



Dear City of Rancho Mirage Voter:

On April 8, 2014, the City of Rancho Mirage is conducting an election for the purpose of electing four members to the City Council, three for four-year terms and one for a two-year term. All ballots for this election will be cast by mail-in ballots – there will be no polling places on Election Day. The Riverside County Registrar of Voters will be conducting this election for the City and all ballots will be mailed, received and counted by the Registrar's Office.

Postage-paid envelopes are provided for mailed ballot return. Residents are encouraged to vote early! It is important to be sure the back of the pink return envelope is signed by the voter before mailing. Unsigned ballots cannot be counted. Ballots may also be dropped off at City Hall, located at 69825 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage. City Hall is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, April 8, 2014.

Please note that March 24, 2014 is the last day to register or transfer registration to vote in this Election. Registration cards are available at City Hall as well as on the Registrar of Voters website, www.voteinfo.net.

If you have any questions, please contact:

- City Clerk's Office at (760) 324-4511 or
- Registrar of Voters at (800) 773-VOTE (8683) or (951) 486-7200, TTY (951) 697-8966

The City Clerk's Office and the Registrar of Voters are dedicated to serving the voters of the City of Rancho Mirage and ensuring the integrity and security of the elections process. We look forward to your participation in this important election.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Scott, CMC
City Clerk



CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE
MAIL BALLOT ELECTION
APRIL 8, 2014

 **POLLING PLACES WILL NOT BE ESTABLISHED FOR THIS ELECTION.** 

The enclosed ballot is your **OFFICIAL BALLOT** for this election.

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

Your voted ballot must be in the possession of the Registrar of Voters no later than 8:00 p.m. on April 8, 2014. Postmarks are not accepted.

1. Use a black ball point pen. **DO NOT use felt tip, red or gel ink.**
 - a. To vote for a candidate whose name appears on the ballot, connect the head and tail of the arrow to the right of the name of the candidate for whom you wish to vote.
 - b. To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, print the candidate's name in the space provided below the candidates listed for the same office and connect the head and tail of the arrow to the right of the name you have written in. (**Important!** If you do not connect the arrow, your vote will not be counted.)
 - c. One line connecting the arrow is preferred. Vote for no more than the number of candidates allowed in each contest for the contest to be counted (e.g. vote for one, vote for no more than two, etc.)
2. Remove the top stub and place the voted ballot card in the return envelope provided. Please keep the ballot folded the same way as you received it.
 - a. Sign your name and print your address where indicated. **If you fail to sign the envelope your vote cannot be counted;** and
 - b. Seal the envelope.
3. Return your ballot:
 - a. By mail:
 - A postage-paid envelope is provided to conveniently return your ballot by mail. Since this is a mail ballot election there are **no established polling places**. Voters residing outside of the territorial limits of the United States must add postage appropriate for their current location.
 - b. In Person to:
 - The Registrar of Voters office or the Rancho Mirage City Clerk's office during regular business hours and until close of polls on Election Day. For your convenience the Registrar's office has a locked drop box at its entry for ballot drop off 24 hours a day.
 - c. You may verify that the Registrar of Voters has received your voted ballot by checking the return status online at www.voteinfo.net.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **UNABLE TO RETURN YOUR BALLOT PERSONALLY?** State law allows you to authorize your spouse, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister or a person residing in the same household to return your ballot for you. You and your designated representative must complete the authorization statement on the enclosed return envelope.
- **SPOILED YOUR BALLOT?** Place the ballot card in the enclosed return envelope, place a check mark in the spoiled box on the return envelope and return it to our office. A new ballot will be sent to you if there is sufficient time to do so. If there is not sufficient time to return your ballot and receive another by mail, you may return your ballot personally to the Registrar of Voters office or call for further instructions at (951) 486-7200 or 1-800-773-8683.
- **ACCESSIBLE VOTING UNIT.** An Accessible Voting Unit is available upon request at the Registrar of Voters office.
- **CLOSE OF REGISTRATION.** The last day to register to vote for this election is March 24, 2014.

Statements made on the following pages represent the views of the authors and are not endorsed by the County of Riverside. Internet website addresses included in any statements are provided by the authors. The County of Riverside assumes no liability for the accuracy or content of websites listed therein. The text, grammar, and spelling are as submitted by the authors.

HOW TO MARK YOUR PAPER BALLOT

- Connect the head and tail of the arrow that points to your choice, like the example provided, also check both front and back of ballot for voting contests
- Use a black ball point pen. Do not use felt tip, red or gel ink
- One line connecting the arrow is preferred
- Vote for no more than the number of votes allowed in each contest (e.g. vote for one, vote for no more than two, etc.)
- Please keep the ballot folded the same way as you received it

**TO MARK YOUR VOTE
DRAW A LINE**



VOTE!!!

For a demonstration on marking your ballot visit www.voteinfo.net



**CANDIDATE STATEMENT FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, FULL TERM
CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE**

IRIS M. SMOTRICH

OCCUPATION: Incumbent

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

Being selected unanimously by the City Council to fill the seat of Councilman Ron Meepos, and being reappointed after running unopposed in the last election, was an honor.

My successful years in business and real estate have given me the ability to make measured and balanced decisions when dealing with our City Budget and other complex issues. I have demonstrated how to get things accomplished in government.

My civic involvement include Rancho Mirage Library, Cultural Commission, College of the Desert, Safety Commission of CVAG, Joslyn Center and Speakers Series.

While big projects grab headlines like developing Section 19 into a commercial engine for Rancho Mirage and helping the Ritz Carlton to open soon, there are a number of smaller projects of importance.

Examples include maintaining our Golf Club, installing more cell phone towers, opposing marijuana dispensaries in Rancho Mirage, bringing Solar Energy to City Hall and constructing a dog park. I am opposed to our City's tax dollars funding the interior decorating of existing businesses.

I have worked diligently to improve our Emergency Preparedness and provide Closed Captioning in our Council Chamber.

I pledge to continue to serve with honesty, integrity, conscientious budgeting, sound investing and judicious spending.

Thank You,

Iris Smotrich

Teamranchomirage2014.com

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, FULL TERM
CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE**

CHARLES TOWNSEND VINCI

OCCUPATION: Rancho Mirage Businessman

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

My partner of 42-years, Gordon Moller, died in office in 2012. He served Rancho Mirage with high ethical distinction. He took considerable pride in being part of the leadership of the best managed city in the Valley. I hope to continue his selfless dedication to our city.

Currently, I'm Chairman of the Rancho Mirage Chamber of Commerce where I have held various BOD titles over the past 12-years. I've been a Rancho Mirage homeowner for seventeen years and served two years in the US Army Medical Corps Reserves.

Gordon and I owned and managed the Charles Townsend Collection for the past 13-years in Rancho Mirage. Before that I spent 22-years in Los Angeles Times' management positions. I offer my lifetime of entrepreneurial success and bring to our City a keen sense of practical business acumen.

As a fiscal conservative I oppose giving public funds to business entities for interior redecorating, etc. I can say "no" to such requests even if they come from friends.

I pledge on my honor to never profit or attempt to profit from this position of trust. This will not be a stepping stone to another office. My allegiance is to our city.

Please visit: TeamRanchoMirage2014.com.

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, FULL TERM
CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE**

DANA HOBART

OCCUPATION: Council Member / Attorney

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

Since first elected I've initiated and pursued to enactment many projects that favorably impact our quality of life and property values. Some include:

- Eliminating the overhead electric lines throughout the Tamarisk, Magnesia Falls and other communities.
- Preserving Rancho Mirage's modest size by eliminating our "sphere of influence" consisting of the six square miles north of the I-10, adjacent to Thousand Palms, which was projected to add 40,000 residents to our city.
- Turning our Section 19 into the commercial engine that will assure our economic stability for decades to come. (Sec.19 is the 260 acres south of the Casino, east side of Bob Hope.)
- Persuading the Agua Caliente Tribe to annex their Casino and Hotel into the city, currently resulting in over \$400,000 per year flowing to the city.
- The elimination of "pension spiking" for Rancho Mirage employees and other needed employment reforms.
- Defeated a restaurant owner's request for a grant / gift of \$180,000 of public funds to help him redecorate his business interior.

For 29 consecutive years I've been named in Best Lawyers in America, including 2013-2014. I have argued and won before the United States Supreme Court. I am also a Federal Court and State Court mediator.

Please explore: TeamRanchoMirage2014.com

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, FULL TERM
CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE**

SCOTT M. HINES

AGE: 44

OCCUPATION: City Council Member

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

As the fresh voice on the City Council, I approach issues with unique perspective, independent spirit and years of public service experience. I am aligned with no one, and cast votes based on what's best for our citizens.

As a fiscal conservative, I delivered balanced budgets with surpluses every year. I've cut spending while delivering excellent city services.

As Mayor, I introduced energy initiatives to save Rancho Mirage money and reduce greenhouse gases; and I shepherded a program for property owners to improve their properties with energy technologies. I was one of four U.S. Mayors invited to China to present our energy plan at a world conference.

My 2044 Vision is a smart growth plan ensuring a balance between residential and commercial development so our City is forever self-sustaining without risk of increased taxes.

I hold two Masters Degrees (one in Public Management) and a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science.

An Air Force Academy graduate, I have led soldiers in Latin America and the halls of the Pentagon. As a CEO, I've managed million dollar budgets and made tough calls. I am well-rounded, ethical and compassionate.

I would be honored if you reelect me. www.electhines.com.

Sincerely, Scott Hines



**CANDIDATE STATEMENT FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, SHORT TERM
CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE**

STUART WHITEEAGLE ACKLEY

AGE: 54

OCCUPATION: Chamber Professional

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

Born and raised in Green Bay, Wisconsin and a graduate of the University of Wisconsin. I've been a resident of the valley for 22 years and worked as the Rancho Mirage Chamber of Commerce's President/CEO for 18 years (1995-2013), I've seen many changes as our City developed during that period, including huge development along Highway 111 and many new residential neighborhoods.

My experience working with Rancho Mirage officials includes monthly meetings I attended with City Councilors and staff during my 18 year tenure with the Chamber; serving on the City's General Plan Advisory Commission (2003-2004); and serving on the City's Housing Commission (2006-2010). I've been supportive of our City by being a member of the Rancho Mirage Rotary Club for 15 of the past 18 years, serving as President of the Rotary Club from 2000-01.

In 2000, I graduated from the US Chamber's Institute of Organizational Management. While I was Chamber CEO, we developed many events that continue today. They include Business Expos; Rancho Mirage Art Affaire; Restaurant Rendezvous; and Bits 'n' Bites of Rancho Mirage, which is now referred to as the Taste of Rancho Mirage.

I would appreciate your vote for the short term seat on the Rancho Mirage City Council.

**CANDIDATE STATEMENT FOR
CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, SHORT TERM
CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE**

TED WEILL

OCCUPATION: Councilman

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

It has been an honor to serve as your councilman. I promised to protect and enhance the quality of life for Rancho Mirage Rancho residents. I believe that I have kept that promise.

A unanimous City Council appointed me to fill the vacancy created by Gordon Moller's sudden passing, based upon my lengthy background in finance and real estate development. I graduated from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. My MBA "With Honors" was earned at Pepperdine University.

My business experience helps considerably when Rancho Mirage frequently deals with real property development. Presently, I am actively involved in the sale of the Rancho Las Palmas Shopping Center to new developers, helping formulate the city's short and long-term objectives. I want to create opportunities to encourage and assist business to locate and succeed in Rancho Mirage.

As a matter of principle, I vigorously opposed the City Council Agenda item to make a gift of city funds for interior decorating at a local restaurant. A gift to one company would set an unwise precedent.

I would be honored by your vote and I pledge to never violate your trust.

Please visit: TeamRanchoMirage2014.com

Sincerely, Ted Weill




SAMPLE BALLOT / BOLETA DE MUESTRA

MUNICIPAL ELECTION / ELECCIÓN MUNICIPAL
RIVERSIDE COUNTY / CONDADO DE RIVERSIDE
APRIL 8, 2014 / 8 DE ABRIL DE 2014

BT 001

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:

















To **VOTE**, connect the arrow pointing to your choice, like the example to the right: 

To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, write the person's name on the blank line provided and **CONNECT THE ARROW**. Use a **black ball point pen**. **DO NOT** use felt tip, red or gel ink.

INSTRUCCIONES A LOS VOTANTES:

Para **VOTAR**, complete la flecha a su derecha de su deseo, como el ejemplo arriba:

Para votar por un candidato calificado por escrito, escriba el nombre de la persona en el espacio en blanco provisto y **CONECTE LA FLECHA**. Use una pluma negra. **NO** use punta de feltro, roja o gel.

CITY / CIUDAD	
CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE CIUDAD DE RANCHO MIRAGE	
City Council Member, Full Term Miembro del Concejo Municipal, Plazo Completo Vote for no more than Three / Vote por no más de Tres	
IRIS M. SMOTRICH Incumbent Titular	 
CHARLES TOWNSEND VINCI Rancho Mirage Businessman Empresario de Rancho Mirage	 
DANA HOBART Council Member / Attorney Concejal / Abogado	 
SCOTT HINES Incumbent Titular	 
	 
	 
	 
City Council Member, Short Term Miembro del Concejo Municipal, Plazo Corto Vote for One / Vote por Uno	
STUART WHITEEAGLE ACKLEY Chamber Executive Ejecutivo de Cámara	 
TED WEILL Council Member Concejal	