

JIM SINEX

**CANDIDATE FOR TUCSON CITY COUNCIL -- WARD 6
SIGN THE PETITION AT JIMSINEX.ORG**



A CAMPAIGN FOR FUNDAMENTAL FAIRNESS

Find out more about this “Ideas First” campaign to enhance Tucson’s spirit of fairness and good faith in our collective future

After much thought, I’ve decided to run for Tucson City Council, Ward 6, as a Democrat with ideas first. What this means is that the city is not going to get a set of multicolor flyers stating that I’m for the things most Democrats favor. Strong families, pro-Choice, promoting affordable housing, efficient transportation are generic Democratic issues that most of us agree upon. Certainly, we must address those issues, but I believe there is more to be done.

I also don’t intend to raise the \$100,000-plus expected for a city council race. I’ll be acting frugally within the guidelines of Tucson’s election finance laws and competing for matching funds. All this by looking to individual voters for their support.

I grew up in Tucson and attended TUSD schools White, Wakefield, Pistor and Cholla. I took time afterward working various jobs and going backpacking, until I finished training to become a mechanical draftsman. That led me to Fort Huachuca where I worked with computers within a contract for the US Army. There, I was trained in “Total Quality Management” which was a method championed by W. Edwards Deming. The method, for me, sits on two points. A commitment to continual improvement and the idea that by solving big problems, smaller ones might also be solved. During this time, I traveled the roads of southern Arizona wondering what to do next with my life. I found that at the center of my concerns was land use. That led to a return to college and a degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. There I began to focus on a lifelong practice of thinking in terms of populations. Then, I became a public-school science teacher.

These experiences led me to an understanding that the way we elect our council in Tucson runs counter to a hope for a “small d” democratic society. Consider, if our state legislature decided that all of Arizona would vote for every legislative district statewide in the general election. Thus, voters in Phoenix would be selecting our representatives. We in Tucson would be quite concerned that we were being disenfranchised, as Republicans could easily take full control of our state government. I believe that is what we do here with our at-large election system. By holding a ward primary and a citywide general election, we allow the majority to select representation for the minority. This has happened three times in Ward 6 in recent memory, where a council seat was awarded to a candidate that had lost our ward. Thus, I seek a more democratic Democratic Party, as well.

Much of what is concerning in today’s political atmosphere is centered around a threat to our representative democracy and therefore the health of the American Experiment. This is a big issue and we in Tucson and Pima County seem to agree. In Pima County, we did our part in the 2024 election, as we have in past elections. We can be proud, except for our historic dedication to unrepresentative at-large elections in the City of Tucson. I believe that this must change. Otherwise, we have no ethical room to object to future disenfranchisements. All politics begins at the local level, so this is where we should begin.

My top priority is to build a better election system. Finding a means toward achieving a better system must include the electorate. I have plenty of good ideas, but we would need a wider input to move forward with a good plan. I believe that this would take a year to become ready for the 2027 Mayoral general election where a plan can be put before voters. This idea is not all I have to offer in terms of the city, but that’s what I’m leading with. There will be more to come.

As indicated above, the plan is for a frugal and focused campaign. It will be a people centered campaign of ideas. To make contact or for more information as it comes, look to JimSinex.org for further news and ideas. Plus, you can sign the petition to put my candidacy on the ballot for the primary election August 5th.

I ask for the honor of your support.

-- JS--