



December 2, 2025

Councilmember Hayes
City of Benson
P.O. Box 2223
Benson, AZ 85602

NOTICE OF RECALL ELECTION PURSUANT TO A.R.S. SECTION 19-207

Dear Councilmember Hayes:

On October 29, 2025, representatives of "Committee for a Better Benson" submitted recall petitions against you. On November 7, 2025, after an initial review of the petitions by the Clerk's office, copies of the recall petitions were submitted to the Cochise County Recorder's office for signature verification.

The reason given for the recall is stated on the petitions as follows:

"Councilmember Darren Hayes, along with the rest of the City Council, failed to provide transparency regarding the proposed aluminum facility, did not ensure meaningful opportunity for public input, and inadequately supervised the Planning and Zoning Commission, allowing a notice that did not clearly communicate the scope of the project. These actions reflect a failure of oversight and have eroded public trust."

This letter is to inform you that the recall petitions containing 301 verified signatures were certified and returned to the Clerk's office by the Cochise County Recorder's office on December 1, 2025. I have reviewed the verified petitions and have determined that there are sufficient signatures to require a recall election. Therefore, the recall petitions were officially filed in this office on December 2, 2025.

A special recall election (to be held on May 19, 2026) will be called no later than December 17, 2025. If you choose to resign, you may do so by filing a written tender with the Clerk's office on or before December 9, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

If you choose not to resign, you may prepare and have printed on the ballot a statement containing 200 words or less defending your official conduct. This statement must be filed with the Clerk's office on or before December 12, 2025, at

5:00 p.m. If you fail to file the defensive statement by the required deadline, the right to have a statement printed on the ballot shall be considered waived.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vicki L. Vivian". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Vicki" and last name "Vivian" clearly distinguishable.

Vicki L. Vivian, CMC
City Clerk

cc: Greg Volker, City Manager/Police Chief
Paul Loucks, City Attorney