



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060-4073
(831)454-2000 | www.santacruzcountyca.gov
Nicole D. Coburn, County Executive Officer

News Release

Date: June 19, 2026

Contact: Tricia Webber

tricia.webber@santacruzcountyca.us

CLERK EXPANDS MANUAL TALLY AS PART OF ROUTINE ELECTION CANVASS

As part of the official canvass of the June 2 Primary Election, the Santa Cruz County Elections Department will expand its manual tally for two local contests to further verify the accuracy of the election results.

The expanded manual tally will include all ballots cast in the Santa Cruz mayoral contest and the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors District 4 contest. The process will begin Monday, June 22, and will be conducted during regular business hours at the Santa Cruz County Elections Department.

The expanded tally is not a recount. Under California law, every county is required to manually tally at least 1 percent of ballots during the official canvass to verify that vote tabulation equipment accurately counted ballots. Elections officials have the authority to expand that manual tally whenever they determine additional verification is appropriate.

"The purpose of the manual tally is to confirm that the hand count matches the machine count before election results are certified," County Clerk Tricia Webber said. "Given the nature of these contests, we believe it is appropriate to conduct additional verification as part of our commitment to ensuring complete confidence in the accuracy of the results."

The expanded manual tally has been conducted numerous times in prior election years. It is conducted by teams that sort ballots, independently hand tally votes, reconcile their counts and compare the results with the official machine tabulation. Any discrepancy is reviewed before the canvass is completed.

The canvass process, including the manual tally, is open to public observation. Candidates, their representatives, members of the media and the public are welcome to observe in accordance with established observation guidelines.

California law requires counties to complete the official canvass and certify election results no later than 30 days after the election. Santa Cruz County is scheduled to certify the June 2 Primary Election on Friday, June 26, at 2 p.m.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY | WORKING FOR THE FUTURE

