



## CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE



Dear City of Rancho Mirage Voter:

On April 10, 2018, the City of Rancho Mirage will conduct an election for the purpose of electing three members to the City Council for four-year terms. 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 will be provided for mailed ballot return. Residents are encouraged to vote early! It is important to ensure that the back of the return envelope is signed by the voter before mailing. Unsigned ballots will not be counted.

Ballots may be dropped off at Rancho Mirage City Hall, located at 69825 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270. City Hall is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Ballots may also be dropped off at the Registrar of Voters Office, located at 2724 Gateway Drive, Riverside, CA 92507. The Registrar's Office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Both City Hall and the Registrar's Office will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, April 10, 2018. Voted ballots must be received no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day (ballots postmarked on Election Day must be received no later than three days after Election Day to be counted).

Please note that March 26, 2018 is the last day to register to vote or transfer registration for this election. Voter registration cards are available at City Hall. Voter registration is also available on the Registrar of Voters website at [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net).

The City Clerk's Office and the Registrar of Voters Office are dedicated to serving the voters of Rancho Mirage and ensuring the integrity and security of the election process. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (760) 324-4511, Ext. 488, or the Registrar of Voters Office at (800) 773-VOTE (8683) or (951) 486-7200, TTY (951) 697-8966.

Sincerely,

Kristie Ramos  
City Clerk

## RANCHO MIRAGE MAIL BALLOT ELECTION

APRIL 10, 2018

### 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 office no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day or be postmarked on or before Election Day and received no later than three days after Election Day to be counted.

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 votes allowed in each contest (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, or be postmarked on or before Election Day and received no later than three days after Election Day to be counted. 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](http://www.voteinfo.net).

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **UNABLE TO RETURN YOUR BALLOT PERSONALLY?** State law allows you to authorize any individual to return your Vote-by-Mail ballot, as long as the authorized person does not receive any form of compensation for returning the Vote-by-Mail ballot. 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 (800) 773-8683.
- **ACCESSIBLE VOTING UNIT.** An Accessible Voting Unit is available at the Registrar of Voters office.
- **REGISTRATION DEADLINE.** The registration deadline to vote for this election is March 26, 2018.

Each candidate's statement is volunteered by the candidate. Statements made on the following pages represent the views of authors and are not endorsed by the City of Rancho Mirage or the County of Riverside. Internet website addresses included in any statements are provided by the authors. The County of Riverside, nor the City of Rancho Mirage, assumes any 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 OFFICIAL PAPER BALLOT

- Connect the head and tail of the arrow that points to your choice, like the example provided. 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!!!**

**Vote First, Count First!** Vote-by-Mail ballots received before Election Day are counted first. Return your ballot as soon as possible to ensure that it is included in the first Election Night results!


For a demonstration on marking your ballot visit [www.voteinfo.net](http://www.voteinfo.net).  
PARA ESPAÑOL, VEA EL OTRO LADO

# OFFICIAL BALLOT / BOLETA OFICIAL

RANCHO MIRAGE MAIL BALLOT ELECTION  
ELECCIÓN DE BOLETA POR CORREO DE RANCHO MIRAGE  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY / CONDADO DE RIVERSIDE  
APRIL 10, 2018 / 10 DE ABRIL DE 2018

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, conecte 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 un **bolígrafo negro**. **NO** use punta de fieltro, roja o gel.

NONPARTISAN OFFICES CARGOS NO PARTIDARIOS	
CITY / CIUDAD	
CITY OF RANCHO MIRAGE CIUDAD DE RANCHO MIRAGE	
City Council Member Miembro del Concejo Municipal	
Vote for no more than Three Vote por no más de Tres	
<b>DANA HOBART</b> Council Member / Attorney Miembro del Concejo / Abogado	 
<b>MICHAEL HARRINGTON</b> Business Owner Propietario de Empresa	 
<b>CHARLES TOWNSEND VINCI</b> Incumbent Titular	 
<b>ROBERT "BOB" MUELLER</b> Business Executive Ejecutivo Empresarial	 
<b>IRIS M. SMOTRICH</b> City Council Member Miembro del Concejo Municipal	 
<b>KATE SPATES</b> Businesswoman Empresaria	 
	 
	 
	 

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

**DANA HOBART**

**OCCUPATION: Council Member / Attorney**  
**EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

Effective local government can be summarized as (1) providing a safe place to live, (2) economic stability, (3) increasing property values, (4) providing superior amenities. These objectives are achieved by electing men and women with meaningful real-world accomplishments who are not using their positions for personal gain or political advancement.

Government cannot prevent all crime, but we can deter and combat it. In December 2017 the council increased daily police patrol by two officers.

We've balanced our budget sixteen consecutive years and have \$63 million cash reserves. We have zero unfunded employee pension liability. We abolished all pension "spiking." We have zero bonded indebtedness and the Coachella Valley's lowest sales tax @ 7.75%.

We have unequalled amenities. All residential overhead lines undergrounded. Exceptional library. Observatory (opening soon). New four acre dog park. Extraordinary amphitheater and city park. Plus, Rancho Mirage is the valley's most beautiful city!

CV Link: Your council called a public vote. Residents overwhelmingly opposed CV Link's devastating route through the heart of our business district and residential communities.

Personal: Argued (prevailed) before United States Supreme Court. Serve as Mediator for Riverside County Superior Court. Named in "Best Lawyers In America" 33 consecutive years. Named by "Palm Springs Life" as one of Coachella Valley's "Top 4 Attorneys" (2006).

Let's continue together.

Dana Hobart (danahobart.com)

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

**MICHAEL HARRINGTON**

**AGE: 59**

**OCCUPATION: Business Owner**  
**EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

As a long-time Rancho Mirage resident, (15 years), I have been involved in the community and advocated for improvements to our city. I have served on the city and county boards. I have a background and education in Business and Economics, a law degree and run a successful law office. I have advocated for better public safety, better road safety, and better lighting and security in our parks. In addition to these goals, I want to spur revitalization in portions of our downtown district through business-friendly city policies. I also want to improve our public transportation. This can help businesses achieve higher customer traffic as well as better serve our senior population. My promise to you is that I will always do the best for the residents, and the quality of life in our city. While being accessible and transparent always. I would be honored to have your vote. Please read more on my website [www.Harrington4RanchoMirage.com](http://www.Harrington4RanchoMirage.com)

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

**CHARLES TOWNSEND VINCI**

**OCCUPATION: Councilman**  
**EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

Four years ago you elected me to the best run city government in the valley. Rancho Mirage is that well run community. Being part of this City Council is a job that requires a full time commitment. Countless hours to navigate the intricacies of government, budget creation, the nuances of applicable law, representing our city valley wide attending County Commissions as your Mayor.

My continued commitment to fiscal responsibility, protection of our unique and special quality of life guides my decisions. Prudence along with knowledgeable responsibility is important as the money we spend is yours. Projects and infrastructure is first in mind to keep our city in good shape.

I am committed to maintaining strong support for our Police, and fire departments, to ensure pristine maintenance of our parks, roads, and city landscapes, Library, Observatory, Free ambulance service, support our schools, and provide safety for all residents.

Encouraging growth, opportunities for business, to provide assistance for the less fortunate, and support the homeless.

With your support and most of all your input we shall go forward with unity, stability, leadership to continue on this path our city has achieved today and tomorrow.

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ON NEXT  
PAGE**

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

**ROBERT MUELLER**

**AGE: 70**

**OCCUPATION: Executive  
EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

My partner of 41 years and I moved to Rancho Mirage in 2013. We enjoy living here.

With a BS degree from the University of Arizona and postgraduate work at The Wharton School, I served as North American President of Panasonic and JVC Kenwood division companies and Senior Vice President at Sony. Today, I'm President of Greenwich Management Associates, a company supplying business consulting services to outside clients. I'm fiscally conservative / socially progressive.

Looking to the future, the city's challenge is to transition from "good" to "great". The incumbent council members depend on policies created twenty years ago. For the future, "more of the same" is simply not good enough.

The city has accumulated a reserve three times its annual budget. This asset, owned by the city's taxpayers, must be put to use to improve the vitality of city businesses and lighten taxpayer burden. Moreover, the council glosses over several unfortunate realities affecting its residents, including crime and the plight of its elderly residents.

I want to be YOUR representative. Through evidence-based policy making, transparency, innovation and greater citizen participation, together we can create a brighter future for ALL our citizens.

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

**IRIS M. SMOTRICH**

**OCCUPATION: City Council Member  
EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

I am honored being able to serve a city with no debt, fully funded pensions and substantial reserve funds.

Successful years in business and real estate gave me the experience and knowledge to make measured and balanced decisions when dealing with our City budget and other complex issues.

Serving on the CVAG Safety Committee, Homelessness Committee and Rancho Mirage Emergency Preparedness Commission enables me to address critical issues facing our community, now and in the future.

I have been involved with the Agua Caliente Tribe and Pulte Developers to develop the expansive Del Webb at Rancho Mirage complex now under construction on Dinah Shore Drive.

I worked diligently to improve our Rancho Mirage television programming and content.

I spearheaded Closed Captioning of City Council meetings. I was instrumental in the design and construction of our "Veteran's Recognition Wall", "Eternal Flame Monument" and "Reflection Sitting Area" at the Rancho Mirage Community Park, as well as the disabled children's play area.

I value and encourage the input of constituents and businesses ... as working together will maintain the fine quality of life we all enjoy.

As a fiscal conservative, prosperous but careful growth, conscientious budgeting, sound investing and judicious spending are paramount to me.

I am committed to honesty, Integrity and diversity.

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

**KATE SPATES**

**AGE: 50**

**OCCUPATION: Businesswoman  
EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:**

I love Rancho Mirage, and I believe our city deserves energetic leaders with creative ideas that will keep our community special.

When elected, I will:

- Enhance our quality of life
- Maintain our public safety and improve our emergency preparedness
- Attract quality businesses, jobs and economic development
- Provide arts, culture, recreation, healthy living and educational opportunities for all our residents

I have lived in the desert for 37 years, and Rancho Mirage is my home. My professional background is in hospitality, marketing, and successfully growing multiple local businesses.

As a community leader, I have served on the boards and committees of numerous local organizations, successfully bringing people together to drive real-world results, including:

- Women Leaders Forum
- College of the Desert Foundation
- Desert Classic Charities
- The Girlfriend Factor
- Shelter From The Storm
- Children's Discovery Museum of the Desert
- United Way
- Coachella Valley Economic Partnership

It's my proven leadership – both in business and within these organizations – that has allowed me to earn the support of many local residents, business owners and community leaders.

This election, I ask for your vote. Together, we'll shape the future of Rancho Mirage.

To learn more, visit [www.katespates.com](http://www.katespates.com).



## Conditional Voter Registration

Effective January 1, 2017, Conditional Voter Registration is available to eligible voters in California pursuant to Election Codes 2170 through 2173.

Conditional Voter Registration (CVR) extends the existing 15-day registration deadline to eligible voters, allowing them to register and vote 14 days prior to an election through Election Day. An eligible voter would need to register directly in the office of the Riverside County Registrar of Voters, located at 2724 Gateway Drive, in Riverside, CA 92507 to conditionally register to vote and vote a provisional ballot.

Voters may register online at [www.registertovote.ca.gov](http://www.registertovote.ca.gov), however, **CVR ballots will only be issued at the office of the Registrar of Voters.**

In order to conditionally register, the voter must first complete an affidavit of registration (also known as a Voter Registration Card). Once the registration is submitted, the Registrar of Voters will issue a CVR provisional ballot to vote.

The affidavit will be processed and once the eligibility is determined and validated, the registration will become permanent and the CVR provisional ballot will be counted.

Conditional Voter Registrations are treated and processed in the same manner as other registrations; CVR provisional ballots are treated and processed the same as other provisional ballots.

If you have any questions regarding Conditional Voter Registration, please call (951) 486-7200 or toll free (800) 773-VOTE (8683).

You may check the status of your voter registration at [www.voteinfo.net/AmIRegistered](http://www.voteinfo.net/AmIRegistered).

*CVR was enacted in 2012, to be operative on January 1st after the certification of a statewide voter registration database. VoteCal, California's statewide voter registration database, was certified on September 26, 2016; CVR became operative as of January 1, 2017.*

