

ELECTION 2024



YAVAPAI COUNTY
VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET
and
BALLOT FORMAT (TEXT OF BALLOT)

Proposal to be submitted to the qualified electors of
Yavapai County at the

GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 5, 2024

Compiled and issued by
Laurin L. Custis, Director of Elections

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Message to Yavapai County Voters:

The purpose of this publicity pamphlet is to provide you with information regarding the Yavapai County Expenditure Limit Ballot Measure that will appear on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot. The information within this pamphlet describes the effects of a “YES” and “NO” vote for the ballot measure. This pamphlet is provided to assist you in being prepared to exercise your right to vote. I urge you to carefully read and consider the information provided.

This publicity pamphlet also provides general information regarding voting in Yavapai County.

Sincerely,

Laurin L. Custis
Yavapai County Director of Elections
1015 Fair St., RM 228
Prescott, Arizona 86305
elections@yavapaiaz.gov
www.yavapaivotes.gov
928-771-3248 Ext. 8

IMPORTANT VOTER INFORMATION

The **deadline to register** to vote for the November 5, 2024, General Election is October 7, 2024. Re-registration is required if you change your residential/ mailing address, name, or party affiliation. General Election Ballots will be mailed on **October 9, 2024**

Early Voting

Early Voting begins on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at the following locations:

Prescott: Yavapai County Administration Building, 1015 Fair Street
8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday
Prescott Valley: Across from the Library, 7351 E Skoog Blvd
9 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday
Cottonwood: Yavapai County Cottonwood Annex, 10 S. 6th Street
8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday

Official Drop Box Locations

Bagdad - Bagdad Justice Court, 100 Main Street
Black Canyon City - Black Canyon City Library, 34701 South Old Black Canyon Highway
Camp Verde - Town Hall, 473 South Main Street
Camp Verde - Yavapai-Apache Nation Community Center, 3462 Smith Avenue
Chino Valley - Town Hall, 202 North State Route 89
Clarkdale - Town Hall, 39 North 9th Street
Congress - Congress Library, 26750 S Santa Fe Road
Cottonwood - County Administration Building, 10 South 6th Street
Dewey-Humboldt - Town Hall, 2735 South Highway 69
Jerome - Town Hall, 600 Clark Street
Paulden - Paulden Library, 16 Big Chino Road
Prescott - County Administration Building, 1015 Fair Street
Prescott Valley - Town Hall, 7501 Skoog Boulevard
Sedona - City Hall, 102 Roadrunner Drive

Seligman - Seligman Library, 54170 North Floyd Street
Skull Valley - U.S. Post Office, 3085 South Iron Springs Road
Spring Valley - Spring Valley Library, 17320 East Mule Deer Drive
Village of Oak Creek - Village of Oak Creek Fire Station #3, 125 Slide Rock Road
Yarnell - Yarnell Justice Court, 22591 South Looka Way

Where to Vote on Election Day

Vote Centers will be open on Election Day, November 5, 2024, from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Voter ID at the polls is required. For a list of acceptable forms of identification visit:

www.yavapaivotes.gov

- VC-01 Yavapai County Administration Building 1015 Fair Street, Prescott
- VC-02 Trinity Presbyterian Church 630 Park Avenue, Prescott
- VC-03 Central Yavapai Fire Station #57 4125 W. Outer Loop Road, Prescott
- VC-04 Yavapai College, Community Room 1100 E. Sheldon Street, Bldg. 19, Prescott
- VC-05 American Lutheran Church 1085 Scott Drive, Prescott
- VC-06 Grace Baptist Church 2010 S. Highway 89, Chino Valley
- VC-07 First Southern Baptist Church 1524 N. Highway 89, Chino Valley
- VC-08 Findlay Toyota Center 3201 N. Main Street, Prescott Valley
- VC-09 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints 7073 Pronghorn Ranch Pkwy,
Prescott Valley
- VC-10 Canyon Bible Church 8582 East Eastridge Drive, Prescott Valley
- VC-11 Gateway Baptist Church 12900 Prescott Dells Road, Dewey-Humboldt
- VC-12 Mission Church 6555 S. State Route Hwy 69, Mayer
- VC-13 Sedona Elks Lodge #2291 110 Airport Road, Sedona
- VC-14 Sedona/VOC Fire Station #3, 125 Slide Rock Road, Sedona
- VC-15 Clark Memorial Clubhouse 19 N. 9th Street, Clarkdale
- VC-16 Cottonwood Oak Creek SD #6 1 N. Willard Street, Cottonwood
- VC-17 Cottonwood Bible Church 1020 S. Camino Real, Cottonwood
- VC-18 Immaculate Conception Catholic Church 700 N. Bill Gray Road, Cottonwood
- VC-19 Camp Verde Community Gym 51 E. Hollamon Street, Camp Verde
- VC-20 Ash Fork Public Library/Learning Center 450 W. Lewis Avenue, Ash Fork
- VC-21 Freeport-McMoRan - Bagdad Event Center 121 Main Street, Bagdad
- VC-22 Beaver Creek Adult Center 4250 E. Zuni Way, Rimrock
- VC-23 Pioneer Masonic Lodge #82 19055 E. K-Mine Road, Black Canyon City
- VC-24 Grace Bible Chapel 25605 Ghost Town Road, Congress
- VC-25 Cordes Lakes Community Center 16357 S. Cordes Lakes Drive, Cordes Lakes
- VC-26 Seligman Library 54170 N. Floyd Street, Seligman
- VC-27 Yarnell Presbyterian Church 16455 W. Table Top Way, Yarnell

I'VE RECEIVED MY EARLY BALLOT, NOW WHAT DO I DO?

Once you have received your ballot, read all the instructions carefully.

Use **BLACK OR BLUE INK ONLY** to completely fill in the oval to the **LEFT** of your choice to vote for a candidate or to vote for or against a proposition/question.

Check for races on all sides of your ballot.

Then simply insert your voted ballot into the pink and white affidavit envelope, **SIGN** the affidavit envelope, seal it, and return it.

ALL BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE YAVAPAI COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE BY ELECTION DAY, Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 7 PM.

Do not mail your early ballot after **Tuesday, October 29, 2024**, as it may not arrive in time. Postmarks are not accepted, and late ballots will not be tabulated.

If you have a question regarding your voter registration status or need a replacement early ballot, please call Yavapai County Voter Registration at 928-771-3248 Ext. 9.

PERMANENT BASE ADJUSTMENT SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Pursuant to the Arizona State Constitution, the County of Yavapai seeks voter approval to permanently adjust the expenditure base of the County as determined by the Economic Estimates Commission. If approved by the voters, the County's 1979-80 base expenditure limitation will be increased by \$7,900,000 adjusted each future year for population and inflation growth since 1979-80.

With voter approval, in 2025-2026 the County's expenditure limitation will increase by \$121,138,726, from \$171,363,470 to \$292,502,195. The County will utilize the additional expenditure authority for any local budgetary purposes including public health, safety and welfare, roads and other infrastructure. The dollar figures in this statement are estimates only. If approved, the additional authorized expenditures will be funded from revenues obtained from federal, state and local sources including the County's existing fund balance.

YAVAPAI COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RESOLUTION NO. 2129

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA TO REFER TO VOTERS AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 5, 2024 A BALLOT MEASURE FOR A PERMANENT ADJUSTMENT OF THE COUNTY'S 1979-1980 BASE EXPENDITURE LIMIT

WHEREAS, the Arizona State Constitution allows the County, upon affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the governing board and approval by a majority of qualified electors at a regularly scheduled general election, to permanently adjust the County's base expenditure limit; and

WHEREAS, a permanent adjustment of the County's expenditure limitation will enable the County to address community needs related to public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors has determined that a permanent adjustment of the County's expenditure limitation is necessary for Yavapai County; and

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2024, the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors voted in favor of submitting to the voters of Yavapai County at the general election to be held on November 5, 2024, the question of a permanent adjustment of the County's 1979-1980 base expenditure limit increasing it by \$7.9 million.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors hereby issues a call of election to submit to the voters of Yavapai County a ballot measure for the general election on November 5, 2024, for a permanent adjustment of the County's 1979-1980 base expenditure limit.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors approves the following ballot language for inclusion on the ballot for the general election on November 5, 2024.

Proposition #479

Proposal Submitted by Yavapai County Permanent Base Adjustment Increase of \$7,900,000

Official Title:

A resolution proposing a permanent adjustment to the state-imposed base expenditure limitation for Yavapai County, Arizona.

Descriptive Title:

Pursuant to the Arizona State Constitution, and Yavapai County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 2129, the Board seeks voter approval to permanently adjust the expenditure base of the County as determined by the Economic Estimates Commission. The County seeks an adjustment of \$7,900,000.

A "YES" vote shall have the effect of allowing the County to adjust its base expenditure limit.

A "NO" vote shall have the effect of not allowing the County to adjust its base expenditure limit.

Approved and Adopted by the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors this 19th day of June 2024.

/s/ Craig L. Brown

Craig L. Brown, Chairman
Yavapai County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

/s/ Jayme Rush

Jayme Rush, Clerk of the Board Yavapai County

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/ Martin Brennan

Deputy County Attorney

**BALLOT TEXT
GENERAL ELECTION - NOVEMBER 5, 2024
YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA
PROPOSITION 479**

Official Title:

A resolution proposing a permanent adjustment to the state-imposed base expenditure limitation for Yavapai County, Arizona.

Descriptive Title:

Pursuant to the Arizona State Constitution, and Yavapai County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 2129, the Board seeks voter approval to permanently adjust the expenditure base of the County as determined by the Economic Estimates Commission. The County seeks an adjustment of \$7,900,000.

A "YES" vote shall have the effect of allowing the County to adjust its base expenditure limit.

A "NO" vote shall have the effect of not allowing the County to adjust its base expenditure limit.

PROPOSITION 479 - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is the County's Expenditure Limitation?

The expenditure limitation is the maximum amount that the County can spend each year. This limit increases each year by an estimate of the growth in the County's population and inflation and is calculated annually by the Arizona Economic Estimates Commission.

Will Proposition 479 increase my property taxes?

Proposition 479 will not raise property taxes or any other county taxes.

How will the County's Expenditure Limitation change if Proposition 479 is approved by voters?

If Proposition 479 is approved, the County's base expenditure limitation, would be increased by \$7,900,000, and the Arizona Economic Estimates Commission would use the new base expenditure limitation to calculate all future County expenditure limitations. The increased limitation would begin in fiscal year 2025-2026.

Why is the County asking to adjust the Expenditure Limitation?

The County currently collects monies from federal payments, state payments and existing county taxes and fees that collectively are more than the current expenditure limitation.

Many of these revenues have been growing, over recent years, faster than the growth in the expenditure limitation. For example, state collected sales taxes that are shared with the County grew by 93 percent from fiscal year 2015 to fiscal year 2023, but the County's expenditure limitation only grew by 32.5 percent during those years. That means that some of the monies received from the state were not spent. The same is true for some other types of monies the County receives.

The County also has expenses for many things that did not exist in 1980, including advanced public safety and search and rescue communications equipment, public facing websites that offer online services, and the equipment and personnel necessary to meet numerous other legal requirements, in addition to ongoing expenses related to public health, safety and welfare, roads and other infrastructure.

When was the last time the County asked voters to increase the Expenditure Limitation?

The County has never asked voters to increase the expenditure limitation.

How is the County's Expenditure Limitation determined?

The County's expenditure limitation is based on the County's base expenditure limitation that is the County's actual spending of local revenues in fiscal year 1979 – 1980. The Economic Estimates Commission, with the assistance of the Arizona Department of Revenue, calculates the expenditure limitation annually based upon an estimate of the growth in the County's population and inflation.

How will the County's Base Expenditure Limitation change if Proposition 479 is not approved?

Yavapai County's base expenditure limitation will remain equal to its actual spending in fiscal year 1979–1980, which was \$11,175,381.

What is the County's Base Expenditure Limitation?

The County's base expenditure limitation is the original amount used, in 1980, as the starting point for all subsequent expenditure limitations for the County. The County's base expenditure limitation is the amount of "actual county spending of local revenues in fiscal year 1979 – 1980" – \$11,175,381.

ARGUMENTS FOR

PROPOSITION 479

Arguments represent the opinion of the authors.

I am writing to express my strong support for the Expenditure Limitation proposal currently under consideration. As a former Yavapai County Supervisor, I have had the privilege of serving our community and understanding the critical importance of fiscal responsibility and sustainable budgeting. The Expenditure Limitation proposal is a necessary step to ensure that our county can continue to provide essential services without compromising our financial stability. Over the years, we have seen significant growth in our population and corresponding demands on public services. The current expenditure limits, based on outdated fiscal benchmarks, no longer reflect the realities of our county's needs.

By adjusting the expenditure limits, we can better align our budget with the actual costs of maintaining and improving public infrastructure, healthcare, education, and safety services. This proposal is not about increasing taxes but about making sure that the funds we already collect are used efficiently and effectively to benefit our residents.

I have always been a proponent of transparent and accountable governance. This proposal includes measures to ensure that any adjustments to the expenditure limits are made with full public oversight and input. It is designed to be a flexible tool that can adapt to the changing needs of our community while maintaining strict fiscal discipline.

I urge all stakeholders to support this proposal. It is a balanced and prudent approach to managing our county's finances, ensuring that we can continue to provide high-quality services to our residents now and in the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Randy Garrison, Former Yavapai County Supervisor
Cottonwood, Arizona

It is important to increase the expenditure limit for Yavapai County for several reasons:

Economic Stimulus: Higher government spending can stimulate economic growth, especially if a recession takes place or YC has a period of slow growth. By increasing expenditure, the government can create jobs, boost consumer spending, and encourage investment.

Infrastructure Development: Increased spending allows for investment in infrastructure such as roads. Road improvements will not only improve quality of life but also enhance productivity and our economic efficiency. **Social Programs:** Higher expenditure limits will enable Yavapai County to fund programs that will support the well-being of citizens, reduce inequality, and promote social stability.

Long-term Investments: Governments can invest in long-term projects like research and development, green energy, and technology, which can lead to sustainable economic growth and innovation. **Public Services:** Enhanced expenditure limits ensure that essential public services like policing, and public health are adequately funded, maintaining public safety and welfare.

Overall, increasing government expenditure limits can be a powerful tool for promoting economic stability, while ensuring the provision of essential services and addressing immediate and long-term challenges. A YES vote is important.

Sandy Griffis
Prescott, Arizona

I am writing to support a YES vote for Proposition 479 on the November 5th General ballot. This would increase the County's base limitation to \$7,900,000; the Arizona Economic Estimates Commission would use the new "base expenditure limitation" to calculate all future limitations beginning fiscal year 2025-2026. Currently the limitation is based on 1980 figures.

The County has expenses for many things that did not exist in 1980: advanced public safety and search and rescue communications equipment, public facing websites that offer online services, and the equipment and personnel necessary to meet numerous other legal requirements, in addition to ongoing expenses related to public health, safety and welfare, roads and other infrastructure.

A yes vote allows the County to spend the money it has already collected from federal payments, state payments and existing county taxes and fees. Currently, they are collectively more than the current expenditure limitation. Hence some of the monies received from these sources were not spent.

The County has never asked the voters to increase the expenditure limitation; the increased limitation will not raise property taxes or any other county taxes.

Please vote YES on Prop 479.

Darlene Packard
Prescott, Valley

Vote Yes on Proposition 479 – Change the County's Expenditure Limit!

Voting Yes on Proposition 479 will provide needed services in Yavapai County and will NOT increase your taxes!

Yavapai County is limited on spending the revenues it receives every year based on an Expenditure Limit set in 1980 with annual adjustments for growth and inflation. However, the County provides many services now that were not in place in 1980 related to public health, safety and welfare, roads and other infrastructure. The current Expenditure Limit has not kept up with the needs of Yavapai County.

As the former County Administrator, I assisted the Board of Supervisors in developing and implementing the budget for ten years, and the restriction of spending funds that were already received by Yavapai County through various sources such as state sales tax, county sales tax and primary property taxes was a factor that limited various worthwhile programs and services throughout the County.

Annually, we would have to recommend denial of budget proposals from departments that would have benefited the citizens of Yavapai County due to the restrictions set by the County's Expenditure Limit, even though we had the available funding in place.

Please join me in voting YES on Proposition 479 so Yavapai County can use the funding it receives to sustain and implement needed programs and services.

Phil Bourdon
Prescott Valley, AZ

Today's costs due to inflation have been hitting all of us hard including getting things done at the county level.

Please allow this to happen.

Tom Thurman, Former County Supervisor
Prescott, Arizona

To the Voters of Yavapai County,

As a former County Supervisor, I am very familiar with the financial responsibilities that the Board of Supervisors is required by Arizona law to perform. Additionally, the Board's role in maintaining a balanced budget while funding basic services (like law enforcement and the courts) is paramount. Coupled with the continued demand to identify basic services is the need to develop a budget that does not unnecessarily encumber us as taxpayers.

Knowing that our tax rate is low and that our Board has carefully protected our resources is the primary reason I am supportive of Proposition #479. Simply put, the voter approval of this Proposition will allow the County to increase the expenditure limit - not increase our taxes.

A YES vote will allow them to better manage and plan for future expenditures.

Bill Feldmeier
Camp Verde, Arizona

Please join me in voting YES for Proposition #479.

A yes vote is NOT a vote for a tax increase, in fact, Yavapai County has reduced its tax rate routinely over the last 10 years resulting in a rate lower than it was in 2015.

A YES vote on Prop #479 is a vote to enhance Public Safety, Roads, Transportation Planning, Watershed Management, Criminal Justice and all the other services provided to the citizens of this well managed county.

Let us update the economic assumptions established in 1980 with 2024 realities by voting YES on Prop 479.

Larry Tarkowski
Prescott Valley, Arizona

To the Citizens of Yavapai County:

Yavapai County Proposition 479 is a much-needed increase to the overall spending limitation of the government of Yavapai County. I am in full support of this proposition for the following reasons:

Yavapai County's growth has been exponential - far beyond what the legislators who crafted the state spending cap ever contemplated more than 40 years ago when it was put into place - and our current cap does not meet the needs of today and beyond.

Simply put, the needs of Yavapai County have far outpaced what the County Board of Supervisors are legally allowed to fund because of the spending cap, despite additional funds already collected and available, including things like the public facing websites we all utilize, infrastructure, roads, and legally required personnel and equipment, not to mention advanced communications equipment for public safety and search and rescue.

I do commend the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors for placing their full commitment in public safety, which is the bedrock of the quality of life. The quality of life we have in Yavapai County is one of the major factors driving the growth we are seeing today. As you know, I have said I am not in support of a tax increase, because it's not necessary.

What is necessary, however, is for the voters of Yavapai County to unlock the tens of millions of dollars already at their fingertips and allow that funding to be spent on infrastructure projects to account for the unprecedented growth.

It is for this reason I am asking you to vote "Yes" on Yavapai County Proposition Number 479.

David Rhodes, Yavapai County Sheriff
Prescott, Arizona

ARGUMENTS AGAINST

PROPOSITION 479

No arguments against were received.

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Yavapai County
1015 Fair St., RM 228
Prescott, AZ 86305

NONPROFIT
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PERMIT NO. 1335



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

OFFICIAL BALLOTS WILL BE MAILED TO REGISTERED VOTERS