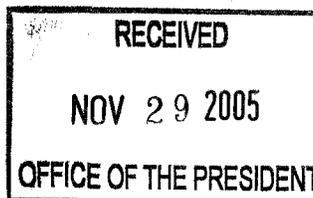


Mayor
James L. Boles

(928) 289-2422
Fax (928) 289-3742
TDD (928) 289-4784



Council Members
Robin R. Boyd
Peter Cake
Judy Howell
Maribelle Ogilvie
Dolores Rodriguez
Harold Soehner

Discover Winslow-A City in Motion

November 28, 2005

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

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

Re: City of Winslow September 13, 2005 Special Mail Ballot Election

Dear Sirs:

The City of Winslow conducted its first mail ballot election for our September 13, 2005 Special Referendum Election. Pursuant to ARS §16-409.B, our Mail Ballot Election Report is enclosed. The report addresses all required information.

On August 9, 2005, the Mayor and Council adopted a resolution establishing election procedures for City of Winslow elections which states that all future city elections will be conducted using mail ballots. As you will see from the attached report, our voter turnout increased by 20.43% from our 2004 General Election. The City of Winslow also saw a substantial increase in our November 8, 2005 Special Recall Election. The report for our November election will be submitted prior to the deadline of January 1, 2006.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

Suzy Wetzel
City Clerk/Treasurer

/smw

cc: Mayor & City Council
Jim Ferguson, City Administrator
Dale Patton, City Attorney

1. **Changes in Voter Turnout**

Election Date	# Registered Voters	# Ballots Cast	% Voter Turnout
Primary Election 03/14/00	# unavailable	994	unknown
General Election 05/16/00	# unavailable	1207	unknown
Special Election (Sales Tax) 05/15/01	# unavailable	493	unknown
Primary Election 03/12/02	# unavailable	1043	unknown
General Election 05/21/02 (included Recall, Charter Amendment Questions, Bond Questions & 2% Tax on Transient Lodging of Rentals)	4448	1262	28.4%
Special Franchise Election 03/11/03	# unavailable	191	unknown
General Election 05/18/04	4008	1052	26.25%
Special Referendum Election* 09/13/05	4156	1940	46.68%

*Mail Ballot Election

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 2000	\$7,608	2201	\$3.46	Unknown due to # of registered voters unknown
Special 2001	\$7,850	493	\$15.93	Unknown due to # of registered voters unknown
Mar/May 2002	\$21,083 ¹	2305	\$9.15	\$4.74
Special 2003	\$4,491	191	\$23.51	Unknown due to # of registered voters unknown

Mar/May 2004	\$4,174 ²	1052	\$2.05	\$1.05
Sept 2005	\$13,991 ³	1940	\$7.22	\$3.37

3. **Suggestions for Improvements or Refinements in the Mail Ballot Program**
Voter feedback with this election was very positive and voters seemed satisfied with the process. There are no suggestions for improvement at this time.

4. **Frequency and Severity of Mail Ballot Irregularities**
Four ballots were rejected due to no signature on the envelope and six ballots were left blank, making a total of ten ballots not counted.

5. **Voter Satisfaction with the Process**
There were several comments from voters that they preferred the mail ballot process.

A small number of individuals (approximately three) felt that their signature being visible on the outside of the envelope violated their privacy and chose to drop off their ballots at City Hall, which served as a drop off site. Two hundred (200) ballots were dropped in the ballot box at City Hall. Another concern voiced was that the person opening the envelopes to tally the votes could see how an individual voted.

One candidate did comment on the fact that mail ballot elections change the way campaigning is done.

6. **Number of Non-Deliverable Ballots**
There were 350 'non-deliverable' ballots. Address-correction-requested post cards were mailed to all registered voters prior to the date that ballots were mailed to voters allowing the Navajo County Recorder's Office to update their voter registration list before ballots were mailed. This process did clean up the voter registration list considerably and we hope to see a decrease in the number of non-deliverable ballots in future elections.

¹ This amount is higher than usual due to fact that a recall, charter amendment questions, bond questions & a 2% tax on transient lodging of rentals were included on the ballot, making it necessary to prepare and mail out publicity pamphlets.

² This amount is lower than usual due to the fact that only one election board and one tally board was used instead of two.

³ This amount is higher due the cost of the publicity pamphlet and mailing of postcards to update the voter registration list (\$4,448). Since this was the city's first mail ballot election, additional advertising was done.