

Arizona primary election 2024: Who is running for mayor, city council?

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Arizona's primary election is July 30. In most Phoenix area cities and towns, citizens will decide who will represent them in local government in addition to voting in state and federal primary races.

While most political attention will be turned toward national and state races, how your community is governed has an immediate bearing on your day-to-day life.

City and town councils vote on development, local taxes and street improvements. They make deals to bring big employers to the area. They map out the long-term future of the community, with what kind, amount and density of development goes where. They set budgets that determine the level of police and fire service you get and what parks and libraries to keep open.

Residents have to be registered by July 1 to vote in the July 30 election. Early voting for the primary election starts on July 3 and ends on July 26. The last day to request a mail-in ballot is July 19.

In most local races, if no candidate gets more than 50% of the vote in the July 30 election, the race will head to a runoff election on Nov. 5, in which the top two vote-getters face off. Some cities, in which there are multiple candidates, decide on November runoff candidates based on specific formulas.

Here is who is running in Maricopa County cities and towns.

East Valley: Mesa | Scottsdale | Gilbert | Chandler | Queen Creek | Apache Junction | Guadalupe | **West Valley:** Glendale | Peoria | Surprise | Buckeye | Goodyear | Avondale |

More Paradise Valley election coverage

Who is on Paradise Valley's Town Council? It's run by six Town Council members who serve staggered four-year terms, meaning half of the governing body goes up for reelection every two years.

Fountain Hills mayor and City Council races

Fountain Hills is electing three council members and a mayor. Councilmembers serve four-year-terms, while the mayor appears on the ballot every two-year election cycle. Three candidates are vying for mayor, and eight candidates are running for the three available council seats. The outcome will influence everything from the town's approach to affordable housing and growth to the tone of its often divisive political discourse.

Fountain Hills mayor candidates

Ginny Dickey: (incumbent) She was first elected Fountain Hills mayor in 2018 and re-elected in 2020 and 2022. Prior to her retirement Dickey was an Arizona Senate staffer, part-time teacher, bookkeeper, school board member and assistant director of the Department of Environmental Quality.

Joseph Arpaio: He served as Maricopa County sheriff from 1992 to 2016. Arpaio is running for Fountain Hills mayor for the second time, having lost to Mayor Ginny Dickey in 2022.

Gerry Friedel: He is currently serving as on the Fountain Hills City Council, Friedel's career includes nearly 22 years as a loan officer and another 17 years as a financial planner.

Fountain Hills City Council candidates

Peggy McMahon (incumbent): She was elected to Fountain Hills City Council in 2020 and is a current councilmember. Prior to her retirement, she had a 35-year career working as a paralegal in the estate planning and taxation areas of law, including stints at the Snell & Wilmer law firm and JPMorgan.

Clayton Corey: He is currently a member of the Fountain Hills Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Directors of the Fountain Hills Sanitary District. Professionally, Corey works at CVS Health in managing IT Support Operations and Infrastructure Platform Engineering.

Mathew Corrigan: His career was in sales, working as a small business owner and district sales manager. Following his retirement, Corrigan and his wife moved to Arizona.

Gayle Earle: She is a small business owner, having owned and operated a pool service business for more than 30 years. Earle and her family have been Fountain Hills residents for 17 years.

Henry Male: Male is employed with Penske Automotive Scottsdale BMW and is currently the President of the Fountain Hills Theater Board of Directors. Male has been a resident of Fountain Hills since 2003.

Art Tolis: He is a former Fountain Hills Council Member, elected in 2016. Tolis is the President of Tolis Mortgage Financial Group.

Robert Wallace: He is a real estate agent with experience in I.T. desktop support and systems administration. Wallace is also the Arizona State Chapter Lead for Gays Against Groomers, secretary of the Log Cabin Republicans of Phoenix, and an Arizona District 3 Republican Committeeman.

Rick Watts: Watts and his family have been residents of Fountain Hills since the late '80's. He is currently on the Fountain Hills Planning and Zoning Commission, a member of the Neighborhood Property Owners Association and the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers.

More Fountain Hills election coverage

Who is on the Fountain Hills Town Council? Each council member serves a four-year term. Their elections are staggered, meaning half of the Town Council goes up for reelection every two years.

Who is the mayor of Fountain Hills? Ginny Dickey is the three-term mayor of Fountain Hills, having been elected for the first time in 2018 and again in both 2020 and 2022.

Carefree Town Council races

Carefree is filling three of the town's seven council positions. Six candidates are vying for the open seats, two incumbents and four challengers. The winners will tackle the ongoing push to revamp the town's emergency response system and other key issues such as street safety.

Carefree Town Council candidates

Vince D'Aliesio: (incumbent): He was first elected to the council in 2018. D'Aliesio has worked as a high school and college football coach and insurance broker.

Stephen Hatcher: (incumbent): He has served on the Town Council since 2018. Hatcher is a mechanical engineer who finished his career at Boeing.

Diane Roth: She describes herself as a “fashion expert” who works as a womens’ “wardrobe consultant and personal shopper.”

Lon Johnson: He works as senior vice president of sales for Colbert Packaging, where he also sits on the Board of Directors.

Colleen Rose-Scurti: She is a long-time real estate broker who served as the Senior Vice President of Coldwell Banker.