

WHY DOES IT TAKE SO LONG TO COUNT THE VOTES?



Coalition of Bay Area Election Officials
bayareavotes.org

Counting votes includes more than just scanning ballots and tallying results. The roadmap below shows what happens from the time polls close until the election is certified in the Bay Area.

Election Day

- 1** Semi Official Results contain:
 - In person ballots
 - VBM ballots prior to election night
- 2** Canvass begins, the thorough process ensuring integrity of elections. In California, counties have 28 days to complete the canvass and certify the election.
- 3** Vote By Mail Ballots properly postmarked by 8 pm on Election Day, accepted for 7 calendar days.
- 4** Ballot Processing:
 - Signature Checking
 - Duplication of damaged ballots
 - Scanner Preparation
- 5** Cure Letters: For signature challenges received until 2 days prior to election certification.
- 6** Provisional Ballots and same day registration
- 7** Ballots received from other counties – up to 15 days after Election Day
- 8** Roster Reconciliation: Ensuring voters only voted once.
- 9** 1% Manual Tally and verification that the ballot count is accurate.

Certification of Election

Did you know?

All processes are open to the public for observation

