



## Perris News

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### Perris Election Results Certified

Perris voters re-elected City Council incumbents Al Landers and Mark Yarbrough to four-year terms on the City's policy-making board and also gave City Clerk Judy Haughney the nod to continue in her current position until 2014.

The Riverside County Registrar of Voters on Friday certified the Nov. 2 election results.

Landers, Yarbrough and Haughney will be sworn in to serve their terms at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 2 in the City Council Chambers.

When all the votes were counted, Councilman Landers led all of five candidates, garnering 2,751 voters or 28.33 percent of all votes cast. Councilman Yarbrough finished a close second, earning 2,659 votes, or 27.28 percent of the total.

Landers and Yarbrough are the two longest serving City Council members, having been elected in 1995 and 1996 respectively.

Both said they believe the election results indicate that Perris residents are pleased with the direction the City is

moving and resisted the anti-incumbent tide prevalent in other municipal, state and national elections.

Voters also chose to ignore several nasty and incorrect allegations made by other candidates.

"Councilman Yarbrough and myself chose to conduct a civil campaign based not on character assassination and personal attack but on issues and accomplishments," Landers said. "I was hoping that voters in Perris would look at our accomplishments when they cast their ballots. They did. I believe the message they sent is clear. They want the City of Perris to go forward and they want the City Council to continue making this a great, great City."

Landers cited numerous projects completed or begun in recent months. Those include a new interchange at Interstate 215 and Fourth Street, funding for the new Mercado Park and Mercado Apartments on D Street, ongoing construction of a sports complex known as Big League Dreams, completion of the world's largest green building, the HaneBrands Inc. distribution center, new commercial facades along D Street, restorations of the Perris Depot and Bank Building and ongoing renovations at the art deco Perris Theatre.

The City Council has also worked hard with Perris staff to attract several new businesses to town, including Rio Ranch Market, the high-tech Stretch Forming Corporation and a new Wyndham Hotel.

Landers said that running as an incumbent was "a huge strike against" himself and Yarbrough in November's anti-incumbent election. He said that while he was offended and hurt by the negative campaigning, he offered to extend an olive branch to opponents so that people with various opinions will come together for the benefit of Perris.

"I will continue to strive for a continued spirit of civility and trust on the City Council," Landers said. "The people of Perris deserve it."

Yarbrough said the results of the election prove that "we have a relationship with the community and we will always work to improve it."

"We must be doing something right," he said. "I am honored to be able to give something back to the community I love. It is a privilege to be entrusted with that responsibility."

Yarbrough said the City Council worked to maintain a high level of police and fire protection, all while aggressively attracting new businesses to Perris, maintaining its commitment to senior citizens and preserving the City's historical infrastructure even as the region's economy declined.

"Commercial and industrial development is the lifeblood of the City," he said. "Working together with our City staff, we have the opportunity to take Perris to the big league of California cities."

Yarbrough said he believes Perris voters returned incumbents to office because they want to see the City continue on its current path.

"They acted logically," he said. "They voted on what we produced, not what we said we were going to do but what we did. This election sends a clear message—the City Council has its act together."

Haughney won re-election by 17 votes, garnering 2,239 votes in the election for City Clerk. She said she was elated by the results, adding: "I am excited to continue doing the things we have been doing and to serve the public."

Under her stewardship, the City began online broadcasting of City Council meetings and archiving of City minutes. The office has begun processing passports, earning thousands of dollars in new revenue for Perris. Thousands of historical documents have been scanned and are now archived, helping preserve Perris' history.

"I am elated that the citizens of Perris have faith in me and will allow me to continue serving," Haughney said.



Perris City Councilman Al Landers received more votes than any other City Council candidate: "The voters have spoken loud and clear."



Perris City Councilman Mark Yarbrough was elected to his fourth full-term on the City Council. "We have the opportunity to take Perris to the big leagues of California cities."