

Celebrating Prop 50's Passage

MWD 12-14-25 Meeting

By Jane Wishon

Congratulations to all of us for passing Prop 50. Your vote, your postcards, your conversations with your neighbors and family, your door knocks and texts and phone banking are why Prop 50 passed with 64.4% of the vote - that's close to 2/3rds! We talked about the importance of turning out "Our voters," and we did that, winning in LA County by 49 points (74.3% of the vote). In fact, all 10 of the most populous Counties voted yes on Prop 50.

And unlike the amazing wins in New Jersey, Virginia, New York and most recently Miami, there was only one thing on the ballot: this was a referendum on Trump, pure and simple. The whole country came together to help us pass Prop 50 - we had phone bankers from places like Alabama, Arkansas, and Texas, as well as blue states such as Illinois, New York, and Massachusetts. We were all hungry for something we could do to stop Trump after months of feeling hopeless and powerless. And we overwhelmingly gave Trump the middle finger!

Some great news in the results so far from the exit polls (full turnout data will be available in January). The coalition that we rode to victory in the Presidential election of 2020 may be coming back together.

In 2020 the Youth vote (18 to 29 year olds) was 75% for Biden. In 2024 the youth vote fell to only 58% for Harris.

In 2020 the Latino vote was 75% for Biden. In 2024 the Latino vote fell to 59% for Harris.

For Prop 50 we saw those percentages rebound to Youth vote 80% yes and Latino vote 71% yes. This is great news, but we cannot take that support for granted.

Interestingly enough, 92% of voters in the exit polls felt that districts should be drawn by an independent redistricting commission, but most saw the need for this temporary "fix."

We learned some important lessons in this campaign that had to come together in just 8 weeks.

- That it's important to have conversations with voters (not just talk at them) and let what we learned inform changes to the scripts and messaging.
- That the messaging for communities of color and scripts in languages other than English should be written by representatives of those communities.

- That we should include Labor, Indivisible, and other groups of activists in leadership positions - that we can and should truly work together, setting aside internal differences to focus on pushing back fascism.
- That grand ideas are great but we need to focus on the issue that affects the everyday person – affordability.

Meanwhile, it seems like there's a new atrocity coming out of this regime every day. We can and should push back, but it can be so easy to be overwhelmed by the firehose of greed, corruption, and evil.

Every day, Senator Adam Schiff has begun to post on YouTube. He covers one atrocity from that day with real facts and information to help all of us.

<https://www.youtube.com/@senadamschiff>

And, yes, there are plans for all the things that need to be reinstated, repealed, reauthorized, and repaired as soon as we are in power again.

We have a great chance of taking control of both the House and the Senate next year, if we work hard. We can turn our powerlessness into action and stop this regime in its tracks.