MEMORANDUM

Date: November 6, 2014

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
    Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
      County Administrator

Re: Update of Ballot Tabulation

As of this morning, there are approximately 40,000 ballots left to count in Pima County. These are broken down in round numbers below:

- 6,400 processed ballots ready for tabulation that will be counted today.
- 19,000 early ballots that have not yet been processed by the Elections Department. Processing of early ballots is time-consuming, as it is done by two individuals from different political parties who first inspect each ballot envelope in a batch of approximately 300 received from the Recorder to ensure the number of envelopes and the voter names match the information provided by the Recorder. The individuals then open the envelopes and separate the ballots from the envelopes; perform a quick check to see if there are marks on the ballots that will prevent them from being read by the scanners and, if so, send them for duplication; verify again the number of ballots matches the Recorder’s numbers; and, finally, that batch of early ballots is ready for tabulation.
- 9,800 provisional ballots cast at the polls that are being verified by voter registration. The majority of provisional ballots are cast because the voter requested an early ballot but failed to vote and return it. Provisional ballots require a great deal of time to process compared to early ballots, so the processing of provisional ballots will be relatively slow.
- 5,000 ballots in need of duplication.

We have a higher than average number of ballots that cannot be read by the existing scanners that will require duplication. The scanners cannot read these ballots because they have been marked by the voter in a manner that does not allow the ballot to be read by the scanner. This is a higher than usual number of ballots for duplication, which continues to confirm the necessity of voting equipment replacement.

Finally, the central count scanners that have been used to tabulate all early and provisional ballots in the past have begun to fail. One ballot scanner failed almost immediately and is
not repairable. On November 5, another ballot scanner failed and is also not repairable. We are down to five scanners for the balance of the election, which should suffice.

We anticipate approximately 14,000 ballots will be counted and posted to the Election returns webpage by the close of business today. We expect that all ballots will be tabulated by next Thursday, November 13, with the exception of write-in votes that must be hand-counted.

CHH/anc

c: Ellen Wheeler, Assistant County Administrator
   Brad Nelson, Elections Director