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Clerk and Recorder Nancy A. Doty says all Mail Ballot general election could have saved county taxpayers as much as \$500,000

Report on 2010 General Election costs available on www.arapahoevotes.com

LITTLETON, CO --- Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder Nancy A. Doty today released an analysis of the "Cost per Voter by Voting Method" for the 2010 General Election. Arapahoe County voting methods include Early Vote, Election Day Polling Place Voting and Mail-in ballots.

"I feel it is important to analyze how we are spending taxpayers' dollars so we can find ways to improve our efficiency," Doty said.

The analysis shows that when all costs are included, the cost per voter for is \$14.86 for each voter who voted on Election Day at a polling site; \$20.08 for each voter who voted at an Early Vote site; and \$2.63 for each voter who voted a Mail-in ballot.

This means an Election Day polling place voter costs the county more than 5.5 times as much as a mail-in ballot voter. An Early Voter costs the county more than 7.5 times as much as a mail-in ballot voter and 1.3 times as much as a polling place voter.

If all voters had voted by mail ballot, the overall cost of the General Election would have been 52 percent lower, with a per voter cost of just \$2.54, according to Doty.

"The results, while staggering in their impact, are not surprising," Doty said. "Our citizens need to know, that if allowed, we can conduct their elections for half the current cost. That would have been approximately a half million dollars in savings in the 2010 General Election for Arapahoe County alone."

"We must always work to spend the taxpayers' money as efficiently as possible, but it is especially important in these economic times," Doty said.

Recently H.B. 11-1131, allowing counties to conduct General Elections as all-mail ballot elections, was introduced in the Colorado Assembly.

Citizens who would like to see reduced election costs through an all-mail ballot election are encouraged to contact their local legislator.

The report and contact information for State legislators is available on the Arapahoe County Elections Division web site at www.arapahoevotes.com.

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