



Jan. 31, 2012

Tempe voters to decide on charter amendment during May 15 General Election

Tempe, Arizona – Tempe will hold a Special Election as part of its May 15 General Election to ask voters their preference on Proposition 439, an amendment to the city charter that would dispense with the Primary Election under a particular circumstance.

If approved, Proposition 439 would amend Article VII, Section 7.01, of the Tempe City Charter, to allow the city to dispense with a Primary Election if no more than two candidates file nominating petitions for each vacancy in office. If the Primary Election is dispensed with, it would allow the General Election, typically held in May, to be held when the Primary Election would otherwise have been held in March. Ballot language is available in the Tempe City Clerk's Office or at www.tempe.gov/elections.

Individuals may file arguments for or against the charter amendment. They will be published in an election publicity pamphlet. The last day to file arguments is 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, in the Tempe City Clerk's Office, 2nd Floor, 31 E. Fifth St. An argument cannot exceed 300 words and must contain the original, notarized signature of each person sponsoring it. The address and phone number for each signer must be included on the argument but will not be printed in the publicity pamphlet. At the time of filing, a payment of \$100 per argument (cash or check) is required to offset a portion of the cost of printing the pamphlet.

This year, there are three Mayoral candidates and five City Council candidates on the city's March 13 Primary Election ballot. The General Election is May 15. Other important dates are:

- Feb. 13 – last day to register to vote in the Primary Election
- Feb. 16 – early voting for the Primary Election begins
- April 16 – last day to register to vote in the General Election
- April 19 – early voting for the General Election begins

Voter registration and early voting is conducted by the Maricopa County Elections Department. For further information, visit www.recorder.maricopa.gov/web/elections.aspx. The Tempe City Clerk's Office has posted a list of frequently asked election questions to www.tempe.gov/clerk under the "Elections" tab.

Tempe 11 will air five-minute remarks from each candidate before each scheduled City Council Issue Review Session through the elections. These "open mic" opportunities are the candidates' chances to tell you more about themselves. Check out their remarks by tuning in to Tempe 11, which is Channel 11

for Cox Communications cable subscribers in Tempe. You can also stream Tempe 11 live or view Video-on-Demand programming – go to www.tempe.gov/tempe11.

###