

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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NEWS RELEASE





Date: October 6, 2025 **Contact:** Rita Sanchez

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INFORMATION ON THE NOV. 4 SPECIAL ELECTION

Voters are now receiving election materials for the November 4, 2025, Statewide Special Election in their mailboxes. This special election's ballot includes Proposition 50 (Congressional Redistricting), and for voters in the City of Santa Cruz, Measures B (Workforce Housing and Climate Protection Act of 2025) and C (Workforce Housing Affordability Act of 2025).

Ballots have been mailed to all active registered voters in Santa Cruz County.

Additionally, State and County Voter Information Guides have been mailed to registered voters. The County Voter Information Guide and Sample Ballot booklet is printed on white paper with the County Clerk seal at the top. The guide includes important information about voting as well as information on local measures. The State Voter Information Guide is sent to each household by the California Secretary of State. This guide is printed on newsprint and contains the information on Proposition 50 – Congressional Redistricting.

Returning your ballot

Inside the vote-by-mail packet, voters will find their ballot, a postage paid return envelope, and instructions on how to mark their choices and how to return the ballot. The ballot you receive in the mail can be returned in one of three ways:

- By mail using the postage paid return envelope. If you plan to mail it in after October 30, taking it into a post office to get it hand-postmarked is recommended.
- At a secure official drop box. There are 21 drop boxes <u>located throughout</u> the county.

• In person at any vote center (see below). Return your ballot at any inperson voting location. Just sign in with staff and proceed to the ballot box. Your ballot will be processed quickly and be part of Election Night results.

While ballots are being mailed to all voters, in-person voting locations will be available. Voters may go to one of these locations and:

- Vote a ballot in person, which will void the ballot that was mailed to you.
- Return the ballot that was mailed to you not sealed in the return envelope.
 This requires you to check in with staff before depositing it in the ballot box.
- Return the ballot that was mailed to you sealed in the return envelope.
- Obtain a replacement vote by mail ballot to take with you.
- Use the tablet to vote on an accessible ballot or a ballot in Spanish.
- Register and vote on the same day.

The following in-person voting locations will be open on October 6, 2025:

- Santa Cruz Santa Cruz County Clerk/Elections, 701 Ocean St., Room 310.
- Watsonville Watsonville City Clerk's Office, 275 Main St., 4th Floor.
- Watsonville South County Government Center, 500 Westridge Dr.

One additional in-person voting location will open October 25 and another 15 locations will be open November 1. Four additional "pop up" locations will open on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4, 2025.

In-person voting services are also provided at our Votemobile. Santa Cruz County has a mobile voting trailer that will be traveling throughout the county providing voter services. Check www.votescount.santacruzcountyca.gov for more information on the Votemobile, vote center, and drop box locations.

Voters may also drop off sealed ballots inside at one of the locations below during business hours (or authorize someone you trust to return it):

- County Elections: 701 Ocean St., Room 310, Santa Cruz
- Santa Cruz City Clerk: 809 Center St., Santa Cruz
- Capitola City Clerk: 420 Capitola Ave., Capitola
- Watsonville City Clerk: 275 Main St., 4th Floor, Watsonville
- Watsonville Public Library: 275 Main St. Ste. 100, Watsonville

Additional Information

Voters with disabilities and others who are unable to access a voting location may now do accessible voting from their home computers. Please visit votescount.santacruzcountyca.gov and click on "Voting Options" for more information.

No ballots will be accepted after 8 p.m. on Election Day unless there are voters in line or the time for closing of the polls has been extended by court order.

The last day to register to vote and have your ballot mailed to you for the November 4, 2025, election is October 20. Voters can register online at <u>registertovote.ca.gov</u> or pick up a card at any post office, library, city hall or county elections office. Voters can ask for a card to be mailed to them by calling (831) 454-2060.

Election results will be posted to <u>votescount.santacruzcountyca.gov</u> on November 4, 2025, after 8 p.m. As a reminder, counting votes including late-arriving mail ballots often takes several days, and initial returns do not indicate final results. Elections results will be certified on December 2, 2025.

If you have any questions or to receive elections materials in another language, please contact the Santa Cruz County Clerk/Elections Department at info@votescount.santacruzcountyca.gov or call (831) 454-2060. For voter registration questions call (831) 454-3389.