



Special Primary Election - March 12, 2019 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Why is this election called a Special Primary election?

Typically, this election would have been a Primary election as it is the voters' opportunity to select their Council candidates. There are three charter changes that needed to be added and changes to the charter can only be made at a Special or General election, so the Special designation was added to be in compliance with state statute.

When is the Special Primary election?

The Election is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 12.

When will I get my ballot?

Ballots were mailed February 13.

What happens if I did not receive a ballot?

Contact Maricopa County Elections Department at 602-506-1511 or 602-506-2348 (TDD). You may also visit one of the ballot replacement centers, including Goodyear City Hall, after March 2.

When is the last day to request a replacement ballot by telephone?

The last day to request a replacement ballot by phone or online is Monday, March 4.

Where is my polling place?

Goodyear conducts all-mail ballot elections and there is no polling location to vote.

How do I return my ballot?

Place your completed ballot in the envelope, date and sign the envelope, and drop it in the mail. You can also drop your ballot off at City Hall, 190 N. Litchfield Rd, to the City Clerk's office or at any County Recorder office. **All ballots MUST be received by 7:00 p.m. on March 12.**

When is the last day to return a ballot by mail?

The recommended last day to return a ballot in the mail is Wednesday, March 6.

What's on the ballot?

There are three open seats on City Council and three candidates on the ballot. Additionally, there are three propositions to amend our City Charter.

What are the propositions?

The first proposition is to change the election cycle from our current Spring of Odd years to the Fall of Even years.

The second proposition is to limit only votes for the subject office, rather than all votes cast in the election, to determine the majority of votes cast for a given office.

The third proposition is to change the timing of the induction of the Mayor and Council to the month after the general rather than April.



Special Primary Election - March 12, 2019 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Why are Goodyear voters being asked to weigh in on these questions?

The city of Goodyear is governed by a city charter and a city charter may only be changed by a vote of the voters. A city charter is a document that defines the city's governing system.

Why do voters need to consider changing the charter?

In 2018, the Arizona state legislature passed a law that requires cities and towns to move their candidate elections to the Fall of Even numbered years.

The new law requires cities and towns to have elections in the fall of even years if that city experiences a significant decrease in voter turnout, which is defined as a decrease of at least 25% in registered voter participation in a local election in comparison to the voter turnout in the most recent election in which the office of Governor was on the ballot. The law also restricts counties from administering any election for a city experiencing the defined significant decrease if the city does not move its election date. To account for the impacted terms of office, the law lengthens the terms of office of elected officials impacted by the legislation to account for the change in election dates.

Since the new law is in conflict with our City Charter, the voters will determine if the city should change our election cycle.

Proposition 422 clarifies that only votes cast in the Goodyear election shall be used in the calculation of a majority for the purposes of candidates for Mayor or City Council.

What happens if I vote no on these questions?

For the first question (Proposition 421), if the majority of the voters vote no, then the city will remain in the Spring of Odd years. This may put the city's election schedule in conflict with the state law.

For the second question (Proposition 422), if the majority of voters vote no, and if the city moves to the Fall of Even years, it could raise the majority calculation to a level that would not be attainable in a primary election and may require the city to always have a general election.

For the third question (Proposition 423), if the majority of voters vote no, it would require newly elected members of the Council to wait until April to be inducted into office instead of immediately following the general election or it could put the city out of compliance with the charter.

Why aren't there any arguments for or against these propositions?

The arguments for and against any proposition are created and filed by the public. The City Clerk's office advertised in both the West Valley View and the Arizona Republic, as well as having information on the city's website. The arguments were due to the Clerk's office by December 12, 2018. No arguments were filed.



Special Primary Election - March 12, 2019 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Why did I receive a publicity pamphlet?

The publicity pamphlet is required to notify voters of upcoming questions on the ballot. It is sent to voter households. It is also available on the city's website in an electronic format. The pamphlet is also located at community centers, city offices and recreation centers.

Why is the pamphlet in English and Spanish?

The Voting Rights Act requires jurisdictions to print election materials in the common languages for that area. Spanish is considered a common language in our area.

What if I'm going to be out of town around the time of the election?

You may request the Recorder's Office send your ballot to a temporary address at [Request.Maricopa.Vote](#). You may also send a written request with the following information:

- Full name
- Date of birth
- Residence Address
- Temporary Address
- Signature
- Note granting us permission to mail to temporary address, and the election(s) you are requesting to have a ballot mailed to a temporary address.

You may email a scanned copy of this written request to: EVreq@risc.maricopa.gov, fax it to 480-360-3628 or mail to:

Maricopa County Elections
Attn: Early Voting
510 S 3rd Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85003

Federal and state law does not allow official election related materials to be sent to a forwarding address provided by the Post Office. Temporary mailing addresses may be submitted between 93 and 11 days prior to an Election Day.

Will there be a General Election?

A General Election will only be necessary if one or more of the three candidates do not receive a majority of the votes cast.

Where can I view the results for the March 12, 2019 Special Primary Election?

Results of the election will be available beginning at 8 p.m. on March 12 at <https://recorder.maricopa.gov/electionresults/>.

Who is the best contact for election questions?

Maricopa County Elections Department at 602-506-1511 or 602-506-2348 (TDD).
City of Goodyear City Clerk's Office at 623-882-7830.