



# Special Community Designation Requests Policy

May 5, 2026

CITY OF  
**MARICOPA**<sup>®</sup>  
PROUD HISTORY • PROSPEROUS FUTURE

# Futures Planning 2026

## Special Community Designation Requests Policy

- Develop a policy framework
  - Requiring nonprofit leadership rather than city management.
  - The requesting organization is responsible for any required funding.
  - Establishing community standards that align with organizational and community values.
  - Determining signage policies to avoid excessive entrance signage.



# Policy Statement

The City of Maricopa supports community-driven initiatives that enhance quality of life and civic pride.

Special designations must be community-initiated, community-led, and community-funded. The City may provide recognition when a designation:

1. Demonstrates clear community benefit
2. Meets recognized external standards
3. Aligns with City priorities and values
4. Does not create ongoing fiscal or operational obligations
5. Has sustainable local leadership

Final approval of any special designation rests with the City Council.



# Community Standards for Eligibility

To be considered for City recognition, a designation must demonstrate:

## **Recognized Framework**

Administered by a credible national, state, or widely recognized organization with established criteria.

## **Meaningful Community Impact**

Provides tangible benefit such as awareness, services, engagement, or quality-of-life improvements.

## **Achievable and Sustainable Requirements**

Standards are clearly defined, realistic for Maricopa, and maintainable by the sponsoring organization.

## **Community Support**

Evidence of support from stakeholders such as affected populations, nonprofits, civic groups, businesses, or residents.

## **Alignment with City Values**

Consistent with Maricopa's commitment to being a welcoming, safe, and thriving community.

# Roles and Responsibilities

## Sponsoring Organization

The sponsoring organization shall:

- Lead all designation activities and community engagement
- Meet and maintain program requirements
- Fund all fees, materials, signage, and related costs
- Provide ongoing leadership and status updates as requested

The City is not responsible for securing or providing funding.



# Roles and Responsibilities

## City Staff

City staff may:

- Provide procedural guidance
- Evaluate alignment with this policy
- Assess fiscal, operational, or branding impacts
- Coordinate Council consideration
- Promote the designation as deemed appropriate by staff

Staff are not responsible for implementing designation requirements.



# Roles and Responsibilities

## City Council

City Council may:

- Formally recognize or adopt a designation
- Authorize use of the City name or logo
- Decline requests



# City Recognition and Promotion

Recognition may include:

- **City Website**

Listing on the City website with designation name, description, sponsoring organization, and recognition date.

- **City Hall Recognition**

Standardized signage or display at or within City Hall, as determined by the City.

- **City Communications**

Acknowledgment through official channels such as press releases, social media, newsletters, or proclamations.



# Questions?

