



November 8, 2018

TO: Board Members, Transportation Agency for Monterey County
FROM: Gus Khouri, Principal
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RE: 2018 ELECTION RECAP

The legislature adjourned from the 2017-18 Regular Session on Wednesday, August 31. As a result, this report will focus on the results of this month's election and the implications for California.

Statewide Constitutional Offices

Democrats enjoyed a clean sweep of the California Constitutional positions. For the first time in 130 years, a Democrat has succeeded another for the governorship, and California elected the first female Lieutenant Governor and second female Treasurer (Kathleen Brown was the first). The race for Insurance Commissioner is still too close to call as Ricardo Lara leads Steve Poizner, who previously held the post between 2007-11, by 105,733 votes with some 96% of the ballots counted. Below are the preliminary results as of November 8:

Office	Candidate (party registration)	Votes
Governor	Gavin Newsom (D) John Cox (R)	59.3% 40.7%
Lieutenant Governor	Eleni Kounalakis (D) Ed Hernandez (D)	55.7% 44.3%
Secretary of State	Alex Padilla (D) Mark Meuser (R)	61.8% 38.2%
Controller	Betty Yee (D) Konstantinos Roditis (R)	62.9% 37.1%
Treasurer	Fiona Ma (D) Greg Conlon (R)	61.2% 38.8%
Attorney General	Xavier Bacerra (D) Steven Bailey (R)	60.8% 39.2%
Insurance Commissioner (too close to call)	Ricardo Lara (D) Steve Poizner (R)	50.8% 49.2%

State Legislature

Assuming that current results hold, Democrats in the California State Legislature have been able to secure two-third supermajorities in both the Assembly (57 out of 80 members) and the Senate (28 out of 40) by gaining two seats in both the Assembly and Senate, including Assembly Member Anna Caballero's narrow lead (1,019 votes) over Rob Poythress to succeed termed-out Senator Anthony Cannella. Assembly Member Mark Stone won his re-election bid by 69% of the vote, while San Benito County Supervisor Robert Rivas received 64% of the vote to win the 30th Assembly District vacated by Caballero.

There will be 12 new members (5 in the Assembly and 7 in the Senate), which is in stark contrast to the 31 members that were sworn into office in 2016. This is primarily attributable to Proposition 28 of 2012 which allows legislators to serve up to 12 years in one house. With the super majority, Constitutional amendments being placed on the ballot, tax increases, and legislative rule waivers can now be approved on a party-line vote.

Ballot Initiatives

There were 11 initiatives for consideration on the November ballot that collectively spent more than \$372 million to change California policy, including \$46 million to defeat Proposition 6. Below is a discussion on a two of the more high-profile initiatives on the ballot and their respective results:

Proposition 6 – Repeal of Fuel Tax and Vehicle Registration Fees - Failed 44.8% - 55.2%

This measure would have repealed the \$5.2 billion annual transportation package, funded through increases to the gas tax, sales tax on diesel and vehicle registration fees increases, for purposes of fixing local streets and roads, bridges, easing traffic congestion, improving public transportation, and providing bicycle and pedestrian programs. In addition, the proposition would have precluded future tax increases by the legislature without a vote of the people. The initiative was funded by the Republicans in order to motivate turnout among its base to protect seats in Congress.

Proposition 3 – Water Bond – Failed 47.7% - 52.3%

This measure would have authorized \$8.9 billion in general obligation bonds for water infrastructure, groundwater supplies and storage, surface water storage and dam repairs, watershed and fisheries improvements, and habitat protection and restoration. The campaign only had \$5 million towards the effort, without any reported money spent in opposition.