



ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN FY 2012/2013

COUNTY VISION

Pinal County Government provides progressive and proactive leadership in the areas of economic development, state-of-the-art technologies, growth management, and public services to promote healthy and safe communities.

COUNTY MISSION

Pinal County Government protects and enhances its citizens' quality of life by providing public services in an ethical, efficient, and responsible manner delivered by a motivated, skilled, and courteous workforce.

DEPARTMENT MISSION

The mission of the Pinal County Elections department is to provide election services to Pinal County residents so they can exercise their right to vote.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR SERVICES PROVIDED:

- Conduct Federal, State, County, smaller jurisdictional and special elections such as recalls, initiatives and referenda
- Accept candidate nominations and petitions
- Accept campaign finance reporting filings and take necessary enforcement actions
- Respond to public records requests
- Layout ballots and ensure they are printed in a timely and accurate manner
- Recruit, train and pay election board workers
- Provide supplies to all election precincts
- Program voting machines
- Conduct logic and accuracy tests
- Find and designate adequate polling places
- Re-draw voting precinct boundaries as needed
- Submit all changes that affect voting to the Department of Justice for preclearance
- Tabulate election results and generate quality reports for the public
- Issue certificates of nomination and election
- Audit precinct election returns

ISSUE STATEMENTS

Increased Demand for Services

The increase in the number of registered voters from 34,000 to 165,000 since 1982 coupled with an increase in the number of jurisdictions has led to an increase in demand for election services (i.e. adding/splitting precincts, adding polling locations, adding and training poll workers) which if not addressed will result in:

- Decreased accessibility to the ballot box
- Increase in wait time at the polls
- Increase in the number of voter complaints

Complex Electoral Process

The continuing changes in election laws have led to a more complex electoral process for voters which if not addressed will result in:

- Continued voter confusion regarding identification (forms of identification required to vote) at the polls
- Increased voter confusion in the voting process
- Decreased confidence in the voting process
- Decrease in the number of poll workers
- Increase in the training required for Elections staff, poll workers, and troubleshooters.
- Increase in costs for maintaining compliance with election laws.
- Increased potential for legal actions

Changing Laws and Technology

The evolution of electronic voting technology coupled with changes in election laws and procedures has created burdens on Elections staff which, if not addressed will result in:

- Increased voter confusion
- Increased voter frustration
- Decrease in the number of poll workers
- Increased potential for legal actions

Extenuating Circumstances in Elections

Many elections can be called for on a highly irregular basis such as recalls, special budget override or bond elections, special tax levy questions and special elections to fill vacancies. These unusual circumstances require the Elections staff to be flexible, adaptive and responsive to a shifting political landscape. The Department must maintain a constant state of readiness which, if neglected, will result in:

- Increased mistakes made both internally and at the polls
- Difficulties in filling board worker positions
- Difficulties in budgeting
- Increased costs
- Increased potential for legal actions

COUNTY PRIORITY ALIGNED TO:

Services provided by the Elections Department do not align with current County priorities and goals.

2-5 YEAR STRATEGIC GOALS:

By 2013 Pinal County's political subdivisions will benefit from enhanced election services as evidenced by:

Pinal County voters will benefit from being served by adequately trained poll workers, as evidenced by:

- By 2013, 75% of precinct ballot reports are correctly filled out and balanced for every election
- By 2013, 90% of Touch Screen Voting Machines are properly set up and ready to be used at the opening of the polls on election day

By 2013 poll workers will receive timely compensation for their services as evidenced by:

- 85% of all paychecks being mailed to poll workers no later than the day after an election

CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

Issue: Poll Worker Payment

Cross Cutting with: Finance

Need(s): Coordination with elections to ensure timely payment of poll workers

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Performance Measure	Annual Target FY2012
Percentage of of precinct ballot reports are correctly filled out and balanced for every election	75%
Percentage of Touch Screen Voting Machines are properly set up and ready to be used at the opening of the polls on election day	90%
Percentage of all paychecks being mailed to poll workers no later than the day after an election	85%

REVENUE BY FUND:

Programs/Activities	Cost Center	Total Budget
General Fund		
Election Cycle	3320210	\$350,000
General Fund Total		\$350,000

EXPENDITURES BY FUND:

Programs/Activities	# of Full Time Employees	# of Part Time Employees	Cost Center	Total Budget
General Fund				
Elections Operations	5	0	3320170	\$359,875
Election Cycle	0	0	3320210	\$953,000
General Fund Total				\$1,312,875