BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM REPORT (BOSAIR)

All fields are required. Enter N/A if not applicable. For number fields, enter 0 if not applicable.

Award Type:	Agenda Item
Is a Board Meeting Date Requested?	Yes
Requested Board Meeting Date:	02/17/2026
Project Title / Description:	2026 Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Special Election

Agenda Item Report

Introduction / Background:

The Recorder's Office is responsible for managing the early voting process for all registered Pima County voters. The early voting process includes mailing early ballots, operating secure ballot drop-off sites before election day, and providing ballot drop-off sites on election day.

Per the 2025 Arizona Election Procedures Manual, Chapter 2 section I (H)(1), the Pima County Board of Supervisors shall approve all early ballot-drop off locations operated by the Pima County Recorder's Office that provide voters additional options for returning a voted early mail ballot within a county.

Furthermore, A.R.S. § 16-558.02(A) require that the Board of Supervisors approve the proposed ballot replacement locations to accommodate voters who are unable to cast a ballot mailed to them due to a lost, spoiled, destroyed or not received ballot by March 10, 2026, Special Election Day.

Discussion:

The Special RTA Election is scheduled on Tuesday, March 10, 2026. On January 6, 2026, the Pima County Board of Supervisors entered into an agreement with the Regional Transportation Authority for use of election services for a Special Election. This election is an all-mail election, meaning that every eligible voter will receive a ballot in the mail. The decision to conduct an all-mail election is determined by the special district, in this case: the RTA.
Key points about the special election:
1. Election will include the following items on the ballot:
RTA Proposition
2. All ballot-by-mail election
3. Seven (7) early ballot drop-off locations including three (3) permanent ballot drop boxes, and four (4) ballot replacement sites throughout Pima County listed in Exhibit A.

4. Early Voting period beginning February 11, 2026, and ending on March 9, 2026.

Ballot Drop Off Locations:
The Pima County Recorder's Office anticipates mailing more than 391,000 Early Ballots to voters for the RTA Special Election. Although most voters return their ballots by mail, the Recorder's Office operates multiple ballot drop-off sites across Pima County, in accordance with the Arizona Elections Procedures Manual, Chapter 2 Sec. I (H)(1), which has the force of law. These ballot drop-off sites offer voters another method to return their ballots for processing. The Recorder's Office has operated ballot drop-off locations over multiple election cycles with great success. Historically, these sites receive thousands of ballots during the Early voting timeframe. The Early Ballot drop-off sites see an extensive increase in the number of ballot drop-offs the week before the election when it is too late for voters to mail back their Early Ballots.

Recorder's Office personnel staff seven (7) ballot drop-off sites listed in Exhibit A. Site workers follow a strict chain of custody protocol for handling voted ballots, and extensive ballot security procedures to protect the integrity of the returned ballot.

The Pima County Recorder's Office has installed three (3) stand-alone permanent Ballot Drop boxes that offer 24-hour access for voters dropping off ballots. These boxes were installed at our Downtown and Eastside locations and have camera coverage throughout Early Voting and Election Day. All Ballot Drop boxes comply with requirements laid out in the Elections Procedures Manual with regards to security and chain-of-custody procedures.

The following is attached as Exhibit A to the resolution:
1. A list of all four (7) Ballot Drop-off sites, including three (3) permanent ballot drop boxes, and four (4) ballot replacement sites throughout Pima County with their dates and the hours of operation.

2. Attached as Exhibit B to the resolution is the sworn affidavit a voter must sign at the site who request a ballot replacement. Early Ballot drop-off is also permitted at the Ballot Replacement Locations.

Conclusion:

Voting is a fundamental right of all citizens. Creating equitable opportunities for all voters to participate is in the best interest of Pima County. Ballot drop-off sites offer many voters a secure, convenient way to return an Early Ballot directly to election officials or to vote in-person if they choose.

Recommendation:

The Pima County Recorder's Office recommends approval of the proposed Early Voting and ballot drop-off locations presented to the Board and further recommends the Board authorize the County Recorder to operate these locations to ensure the voters of Pima County have appropriate access to participate in the 2026 Special RTA Election.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact for these Ballot Replacement and ballot drop-off locations. There are no fees associated with properties owned by Pima County. This is a budgeted expense reflected in the FY2025-26 Recorder Budget.

Support of Prosperity Initiative:

N/A

Provide information that explains how this activity supports the selected Prosperity Initiative

N/A

Board of Supervisor District:

- 5
- 4
- 3
- 2
- 1

Department: Recorder

Name: Vanessa Grimaldo

Telephone: 5207244223

Department Director Signature: _____ Date: 1/28/2026

Deputy County Administrator Signature: _____ Date: _____

County Administrator Signature: _____ Date: 1/28/2026

RESOLUTION 2026-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA; RELATING TO ELECTIONS; APPROVING THE EARLY BALLOT DROP-OFF SITES AND AUTHORIZING BALLOT REPLACEMENT LOCATIONS FOR THE 2026 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY SPECIAL ELECTION

WHEREAS, in accordance with A.R.S. § 16-205 a special election will be held on March 10, 2026, with early voting starting on February 11, 2026, where all eligible registered voters in Pima County, are able to participate; and

WHEREAS, in conformity with the 2025 Arizona Elections Procedures Manual, Ch. 2, Sec. I(H)(1), the Pima County Board of Supervisors shall approve all early ballot-drop off locations operated by the Pima County Recorder's Office that provide voters additional options for returning a voted early mail ballot; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to A.R.S. § 16-558.02(A), the Pima County Recorder's Office has established locations for ballot replacement locations in a special or jurisdictional election and presented those locations to the Board of Supervisors

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The Pima County Recorder shall make available seven (7) early ballot drop-off locations including three (3) permanent ballot drop boxes, and four (4) ballot replacement locations throughout Pima County listed in Exhibit A to this Resolution, incorporated by this reference, for the March 10, 2026 Regional Transportation Authority Special Election.

SECTION 2. The Pima County Recorder shall require voters who request a replacement ballot to sign a sworn affidavit attached hereto as Exhibit B to this Resolution.

SECTION 3. The Pima County Recorder shall require in-person voters to provide a valid form of identification in accordance with A.R.S. § 16-579 or as otherwise provided by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of February, 2026 by the PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

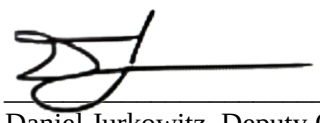
PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

_____
Chair, Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

_____
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



_____
Daniel Jurkowitz, Deputy County Attorney

EXHIBIT A - TO RESOLUTION

Regional Transportation Authority Special Election
Ballot Replacement & Drop-Off Locations

Ballot Replacement & Drop-Off Sites *Sitios de reemplazo de boletas*			
	Site ***Sitio***	**Address** ***Dirección***	**Dates/Times M-F only** ***Fechas/Horas*** *Lun-Vie solamente*
1	Recorder's Main Office	240 N Stone Ave	**2/11 - 3/9** 8 am - 5 pm **Election Day, Tuesday 3/10** ***Día de Elección, martes 3/10*** 6 am - 7 pm
2	Recorder's Country Club Office	6550 S Country Club Rd	
3	City of Tucson - Ward 2 Office	7820 E Broadway Blvd	
4	Mobile Voting Unit	Countywide	**3/5 - 3/10** Exact schedule coming soon ***El horario exacto estará disponible próximamente***

Ballot Drop Box Locations *Ubicaciones de Buzones de Votación*		
Site* ***Sitio***	**Address** ***Dirección***	**Dates and Times** ***Fechas y horarios***
Recorder's Main Office - Drive up	Utility driveway between/ *camino de sevicios públicos entre* 240 N Stone & 200 N Stone	**Open 24 hours** **8 am on 2/11 to 7 pm on 3/10** ***abierto 24 horas*** ***8 am del 2/11 hasta las 7 pm del 3/10***
Recorder's Main Office - Walk up	Courtyard facing/*Patio frente a* 240 N. Stone	
Recorder's Eastside Office - Walk up	6920 E Broadway Blvd	

*Secured 24 hour Ballot Drop Box located outside

revised: 1/8/2026

EXHIBIT B - TO RESOLUTION

Regional Transportation Authority Special Election

PIMA COUNTY BALLOT AFFIDAVIT

I declare the following under penalty of perjury:
I am a registered voter in Pima County Arizona, I have not voted and will not vote in this election in any other county or state, and if this is a replacement ballot, that the original ballot was lost, spoiled, destroyed or not received. I understand that knowingly voting more than once in any election is a class 5 felony and I voted the enclosed ballot and signed this affidavit personally unless noted below.

If the voter was assisted by another person in marking the ballot, they also sign below:
I declare the following under penalty of perjury: at the registered voter's request I assisted the voter identified in this affidavit with marking the voter's ballot, I marked the ballot as directly instructed by the voter, I provided the assistance because the voter was physically unable to mark the ballot solely due to illness, injury or physical limitation and I understand that there is no power of attorney for voting and that the voter must be able to make their selection even if they cannot physically mark the ballot.

DECLARACIÓN JURADA DE BOLETA DEL CONDADO DE PIMA

Declaro lo siguiente bajo pena de perjurio:
Soy un votante registrado en el Condado de Pima, que no he votado y no votaré en esta elección en ningún otro condado o estado y si esta es una boleta de reemplazo, la boleta original se extravió, se estropeó, se destruyó o no se recibió. Comprendo que votar intencionalmente en más de una elección es un delito mayor de clase 5 que voté la boleta adjunta y firmé esta declaración jurada personalmente a menos que esté mencionado debajo.

Si el votante fue ayudado por otra persona en marcar la boleta, ellos también firman abajo:
Declaro lo siguiente bajo pena de perjurio: a solicitud del votante registrado ayudé al votante identificado en esta declaración jurada a marcar la boleta del votante. Marqué la boleta según las instrucciones directas del votante. Proporcioné la ayuda porque el votante no podía físicamente marcar la boleta únicamente debido a enfermedad, lesión o restricción física y comprendo que no hay representación legal para votar y que el votante ha de ser capaz de hacer sus selecciones incluso aunque físicamente no pueda marcar la boleta.

Ballot will not be counted without your signature | *La boleta no se contará sin su firma*

This box for office use only
Esta caja es solo para uso de oficina

SIGN BELOW - FIRME ABAJO

REQUIRED/ REQUERIDO:

X _____
Signature of Voter | *Firma del votante*

_____
Date Signed | *Fecha de firma*

_____
Voter's daytime phone number | *Número de teléfono del votante*

IF APPLICABLE/ SI ES APLICABLE:

X _____
Signature of voter assistant | *Firma del asistente electoral*

_____
Name and address of Voter Assistant | *Nombre y dirección del asistente electoral*

revised: 1/23/2026