

California 2026 Primary Elections: Early Voting Centers Open on May 30



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By Bo Tefu
California Black Media

California voters will have expanded access to early in-person voting beginning May 30 as the state conducts the June 2 primary election.

Election officials said early voting locations across California will open May 30, giving voters additional opportunities to cast ballots ahead of Election Day. The move comes as counties continue rolling out in-person voting options under the state's election system.

Vote centers in counties participating in the Voter's Choice Act already began opening May 23, while secure ballot drop-off sites became available statewide on May 5.

All active registered voters in California are receiving vote-by-

mail ballots for the June 2 primary election. County elections officials started mailing ballots on May 4.

Currently, voters can return completed ballots by mail, deliver them to county elections offices, or use official ballot drop-off locations throughout the state.

Although the standard voter registration deadline passed on May 18, eligible Californians can still register and vote through the state's same-day voter registration process. Residents who missed the deadline may register at county elections offices or any in-person voting location through Election Day.

Election Day is set for June 2, with polling places operating from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Officials said vote-by-mail ballots must be post-marked no later than June 2, to be counted.

State election officials are encouraging voters to cast ballots early, verify registration information, and review local voting options before Election Day as turnout efforts continue statewide.

Ted Lange Premieres New Play Exploring Shakespeare Authorship Debate

By Carla Thomas

Playwright, director, and actor Ted Lange returned to the Bay Area with the premiere of his latest work, "Shakespeare Over My Shoulder," which opened May 15 in San Francisco in collaboration with the African American Shakespeare Company.

Best known to many as Isaac Washington, the charismatic bartender on the hit television series "The Love Boat," Lange brought decades of theatrical experience to a production that blended humor, history, and literary debate.

At its core, the play explores a long-debated question: did William Shakespeare truly write the works attributed to him?

"I wanted to educate while entertaining," said Lange, whose done Shakespearean plays for over 60 years.

Lange's fascination with Shakespeare dated back to his youth, when he first performed as Romeo in Romeo and Juliet.

Over the years, conversations with fellow actors and scholars introduced him to alternative author-



Cast and Director of "Shakespeare Over My Shoulder;" Top Row: Ronnie Rice, Mychael Anthony Brown; Bottom Row: Gary Moore, Ted Lange, Nic Moore; Photo by Ely McIntire.

ship theories suggesting that figures like Francis Bacon, Christopher Marlowe, or Edward de Vere (the Earl of Oxford),

may have penned some of Shakespeare's most famous works.

Those debates lingered throughout Lange's career, including during his studies at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London.

"That is where I began to hear the rumors that other people may have written the plays attributed to Shakespeare," he said.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, he began weaving those ideas into a script that became "Shakespeare Over My Shoulder."

Set in London's White Hart tavern in 1593 during a plague outbreak, the play immerses audiences

in the social and cultural tensions of the time. It incorporated historical elements such as the hidden presence of Marrano Jews, the secrecy surrounding sexuality, and the exclusion of women from the stage.

Lange also used the production to make a broader cultural statement. In a deliberate casting choice, three of the four central figures, Marlowe, Bacon, and Edward De Vere (the Earl of Oxford), were portrayed as Black, while Shakespeare was depicted as White.

Lange said this dynamic paralleled the history of cultural appropriation in American music, where Black artists have often influenced mainstream success without equal recognition.

Humor plays a central role

throughout the production, with jokes and nods to Shakespeare's works woven into the dialogue.

The cast includes Ronnie Rice, Mychael Anthony Brown, Gary Moore and Nic Moore.

"I've always wanted Shakespeare to be accessible to everyone, especially Black people," said Lange.

For Lange, now 78, theater is a forum he's been able to create freely and be his own man, as opposed to the limiting and cutthroat environment of Hollywood.

He has written 30 plays and says storytelling is his passion.

Lange, who lives in Southern California with his wife, Mary, says he is enjoying his life and work.

Lange, who is from a family of media professionals such as his mother, trailblazing broadcaster Gerri Lange, and his actor-film-maker brother, Michael, has fond memories growing up in the Bay Area. While both are deceased, Lange reflects on their strength and creativity.

"My mother was strong. And my brother, I've never met a man better than him," he said

"Shakespeare Over My Shoulder" runs through June 7 at Theater 33 in San Francisco. The production's script is available on Amazon, where readers can appreciate and explore Lange's theories and creativity.

CITY OF OAKLAND REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR CITY WIDE SECURITY SERVICES

Contract Amount: TBD **Terms:** 3 Years

Project Description: The City of Oakland ("City") Department of Public Works, is soliciting proposals from qualified, licensed, and insured security service firms -to provide Citywide Security Services. The selected firm(s) will be responsible for delivering both armed and unarmed security services for specified City facilities, for the purpose of maintaining high levels of security at select City facilities.

Preproposal Meeting (Proposer Attendance Mandatory in Person):

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 03, 2026, 10:30 A.M., PT
BROADWAY CONFERENCE ROOM, DALZIEL BLDG
250 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA, 4th FLOOR
OAKLAND, CA 94612**

Proposal Submittal Deadline: Friday, June 12, 2026, by 2:00 P.M. via iSupplier.

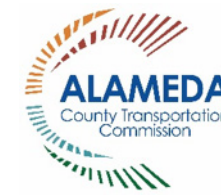
Reminders:

- All who wish to participate in this RFP must register (at least 5 days prior to submittal due date) through iSupplier at (<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/register-with-isupplier>) to avoid last minute submittal complications and receive addenda/updates on this RFP. For additional help registering and submitting your proposal to iSupplier please watch the user guide videos at (<https://www.oaklandca.gov/documents/isupplier-user-guides>).
- Did not receive an invitation? Start Early with iSupplier registration. Upon completion of registration, send an email to isupplier@oaklandca.gov listing "RFP for Citywide Security Services" as the subject and request an invitation to the RFP. The Contract Analyst will add your business to the RFP invitation.
- The following policies apply to this RFP: Equal Benefits • 50% L/SLBE • Living Wage • Campaign Reform Act • Professional Services Local Hire • Prompt Payment • Arizona Boycott • Dispute Disclosure • Border Wall Prohibition • Sanctuary City Contracting and Investment Ordinance.

Answers to Questions:

1. For project-related questions contact Contract Administration at contractadmin@oaklandca.gov
2. For iSupplier related questions after registration contact isupplier@oaklandca.gov

Asha Reed, City Clerk and Clerk of the City Council, Friday, May 29, 2026
The City Council reserves the right to reject all proposals.



1111 Broadway, Suite 800, Oakland, CA 94607

(510) 208-7400 • www.alamedactc.org

Invitation For Bid for Construction of East Bay Greenway Multimodal (Phase 1) San Leandro Construction Package (Bid No. R26-0012)

The Alameda County Transportation Commission (Alameda CTC) is seeking bids for a construction contract as indicated in the IFB and/or appropriate addenda.

Key Dates:

- Optional In-Person Pre-Bid Meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time (PT) at Alameda CTC, 1111 Broadway, Suite 800, Oakland, CA 94607
- Bid due date: June 29, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. PT
- Bidder inquiries due date: June 22, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. PT via Bid Express

All bid documents are available at <https://www.bidexpress.com/solicitations/47381>.

Submittals must be made in accordance with the instructions in the IFB. Any contract awarded must be in compliance with the local, state, and/or federal requirements.

NOTICE AND DIGEST

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE AN EASEMENT FOR PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY, STREET AND UTILITY PURPOSES OVER A PORTION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 260 OAK STREET, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, FROM THE VUKASIN FAMILY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$255,000; AND ADOPTING CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FINDINGS

An Ordinance authorizing the City Administrator to negotiate and execute a purchase agreement to purchase an easement for public right of way, streets and utility purposes over a portion of the real property located 260 Oak Street, Oakland, California, from The Vukasin Family Limited Partnership in the amount of \$255,000; and adopting California Environmental Quality Act findings.

Notice of Publication

This Ordinance was introduced at the City Council meeting, Tuesday evening, **May 5, 2026**, and passed to print **7 Ayes; 1 Excused: Gallo Final adoption** has been scheduled for the City Council meeting Tuesday evening **June 2, 2026, 3:30 P.M.**, at One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Council Chamber, 3rd floor, Oakland, California, and via Teleconference.

Three full copies are available for use and examination by the public in the Office of the City Clerk at One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, 1st floor, Oakland, California.

ASHA REED, City Clerk

Publication Date: Friday, **May 29, 2026.**

(One Time)

NOTICE AND DIGEST

ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE BORROWING OF FUNDS AND THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF 2026-27 NOTES PAYABLE FROM REVENUES RECEIVED FOR OR ACCRUED TO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE CITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026-27 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000,000, AND APPROVING CERTAIN RELATED MATTERS

The Ordinance would authorize the City to borrow up to Two Hundred Million Dollars (\$200,000,000) pursuant to California Government Code section 53850 et seq., to satisfy obligations of the City payable from the General Fund during Fiscal Year 2026-27. The authorized notes would be payable from taxes, revenues, income, cash receipts and other moneys that are received for or accrued to the General Fund of the City for Fiscal Year 2026-27, excluding moneys which, when received by the City, will be encumbered for a special purpose.

Notice of Publication

This Ordinance was introduced at the City Council meeting, Tuesday evening, May 19, 2026, and passed to print 7 Ayes; 1 Excused: Fife. Final adoption has been scheduled for the City Council meeting Tuesday evening June 2, 2026, 3:30 P.M., at One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Council Chamber, 3rd floor, Oakland, California, and via Teleconference.

Three full copies are available for use and examination by the public in the Office of the City Clerk at One Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, 1st floor, Oakland, California.

ASHA REED, City Clerk

Publication Date: Friday, **May 29, 2026.**