



Proposition 463

Regional Road Reconstruction, Preservation and Repair

Pima County is asking voters to consider authorizing the sale of \$430 million in general obligation bonds to fund reconstruction, preservation and repair of existing public roads across the region. General obligation bonds are repaid with property taxes. Pima County intends to structure repayment of the bond debt so that the current property tax rate will not increase. The bonds would be issued with short repayment periods so that the debt repayment periods will not exceed the life of the road repairs. Bond proceeds cannot be used for anything but reconstruction, preservation and repair of existing public roads, as well as costs incidental to each bond sale.

Pima County's Bond Implementation Plan

The Pima County Board of Supervisors adopted a bond implementation plan, further restricting how the bond proceeds can be spent. The plan details how bond proceeds will be shared with cities and towns; includes a worst-first criteria for prioritizing which roads will be repaired in unincorporated Pima County; and requires an annual list of roads to be reviewed by the Transportation Advisory Committee and approved by the Board of Supervisors prior to repair. The plan also includes financial details regarding how the bonds will be sold and repaid.

Important Dates

- Deadline to register to vote for this election is October 9, 2018
- Regular early voting starts October 10, 2018
- Last day to request an early ballot by mail is October 26, 2018
- Election Day is November 6, 2018

To register to vote or to request an early ballot by mail, please visit the Pima County Recorder's office website at www.recorder.pima.gov, call 520-724-4330, or by mail at 240 N. Stone Avenue, Tucson, Arizona 85701.

For More Information

Frequently Asked Questions

Which roads will be repaired with these bonds?

The County will share bond proceeds with cities and towns and will require each city and town to provide a plan for spending them, as well as to provide annual lists of roads that will be repaired. If you live within a city or town, please contact your city or town's Transportation Department for more information.

If you live in unincorporated Pima County, the County's goal is to fully repair and preserve all 1,891 miles of paved County-maintained roads within 10 years and the County's share of bond proceeds will be spent on repairing the worst of these roads first. The County regularly assesses roadway conditions and assigns a PASER rating to each roadway. Ratings run from 1-10, with 1 being a failed road and 10 being a very good road. Approximately 70 percent of the road miles are in poor or failed condition. PASER 1s will be repaired first, then PASER 2s and so on, until the County's share of the bond proceeds are exhausted. An interactive map, showing pavement condition ratings is available at www.pima.gov/roadrepairbonds.

How much will cities and towns receive in comparison to unincorporated Pima County?

Bond proceeds will be shared with cities and towns based on their share of the County's total population and value of taxable property. City of Tucson (\$201 million), unincorporated Pima County (\$166 million), Marana (\$26 million), Oro Valley (\$23 million), Sahuarita (\$12 million), South Tucson (\$1.8 million).

How soon will the roads be repaired if voters approve the bond proposition?

Since the funds can only be used to reconstruct, repair or preserve existing roads, no land acquisition, design, or engineering is necessary. Therefore the work can begin quickly.

Why can't the County use existing funds to repair the roads?

The County, like other Arizona local governments, relies on state-shared transportation

revenues to fund transportation expenses. But these revenues are inadequate to fund all of the County's transportation needs. The main source for these revenues is the State gas tax, which has not been increased in 27 years. In addition, the State continues to sweep some of these funds for other purposes. The County has exhausted every other available option for securing additional funding for road repair and this bond election is the last opportunity to fix the roads in a reasonable timeframe.

Can bond proceeds be used for items not included in the ballot language?

No.

Will my County secondary property tax rate increase if voters approve this bond proposition?

No. While Arizona Revised Statutes require the County to make a disclosure that the issuance of these bonds will result in a property tax increase sufficient to pay the annual debt service on these bonds, the County intends to structure issuance and repayment of the bonds in a manner that keeps the secondary property tax rate at its current level.

Have there been any independent audits of the County's bond programs and transportation spending?

Yes. A 2013 audit of the County's general obligation bond programs by the State Auditor General's office concluded that "The County spent the proceeds in accordance with the voter-authorized purposes" and "Bond projects benefited citizens throughout Pima County." The State Auditor General is also required annually to audit financial transactions and accounts for all Arizona counties, including the use of state-shared transportation revenues for authorized transportation purposes.

What was the County's most recent credit rating for general obligation bonds?

In March 2018, the Fitch rating agency assigned a "AAA" credit rating to the County's general obligation bonds, which is the highest possible rating.

For More Information