

Contra Costa County

Clerk-Recorder-Elections

Kristin B. Connelly



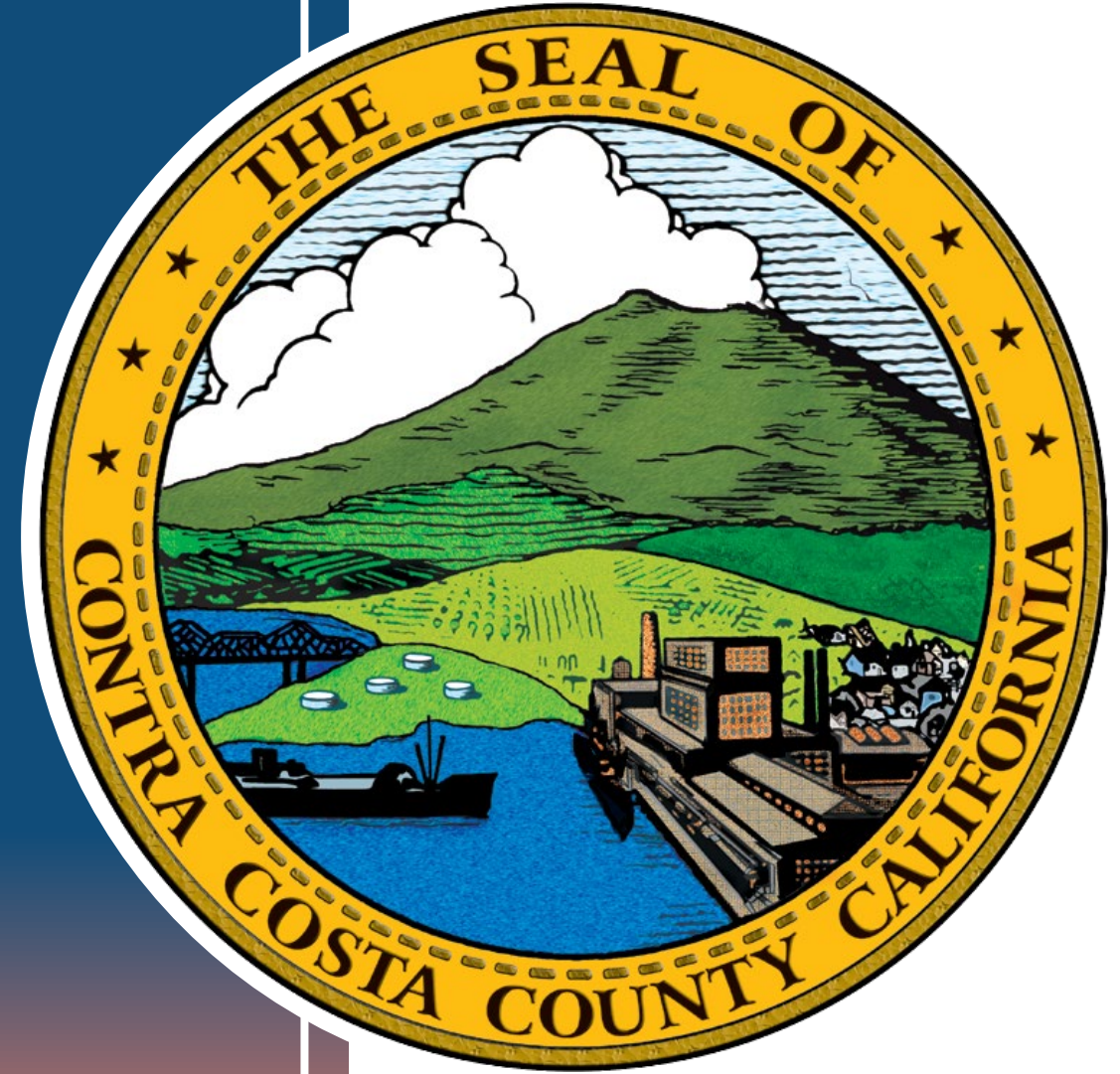
County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar



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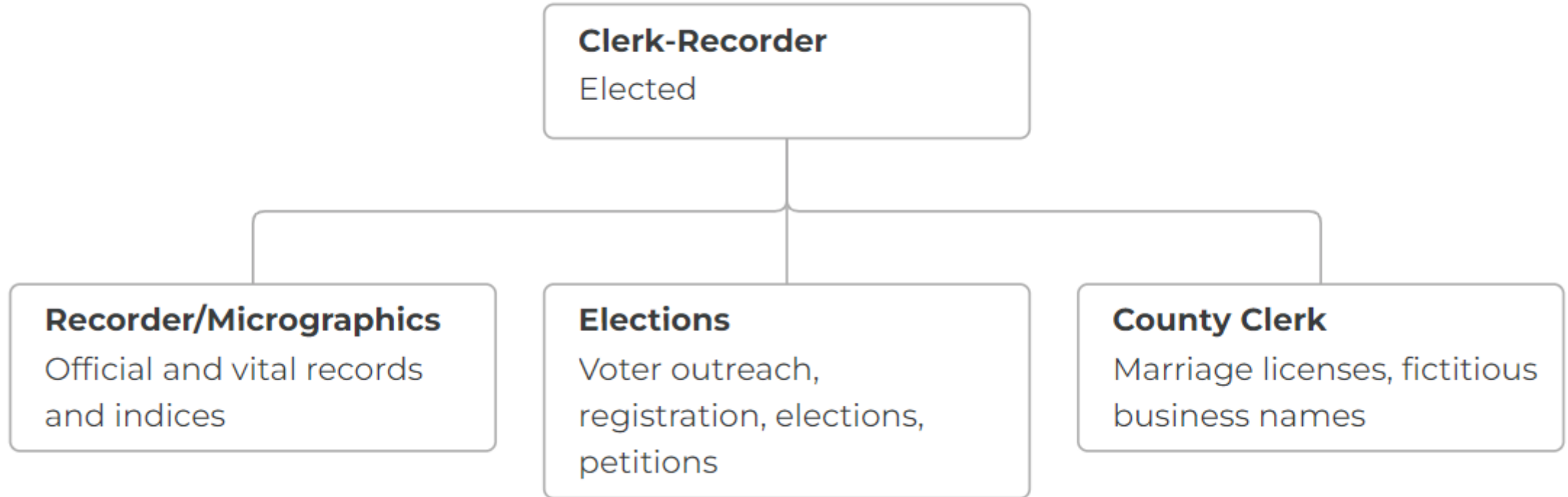
- Department Overview
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- Equity in Service Delivery
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Department At-A-Glance

The Clerk-Recorder-Elections Department is responsible for accurately maintaining, protecting, and preserving all official records and indices for real property and vital records in Contra Costa County and providing access to public documents.

The Department is responsible for conducting fair, accurate, secure, transparent, non-partisan, and timely elections, as well as maximizing access to voting through outreach activities to ensure that all eligible citizens of Contra Costa County can exercise their right to vote.

Organizational Chart



ELECTIONS

Registrar of Voters



Primary Statutory Responsibilities Include:

- Conduct elections in a fair, efficient, accurate, and timely manner.
- Provide services to maintain a high level of voter registration and to ensure that all eligible citizens can register to vote and are able to exercise their right to vote, according to Federal and State statutory laws and regulations.

Key Operation Indicators - Elections

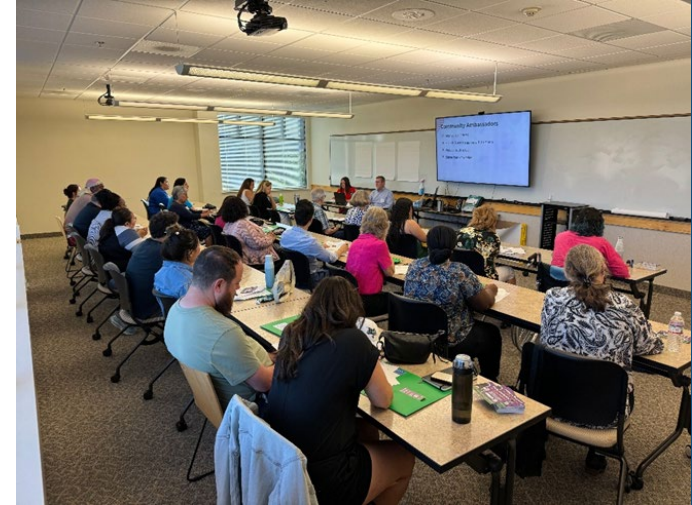
November 4th Statewide Special Election

By the Numbers:

- 730,646 registered voters
- 413,212 voters cast ballots (56.55% turnout)
- 141 polling places
- 45 official drop boxes
- 1 ballot type
- 47 seasonal workers
- 905 poll workers
- 35,011 Election Day Polling Place voters (1,149 Early, in-person)

Grant-funded Campaign to increase Trust in Elections Selected For People's Choice Award

The Contra Costa County Elections Division was selected as a recipient of the 2026 People's Choice Award by members of Election Center for the 2024 ad campaign, Show, Don't Tell: Building Voter Trust in a Polarized Era. Also known as the National Association for Election Officials, Election Center is the largest national professional association for election officials in the United States.



We're an open book.
Come look.

[Learn More](#)



**ELECTIONS —
MORE SECURE THAN EVER**
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY



Increased Trust — Overall

7%

increase in trust
in U.S. elections

12%

increase in trust in
Contra Costa County
elections

45%

reduction in “don’t
know” responses
for trust in Contra
Costa County

CLERK-RECORDER

Primary Statutory Responsibilities Include:



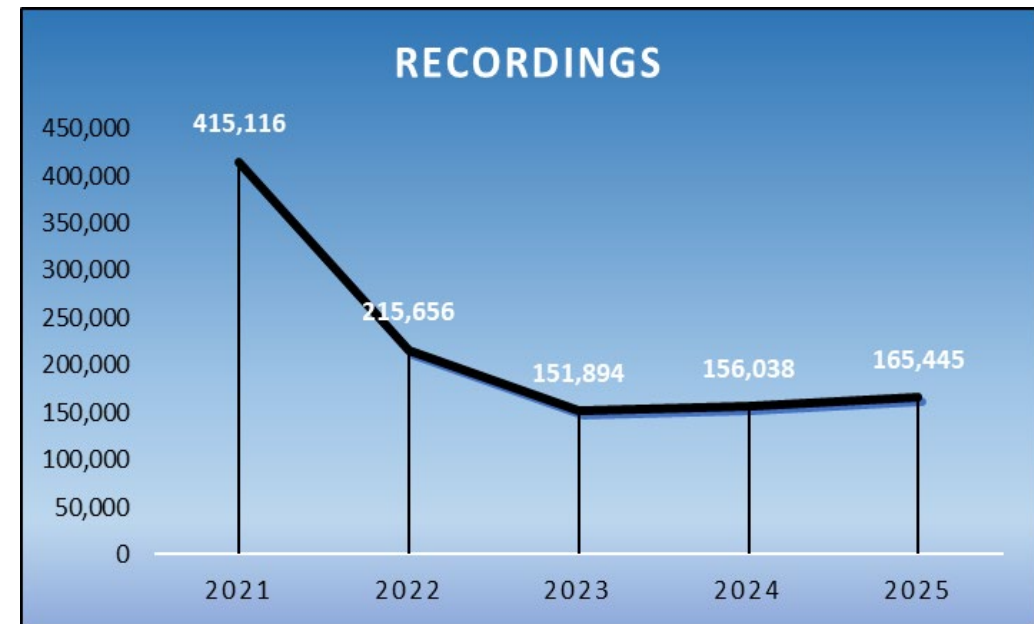
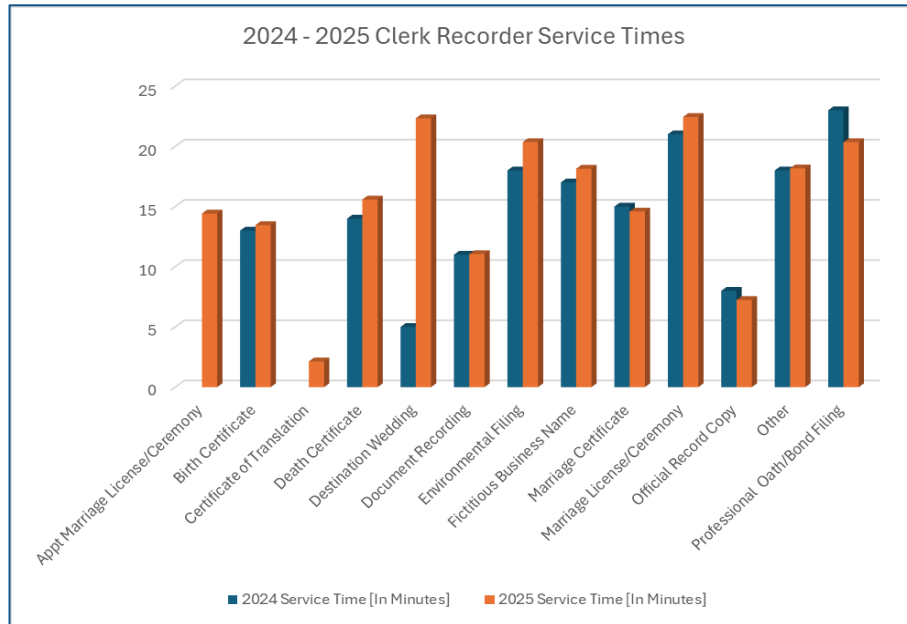
- Accurately maintain, protect, and preserve official records and indices relating to real property and vital records in Contra Costa County and provide the public with easy, convenient, and reliable access to public documents.

- Digitize, archive, and store our public record utilizing micrographic technologies, while also securing resources to ensure their perpetual integrity.

Key Operation Indicators – Clerk-Recorder

Clerk Recorder Performance Measures								
Workload Indicator	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Difference from 2024	% change from 2024 to 2025
Marriage Licenses	3,094	4,564	5,102	4,840	5,274	5,074	-200	-4%
Marriage Ceremonies	1,550	1,991	2,350	2,553	3,097	3,116	19	1%
FBN Filings	6,292	7,465	7,128	6,657	6,818	6,707	-111	-1%
Notaries	654	1,441	1,292	1,196	894	1,087	193	13%
Birth Certificates	15,157	23,279	22,695	21,087	20,589	25,895	5,306	23%
Death Certificates	4,069	5,954	5,803	5,592	5,597	6,874	1,277	21%
Marriage Certificates	8,641	11,112	12,296	11,644	12,580	14,017	1,437	13%
Recorded Documents	384,381	415,116	215,656	151,894	156,038	165,445	9,407	2%
Recorded Documents per Staff	35,239	51,890	35,943	30,337	31,208	41,361	10,153	20%

In Person vs Online				
	Official Record Copies in Person	Official Record Copies Online	Vital Copies in Person	Vital Copies Online/Mail
2021	2555	180	18504	22680
2022	2865	3757	27228	14250
2023	3600	3632	28016	11123
2024	3336	4202	27952	10523
2025	3362	3829	33479	10309



Clerk-Recorder Accomplishments (2025)



Maps Recorded: 142



Properties Purchased: 11,901



City Most Properties Sold (Concord): 1,282



E-Recordings: 122,224



Titles Indexed: 165,444



Documents Recorded: 145,818



Online Official Record Copies: 3,829



FBN Filings: 6,707



Marriage Licenses Issued: 5,074



Weddings: 3,117



Online Vital Orders: 9,732



Vitals Issued: 34,032



Vitals Indexed: 25,711



Clerk In-Person Customers: 33,268



Recorder In-Person Customers: 7,056



In-Person Customers: 40,324



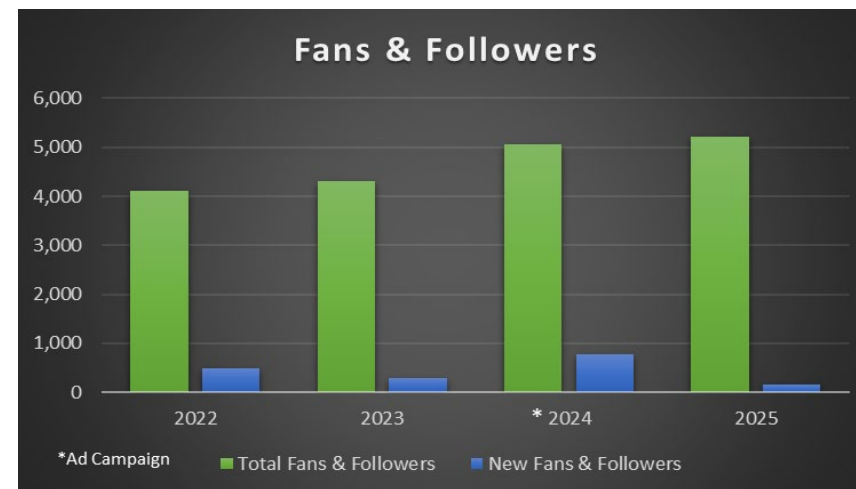
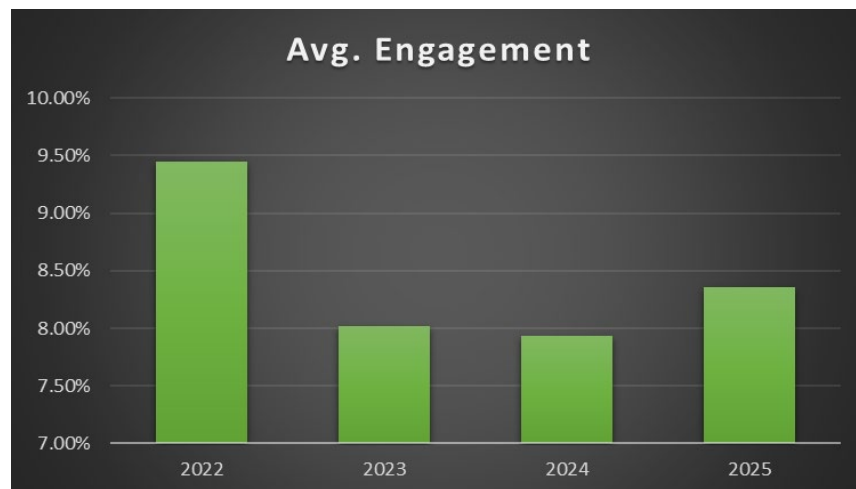
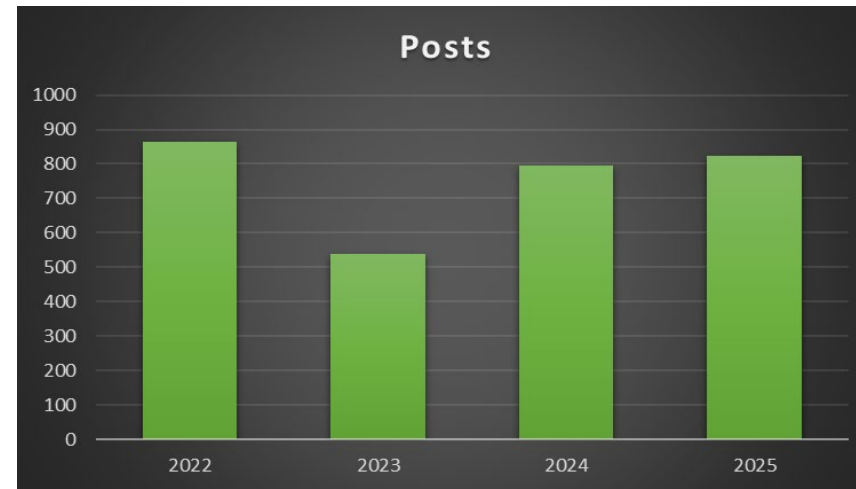
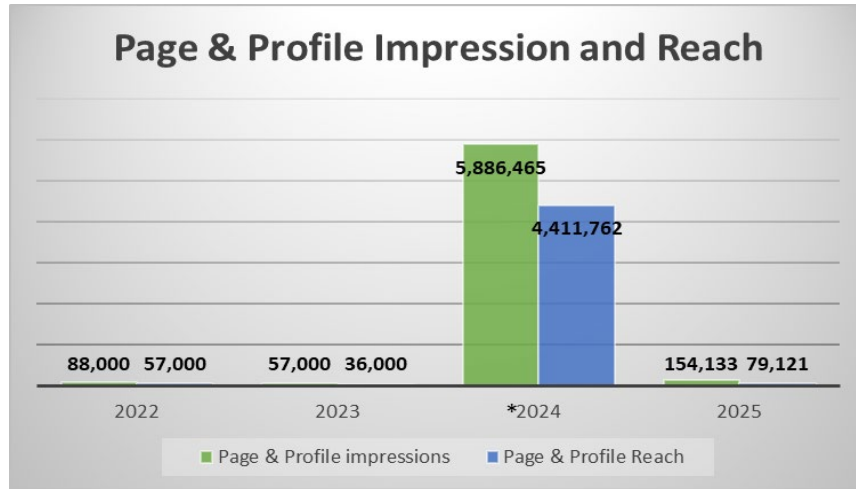
Total Money Collected: \$45,334,093.60



Top Female Baby Name: Olivia

Top Male Baby Name: Noah

Key Operation Indicators – Public Outreach / Engagement



CLERK-RECORDER- ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Budget Submission for FY 2026-2027

- The proposed budget provides for maintenance of current staffing and service levels in advance of the California General Election on November 3, 2026.
- The Clerk-Recorder-Elections Department, one of the County's most diverse, is well-respected statewide for work across both the Clerk-Recorder and Elections Divisions.
 - Our Assistant Clerk-Recorder chairs the DRIM Committee.
 - Clerk-Recorder Connelly is one of 3 co-chairs of the Elections Legislative Committee of the CACEO.
 - One of our Clerk-Recorder Services Managers co-chairs the Clerk Legislative Committee for CACEO.



Clerk-Recorder-Elections Budget Summary

	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Recommended	2026-27 Rec vs. 2025-26 Revised
Clerk-Recorder-Elections Department Budget	\$23,147,979	\$27,095,791	\$26,339,850	-2.87%
Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Staff	83	79	79	0%

General Fund Budget Summary

The table below shows amounts budgeted for the General Fund.

	2024-25 Actuals	2025-26 Revised	2026-27 Recommended*	2026-27 Rec vs. 2025-26 Revised
Total Expenditures	\$20,281,414	\$20,375,911	\$19,581,108	(\$794,803)
Revenues	<u>\$11,904,603</u>	<u>\$6,356,100</u>	<u>\$8,025,100</u>	<u>\$1,669,000</u>
Net County Cost	\$8,376,811	\$14,019,811	\$11,556,008	(\$2,463,803)
FTEs	70	66	66	0

Dedicated Fund Budget Summary

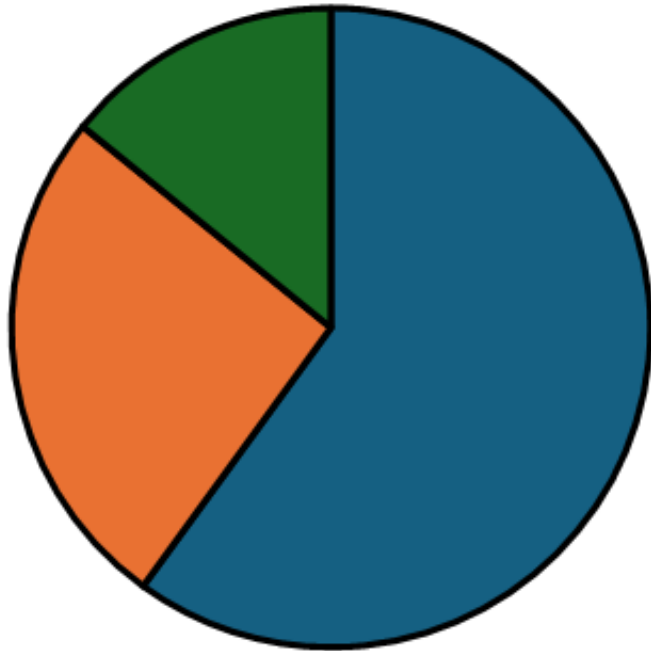
The table below shows amounts budgeted for the Clerk-Recorder Dedicated Funds
(Micrographics, Modernization, Vital Records Improvement, Redaction, and Electronic Recording)

	MICRO	MOD	VRIP	RED	ERDS	Total
2024-25 Actuals						
Expenditures	\$420,757	\$1,070,730	\$210,965	\$386,648	\$777,464	\$2,866,564
Revenues	\$126,446	\$677,544	\$140,157	N/A	\$126,446	\$1,070,593
2025-26 Revised						
Expenditures	\$790,586	\$1,661,245	\$785,614	\$2,136,488	\$1,345,948	\$6,719,881
Revenues	\$125,000	\$674,000	\$124,325	N/A	\$125,000	\$1,048,325
2026-27 Recommended						
Expenditures	\$793,449	\$1,667,245	\$815,614	\$2,136,488	\$1,345,946	\$6,758,742
Revenues	\$125,000	\$680,000	\$154,325	N/A	\$125,000	\$1,084,325
2026-27 Rec vs. 2025-26 Revised						
Expenditures	\$2,863	\$6,000	\$30,000	\$0	-\$2	\$38,861
Revenues	\$0	\$6,000	\$30,000	N/A	\$0	\$36,000

Total FTEs: 13

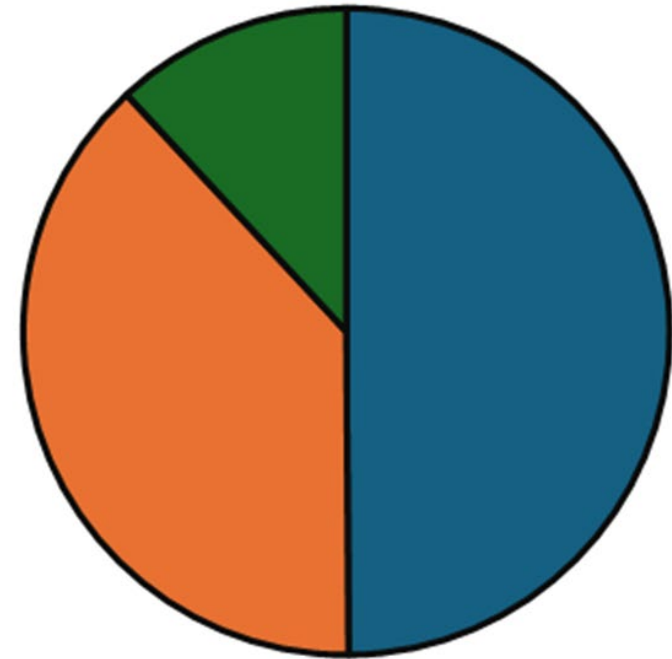
Revenues

2025/26



■ Clerk Recorder ■ Elections ■ Dedicated Funds

2026/27



■ Clerk Recorder ■ Elections ■ Dedicated Funds

“Revenues” includes both program revenue and General-Purpose Revenue/Net County Cost for Elections/Clerk-Recorder, and use of Fund Balance for Micro/Mod.

Measure X at Work

1. Elections Outreach for All
Annual Allocation: \$422,443
2. Mapping Prejudice Project
Total Project Cost: \$122,400

MEASURE X FUNDING AT WORK

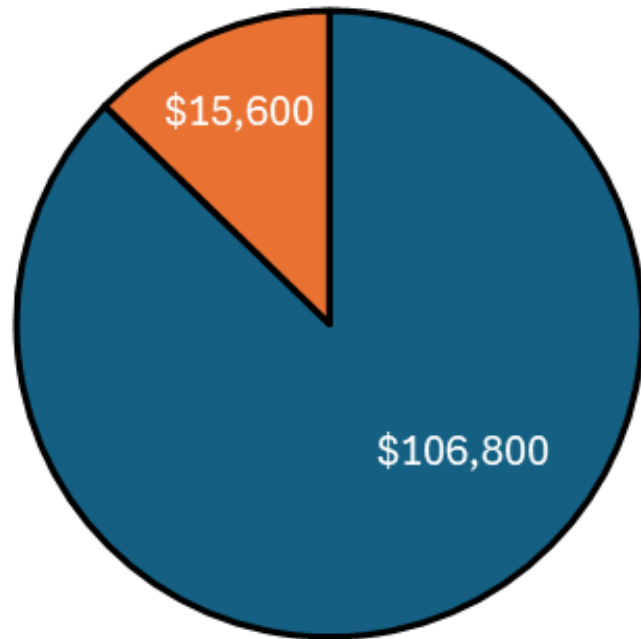
Adopted Project Descriptions (summarized):

Elections Outreach for All – This initiative strengthens voter engagement and civic participation across Contra Costa County by expanding outreach and education efforts. Funding is ongoing.

Mapping Prejudice Project – This project is a collaboration with the University of Minnesota and utilizes local volunteers to identify the historical use of racially restrictive covenants on property records. Funding for this project was one-time.

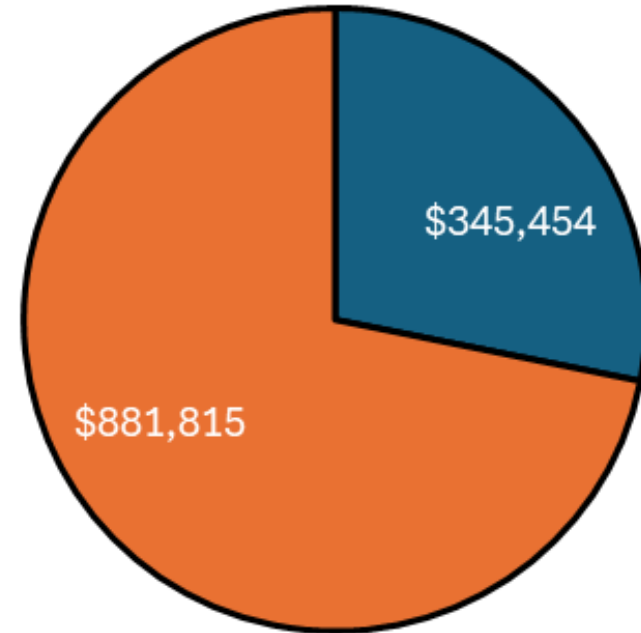
MEASURE X FUNDING AT WORK

Mapping Prejudice Project -
One-time Funds



■ Expenditures ■ Balance

Elections Outreach for All -
On-going Funds



■ FY 24-26 Expenditures ■ FY 24-26 Balance

MEASURE X EXPENDITURES

Current FY 25-26 and FY 26-27 budgeted expenditures include the following:

Mapping Prejudice –

- Final payment to University of Minnesota

Elections Outreach for All –

- Mailing for new voters for November General Election
- Ambassador Stipends
- CBO Grants for Voter Registration and Get Out The Vote efforts for November General Election
- Backup cameras for trailers
- Brake lights for trailers
- General upkeep for Outreach vehicles (trailers, van, truck)
- Advertising campaigns for June Primary and November General Elections



Meet Fei & Joel – New Elections Outreach Team

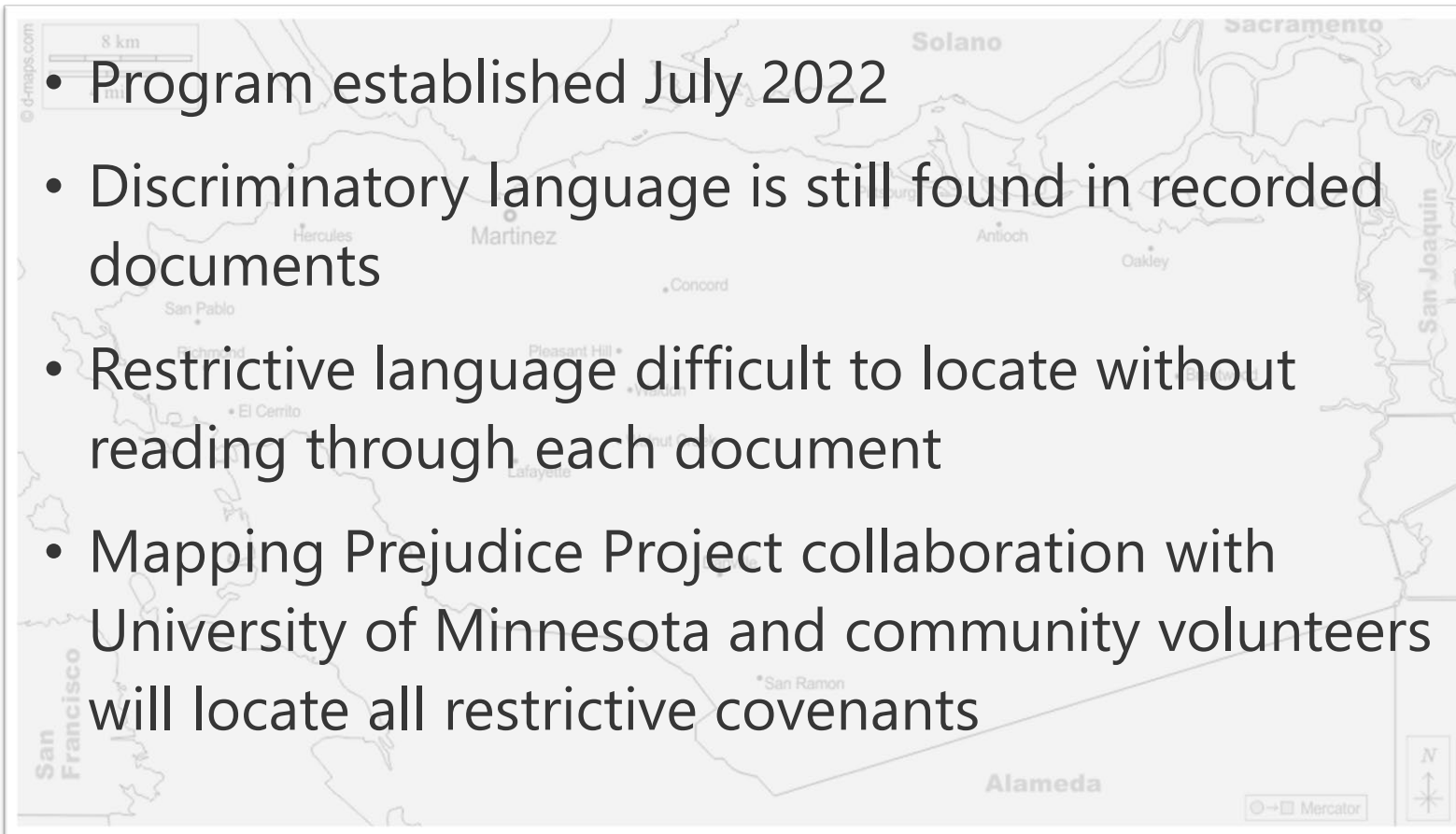
We hired two new Elections Outreach Specialists in January 2025, Fei and Joel, and we are happy to report that they have been traveling around the County to a variety of events and locations to provide voter education literature, civic and local government resources, Elections branded outreach materials, and in-depth discussions to the public.

The Outreach Team participated in tabling events, voter registration trainings, voter education presentations, high school voter registration drives, and Networking/Civic events.




MEASURE X OUTCOMES

Clerk-Recorder Mapping Prejudice Project

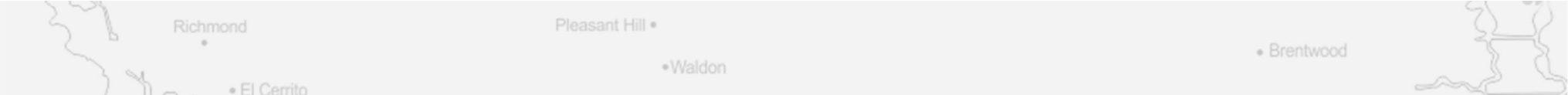


- Program established July 2022
- Discriminatory language is still found in recorded documents
- Restrictive language difficult to locate without reading through each document
- Mapping Prejudice Project collaboration with University of Minnesota and community volunteers will locate all restrictive covenants


Restrictive Language Samples



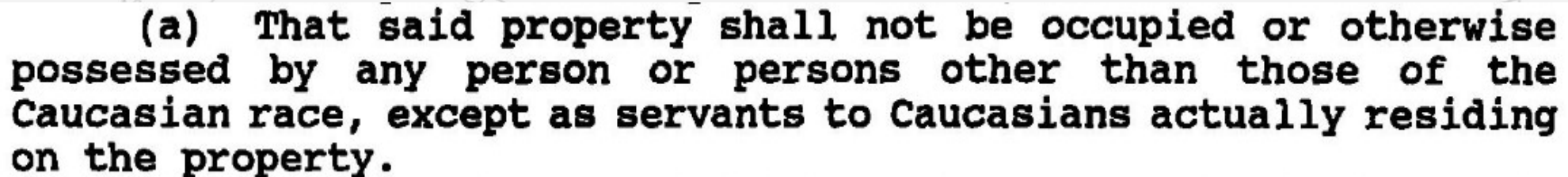
10: That no part of said real property shall be used or occupied by any person whose blood is not entirely that of the Caucasian race; provided, however, that persons not of the Caucasian race may be employed on said property by an actual Caucasian occupant, solely in the capacity of servants of such occupant. Said property is intended to be for the exclusive use and occupancy of persons of the Caucasian race.



5-No person other than that of the Caucasian race shall use or occupy any building on any lot, except that this covenant shall not prevent occupancy by domestic servants of a different race or nationality employed by an owner or tenant.



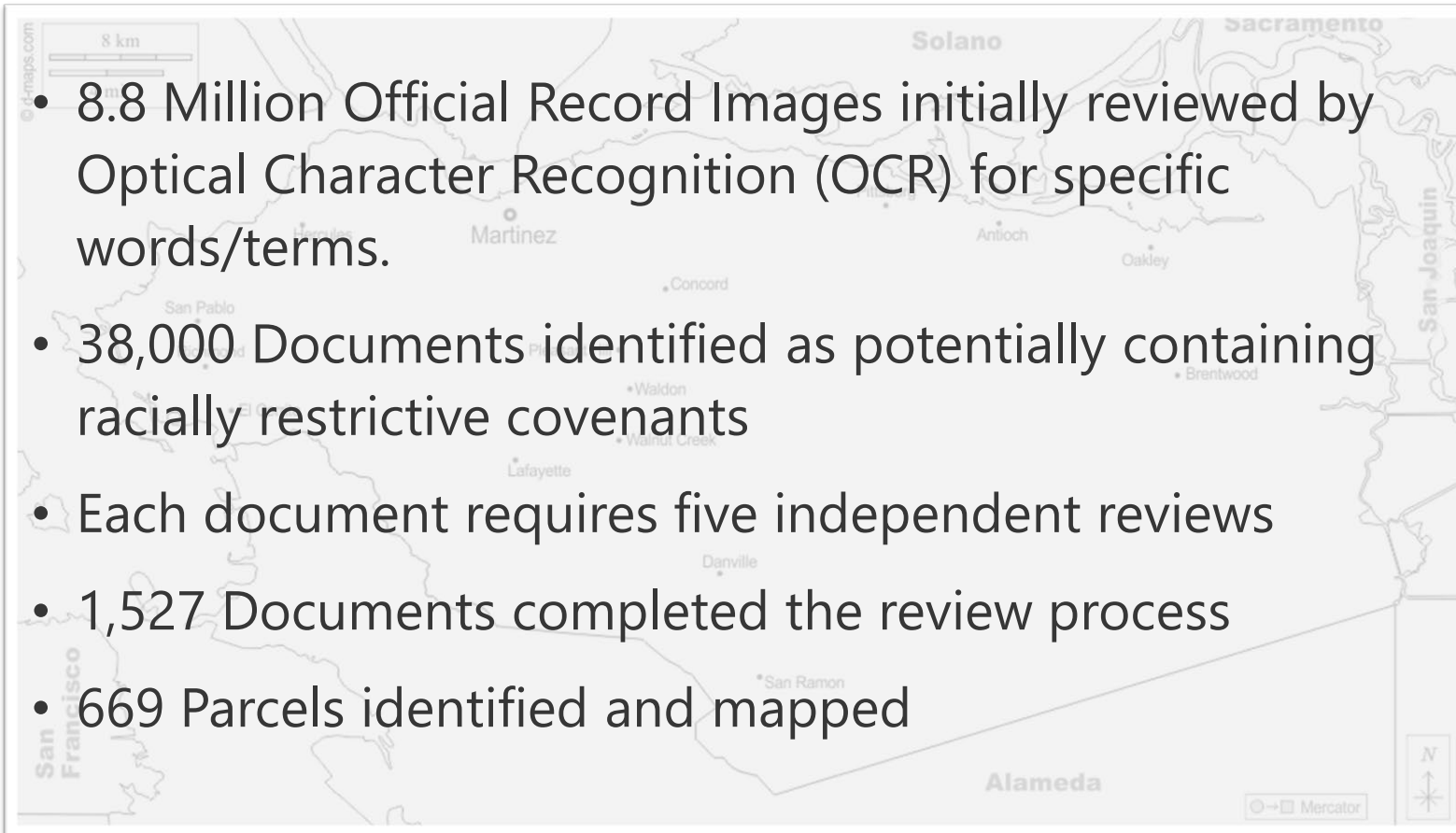
(a) That said property shall not be occupied or otherwise possessed by any person or persons other than those of the Caucasian race, except as servants to Caucasians actually residing on the property.



MEASURE X OUTCOMES

Clerk-Recorder Mapping Prejudice Project

- 8.8 Million Official Record Images initially reviewed by Optical Character Recognition (OCR) for specific words/terms.
- 38,000 Documents identified as potentially containing racially restrictive covenants
- Each document requires five independent reviews
- 1,527 Documents completed the review process
- 669 Parcels identified and mapped



Community Volunteers – for the Mapping Prejudice Project

**17 Local
Clubs**

**11
Associations
& Groups**

**6 High
Schools /
Colleges**

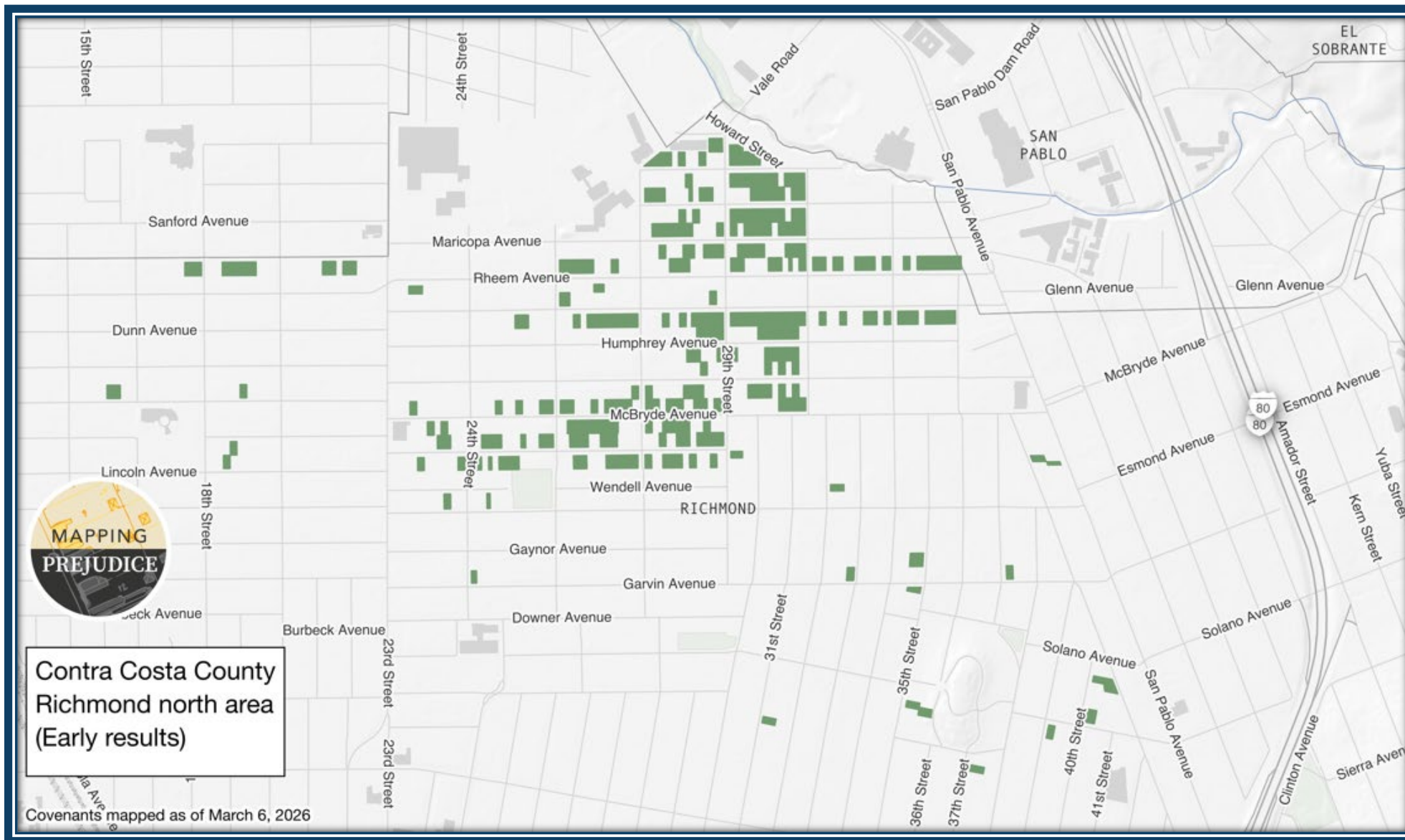
**262
Registered
Volunteers**

Community Volunteers – for the Mapping Prejudice Project

Interested in volunteering, use the QR
code for more information:



Early DRAFT Map



Clerk Recorder Equity in Services

- Quarterly Destination Weddings Events to bring wedding services to the public in beautiful, local, unique venues for an affordable price.
- Provide translation services in paper forms as well as video translators.
- Updated website ensuring each page is ADA compliant.
- Headphones available in person for lobby kiosks for those who are visually impaired.
- QR code for access to complete vital record applications from the ease of your mobile devices.
- Over 15 different languages were used to better serve the public in 2025.

Here are the top three languages from 2025*:

- Mandarin
- Portuguese
- Dari

*data from our Inclusion Solutions vendor



Elections Equity in Services

- Offered ballots and all election materials in Section 203 mandated languages and a Ballot Translation Guide in 9 additional languages to all voters, not just those identified under EC 14201.
- Offered curbside voting for voters who cannot come inside the polling place to vote.
- Conducted regular accessibility surveys of all polling places to ensure ADA compliance and access.
- Updated website ensuring each page is ADA compliant.
- Added a QR code to our Voter Information Guide for ease in locating polling places or ballot drop boxes.
- Updated Candidate Guide and Poll Worker Guide for inclusivity.
- Increased number of Accessible Ballot Marking Devices at polling places.
- Reworked and reorganized our phone system to provide better service to our Limited English Proficiency voters.



FY26-27 Major Initiatives and Goals

The Department highlights the following goals for FY26-27 in addition to continuing all current services and initiatives:

- Support relevant legislation at state and federal level.
- Engage in statewide, national, and international associations: CACEO, CRAC, the Elections Center, and IGO.
- Prepare and conduct the 2026 Statewide General Election in November 2026 and any additional Special Elections.
- Continue to prioritize staff and public safety through general fund support of a contract for our security guard.
- Work closely with Public Works on completing the HVAC Coolant Replacement Project at 555 Escobar Street.
- Partner with California Secretary of State to host an Apostille Pop-Up Shop for the public to have access to Apostille services in Contra Costa.
- Create and maintain IT disaster recovery and business continuity plans, including a backup datacenter.

FY26-27 Major Initiatives and Goals

The Department highlights the following goals for FY26-27 in addition to continuing all current services and initiatives:

- Actively pursue office certification in national standards for election excellence.
- Continue to participate in and support the Coalition of Bay Area Election Officials to promote local elections officials as the trusted source for accurate election information through a strategic plan for rotating leadership (Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters will lead the Coalition through 2028).
- Establish best practices and pursue grant opportunities for long-term map and official document restoration.
- Encapsulation project of 2025 Confidential Marriage Licenses to permanently preserve the records.
- Identify new resources, if necessary, to replace any previously offered by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) for cyber hygiene with system vulnerability scans and penetration testing of systems as well as ongoing staff training with best practices to prevent unauthorized access.
- Continue monthly email newsletters to all registered voters for whom the Department has a known email address through Constant Contact.

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