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## **Tucson City Council Candidate Regina Romero leads by example: Chooses to fund program for kids instead of her campaign**

TUCSON, AZ –Regina Romero has earned the right to participate in the City’s matching public financing system for political candidates, but she announced today that instead of financing her November 6 campaign, she’d rather spend the \$45,000 she is qualified to receive to fund a city after-school program for kids – called KIDCO. Today is the last day to apply for the city’s matching public funds.

“We are facing tough budget decisions at the City, and I want to keep my eye on the prize – efficient, user-friendly public services that deliver a strong bang for the buck,” says Romero. “KIDCO is a popular after-school program that working families rely on. It benefits the community as a crime-prevention program as well. Our public money would be better spent on KIDCO.”



Romero called City Manager Mike Hein to ask that the nearly \$45,000 she is qualified to receive be transferred to the Parks and Recreation department to fund KIDCO, a City-funded program that serves thousands of children in locations all across the city. Romero has made KIDCO a central part of her campaign, hoping to work with the city, university, community colleges, schools and parents to develop a curriculum to supplement the recreation program. “We should all share a responsibility to educate our children. Bringing math, languages, science and help with homework will benefit all of us. These children

are our future.”

Though she is declining the funds, Romero agrees to the spending limits and fully supports Tucson’s public financing system, enacted in 1985 by a voter-approved city charter amendment. It is the oldest local government public financing system in the country, and is a model for other cities trying to limit the influence of lobbyists.

On the City Council, Regina will plan for our future in water conservation and transportation, secure funds for our neighborhoods and parks, invest in neighborhoods, families and youth, and be accountable in the use of our tax dollars. Please visit [www.votereginaromero.com](http://www.votereginaromero.com), call 409-8370 or email [regina@votereginaromero.com](mailto:regina@votereginaromero.com). Romero is married to Ruben Reyes and has a young son, Emiliano.