

What's New in Government Affairs

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LOCAL

POST ELECTION WRAP UP: This historical election has brought a great deal of change on the nation and local levels. Here are some real estate-related highlights:

- **Los Angeles County:** Measure R, the half-cent sales tax for transportation relief, passed. Also, Mark Ridley-Thomas defeated Bernard Parks in the election for the seat of retiring County Supervisor Yvonne Burke.
- **Los Angeles:** Measure A, the parcel tax for gang violence prevention programs failed to pass by less than 0.5%. Also, Measure B, to update low-rent housing authorization, passed.
- **Redondo Beach:** Both Measures DD and EE passed. These measures could make new projects in the city unfeasible, as a project's planners must take on substantial election costs and carrying costs, or ensure compliance with surrounding projects going back eight years. Watch this space for more updates on the impact of these measures on your business.
- **Santa Monica:** Proposition T, which would put strict limits on commercial development, failed.
- For a complete list of local election results, go to www.LAVOTE.net or www.smartvoter.org.

LOS ANGELES/SAN PEDRO: The City Planning Department denied the tract map for the proposed Ponte Vista development. The Daily Breeze reported on Nov. 5 that "Ponte Vista proponents said they are anticipating that developer Bob Bisno will ultimately downsize the project to about 1,700 units." Ponte Vista will go before the Area Planning Commission on Nov. 18.

STATE

State Election Highlights: Proposition 11, which reforms the process of redistricting state office, passed by a slim margin of 50.5%. This proposition removes the authority for redrawing state office boundaries from the elected officials themselves and gives it to a commission comprised of Democrats, Republicans, and representatives of neither party selected from the registered voter pool in a multilevel process.

FEDERAL

Federal Stimulus Package: The House of Representatives may hold a "lame duck" session starting November 16 to take action on \$61 billion in economic stimulus funding. This stimulus package was initially passed by the House in September, however it failed to pass the Senate. Reuters news service reports that House leaders are hoping to bring it forward again in a post-election session of Congress.

Why Government Affairs?

Every city makes decisions on taxes, point-of-sale, signs, rent control, property rights, and more. This impacts your client's ability to buy, sell, or develop their properties and your ability to do business. The South Bay Association of REALTORS® Government Affairs Program protects and advocates for you. For more information, call SBAOR Government Affairs at (310)326-3010 ext. 715