



**Office of the Mayor  
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**City of Nogales, Arizona  
www.cityofnogales.net**

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## **City of Nogales will submit “Home Rule” to voters**

At its June 22, meeting, the City of Nogales Council approved Resolution 2010-06-007, the renewal of the Alternative Expenditure Limitation, also known as “Home Rule,” and is submitting it to the voters of the City at the election to be held November, 2010.

Home rule is a part of the State of Arizona Constitution, which was amended by Arizona voters in 1980 to limit the amount of expenditures by cities, towns, counties and community college districts. The phrase “home rule” comes from a section of the 1980 constitutional amendment that gives local voters a way to change the spending limit. Because the issue can be decided by local voters, it is called “home rule.”

The state-imposed limitation restricts spending by imposing a formula that takes a city or town’s 1979-1980 expenditure level and multiplies it by a population factor and an inflation factor. The state-imposed limitation is not an issue about revenues, as the City would already have the revenues. Instead, it limits the ability of cities and towns to spend money.

If Nogales home rule expenditure limitation is extended by voters, then the community’s expenditures for the next four years would be established by its budget rather than the State formula. It allows for greater flexibility and local control to address priorities and needs unique to this area.

If voters approve, the additional expenditure authority will continue to be used for all local budgetary purposes including fire, police, libraries, ambulance services, water, sewer, and sanitation. Additionally, capital projects such as roads or streets, recreational programs, and government services will be provided.

For more information on the Alternative Expenditure Limitation or Home Rule, you can contact Terry Ramirez, Finance Director for the City of Nogales at 520-285-5608 or by e-mail at [tramirez@nogalesaz.gov](mailto:tramirez@nogalesaz.gov)

For more information you can contact the Public Information Specialist, Ofelia McCollough at 520-285-5613 or by e-mail at [omccollough@nogalesaz.gov](mailto:omccollough@nogalesaz.gov)