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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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CITY OF MESA

MESA AZ 85201 (602) 644-I VOTE

(602) 644-4868

ONLY ONE PAMPHLET HAS BEEN MAILED TO EACH HOUSEHOLD CONTAINING A REGISTERED VOTER. PLEASE MAKE IT AVAILABLE TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

SOLAMENTE UN FOLLETO SE HA ENVIADO A CADA DOMICILIO EN EL CUAL RESIDE UN VOTANTE REGISTRADO. FAVOR DE UTILIZARLO PARA TODOS LOS VOTANTES REGISTRADOS EN SU DOMICILIO.

YOUR POLLING PLACE IS INDICATED BELOW - PLEASE

SU LUGAR DE /OTACION SE INDICA ABAJO - FAVOR DE CONSERVAR



# GENERAL ELECTION

May 19, 1998

Sample Ballot/

**Publicity Pamphlet** 

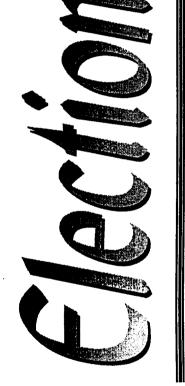
City of Mesa, Arizona

Muestra de Boleta/ Folleto de Publicidad

Ciudad de Mesa, Arizona

**ELECCION GENERAL** 

19 de Mayo de 1998





VOTE TO

\*\*\* choose

CHOOSE

\*\*\* to vote

To the Voters of the City of Mesa:

The purpose of this sample ballot/publicity pamphlet is to provide you with information on the measures that will appear on the May 19, 1998 General Election ballot. In addition to electing a candidate for one 4-year Councilmember seat, the qualified electors will be asked to vote on Proposition 100 relating to district representation and Question 1 relating to sales tax. A sample ballot of candidates for the City Council office, the complete text of Proposition 100 and Question 1, the ballot format, a map of City districts, and a list of the polling places are included in this pamphlet.

Preparation of this pamphlet is required by State law and in compliance with the Federal Voting Rights Act, has been printed in English and Spanish. In order to be prepared to fully exercise your right to vote on May 19, 1998, you are urged to thoroughly read all the material. This pamphlet may be taken into the voting booth on the day of the General Election.

District polling places will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. on May 19, 1998. Each voter must vote at the polling place for the district in which the voter is registered. Please check the address label on this pamphlet for your polling place location.

Bar	BARA	JON	ES
City	Clerk		

A los Votantes de la Ciudad de Mesa:

El propósito de esta muestra de boleta/folleto de publicidad es de proveerle a Usted información sobre las proposiciones que aparecerán en la boleta de la Elección General, el 19 de mayo, 1998. Además de elegir un candidato para un puesto como Miembro del Concilio por 4 años, se les pedirá a los electores calificados que voten sobre Proposición 100 referente a representación por distritos y Cuestión 1 referente a el impuesto sobre la venta. Una muestra de la boleta de candidatos para el puesto de Miembro del Concilio de la Ciudad, el texto completo de Proposición 100 y Cuestión 1, el formato de la boleta, un mapa de los distritos de la Ciudad, y una lista de los lugares de votación también están incluidos en este folleto.

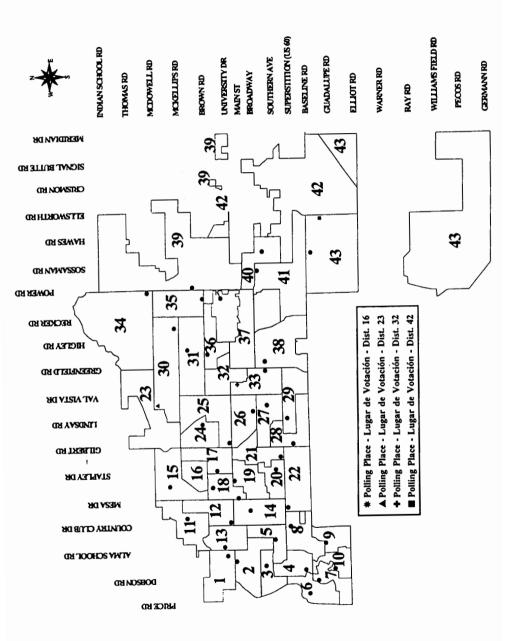
La preparación de este folleto es exigida por ley del Estado y en cumplimiento con la Ley Federal de Derechos del Voto, ha sido preparado en inglés y español. Para que Usted esté totalmente preparado para ejercer plenamente su derecho al voto el 19 de mayo, 1998, se urge que lea todo el material por completo. Este folleto de publicidad se puede llevar dentro de la casilla de votación el día de la Elección General.

Lugares de votación para cada distrito estarán abiertos de las 6 a.m. hasta las 7 p.m. el 19 de mayo, 1998. Cada votante tiene que votar en el lugar de votación del distrito en el cual está registrado. Favor de revisar la etiqueta de dirección en este folleto para la localización de su lugar de votación.

BARBARA JONES Escribana

# YOUR POLLING PLACE IS INDICATED ON THE MAILING FACE OF THIS PAMPHLET SU LUGAR DE VOTACION ES INDICA EN LA PARTE POSTAL DE ESTE FOLLETO

DISTRICT DISTRITO	NAME LUGAR DE VOTACION	ADDRESS DIRECCION
1	Mesa Maricopa Stake LDS Church	611 N. Stewart
2	St. Andrew's United Methodist Church	301 N. Longmore
3	Longmore Road Baptist Church	554 S. Longmore
4	College View Baptist Church	1810 S. Longmore
5	Powell Jr. High School	855 W. 8th Ave.
6	St. Matthew United Methodist Church	2540 W. Baseline Rd.
7	Dobson Ranch Library	2425 S. Dobson Rd.
8	Ramada Inn Suites	1410 S. Country Club Dr.
9	Crismon Elementary School	825 W. Medina Ave.
10	St. Timothy Catholic Community Ctr.	1730 W. Guadalupe Rd.
11	Whitman Elementary School	1829 N. Grand
12	New Life Assembly of God	314 W. University Dr.
13	Valley Southern Baptist Church	745 N. Alma School Rd.
14	Mesa Chamber of Commerce	120 N. Center St.
15	Mesa Historical Museum	2345 N. Horne
16	Desert Heritage Church	1020 N. Horne
17	St. Luke's Lutheran Church	807 N. Stapley Dr.
18	First Presbyterian Church	161 N. Mesa Dr.
19	First Church of the Nazarene	955 E. University Dr.
20	Stapley Drive Baptist Church	931 S. Stapley Dr.
21	Mesa High School	1630 E. Southern Ave.
22 23	The Living Word Bible Church	131 E. Southern Ave.
23 24	Bethlehem Lutheran Church	2745 N. 32nd St.
24 25	Mountain View High School	2700 E. Brown Rd.
25 26	Trinity Baptist Church	2130 E. University Dr.
20 27	Brentwood West	3104 E. Broadway Rd.
28	Irving Elementary School	3220 E. Pueblo Ave.
	Fire Station #10	1502 S. 24th St.
29 30	Mesa First Assembly of God	1303 S. Lindsay Rd.
	Apache Wells Community Church	2115 N. Gayridge Rd.
31	Barbara Bush Elementary School	4925 E. Ingram St.
32	Reorganized Church of LDS	150 N. Sulleys Dr.
33	East Mesa Christian Church	706 S. Greenfield Rd.
34	Red Mountain United Methodist Church	2936 N. Power Rd.
35	Brown Road Southern Baptist Church	6502 E. Brown Rd.
36	First Baptist Church of Mesa	4801 E. Brown Rd.
37	Red Mtn. Christian Center	740 N. Power Rd.
38	Sunland Village Auditorium	4601 E. Dolphin Ave.
39	Love of Christ Lutheran Church	1525 N. Power Rd.
40	Fountain of the Sun Community Assoc.	540 S. 80th St.
41	Broadway Christian Church	7335 E. Broadway Rd.
42	Mesa Police Dept. Superstition Substation	2430 S. Ellsworth Rd.
43	Sunland Village East	2615 S. Farnsworth Dr.



## **BALLOT FORMAT - FORMA DE BOLETA**

CITY OF MESA GENERAL ELECTION

MAY 19, 1998 MARICOPA COUNTY STATE OF ARIZONA



CIUDAD DE MESA ELECCION GENERAL

19 DE MAYO DE 1998 CONDADO DE MARICOPA ESTADO DE ARIZONA

DIST. 1, 5, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 31, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 43

COUNCILMEMBER - 4 YEAR TERM ENDING JUNE 2002 MIEMBRO DEL CONCILIO - PUESTO DE 4 AÑOS - PLAZO SE VENCE JUNIO 2002

(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1) / (VOTE POR NO MAS QUE 1)

FARNSWORTH, JOE

JAFFA, WILLIAM "BILL"

" **(=** =

For Write-In Candidate not listed above Para Candidato por Escrito no apuntado amiba

## **BALLOT FORMAT - FORMA DE BOLETA**

CITY OF MESA GENERAL ELECTION

MAY 19, 1998 MARICOPA COUNTY STATE OF ARIZONA



CIUDAD DE MESA ELECCION GENERAL

19 DE MAYO DE 1998 CONDADO DE MARICOPA ESTADO DE ARIZONA

DIST. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 25, 27, 30, 32, 33, 36, 40, 41, 42

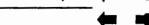
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(VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN 1) / (VOTE POR NO MAS QUE 1)

JAFFA, WILLIAM "BILL"

WILLIAM BILL

FARNSWORTH, JOE 🖛 💻



For Write-in Candidate not listed above Para Candidate por Escrito no apuntado arriba

#### **PROPOSITION 100**

The City Charter of the City of Mesa, Article II, Section 201 is hereby amended AS FOLLOWS:

Sec. 201. COMPOSITION, ELIGIBILITY, TERMS, AND ELECTIONS

- (A) COMPOSITION. There shall be a City Council consisting of a Mayor and six (6) other DISTRICT Councilmembers elected from the City at large by the qualified electors of the City AS FOLLOWS:
  - THE MAYOR SHALL BE ELECTED FROM THE CITY AT LARGE.
- 2. THE SIX (6) OTHER COUNCILMEMBERS SHALL BE ELECTED, ONE (1) FROM EACH OF SIX (6) GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRICTS WITHIN THE CITY OF MESA.
- 3. THE INITIAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND ALL SUBSEQUENT REDISTRICTING SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY A 5 PERSON NONPARTISAN COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL. THE CITY COUNCIL SHALL APPROVE THE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS OR IF DISAPPROVED, SEND RECOMMENDATIONS BACK TO THE COMMISSION FOR RECONSIDERATION: THE SECOND RECOMMENDATION FROM THE COMMISSION SHALL THEN BE DEEMED FINAL.
- 4. FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES, DISTRICTS SHALL BE NUMBERED ONE (1) THROUGH SIX (6).
- 5. THE INITIAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES SHALL BE SUBSTANTIALLY EQUALIZED BY GEOGRAPHY AND POPULATION ACCORDING TO THE 1995 UNITED STATES MIDDECENNIAL CENSUS, AND THEREAFTER, DISTRICT BOUNDARIES SHALL BE SUBSTANTIALLY EQUALIZED BY GEOGRAPHY AND POPULATION ACCORDING TO EACH SUCCEEDING UNITED STATES DECENNIAL CENSUS. THE REDRAWING OF DISTRICT BOUNDARIES SHALL NOT REMOVE THE RESIDENCE OF AN INCUMBENT COUNCILMEMBER FROM THE DISTRICT HE WAS ELECTED TO REPRESENT DURING HIS TERM IN THAT OFFICE. DISTRICT BOUNDARIES SHALL NOT BE REDRAWN BETWEEN THE FIRST DAY NOMINATING PAPERS FOR MAYOR AND/OR COUNCILMEMBER MAY BE FILED AND THE DATE OF THE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CITY GENERAL ELECTION.
- (B) ELIGIBILITY. Only qualified electors of the City shall be eligible to hold the office of Mayor or Councilmember. Each candidate for Mayor or Council must have been a resident of the City or an annexed area for at least two (2) years immediately preceding filing nomination papers.
- 1. EACH CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR MUST HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF THE CITY OR ANNEXED AREA FOR AT LEAST TWO (2) YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING HIS FILING NOMINATION PAPERS, AND SHALL CONTINUE RESIDENCE IN THE CITY FOR THE TERM FOR WHICH SUCH CANDIDATE IS ELECTED.

- 2. EACH CANDIDATE FOR ONE (1) OF THE SIX (6) COUNCIL POSITIONS MUST HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF HIS DISTRICT WITHIN THE CITY OR ANNEXED AREA FOR AT LEAST TWO (2) YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING HIS FILING NOMINATION PAPERS, AND SHALL CONTINUE SUCH RESIDENCE THEREIN FOR THE TERM FOR WHICH SUCH CANDIDATE IS ELECTED.
- (C) TERM OF COUNCILMEMBER. The term of office of Councilmember shall commence at the first (1st) regular meeting of the City Council in June following their election and except as otherwise provided herein, shall be for a period of four (4) years or until their successors are elected and qualified.
- (D) TERM OF MAYOR. The term of Mayor shall commence at the first (1st) regular meeting of the Council in June following the election and shall be for four (4) years or until a successor is elected and qualified.
- (E) LIMITATION OF TERMS. No person shall be eligible to be elected to the office of Councilmember for more than two (2) consecutive four- (4-) year terms, and no person shall be eligible to be elected to the office of Mayor for more than two (2) consecutive four- (4-) year terms. A person shall not be eligible to be elected to a combination of Councilmember and Mayor for more than sixteen (16) consecutive years. A person elected to two (2) consecutive four- (4-) year terms as Councilmember or two (2) consecutive four- (4-) year terms as Mayor or a combination of same as above set forth shall not be eligible to hold either office again until four (4) years have elapsed. Elected or appointed terms of less than four (4) years as Councilmember or Mayor shall not be counted in the above time limitations. A Councilmember or Mayor who resigns shall not be eligible for re-election or appointment until the second (2nd) succeeding City election following the date of tender of written resignation, except as provided in section 205(A)1.
- (F) ELECTIONS. Elections for Mayor and/OR Councilmember shall be held in each evennumbered year as provided in Article VII. A Mayor and three (3) Councilmembers shall be
  elected at the regular election in 1968 and at each succeeding regular election, except as
  otherwise provided in Section 206(C). The terms of the three (3) Councilmembers elected at
  the regular election in 1966 shall expire at the first (1st) regular meeting of the Council in June,
  1970. DISTRICTS THAT CONTAIN THE RESIDENCES OF COUNCILMEMBERS WHOSE
  FIRST FOUR (4) YEAR TERM EXPIRES IN 2000 SHALL EACH ELECT ONE (1) DISTRICT
  COUNCILMEMBER IN THE 2000 CITY ELECTION CYCLE. A DRAWING BY LOT OF THE
  REMAINING DISTRICTS SHALL BE CONDUCTED, IF NECESSARY, TO INSURE THAT
  THERE SHALL BE ELECTIONS IN THREE (3) OF THE SIX (6) DISTRICTS IN THE 2000
  CITY ELECTION CYCLE. THESE THREE (3) DISTRICTS SHALL HOLD DISTRICT CITY
  COUNCIL ELECTIONS EVERY FOUR (4) YEARS. THE REMAINING THREE (3) DISTRICTS
  SHALL HOLD DISTRICT CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS EVERY FOUR (4) YEARS BEGINNING
  IN THE 2002 CITY ELECTION CYCLE.

- 1. Any candidate for the office of Mayor who shall receive at the primary election a majority of the votes east for that office THE NUMBER OF VOTES CONSTITUTING A MAJORITY OF ALL OF THE VALID BALLOTS CAST FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR shall be declared elected. Any candidate for the office of DISTRICT Councilmember who shall receive at the primary election the number of votes constituting a majority of all of the VALID ballots cast for the office of Councilmember IN THAT DISTRICT shall be declared elected. If more candidates for the office of Councilmember receive the number of votes constituting a majority of all the ballots cast than there are seats to be filled, then those candidates equal in number to the seats to be filled receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. If a voter votes for teo many TWO OR MORE candidates for a certain office, that ballot and vote shall not count in determining the majority figure for that SAME office. Nothing on the ballot shall indicate the affiliation of any candidate with any other person, party, or group.
- 2. A general election shall be held for those seats where no candidate was elected at the primary election. For each such seat THE OFFICE OF MAYOR AND FOR EACH DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER SEAT, the two (2) persons (or more than two [2] in the event of a tie vote) receiving the highest number of VALID votes cast for that office shall be the only persons named on the ballot at the general election; previded that if more than one (1) seat is to be filled, the number of persons on the general election ballot shall be twice the number of such seats (or more in the event of a tie vote) or less if there be fewer than that number on the primary ballot.
- 3. ELECTORS SHALL VOTE FOR ONLY ONE (1) DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER CANDIDATE FROM THE COUNCIL DISTRICT IN WHICH THE ELECTORS RESIDE, AND ONE CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR FROM THE CITY AT LARGE.

# **BALLOT FORMAT - FORMA DE BOLETA**

CITY OF MESA
GENERAL ELECTION

MAY 19, 1998 MARICOPA COUNTY STATE OF ARIZONA



CIUDAD DE MESA ELECCION GENERAL

19 DE MAYO DE 1998 CONDADO DE MARICOPA ESTADO DE ARIZONA

# PROPOSITION 100

OFFICIAL TITLE: Proposed amendments to Article II, Section 201 of the Mesa City Charter by the initiative relating to elections for Mesa City Councilmembers; abolishing at-large representation by City Councilmembers; establishing six geographic districts for City Councilmembers; providing for periodic revision of district boundaries; establishing residency requirements for district Councilmembers; and providing a phase-in process.

**DESCRIPTIVE TITLE:** Replaces the current system of electing City Councilmembers to represent the entire City with a system where each Councilmember would be elected to represent separate geographic districts. Defines a process to establish district boundaries and candidate residency requirements.

A "YES" vote shall have the effect of amending the City Charter to require that all six City Councilmembers be elected from separate geographic districts.

A "NO" vote shall have the effect of retaining the existing City Charter provisions for electing City Councilmembers to represent the entire City.

YES







A 'YES' vote on Proposition 100 is a positive step towards insuring efficient and accountable city government in Mesa.

With a successful, proven track record, Phoenix, Tucson, Glendale, Peoria, Globe, Bisbee, and Douglas utilize districting to provide progressive, diverse representation, and insure continued accountability in the face of future growth. Districting places the majority of control into the hands of citizens rather than special interests. Support of fellow councilmembers becomes vital and the focus becomes teamwork, not egos, resulting in positives: neighborhood revitalization, sound land-use planning, thriving economic development.

Since government exists to serve the people, citizens deserve personal, efficient representation. With a population of 360,000, councilmembers serve and campaign to an area larger than most Congressional districts. Only affluent candidates or those able to raise large amounts of money stand much chance of getting elected. Councilmembers are buried in paperwork, have no staff, and cannot be experts on every issue. The result - reliance on inaccurate information provided by non-elected staff with their own agendas, often with negative consequences.

No neighborhood is treated like a step-child. New neighborhoods to the east concerned with high-density zoning and urban sprawl, or aging neighborhoods to the west fighting rising crime and decay, will have special councilmembers working for them.

<u>DON'T BE FOOLED</u> by attempts to defeat districting. Councilmembers in opposition have self-serving motives. As council races become more affordable and the field of candidates expands, voting records will be called into accountability and many may face stiff challenges to their reelection bids. Cries of Pork-Barreling are unfounded. Promises of "better plans" are designed to confuse voters and defeat Proposition 100. With a projected population of 500,000 in 2010, anything less than pure districting would need to be replaced at greater cost to taxpayers.

## IT'S TIME TO VOTE 'YES' ON PROPOSITION 100!

Joan Payne Chairwoman Janeva Hibbard Co-Chairwoman

Alliance For Representation in Mesa

# **ARGUMENT "FOR" PROPOSITION 100**

As Mesa prepares to move into the 21st century, it is time also for Mesa to move to geographic representation in its form of government. Our city's continued and future growth will mean that our citizens are and will be spread out into many diverse neighborhoods which cover more than 125 square miles. The district form of government will provide residents a stronger sense of connection with the City Council by providing a single initial focal point of contact for local issues. The district form of government will also provide an opportunity for residents in all areas of our city to have a fair chance at election to the Council and will prevent any one area of Mesa from dominating city politics.

Our current "at large" system of Council representation served Mesa well when we were a small town, and continued to provide responsive government throughout much of our growth. The time has come, however, to acknowledge that part of the price of growth is an increasing difficulty for parttime Councilmembers to be as knowledgeable and responsive on all local neighborhood issues as the public demands. District representation offers a better opportunity to meet those public expectations. I urge your support of this proposition.

Dennis Kavanaugh Councilmember

Can you imagine if we elected all of our state representatives and senators in an at-large system? They would all come from Phoenix and Tucson. And if all of our congressmen and U.S. senators were elected at large? They would all come from New York and California. Likewise, in Mesa, the at-large system has historically produced councilmembers who have, by a large majority, lived in the "Central Corridor" of Mesa.

It is a fundamental American principle that government should be as close to the people as possible. Districting provides just that. Only through the direct representation provided by districting can the average citizen effectively access the local government. The representation of our neighborhoods, in their unique needs, is best served by districting. Every single citizen and citizen group is empowered.

At the state level the citizens of Mesa are served by three legislative districts. We, as the elected representatives of these districts, work hard to represent our constituents in each of our respective districts. We also have a history of working effectively together to serve the best interests of Mesa as a whole. As part of a district system ourselves, we know that this system works... for each district and for the entire city's needs.

We, your Mesa legislators, strongly support districting. We urge each and every Mesa voter to support it as well by voting YES on proposition 100.

House Speaker Jeff Groscost Representative District 30

Representative Marilyn Jarrett

District 21

Senator David Petersen

District 29

Senator Tom Freestone

District 30

Representative Dean Cooley

District 21

Representative Mark Anderson

District 29

Representative Karen Johnson

District 30

## **ARGUMENT "FOR" PROPOSITION 100**

Why districting? Because as a citizen of Mesa, you deserve an elected representative who knows the issues that affect YOU and your neighborhood.

What do I gain from districting? Accountability and responsibility from your elected representative.

Who will be my representative? Someone from your area of town. Someone who knows the ins and outs of your issues and your internal community.

<u>Doesn't districting lead to porkbarrelling, logrolling and gerrymandering?</u> At the municipal level, this is pure poppycock. There is absolutely no evidence whatsoever that any of these things occur in cities.

<u>Is districting really a better form of government?</u> Our founding fathers certainly thought so, as our entire government is predicated on a district form of government (Senators and Congressmen).

Why now? Mesa has grown to a population and geographical size where no one person can effectively know all the problems of all the neighborhoods. To insure that our neighborhoods and internal communities have good knowledgeable representation, the span of control for a city councilperson must be reduced.

<u>In plain English, what does districting do for me?</u> It gives you your very own councilmember to go to with ideas and problems. No longer will you have to "pick a councilperson... any councilperson." Districting means that you will have a councilmember who is YOURS. Someone to serve you, to know and deal with the problems of your area (as well as the city's), and someone you can elect, or un-elect, based upon performance.

Districting will take us into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and beyond with better representation of our neighborhoods and more responsive elected officials. IT'S ABOUT TIME... for districting. Say "YES" on Proposition 100.

Chris Medrea President

United Mesa Fire Fighters Association

With a population exceeding 360,000, Mesa has outgrown the current at-large council system. Time has come to divide Mesa into six council districts. Actions of councils past and present demonstrate the need for a better form of representative government and greater accountability from councilmembers.

There is ample evidence why we need a district system. Who can forget council's action to spend \$2 million of your tax dollars for the private economic benefit of one well-heeled and connected individual? Who can forget that, though protestations to the contrary during election season, councilmembers seek to raise your taxes? Who can forget council's constant push to expand its regulatory power over Mesa?

Don't you agree more accountability from councilmembers is needed and the grip powerbrokers have over city government must be broken? Don't you agree the power of government must be returned to the citizens of this City? The time for districting has come.

In 1992, then mayoral candidate Wayne Brown argued against a quasi districting proposal (which may appear in the November ballot) and strongly in favor of the district system, the same district system as envisioned in present day Proposition 100. He wrote:

"Proposition 100 will create six geographically separate council districts within Mesa's boundaries. Only people in that specific council district run for that council seat. A district system would put people on council who are knowledgeable about their neighborhood issues and who are able to advocate specific needs while maintaining a concern for the City as a whole. Consequently, the entire council will be better informed and better able to ensure the general safety and welfare of ALL Mesa citizens. Let's adopt a change which accommodates growth over the long term." I couldn't agree more with Mayor Brown.

Please vote YES on Proposition 100.

David Molina

## **ARGUMENT "FOR" PROPOSITION 100**

In the past three decades Mesa has experienced phenomenal growth to the point where we have become "too big for our britches" -- strapped into a system of local government that is no longer representative for a city our size.

Our antiquated system of six at-large, part time city councilmembers was suitable during Mesa's 1920's when everybody knew everybody and Mesa was a microcosm of what it is today. It is not suitable now. There is simply no way a city councilmember can adequately represent 360,000 persons.

A consequence of this outmoded system is that only well-funded candidates can afford to run for the City Council: costly mailings to Mesa's entire voting populus and large vote-for-me signs covering 125 square miles of Mea's vast topography.

How many of us ignorantly voted for the two at-large city councilmen whose abhorrent activities were later revealed to us voters in countless well-documented newspaper reports and who therefore recently were forced to resign from office? Didn't we rely on their impersonal campaign material and their ubiquitous signs when we voted?

Mesa's size and population is unrealistic for an at-large, part time city councilmember with no staff of his/her own. We have thus evolved into an unelected government-by-Mesa-city-management, a burgeoning bureaucracy accountable only to the city manager, and a few power brokers and insiders with easy access to the local powers-that-be.....at our expense. The December 1996 issue of Mesa's Intercom Magazine pictured a staff of 25 employed in the Mesa city manager's office alone.

Given Mesa's huge diverse population and geographic size, true representative government is no longer feasible with this obsolete, at-large system from Mesa's 1920's.

Please vote "yes" on Proposition 100. District representation for Mesa is long overdue.

Marilynn Wennerstrom

NOTE: Arguments are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for accuracy.

The Valley Business Owners (and Concerned Citizens), Inc. highly recommends voting <u>"Yes" on Proposition 100.</u> Our organization was founded for the promotion of fairness, honesty and better business conditions for businesses and citizens in Maricopa County. We also endeavor to protect the constitutional rights of organizations and individuals, and activities guaranteed by the United States Constitution.

We can think of no better representation of our beliefs than <u>Proposition 100</u>. Our country was founded on geographic representation, in order to give a voice to all its citizens. <u>Proposition 100</u> provides for six districts with a Councilmember elected from each. Candidates must live in their district for two years prior to election. This insures that your Councilmember will know your area and thus, your concerns.

The district form of government would make running for council more accessible to the average citizen. At the present time, it is not unheard of for a candidate to spend 20 to 30 thousand dollars on his or her campaign. In a district system, the size of the area a candidate would be running in, would be one-sixth of the present area in which a candidate now has to run. The result, of course, campaign costs would be significantly lower.

Mesa's current "at-large" system does not work because most of the candidates for public office live in the same area of the city and cannot possibly address the concerns of all the growing areas of the city. Your "Yes" vote for a pure district system of councilmembers is a vote to bring more accountable and responsive city councils. Valley Business Owners (and Concerned Citizens), Inc. urges you to vote "Yes" on Proposition 100.

Mary Simmons President Janeva Hibbard Secretary/Treasurer

Valley Business Owners (and Concerned Citizens), Inc.

# **ARGUMENT "AGAINST" PROPOSITION 100**

Districts = A Bad Idea

Vote NO on Prop 100

A better proposal will be placed on the Nov. 3, 1998 Ballot.

I recommend a no vote on prop 100 because a six district system will limit a citizens participation in electing his/her city council representative. A six district system will allow a registered voter the opportunity to only vote for two of the seven council members; one vote for the mayor and one vote for the district representative.

A better proposal, to be placed on the Nov. 3 ballot, would create a <u>modified</u> district system. The <u>modified</u> district system would consist of the mayor, two council members elected at-large and four council members elected from area districts. A registered voter would have the opportunity to vote for the majority of the council. The dynamics of a <u>modified</u> district system would insure that Mesa does not become divided along pure district political lines.

I believe a <u>modified</u> district system could be a win-win for Mesa residents. The registered voters would have district representation and Mesa would continue to have the mayor and two council members elected at-large.

Modified district system is the best of both districts and at-large representation.

DISTRICT = A BAD IDEA... VOTE NO!

Keno Hawker A citizen against bad ideas

## **ARGUMENT "AGAINST" PROPOSITION 100**

A yes vote for this proposal is a vote for <u>less representation</u> and <u>less accountability</u> from elected officials. Instead of having six council members accountable to you, you will have only one. Special interest groups, developers and zoning lawyers love district systems because only one councilmember is directly accountable to any neighborhood. The remaining majority of the Council is free to trade votes or succumb to improper influences with no accountability to the individuals and neighborhoods adversely affected by their decisions.

A yes vote is a vote for <u>more politics</u> in local government. This initiative was placed on the ballot by petition circulators paid for by special interest groups. Its aim is not to improve city government, but rather to fragment Mesa City Council elections into smaller races that can be more easily influenced.

A pure district system pits councilmembers against one another. A councilmember is judged not on the progress the city makes as a whole, but rather, what amount of "pork" can be steered into an individual district.

There are legitimate arguments to include some geographic representation on Mesa's council. For that reason, the majority of the current and incoming Council have committed to submitting a mixed district system to the voters in the November election. The mixed proposal includes four district councilmembers, plus two councilmembers and a Mayor elected at-large. With this mix, each voter will get the opportunity to vote for a majority of the Council. This mixed system will provide the benefits of regional representation without increasing the potential for bad government.

Don't give up your right to vote for a majority of your city council. This proposition will weaken your say in city government and will strengthen special interest groups that want to play games with Mesa city elections. Please vote "NO."

Joan Newth

Former Councilmember

Pat Gilbert Vice Mayor

Claudia Walters Councilmember

John Giles Councilmember

Jim Davidson

Marilyn Wilson

Councilmember-Elect

Past School Board Member

Wayne J. Brown

Mayor

# **ARGUMENT "AGAINST" PROPOSITION 100**

Mesa Voters ...

Do Not surrender your voting rights. Vote "NO" on Proposition 100.

After weeks of intensive study, Mesa's 14-member Charter Board, <u>rejected</u> DISTRICT systems and chose AT-LARGE voting. It has served Mesa well, surviving repeated politically-motivated efforts to amend the Charter.

EVERY councilmember exercises power over your liberty and property. It is important to maintain your influence with EACH of them.

You now have SIX council votes -- with district voting, only ONE.

With a district system, you might not know, or may be opposed to candidates in your district but you can't vote against them. You may support candidates in other districts but can't vote for them. The right to vote for all councilmembers gives voters more influence in City affairs.

Creating districts is an expensive, complicated process, constantly adjusting to population shifts, with controversial gerrymandering, sometimes dictated by the courts. We don't need this bureaucratic burden added to our elections.

Voting for all councilmembers is no bigger deal than voting for mayor at large. It is simple; let's keep it that way.

District voting may make campaigning easier and less costly for politicians, but will cost taxpayers a bundle.

Instead of six councilmembers responsible for the city, including your district, we will have one competing against five for favors for their respective districts. The district system breeds "deals", trade-offs and other evils of opportunism and ward politics. A clique can isolate your member to your district's disadvantage.

When dissatisfied with other council members, you can't influence, or vote against them. If yours is unresponsive, you are without representation.

The same old arguments for District Voting may seem plausible, but are unsound, costly and detrimental. The Charter Board carefully considered and rejected them. We urge you to preserve your FULL voting rights. VOTE NO on Proposition 100.

Earl N. Horlbeck

Patrick G. Pomeroy

Dilworth C. Brinton

Louis E. Stradling

Maurice I. Jones

James E. Gardner

L. Blain Cummard

Fred E. Ewart, M.D.

Henry Haws

Members: Board of Freeholders, Mesa City Charter

NOTE: Arguments are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for accuracy.

## QUESTION 1 RESOLUTION NO. 7166

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESA, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, TO SUBMIT TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA, AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON MAY 19, 1998, THE QUESTION OF INCREASING THE CITY'S TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE (SALES) TAX.

WHEREAS, the Mesa City Charter requires that any increase in the City's transaction privilege (sales) tax over 1% must be approved by the City's Voters; and

WHEREAS, the Mesa City Council believes it is in the best interests of the City to give the Voters the opportunity to determine whether more funds in our growing City should be used for health, safety, and quality of life issues, such as police and fire protection, paramedic services, and reducing traffic congestion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESA, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

The following question shall be submitted to the Voters at the May 19, 1998 General Election: Shall the City of Mesa be authorized to increase the City's transaction privilege tax (sales tax) from 1% to 1½% to provide funds for health, safety and quality of life in Mesa, which shall include:

- Hiring and equipping 120 new police personnel,
- · Hiring and equipping 65 new firefighters and paramedics,
- · Providing additional branch library hours and days of operation,
- · Expanding youth recreation programs and activities,
- · Building and operating a community arts and entertainment center,
- Building and operating a community aquatic facility, neighborhood pools, youth athletic field lighting, bike paths, and other public recreation facilities,
- · Expanding bus service hours and days of operation,
- · Providing new bus pull-outs on major streets,
- · Providing additional left turn signals at major intersections, and
- Accelerating completion of Mesa freeway construction;

After 8 years, on July 1, 2006, ¼% of the sales tax will expire and the sales tax will automatically decrease ¼%, and the other remaining tax will continue to be used for on-going expenses for these and corresponding health, safety and quality of life projects?

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona, this 2nd day of March, 1998.

ATTEST: Barbara Jones City Clerk APPROVED: Wayne Brown Mayor

# **BALLOT FORMAT - FORMA DE BOLETA**

CITY OF MESA GENERAL ELECTION

MAY 19, 1998 MARICOPA COUNTY STATE OF ARIZONA



CIUDAD DE MESA ELECCION GENERAL

19 DE MAYO DE 1998 CONDADO DE MARICOPA ESTADO DE ARIZONA

## QUESTION 1

## **RESOLUTION NO. 7166**

Shall the City of Mesa be authorized to increase the City's transaction privilege tax (sales tax) from 1% to 1½% to provide funds for health, safety and quality of life in Mesa, which shall include:

- · Hiring and equipping 120 new police personnel.
- · Hiring and equipping 65 new firefighters and paramedics,
- · Providing additional branch library hours and days of operation,
- Expanding youth recreation programs and activities.
- · Building and operating a community arts and entertainment center,
- Building and operating a community aquatic facility, neighborhood pools, youth athletic field lighting, bike paths, and other public recreation facilities.
- · Expanding bus service hours and days of operation,
- · Providing new bus pull-outs on major streets,
- Providing additional left turn signals at major intersections, and
- Accelerating completion of Mesa freeway construction;

After 8 years, on July 1, 2006, ¼% of the sales tax will expire and the sales tax will automatically decrease ¼%, and the other remaining tax will continue to be used for on-going expenses for these and corresponding health, safety and quality of life projects?

YES





The City of Mesa has enjoyed a reputation of having one of the best Police and Fire Departments in the State, if not the nation. A "YES" vote on Question #1 for the sales tax resolution will help maintain this reputation and continue the uninterrupted record of excellent public safety service to the citizens of Mesa.

The proposed 1/2% sales tax increase will bring Mesa to the same sales tax level that most other cities in Arizona charge, without having to endure the burden of an additional property tax. The sales tax is much more fair than having to obtain this much needed income by raising the utility rates of the citizens of Mesa.

For fiscal year 1996 to 1997, Maricopa County was the nations fastest growing county. Much of this growth is occurring in Mesa and the East Valley. The proposed sales tax will help Mesa to be able to keep up with this phenomenal growth rate without having to enact a property tax. As the City continues to grow, public safety must grow with it. The sales tax increase will allow police and fire services much needed additional personnel, equipment, and training, as well as completion of the public safety training facility. In addition, the sales tax will help to improve the quality of life in Mesa by providing improved library and youth recreation facilities, a performing arts center, better transportation service and smoother traffic flow. In short, this resolution will make our lives better in Mesa, at minimal cost.

The City of Mesa's slogan is "Great People, Quality Service". Help us to maintain this reputation by voting "YES" on Question 1.

Kelvin Smith President Charles Wennerlund Vice-President

John Wemer Newsletter Editor

Mesa Police Association

## **ARGUMENT "FOR" QUESTION 1**

Mesa is among the fastest growing cities in the United States. In order to continue to provide the same high quality of municipal services in the future that each of us enjoys today, it is essential that Mesa voters approve Question 1 when they go to the polls on Tuesday, May 19th.

If passed by voters, Question 1 will provide funds to:

- Hire and equip 120 new police personnel
- Hire and equip 65 new firefighters and paramedics
- Accelerate construction of Mesa freeways including the Red Mountain, Superstition and San Tan
- Expand branch library hours and days of operation
- Expand youth recreation programs and activities
- Build and operate a community aquatic facility and neighborhood pools
- Add youth athletic field lighting and bicycle paths
- Build and operate a community arts and entertainment center
- Install additional left-turn signals at major intersections
- · Build "pull out" lanes for transit buses

To pay for these improvements and services, Mesa's sales tax will be increased by one-half of one cent. After 8 years, this amount will be automatically reduced to one-fourth of one cent. Collectively, these pieces of pennies will help Mesa offset inflation and keep pace with increasing public demand for services.

Great communities are built over long periods of time by everyone working together to support a shared vision of a better tomorrow. We are all in this thing called community together. We all have a stake in maintaining and enhancing the quality of community life.

As your former mayor, a current member of your city council and as co-chairman of Mesa Citizens for Responsible Public Policy, I am asking you to go to the polls on May 19th and vote "yes" on Question 1.

Your vote can be a resounding "yes" that reaffirms your faith in Mesa and confidence in its future.

Thank you.

Wayne Pomeroy Co-Chairman

Dennis Lambson Treasurer

Mesa Citizens for Responsible Public Policy

Voter approval of Question 1 on May 19<sup>th</sup> will ensure that in the future, when you or a loved one find it necessary to dial 9-1-1, the person answering the telephone will be able to dispatch police, fire and emergency paramedic services to your location as needed and in a timely manner. In order to do that, Mesa needs a sufficient number of appropriately trained people to meet increasing public demand for emergency-response services.

Your "Yes" vote will enable the Mesa Fire Department to hire and equip an additional 65 firefighters and paramedics. And, it will enable the Mesa Police Department to hire and equip an additional 120 new police personnel. Under the plan, a total of 185 new emergency and law enforcement personnel will be added to Mesa's existing force.

In a true emergency situation, whether you need a police officer or a paramedic, response time can be the difference between life and death. Maybe, it is a backyard drowning, an automobile accident, a shooting or other violent behavior that places you, a family member, a friend, a co-worker or even a complete stranger, at risk. When someone really needs help, they need it immediately.

As Mesa continues to grow, the number of police officers, firefighters and paramedics needs to keep pace. If not, the quality of service will diminish. Additionally, not only do they have to be properly trained and equipped, they need to be geographically dispersed throughout Mesa's 125 square-mile service area.

Literally thousands of Mesa's citizens owe their lives and well-being to the men and women who serve in our fire and police departments. Please vote "yes" on Question 1 on May 19<sup>th</sup> and give them the people and tools necessary to do a good job for all of us.

Thank you.

Michael T. Hughes Pat Gilbert

Gerald W. DeLand John Giles

Joe Farnsworth Claudia R. Walters

Ross Farnsworth Kathye W. Brown

Janet L. DeLand Wayne J. Brown

Chris M. Rhodes Corrine Brooks

Dennis Lambson Joan A. Newth

Mary Whalen Mary Jo Whalen

Dennis P. Kavanaugh

NOTE: Arguments are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for accuracy.

## **ARGUMENT "FOR" QUESTION 1**

On Tuesday, May 19th, Mesa voters will have an opportunity to help solve two irritating and potentially dangerous problems often associated with ever-increasing traffic congestion on our city's streets.

One is the routine blockage of traffic lanes when transit buses need to stop and load or unload passengers. The other is the lack of left-turn signals at major intersections.

Your "Yes" vote on Question 1 will permit Mesa to build "pullout" lanes for transit buses. This will allow automobile and truck traffic to move past buses at transit stops, rather than having to wait behind or try to maneuver around them.

Your "Yes" vote will also enable Mesa to install left-turn signals at major intersections. This is more than an issue of convenience. It is a safety issue. Dodging on-coming traffic in order to turn left jeopardizes both life and limb.

The construction of pullout lanes for buses and the installation of automated left-turn signals are two opportunities we ought to support. Sitting in a car behind a bus is frustrating at best. Drivers should not be forced to take their lives in their hands to make a simple left turn. Passage of Question 1 will improve traffic flow and make our intersections safer.

As a resident of Mesa and a user of its streets, I urge voters to go to the polls on Tuesday May 19th, and vote "Yes" on Question 1. As you drive along Mesa's streets in the months and years to come, you will be able to see the tangible results of your support of this measure.

The May 19th election is an opportunity to cast a vote in favor of enhanced quality of life in Mesa. Please vote "yes" on Question 1.

Thank you.

Dennis P. Kavanaugh Mary Jo Whalen

Pat Gilbert Michael T. Hughes

John Giles Gerald W. DeLand

Claudia R. Walters Joe Farnsworth

Kathye W. Brown Chris M. Rhodes

Wayne J. Brown Dennis Lambson

Corrine Brooks Marty Whalen

One of the missions of the Mesa Chamber of Commerce is to develop and support programs that enhance the quality of life in our community.

To that end, the Board of Directors of the Chamber has voted to support the City of Mesa's efforts to improve the quality of the basic services that it provides to its residents and businesses. These include emergency paramedic services, fire and police protection, libraries, transportation and parks as well as entertainment and cultural facilities. These are services that directly impact the lives of Mesa's citizens and its work force.

The Chamber recognizes that the City has not increased its primary source of revenue since 1966 when the population of Mesa was barely 50,000. Today, more than 30 years later, Mesa's population has increased several fold to more than 360,000 year round residents.

It is essential that Mesa take steps now to improve basic municipal services to accommodate this unprecedented growth. Otherwise, we risk losing businesses and jobs to other communities that are better prepared to accommodate family and work force needs and expectations.

The Chamber believes that job growth and economic growth are the twin engines that drive quality of life opportunities in Mesa. As a community, we must do those things that are necessary to support continued job development.

Your support of Question 1 will prevent the future deterioration of our city as well as the stagnation of our economy and the wages supported by continued economic prosperity.

The Mesa Chamber of Commerce supports Question 1. We encourage Mesa voters to go to the polls and vote on Tuesday, May 19th. Your vote is crucial because every vote counts.

Thank you.

Jerry DeLand President

Charlie Deaton Executive Director

Mesa Chamber of Commerce

## **ARGUMENT "FOR" QUESTION 1**

If you're one of the 125,000 people who annually participate in Mesa Arts programs, have ever wanted to take a class or wanted classes available for your children or grandchildren, you have reasons to vote "yes" on Question I.

Why? The current space is outmoded for the theater, art gallery and twelve performing and visual arts studios that require special lighting, ventilation and running water. There is overcrowding due to more demand for classes than there is space. Staff offices are in closets. Classes are moved outdoors. There is no real theater "greenroom." Concerts are relegated to off-site outdoor activities.

That will all change with approval of Question I. There will be studios for drawing and painting, jewelry/lapidary, pottery, printmaking, children's art, photography and glass and metal sculpture. There will be a computer/cyberspace studio, room for performing arts classes, a dance studio and a music/multipurpose room. There will be meeting spaces for community groups.

And Mesa will finally have gallery space for community displays and the professional works featured at Galleria Mesa.

All of this will be complemented by great open space for festivals, food, fun and entertainment to suit every palate. The center will also be integrated with performing arts facilities, including 250, 600 and 1600-seat theaters, rehearsal storage and set design facilities. Half a million people will enjoy the combined offerings of the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center in the first year alone.

All of this made possible by your "Yes" vote on Question 1 on May 19th.

Kathye W. Brown

Michael T. Hughes

Wayne J. Brown

Gerald W. DeLand

Corrine Brooks

Ross Farnsworth

Joan A. Newth

Janet L. DeLand

Laurent Teichman

Chris M. Rhodes

Jim Minch

Dennis Lambson

Frank Bennett, Jr.

Marty Whalen

Helen E. Fathauer

Susan Lindteigen

Mary Jo Whalen

A "yes" vote on Question 1 will mean that Mesa citizens will no longer have to drive to Scottsdale, Chandler, Tempe or Phoenix for a wide array of professional arts and entertainment. Instead, we'll have our own 250, 600 and 1600-seat theaters and an outstanding gallery for the visual arts accessible to all of us at the corner of Main Street and Center.

Want to enjoy Celtic music? You won't have to go to Scottsdale Center for the Arts. Perhaps you'd prefer a Willie Nelson concert. No need to drive to the Coliseum. Want your children or grandchildren to enjoy a Childsplay production? To accomplish that, you won't have to travel to the Herberger or Scottsdale Center or Tempe. All of this and much, much more will be right here in Mesa.

Just imagine... Mesa's own critically acclaimed Southwest Shakespeare Company won't have to compete with police helicopters circling the Amphitheater for audience attention anymore. The fire alarm at Westwood High School won't interrupt Mesa Symphony performances anymore. Mesa's Ballet Etudes won't have to perform in Chandler anymore. Mesa Youtheatre and Mesa Little Theatre will finally have adequate rehearsal and backstage facilities, including restrooms for performers and stagehands.

And all the professional country/westem, folk, ethnic, humor, jazz, classical music, dance or theater performances that can play a 250, 600 or 1600-seat house will be here in our own downtown. Carlos Nakai. The Kingston Trio. Marvin Hamlisch. Marie Osmond. The Glenn Miller Orchestra. Paula Poundstone. Hal Holbrook. The Capitol Steps. Alvin Ailey Repertory. Dance Theater of Harlem. Ronnie Milsap. Waylon Jennings. John Tesh. Spyro Gyra. Preservation Hall Jazz Band. Annie. Hello Dolly. You name it and it can all be ours.

All you have to do is vote yes on Question 1 on May 19.

Joanie L. Flatt President

Mesa Arts and Entertainment Alliance, Inc.

## **ARGUMENT "FOR" QUESTION 1**

On Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, Mesa voters will have an opportunity to affirm their long-standing commitment to our community's superb network of public parks and recreational facilities.

Voter passage of Question 1 will permit Mesa's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Division to maintain and improve the quality and range of services that it provides to the citizens of Mesa.

From outdoor ball fields and indoor swimming pools to safe playgrounds and gymnasiums, public demand for recreational programs and public use of municipal recreational facilities continue to grow. It will continue to rise in the years to come.

One of the principal determinants of the quality of life in any community is the kind and caliber of public recreational amenities available for use by its citizens. Mesa is no exception.

Our citywide system of neighborhood parks makes open space available to everyone. Our aquatic facilities make swimming accessible to young people throughout our community.

The citizens of Mesa can feel proud of our distinguished tradition of providing a full menu of family-oriented recreational options. The challenge is to keep them first rate, while at the same time, continuing to expand recreational services to meet the needs of our new neighbors arriving daily.

Voter approval of Question 1 will also allow the City to enhance lighting around our playgrounds and athletic fields. It will permit expansion of after school activities for young children and after-school sports programs for older ones.

I am happy to live in Mesa and to see our community continue to grow and prosper. Your support of Question 1 and your "Yes" vote on May 19th will help insure that Mesa continues to provide excellent recreational facilities and programs to its citizens. This is a quality-of-life investment that will benefit our children and future generations.

Thank you.

Michael T. Hughes Pat Gilbert

Gerald W. DeLand John Giles

Ross Farnsworth Claudia R. Walters

Janet L. DeLand Kathye W. Brown

Chris M. Rhodes Wayne J. Brown

Dennis Lambson Joan A. Newth

Mary Jo Whalen Marty Whalen

Dennis P. Kavanaugh

## **ARGUMENT "AGAINST" QUESTION 1**

The Mesa City Council has established a solid record of wasting millions and millions of your hard-earned tax dollars. They bought the mayor's millionaire brother a new car lot. They rebuilt the Cub's baseball stadium. They keep wasting millions on their failed "downtown redevelopment" project. Not surprisingly, it turns out that things like bumpy brick crosswalks and countless stoplights really don't make downtown Mesa more inviting. Heck, they've spent a king's ransom on downtown redevelopment consultant studies alone! They've recently devastated downtown traffic even more with an endless construction project that's wasted millions more of your tax dollars fancying-up their plush council offices and edifice. Then the council even gave themselves a fat pay raise for a job well-done (apparently thinking their job is to rip-off Mesa taxpayers). Now they think that you will be foolish enough to give them even more of your money.

This tax increase has been called a "quality-of-life" tax increase. However, quality-of-life does not come from giving even more of your hard-earned money to huge, over-bloated, wasteful, corrupt government.

BOTTOM LINE: The Mesa City Council has wasted millions of our tax dollars on corporate welfare and other rip-offs and now they are saying they don't have enough money left for "city improvements". Stop being fleeced. Besides, if the City really needs more money for capital improvements, it would only be fair to get the money from impact fees on the new development that creates most of the need. Let growth pay for growth. Don't reward waste and stick the taxpayers with subsidizing growth on top of all of these other rip-offs.

Vote "NO" on Question 1.

Chuck Bauman