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November 8, 2016 Special Election

Proposition 448: Maintenance & Operation Budget Override Reauthorization

FACT SHEET

*Continue Current Override, No New Tax, No New Funding...
Override re-authorization maintains the funding
approved by voters in 2007 and 2011.*

Marana Unified School District No. 6 of Pima County, Arizona (the "District"), will hold a special 10% maintenance and operation budget override election on Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

Proposition 448: Maintenance & Operation Budget Override Reauthorization

The Governing Board of the District has called a special budget override election to be held on November 8, 2016 seeking voter authorization to continue the current 10% Maintenance and Operation budget increase previously approved by voters.

The proposed override is a continuation of the existing 10% override that was previously approved by the voters in November 2011, which is scheduled to phase down by one-third for each of the next three years.

Continuing the budget override is not a request for new funding or programs. The budget override shall be funded from a levy of taxes on the taxable property within the District and be in effect for a period of seven years.

The budget override will not create a new tax. Upon reauthorization, the estimated associated tax rate will remain approximately equal to the existing tax rate. The estimated cost to an owner of a home with a limited property value of \$153,590 (the average value of a home in the District) would be approximately \$134 per year.

What is a M&O Budget Override?

Arizona State law sets strict statewide limits on the amount which school districts can spend on the education of students. Arizona State Law also allows school districts to increase their Maintenance and Operation (M&O) budget up to 15% of the state formula (Revenue Control Limit) if approved by the voters of the district. MUSD is requesting voter reauthorization for the current 10% override and not seeking the statutory limit of 15%. The Revenue Control Limit is a state formula that determines how much funding school districts are allowed to spend each year.

What is a M&O budget override used for?

An override supports day to day maintenance and operation expenditures of a school district such

as utilities, paper and other supplies, salary and benefits of employees, and miscellaneous expenditures not of a capital nature.

How long do override funds last?

An override lasts for seven years. If not renewed, the amount decreases by one-third in the sixth year and two-thirds in the seventh year. In year eight, it expires. In order to fully maintain the continuity of an override, an election must be held every five years. Even though continuation overrides are not new taxes, per state law, they must be renewed through an election to continue for another seven years.

Why does a school district ask for voter approval to increase its operating budget?

An override is a direct way for a local community to help provide funding for local schools. Increasing the operating budget allows a school district to provide a higher quality education, offer programs and services to better meet the needs of students, and adequately prepare children to be successful contributing members of the community.

What will happen if the M&O Budget Override is not reauthorized?

If the override is not approved by the voters on November 8, the Marana District will experience a \$6,700,000 reduction to the budget resulting in unavoidable increases in class size and the elimination or reduction in the level of classroom and support services it currently provides students in the following areas:

- School aides
- Counseling
- Full day kindergarten
- Library
- Athletics
- Physical education
- Fine Arts
- Extra-curricular Activities
- Remedial, Elective Courses, and Advanced classes.

Have voters in Marana Unified School District passed Budget Overrides in the past?

Yes. Marana voters first approved the 10% M&O override in 2007. It was last renewed in 2011 and is up for renewal starting with the 2017-2018 budget.

What is the difference between a Budget Override and a Bond election?

A **budget override** allows school districts to increase their Maintenance and Operations budget if the voters of the district approve by election. An override supports day to day maintenance and operation expenditures such as utilities, paper and other supplies, salary and benefits of employees, and miscellaneous expenditures not of a capital nature. Overrides cannot be used for Bond projects.

Bonds are a debt instrument, approved by the voters, which are secured by a school district and paid back over time using tax dollars. Bonds allow school districts to fund capital projects such as school buses, facility construction, renovations and repairs, computers, security systems. Bonds cannot be used for M&O expenses.

Where does the funding for budget overrides come from?

Overrides are entirely funded by the levy of taxes on the secondary assessed value of property located within the District.

Will the override cause the tax levy on property located within the District to increase?

No. The renewal of the budget override will not create a new tax. Upon reauthorization, the estimated associated tax rate will remain approximately equal to the existing tax rate. The estimated cost to an owner of a home with a limited property value of \$153,590 (the average value of a home in the District) would be approximately \$134 per year.

Will property taxes decrease if the override is not reauthorized?

Yes. If the override is not reauthorized the secondary property tax rate will decrease by 0.29 annually for each of the next three years. In the first year, this translates to \$29.00 per year for a home with a \$100,000 assessed value (\$2.42 per month). In the second year, this translates to \$4.84 per month.

When will the election be held?

The election will be held on **Tuesday, November 8, 2016**

The polls will be open from 6:00 AM to 7:00 PM on Election Day. Any qualified voter who is in line to vote at 7:00 PM shall be allowed to prepare and cast their ballot.

Can I vote in this election?

If you are registered to vote in a precinct within the boundaries of the Marana Unified School District on or before midnight Tuesday, October 11, 2011, you are eligible to vote in this special election. If you do not know if you are registered or if you are eligible to vote, please contact the [Pima County Recorder's Office](#) at (520) 740-4330.

Register to vote by October 10:

[Register to vote now](#)

Request early ballot by October 28:

- [Online](#)
- by phone - (520) 740-4330
- by mail - by printing out a [PDF form](#)

Where do I vote?

If you are a registered voter in the Marana Unified School District and eligible to vote in this election, your precinct polling place is listed on the mailing label of the Voter Information Pamphlet. More information about your specific polling location or early voting locations can be found through the [Pima County Recorder's Office](#) or by phone at (520) 740-4330.

If you need additional information not provided in the Fact Sheet or in the voter pamphlet, you may contact:

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Although the Marana School District Governing Board has called for the bond election to be held in November, the Board, the District, and its employees - in their official capacities - cannot make any recommendation on how to vote on the override proposition.