City of Maricopa

Meeting Minutes - Final

City Council Regular Meeting

City Hall
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Mayor Nancy Smith
Vice-Mayor Vincent Manfredi
Councilmember Eric Goettl
Councilmember AnnaMarie Knorr
Councilmember Amber Liermann
Councilmember Bob Marsh
Councilmember Henry Wade

Tuesday, June 2, 2026 | **6:00 PM** | **Council Chambers**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. An invocation was led by Pastor David Anderson from Be Community Church, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Goettl.

2. Roll Call

Present: 7 - Mayor Nancy Smith, Councilmember Eric Goettl, Councilmember AnnaMarie Knorr, Councilmember Amber Liermann, Councilmember Bob Marsh, Councilmember Henry Wade and Vice Mayor Vincent Manfredi

3. Proclamations, Acknowledgements, Awards and Presentations

3.1 PROC 26-08 Men's Health and Mental Health Month Proclamation

Mayor Smith shared a proclamation declaring the month of June 2026 as Men's Health and Mental Health Month in the City of Maricopa. She added that the proclamation recognized that men in the United States die on average six years earlier than women, often due to preventable conditions, and noted that over six million men experience depression annually, with men dying by suicide at nearly four times the rate of women. Mayor Smith shared that the proclamation encouraged individuals, families, employers, and communities to support men's health through education, connection, and shared care. The Mayor recognized local mental health professionals in attendance. Councilmember Liermann, who brought the proclamation forward, offered remarks thanking each of the providers for their work.

Read

4. Report from the Mayor

Councilmember Marsh reported attending a Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs meeting on May 20th at Electrical District No. 3, where legislative bills relevant to small businesses were reviewed. He also reported attending the Pinal County Board of Adjustment on May 28th.

Councilmember Wade recognized a recent nonpartisan candidate forum held at the Maricopa Community Center, which he described as a cordial and well-attended

gathering, and acknowledged a Salvation Army recognition ceremony at Global Water.

Councilmember Liermann extended her condolences to Councilmember Marsh and reminded the community that the Farmers Market had moved back indoors at Central Arizona College.

Vice-Mayor Manfredi announced an upcoming fundraiser for the city's First Friday initiative, scheduled for June 6th from 6:00 to 10:00 PM at Duke's Roadhouse, noting that the First Friday event itself would be launching in the fall.

Mayor Smith highlighted recent local graduations, noting that Heritage Academy graduated 43 students with associate's degrees and that 15 Maricopa High School graduates were entering military service. She also reported on the Veteran Memorial event, which now features 142 memorial bricks, and on a meeting with the Governor's office during which she promoted two new state programs. She shared that those programs were Efficiency Arizona, a rebate program for energy-efficient appliances and HVAC and Power Arizona, a utility assistance access program, while both links were available on her mayoral Facebook page. She additionally noted that the city advocated against any claw back of State Route 347 funding during the Governor's office meeting, and she recognized the 20th anniversaries of several local organizations including Desert Sun Performing Arts and Water and Ice.

5. Report from the City Manager

City Manager Ben Bitter reported that the city had publicized upcoming intersection improvements at Desert Greens and Smith Enke Road, with traffic signals to be synchronized with the nearby light at Porter Road. He advised the public to view an informational video posted to city social media. Next, City Manager Bitter shared that proposed fee schedules for the new Field House facility, as well as for Mike Ingram Heritage Park, had been posted to the city website under public notices, with formal action to be taken at a future council meeting. He indicated the Field House was approaching its opening within the next few months. Lastly, City Manager Bitter shared that widening work on State Route 347 was expected to begin during the current month.

6. Call to the Public

Jason Royal from Black Maricopa Chamber of Commerce expressed support for the upcoming First Friday initiative and invited the community to a fundraising event scheduled for that Saturday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Ron Angerame spoke about the removal of the traffic signal at the Casa Blanca intersection on State Route 347, referencing accident data previously presented to the Council and urging a re-prioritization within the current budget cycle. He acknowledged that the Council had voted unanimously at the prior meeting that no additional action was required at this time, and he requested that the Council clarify what information, if any, would cause a reconsideration of that position. He also noted that his group, the 347 Facts Team, had received a statewide Arizona Department of Transportation partnership award.

Torri Anderson spoke about an upcoming fundraiser, Dirty Boots and Dollars, scheduled for June 27th at 6:00 p.m. at Duke's Roadhouse, benefiting the Open Arms Vocational Living Center, an initiative aimed at providing housing support for young men who have aged out of foster care.

7. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Eric Goettl, seconded by Councilmember Bob Marsh, to Adopt the Consent Agenda, while tabling Item 7.1. The motion carried unanimously.

7.1 IGA 26-02 — The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action on approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Scottsdale for Fire Service training. Discussion and Action.

This Intergovernmental Agreement was Tabled.

7.2 CON 26-09 — The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and possibly take action on ratifying a Lease Agreement between the City of Maricopa, a municipal corporation, ("Landlord"), and Duke Farms LLC, an Arizona limited liability company ("Tenant") for vacant land generally located along W. Maricopa Casa Grande Highway and N. White and Parker Road. Discussion and Action.

This Contract was Approved.

7.3 MIN 26-35 — Approval of Minutes from the May 19, 2026 City Council Regular meeting. Discussion and Action.

These Minutes were Approved.

8. Regular Agenda and/or Public Hearings

8.1 PRES 26-07 — The Mayor and City Council shall hear a presentation and community update from Global Water Resources. Discussion only.

Jon Corwin and Jake Lenderking from Global Water Resources gave the annual community update. Mr. Corwin shared that service connections grew by 1,000 in 2025, reaching around 60,000. He added that Maricopa ranks second in water conservation among regional providers, using 105 gallons per capita daily, below the 182-gallon average. Mr. Corwin shared that last year, nearly 1.5 billion gallons of recycled water were reused, with $30 million invested in infrastructure. He added that completed projects include upgrades to the Campus 1 wastewater facility, commissioning the Campus 2 Water Reclamation Facility, and a new lift station. In 2026, he shared that they would plan for more wastewater capacity, design a recharge project, and plan a new well and water storage tank in Rancho Mirage. He shared that water rate changes are expected by end of 2026, but wastewater rate updates are postponed until 2028. Lasty, Mr. Corwin added that Maricopa's water is free from PFAS and drawn from groundwater.

Mr. Lenderking spoke on issues like voluntary water cuts by lower Colorado River basin states and recent legislative changes including House Bill 2098 for water authority bonding. He added that an updated water supply designation was filed, aiming for 26,000–27,466-acre feet, using new water sources. Mr. Lenderking shared that new conservation programs offer turf and irrigation controller rebates. Lastly, he added that the Global Water Customer Assistance Program provides up to $700 annually for eligible customers, administered by the Salvation Army.

General discussions ensued about Maricopa being unaffected by Colorado River shortages and clarified multi-family housing water usage is counted as equivalent dwelling units. Mayor Smith requested the Power Arizona utility assistance info be shared with Global Water.

The Presentation was heard.

8.2 **RES 26-10** PUBLIC HEARING: A resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona adopting "Advancing Maricopa", the Maricopa General Plan and Land Use Map which will replace the City of Maricopa General Plan 2016 as adopted by City Council, and all successor amendments thereto, and directing that "Advancing Maricopa," the Maricopa General Plan and Land Use Map be submitted to the voters for ratification at an election to be held on November 3, 2026. Discussion and Action.

Rick Williams, Planning and Zoning Manager, and Matthew Klyszeiko of Michael Baker International presented the proposed General Plan and Land Use Map. Mr. Williams offered extensive thanks to the City Council, City Manager Ben Bitter and his staff, the General Plan Advisory Committee, community managers who assisted with outreach, and the residents of Maricopa who participated through public meetings, surveys, and the 60-day public review process. He recognized the contributions of the Michael Baker team for their responsiveness throughout the effort.

Mr. Klyszeiko then presented that it is a state-mandated document intended to guide long-term decisions over the next 10 to 20 years across a broad range of required elements including land use, transportation, economic development, housing, water resources, and open space. He explained that the plan's planning area extends beyond the current municipal limits to encompass potential future annexation areas. Mr. Klyszeiko described the extensive public engagement undertaken, including stakeholder meetings, public outreach events, surveys, and participation at community events such as Stagecoach Days. He added that the central theme emerging from public feedback was a rejection of a bedroom community identity in favor of a more dynamic, well-rounded city.

Mr. Klyszeiko shared that the plan's cross-pollinating goals matrix, which demonstrates how individual goals address multiple community priorities simultaneously, and discussed an implementation work program included to give residents a clearer sense of how the plan will be carried forward into action. He also described changes made to the plan following the Planning and Zoning Commission's review and in response to public comment received during the 60-day review period. Mr. Klyszeiko added that if approved by the Council, the plan would be placed on the November 3, 2026, ballot for voter ratification. He concluded by demonstrating a new digital, interactive version of the plan designed to improve public accessibility.

Mayor Smith opened the public hearing at 7:26 p.m. Susan Buonsante, Glennwilde resident, addressed the Council with concerns about what she described as a lack of transparency in the general plan process. She shared that the plan's planning boundaries encompass Hidden Valley, Thunderbird Farms, and other rural areas whose residents have historically opposed annexation. Ms. Buonsante expressed concern that pre-annexation agreements required by buyers in communities such as Amarillo Creek would effectively dilute the votes of existing rural residents in any future annexation proceedings. She also cited calculations suggesting the plan could accommodate over 76,000 dwelling units and 240,000 additional residents beyond the current population. She urged that residents be made fully aware of these implications before casting their ratification vote. No further speakers approached the podium.

Mayor Smith closed the public hearing at 7:29 p.m.

Councilmember Goettl commended the Michael Baker team for the quality of the plan and the comprehensiveness of the engagement process. Mayor Smith emphasized that the general plan area is not an edict requiring development or annexation, but rather a guiding document, and that landowners retain the decision-making authority over whether to seek annexation or rezoning. She noted her satisfaction that the plan explicitly addresses local job attraction and moves away from a bedroom community orientation.

A motion was made by Councilmember Wade, seconded by Councilmember Marsh, that this Resolution be Approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

9. Executive Session

No executive session was conducted.

10. Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Certification of Minutes

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of Maricopa, Arizona, held on the 2nd day of June, 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 16th day of June 2026.

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Vanessa Bueras
City Clerk