

# 2016 GENERAL ELECTION VOTER GUIDE

## STATE BOND ISSUES

### General Obligation Bonds and Tax Impacts

The New Mexico Legislature passed the 2016 Capital Projects General Obligation Bond Act to fund certain projects. The bonds will be listed on the ballot separately, and you will be asked to vote "For" or "Against" each one. Based on the assumption that all four bond issues will be passed by voters, the property tax year 2016 mill levy has been set at 1.36 mills, which is the same as the 2015 rate. **The State Board of Finance estimates that over a ten-year period, the four issues on the ballot would cost approximately \$9.34 per \$100,000 of asset value per year. Of the annual average \$9.34, Bond Issue A accounts for \$0.78, Bond Issue B accounts for \$0.51, Bond Issue C accounts for \$7.14 and Bond Issue D accounts for \$0.91.**

**Bond Issue A**, in an amount not to exceed \$15,440,000 to make capital expenditures for senior citizen facility improvements, construction, and equipment acquisition projects. Here are the Santa Fe County entities that would benefit:

EDGEWOOD SENIOR CENTER-VEHICLES \$97,000  
MARY ESTHER GONZALES SENIOR CENTER-IMPROVE CODE \$236,500  
MARY ESTHER GONZALES SENIOR CENTER-RENOVATE \$70,300  
MARY ESTHER GONZALES SENIOR CENTER-VEHICLES \$496,800  
NAMBE PUEBLO SENIOR CENTER-RENOVATE \$38,000  
PASATIEMPO SENIOR CENTER-IMPROVE CODE \$198,500  
POJOAQUE PUEBLO SENIOR CENTER-RENOVATE \$190,000  
SANTA CRUZ SENIOR CENTER-VEHICLES \$150,000  
VILLA CONSUELO SENIOR CENTER-IMPROVE CODE \$198,000  
VILLA CONSUELO SENIOR CENTER-MEALS EQUIP \$80,900

**Bond Issue B**, in an amount not to exceed \$10,167,000 to make capital expenditures for academic, public school, tribal, and public library resource acquisitions. The Santa Fe Public Library, Santa Fe Public School libraries, tribal libraries in Santa Fe County, and the academic libraries at the Institute of American Indian Arts and Santa Fe Community College are among local institutions that will benefit.

**Bond Issue C**, in an amount not to exceed \$142,356,000 to make capital expenditures for certain higher educational, tribal, and special schools capital improvements and acquisitions. Here are the Santa Fe County institutions that would benefit:

IAIA MULTIPURPOSE FITNESS & PERFORMING ARTS CENTER \$2,000,000  
NMSD DELGADO HALL RENOVATE \$2,000,000  
SFCC ROOFING & INFRA IMPROVE \$1,500,000

Here are the State institutions that would benefit:

Eastern New Mexico University	Total \$12,700,000
Community Colleges various schools	Total \$32,350,000
NM School for the Blind and Visually Impaired	Total \$1,200,000
Highlands University	Total \$4,500,000
Mining and Technology, NM Institute	Total \$5,500,000
Military Institute	Total \$4,856,200
NM School for the Deaf	Total \$2,000,000
New Mexico State University	Total \$27,500,000
Northern New Mexico State School	Total \$1,000,000
University of New Mexico	Total \$34,500,000
Western New Mexico University	Total \$5,000,000

**Bond Issue D**, in an amount not to exceed \$18,196,000 to make capital expenditures for capital improvements and acquisitions for state police, public safety communications and national guard facilities statewide. Here is the Santa Fe County entity that would benefit:

DEPT. of PUBLIC SAFETY SANTA FE EVIDENCE CTR AND CRIME LAB \$7,000,000

The total for all four bond issues, including bond issuance costs, is \$186,159,000. A complete breakdown of the designated projects under each bond issue can be found on the New Mexico Legislature's website: <https://www.nmlegis.gov>.

**General Obligation Bond Projects Chart by County**  
<https://www.nmlegis.gov>.

**General Obligation Bond Projects Chart by Agency**  
<https://www.nmlegis.gov>.

For the Spanish language version, see [lwvsfc.org](http://lwvsfc.org).

## SANTA FE COUNTY BOND ISSUES

### General Obligation Bonds and Tax Impacts

If all five proposed bond issues are passed, the mill rate will rise from the current \$1.97 to \$2.12. The estimated impact on property taxes, based on projected property values, would be a \$10 yearly tax increase on a home valued at \$200,000.

**Vote "yes" or "no" on each bond issue.**

1. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$13,600,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, and improve roads within the County?
2. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$4,800,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, and improve water and wastewater projects within the County?
3. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$7,000,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, and improve fire and other public safety facilities within the County?
4. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$4,600,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, improve, and restore open space, trails and parks within the County?
5. Shall Santa Fe County issue up to \$5,000,000 in general obligation bonds payable from general (*ad valorem*) taxes to acquire, construct, design, equip, and improve community health facilities within the County?

### Santa Fe County Advisory Question

The Santa Fe County Council on September 13, 2016, approved placing the following advisory question on the ballot:

**Should Santa Fe County enact a county-wide gross receipts tax for behavioral health services that would increase the aggregate gross receipts tax rate by up to one-eighth of one percent (0.125%).**

This is an advisory question only, and a majority of "yes" votes will not put the tax increase into effect. This ballot item is a sort of opinion poll to determine the sentiment of the voters.

Proponents say that approximately 2,500 Santa Fe County adults have a serious mental illness and that about 30,000 residents abuse drugs and/or alcohol. A tax increase for behavioral health services would enable the County to meet more of the needs for behavioral/mental health services. If this tax were eventually imposed, assuming the gross receipts tax is passed on to consumers, it would add 2-1/2 cents tax to a \$20 purchase.