



County of San Luis Obispo

051

November 5, 2024,
General Election


VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE


Your **OFFICIAL VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT** is included with this Voter Information Guide and is accompanied by a postage-paid return envelope. This will be your only official mailing from the County.

THE VOTE-BY-MAIL PERIOD BEGINS NOW. As soon as you are ready, return your VBM ballot and **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD EARLY!**

Return your Vote-by-Mail ballot during the voting period of October 7th through **8:00 pm** on November 5th.

You can return your ballot by:

 **Mail.** Be sure it is post-marked **on or before Election Day.** No postage necessary.

 **In person** at any **Elections Office, Vote Center, Polling Place, or Official VBM Ballot Drop Box** located in the State of California. The location of drop boxes in San Luis Obispo County can be found on the Vote-by-Mail instructions included with your guide or at www.slovote.com.

Prefer to vote at your designated **polling location** between 7:00 am and 8:00 pm on Election Day?

To do that, please **bring your un-voted Vote-by-Mail ballot AND its return envelope** with you to surrender at your polling place.

The location of your polling place is listed at the top of your Vote-by-Mail ballot.

Questions?

SLO County Elections Office



(805) 781-5228



elections@co.slo.ca.us



www.slovote.com



[slocountyclerkrec](https://www.facebook.com/slocountyclerkrec)



[slovote](https://www.instagram.com/slovote)



GP051

VBMFC

051

SL 051-001

IMPORTANT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU VOTE

The office of California U.S. Senator has TWO separate contests on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot. You may vote on both. The first contest is the regular election for the full 6-year term of office beginning on January 3, 2025 (the full term).

The second contest is a special vacancy election, since the current officeholder is temporarily filling the vacancy. This contest is for the remainder of the term ending on January 3, 2025 (the partial/unexpired term).

TOP TWO CANDIDATES

The Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act requires that all candidates for a voter-nominated office be listed on the same ballot. Voter-nominated offices include state legislative offices, U.S. congressional offices, and state constitutional offices.

In both the open primary and general elections, you can vote for any candidate regardless of what party preference you indicated on your voter registration form. In the primary election, the two candidates receiving the most votes—regardless of party preference—move on to the general election. If a candidate receives a majority of the vote (at least 50 percent + 1), a general election still

must be held. California's open primary system doesn't apply to candidates running for U.S. President, county central committee, or local offices.

In a direct primary, voters directly select their preferred candidate for a particular political party to run in the general election. This means that each voter can vote for their chosen candidate, and the one with the most votes becomes the party's nominee.

On the other hand, voting for electors, such as in the presidential election in CA, involves voters choosing *electors* who are pledged to a specific candidate. Each state, including CA, has a specific number of electors based on its representation in Congress (the sum of its Senators and Representatives).

ELECTIONS IN CALIFORNIA

VOTER-NOMINATED OFFICES

Political parties are not entitled to formally nominate candidates for voter-nominated offices at the primary election. A candidate nominated for a voter-nominated office at the primary election is the nominee of the people and not the official nominee of any party at the general election.

A candidate for nomination to a voter-nominated office shall have their qualified party preference, or lack of qualified party preference, stated on the ballot, but the party preference designation is selected solely by the candidate and is shown for the information of the voters only. It does not mean the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party designated, or that there is an affiliation between the party and candidate, and no candidate nominated by the voters shall be deemed to be the officially nominated candidate of any political party.

The parties may submit a list of the candidates for voter-nominated offices who have received the party's official endorsement (see the Political Party Endorsements page).

NON-PARTISAN OFFICES

Political parties are not entitled to nominate candidates for nonpartisan offices at the primary election, and a candidate at the primary election is not the official nominee of any party for the specific office at the general election.

A candidate for nomination to a nonpartisan office may not designate their party preference, or lack of party preference, on the ballot. The top two vote-getters at the primary election move on to the general election for the nonpartisan office.

Any candidate for a nonpartisan office who receives a majority of the vote (at least 50 percent + 1) in the primary election will be elected to that office and the contest will not appear on the ballot for the general election.

Any voter may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated office, if they meet the other qualifications required to vote for that office. The top two vote-getters at the primary election move on to the general election for the voter-nominated office, even if both candidates have specified the same party preference designation.



ELECTIONS IN CALIFORNIA

REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST-TIME VOTERS

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requires first-time federal voters to show identification prior to voting.

Unless you already provided it, you will be required to show your current valid photo I.D. and/or a copy of one of the following that shows your name and address when you go to the polls on Election Day: current utility bill, bank statement, government check, government paycheck, or a government document.

You will be required to send a copy of one of the above documents with your voted Vote-by-Mail ballot. If you have questions about your status as a first-time voter, please contact the Elections Office.

WHY YOUR BALLOT WOULD NOT BE COUNTED

Your voice is important. The Elections Office makes every effort to ensure that each vote cast is counted. That said, the following are reasons that a ballot would NOT be counted:

1. The ballot is not postmarked by November 5 and/or does not arrive within 7 days after Election Day.

2. The VBM return envelope is not signed.

3. The signature on the VBM return envelope does not match any signature in the voter's record.



4. The ballot is returned without the VBM return envelope.

5. There are multiple ballots in one VBM return envelope.

VBM CURE PROCESS

The law requires the Elections Office to send a letter and verification form to voters who forgot to sign their return envelope or whose signature did not match their signatures on file.

In order for these ballots to be counted, voters must sign and return their form prior to the deadline, which is two days before the election is certified.

WHY VOTE NOW?

Because VBM ballots received before Election Day are counted and included in the Election Night results

But don't worry: Every VBM ballot postmarked correctly and received within 7 days of the election will be counted

POLITICAL PARTY ENDORSEMENTS

Parties may provide a list of candidates who have received the official endorsement of the party for printing in this booklet.

Contest	American Independent	Democratic	Republican
President and Vice President of the United States	No endorsement	Kamala D. Harris and Tim Walz	No endorsement
U.S. Senator, full term	No endorsement	Adam B. Schiff	No endorsement
U.S. Senator, partial term	No endorsement	Adam B. Schiff	No endorsement
U.S. Representative, 19th District	Jason Michael Anderson	Jimmy Panetta	Jason Michael Anderson
U.S. Representative, 24th District	Thomas Cole	Salud Carbajal	Thomas Cole
State Senator, 17th District	No endorsement	John Laird	Tony Virrueta
State Senator, 21st District	Elijah Mack	S. Monique Limón	Elijah Mack
State Assembly, 30th District	Dalila Epperson	Dawn Addis	Dalila Epperson
State Assembly, 37th District	Sari M. Domingues	Gregg Hart	Sari M. Domingues



My voter registration changed, even though I didn't make an update. What's going on?

We sometimes hear this question from people who don't realize that their voter registration can be updated as part of DMV processes. So, if you find your registration is different from what you remember, it may have been updated during a DMV transaction. If you give us a call, we can look it up and verify that for you.

ELECTION SAFETY AND SECURITY

California's election systems are extremely safe and secure, and all 58 counties have a proven track record of conducting accessible and accurate elections. The California Secretary of State's Office makes this possible by overseeing one of the most extensive voting system testing and certification programs in the nation.

Unfortunately, misinformation about elections is widespread, and it continues to confuse voters and lead to distrust in the process.

The fact remains that the Elections Office in San Luis Obispo County carefully follows statewide elections code and takes many steps to ensure election security locally, including making the processing and counting of ballots publicly observable.

Remember that your Elections Office is your best source for timely, accurate, and trustworthy election information. You can find us anytime at slovote.com, where we have a #TrustedInfo2024 page, or feel free to reach out to us at (805) 781-5228 or elections@co.slo.ca.us.

Have misinformation to report? Contact the Secretary of State at votensure@sos.ca.gov.

CALIFORNIA ELECTION SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

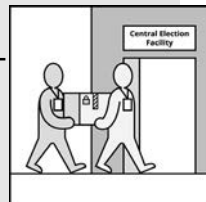
There are a number of steps that we take to ensure your vote is safe and secure throughout the election. Here are a few examples:

- County voting systems are not connected to the Internet, and all ballots are paper.
- Only authorized staff have access to systems relevant to their role.
- We conduct routine threat monitoring, vulnerability scanning, and security assessments in collaboration with our state and federal partners.

CHECK YOUR VOTER STATUS ONLINE

VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov

- VoteCal is a centralized statewide voter registration database. VoteCal checks against official records and is regularly updated.
- Ballot drop boxes are secured and monitored.
- Signatures are verified on all Vote-by-Mail envelopes.
- Ballots remain in dual (two-person) custody at all times.



HOW YOUR VOTE IS COUNTED

Polling places close at 8:00 pm on Election Night, but it can take a few hours for all locations to report results, and weeks before the final totals are known. Ever wondered why? Here's a quick look at what happens to your ballot after you cast it.

ELECTION NIGHT

The first results are posted shortly after 8:00 pm—these are the Vote-by-Mail ballots that were returned and processed early, prior to Election Day.

After that, we must wait for the first of the polling places across the county to complete their paperwork, pack up their supplies, and return the ballots; this can take more than an hour.

As polling places report in, their results are tabulated and compiled into countywide results. The posted results are updated periodically throughout the night at www.slovote.com.

When all polling places have reported, the Election Night counting is done; however, there are still more ballots to count and a lot more work to do before the results become official (see below).

BALLOTS COUNTED AFTER ELECTION DAY

Vote-by-Mail Ballots Received After the First Weekend in November: Vote-by-Mail ballots that arrive the

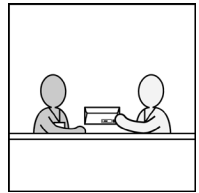
day before or on Election Day (either by mail, returned at a polling place, or deposited in an official ballot drop box) are processed and counted in the days after Election Day and therefore are **not** included in the Election Night results posted.

Postmarked Vote-by-Mail Ballots:

Under California law, ballots may be counted even if they arrive after Election Day, as long as they are received by mail no later than 7 days after the election and are postmarked on/before Election Day.

Missing or Mismatched Signature:

A voter's signature on the returned Vote-by-Mail identification envelope **must** compare with the signature(s) in the voter's registration record. If the voter did not sign the ballot envelope, or if the Elections Official has determined that the signature on the envelope does not match with the signature(s) of the voter in the voter's record, the Elections Office will provide the voter with the appropriate form to correct the missing or mismatched signature. This notice must be returned to the Elections Office no later than 2 days prior to the certification of the election.



Provisional

Ballots: These are the last ballots counted because they must be researched and verified. It may take a few weeks, but every valid vote will be counted.

TRACK YOUR BALLOT

and get updates from
WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov

WARNING: CORRUPTING THE VOTING PROCESS IS PROHIBITED

VIOLATIONS CAN LEAD TO FINES AND/OR IMPRISONMENT

IT IS PROHIBITED TO ENGAGE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

- DO NOT commit or attempt to commit election fraud.
- DO NOT bribe or provide any sort of compensation to, in any fashion, or by any means induce or attempt to induce, a person to vote or refrain from voting.
- DO NOT illegally vote.
- DO NOT attempt to vote or aid another to vote when not entitled to vote.
- DO NOT engage in electioneering; photograph or record a voter entering or exiting a polling place; or obstruct the entrance, exit, or parking.
- DO NOT challenge a person's right to vote or prevent voters from voting; delay the process of voting; or fraudulently advise any person that he or she is not eligible to vote or is not registered to vote.
- DO NOT attempt to ascertain how a voter voted their ballot.
- DO NOT possess or arrange for someone to possess a firearm in the immediate

vicinity of a polling place, with some exceptions per Elections Code 18544(b).

- DO NOT appear or arrange for someone to appear in the uniform of a peace officer, guard, or security personnel in the immediate vicinity of a polling place, with some exceptions per Elections Code 18544(b).
- DO NOT tamper or interfere with any component of a voting system.

The corruption of voting prohibitions summarized here are set forth in Articles 2, 3, and 4 of Chapter 6 of Division 18 of the California Elections Code.

- DO NOT forge, counterfeit, or tamper with the returns of an election.
- DO NOT alter the returns of an election.
- DO NOT tamper with, destroy, or alter any polling list, official ballot, or ballot container.
- DO NOT display any unofficial ballot collection container that may deceive a voter into believing it is an official collection box.

(continued on next page)

- DO NOT coerce or deceive a person who cannot read or an elder into voting for or against a candidate or measure contrary to their intent.
- DO NOT act as an election officer when you are not one.

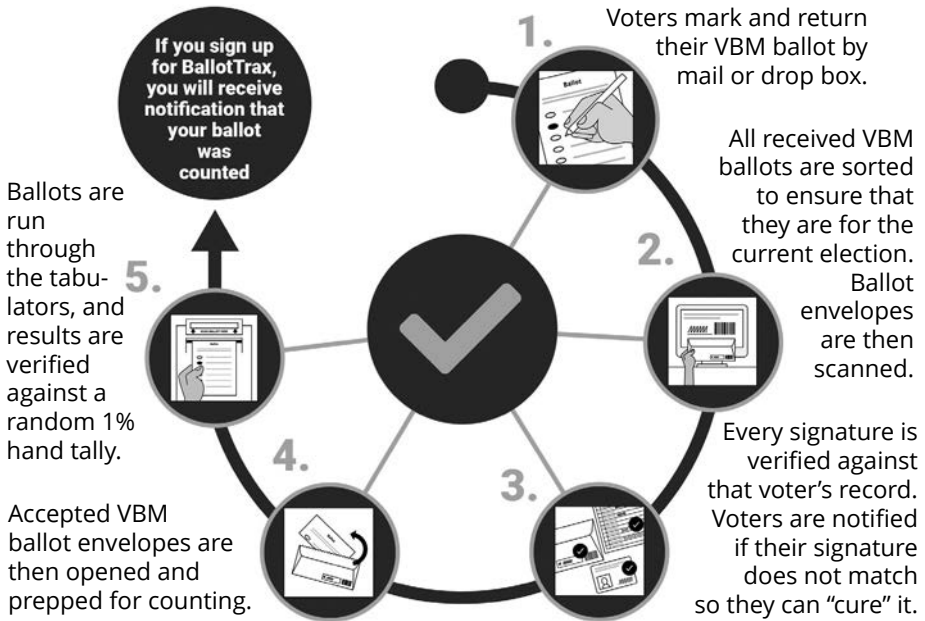
TRACK YOUR BALLOT
 through BallotTrax:
WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov

EMPLOYERS cannot require or ask their employee to bring their Vote-by-Mail ballot to work or ask their employee to vote their ballot at work. At the time of payment of salary or wages, employers cannot enclose materials that attempt to influence the political opinions or actions of their employees.

POLL WORKERS cannot attempt to determine how a voter voted their ballot or, if that information is discovered, disclose how a voter voted their ballot.

The prohibitions on activity related to corruption of the voting process summarized here are set forth in Chapter 6 of Division 18 of the California Elections Code.

A VOTE-BY-MAIL (VBM) BALLOT FROM VOTE TO TABULATION



ELECTIONEERING IS PROHIBITED

VIOLATIONS CAN LEAD TO FINES AND/OR IMPRISONMENT

WARNING: The following activities are prohibited within the immediate vicinity of a person in line to cast their ballot OR within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place, curbside voting, or official ballot drop box.

- DO NOT ask a person to vote for or against any candidate or ballot measure.
- DO NOT display a candidate's name, image, or logo.
- DO NOT block access to or loiter near any ballot drop boxes.
- DO NOT provide any material or audible information for or against any candidate or ballot measure near any polling place or official ballot drop box.
- DO NOT circulate any petitions, including for initiatives, referenda, recall, or candidate nominations.
- DO NOT distribute, display, or wear any clothing (hats, shirts, signs, buttons, stickers) that includes a candidate's name, image and/or logo, or that supports or opposes any candidate or ballot measure.
- DO NOT display information or speak to a voter about the voter's eligibility to vote.

The electioneering prohibitions summarized here are set forth in Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Division 18 of the California Elections Code.

OBSERVING ELECTIONS

The public is invited to participate as a poll watcher or election observer. Both roles provide important insight into the process.

Rules for conduct are outlined in the California Elections Code, and more information can be found online at www.slovote.com.

Poll watchers observe operations at polling locations on Election Day, while election observers check in at the County Elections Office and are then able to observe various steps in the ballot processing and tabulation process. In both cases, there may be space limitations that impact how many can participate.

LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE

As required by law, the County of San Luis Obispo offers facsimile ballots in the following languages and only for the precincts listed below:

Spanish

All Precincts

All Polling Places

Tagalog

Consolidated Precincts
304, 305, 306, and 408

To determine your Consolidated Precinct, please refer to the top left corner of your Vote-By-Mail ballot, which contains your precinct information (e.g., CON 403). Facsimile ballots and instructions will be provided upon request.

You can request to view the facsimile ballot for the language that is available at a polling place listed on your Voting Instructions included with your guide.

You can request a facsimile ballot in one of the languages available:

By Phone: 1-805-781-5228

By E-Mail:

elections@co.slo.ca.us

By Mail: 1055 Monterey Street,
Suite D120, San Luis Obispo, CA
93408

In Person: At the Clerk-Recorder's
Office at

1055 Monterey Street, D120, San
Luis Obispo or

6565 Capistrano Avenue (2nd
floor), Atascadero

Online: [www.slocounty.ca.gov/
LanguageAssistance](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/LanguageAssistance)

SPANISH-LANGUAGE BALLOT TECHNOLOGY

Accessible ballot-marking technology (ICX voting machines) provide a Spanish-language voting experience and are available at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office beginning October 7th, and at all polling places on Election Day, November 5th.

ASISTENCIA DE IDIOMA

Conforme lo exige la ley, el Condado de San Luis Obispo ofrece boletas electorales facsímiles en los siguientes idiomas y solo para los distritos electorales que se detallan a continuación:

Español

Todos los precintos
Todos los lugares de votación

Tagalo

Precintos consolidados 304, 305, 306, y 408

Para determinar cuál es su distrito precinto consolidado, consulte la esquina superior a la izquierda de su boleta electoral de voto por correo, que contiene la información de su precinto electoral (por ejemplo, CON 403). Se suministrarán, a petición, boletas electorales e instrucciones facsímiles. Puede solicitar ver la boleta electoral facsímil del idioma que se encuentre disponible en el lugar de votación que esta incluida en la página con instrucciones para el voto.

Puede solicitar una boleta electoral facsímil en uno de los idiomas disponibles:

Por teléfono:
1-805-781-5228

Por correo electrónico: elections@co.slo.ca.us

Por correo postal:
1055 Monterey Street, Suite D120
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Personalmente: En la Oficina del Secretario-Oficial de Registro en 1055 Monterey Street, D120, San Luis Obispo o 6565 Capistrano Avenue (2.º piso), Atascadero

En línea: www.slocounty.ca.gov/LanguageAssistance

TECNOLOGIA DE BOLETAS ELECTORALES EN IDIOMA ESPAÑOL

Con la tecnología para marcar boletas electorales (máquinas de votación ICX), brinda una experiencia de votación en español y se encontrarán disponibles en la Oficina del Secretario-Oficial de Registro del Condado a partir del 7 de Octubre, y en todos los lugares de votación el 5 de Noviembre, el día de la elección.

TULONG SA WIKA

Ayon sa ipinag-aatas ng batas, nagbibigay ang County ng San Luis Obispo ng mga kopya ng balota na nasa mga sumusunod na wika at para lang sa mga presintong nakalista sa ibaba:

Spanish

Lahat ng Presinto

Lahat ng Lugar na Botohan

Tagalog

Mga Pinagsama-samang Presinto (Consolidated Precinct) 304, 305, 306, and 408

Upang alamin kung ano ang inyong Pinagsama-samang Presinto, mangyaring sumangguni sa kaliwang sulok sa itaas ng inyong balota sa Pagboto sa Pamamagitan ng Koreo, na naglalaman ng impormasyon ng inyong presinto (ibig sabihin, CON 403).

Magbibigay ng mga kopya ng balota at tagubilin kapag hiniling. Maaari ninyong hilinging makita ang kopya ng balota para sa wikang ginagamit sa Lugar na Botohan, na nakalista sa inyong pahina sa mga Tagubilin sa Pagboto.

Maaari kayong humiling ng kopya ng balota sa isa sa mga wikang magagamit:

Sa Pamamagitan ng Telepono:
1-805-781-5228

Sa Pamamagitan ng E-Mail:
elections@co.slo.ca.us

Sa Pamamagitan ng Koreo: 1055 Monterey Street, Suite D120 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Sa Personal: Sa Tanggapan ng Klerk na Tagapagtala sa 1055 Monterey Street, D120, San Luis Obispo o 6565 Capistrano Avenue (ika-2 palapag), Atascadero

Online: www.slocounty.ca.gov/LanguageAssistance

TEKNOLOHIYA NG BALOTA SA WIKANG ESANYOL

Sa tulong ng nagagamit na teknolohiya sa pagmarka ng balota (mga ICX na makina sa pagboto), ang karanasan sa pagboto sa wikang Espanyol ay makakatulong sa mga botante sa pagpili at pagmarka sa kanilang mga balota. Magagamit ang mga ito sa tanggapan ng Klerk na Tagapagtala ng County simula ika-7 ng Oktubre, at sa lahat ng Lugar na Botohan sa ika-5 ng Nobyembre, Araw ng Halalan.

ASSISTANCE FOR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

San Luis Obispo County is committed to ensuring every voter can cast their ballot privately and independently. Below is detailed information about assistance offered to voters with disabilities.

Vote-by-Mail: Mark your ballot. Once completed, sign and seal your envelope. If you are unable to sign, make your mark and have a witness sign in the designated spot. Return your ballot by mail, or in person at any drop box, elections office, or polling site in California.

Vote at a Polling Place: On Election Day, you may choose up to two people to help you vote at any polling place or at the County Elections Office. This person cannot be your employer or anyone who works for your employer, your labor union leader, or anyone who works for your labor union.

- Accessible ballot-marking (ICX) machines are available at every polling place on Election Day and at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office beginning 29 days prior to the election. The ICX can mark a ballot in a number of ways and generate a paper ballot with a QR code for tabulating.

- Curbside Voting: If you arrive at a polling place and cannot get to the voting area, call for assistance: **1-805-781-1888**

- Voter Information Guides are available on the County Clerk-Recorder's website for use with personal accessible navigational tools and screen reader technology.

- Large print format of the County Voter Information Guide and of the state ballot measures is available upon request.

REMOTE ACCESSIBLE VOTE-BY-MAIL (RAVBM)

The Elections Office offers voters the use of a Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system that allows a voter to mark their selections on a personal computer, using their own compatible technology or assistive device(s) (screen readers, tactile switches, closed captioning, sip and puff system, etc.) as needed, to vote independently and privately in the comfort of their own home.

Other Assistance for Visually, Hearing, or Speech Impaired:

The Secretary of State's Office has a TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf) to provide elections information: **1-800-TDD-VOTE**

Contact the Elections Office for information at 1-805-781-5228.

VOTER INFORMATION SECTION

The following pages contain voter information applicable to your ballot, which may include any/all of the following:

- Candidates' Statements
- Ballot Measure(s)
- Impartial Analysis
- Fiscal Impact/Tax Rate Statement(s)
- Arguments and Rebuttals in Support Of or In Opposition To Ballot Measures

This section might not contain a statement for each candidate. A complete list of candidates you are eligible to vote for appears on your ballot.

Each candidate's statement in this pamphlet is volunteered by the candidate and is printed in English or English and Spanish at their expense. Each candidate's statement is printed in uniform format as submitted by the candidate.

Please note that all the statements printed in Spanish, at the candidates' request, follow the English statement for that candidate.

Still have questions about how to vote?

Check out our Frequently Asked Questions (Voter FAQs) online at www.slovote.com

Arguments in support of or in opposition to the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

Among all state legislative candidates appearing on the ballot in San Luis Obispo County, only the candidates listed on this page have pledged to abide by campaign spending limits as specified in California Government Code 85600.

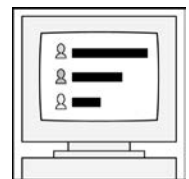
Candidates agreeing to the campaign spending limits also have the opportunity to have a Statement of Qualifications printed in this guide, at their own expense.

State Senate, 17th District:
John Laird
Tony Virrueta

State Senate, 21st District:
S. Monique Limón
Elijah Mack

State Assembly, 30th District:
Dawn Addis
Dalila Epperson

State Assembly, 37th District:
Sari M. Domingues



VOTER BILL OF RIGHTS



You have the right to vote if you are a registered voter. You are eligible to vote if you are: a U.S. citizen living in California; at least 18 years old; registered where you currently live; not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony; and not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court.



You have the right to vote if you are a registered voter, even if your name is not on the list. You will vote a provisional ballot. Your vote will be counted if elections officials determine that you are eligible to vote.



You have the right to vote if you are still in line when the polls close.



You have the right to cast a secret ballot without anyone bothering you or telling you how to vote.



You have the right to get a new ballot if, prior to casting your ballot, you believe you made a mistake. You can ask an election official at a polling place for a new ballot; exchange your Vote-by-Mail ballot for a new one at an elections office or at your polling place; or vote using a provisional ballot.



You have the right to get help casting your ballot from anyone you choose, except from your employer or union representative.



You have the right to drop off your completed Vote-by-Mail ballot at any polling place in California.



You have the right to get election materials in a language other than English if enough people in your voting precinct speak that language.



You have the right to ask questions to elections officials about election procedures and watch the election process. If the person you ask cannot answer your questions, they must send you to the right person for an answer. If you are disruptive, they can stop answering you.



You have the right to report any illegal or fraudulent election activity to an elections official or the Secretary of State's Office.

VOTER PROTECTION HOTLINE: 1-800-345-VOTE (8683)

CA Secretary of State: www.sos.ca.gov | elections@sos.ca.gov

SLO County Elections Toll-Free Number: 800-834-4636, ext. 5228

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, 24TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

SALUD CARBAJAL

Occupation: Member of Congress

Education and Qualifications: I'm Salud Carbajal, and I'm working to advance our Central Coast priorities in Congress. I grew up on the Central Coast. My father worked as a farmworker in Ventura County. I attended UCSB while working two jobs to become the first in my family to graduate from a university. I proudly served our country in the Marine Corps Reserves, and my community as Santa Barbara County Supervisor. My wife, Gina, and I raised our family here, and now are watching our grandchildren grow up here.

In Congress, I've focused on supporting hardworking families and growing the middle class. I helped pass laws that are creating jobs, investing in our infrastructure and clean energy, and lowering costs of living including housing and health care.

I'm still fighting to defend reproductive freedom and restore abortion access nationwide. And as an immigrant, I am committed to advancing overdue fixes to our broken immigration system and restoring order at our borders. I've worked on legislation that protects our environment, addresses climate change, bans new offshore drilling off our coastline, supports our veterans, and makes our communities safer by getting guns and deadly fentanyl off our streets. At a time when Washington dysfunction is at an all-time high, I've remained focused on finding common ground across the aisle to tackle homelessness, improve childcare availability, and prevent wildfires.

I would be honored to continue working for you in Congress. For more information, visit SaludCarbajal.com. I kindly ask for your vote. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR STATE SENATE, 17TH DISTRICT

JOHN LAIRD

Occupation: California State Senator, District 17

Education and Qualifications: It has been an honor to represent San Luis Obispo County. Over the past four years, I have visited every city hall, as well as parks, schools and special districts, and met with residents throughout the county. When atmospheric rivers slammed the Central Coast, I worked to get support to affected communities. When Cal Poly's Swanton Campus was decimated by fire, I worked to get the rebuilding fully funded. When Atascadero could not recover loans made for redevelopment, I worked to resolve the issue. I finished the bi-partisan effort to name a stretch of Highway 101 for Katcho Achadjian.

When the Governor wanted to extend the life of Diablo Canyon Power Plant, I worked to make sure local workers and businesses did not have to pay back their transition funds. I also ensured lands surrounding the plant are preserved, and that the Coastal Trail is extended into new areas of San Luis Obispo County. As Senator, I have authored 46 bills signed into law – including strengthening climate goals; improving fire prevention efforts; increasing sea level rise planning; requiring more efficient state buildings; and ensuring children of local fallen officers get the same survivor benefits as others. As Education Budget Subcommittee Chair, a substantial increase in public education funding was approved. I achieved restoration of UC's Cooperative Agriculture Extension – supporting local 4-H clubs and helping small farmers with needed technical help. There is much more to do. I'm energized and ready to continue contributing my experience, drive and commitment to serve San Luis Obispo County. I respectfully ask for your vote. www.LairdforCASenate.com

DECLARACIÓN DE CANDIDATURA PARA SENADOR DEL ESTADO, DISTRITO 17º

JOHN LAIRD

Occupación: Senador del Estado de California, Distrito 17

Educación y Cualificaciones: Ha sido un honor representar al Condado de San Luis Obispo. Durante los últimos cuatro años, he visitado todos los ayuntamientos, así como parques, escuelas y distritos especiales, y me he reunido con residentes de todo el condado. Cuando los ríos atmosféricos azotaron la Costa Central, trabajé para conseguir apoyo para las comunidades afectadas. Cuando el Campus Swanton de Cal Poly fue diezmado por un incendio, trabajé para conseguir la financiación completa para la reconstrucción. Cuando Atascadero no pudo recuperar los préstamos otorgados para la reurbanización, trabajé para resolver el problema. Terminé el esfuerzo bipartidista para nombrar un tramo de la Autopista 101 en honor a Katcho Achadjian.

Cuando el Gobernador quiso extender la vida útil de la Planta de Energía Diablo Canyon, trabajé para asegurarme de que los trabajadores y las empresas locales no tuvieran que devolver sus fondos de transición. También me aseguré de que las tierras que rodean la planta se preserven, y de que el Sendero Costero se extienda a nuevas áreas del Condado de San Luis Obispo. Como Senador, he sido autor de 46 proyectos de ley que se convirtieron en ley – incluidos el fortalecimiento de los objetivos climáticos; la mejora de los esfuerzos de prevención contra incendios; el aumento de la planificación del aumento del nivel del mar; la exigencia de edificios estatales más eficientes; y la garantía de que los hijos de los oficiales locales caídos obtengan los mismos beneficios para sobrevivientes que los demás. Como Presidente del Subcomité de Presupuesto de Educación, se aprobó un aumento sustancial en la financiación de la educación pública. Logré la restauración de la Extensión Agrícola Cooperativa de la UC – que brinda apoyo a los clubes 4-H locales y ayuda a los pequeños agricultores con la asistencia técnica necesaria. Hay mucho más por hacer. Me siento lleno de energía y listo para seguir aportando mi experiencia, dirección y compromiso para servir al Condado de San Luis Obispo. Con todo respeto le pido su voto. www.LairdforCASenate.com

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY, 30TH DISTRICT**

DAWN ADDIS

Age: 52

Occupation: State Assemblymember/Teacher

Education and Qualifications: Dear Neighbor,

It has been my honor to represent the Central Coast in the State Assembly since 2022. In this role, I've listened to local residents and worked hard to advance meaningful legislation and deliver our region's fair share of state funding. As your Assemblymember, I'm working to improve public schools, reduce homelessness, combat the climate crisis, and help Central Coast residents navigate the high costs of gas, groceries, insurance, and housing. I'm also working with legislators from both parties to address the fentanyl epidemic and ensure safe communities.

I serve as the State Assembly appointee to the California Ocean Protection Council. I have authored important legislation to expand paid parental leave, improve housing opportunities for community college students, and help victims of childhood sexual abuse.

Prior to my election to the legislature, I worked as a classroom teacher and educational program developer. I also served on a local City Council and helped co-found a 10,000-person women's march. My husband, Marcus, and I are the proud parents of two children. My campaign has been endorsed by groups who represent Central Coast firefighters, paramedics, nurses, law enforcement personnel, teachers, and grocery store workers.

I would be honored to earn your vote for State Assembly. If you have questions or thoughts about my campaign, please do not hesitate to call me at (805) 749-3751 or email me at Dawn@DawnAddis.org. www.DawnAddis.org

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY, 30TH DISTRICT**

DALILA EPPERSON

Age: 58

Occupation: Retired Nurse

Education and Qualifications: I am running for the California State Assembly to champion much needed educational reform for our children, support law enforcement and local business owners, and to advance personal liberties.

My goal is to create an environment where every family can thrive, a position I hold dear as a devoted mother, grandmother, wife, and as an entrepreneur.

I love our precious Central Coast and the families who call it home as I do. That's why I have long been a committed community member. This includes actively participating in school board meetings and standing strong as a voice for parents. I also supported the reopening of businesses that the government cruelly shut down by attending multiple Board of Supervisor and City Council meetings. I walk the walk!

Understanding the challenges of local business owners which is based on my experience owning two small businesses, my entrepreneurial spirit drives me to support local businesses and advocate for policies that foster a thriving economy, e.g., less regulations!

My firefighter husband, a Navy veteran, embodies bravery and dedication that inspires my journey in public service. I believe we can unite by pursuing liberty, prosperity and safety.

Vote for strength and common sense; Someone who will always stand strong and represent us all: vote for me, Dalila Epperson for State Assembly.

For more information about my campaign, please visit DalilaForAssembly.com

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER, TRUSTEE AREA NO. 1
Lucia Mar Unified School District**

PAUL BISCHOFF

Age: 55

Occupation: Home Builder

Education and Qualifications: I'm Paul Bischoff, and would be honored to have your vote for Lucia Mar School Board.

My future decisions as a trustee will be based on the ABCs

Academic excellence – student competency rates and test scores have been dropping over the last decade with no end in sight. I will make academic excellence a priority again.

Back to basics – the attention has moved away from teaching academics. I will vote for curricula that returns the focus to school subjects for school students.

Child & parent focused – students and their parents are frustrated and no longer feel heard. I will move to change the attitude and philosophy of the board so students and parents drive the decision-making.

In addition, I am a strong proponent of financial responsibility in government. To that end, I am opposed to the proposed bond the district has brought to the voters this election. Our community can't afford yet another bond. I will endeavor to have the district live within its means.

I hold a BS in Civil Engineering from UC Berkeley, and have owned my own home building business since 2000. My wife Jenny and I have been married for 31 years and have 3 children.

**DECLARACIÓN DE CANDIDATURA PARA
MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA GOBERNANTE, ÁREA DE SÍNDICO NO. 1
Distrito Escolar Unificado de Lucia Mar**

PAUL BISCHOFF

Edad: 55

Ocupación: Constructor de Viviendas

Educación y Cualificaciones: Soy Paul Bischoff, y sería un honor contar con su voto para la Junta Escolar de Lucia Mar.

Mis futuras decisiones como síndico se basarán en tres pilares fundamentales

Excelencia académica – los índices de competencia de los estudiantes y los resultados de las pruebas han ido cayendo durante la última década y no se vislumbra un fin. Haré que la excelencia académica sea una prioridad nuevamente.

Volver a lo básico – la atención se ha alejado de la enseñanza académica. Votaré a favor de planes de estudio que devuelvan la atención a las asignaturas escolares para los estudiantes.

Enfoque en los niños y los padres – los estudiantes y sus padres están frustrados y ya no se sienten escuchados. Voy a cambiar la actitud y la filosofía de la junta para que los estudiantes y los padres sean quienes dirijan la toma de decisiones.

Además, soy un firme defensor de la responsabilidad financiera en el gobierno. Por ese motivo, me opongo al bono propuesto que el distrito ha presentado a los votantes en estas elecciones. Nuestra comunidad no puede permitirse otro bono más. Me esforzaré para que el distrito viva dentro de sus posibilidades.

Tengo una Licenciatura en Ingeniería Civil de UC Berkeley, y he tenido mi propia empresa de construcción de viviendas desde el año 2000. Mi esposa Jenny y yo estamos casados desde hace 31 años y tenemos 3 hijos.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER, TRUSTEE AREA NO. 1
Lucia Mar Unified School District**

DON STEWART

Age: 61

Occupation: Educator/Lucia Mar Unified School District Trustee

Education and Qualifications: It has been a privilege to serve on the Lucia Mar School Board. As an educator and your Trustee I believe investment in a well-rounded public education provides children of all backgrounds a path to realizing their dreams. It is our hope for the future.

I am proud that we are leading the way to ensure our students receive a first-rate, 21st century education. In the past four years classrooms and facilities have been modernized; technology has been upgraded; library and counseling services have been expanded; and we have broadened and strengthened our college and career pathways.

There is still work to do. We need to deliver outstanding instruction while prioritizing the safety and well-being of our students and staff. A greater effort must be made to close the achievement gap in student learning. And we need to balance our budget in a way that allows Lucia Mar to continue to attract and retain the quality teachers that are the foundation for student success.

I have a proven track record of putting students first. I believe in high standards, accountability, and the responsible use of your tax dollars.

My telephone number is 805-556-8488. I would appreciate your vote by November 5th.

**DECLARACIÓN DE CANDIDATURA PARA
MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA GOBERNANTE, ÁREA DE SÍNDICO NO. 1
Distrito Escolar Unificado de Lucia Mar**

DON STEWART

Edad: 61

Ocupación: Educador/Síndico del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Lucia Mar

Educación y Cualificaciones: Ha sido un privilegio servir en la Junta Escolar de Lucia Mar. Como educador y su Síndico, creo que invertir en una educación pública integral ofrece a los niños de todos los orígenes un camino para hacer realidad sus sueños. Es nuestra esperanza para el futuro.

Estoy orgulloso de que estemos liderando el camino para garantizar que nuestros estudiantes reciban una educación de primer nivel, propia del siglo 21. En los últimos cuatro años se han modernizado las aulas y las instalaciones; se ha actualizado la tecnología; se han ampliado los servicios de biblioteca y asesoramiento; y hemos ampliado y fortalecido nuestros recorridos universitarios y profesionales.

Aún queda trabajo por hacer. Necesitamos ofrecer una enseñanza excelente y, al mismo tiempo, priorizar la seguridad y el bienestar de nuestros estudiantes y personal. Es necesario realizar un mayor esfuerzo para cerrar la brecha en el rendimiento del aprendizaje de los estudiantes. Y necesitamos equilibrar nuestro presupuesto de una manera que permita a Lucia Mar continuar atrayendo y reteniendo a los maestros calificados que son la base del éxito estudiantil.

Mi trayectoria comprueba que les doy prioridad a los estudiantes. Creo en los altos estándares, la responsabilidad, y el uso responsable de su dinero de impuestos.

Mi número de teléfono es 805-556-8488. Apreciaría su voto el 5 de Noviembre.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
MAYOR
City of Arroyo Grande**

CAREN RAY RUSSOM

Age: 56

Occupation: Mayor and High School Government / Economics / History Teacher

Education and Qualifications: I am proud to be your mayor. I have a long-proven record of reliable, civil, positive, common-sense leadership. You have watched me lead with kindness, poise, and professionalism: all increasingly rare in politics.

I have delivered a balanced budget, substantial reduction in unfunded liabilities, top-notch professional police and fire services, and city programs that are self-sustainable without taxpayer subsidies. I continually fight to support our small businesses, properly fund our roads, and care for our beloved Village. I have helped secure grant funding for large scale improvements like 50% federal grant funding for the Swinging Bridge repairs and 88% Caltrans funding for the upcoming Traffic Way Bridge replacement, saving millions of your hard-earned dollars.

I will work hard to bring more affordable housing to Arroyo Grande so our young adults can raise their families here with the small-town values we all cherish.

I am known countywide as a civil, consensus building representative who works for everyone. Local government is about service, and here in Arroyo Grande I continue to set an example of what small, effective, community-based leadership should look like. I would be honored to again have your vote.

Visit carenray.com, [@ag_mayor_caren_ray_russom](#) on IG, and [@Mayor Caren Ray Russom](#) on Facebook.

**DECLARACIÓN DE CANDIDATURA PARA
ALCALDE
Ciudad de Arroyo Grande**

CAREN RAY RUSSOM

Edad: 56

Occupación: Alcaldesa y Maestra de Escuela Secundaria en Gobierno / Economía / Historia

Educación y Cualificaciones: Me siento orgullosa de ser su alcaldesa. Tengo una trayectoria prolongada y comprobada de liderazgo confiable, civil, positivo, y de sentido común. Me han visto dirigir con amabilidad, equilibrio, y profesionalismo: cualidades cada vez más escasas en la política.

He logrado un presupuesto equilibrado, una reducción sustancial en los pasivos no financiados, servicios profesionales de policía y bomberos de primer nivel, y programas de la ciudad que sean autosustentables sin subsidios de los contribuyentes. Lucho continuamente para apoyar a nuestros pequeños negocios, financiar adecuadamente nuestras carreteras, y cuidar nuestro amado Pueblo. He ayudado a asegurar fondos de subvenciones para mejoras a gran escala, como el 50% de la financiación de subvenciones federales para las reparaciones del Swinging Bridge y el 88% de la financiación de Caltrans para el próximo reemplazo del Puente Traffic Way, ahorrando millones de los dólares que gana con tanto esfuerzo.

Trabajaré sin descanso para traer viviendas más asequibles a Arroyo Grande para que nuestros jóvenes adultos puedan criar a sus familias aquí con los valores del pueblo pequeño que todos apreciamos.

Soy reconocida en todo el condado como una representante civil, que busca el consenso y que trabaja para todos. El gobierno local se basa en el servicio, y aquí en Arroyo Grande continúo estableciendo un ejemplo de cómo debe ser un liderazgo pequeño, efectivo, y basado en la comunidad. Sería un honor contar con su voto nuevamente.

Visite carenray.com, [@ag_mayor_caren_ray_russom](#) IG, y [@Mayor Caren Ray Russom](#) en Facebook.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
MAYOR
City of Arroyo Grande**

GAEA POWELL

Age: 61

Occupation: Business Owner, Community Volunteer

Education and Qualifications: Arroyo Grande is my home. I will utilize my thirty years of business operations and marketing experience to preserve its heritage, charm, and cherished way of life, while strategically anticipating and proactively leveraging change, without raising taxes. This takes strong, common-sense leadership that welcomes dissenting views and robust debate to achieve optimal resolutions that best serve Arroyo Grande.

I will restore American values to Arroyo Grande by repealing discriminatory DEI policies, stopping millions in wasteful spending, and holding our leaders accountable by following the supreme law of the Constitution. The Constitution is a safeguard and guide that protects our freedoms, prosperity, safety, health, and happiness while addressing Federal, State, and local government overreach. It also protects Arroyo Grande's assets, resources, independence, and its citizens' fundamental liberties.

I am dedicated to fiscally responsible governing and creative solutions. I am determined to remove pornography from local schools and protect parental rights. Community goals are successfully accomplished through education, open dialogue, appreciation for those who have made great strides, as well as by encouraging passionate critical thinkers to join in that collaboration. Development must be thoughtful, artfully planned and managed to serve generations to come.

I ask for your vote, not campaign contributions. Vote4Gaea.com

**DECLARACIÓN DE CANDIDATURA PARA
ALCALDE
Ciudad de Arroyo Grande**

GAEA POWELL

Edad: 61

Ocupación: Propietaria de Empresa, Voluntaria de la Comunidad

Educación y Cualificaciones: Arroyo Grande es mi hogar. Utilizaré mis treinta años de experiencia en operaciones comerciales y marketing para preservar su patrimonio, su encanto, y su apreciada forma de vida, al tiempo que anticipo estratégicamente y aprovecho el cambio de manera proactiva, sin aumentar los impuestos. Esto requiere un liderazgo fuerte y con sentido común que acepte opiniones disidentes y un debate sólido para lograr resoluciones óptimas que beneficien de la mejor manera a Arroyo Grande.

Restauraré los valores Estadounidenses en Arroyo Grande derogando las políticas discriminatorias de DEI, deteniendo el gasto innecesario de millones de dólares, y haciendo que nuestros líderes rindan cuentas siguiendo la ley suprema de la Constitución. La Constitución es una salvaguarda y una guía que protege nuestras libertades, prosperidad, seguridad, salud, y felicidad, al tiempo que aborda los excesos del Gobierno Federal, Estatal, y local. También protege los activos, los recursos, la independencia de Arroyo Grande, y las libertades fundamentales de sus ciudadanos.

Me dedico a gobernar fiscalmente de manera responsable y a ofrecer soluciones creativas. Estoy decidida a eliminar la pornografía de las escuelas locales y proteger los derechos de los padres. Los objetivos de la comunidad se logran con éxito a través de la educación, el diálogo abierto, el reconocimiento de aquellos que han logrado grandes avances, y también alentando a pensadores críticos apasionados a unirse a esa colaboración. El desarrollo debe ser meditado, planificado ingeniosamente y gestionado para servir a las generaciones futuras.

No le pido contribuciones de campaña, le pido su voto. Vote4Gaea.com

**CITY OF ARROYO GRANDE
IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE E-24**

1% TRANSACTIONS AND USE (SALES) TAX FOR 10 YEARS

On May 28, 2024 the City Council unanimously voted to place Measure “E-24” on the November 5, 2024 general municipal election ballot. By placing Measure “E-24” on the ballot, the City complies with Article XIII C of the California Constitution (Proposition 218), which requires a majority of the voters to approve an ordinance that establishes a general tax.

If approved by a majority of Arroyo Grande voters, this Measure would authorize a one percent (1%) retail transactions and use (sales) tax within the City of Arroyo Grande. A one percent (1%) rate equates to an extra \$1 per \$100 purchased. It is estimated that Measure “E-24” will provide an additional \$6,000,000 in annual local funding that could be used for maintaining general City services such as repairing potholes, maintaining city streets, sidewalks, infrastructure, community facilities and parks; providing local fire protection, police, and 9-1-1 emergency services; cleaning up litter/graffiti, and addressing homelessness. This tax would be a “general tax,” meaning that revenues raised from the tax would go into the City’s general fund to pay for any lawful City program, improvement, or service.

California Revenue and Taxation Code section 7285.9 authorizes the City to levy a general transactions and use/sales tax at a rate of one percent (1%) so long as the tax is approved by a majority of the voters voting in an election on that issue. If approved, the tax would remain in effect for a period of 10 years and would sunset on March 31, 2035.

The tax would be paid in addition to current sales taxes and would be collected at the same time and in the same manner as existing sales taxes. All revenues raised by the tax would remain in the City and would not be shared with the State, County or any other agency.

A “yes” vote on Measure “E-24” will authorize the 1% transactions and use (sales) tax.

A “no” vote on Measure “E-24” will not authorize the 1% transactions and use (sales) tax.

s/ ISAAC ROSEN
City Attorney

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure “E-24”. If you desire a copy of the Measure, please call the City’s elections official at (805) 473-5418 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE E-24

Vote YES on Measure E-24 and Protect Arroyo Grande's Quality of Life!

Arroyo Grande residents have spoken. Recent surveys show nearly 90% agree our quality of life is good or excellent. And they want to keep it that way.

Our historic city is at a critical point in the maintenance of our roads, drainage systems and public buildings (most of which were built or installed well over 50 years ago). Now is the time to make necessary investments to ensure they don't reach the point where far more expensive repairs or replacement is necessary.

Measure E-24 is a cost effective way to retain our quality of life. A 1% sales tax increase will provide \$6 million annually. Even with the increase this rate will still be at or below our local communities and most cities in our state.

All the funds stay local, are controlled locally and benefit all residents, **with tourists paying a substantial share**. The measure has a 10-year sunset clause requiring another vote of the people to continue beyond 2035. The public will be kept informed and in control through a citizen oversight committee, independent audits and annual reporting.

A YES vote on Measure E-24 will:

- Support our Police and Fire to help ensure timely emergency responses
- Provide consistent funding for our streets, sidewalks and drainage systems (saving millions with prompt repairs before they become obscenely costly)
- Repair and upgrade our public parks and facilities

Investing in ourselves now will keep our community a great place for families and businesses to thrive for decades to come.

As citizens who care and want to invest in our community, we are united in our enthusiastic support of a 1% sales tax increase.

Please join us to invest in ourselves and our quality of life. Vote YES on Measure E-24.

s/ Carrol Pruet, Retired Banker, Long-Time Resident

s/ Stacy Bromley, Business Owner, Long-Time Resident

s/ Greg Cottrell, Founder / President of Rugged Radios

s/ Piper Adelman, Retired Librarian, Community Volunteer

s/ Keith Storton, Former Councilmember, Long-Time Resident

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE E-24

Big Taxes, Big Government

In January of 2021 the Arroyo Grande sales tax we paid on every dollar was 7.75 cents. The total inflation from January of 2021 to January of 2024 was 20.4%. Therefore, today we pay \$1.20 for the same purchase. When we multiply \$1.20 by 7.75% we get a sales tax of 9.3 cents compared to 7.75 cents in 2021. That is an increase of over 1.5%, and tax revenues to Arroyo Grande will continue to increase as inflation increases. Now Arroyo Grande wants another 1% increase in sales tax (Measure E-24). Sales tax increases have the greatest effect for those with fixed incomes and those working from paycheck to paycheck. Is this how our elected officials treat those in need? At a recent city council meeting members spoke of hiring new personnel if the 1% sales tax increase is approved. A NO vote on Measure E-24 will help to prevent the size of our local government from expanding and will shield us from another economic burden.

Also, the Lucia Mar USD wants to implement a bond to increase the assessed valuation of property owners (Measure H-24). That is in addition to the economic and psychological burdens of inflation, and the added sales tax because of inflation, and the proposed 1% increase in sales tax. Do the citizens of Arroyo Grande want more big taxes and big government?

s/ Jon Hoffmann, Citizen

REBUTTAL TO THE ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE E-24

The argument against infers the City of Arroyo Grande gets all the money from sales tax. Citizens need to know state law requires a sales tax of 7.25%. Of this, 6% goes to the State, .25% goes to the County and 1.0% goes to the Arroyo Grande General Fund. Most of this money leaves our community. With the citizen approval of Measure 0 in 2006 Arroyo Grande sees only 1.5% of our current 7.75% rate. For every \$10 spent that's only 15 cents that stays local.

Voting YES on E-24 is a proactive way to defeat rising costs, increasing our ability to fight inflation. Investing in our infrastructure TODAY will save millions of dollars in obscene costs into the future. This is fiscal responsibility, a smart investment and results in savings for all of us.

Very few decide to make their purchases based on a sales tax rate. But we do know a substantial amount of revenue is generated by tourists and nonresidents. They use our resources and should pay their fair share.

Measure E-24 funds ARE NOT designated for employee salaries or benefits. As specified in the ballot language funds are targeted to impact essential infrastructure needs.

Our current budget for infrastructure expenses cannot sustain the increasing costs and demands of quickly deteriorating conditions. A YES vote on E-24 will infuse Arroyo Grande with an extra \$6 million a year for immediate investment creating sustainable results.

Investing in ourselves is not "big government", its local control that protects our quality of life.

Vote YES on Measure E-24.

s/ Keith Storton, Former Councilmember

**NO REBUTTAL TO THE ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE E-24 WAS
SUBMITTED**

LUCIA MAR UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FULL TEXT OF MEASURE H-24

The following is the full proposition presented to the voters by the Lucia Mar Unified School District.

“To repair and improve aging neighborhood schools; fix deteriorating roofs, plumbing, electrical; remove asbestos/ lead pipes; repair, construct/ acquire classrooms, labs, sites, facilities and equipment; support student achievement and college/career readiness in math, science, technology, engineering, arts and skilled trades; shall Lucia Mar Unified School District's measure authorizing \$143,220,000 in bonds at legal rates be adopted, levying 2¢ per \$100 assessed value (\$9,030,000 annually) while bonds are outstanding, with citizen oversight, independent audits, and all money locally-controlled?”

PROJECT LIST

The Board of Education of the Lucia Mar Unified School District is committed to **improving the quality of education** in our local public schools by providing safe, secure, modern classrooms, labs and technology needed to support high quality instruction in math, science, engineering, technology and the skilled trades. To that end, the Board evaluated the District's urgent and critical facility needs, including safety issues, class size reduction, **basic repairs**, computer and information technology in developing the types of projects to be funded by this measure as described below.

In approving this Project List, the Board of Education determines that the District **must**:

- (i) **REPAIR or replace deteriorating roofs, plumbing, gas lines, sewer lines, heating, and electrical systems, where needed; and**
- (ii) **UPDATE the classrooms, facilities and technology needed to support high quality instruction in math, science, engineering, and technology; and**
- (iii) **REMOVE hazardous materials like asbestos and lead pipes from older schools, where encountered; and**
- (iv) **UPGRADE older schools so they meet current health codes, building safety codes, and provide proper access for students with disabilities; and**
- (v) **PROVIDE modern labs, career technical education facilities and equipment so students are prepared for college and in-demand careers in fields like health sciences, engineering, technology and skilled trades; and**
- (vi) **REPLACE aging portable classrooms that are expensive to repair and maintain with modern permanent classrooms.**

The Project List includes the following types of upgrades and improvements at District schools, facilities and sites:

UPGRADE AGING SCHOOLS, CLASSROOMS, LABS AND SCHOOL FACILITIES TO IMPROVE STUDENT PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE AND IN-DEMAND CAREERS

School Repair and Upgrade Projects

Goals and Purposes:

Most schools were built in the 1960s or earlier, are over 60 years old. Most classrooms, labs and school facilities have not been upgraded in over 20 years. For example, thousands of students attend class in 93 portable classrooms that are decades old, are falling apart and most have structural damage or water leaks. Older schools have hazardous materials like asbestos and lead pipes. Most schools do not meet current health codes, building safety codes or provide full access for students with disabilities. This measure will remedy these problems.

All money raised by this measure will stay local to support our students and cannot be taken by the State or used for other purposes.

- **Remove hazardous materials like asbestos and lead pipes from older school sites**, where encountered.
- **Replace aging portable classrooms** that are too expensive to repair and maintain with modern, permanent classrooms.
- **Improve student safety** and campus security systems, including security fencing, security cameras, emergency communications systems, smoke detectors, fire alarms and sprinklers.
- Upgrade older schools so they **meet current health codes**, building safety codes, and provide proper access for students with disabilities.
- **Repair or replace deteriorating roofs, plumbing, gas lines, sewer lines, heating, and electrical systems**, where needed.
- Ensure that children's playground equipment and athletic facilities meet current health codes, safety standards and are **accessible to those with disabilities**.

LOCAL SCHOOL FUNDING TO SUPPORT HIGH QUALITY INSTRUCTION IN MATH, SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

Projects That Improve Student Success

Goals and Purposes:

Some schools built so long ago that underground pipes and infrastructure are failing, resulting in gas leaks, water leaks and sewage backups. We need to fix these problems.

If we want our kids to succeed in college and in-demand careers, they must be skilled in the use of today's technologies and have advanced classes in science, math, engineering and technology. This measure will make this possible.

- **Provide modern labs and career technical education facilities and equipment**, so students are prepared for college and in-demand careers in fields like health sciences, engineering, technology, and skilled trades.
- Create modern, multi-use classrooms to support hands-on science instruction and learning-by-doing.
- Keep computer systems and instructional technology up-to-date.
- Provide the classrooms and facilities needed to support high quality instruction in music, visual and performing arts.

- **Provide the classrooms, facilities and instructional technology needed to support high quality instruction in math, science, engineering, and technology.**

In addition to the projects listed above, the repair and renovation of each of the existing school facilities may include, but not be limited to, some or all of the following: add or renovate student and staff restrooms; repair and upgrade electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems; upgrade of facilities for energy efficiencies and financial savings; repair and replace worn-out and deteriorated roofs, windows, walls, floors, doors and drinking fountains/hydration stations; construct or renovate offices and facilities for multipurpose and indoor/outdoor learning spaces, more efficient areas for professional development and administration and for the safety of students on campuses; install wiring and electrical systems to safely accommodate computers, technology and other electrical devices; upgrade or construct support facilities including administrative, physical education, music, art, and performing and fine arts classrooms or facilities, science, computer labs/classrooms, career technical facilities, media centers/libraries and buildings, covered eating areas, shade and rain shelter, playgrounds, administrative and maintenance facilities and yards; acquire modular/portable classrooms; repair and replace fire alarms, emergency communications, public address and security systems; improve facilities to satisfy ADA and seismic requirements; as needed, removal of hazardous materials like asbestos and lead paint from older schools; resurface or replace asphalt, broken concrete and improve hard courts, turf, tracks, irrigation, and downspout drainage systems and campus landscaping; install signage, solar panels systems and fencing; improve recycling and composting facilities; expand parking and improve pick-up and drop-off areas; improve all site utilities; acquire land; construct new school buildings; upgrade or replace interior and exterior painting, floor covering, including carpets, and school facades; demolition; upgrade kitchens, food service and school cafeterias; construct various forms of storage and support spaces and classrooms; improve outdoor learning environments and quads; repair, upgrade and install interior and exterior lighting systems and back-up power generators; improve playgrounds, play structures, athletic fields, lockers and facilities to support student health, fitness and safety; construct aquatic facilities, pool filtration systems, plaster and decking; replace outdated security fences and security systems (including access control systems), provide lunch shelters, indoor space for assemblies or for rainy day lunch; upgrade music labs, multi-purpose rooms, learning centers and media centers; add or upgrade parking lots. In addition to the listed projects stated above, the Project List also includes the acquisition of a variety of instructional, maintenance and operational equipment, including the reduction or retirement of outstanding lease obligations and interim funding incurred to advance fund projects from the Project List; payment of the costs of preparation of all facility planning, facility studies, assessment reviews, facility master plan preparation and updates, environmental studies (including environmental investigation, remediation and monitoring), design and construction documentation, DSA oversight, and temporary housing of dislocated District activities caused by construction projects.

The upgrading of technology infrastructure includes, but is not limited to, network rewiring, cabling, computers, portable interface devices, servers, switches, routers, modules, sound projection systems, laser printers, scanners and copiers, digital white boards, document projectors, upgrade voice-over-IP, clock/telephone/ intercom systems, call manager and network security/firewall, wireless technology systems, refresh classroom technology, miscellaneous IT and instructional equipment, data storage, archiving and preservation, phones, identity cards and the construction and installation of a data center in the cloud for the District's enterprise systems, such as resource planning, websites, domain name systems, cloud applications and information security.

The budget for each project is an estimate and may be affected by factors beyond the District's control. The final cost of each project will be determined as plans and construction documents are finalized, construction bids are received, construction contracts are awarded and projects are completed. Based on the final costs of each project, certain of the projects described above may be delayed or may not be completed. Demolition of portable classrooms and existing facilities and reconstruction of facilities scheduled for repair and upgrade may occur, if the Board determines that such an approach would be more cost-effective in creating more enhanced and operationally efficient campuses. Necessary site preparation/restoration may occur in connection with new construction, renovation or remodeling, or installation or removal of relocatable or modular classrooms, including ingress and egress, removing, replacing, or installing irrigation or drainage systems, utility lines, trees and landscaping, relocating fire access roads, and acquiring any necessary easements, licenses, or rights of way to the property. The listed projects will be completed as needed. Each project is assumed to include its share of furniture, equipment, architectural, engineering, and similar planning costs, connection fees, program and project management, staff training expenses and a customary contingency for unforeseen design and construction costs. Proceeds of the bonds may be used to pay or reimburse the District for the cost of District bond audits and staff when performing work on or necessary and incidental to bond projects. Bond proceeds shall only be expended for the types of projects and purposes identified herein. The District shall create an account into which proceeds of the bonds shall be deposited and comply with the reporting requirements of Government Code § 53410.

FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY: THIS MEASURE REQUIRES A CLEAR SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTABILITY, INCLUDING A PROJECT LIST DETAILING HOW THE MONEY WILL BE USED, A CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, AND INDEPENDENT AUDITS TO ENSURE MONEY IS SPENT PROPERLY.

In accordance with Education Code Section 15272, the Board of Education will appoint a citizens' oversight committee and conduct annual independent audits to assure that funds are spent only on District projects and for no other purpose. The expenditure of bond money on these projects is subject to stringent financial accountability requirements. By law, performance and financial audits will be performed annually, and all bond expenditures will be monitored by an independent citizens' oversight committee to ensure that funds are spent as promised and specified. The citizens' oversight committee must include, among others, representation of a bona fide taxpayers association, a business organization and a senior citizens organization. No District employees or vendors are allowed to serve on the citizens' oversight committee.

No Administrator Salaries: Proceeds from the sale of the bonds authorized by this proposition shall be used only for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and school administrator salaries and other operating expenses.

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE H-24

Bonds are financial instruments used to borrow money. Under the California Constitution, school districts may issue bonds if approved by at least 55 percent of voters within the district boundaries who are voting on a measure authorizing the issuance of bonds. Obtaining voter approval for the issuance of bonds is a common financing method used by school districts for funding new school construction and improvements to existing school facilities. The bonds are sold to the public and constitute a debt of the district. The principal and interest on the bonds are repaid by an annual property tax levy on all taxable real property within the school district's jurisdiction, calculated on the current assessed value of each property ("an *ad valorem* tax").

The Board of Education of the Lucia Mar Unified School District ("the District") has placed Measure H-24 on the ballot, proposing the sale of bonds in an amount not to exceed \$143,220,000 and at interest rates not exceeding the legal limits. The District's Tax Rate Statement, included in the voter information guide mailed to voters of the District, reflects an estimate of the maximum property tax levies required to service the bonds.

Proceeds from the bond sales (i.e., funds generated by the bonds) may only be used for the purposes identified in the measure. The general purposes are to upgrade, repair, expand, improve and modernize school facilities and infrastructure, including to ensure school facilities meet current health and safety standards and are accessible to those with disabilities. The specific types of projects to be funded by the sale of bonds are more specifically described in the full text of the measure. Depending on the final costs of each project, certain projects listed in the measure may be delayed or not completed.

The law prohibits use of bond proceeds to pay for teacher and administrator salaries or other operational expenses. The District must follow certain accountability requirements for overseeing the funds collected and expended, including the establishment of an independent citizens' oversight committee, the annual completion of performance and financial audits, and issuance of annual reports detailing the proceeds received by bond sales and the expenditures made. These requirements are reflected in the full text of measure.

The District's Tax Rate Statement provides the District's best estimate of the highest tax rate to be levied, which is 2 cents per \$100 (or \$20 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation. The final fiscal year in which the tax is anticipated to be collected is 2059-60.

A "yes" vote on this measure is a vote in favor of issuing \$143,220,000 in general obligation bonds for the purposes set forth in Measure H-24.

A "no" vote on this measure is a vote against issuing \$143,220,000 in general obligation bonds for the purposes set forth in Measure H-24.

s/ RITA L. NEAL
County Counsel

TAX RATE STATEMENT FOR MEASURE H-24

An election will be held in the Lucia Mar Unified School District (the "District") on November 5, 2024, to authorize the sale of up to \$143,220,000 in bonds of the District to finance improvements to educational facilities as described in the proposition. If such bonds are authorized and sold, principal and interest on the bonds will be payable only from the proceeds of *ad valorem* tax levies made upon the taxable property in the District. The following information is provided in compliance with Sections 9400-9404 of the Elections Code of the State of California.

1. The best estimate of the average annual tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue over the entire duration of the bond debt service, based on a projection of assessed valuations available at the time of filing this statement, is 1.976 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation (or \$19.76 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation). The final fiscal year in which it is anticipated that the tax will be collected is 2059-60.
2. The best estimate of the highest tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue, based on a projection of assessed valuations available at the time of filing this statement, is 2 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation (or \$20.00 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation). It is estimated that such rate would be levied in fiscal year 2025-26.
3. The best estimate of the total debt service, including the principal and interest that would be required to be repaid if all the bonds are issued and sold, is approximately \$320.6 million.

Voters should note that the estimated tax rate is based on the ASSESSED VALUE of taxable property on the San Luis Obispo County official tax rolls, *not* on the property's market value. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

Attention of all voters is directed to the fact that the foregoing information is based upon the District's projections and estimates only, which are not binding upon the District. The actual tax rates, debt service and the years in which they will apply may vary from those presently estimated, due to variations from these estimates in the timing of bond sales, the amount of bonds sold and market interest rates at the time of each sale, and actual assessed valuations over the term of repayment of the bonds. The dates of sale and the amount of bonds sold at any given time will be determined by the District based on need for construction funds and other factors. The actual interest rates at which the bonds will be sold will depend on the bond market at the time of each sale. Actual future assessed valuation will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process.

s/ Dr. Paul Fawcett, Superintendent
Lucia Mar Unified School District

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE H-24

EVERY student deserves to THRIVE in a school with safe, modern, creative spaces that support teaching and learning. **VOTING YES on Measure H will help make that possible in Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, Nipomo, Oceano, Pismo Beach, and Shell Beach neighborhood schools.**

Our community has generously supported **Lucia Mar Unified School District (LMUSD)** schools in the past. But over time and with constant use, once again Lucia Mar schools need attention. Schools built 60+ years ago, are aging; underground pipes/infrastructure are failing, resulting in gas leaks, water leaks, and sewage backups. Our school facilities need continuing repairs/upgrades that far exceed LMUSD's available maintenance budget.

LMUSD has provided a quality education for generations of local children. Unfortunately, **LMUSD school facilities** do not match the exceptional teaching/learning happening inside them. **Measure H** provides a prudent, responsible plan to continue repairing/modernizing LMUSD schools for improved student safety and equal access to quality instruction/ learning.

Measure H will:

- **Remove** hazardous materials like asbestos/lead pipes where needed
- **Repair/replace** deteriorating roofs, plumbing, gas lines, sewer lines, and electrical systems
- **Provide** the classrooms, facilities and technology needed to support high quality instruction in math, science, engineering, and technology
- **Modernize** labs, career technical education facilities/equipment so students are prepared for college and in- demand careers
- **Upgrade** older schools so they meet current health/building safety codes, and provide proper access for students with disabilities

Taxpayer safeguards are REQUIRED:

- ALL funds STAY LOCAL
- The State CANNOT take this funding away
- NO funds are allowed for administrators' salaries/pensions
- Independent Citizens' Oversight and mandatory audits ensure funds are spent properly

Passing Measure H qualifies LMUSD to receive millions in State matching funds when they become available, leveraging tax dollars even further.

Join teachers, parents, and residents in **VOTING YES on H for safe, modern, Lucia Mar elementary, middle and high schools.** Thank you.

s/ Chad Robertson, Local Business Owner & Lucia Mar Graduate

s/ Nancy DePue, Retired – Superintendent

s/ Carrol Pruett, Retired Bank President/CEO, Lifelong Resident

s/ Mike Miner, Retired Local Business Owner and Lifelong Resident

s/ Juan Olivarria, Retired Lucia Mar Educator, County Office of Education Board Member, and Longtime Resident

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE H-24 WAS SUBMITTED

Your



CLERK-RECORDER

is **MORE THAN JUST ELECTIONS**

You already know us as the Registrar of Voters. But did you know that the Clerk-Recorder also functions as the County Recorder, County Clerk, and Commissioner of Civil Marriages? In addition, we:



**File Fictitious
Business Name
Statements**



**Maintain Official
Land Records**



**Issue Marriage
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Wedding Ceremonies**



**Provide Certified Copies of Vital Records for births,
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DID YOU KNOW?

...that all dogs in the County of SLO over the age of 4 months are required to be licensed?

If you haven't done so already, licensing your dog is easy!

You can license your dog online at www.sloanimalservices.com or come into the Animal Services office at
865 Oklahoma Ave in San Luis Obispo

Avoid possible citations and fines by licensing your dog today!



WHY LICENSE YOUR DOG?

805-781-4400



- 🐾 Your dog's license is his ticket home if he is ever picked up running at large. Animal Control Officers would rather reunite you with your pet than impound him. If he's wearing a current license, they'll bring him home instead of to the shelter.
- 🐾 License revenues help support Animal Services efforts to address the needs of homeless and neglected pets and to resolve our community's animal-related problems.
- 🐾 It's the law.

HELPFUL INFO

- 🐾 The metal tag your vet gives you when your pet is vaccinated is not a license tag.
- 🐾 State law requires all dogs to have a current rabies vaccination before they can be licensed. If your dog doesn't have vaccination information on file with Animal Services, you will need to submit it with your application.
- 🐾 License fees are significantly discounted if your dog has been spayed or neutered.
- 🐾 By law, the duration of your dog's license validity cannot exceed the expiration date of his current rabies vaccine.

SLO FOSTER CARE



25

Help us recruit
75
resource homes
by the end of

2025.

Together
we can make our
75/25 campaign
a reality!

The **75/25** campaign is an initiative to recruit loving and stable resource family homes for youth in care.

HELP US REACH OUR GOAL OF:

25 homes for teens

25 homes for school aged

15 homes for age 0-5

7 Emergency Foster Care Homes

3 Shelter Homes

GET INVOLVED!

Call **(805)781-1705** to attend a virtual informational meeting.

www.slofostercare.com



SLO FOSTER CARE 





County of San Luis Obispo Veterans Services Office

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San Luis Obispo
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MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

1

VOTE YOUR BALLOT

- Completely fill the oval of your choice
- It's okay if you don't vote in every contest

2

SIGN YOUR RETURN ENVELOPE

- Make sure the envelope has your name preprinted on it
- It's okay to re-seal with tape if needed

3

RETURN YOUR BALLOT

- No postage necessary
- Return by mail or in person to an official drop box, polling location, vote center, or County Elections Office

4

TRACK YOUR BALLOT

- Sign up at WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov
- Questions? Call the Elections Office (805) 781-5228 or email elections@co.slo.ca.us

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