



To: Interested Parties
From: Growth Machine Fund¹; Abundance Network
Date: May 5, 2026
Re: May LA Mayoral Primary Polling Memo

Given that the last public poll in the LA Mayor’s race was conducted over a month ago, we surveyed 531 likely voters with Tavern Research to gauge where the race stands before voters receive their mail ballots. Fielded over text to web from May 01, 2026, to May 04, 2026, the responses were weighted by gender, race, age, education, match likelihood, and vote history. The margin of error is +/- 6.1%.

Bass hits a ceiling while Raman & Pratt vie for a ticket to Round 2

As Nithya Raman and Spencer Pratt’s numbers continue to rise from early March polling, Mayor Karen Bass’s numbers are stubbornly stuck between 20-25% support from the primary electorate. The most unpopular Democrat we asked about in our poll, Bass is only 4 points behind Pratt and 6 points behind Raman, an incredibly weak position for an incumbent with near universal name ID. Importantly, this is the 3rd survey confirming Nithya Raman is in third place in this race as of the writing of this memo. In fact, in the Poll Average, she is currently a half point behind Pratt, and two points behind Pratt in the survey we just fielded.

Candidates	Emerson College (March 7-9, 2026)	Berkeley IGS (March 9-15, 2026)	UCLA Luskin (March 15-29, 2026)	Tavern Research (May 1-4, 2026)	Poll Average
Undecided	51	26	40	29	36
Karen Bass	19	25	25	22	23
Spencer Pratt	10	14	11	18	13
Nithya Raman	9	17	9	16	13
Adam Miller	4	6	3	6	5
Rae Huang	3	8	3	5	5
Someone else	3	4	9	4	5

¹ A Project of Abundance Network.



Raman is the only candidate who beats Bass in a 1-on-1 race

Despite “just” trailing Pratt in our data for Round 1, Raman bests Bass and Pratt in hypothetical head-to-head matchups between the candidates. Both Bass and Raman beat Pratt in these match-ups, though Bass’s performance vs. Pratt is driven mostly by the fact that people know her party affiliation (Democrat) more than they know the same for Raman or Pratt. Spencer Pratt, despite national media attention and social media virality, does not prevail in any head-to-head match-up in this data. We construct these head-to-head match-up estimates by combining voters' responses to the question about those candidate choices, and use a statistical model to predict (impute) the preferences of those who were undecided in their responses or who dropped off the survey early and did not answer the question.

Head to Head Matchups	Candidate Candidate		Margin
	1	2	
(From a statistical model that imputes undecided voters & respondents who dropped off the survey before this question)	Raman	Bass	Raman +7
	Bass	Pratt	Bass +31
	Raman	Pratt	Raman +5

Los Angeles, CA Toplines

Online sample of 533 likely voters fielded over text to web from May 01, 2026 to May 05, 2026 and weighted by gender, race, age, education, match likelihood, and vote history. The margin of error is 6.1%.

1. Please select your gender:

Male.....	46%
Female.....	54%

2. What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

No high school diploma.....	2%
High school diploma or equivalent.....	11%
Some college, no degree.....	30%
Associate's degree.....	14%
Bachelor's degree.....	24%
Advanced degree (such as Masters, Professional, or Doctorate degree)	19%

3. Choose the race or ethnicity you consider yourself to be:

White.....	46%
Black or African American.....	9%
Hispanic or Latino/a.....	31%
Asian.....	6%
American Indian or Alaska Native.....	0%
Other race.....	8%

4. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Donald Trump is handling his job as president?

Strongly approve.....	16%
Somewhat approve.....	7%
Somewhat disapprove.....	4%
Strongly disapprove.....	73%
Not sure.....	0%
Total Approve	23%
Total Disapprove	77%

Net Total Approve -55%

5. Did you vote in the 2024 presidential election?

Yes, I voted.....	97%
No, I didn't vote.....	3%
I'm not sure.....	0%

6. Who did you vote for in the 2024 presidential election?

(Asked only of respondents who answered 'voted' to voted_2024)

Democrat Kamala Harris.....	74%
Republican Donald Trump.....	25%
Libertarian Chase Oliver.....	0%
Green Party candidate Jill Stein.....	0%
Independent Robert F. Kennedy Jr.....	0%
Someone else.....	0%

7. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent, or something else?

Democrat.....	45%
Republican.....	14%
Independent.....	30%
Something else.....	11%

8. If you had to choose, would you say you typically lean more towards Democrats or more towards Republicans?

(Asked only of respondents who did not answer 'democrat' to party_self_id and Asked only of respondents who did not answer 'republican' to party_self_id)

(n=221)

Democrats.....	53%
Republicans.....	16%
Neither.....	31%

9. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the following people?: Joe Biden

Very favorable.....	19%
Somewhat favorable.....	38%
Somewhat unfavorable.....	17%
Very unfavorable.....	24%

Not sure/never heard of.....	2%
Total Favorable	57%
Total Unfavorable	41%
Net Total Favorable	16%

10. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the following people?: Donald Trump

Very favorable.....	15%
Somewhat favorable.....	7%
Somewhat unfavorable.....	3%
Very unfavorable.....	74%
Not sure/never heard of.....	0%
Total Favorable	23%
Total Unfavorable	77%
Net Total Favorable	-55%

11. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the following people?: Kamala Harris

Very favorable.....	29%
Somewhat favorable.....	34%
Somewhat unfavorable.....	11%
Very unfavorable.....	25%
Not sure/never heard of.....	1%
Total Favorable	62%
Total Unfavorable	36%
Net Total Favorable	26%

12. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable view of the following people?: J.D. Vance

Very favorable.....	14%
Somewhat favorable.....	9%
Somewhat unfavorable.....	3%
Very unfavorable.....	72%
Not sure/never heard of.....	3%
Total Favorable	22%
Total Unfavorable	75%
Net Total Favorable	-53%

13. How likely are you to vote in the June 2, 2026 primary election for Mayor of Los Angeles?

Very likely	90%
Somewhat likely	7%
Not very likely	2%
Not at all likely	2%

14. If the primary election for Mayor of Los Angeles were held today, who would you vote for?

Karen Bass	16%
Spencer Pratt	15%
Nithya Raman	12%
Adam Miller	2%
Rae Huang	4%
Juanita Lopez	1%
John Logsdon	0%
Asaad Alnajjar	0%
Bryant Acosta	0%
Nelson Cheng	0%
Tish Hyman	0%
Suzy Kim	0%
Andrej Selivra	0%
Andrew Kim	1%
Griselda Diaz	0%
Misael Ortega	0%
Other	1%
Not sure	46%

15. If you had to choose, which of these candidates would you be most likely to support?

(Asked only of respondents who answered 'not_sure' to primary_first_choice)

(n=214)

Karen Bass	5%
Spencer Pratt	1%
Nithya Raman	1%
Adam Miller	1%
Rae Huang	0%
Juanita Lopez	3%
John Logsdon	0%

Asaad Alnajjar.....	1%
Bryant Acosta.....	0%
Nelson Cheng.....	0%
Tish Hyman.....	0%
Suzy Kim.....	0%
Andrej Selivra.....	0%
Andrew Kim.....	1%
Griselda Diaz.....	0%
Misael Ortega.....	0%
Other.....	3%
Not sure.....	83%

16. If you did change your mind, who would be your second choice?

Karen Bass.....	21%
Spencer Pratt.....	8%
Nithya Raman.....	13%
Adam Miller.....	12%
Rae Huang.....	10%
Juanita Lopez.....	4%
John Logsdon.....	3%
Asaad Alnajjar.....	1%
Bryant Acosta.....	2%
Nelson Cheng.....	1%
Tish Hyman.....	6%
Suzy Kim.....	4%
Andrej Selivra.....	2%
Andrew Kim.....	6%
Griselda Diaz.....	6%
Misael Ortega.....	3%

17. Do you think you might change your mind before the election, or will you definitely vote for {primary_first_choice}?

(Asked only of respondents who did not answer 'other' to primary_first_choice && Asked only of respondents who did not answer 'not_sure' to primary_first_choice)

(n=244)

Definitely voting for them.....	61%
Might change my mind.....	39%

18. If the primary election for Mayor of Los Angeles were held today among these candidates, who would you vote for?

Karen Bass.....	22%
Nithya Raman.....	16%
Spencer Pratt.....	18%
Rae Huang.....	5%
Adam Miller.....	6%
Other.....	4%
Not sure.....	29%

19. For each of the following political figures, please indicate if you have a very favorable opinion, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion. If you're not familiar with the name, please indicate that.: Karen Bass

Very favorable.....	9%
Somewhat favorable.....	29%
Somewhat unfavorable.....	19%
Very unfavorable.....	37%
Not familiar with the name.....	6%
Total Favorable	38%
Total Unfavorable	56%
Net Total Favorable	-18%

20. For each of the following political figures, please indicate if you have a very favorable opinion, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion. If you're not familiar with the name, please indicate that.: Spencer Pratt

Very favorable.....	15%
Somewhat favorable.....	11%
Somewhat unfavorable.....	8%
Very unfavorable.....	34%
Not familiar with the name.....	32%
Total Favorable	26%
Total Unfavorable	42%
Net Total Favorable	-17%

21. For each of the following political figures, please indicate if you have a very favorable opinion, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion. If you're not familiar with the name, please indicate that.: Nithya Raman

Very favorable.....	15%
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Somewhat favorable.	16%
Somewhat unfavorable.	6%
Very unfavorable.	19%
Not familiar with the name.	44%
Total Favorable	31%
Total Unfavorable	25%
Net Total Favorable	7%

22. For each of the following political figures, please indicate if you have a very favorable opinion, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion. If you're not familiar with the name, please indicate that.: Adam Miller

Very favorable.	2%
Somewhat favorable.	15%
Somewhat unfavorable.	8%
Very unfavorable.	5%
Not familiar with the name.	70%
Total Favorable	17%
Total Unfavorable	13%
Net Total Favorable	4%

23. For each of the following political figures, please indicate if you have a very favorable opinion, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion. If you're not familiar with the name, please indicate that.: Rae Huang

Very favorable.	6%
Somewhat favorable.	9%
Somewhat unfavorable.	9%
Very unfavorable.	9%
Not familiar with the name.	67%
Total Favorable	15%
Total Unfavorable	18%
Net Total Favorable	-3%

24. For each of the following political figures, please indicate if you have a very favorable opinion, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion. If you're not familiar with the name, please indicate that.: Hydeec Feldstein Soto

Very favorable.	0%
Somewhat favorable.	4%

Somewhat unfavorable	5%
Very unfavorable	9%
Not familiar with the name	81%
Total Favorable	4%
Total Unfavorable	14%
Net Total Favorable	-10%

25. For each of the following political figures, please indicate if you have a very favorable opinion, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion. If you're not familiar with the name, please indicate that.: Marissa Roy

Very favorable.....	1%
Somewhat favorable.....	4%
Somewhat unfavorable	4%
Very unfavorable	6%
Not familiar with the name	85%
Total Favorable	5%
Total Unfavorable	10%
Net Total Favorable	-5%

26. What is the most pressing issue facing Los Angeles today? (n=363)

Homelessness.....	20%
Public Safety.....	10%
Fiscal responsibility	11%
Olympics preparation.....	0%
Road safety / crumbling infrastructure.....	5%
Cost of living.....	47%
Federal government overreach.....	8%

27. What is the second most pressing issue facing Los Angeles today? (n=363)

Homelessness.....	32%
Public Safety.....	10%
Fiscal responsibility	9%
Olympics preparation.....	0%
Road safety / crumbling infrastructure.....	7%
Cost of living.....	29%
Federal government overreach.....	13%

28. Do you support or oppose changing city regulations to allow the construction of new housing units in every neighborhood across Los Angeles? (n=358)

Strongly support	26%
Somewhat support	23%
Neither Support nor Oppose	15%
Somewhat Oppose	8%
Strongly Oppose	16%
Don't Know	12%

29. If the election for Mayor of Los Angeles were held today and the candidates were Karen Bass and Nithya Raman, who would you vote for? (n=215)

Karen Bass	47%
Nithya Raman	53%

30. If the election for Mayor of Los Angeles were held today and the candidates were Karen Bass and Spencer Pratt, who would you vote for? (n=284)

Karen Bass	66%
Spencer Pratt	34%

31. If the election for Mayor of Los Angeles were held today and the candidates were Spencer Pratt and Nithya Raman, who would you vote for? (n=107)

Spencer Pratt	47%
Nithya Raman	53%