



# TOWN OF CAMP VERDE

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October 12, 2007

Honorable President  
Arizona State Senate  
1700 W. Washington, Senate Wing  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**RECEIVED**

OCT 17 2007

**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

Honorable Speaker  
House of Representatives  
1700 W. Washington  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Town of Camp Verde Mail Ballot 2007 Elections

Dear Sirs:

The Town of Camp Verde recently conducted its mail ballot elections. Pursuant to ARS §16-409.B, our Mail Ballot Election Report is enclosed. The report addresses all required information.

In February 2002, the Mayor and Council passed an ordinance requiring all future municipal elections to be by mail ballot. As Camp Verde's election official, I continue to be delighted with the overall results of the mail ballot election process, as voter turnout continues to improve.

Please feel free to contact me if you need further information.

Sincerely,

Deborah Barber, CMC  
Town Clerk



1. **Changes in Voter Turnout**

Election Date	# Registered Voters	# Ballots Cast	% Voter Turnout
3/21/1989	# unavailable	700	unknown
3/19/1991	# unavailable	727	unknown
5/21/1991	# unavailable	714	unknown
Recall Election 2/2/1993	# unavailable	1,131	unknown
Primary Election 3/9/1993	# unavailable	934	unknown
Primary Election 3/14/1995	# unavailable	864	unknown
General Election 5/16/1995	# unavailable	904	unknown
Primary Election 3/11/1997	4,484	1,309	29.19%
General Election 5/20/1997	4,359	1,537	35.26%
Recall Election 3/10/1998	4,484	1,424	31.75%
Recall Election 5/19/1998	4,505	1,319	29.28%
Primary Election 3/9/1999	4,633	1,314	28.36%
General Election 5/18/1999	4,663	1,618	34.7%
Primary Election* 3/13/2001	4,251	2,246	53.23%
General Election* 5/15/2001	4,120	1,808	44.13%
Special Election 9/10/2002	3,256	1,639	50.33%
Primary Election* 3/11/2003	3,672	2,037	55.47%
May 18, 2004*	3,833	1,697	44.27%
March 8, 2005*	4,306	2,455	57.01%
May 17, 2005*	4,225	2,216	52.45%
November 8, 2005*	4,100	1,606	39.0%
Primary Election* March 13, 2007	4,591	2,727	59.4%
General Election*	4,629	2,432	52.54%

\* Mail Ballot Elections

2. **Cost of Mail Ballot Election Compared to Traditional Elections**

Election Dates	Total Cost	# Ballots Cast	Cost per Ballot Cast	Cost per Registered Voter
Mar/May 1997	\$8,115	2,846	\$2.85	\$1.81
Mar/May 1998	\$11,319	2,743	\$4.13	\$2.51
Mar/May 1999	\$10,249	2,932	\$3.50	\$2.20
Mar/May 2001	\$8,326	4,054	\$2.05	\$1.96
Sept 2002	\$4,056 <sup>1</sup>	1,639	\$2.47	\$1.25
Mar 11, 2003	\$12,469 <sup>2</sup>	2,037	\$6.12	\$3.40
May 18, 2004	\$10,820.72 <sup>3</sup>	1,697	\$6.37	\$2.56
Mar 8, 2005	\$9,852.16	2,455	\$4.01	\$2.28
May 17, 2005	\$1,555.45	2,216	\$0.70	\$0.36
Special Election Nov 8, 2005	\$3,733.67	1,606	\$2.32	\$.091
March 13, 2007	\$10,498.72 <sup>4</sup>	2,727	\$3.89	\$2.29
May 15, 2007	\$4,064	2,432	\$1.67	\$0.87

3. **Suggestions for Improvements or Refinements in the Mail Ballot Program**

Voter feedback with this election was very positive. Voters seemed satisfied with the process. Yavapai County is working on redesigning the envelope to make the signature line more prominent. The voters have become very comfortable with the Mail Ballot Election.

4. **Frequency and Severity of Mail Ballot Irregularities**

The frequency and severity of mail ballot irregularities were higher than normal during this election cycle, with 84 rejected ballots (3.5%) during the Primary and 71 rejected ballots (2.91%) in the General Election. The majority of rejected ballots were due to lack of signature on the ballot envelope.

<sup>1</sup> This amount is lower than usual due to cost sharing with Yavapai County.

<sup>2</sup> This amount is higher than usual due to the statutory requirements for publicity pamphlets. This cost includes the pamphlet production, translation, printing, and mailing to all households with a registered voter. The publicity pamphlet costs totaled \$9,749. The costs of this election, excluding the publicity pamphlets, are \$0.74 per registered voter.

<sup>3</sup> The publicity pamphlet costs totaled \$8,762. The costs of this election, excluding the publicity pamphlets, are \$0.60 per registered voter.

<sup>4</sup> The publicity pamphlet costs totaled \$8,203. The cost of this election, excluding the publicity pamphlets, is \$0.56 per registered voter.

5. **Voter Satisfaction with the Process**

Comments received during the Elections indicated that the voters not only enjoyed the convenience of mail ballots, they appreciated the additional time to study the issues that mail ballots allow.

Overall, the voter response was positive. In my opinion, as voters continue to become more familiar with the procedure, they will become more confident and privacy concerns will subside.

6. **Number of Non-Deliverable Ballots**

There were no 'non-deliverable' ballots. Address-correction-requested post cards were mailed to all registered voters before the March primary election, allowing Yavapai County Voter Registration to update their voter registration list before ballots were mailed. This procedure results in a cost savings since postage is much less for postcards than it is publicity pamphlets and ballot envelopes.