# **ELECTIONS** Rent control tanking, gas tax on fumes, Newsom, Feinstein cruising, poll finds

### By John Woolfolk

**CALIFORNIA** » A new poll Wednesday found that even with two-thirds of California voters calling housing affordability a big problem, support for a hotly contested ballot measure that would greenlight rent control expansion is crumbling.

The San Francisco-based Public Policy Institute of California's poll just weeks before Election Day also found that an initiative to repeal a gas tax is failing to gain traction, while Democrats Gavin Newsom in the governor's race and U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein are cruising to the finish line with comfortable leads over their rivals.

"The biggest change in the survey was the growth in opposition to Proposition 10," said PPIC President and CEO Mark Baldassare, referring to the ballot initiative that would expand local governments' authority to enact rent control on residential property.

Just 25 percent of likely California voters said they would vote for Proposition 10, down sharply from 36 percent who said they supported the initiative in the PPIC's last survey published Sept. 26 and well short of the majority needed for approval. Opposition soared to 60 percent from 48 percent in September. The poll found 15 percent remain undecided, almost unchanged from 16 percent a month ago.

Proposition 10 would repeal the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act of 1995, which prohibits California cities from limiting how much landlords charge for newer apartments built since then. The act also prohibits rent controls on townhomes or condominiums and lets landlords of older rent-controlled prop-

a new occupant after a tenant moves out.

At a time when housing affordability has reached crisis levels in California's urban areas, debate has raged on whether more rent control will ease the burden on tenants or make it worse.

The poll found that 66 percent of likely voters consider housing affordability a "big problem" and that 23 percent say it's "somewhat of a problem.'

Vernon, a Michael 26-year-old who works in hospital administration at Stanford, said that with rent on his one-bedroom Mountain View apartment approaching \$3,000 a month, he'd like to see Prop 10 pass.

"Rent at my apartment complex has risen about \$300 per month within the last two years," said Vernon, who participated in the poll and is registered to vote with no party preference.

But Dan Bosshart, a 61-year-old Lafayette lawyer and Democrat, was among poll respondents inclined to vote against Prop 10, arguing it will drive up rent by reducing supply of rental properties.

"You create a disincentive for people to invest in rental real estate," Bosshart said. 'We just don't have enough rental housing."

Opponents, including business groups and property owners, have spent more than \$18 million fighting Prop 10. Supporters, including progressive and labor groups, have spent more than \$12 million promoting it.

Matt Regan, senior vice president of public policy for the Bay Area Council, a business-sponsored public policy advocacy organization that opposes Prop 10, was glad to hear the opposition campaign was gaining ground.

'The reason we have an

we have a shortage," Regan said Wednesday. "It's a law of economics — price controls limit supply. This is a price control. We see it as another impact on supply, which is the last thing we need in this situation."

The Prop 10 campaign said Wednesday the latest poll "is out of line with our internal polling as well as other external polls, and we firmly believe that this ballot measure will finish strong." A USC Dornsife-Los Angeles Times poll this month had 41 percent in support and 37 percent opposed, while SurveyUSA had 35 percent in support and 45 percent opposed.

The survey found that Proposition 6, which would repeal a 12-cent-per-gallon tax on gasoline, had made insignificant gains in the final weeks of the campaign. Support inched up to just 41 percent among likely voters in the October poll from 39 percent in September, while opposition ebbed to 48 percent from 52 percent last month, and 11 percent were undecided.

The gas tax increase is targeted for road and transit construction, and many say they're willing to pay.

"We have a lot of roads in need of repair," Bosshart said. "As cars have gotten more efficient, there's less gas being sold, so I think it's way past due to raise that rate.'

In the governor's race, the latest poll found Newsom's support among likely voters has slid to 49 percent from 51 percent last month and 55 percent in July. But Republican John Cox is stuck at 38 percent support, virtually unchanged from 39 percent a month ago and only slightly better than his 31 percent showing in July. Before the June primary elec-

erties charge market rate to affordability crisis is because tion, a PPIC poll in May had Newsom at 25 percent and Cox at 19 percent. Newsom ended up getting 33.7 percent and Cox 25.4 percent.

Feinstein, the Senate's oldest member at 85, regained some ground lost in September amid Supreme Court confirmation hearings for Brett Kavanaugh. Republicans and her opponent, fellow Democratic state Sen. Kevin de León, criticized her handling of allegations by a Palo Alto professor that Kavanaugh had sexually assaulted her when they were in high school.

The latest poll found Feinstein's support among likely voters has risen to 43 percent from 40 percent in September, though still down from 46 percent in July. De León's support was 27 percent, down slightly from 29 percent last month, though still above his 24 percent showing in June.

Among other findings, the poll found that competitive races for congressional seats in the House of Representatives, where Democrats are hoping to wrest majority control from Republicans, are too close to call in the state.

The poll found Democratic candidates were preferred 60 percent to 30 percent in Democratic-held districts, while Republican candidates were preferred 55 percent to 40 percent in Republican-held districts.

In the 11 California districts deemed competitive by the Cook Political Report – nine of which are currently held by Republicans - likely voters were divided, with 49 percent favoring the Republican candidate and 44 percent the Democratic candidate.

"As we look at the competitive House races in California, it's a tossup," Baldassare said.

## **STATE POLITICS** NorCal vs. SoCal in battle of the ballots

### **By Laurel Rosenhall**

California is politically lopsided: Most of the people live in the south, but most of the political power is based in the north.

For the last several years, the majority of politicians elected statewide have been northern Californians-including the governor, lieutenant governor, schools superintendent and both U.S. senators.

That could change after November's election, because a striking number of statewide races this year pit a NorCal candidate against SoCal candidate, testing the political power and competing priorities of the Golden State's two most populous regions.

But don't count on it.

Northern California is likely to continue to dominate for reasons that largely boil down to this: People in the Bay Area just vote a lot more than those in Los Angeles. Economic and demographic changes overlap with voting trends, together situating California's political nucleus in the heavily Democratic region in and around San Francisco.

"There is some built-in disadvantage for statewide candidates coming from the Los Angeles area," said Mark Baldassare, president of the Public Policy Institute of California.

"The voter turnout and participation is disappointing in L.A., compared to the rest of the state.'

Even though Los Angeles is the state's most populous county, it has the lowest turnout rate for registered voters. Of the 58 counties, L.A.'s turnout was dead last in the 2014 election and second-to-last in the June primary. Participation is so abysmal in Los Angeles County that voters defy the recent trend.

there actually cast fewer ballots than voters in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area-even though Los Angeles County has 1.2 million more people registered to vote.

Turnout is better in other populous SoCal counties such as Orange and San Diego, but still not as strong as in the Bay Area.

"It's a tale of two economies. Where you have a declining middle class, you have fewer voters and less civic participation," said Mike Madrid, a GOP political consultant with expertise in Latino voting trends.

Southern California is home to a greater share of Latinos than the Bay Area, and has many more people living in poverty-both characteristics correlated with low voting. Per-capita income is much higher in the Bay Area and jobs there are being created faster. That not only means people are more likely to vote but also gives candidates from the region a stronger network for fundraising.

"As the economy has separated, so has our democracy," Madrid said. "The nine-county Bay Area is becoming whiter, wealthier and older. And that's creating a power base that is driving the political leadership and discourse for the rest of the state."

Of course, voters don't always choose the candidate from their own region, and a home address in the Bay Area is no guarantee of a candidate's success. Other factors – such as politics, fundraising and the power of incumbency – also come into play.

But with seven of the nine statewide races on November's ballot featuring a north-south matchup, the question now is whether voters will

Legal Notices Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices	Legal Notices
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the meeting on Friday, November 16, 2 Chambers, 501 Low Gap Road, L following project at the time listed o CASE#: OA_2018-0008/R DATE FILED: 9/7/2018 OWNER: Numerous Own APPLICANT: County of M	<b>018, at 9:00 a.m</b> ., to Jkiah, California, wi r as soon thereafter a _2018-0005 ers	ty Board of Supervi be held in the Boa Il conduct a public	c hearing on the	contact the fol- lowing person in writing with- in 10 days of the date of this notice at the following ad-	Sell thereunder r e c o r d e d 7/12/2018 as In- strument No. 2018-08362 of said Official Re- cords, WILL SELL on 11/15/2018 At the main en-	the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. The prop- erty heretofore described is be- ing sold "as is".The total amount of the unpaid balance	reason, the suc- cessful bidder's sole and exclu- sive remedy shall be the re- turn of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse.Dated:	OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be post- poned one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant

#### AGENT: Paul Junker, Michael Baker International (Consultant) STAFF PLANNER: Mary Lynn Hunt

**REQUEST:** Mendocino County proposes to (1) Amend the Mendocino County Code-Chapter 10A.17-Cannabis Cultivation, (2) Amend Chapter 20.242-Cannabis Cultivation Site, of the Inland Zoning Ordinance (Mendocino County Code, Title 20, Division I), (3) Add Chapter 20.118 Cannabis Accommodation Combining District and Chapter 20.119 Commercial Cannabis Prohibition Combining District to the Inland Zoning Ordinance (Mendocino County Code, Title 20, Division I), and (4) Rezone certain properties to apply the Cannabis Accommodation Combining District in areas within the Covelo Core and Covelo-Fairbanks Road, Laytonville, South Leggett, and the Mitchell Creek areas near Fort Bragg; and apply the Cannabis Prohibition Combining District to the Deerwood and Boonville Road-Woodyglen areas of Ukiah Valley.

SUMMARY: Amendments to County Code Chapters 10A.17 Mendocino Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance and 20.242 Cannabis Cultivation Sites would provide greater flexibility for setbacks and lot sizes in the review of cannabis cultivation permits. The new Chapter 20.118 Cannabis Accommodation (CA) Combining District is intended to support continued operation of existing cultivation sites and the new Chapter 20.119 Cannabis Prohibition (CP) Combining District is intended to prohibit new commercial cannabis uses and would sunset existing permitted commercial cannabis uses. Also proposed is the establishment of the first CA and CP Districts. **LOCATION:** Unincorporated inland areas within Mendocino County in addition. specific areas as noted. Mitchell Creek Area, Fort Bragg; Covelo Core, Covelo Fairbanks Road, Covelo; Laytonville; South Leggett; Deerwood and Boonville Road-Woodyglen areas of Ukiah Valley. The areas not included are, the city limits of Ukiah, Fort Bragg, Willits and Point Arena. Not applicable to those areas within the designated Coastal Zone Areas of the County.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: Addendum to adopted Mitigated Negative Declaration

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION: The Planning Commission, at their October 18, 2018 meeting, adopted a resolution recommending that the Board of Supervisors approve Ordinance Amendment No. OA 2018-0008, which will make amendments to Chapters 10A.17 and 20.242 and add Chapters 20.118 and 20.119 to the Mendocino County Code, with modifications as specified in the resolution. The resolution further recommends that the Board of Supervisors (1) approve the rezoning of the Covelo Core, Covelo-Fairbanks Road, Laytonville and South Leggett areas to the CA Combining District, and (2) approve the rezoning of the Deerwood and Boonville Road-Woodyglen areas to the CP Combining District. The Planning Commission specifically recommended that the Board of Supervisors not rezone the Mitchell Creek areas near Fort Bragg to the CA Combining District.

The staff report and notice are available for public review at 860 North Bush Street, Ukiah, California and on the Department of Planning and Building Services website at:

https://www.mendocinocounty.org/government/planning-building-services/public-notices

Your comments regarding the above project(s) are invited. Written comments should be submitted to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, at 501 Low Gap Road, Room 1010, Ukiah, California, 95482, no later than Thursday, November 15, 2018. Oral comments may be presented to the Board of Supervisors during the public hearing.

The Board of Supervisors action shall be final. If you challenge the project in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors or the Board of Supervisors at, or prior to, the public hearing. All persons are invited to appear and present testimony in this matter.

Additional information regarding the above noted item(s) may be obtained by calling the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors at 463-4441, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., or the Department of Planning and Building Services at 234-6650, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. Should you desire notification of the Board's decision you may do so by requesting notification in writing and providing a self-addressed stamped envelope to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

BRENT SCHULTZ, Director of Planning and Building Services

Publish: 11/1/18

(707)-489-1718. trance to the the property to October 16, 2924g of the Publish: Mendocino be sold and rea-2018REDWOOD California Civil County Courtsonable 11/01/2018 house, 100 mated house, 100 mated costs, SERVICES, INC., requires that in-North State expenses and as said Trustee for m at ion Street, Ukiah, advances at the ATTN: ROBERT about trustee CA 95482 at time of the ini- CULLEN P.O. s a l e 10:00 AM AT tial publication BOX 6875SANTA postponements PUBLIC AUC- of the Notice of ROSA, CA 95406- be made availa-TION TO THE sale is: 0875By:ROBERT ble to you and HIGHEST BID- \$700,944.53.In C U L L E N, to the public, as DEP FOP CASH addition to PresidentNOTIC a courtesy to NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE UNDER DEED OF TRUSTLOAN: RATHBLOTT O T H E R : O T H E R : 91210758 T.S. #: DER FOR CASH addition DER FOR CASH addition to PresidentNOTIC a courtesy to (payable at the cash, the Trust- E TO POTENTIAL those not pres-time of sale in ee will accept a BIDDERS: If you ent at the sale. lawful money of cashier's check are considering If you wish to the United drawn on a bidding on this learn whether States), all state or nation- property lien, your sale date right, title and al bank, a check you should un- has been post-interest con-drawn by a derstand that poped and if 18081-PRNOTE: IS A Y OF THERE SUMMARY THE INFORMA-TION IN THIS D O C U M E N T ATTACHED.\*\*PU interest con- drawn by a derstand that poned, and, if veyed to and state or federal there are risks applicable, the RSUANT TO CIV-IL CODE Section 2923.3(a), THE SUMMARY OF now held by it credit union, or involved in bidunder said a check drawn ding at a trust- time and date Deed of Trust in by a state or ee auction. 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