

## What is a Recall?

The California Election Code provides recalls as a mechanism for the public to attempt to remove elected public officials from office before the end of their term. The last recall in the City of Oxnard was more than 30 years ago, in 1984.

## Why is this called a Special Election?

“Special Election” simply means an election that is scheduled at other than the usual election date for a specific purpose. City of Oxnard elections are normally held in November of even-numbered years, and are called “General Elections.” The last Special election in Oxnard was in 2013. This election is being conducted entirely by the City of Oxnard, while General Elections are handled by the County of Ventura.

## How is voting in a recall different?

In a recall, voters make a choice for each individual office in a two-step process:

In the first step, voters will decide either in favor of (YES) or against (NO) the recall (removal) of each officeholder

In the second step, the voter will choose the candidate they wish to take that office, if the recall is successful

Please also note another difference on this Special Election ballot: voters will need to “**fill in the bubble**” of their selections with a black pen, as opposed to the straight line drawn to one’s selection in the General Elections.

OXNARD	
Shall <b>NAME</b> be recalled (removed) from the office of Member of the City Council of the City of Oxnard? ¿Debería ser destituido (eliminado) <b>NOMBRE</b> del cargo de Miembro del Concejo Municipal de la Ciudad de Oxnard?	YES/SÍ NO/NO
Candidates to succeed <b>NAME</b> as Member of the City Council of the City of Oxnard if he is recalled. Term Ending: December, 2018 Vote for ONE Candidatos a suceder a <b>NOMBRE</b> como Miembro del Concejo Municipal de la Ciudad de Oxnard si él es destituido. Término Concluye: Diciembre de 2018 Vote por UNO	
FIRST CANDIDATE	
SECOND CANDIDATE	
THIRD CANDIDATE	

An example of the recall ballot format.

## If I don't vote on the recall question, but I do vote for a replacement candidate, is my vote for the candidate tabulated?

Yes. The Yes/No step for the recall is independent of the candidate voting step. You can vote in both steps, or one, or the other, or neither, for each office. If there’s no vote (YES or NO) on the recall question, it is not tabulated, but the vote for a candidate will still be counted. The reverse is also true: if you vote in the recall step but you choose not to vote for a replacement candidate, your vote in the recall step still counts. Voters are encouraged to complete both steps, regardless of whether they are for or against the recall, to fully exercise their right to vote.

## Can I write in a different name on the blank line and vote for that person instead?

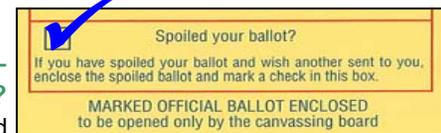
Only votes for valid “write-in” candidates will be counted. In order to become a write-in candidate, a person has to go through a nomination process similar to the candidates whose names are pre-printed on the ballot, in order to qualify. As of the writing of this brochure, there are no qualified write-in candidates for this election.

## How do I Vote-By-Mail? (aka “Absentee ballot”)

If you are a Permanent Vote-By-Mail voter, you automatically received a Vote-By-Mail ballot in the mail shortly after receiving your Voter Information Guide. Use the yellow envelope provided to return your ballot, and make sure you sign it, date it, and print your address. If someone is returning it for you, they must print and sign their name in the side column.

- To mail it, put a first class stamp on it and drop it in the mailbox . Ballots returned by mail must be **postmarked on or before Election Day, May 1st** AND must be received no later than three days after Election Day.
- Alternatively, you can hand-deliver it to the City Clerk’s office during regular business hours or drop it off at any polling place on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To request a Vote By Mail ballot, complete the form on the back of your Voter Information Guide and mail it to the City Clerk’s office; the request must be received by April 24, 2018. You can also visit the City Clerk’s office in person to request a ballot through April 30.



## I made a mistake on my Vote-By-Mail ballot, how can I get a new one?

If you make a mistake, that’s called a “spoiled ballot.” Seal the spoiled ballot in the yellow envelope and check the box at the bottom left of the envelope to indicate that it’s spoiled. You can submit the spoiled ballot to the City Clerk’s office to trade it for a new one. If you send your spoiled ballot to the City Clerk’s office before April 24, 2018, you will receive a new ballot by mail. You can also visit the City Clerk’s office in person to replace a spoiled ballot through April 30, or go to your polling place on election day to trade a spoiled ballot.

## I always vote at the polls on Election Day. Will I still vote at my usual polling place?

Your polling place may be different from the polling place you went to for the last election. Please check the back page of your Voter Information Guide to find your assigned polling location for this election, or view the map at [www.Oxnard.org/precinctmap](http://www.Oxnard.org/precinctmap).

## How many votes does it take for the recall to be successful?

A simple majority (50% + 1) will determine if the recall is successful for each officeholder. If a majority of voters vote “yes” on the recall question (determined separately for each officeholder), then the recall is successful and the replacement candidate who gets the most votes is elected to serve the remainder of the term. If a majority of voters vote “no” on the recall question, the current officeholder will remain in place to finish out his/her term. Each office is voted on individually; therefore one or more recalls may be successful while others are not.

## When will we know the final results of the election?

The Elections Official (City Clerk) has up to the fourth Friday after the election to certify the results. The City’s website, [www.Oxnard.org](http://www.Oxnard.org), will be updated periodically with semi-official results until the final certification.