

IN 2006 OAKLAND VOTERS ADOPTED A NEW SYSTEM FOR ELECTIONS:

# RANKED CHOICE VOTING

THE RESULT: ELECTIONS WHERE MORE PEOPLE VOTED AND HAD MORE SAY IN THE FINAL OUTCOME

## OAKLAND MAYORAL ELECTION

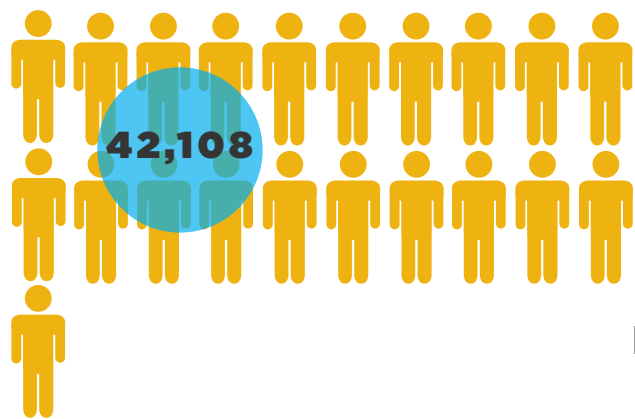
THE 2010 ELECTION SAW MASSIVELY IMPROVED VOTER INVOLVEMENT

2006: OLD SYSTEM

2010: RANKED CHOICE

### VOTED FOR WINNER

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO VOTED FOR THE WINNER.



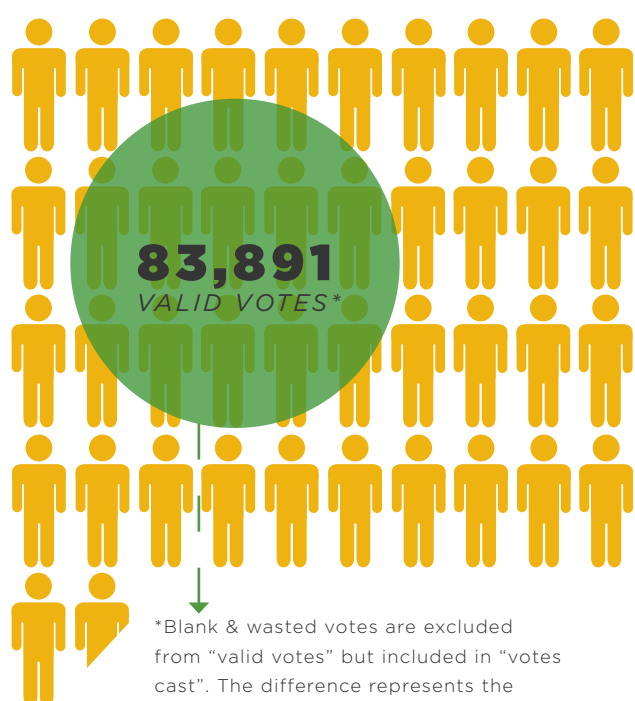
IMPROVEMENT MEANS THAT MORE PEOPLE INFLUENCED THE FINAL OUTCOME AND THE EVENTUAL WINNER HAS A GREATER CONSENSUS.



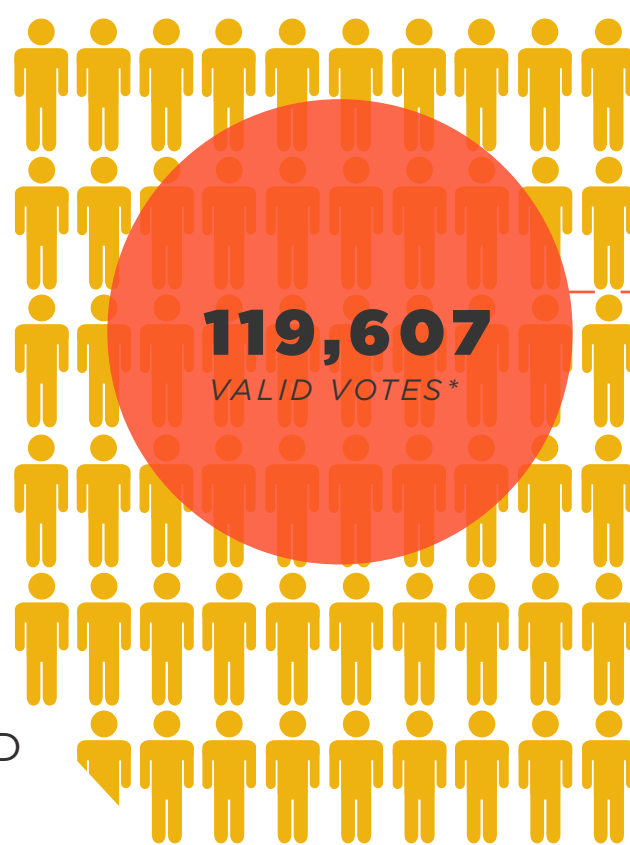
28% IMPROVED

### VOTERS PARTICIPATED

"PARTICIPATING VOTERS" ARE VOTERS THAT CAST A VALID BALLOT FOR ANY MAYORAL CANDIDATE\*.



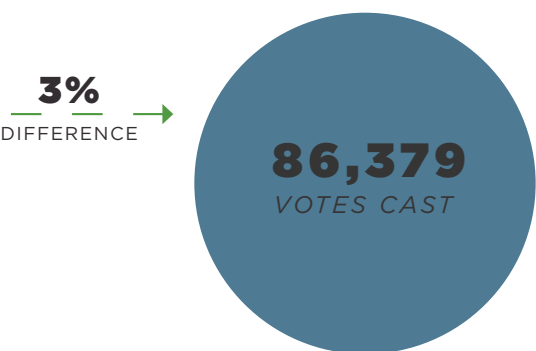
IMPROVEMENT MEANS THAT MORE PEOPLE TURNED OUT TO THE POLLS AND CAST VALID VOTES.



42% IMPROVED

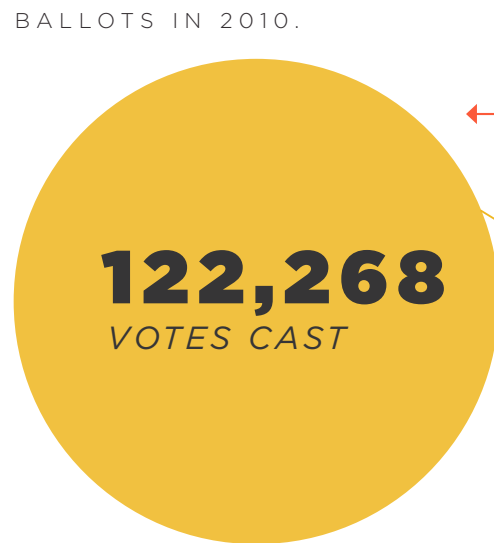
### VOID & NULL VOTES

"VOTES CAST" INCLUDES ALL VOTES SUBMITTED INCLUDING INVALID AND BLANK BALLOTS.



3% DIFFERENCE

A DECREASE IN THE RATIO BETWEEN VOTES CAST AND VOTERS PARTICIPATED MEANS MORE PEOPLE SUBMITTED CORRECT AND COMPLETE BALLOTS IN 2010.



1% FEWER NULL VOTES

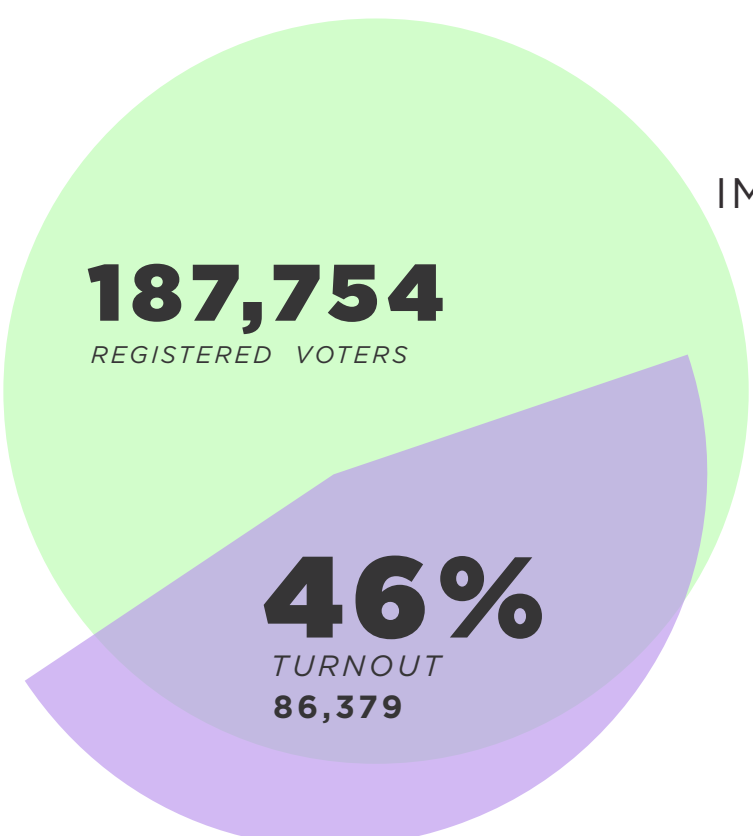
2% DIFFERENCE

ONLY 0.3% OF CAST VOTES IN 2010 WERE INVALID

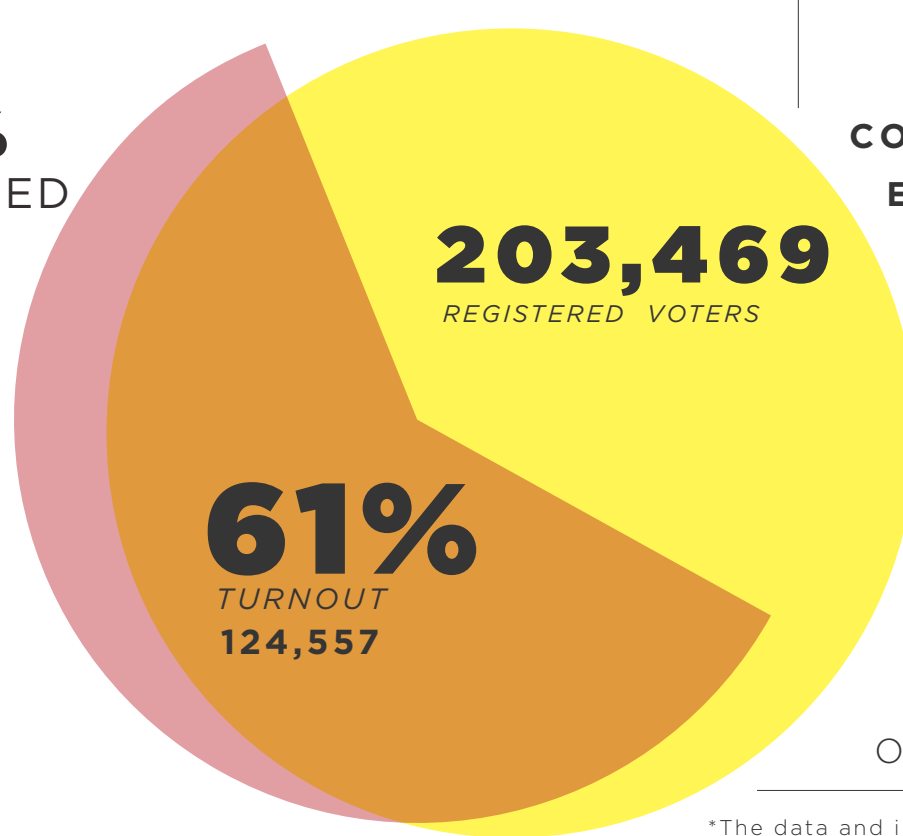
1 person icon = 2000 VOTERS

### VOTER TURNOUT

"VOTER TURNOUT" IS THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT SHOWED UP TO THE ELECTION VS. THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT WERE REGISTERED TO VOTE.



EVEN WITH ONLY 8.4% GROWTH IN REGISTERED VOTERS, TURNOUT INCREASED BY 15%.



15% IMPROVED

## WHAT IS RCV?

A candidate with an absolute majority (50%) wins. If no candidate secures an absolute majority, a runoff election takes place between the two highest finishing candidates.

Instead of picking just your top candidate, when you vote, you rank your top three.

When a runoff election is needed, instead of having voters head back to the polls, an automatic runoff takes place using the ranked choices.

The last place candidate is eliminated and each of their supporter's second choice candidates are awarded their vote. The process continues in this fashion, one by one, until a single candidate receives an absolute majority.

YOUR BALLOT

CITY MAYOR 1st ROUND		ELECTION RESULTS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE A	20%
<input type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE B	12%
<input type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE C	11%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE D	9%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE E	48%

"CANDIDATE D" IS DROPPED

YOUR VOTE IS CHANGED TO "CANDIDATE E"

YOUR BALLOT

CITY MAYOR RUNOFF		RUNOFF RESULTS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE A	24%
<input type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE B	14%
<input type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE C	12%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE D	51%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CANDIDATE E	51%

AFTER RUNOFF, "CANDIDATE E" HAS AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

## WHY RCV?

RCV IMPROVES VOTER EMPOWERMENT!

- COUNTS votes more effectively
- ENABLES true voter preference
- REDUCES number of elections
- DECREASES wasted votes
- IMPROVES voter turnout



EllaBakerCenter.org  
OaklandRising.org

\*The data and information contained herein was derived, with consent, from "Ranked Choice Voting Empowers Oakland Voters: A Comparison with Top-Two Runoff" by David Cary, 2011