

DATE 5/12/26

ITEM NO. RA 26

Ellie Martin

From: Brenda Marts [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2026 11:46 PM
To: District1; District2; District3; District4; District5; COB_mail
Subject: Concerns Regarding Election Oversight and Public Confidence

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Dear Supervisors,

Elections concern all of us, regardless of political affiliation. Over the past several election cycles, a number of concerns have been brought before the Board and often dismissed as either unimportant or outside the Board's authority. While I understand the legal limitations involved, voter confidence depends on public officials being willing to openly address concerns raised by residents.

The last election cycle generated significant public discussion regarding election administration, ballot processing, voter roll maintenance, and transparency. While some issues have been addressed through court decisions and procedural changes, I do not believe the public has reached a point of full confidence in the system.

For reference, I encourage you to review this article discussing concerns and public perceptions surrounding election processes:

Three Sonorans article

Regardless of political viewpoint, several principles seem essential to maintaining public trust:

- accurate and regularly updated voter rolls,
- appropriate voter identification standards,
- transparent election procedures,
- and easy public access to information regarding ballot handling and tabulation.

Pima County itself states that its Elections Department seeks to ensure "accessibility, accuracy, and integrity" while providing greater transparency to constituents.

I also have concerns regarding the proposal for an election oversight task force made up primarily of county employees. Such a structure may create the appearance of conflicts of interest, while also increasing taxpayer expense through additional paid positions or administrative costs.

If the County is going to undertake the effort of creating an oversight body, I would encourage consideration of a citizen-based task force composed of interested community members with no direct financial or political attachment to the election system itself. Including broad public participation and

MAY 12 2026 08:05 PM CLK OF ED

independent viewpoints could help improve transparency, reduce public skepticism, and strengthen confidence in election outcomes.

The goal should not be partisan advantage, but rather increased public trust in the integrity, fairness, and transparency of our elections.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brenda Marts