

City of Maricopa 2015 Legislative Platform

As Agenized for Approval: January 20, 2015

Introduction: This 2015 Legislative Platform reflects Council's legislative positions and priorities on current or anticipated legislative action at both the state and federal level. Guided by this legislative platform, staff will take action to influence legislative efforts based on best interests of the City of Maricopa. Staff will update Council throughout the legislative session while seeking specific feedback on issues of major importance to the City.

2015 State Legislative Platform

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Note: The Maricopa State Legislative Platform is managed and implemented by City Staff.

I. REVENUE AND FINANCE

- A. The City will oppose legislation that will result in the reduction of revenues collected by the City and support legislation that enhances revenue collections.

Examples:

- Oppose legislation that changes State Shared Funding formulas or timetables
- Oppose additional sweeps of HURF (Highway User Revenue Funds) revenues
- Oppose legislation that reduces our local collection of Transaction Privilege Tax (TPT) revenues
- Oppose legislation that limits or reduces the ability to collect licensing or franchise fees
- Support legislation that enhances revenue collections such as a mid-decade population updates

- B. The City will seek to remove inequities in the collections and distribution of Arizona property taxes including those that negatively impact growth.

Examples:

- Build alliance of similarly impacted municipalities
- Investigate potential legislative and administrative solutions

- Support legislation that would ensure that fast growth cities are not restricted from the collecting the entire amount of voter approved primary property tax monies as promised in the election.
- Support legislation that would guarantee an equitable distribution of property tax funds by county governments to jurisdictions that have exceeded the 1% primary property tax limit

C. The City will support limited legislative corrective action to Transaction Privilege Tax (TPT) law if the corrective action benefits the City's interests, and oppose legislation that does not.

Examples:

- Support legislation that protects or enhances our ability to collect construction sales tax at the site of construction and oppose legislation that does not
- Support legislation that simplifies the collection, tracking, and distribution of TPT revenues to the City
- Support legislation that enhances our City's ability to conduct TPT audits

D. The City will support limited legislative corrective action to Development Impact Fee (DIF) law if the corrective action benefits the Cities interest and oppose legislation that does not.

Examples:

- Support legislation that expands the amount of DIF fees the City can collect
- Support legislation that allows for additional categories of collection and use of DIF fees
- Support legislation that lengthens the time we have to expend DIF fees
- Support legislation that simplifies the DIF process for all involved

II. GOVERNANCE

E. The City will oppose legislation that reduces the autonomy of municipalities and support legislation that preserves and strengthens local control for cities and towns.

Examples:

- Oppose legislation that removes or restricts legislative control of City Council
- Oppose legislation that would be considered an unfunded mandate because it requires the City to perform certain actions, with no money provided for fulfilling the required actions
- Oppose legislation that puts in place overly burdensome regulations that unduly impact the productivity and efficiency of activities Citywide and within City Government

- Oppose legislation that imposes personal liability on Council members for actions taken as part of their official duty
- Oppose legislation that places additional restrictions on local election laws
- Support common sense transparency and public information requested legislation
- Oppose legislation that increases City liability or requires the City to take on additional indemnity
- Oppose legislation that supersedes Council power to determine local land use law through a municipal zoning code

F. The City will support legislation that simplifies land owners' ability to bring land into the City and oppose legislation that unduly restricts property rights.

Examples:

- Support legislation that simplifies the annexation process
- Support legislation that incentivizes large county population centers to incorporate
- Support legislation to simplify the ability to acquire and implement land use strategies for state lands

III. QUALITY SERVICES

G. The City will support legislation that enhances or incentivizes economic development within the City and oppose legislation that weakens economic development tools.

Examples:

- Support legislation that provides alternate financing tools in order to bring economic investments to the City
- Support legislation that leverages tax laws in order to bring economic investments to the City
- Support legislation to create and expand various special districts and development authorities in order to bring economic investments to the City
- Support legislation that will bring jobs and enhance our City employment base

H. The City will support legislation that enhances public safety and protection from criminal activity and opposes any legislation that needlessly reduces public safety or compromises the City's ability to provide public safety and protect property.

Examples:

- Oppose any effort to legalize recreation marijuana
- Support common sense gun legislation

- Support common sense fireworks and fire safety legislation
- Support legislation to increase actuarial solvency of public safety retirement plans while holding municipalities harmless
- Support Veterans with public safety employment legislation
- Support common sense efforts to combat domestic violence
- Seek legislation to raise the price threshold that triggers the requirement to seek voter approval of sales of municipal property
- Seek legislative and non-legislative solutions to abandonment and unauthorized occupation of bank owned properties
- Support common sense legislation in related areas of public safety regulations such as graffiti, alarms, sprinklers, ambulance, property, right-of-ways, and fire safety regulations

I. The City will support efforts to increase the ability to provide additional quality parks, recreation and library services and oppose efforts to limit our ability to fund community services.

Examples:

- Support legislation that allows additional options to participate in cost sharing and to finance municipal recreational infrastructure
- Support all aspects of Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- Seek state enabling legislation that would allow a portion of the revenues from the sales of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property to be used for the design and or construction of I-11 and the design and construction of local parks
- Seek state enabling legislation that would allow Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to deed lands that lay in the pathway of the I-11 freeway corridor from the federal government to the City which controls the General Plan planning area for that property.

J. The City will support legislation that advances responsive and high quality health and human service practices and delivery to people living in and around Maricopa and oppose legislation that negatively impacts these services.

Examples:

- Support legislation that bring additional services and cost effective resources to our senior and veteran communities
- Support legislation that reduces the instances of domestic violence and supports victims of domestic violence

IV. INFRASTRUCTURE

- K. The City will support legislation that advances the planning, design and completions of transportation infrastructure and oppose legislation that will hinder completion of transportation infrastructure.

Examples:

- Support legislation that creates additional funding options or revenue sources for transportation infrastructure including private partnerships
- Support legislation that reduces or repeals unnecessary or redundant regulatory requirements, transportation planning, design, construction, right-of-way acquisition, and utility relocation
- Support legislation that will accelerate the completion of transportation infrastructure projects
- Support legislation that allows transportation projects to qualify as economic development activities

- L. The City will support legislation that enhances the City's ability to provide or oversee safe and affordable utility service while protecting the health, safety, and public welfare of the people within the City, and oppose any legislation that needlessly reduces the safety and affordability of utilities or compromises the City's oversight authority.

- M. The City will support legislation that improves and expands transportation options within Maricopa and throughout the state and oppose legislation the negatively impacts Maricopa's transportation and economic interests.

Examples:

- Support legislation that accelerates the Statewide Rail Study, North South Corridor, and transportation corridor studies impacting Pinal County and the City of Maricopa
- Support legislation that accelerates and funds the I-11 Freeway and the Canamex Corridor
- Support legislation that supports the expansion of rail infrastructure projects such as Red Rock

2015 Federal Legislative Platform

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Note: The Maricopa Federal Legislative Platform is managed by City staff and facilitated by Bob Holmes of Nexxus Consulting as our D. C. based contract federal lobbyist.

A. The City will seek federal funding for the SR 347 Grade Separation.

Examples:

- Seek Congressional appropriation of funds
- Seek administrative appropriation of funds
- Assist in the grant application process and seek the award of grants

B. The City will advocate for federal support of the SR 347 Grade Separation and removal of bureaucratic obstacles to funding or project completion.

Examples:

- Seek Congressional delegation support
- Inform federal officials of progress and need
- Assist in the grant application process
- Track grant applications
- Insure project communication between federal and state agencies
- Seek final NEPA approval
- Seek to remove bureaucratic obstacles

C. The City will advocate for continued federal support, funding, and progress of the Lower Santa Cruz River flood control project.

Examples:

- Advocate for the completion of a feasibility study
- Support project elevation to design phase
- Seek Congressional delegation support for additional appropriations
- Seek to remove bureaucratic obstacles

D. The City will seek legislation that would allow Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to deed lands that lay in the pathway of the I-11 freeway corridor from the federal government to the City which controls the General Plan planning area for that property and to distribute a portion of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land sales proceeds to municipalities for the construction of Parks.

Examples:

- Seek Congressional delegation support
- Inform federal officials of need
- Build coalition of interested parties
- Prepare potential draft legislative language

E. The City will advocate with the Federal Environmental Protection Agency on issues negatively impacting the City of Maricopa.

Examples:

- Support efforts to seek a reduction in the proposed carbon reduction requirement of 52 percent for Arizona as proposed by the EPA as part of their Clean Power Plan for the Navajo Generating Plant
- Advocate for a timely solution to the Cow Town PM2.5 Air Quality monitor relocation
- Track and advocate against any potential negative impact of proposed changes to the Waters of the United States regulations

2015 Staff Requested Legislative Platform

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Staff Requested Legislative Change Requiring Council Approval

Change	Requesting Department	ARS if known
Increase in the threshold required to sell real property without a vote of the people from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000	Economic Development	ARS 9-403
Reduce the requirement for the number of original copies of an ordinance to file with the clerk from three (3) to one (1) paper and one (1) electronic	Clerk	ARS 9-802
Eliminate the requirement by PSPRS for the City to pay into PSPRS for employees who are contributing to ASRS serving in a position normally covered by PSPRS	Finance	Various
Seek legislative options to simplify the removal of squatters from residential structures	Police	Various
Allow for the full collection and distribution of voter approved primary property taxes which are currently reduced by the 1% Primary Property Tax cap	Finance	Requires additional language
Seek legislation that would allow the sale of BLM land to benefit the I-11 freeway or municipal parks	City Manager	ARS and Federal Statutes
Seek legislation that would allow BLM to deed lands that lay in the pathway of the I-11 freeway corridor from the federal government to the City which controls the General Plan planning area for that property	City Manager	ARS and Federal Statutes