
Re: September 29 Board of Supervisors agenda - Newport Beach

From Page, Bob <bob.page@ocvote.gov>

Date Tue 9/22/2026 3:36 PM

To Shumway, Lena <LShumway@newportbeachca.gov>

Cc Harp, Aaron <aharp@newportbeachca.gov>; Page, Leon <Leon.Page@coco.oc.gov>

Lena:

As I have shared in prior correspondence, I will not recommend that the County of Orange Board of Supervisors direct the Registrar of Voters to provide the City of Newport Beach with the broad range of services requested in the City's Resolution No. 2026-83.

The additional work that the Registrar of Voters would be required to complete to develop and provide the requested services at this late date would interfere with our administration of the regular statewide 2026 General Election. The conduct of two elections at the same time will also likely create confusion amongst Newport Beach voters and could disenfranchise some from having a ballot counted in one of the elections.

The City has not provided assurance that the requested services will not interfere with the 2026 General Election. Additionally, in the report and supplemental report presented to the City Council for its special meeting on September 18, City staff:

- Stated ballots would be issued to military and overseas voters on Saturday, September 19 without the legally required ballot tint and watermark from the Secretary of State.
- Did not identify which Secretary of State-certified voting system the City planned to use for its election.
- Stated the Chief Counsel for the Secretary of State advised the City that a municipal election held on the same day as a regular statewide election must be consolidated with the statewide election. The deadline for the City to request consolidation with the 2026 General Election was August 7.

Finally, during the special City Council meeting, the Council members discussed that the Voter Information Guide containing the ordinance text, impartial analysis, and arguments supporting and opposing each of the three Charter Amendment measures will not be mailed to Newport Beach voters until October 19. California Elections Code section 13303 mandates that the Guides must be mailed no later than October 13.

As such, I do not plan to seek Board of Supervisors approval for this request at the Board's September 29 meeting.

Thank you.

Bob Page | Registrar of Voters | Orange County Registrar of Voters
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ORANGE COUNTY
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS



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From: Shumway, Lena <LShumway@newportbeachca.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 8:27 AM

To: Page, Bob <bob.page@ocvote.gov>

Cc: Harp, Aaron <aharp@newportbeachca.gov>

Subject: September 29 Board of Supervisors agenda - Newport Beach

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Hi Bob,

I hope you're doing well. I wanted to follow up regarding the City of Newport Beach's Request for Assistance concerning our November 3, 2026, special municipal election, which is attached hereto.

The City Council adopted Resolution No. 2026-83 specifically requesting that the County and Registrar provide the election records, information, services, access, and coordination necessary for the City to conduct the November 3 election. I reviewed the September 29 Board of Supervisors agenda and did not see the City's request included.

Could you please let me know why the request is not on the September 29 agenda and whether there is still a way to have it added?

As you know, time is very much of the essence. The Superior Court has ordered the City to take all steps necessary to have the three initiatives considered by the voters on November 3, 2026, and the City is working under an extremely compressed election schedule. The resolution therefore specifically asks that any item requiring Board authorization be considered at the earliest lawful opportunity.

We would greatly appreciate anything you can do to help get the request before the Board as quickly as possible. If there is anything the City needs to provide, revise, or do immediately to facilitate getting this on the agenda, please let me know and we will turn it around right away.

Thank you very much for your help and cooperation.



Lena Shumway

City Clerk

City Clerk's Office

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Newport Beach, CA 92660

