



The Honorable Ken Bennett  
President of the Senate  
December 22, 2005  
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- Voter turnout in recent elections in the City of Peoria
  - September 7, 2004 (on County Ballot) 33.81%
  - November 2 2004 (run-off in two City Districts for City Council – on County Ballot)
    - Mesquite 85.87%
    - Willow 82.22%
  - March 11, 2003 (City-wide election for Mayor) 11.03%

On November 8, 2005 there were several other jurisdictional elections in Maricopa County that were conducted as on-the-ground elections with polling places. The voter turnout for the majority of those elections was 10% or below.

2. The relative cost for conducting the elections in 2005 was
  - May 17, 2005 (County Election Support) \$63,643.06
    - Publicity Pamphlet \$23,888.83
  - September 13, 2005(County Election Support) \$52,293.69
    - Publicity Pamphlet \$13,750.56
  - November 8, 2005 (County Election Support) \$107,649.64
    - Publicity Pamphlet \$13,778.13
    - There were some additional associated costs for legal publications that are specific requirements for mail ballot elections.

*Please note: The entire cost for the November 8, 2005 All-Mail Ballot Special Election will be reimbursed to the City by the public utility companies.*

3. Overall, the City of Peoria Special Election conducted on November 8, 2005 was a success. Particularly when considering the non-controversial nature of the ballots issue – franchise approvals the voter turnout was high. Other west valley cities conducted similar franchise approval elections earlier in the year as on-the-ground elections and the voter turnout for those elections was under 7%.
4. There are no mail ballot irregularities to report.
5. Overall voter satisfaction was good.
6. The number of 'undeliverable' ballots is attached as Exhibit "A".

The only drawback to the election was some voter confusion due to other elections being held on the same day that were conducted as on-the-ground elections with polling places. There were some complaints from voters that this was caused confusion – although, the Clerk's Office did not receive a substantial number of complaints.

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The Clerk's Office served as a replacement ballot location and this seemed to help alleviate problems. Voters who came in to obtain a replacement ballot were asked for additional information, so that an early ballot could be mailed to them for the other elections that were taking place on November 8<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk's Office also notified voters by mail of the upcoming all-mail ballot election and these notices contained a statement about the other elections being held on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

One other positive aspect of conducting the All-Mail Ballot Special Election was the City's ability to conduct voter-roll clean up during the process. Each mailing that was sent out regarding the election served as a verification of registration pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes § 16-166(A) and allowed the transfer of over 3,000 voters to the "Inactive Status." Therefore, when ballots were mailed, the ballots were mailed only to voters who were active on the voter registration roll.

The increase in voter turnout, cleaning of voter rolls and voter convenience were positive aspects of the all-mail ballot election. If you have additional questions regarding this report, please feel free to contact me at 623-773-7340.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Kief  
City Clerk  
City of Peoria

C: The Honorable Mayor John C. Keegan and Councilmembers  
Terry Ellis, City Manager  
Steve Kemp, City Attorney  
The Honorable Helen Purcell, Maricopa County Recorder



# CITY OF PEORIA -- "EXHIBIT A"

(NOVEMBER 8, 2005 ALL-MAIL ELECTION)  
 Post Office returns by date and reason:



DATE:	Temp Away	Undeliverable/FWD	Undeliverable/City/Town FWD	Undeliverable/No FWD	Undeliverable as Addressed/Re-mailed	NQ/Cancelled
10/11/2005	78	620	181	1592	54	6
10/12/2005						
10/13/2005	52	360	133	78	23	5
10/14/2005	54	536	218	125	16	3
10/15/2005						
10/16/2005						
10/17/2005	91	791	329	549	27	7
10/18/2005	7	50	43	16	25	9
10/19/2005	4	46	17	53	65	1
10/20/2005	4	19		7	29	
10/21/2005	2	3		7	7	2
10/22/2005						
10/23/2005						
10/24/2005	3	21	8	87	22	1
10/25/2005		11	2	19	2	
10/26/2005	1		1	10		
10/27/2005			3	13		
10/28/2005		4		7		
10/29/2005						
10/30/2005		6	4	41		
10/31/2005		4	4	9	1	
11/1/2005		2		12	1	
11/2/2005		2		5		
11/3/2005		1		2		
11/4/2005						
11/5/2005						
11/6/2005						
11/7/2005		2		18		4
Totals:	296	2478	943	2650	272	38
					<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>6677</b>

Were eligible but had "Temporarily Away" order at the post office:

TEMP AWAY - Would have been eligible but indicated with the post office that they were temporarily away

Were eligible but their record was incorrect (i.e. no box box, etc.):

Undeliverable as Addressed/Re-mailed - Their record was updated and a ballot was re-mailed to them (received a ballot)

All of the voters below were not eligible to participate since the post office had record that they no longer reside in the Jurisdiction

Undeliverable/FWD - Had on record with the post office a forwarding address not in the Jurisdiction

Undeliverable/Jurisdiction FWD - Had on record with the post office a forwarding address in the Jurisdiction but did not update their Voting record - requires a new form be submitted

Undeliverable/No FWD - Had on record with the post office that they moved out of the Jurisdiction but did not provide a forwarding address or forwarding order expired

NQ/Cancelled - voter's record was cancelled (possible cause for cancellation are: registration verification shows not at the address on file, requested by the voter, felony, death, etc.)