

2026 GAD Report

The GAD Nation held our 2026 Fly-Up meeting in Sacramento on April 1st.

Attached are some selected slides from the full days presentation that are worth sharing. See the attached pdf.

CA Voter Turnout since 1916. A notable peek of voter engagement from the mid 60's to mid 70's and then voter apathy took over and it's been down hill ever since.

The largest number of open seats in many years will be in 2026, then it's unlikely to see much turnover for the next ten years thereafter.

Top two issues for all voters, 1) Cost of living, economy, inflation and 2) Housing costs and housing availability. Voters are finally paying attention to housing issues!

Governor's race, with SIXTY – TWO names appearing on the June 2nd open primary it will be a very interesting election. Only the top two of these 62 will be on the November ballot. Four of the top five candidates have been interviewed by CAR. Tom Steyer was not interviewed because he has been very clear about his intentions so much so that CAR, CBIA, CCPA and IBEW have launched a \$30 million add campaign targeting him and only him. We believe any of the other top four candidates can be beneficial to our industry. But Steyer would be a serious threat.

CAR has also launched a PR campaign "Operation Growth" to target and defeat local elected officials who have been bad for housing and growth.

NOTEWORTHY – LAR should coordinate with CVAR after the primaries and see if we have any especially bad candidates that should be targeted. For the primaries I'm not aware of anyone worthy of the special negative attention.