Approval of Agenda**

No changes were made to the agenda.

4 **Approval of Minutes of February 19, 2026**

A motion was made to approve the February 19, 2026 Elections Commission meeting minutes by Commissioner Varlack, seconded by Commissioner Butter, and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of March 19, 2026

A motion was made to approve the March 19, 2026 Elections Commission meeting minutes by Commissioner Lindsay, seconded by Ms. Butter, and passed unanimously.

5 **Announcements and Communications on non-agenda items**

a. From staff

County Counsel Jason Allen introduced Deputy County Counsel Brandon Fields who will be working in the ROV office. Interim Registrar Cynthia Cornejo announced that the ROV has started working on the June 16 Congressional District 14 special election.

b. From commissioners

Commissioner Lindsay encouraged commissioners to attend the monthly meetings on time for the full meeting to ensure a quorum. President Dieter reminded commissioners to email her any requested agenda topics, and for ad hoc committees to submit reports to the clerk and president eight days before the meeting. She also reminded the ad hoc committees that there is

information in the Elections Administration Plan that might help with their work. Commissioner Moore announced that the annual Quest for Democracy Conference, a political education event for 500 to 1,000 individuals will be held May 2-4 at the California State Capital.

6 Public Comment on Agenda Items

Public comments were made on agenda items.

7 Monthly Update from Registrar of Voters Office (video time 4:50)

Interim Registrar Cynthia Cornejo reported important dates and activities for the June 2, 2026 Primary Election, and important dates and special processes and messaging for the June 16, 2026 Congressional District 14 Special Primary Election. She mentioned that details are listed in the agenda attachment. She delineated the techniques the ROV is implementing to reduce voter confusion as well as potential envelope sorting errors in the Congressional District 14 primary. Commissioners Butter, Lindsay, Henderson, Ramon, and Varlack asked related questions.

8 Regular Agenda Items

8-A Ongoing Items from Ad Hoc Committees (video time 32:40)

8-A(1) November 2025 Post-election Assessment

President Dieter announced that she sent the updated assessment to the supervisors, which is attached to the agenda. She asked all the commissioners to keep a running list of their own observations as input for the June elections assessments. A motion to disband the November 2025 election assessment subcommittee was made by Commissioner Varlack, seconded by Commissioner Seabrook, and passed unanimously.

8-A(2) Voting Participation

Commissioner Seabrook reported the committee has built a database with the help of Commissioner Hernandez, and they will analyze the data.

8-A(3) Youth Participation

Commissioner Varlack reported that the committee met with Ms. Cornejo and the Outreach staff who gave a presentation and reviewed the work they have been doing to engage and preregister youth, and the efforts with the NAACP and the League of Women Voters. The committee plans to gather the names of students deputized to register youth voters. Commissioner Whitehurst reported that McClymonds High School had a newsworthy event on youth voting. Ms. Cornejo concurred and noted the committee has assisted the ROV to partner with some of the more difficult high schools for the high school voter education week. Commissioner Butter asked that the ROV give their presentation to the commission.

8-A(4) Budgeting for Elections

Commissioner Wagner reported that the committee met with the Registrar and her team, who presented a thorough overview of how the cost allocations for elections and operations are determined and distributed among jurisdictions. The committee has learned that costs are in proportion to the number of registered voters, but costs can increase and possibly double based on two shares for five or more ballot measures. Ranked choice voting and youth voting are accounted for separately. RCV costs are shared among RCV jurisdictions, and youth voting costs are shared among youth voting jurisdictions. In the short term, the committee plans to work with the ROV to make the costs more predictable, and the ROV is working to improve communications with the city clerks. The committee's longer term goal might include looking

into how costs are allocated and made more equitable. Commissioner Lindsay added the committee reviewed and accepted a proposed wording for charges. Commissioner Butter noted that it is important for communities to be able to consider the cost of ranked choice or youth voting before implementing such changes.

8-B Contracts over \$100,000

Vice President Ramon introduced the item and said the three contracts over \$100,000 were attached to the agenda. Ms. Cornejo summarized the services each of the vendors provide and the funds used to cover costs. Commissioners Butter, Ramon, Lindsay, and Varlack asked related questions.

8-C Rules and Procedures

President Dieter said the commission's rules and procedures document needs to be updated. A motion to form a new Rules and Procedures ad hoc committee composed of Commissioners Dieter and Henderson was made by Commissioner Ramon, seconded by Commissioner Varlack and passed 10 to 1, with Commissioner Wagner abstaining.

8-C Selection of Liaison to Help Onboard New Commissioners

A motion to select Commissioner Lindsay to become the new Liaison of the commission was made by Commissioner Varlack, seconded by Commissioner Ritzie-Hernandez and passed unanimously.

9 Special Report from the ROV (video time 1:09)

Ms. Cornejo explained recently chaptered laws affecting elections that were attached to the agenda. Commissioners asked clarifying questions.

10 Public Comment on Agenda or Non-agenda Items

One public comment was made on an agenda item.

11 Adjournment

The meeting ended at 5:40 p.m.

ELECTION COMMISSION MEETING – May 21, 2026

Agenda Item #7 – Registrar of Voters Monthly Report

1. Elections:

a. June 2, 2026, Direct Primary Election (State and Countywide election)

- Important Dates (available online at <https://acvote.alamedacountyca.gov/election-information/elections?id=259> or in the Voter Information Guide, and the direct mailer)
 - First Day of Mailing Voter Information Guide – April 23, 2026
 - First Day of Mailing Vote-by-Mail Ballots – May 4, 2026
 - First Day of Early Voting – May 4, 2026 (at the Registrar of Voters Office)
 - 24-Official Drop Boxes Open for Voting – May 4, 2026
 - Close of Registration – May 18, 2026
 - 10-Day Vote Centers Open – May 23, 2026 (20 vote centers)
 - 4-Day Vote Centers Open – May 30, 2026 (80 voter centers)
 - Election Day – Tuesday, June 2, 2026

b. June 16, 2026, 14th Congressional District, Special Primary Election:

- Important Dates (available online at <https://acvote.alamedacountyca.gov/election-information/elections?id=261> Or in the Voter Information Guide, and the direct mailer)
 - First Day of Mailing Voter Information Guide – May 7, 2026
 - First Day of Mailing Vote-by-Mail Ballots – May 18, 2026
 - First Day of Early Voting – May 4, 2026 (at the Registrar of Voters Office)
 - 24-Official Drop Boxes Open for Voting – May 18, 2026
 - Close of Registration – June 1, 2026
 - 10-Day Vote Centers Open – June 6, 2026 (7 vote centers)
 - 4-Day Vote Centers Open – June 13, 2026 (7 voter centers)
 - Election Day – Tuesday, June 16, 2026
- Direct Messaging to Voters
 - Voter Information Guide includes direct messaging to voters
 - Cover identifies “This Is a Separate Election”
 - A memo in this guide informs voters about the purpose of the election and clarifies that it is separate from the Statewide Primary Election. It also provides contact information for the Registrar of Voters Office for questions or additional information.
 - Additional pages reminding voters of the deadlines and information regarding the election and voting.
 - Vote by Mail Ballot Package
 - Direct messaging “Separate Election”
 - Memo to voters (same as the Voter Guide)
 - Additional information reminding voters of deadlines and information regarding the election and voting.

Attachment for Agenda Item #8-A(4) - Rules and Procedures

In preparation of introducing changes to the commission's rules and procedures at a future commission meeting, the following provisions will be discussed:

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rosenberg's Rules of Order, which the Elections Commission follows, state that when commissioners are finished asking clarifying questions on an introduced agenda item, the chair should allow public comments. After public comments are heard on that item, the commission would begin its deliberations. However, the commission has been hearing public comments on all agenda items collectively en masse before any item has been introduced. The commission will discuss the following:

- Should the commission try to follow Rosenberg's Rules by hearing public comments on each agenda item before deliberations or should the commission create a special rule?
- Should non-agenda public comments be heard alone near the beginning or end of the meeting?
- Pending ITD capabilities, should written public comments on agenda items received by a certain time be posted with the agenda so that the public is aware of all the materials commissioners received to make decisions?
- Should the time limit for *all* oral public comments be limited to two minutes unless otherwise directed by the chair based on the number of speakers?

Below is a sampling of how jurisdictions within the county handle public comments:

Alameda

- non-agenda comments are heard early on the agenda and may be made only in person.
- agenda item comments are heard as each item is taken up.

Albany

- non-agenda comments are heard early on the agenda.
- agenda item comments are heard as each item is taken up.

Berkeley

- non-agenda comments are heard early on the agenda.
- agenda item comments are heard on the "Consent or Information" items all at once and again on "Action" items as each item is taken up.

Fremont

- non-agenda comments are heard early on the agenda and may be made only in person.
- agenda item comments are heard as each item is taken up.

Oakland

Electronic speaker cards must be submitted 24 hours before the scheduled meeting start time.

- non-agenda comments are heard alone at the end of the meeting.
- agenda item comments are heard at the time each action item is taken up.

San Leandro

- non-agenda items are heard early on the agenda.
- agenda item comments are heard as each item is taken up.

Union City

- non-agenda items are heard early on the agenda, and only in person.
- agenda item comments are heard as each item is taken up, and only in person.

Alameda County Board of Supervisors

- non-agenda items are heard at the end of the meeting
- agenda item comments are heard early on the agenda except for closed session items and for set calendar items where comments are heard separately on each.

Eden Area Municipal Advisory Council

- non-agenda items are heard early on the agenda and only in person.
- agenda item comments are heard as each item is taken up.

Special District: East Bay Regional Park District

- non-agenda items are heard early on the agenda.
- agenda item comments are heard as each item is taken up.

*NOTE - Some of the jurisdictions that have a limited time allotted for the non-agenda items early on the agenda allow for another time slot at the end for any remainder of speakers who were not called upon in the queue lineup. Speaking times vary from two to three minutes. (Starting July 1, 2026, remote oral public participation via Zoom or telephone will be required.) Many jurisdictions also note that any written public comments received by a certain time (e.g., before noon on the meeting day) will be compiled into files by agenda item number and posted online with the agenda packet.

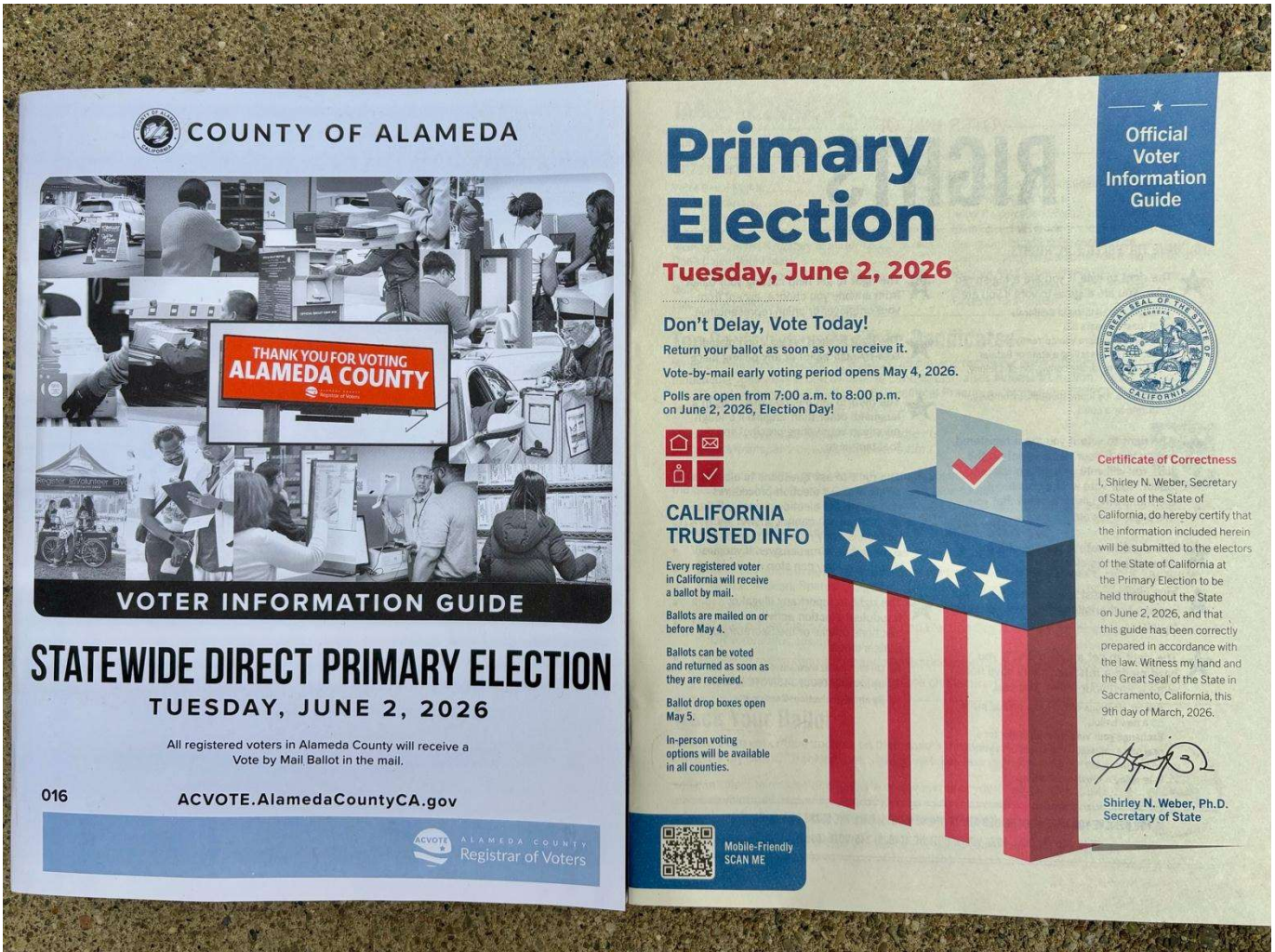
2. FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The county ordinance states: “The commission shall meet monthly” but “no less than ten times per year,” recognizing that sometimes a meeting might be cancelled for unforeseen circumstances, such as the meeting day falls on a holiday, lack of a quorum, or for another cause. The commission’s current procedure of scheduling only 10 meetings a year preemptively cancels two meetings every year. The commission will discuss deleting that provision in the rules.

3. BROWN ACT SCENARIOS

County counsel and the president of the commission are available to answer any commissioner questions on the Brown Act. The rules and procedures also provide a link to training videos covering Brown Act scenarios. Is it necessary or helpful, or does it cause problems or confusion, to include three pages of possible Brown Act scenarios in the rules and procedures? Plus, references to the Brown Act are mentioned excessively throughout the rules. The commission will discuss deleting some of these Brown Act references.

The ROV will give an overview of the differences between the state and county voter guides. Commissioners are asked to bring their voter guides from home and be prepared to discuss the strengths and weaknesses, which will inform our post-election assessment.



See below for what is inside each voter guide

at-a-glance

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Page identifier</u>
Returning Your Ballot	IFC
Folding Instructions	
24-hour Ballot Drop Box Locations	
Return by Mail – No Postage Necessary	
In-person Voting Available	
Ballot Drop Stop Tour	
ACVote on the Go	
Don't Wait! Vote Now	DWF
24-hour official ballot drop box locations	24HDBL-1 thru 3
Trusted Election Information	TEI
Top Two Open Primary Act	TOP-2
Political Party Endorsements	PARTY
Proposition 34 Information	PROP34
Candidate Party Preference History for the last 10 Years*	PPH-1 thru 10
Don't Wait! Vote Now!	EARLY
Language Assistance	LANG-1 thru 9
Information for Voters with Disabilities	VWD-1 thru 2
ACVOTE On The Go	OTG
Ways to Vote	VCA-1 thru 2
Ballot Drop Stop Tour	BDS
How to Mark Your Ballot and Folding Instructions	VIN
Sample Ballot	BT116
Ballot Will Call	WILL-VIG
Candidate's Statements	
United States Representative 12th Congressional District	CD12-1
Member of the State Assembly 18th Assembly District	AD18-1
Judicial Superior Court Judge, Office #13	SJ13-1
Judicial Superior Court Judge, Office #19	SJ19-1
County Supervisor, 3rd District	BOS3-1
County District Attorney, Short Term	DAST-1
Convenient 24-hour official ballot drop box, Don't Wait! Vote Now!	24HR
Peralta Community College District Measure A	PCCMA-1 thru 4
Don't Wait! Vote Now!	DWB
Return postcard for election language materials and "Become an election worker"	IBC

at-a-glance
CALIFORNIA VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Page</u>
Voter Bill of Rights	2
Table of contents	3
Top Contributors to State Candidates	3
Visit the Secretary of State's Website	3
Track Your Ballot	3
Message from the Secretary of State	4
Don't Delay, Vote Today! [with instructions]	5
Quick Facts for the June 2, 2026, Primary Election	6
Elections in California, Voter-Nominated Offices, Nonpartisan Offices	7
Information About Candidate Statements – Statewide Constitutional Offices	8-9
Candidate Statements	10-56
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Lieutenant Governor	
Secretary of State	
Controller	
Treasurer	
Attorney General	
Insurance Commissioner	
Board of Equalization	
Superintendent of Public Instruction	
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Warning: Electioneering Prohibited!	59
Warning: Corrupting the Voting Process is Prohibited!	59
California Voter ID & Registration Requirements	60
Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail System FAQs	61
Assistance for Voters with Disabilities	62
Dates to Remember!	63

Attachment for Agenda Item #8-D - **General Administration**

On May 12, the Board of Supervisors authorized the Registrar of Voters to sign two agreements with the Secretary of State dealing with cybersecurity and voting systems replacement. The ROV will describe both.

(a) \$206,324.38 to enter the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Cybersecurity Program for the retroactive period of 7/1/2025 (or upon approval) to 12/31/2026. Cybersecurity activities include the improvement and enhancement of county cybersecurity, physical security, security and privacy awareness training, and incident response. The HAVA Cybersecurity Program will assist the Registrar of Voters with complying with election security improvements.

(b) \$481,864.48 to enter the "Voting System Replacement Contract 2025" program for eligible reimbursement of funds for voting system replacement activities, for the retroactive term 7/1/2025 (or upon approval) to 8/31/2026. Purchases includes a system that supports Ranked-Choice Voting, Remote Access Vote by Mail system for disabled voters, all tabulation equipment, accessible equipment, telecommunication technologies to facilitate electronic connection, for the purpose of voter registration, between polling places, vote centers, and the office of the county elections official or the Secretary of State's office, Ballot On Demand system and hardware, Vote by mail ballot sorting and processing equipment, and the replacement or enhancement of a county Election Management System. Invoices submitted to the Secretary of State by September 30, 2026, can receive reimbursement of up to \$481,864.48. As such, all reimbursement funds will be returned to the Capital Fund.

2026 ACY Youth Voice Leadership Program Launch Plan: Youth Voice Leaders



Mission Statement

- The Alameda County Community Engagement Team is seeking to increase youth voter engagement by creating the **ACYouthVoice Leadership Program** to train and deputize students.
- **ACYouthVoice Leaders** are enabled to seek out their peers to pre-register and to vote, as well as help recruit Student Election workers during an election cycle.



Empowering Students to Become Future Voters and Civic Leaders

❤️ 800,988 likes

acvote Our newest registered voter! 🗳️ 🇺🇸 👍
#registertovote #volunteer #yourvoteyourvoice
#readsetvote #followus #acvote

Engaging Students



Build School Partnerships

Our team will partner with schools within Alameda County to select and train the selected **ACYouthVoice Leaders** at each school

Train Student Leaders

Students can be trained in person or via a virtual meeting

Activate Youth Voices

Following training will be deputized at the Rene C. Davidson courthouse

Cultivating Civic Ownership

In Communities

- Young people who experience a strong civic culture in school are significantly more likely to collaborate, problem -solve, and drive meaningful change in their communities.

In the Classroom

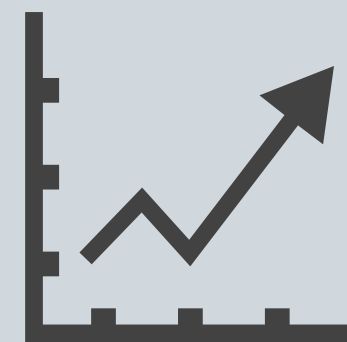
- 1 in 5 youth who did not vote in 2022 reported lacking sufficient information about candidates and the voting process.
- The **ACYouthVoice Leadership Program** addresses this gap by equipping students with the knowledge and opportunities to engage in hands-on civic learning and electoral participation.



Youth voting in Berkeley and Oakland Unified School Districts



- **ACYouthVoice Leadership Program** aims to increase awareness and education among students who can vote in School Board Elections



- **One in Five Youth Had Trouble Registering:** 21% of youth who did not register to vote (9%), said that they didn't know how to register (8%) missed the registration deadline, or (4%) had trouble with their voter registration application

Student ACVOTE Merch

ACYouthVoice Leaders should be given merch they can use as a symbol of pride



Selecting The ACY Youth Voice Leaders

Our team will be partnering with high school staff such as college counselors, History, English and Government teachers to identify students who are interested in becoming part of the **ACY Youth Voice Leadership Program**.

Teachers will be encouraged to give additional incentives for students within the program.



ACYouthVoice Key Milestones

April High School Voter Education Weeks

- Introduce program launch to schools to gather interested students
- Give virtual class to prospective students
- Hold registration drive during high school voter education week as an example for prospective **ACYouthVoice Leaders**
- Deputize Youth Voice Leaders so they may go on to hold their own registration drives

September High School Voter Education Weeks

- Work with Youth Voice Leaders to put on registration drives
- Identify next generation of **ACYouthVoice Leaders**

Program Goals

The Community Engagement team aims to grow the **ACYouthVoice Leadership Program** to include **ACYouthVoice Leaders** from every major high school within Alameda County to give students a greater sense of ownership in the voting process and community





Thank You

from the Alameda
County Registrar of
Voters Outreach Team



(510) 272-6963



ACVOTE.AlamedaCountyCA.gov



ROV_Outreach@acgov.org



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