



City Council Weekly Information Packet

Friday, June 2, 2023

Includes the following documents/information:

- 1) City Council Events Schedule
- 2) State and Federal Updates & Grant Opportunities
- 3) Community Services Update



City Council Events Schedule

June 2, 2023 thru November 11, 2023

The Mayor and City Council have been invited to attend various community meetings and public and private events at which a quorum of the City Council may be present. The Council will not be conducting city business, nor will any legal action be taken. This is an event only and not a public meeting. A list of the community meetings and public and private events along with the schedules, dates, times, and locations is attached. Organizers may require a rsvp or fee.

Thur	June 1	10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Read on Tempe Literacy Event in Partnership with the Tempe Public Library Location: Tempe Public Library 3500 S. Rural Road Tempe, AZ
Sat	June 3	10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Breakfast with Berdetta featuring Councilmember Navarro Location: Tempe Public Library 3500 S. Rural Road Tempe, AZ
Sat	June 3	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Pride Party Downtown Tempe Location: CenterPoint Plaza Tempe, AZ
Fri	June 9	3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Moov Technologies Grand Opening Location: Moove Technologies Office at 100 Mill 100 S. Mill Avenue Suite 1600 Tempe, AZ
Sat	June 10	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Tempe Mayor’s 2 nd Annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Event Location: Skirm Auditorium, Friendship Village 6245 E. Southern Avenue Tempe, AZ
Sat	June 10	7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	Golden Anniversary Gala Location: Tempe Mission Palms Hotel 60 E. 5 th Street Tempe, AZ
Thur	June 15	5:45 a.m. – 6:00 a.m.	Point in Time Count June 2023 Location: Tempe Public Library – Library book drop/ elevator area 3500 S. Rural Road Tempe, AZ

Thur	June 15	2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lily's Pad Grand Opening Location: Lily's Pad 3320 S. Priest Drive, Suite 4 Tempe, AZ
Sat	June 17	11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	10 th Annual Juneteenth Celebration Location: Tempe History Museum 809 E. Southern Avenue Tempe, AZ
Sat	June 17	7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.	Summer Solstice in Downtown Tempe – Juneteenth Celebration Location: 7 th Street and Mill Avenue Plaza 7 th Street and Mill Avenue Plaza Tempe, AZ
Sun	June 18	12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Juneteenth Celebration Location: Arizona Heritage Center 1300 N. College Avenue Tempe, AZ
Fri	June 23	6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Arizona Theatre Company: Partnership Stakeholder Dinner Location: Tempe Center for the Arts 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway Tempe, AZ
Fri	June 30	5:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.	Tempe Sister Cities Welcome Dinner Location: Arizona Community Church 9325 S. Rural Road Tempe, AZ
Tues	Sept 12	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	MYAC Kick-Off Retreat Location: Tempe History Museum 2500 S. Rural Road Tempe, AZ
Wed	Sept 27	5:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	40 th Annual Don Carlos Humanitarian Awards Location: SRP Pera Club 1 E. Continental Drive Tempe, AZ
Sat	Nov 11	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Diwali and Veterans Day Assembly Location: Kyrene Del Norte Dual Language Academy 1331 E. Redfield Drive Tempe, AZ

MEMORANDUM



TO: Mayor and City Council
THROUGH: Andrew Ching, City Manager
FROM: Marge Zylla, Government Relations Officer
DATE: June 2, 2023
SUBJECT: State and Federal Update & Grant Opportunities

Below are summaries of recent actions and announcements at the state and federal level:

- Debt Ceiling Passage
- National League of Cities, Hispanic Elected Local Officials Conference
- Governor's Water Press Conference
- State Legislative Update
- Grant Opportunities

Please let me know if there are follow-up questions for Tempe's federal lobbyist. Also, please let me know if Tempe staff members are pursuing federal grants so we can arrange for letters of support from our Congressional delegation.

Debt Ceiling Passage

Update via National League of Cities, 6/2/23

Late Thursday night, the Senate passed the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 by a vote of 63-36, sending it to the President's desk for signature and avoiding a default.

- 17 Republicans voted for the bill: Sens. Boozman (AR), Capito (WV), Collins (ME), Cornyn (TX), Cramer (ND), Ernst (IA), Grassley (IA), Hoeven (ND), McConnell (KY), Moran (KS), Mullin (OK), Murkowski (AK), Romney (UT), Rounds (SD), Thune (SD), Tillis (NC) and Young (IN).
- All but four Democrats supported the bill: Sens. Fetterman (PA), Warren (MA), Markey (MA) and Merkley (OR). Sen. Sanders (I-VT) also voted against it.

It was a forgone conclusion that a bill would get done. To accommodate upset senators who had an issue with the bill, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer agreed to an amendment process in order to get all 100 senators to agree to finish the voting on Thursday. He allowed only amendments that would not pass to be brought up on the floor as to make sure the underlying bill would not need to be sent back to the House of Representatives for a revote.

On Thursday following passage in the House, there was a lot of hand wringing up members of the upper chamber about the bill's low level for defense spending. There was concern that the middle, the senators needed to advance the bill, would not be there because of spending caps. Senator Tom Cotton (AR) said on the Senate floor the low levels of defense spending posed "mortal risk to our national security."

Therefore, the big, not textual change to the bill is a statement Schumer and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell jointly entered into the record that read in part this bill "does nothing to limit the Senate's ability to appropriate emergency supplemental funds to ensure our military capabilities are sufficient to deter China, Russia, and our other adversaries." It adds that money for domestic issues such as Fentanyl or local emergencies such as wildfires and hurricanes will get supplemental money as well.

This essentially negates the budget caps set in place by the legislation. The Senate is usually the chamber that decides the shape of the final package and jams the House with a take it or leave it vote. In this case, the Senate left the text alone, but to win support of the majority to pass a final bill said they would not abide by the spending caps in the bill if they chose.

The bill now goes to the President's desk for signature. President Joe Biden is expected to make a national televised statement tonight at 7 P.M. ET.

Amendments. The Senate defeated 11 amendments to the bill. The amendments were:

- Rejected, 21-75, amendment #107 by **Rand Paul** (R-KY) that would "provide for a responsible increase to the debt ceiling." Sixty votes were required for adoption.
- Rejected, 35-62, amendment #91 by **Mike Braun** (R-IN) to rescind discretionary appropriations in the event of a debt ceiling crisis period and to honor the full faith and credit of the debts of the United States in the event of a debt ceiling crisis. Sixty votes were required for adoption.

- Rejected, 46-51, amendment #110 by **Roger Marshall** (R-KS) to secure the borders of the United States, and for other purposes. Sixty votes were required for adoption.
- Rejected, 49-48, amendment #125 by **Dan Sullivan** (R-AK) to provide adequate funding for defense and increase the rescission of funding for the Internal Revenue Service. Sixty votes were required for adoption.
- Rejected, 17-81, amendment #93 by **Josh Hawley** (R-MO) to require the imposition of additional duties with respect to articles imported from the People’s Republic of China until trade between the U.S. and the People’s Republic of China comes into balance. Sixty votes were required for adoption.
- Rejected, 46-51, amendment #104 by **John Kennedy** (R-LA) to remove the sunset on modification of work requirement exemptions. Sixty votes were required for adoption.
- Rejected, 48-51, amendment #106 by **Tom Cotton** (R-AR) to provide appropriate adjustments to the discretionary spending limits, in the event of funding under a continuing resolution. Sixty votes were required for adoption.
- Rejected, 47-52, amendment #134 by **Ted Budd** (R-NC) to rescind unnecessary coronavirus funds. Sixty votes were required for adoption.
- Rejected, 48-51, amendment #98 by **Mike Lee** (R-UT) to strike the waiver authority for Administrative PAYGO.
- Rejected, 30-69, amendment #101 by **Tim Kaine** (D-VA) to strike a provision relating to expediting completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline.
- Rejected, by voice vote, amendment #102 by **Sen. Kennedy** to require up-to-date employment data for waivers of work requirements.

National League of Cities, Hispanic Elected Local Officials Conference

This past week, Councilmember Navarro attended the Summer Conference at Hispanic Elected Local Officials (HELO). HELO is one of the National League of Cities’ constituency groups. Councilmember Navarro is a past President of HELO and current member. The agenda is available at [this link](#).

Governor’s Water Press Conference

A video of the Governor’s 6/1/23 press conference on water resources, investments, management, assured water supply determinations, and challenges is available at [this link](#). A tweet thread on the topic is available at [this link](#).

State Legislative Update

Today is the 145th day of the 2023 state legislative session and 1,671 bills have been introduced. Of the 261 bills that have passed, 162 have been signed into law, and 99 have been vetoed.

A few weeks ago, the state budget bills were introduced, passed, and signed by the Governor. Typically, the legislature adjourns sine die (adjourns for the session until the next legislative session) soon after the passage of the budget. However, there are still a number of items remaining, including the Proposition 400 extension authorization language, as well as harmful bills that are still viable, for

example, SB 1131, which eliminates the revenue from business engaged in residential rental. Both of these items are highlighted in the section below.

The bills of interest to Tempe will be added to lists (described below). Bills of significant interest will be highlighted in memo summaries as the proposals are amended in the legislative process.

Bill Lists

Staff is analyzing legislative proposals as they become available. The lists will be adjusted to reflect the latest available information. Bills that have failed to meet deadlines or have not received sufficient votes will be noted as “Dead”.

To note, based on lack of significant bill status updates this week, the tracking lists are similar to earlier weeks’ lists and can be found at [this link](#) in the 4/14/23 Weekly Memo. Highlights of the budget were included in an earlier memo.

The tracking list that follows the 4/14/23 memo includes the summaries of bills that may be of interest to Tempe. These lists are not exhaustive, and as more analysis is done, comments will be included. Readers can use the search/find tool (keyboard shortcut: press “Ctrl” and the “F” key) to search for terms of interest, like “fireworks”, “rentals”, “zoning”, “safety”, etc. Readers can also search the list by department to quickly be brought to the header under which there is a sublist of bills that may impact a specific area of city operations, for example: “Community Development” or “FMR”.

In addition to the bills on the tracking lists, the city also has monitored and engaged on proposals in areas including the following:

- Taxation Proposals
 - SB 1131 now has a strike-everything amendment that revives the tax break for those in the business of residential rental. The city is opposed.
 - This would result in an annual revenue loss to the city of over \$16 million, and would give a tax break to one specific type of company that would exclude them from contributing to the transaction privilege taxes that are remitted by other companies doing business in the city. These revenues from businesses that are engaged in residential rental fund programs, capital investments, infrastructure projects, public safety, and services including affordable housing construction and rental assistance.
 - Mayor Woods joined other Arizona mayors is signing a letter to the Governor to highlight the significant negative effects of removing the tax on residential rental businesses. The letter was included in an earlier memo attachment.
 - *Earlier proposals:*
 - The city opposes the tax break proposals for entities that are in the businesses of residential rentals and for businesses that sell food for home consumption, which have been introduced as HB 2067/SB 1184 and HB 2061/HB 1063/HB 1089, respectively.
 - This would result in a combined revenue loss to the city of over \$26 million annually, and would give a tax break to specific interests that would exclude them from contributing to the transaction privilege taxes that are remitted by other companies doing business in the city. These revenues fund programs, capital investments, infrastructure projects, public safety, and services including affordable housing construction and rental assistance.
 - HB 2067, SB 1184, HB 2061, and SB 1063 passed out of their respective initial committees on party line votes.
 - SB 1184 passed out of the Legislature and the cities and other organizations urged a veto. The Governor vetoed SB 1184 on 2/23/23. Governor’s Office press release is at [this link](#) and the veto letter is linked [here](#).

- SB 1063 passed out of the Legislature and the cities and other organizations urged a veto. The Governor vetoed SB 1063 on 3/28/23. The Governor's veto letter is linked [here](#).
 - Fiscal notes are available (and linked) on the following: [HB 2067](#), [SB 1184](#), [HB 2061](#), [SB 1063](#).
 - The League of AZ Cities and Towns has distributed materials noting the issues with these bills and those documents were attached to earlier memos.
 - Tweet with the video illustrating the important revenue streams is at [this link](#).
- Proposition 400 Extension Authorization
 - As of this writing, there are a number of proposals that have been introduced on the topic of the extension of the Proposition 400 regional half-cent tax that supports transportation projects and programs in Maricopa County.
 - The city supports the development of legislation that will allow the voters of Maricopa County to vote on a proposal that would, if passed, enable the implementation of the unanimously-approved regional transportation plan.
 - A letter from House and Senate Democratic legislators to the Governor is attached to this memo. It supports a framework that would allow for the implementation of the unanimously-approved regional transportation plan.
 - An op-ed co-authored John Lewis, current CEO of East Valley Partnership and former Mayor of Gilbert is available at [this link](#). A petition from AZ Public Interest Research Group (AZ PIRG), the other author of the op-ed, is available at [this link](#).
 - An op-ed from the AZCentral Editorial Board published last week regarding Prop 400 E is at [this link](#).
 - An op-ed by Congressman Stanton is at [this link](#).
 - Prop 400E comparison table, which summarizes main components of the latest versions of transportation proposals, has been put together by the Maricopa Association of Governments and is attached to last week's memo.
 - Prop 400 E proposals throughout the session:
 - The city currently opposes the strike-everything amendment on HB 1102, which has funding allocations and non-germane language that does not reflect the unanimously approved regional transportation plan. This bill could be favorable with future amending language that brings the statutory language in line with the regionally approved transportation plan. This bill was advanced out of its House committee and the city looks forward to continuing the conversation to adjust the allocation language in the bill.
 - The city currently opposes the strike-everything amendment on HB 1246, which has funding allocations that do not reflect the unanimously approved regional plan. However, the other components of the bill mirror the needed language, so this bill could be favorable if the allocation proportions are updated. This bill was advanced out of its House committee and the city looks forward to continuing the conversation to adjust the allocation language in the bill.
 - The city supports HB 2527, which reflects the regional transportation plan which was unanimously approved by the elected representatives serving on the Maricopa Association of Governments, including Mayor Woods. This bill is dead.
 - The city currently opposes the strike-everything amendment on HB 2031, which has funding allocations that do not reflect the unanimously approved regional plan. However, the other components of the bill mirror the needed language, so this bill could be favorable if the allocation proportions are updated. This bill was not ultimately voted on in committee. This bill is dead.
 - The city opposed SB 1122, which does not reflect the unanimously approved regional transportation plan. A previous memo included a summary of the bill from Valley Metro, the region's transit agency of which the City of Tempe is a member. Vice Mayor Jennifer Adams represents Tempe on the Valley Metro Boards. This bill failed.

- SB 1505 has favorable language but has not met the deadline to be heard in its chamber of origin.
- Local Zoning Issues
 - There have been a number of proposals challenging the adherence cities' voter-approved General Plans, building inspections, plan and design reviews, and public outreach regarding proposed developments.
 - *Education materials on zoning, developments, and the perspective of local government providing forums and requirements for public outreach and feedback:*
 - AZ Housing Challenges: Myths and Facts, the Role of Cities...in Solving Today's Housing Crisis is at [this link](#).
 - Tweets regarding:
 - Zoning and trust in local government at [this link](#).
 - Parking at [this link](#).
 - Duplexes, SROs, ADUs, and review timeframes at [this link](#).
 - Trust in cities and towns to regulate look and density at [this link](#).
 - Lack of trust in Legislature to regulate zoning at [this link](#).
 - Trust in local government to meet housing needs at [this link](#).
 - Zoning and lack of relation to housing affordability at [this link](#).
 - [Video](#) from the League of AZ Cities and Towns regarding the housing bills.
 - Information about landlords intentionally raising rents at [this link](#).
 - A document from WeSERV Association of Realtors contains the efforts of surveyed cities in approving housing units, leading to a conclusion in the report that "city and towns are, and have been, approving housing permits...Delays [in housing construction] are from several sources, including builders and developers, supply chain woes, labor shortages and commodity shortages." Article at [this link](#), report at [this link](#), and related tweet at [this link](#).
 - An earlier memo included a one-page visual of the average lot size in every US state. It provides an illustration that Arizona is one of the smallest average lot sizes—the 48th smallest.
 - *Current existing bills are bolded in the bulleted summary points below. The bill text for the bills are hyperlinked.*
 - The city opposed the strike-everything amendment on SB 1117, which includes preemption language that would upend the city's voter-approved General Plan and aim to remove transparency and public access from planning activities. The bill also does not include any language that advances policies for guaranteed affordable housing.
 - Mayor Woods testified against the bill in the committee (video at [this link](#)), noting that this proposal would have the result of blocking affordable housing developers from building needed guaranteed affordable housing in the city.
 - SB 1117 bill failed on the Senate floor. However, many of the components of SB 1117 have been included in the strike-everything amendment that has been added to [HB 2536](#).
 - The **HB 2536** striker language also fails to contain guaranteed affordability policy and it circumvents public outreach processes for development and standards for how development interacts with public transit and bike and pedestrian infrastructure.
 - An email from the League of AZ Cities outlining concerns with HB 2536 follows this memo.
 - Some components of SB 1117 are also found in strike-everything amendments to [SB 1161](#) and [SB 1163](#).
 - An email from the League of AZ Cities outlining concerns with SB 1161 follows this memo.
 - The city does not support the strikers to these three bills (HB 2536, SB 1161, SB 1163). The stated intent of delivering guaranteed affordable housing is supported, but the methodology in these bills does not achieve that aim while maintaining transparency, public process, and alignment with the voter-approved city General Plan.

- The city does support the housing proposal outlined in the Affordable Housing section below.
- The Governor has vetoed SB 1162, which would have added additional governmental layers and confusion regarding home-based businesses, which are an important part of the economic landscape in the city. The city opposed the bill and appreciate the veto of this unnecessary legislation.
- Earlier Bill:
- State Budget Bills
 - The Appropriations Act (also referred to as the feedbill or approps bill) and the Budget Reconciliation bills (referred to as BRBs) were introduced, passed through both legislative chambers, and were transmitted to the Governor all in this week.
 - Attached to an earlier memo is a document prepared by the League of Arizona Cities and Towns with a summary of items of city interest in the budget bills.
- Affordable Housing
 - As noted in earlier Weekly Information Packet memos, Mayor Woods submitted a list of legislative solutions for consideration in his role as a member of the statewide legislative housing supply study committee. The city will be monitoring and analyzing housing proposals throughout the session and aim to see the solutions shared by Mayor Woods become bill proposals. Unfortunately, of the bills that include these provisions, none have been scheduled for a hearing as of this writing.
 - The city has collaborated with other cities to develop language that could be used as a strike-everything amendment that would include affordable housing components that could be deployed locally.
 - This includes much of the stated intentions of the 3 bills that the city opposes (HB 2536, SB 1161, SB 1163), but this city-supported proposal delivers the policy in an effective way that continues to foster engagement and reflect local needs.
 - Below is an email that went to the members of the state legislature earlier from the League of AZ Cities and Towns. The attachments referenced in the message are attached to an earlier memo.

“Members,

On behalf of the League of Arizona Cities and Towns, we want to share with you a proposal we have been discussing with Senator Kaiser that we believe presents an opportunity for the legislature to pass compromise housing legislation this session that focuses on efficiencies for developers and requires cities to facilitate middle and affordable housing options without infringing on property rights or granting greater entitlements for developers.

Housing affordability has been an issue on top of the minds of [local elected leaders](#) and voters over the past couple of years, and that is reflected in polling data and our actions at the local level. However, when you break down what constituents are asking for, it's important to note that they seek programs that aid in affordability while still entrusting their local elected officials to facilitate their community's growth. With that in mind, and the experience cities have had dealing with past preemptions related to affordable housing production and [Proposition 207 \(Private Property Rights Protection Act\)](#), we have put forward a housing proposal that is attached to this email. With your support, this bill can provide new, more affordable housing opportunities for housing advocates and streamline processes for developers.

Attached is a summary of the League draft with comments on where the language is derived and a document explaining some challenges we have with HB2536, SB1161, and SB1163. When considering housing this legislative session, local governments want to be partners. We want to find common ground without infringing on property rights or granting new property rights that didn't previously exist.

The League looks forward to working with each of you to find a middle ground that meets the needs of our shared constituents. Please let us know if you have any questions or comments as we continue to move through the session.”

- The city continues to advocate for policy that advances guaranteed affordable housing without undermine transparency in local decision-making. The city is actively working to advance favorable policies through amending language and/or strike-everything amendments.
- Local Governance
 - Efforts to preempt city charters, the authority for local governance, can be found in SCR 1023 and SCR 1027. The city opposes these anti-charter efforts.
 - Tempe voters have voted on charter provisions for the city of Tempe, and these types of proposals seek to put that into question with voters across the state.
 - A summary page prepared by the League of AZ Cities and Towns is highlights the types of voter-approved restrictions that this type of resolution, if passed, would remove. The page is attached.
 - The bills may be subject to amendments with a population threshold, but the city retains opposition to the concept of the legislature attempting to undermine local voters and the charter authority granted in the Arizona Constitution.
- Short Term Rentals
 - There are a number of introduced bills and referenda regarding short-term rentals this session. Some of these proposals would remove the state preemption on local regulations of short-term rentals, which the city would support. These proposal were not scheduled for hearings will not move forwarded this session.
- Tobacco/Vaping
- Fireworks
 - A strike-everything amendment was adopted onto SB1188, which then was passed by the legislature and signed into law by the Governor. The bill changes the Dec/Jan permissible use of fireworks timeframe from 12/24-1/3 to 12/26-1/4. The other existing permissible times for fireworks are unchanged (5/4-5/6, 6/24-7/6). Types and sales timeframes of fireworks are also unchanged in statute.
- Liability Issues
- Water Policy
 - The city opposes SB 1660, which is similar to a problematic proposal that was defeated in last year’s session, that attempts to undermine the regional mechanism for water supply. There is the potential for some industrial water users to be incentivized to extract fossil groundwater, would expand those companies’ access to pumping in an unprecedented way, and would threaten the aquifers relied upon by municipal water users. News articles on the bill are at [this link](#) and [this link](#).
 - The city opposed HB 2535, which had concerning language regarding water management of wells in newly incorporated areas. This bill passed out of the legislature and was vetoed by the Governor. The Governor’s veto letter is available here. The Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA) authored one of the letters urging a veto. Councilmember Arlene Chin is the city’s representative on the AMWUA Board.

The city’s framework for responses to legislative proposals is the Council supported Tempe State Legislative Principles, which are available at [this link](#).

Grant Opportunities

Via the League of AZ Cities and Towns

The Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) is currently working to surplus more than 2,000 shipping containers recently removed from the Arizona-Mexico border.

The containers will be **available from June 1- September 30, 2023, for Government and nonprofit entities only** to have the first opportunity to purchase.

Information can be accessed on our website at:

<https://doa.az.gov/about-us/surplus-property/shipping-containers-purchase>

Via the ASU Sustainable Cities Network

NEA Our Town application is open
Sponsors: National Endowment for the Arts

EDUCATION **FUNDING** **GOVERNMENT**

The NEA Our Town grant supports projects that advance local economic, physical, or social outcomes, bringing attention or elevating key community assets, local histories, and civil infrastructure.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[APPLICANT RESOURCES](#)

[APPLY](#)

Funding opportunity: Grants for University-Nonprofit Partnerships
Supporting Community-Engaged Research

Sponsors: National Endowment for the Arts

EDUCATION **FUNDING** **GOVERNMENT**

HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) announced a new funding opportunity for institutions of higher education or nonprofit entities that train and support institutions of higher education to conduct research applying community-engaged research methods to address homelessness.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Federal Funding Sources for Municipal Sustainability and Climate Action

Sponsors: National League of Cities

[CLIMATE CHANGE](#) [FUNDING](#) [GOVERNMENT](#)

This tool was developed to help local leaders identify federal funding sources that meet the range of needs cities have when seeking to address sustainability at the local level. Regardless of the source or specifications, information about many of the most significant federal funding streams available to local governments for addressing climate and sustainability has been compiled into a tool where users can search, filter and sort by federal department, eligible uses and more.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Strategies for Leveraging Federal Funding to Deploy EV Charging Stations in Arizona

Sponsor: Sustainable Cities Network

[INFRASTRUCTURE](#) [TECHNOLOGY](#) [ENERGY](#)

There is \$2.5 billion on the table over the next four years to support the deployment of public EV charging stations through the federal Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program (CFI Program). Learn how the City of Phoenix is seeking to leverage the CFI Program to plan and expand equitable charging infrastructure across the city and join the conversation to strategize with others and prepare your community to take advantage of this investment opportunity. This informal strategy session will be supported by Caryn Potter, Utility Program Manager for Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEET), and Alexia Melendez, Policy Manager with Plug In America.

[WATCH](#)



Arizona State Legislature
House & Senate Democrats
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Honorable Katie Hobbs
Governor of Arizona
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Tuesday, May 30, 2023

Governor Hobbs,

Thank you for your leadership encouraging a bi-partisan solution that will clear the way for Maricopa County voters to determine the future of their transit system. Arizona is still viewed as a land of opportunity, and more population growth is coming whether we prepare for it or not. The ongoing health of our economy depends on the decision we now face.

For more than 30 years, Maricopa County has experienced exponential growth – in both population and industry – that has been facilitated by the passage of the half-cent sales tax in 1986. People flocking to our state have been met with an intricately planned highway system, arterials that connect fast-growing regions and job centers, and expanding public transit options. Now, we stare at the expiration of that revenue source at the end of 2024, and with it the loss of billions of dollars of our own federal matching funds for infrastructure and transportation. That would spell disaster not just for Maricopa County, but for the entire state.

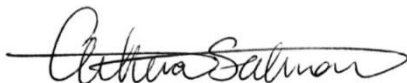
When Governor Ducey inexplicably vetoed a widely supported bi-partisan Prop 400 Extension plan last year, he absolutely blindsided the members of the legislature and all stakeholders involved in the extensive process to create the plan while putting our entire economy at risk. Pushing the plan back another year has not only impacted construction material costs but has also put future projects and their timelines in jeopardy. We are in critical need of a version of Proposition 400E that can allow the MAG plan to be implemented properly as was unanimously approved by the 32 member agencies of the MAG Regional Council. At this point, the concessions already granted in the vetoed version last year have been further compromised in all viable proposals from this year. The vetoed version would have been the preferred minimum standard to accommodate real growth and not undermine the intended plan. As we examine the prospects of legislation this year, the minimum we are willing to accept is the proposed amendment from MAG that puts the buckets at 40 percent for freeways, 20 percent for arterials and 40 percent for transit.

Far-right legislators are playing a dangerous game with Arizona's economic future and quality of life. As our Governor, we are confident that you will accept nothing less than the minimum requirements provided by MAG experts to place this issue on the ballot. Only an adequate plan, if passed, will support our municipalities in Maricopa County with economic benefits that radiate out to the rest of the state. As it stands, legislative districts represented by Democrats have already made the biggest concessions to the amended plan with the degradation of funding for light rail extension and capped capital rehabilitation for the light rail. *It would be unacceptable to make any further compromises to the policy.*

It must be stressed that losing this countywide tax would be detrimental to every city and town across the state, from Yuma to Page, as rural communities will have to compete with large cities for precious and severely limited infrastructure dollars. Putting federal funding and air quality standards at risk is also a risky and dangerous precedent for not only environmental reasons but for economic stability, specifically in the fastest-growing county in the country.

We respectfully wish to inform you that at this point in negotiations, our bottom line is the most recent language endorsed by you and MAG. That language not only contains compromises made through countless stakeholder meetings but continues to hold the public transit bucket at 40 percent. That at least upholds the integrity of the plan that allows the vital expansion of public transit throughout the Valley, improvements to current and future technology, maintains air quality standards and streamlines major arterial and freeway improvements. Most importantly, we support the plan that will pass on a countywide ballot in November.

Sincerely,



Athena Salman
State Representative
Legislative District 8



Mitzi Epstein
State Senator
Senate Democratic Leader
Legislative District 12



Andrés Cano
State Representative
House Democratic Leader
Legislative District 20



Juan Mendez
State Senator
Senate Democratic Assistant Leader
Legislative District 8



Lupe Contreras
State Representative
House Democratic Assistant Leader
Legislative District 22



Eva Burch
State Senator
Senate Democratic Whip
Legislative District 9



Marecelino Quiñonez
State Representative
House Democratic Whip
Legislative District 11



Lela Alston
State Senator
Senate Democratic Caucus Chair
Legislative District 5



Melody Hernandez
State Representative
House Democratic Whip
Legislative District 8



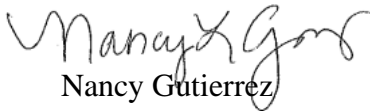
Theresa Hatathlie
State Senator
Legislative District 6



Christine Marsh
State Senator
Legislative District 4



Eva Diaz
State Senator
Legislative District 22



Nancy Gutierrez
State Representative
Legislative District 18



Rosanna Gabaldón
State Senator
Legislative District 21



Jennifer Pawlik
State Representative
Legislative District 13



Priya Sundareshan
State Senator
Legislative District 18



Leezah Elsa Sun
State Representative
Legislative District 22



Oscar De Los Santos
State Representative
Legislative District 11



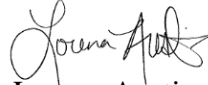
Laura Terech
State Representative
Legislative District 4



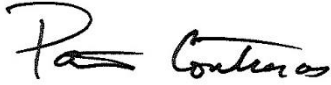
Catherine Miranda
State Senator
Legislative District 11



Brian Fernandez
State Senator
Legislative District 23



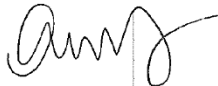
Lorena Austin
State Representative
Legislative District 9



Patty Contreras
State Representative
Legislative District 12



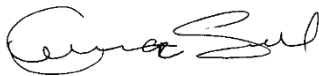
Keith R. Seamam
State Representative
Legislative District 16



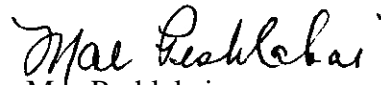
Anna Hernandez
State Senator
Legislative District 24



Myron Tsosie
State Representative
Legislative District 6



Mariana Sandoval
State Representative
Legislative District 23



Mae Peshlakai
State Representative
Legislative District 6



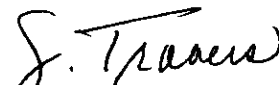
Cesar Aguilar
State Representative
Legislative District 26



Lydia Hernandez
State Representative
Legislative District 24



Stephanie Stahl Hamilton
State Representative
Legislative District 21



Stacey Travers
State Representative
Legislative District 12



Christopher Mathis
State Representative
Legislative District 18



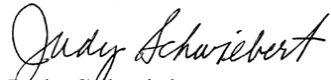
Seth Blattman
State Representative
Legislative District 9



Jennifer Longdon
State Representative
Legislative District 5



Amish Shah
State Representative
Legislative District 5



Judy Schwiebert
State Representative
Legislative District 2



Sally Ann Gonzales
State Senator
Legislative District 20



Alma Hernandez
State Representative
Legislative District 20



Consuelo Hernandez
State Representative
Legislative District 21

cc / Will Gaona, Deputy Chief of Staff
Jennifer Loreda, Director of Policy, Legislative & Intergovernmental Affairs
Julie Cruz, Transportation Policy Advisor

COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

June 2, 2023

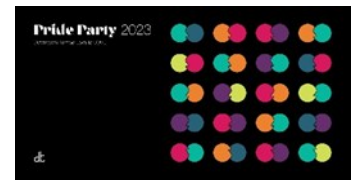
Special Events Update: June 2 – June 18

The Special Events Task Force Committee works with event producers up to 18 months in advance to ensure that administrative and operational logistics are addressed before the event receives final approval.



Date	Event	Location	Notation
6/3	Tempe Pride Celebration	Centerpoint Plaza	Community Event
6/6	Tuesday Night Homeless Outreach	Mtn. Point Center	Outreach Event
6/13	Tuesday Night Homeless Outreach	Mtn. Point Center	Outreach Event
6/17	Juneteenth Celebration	Tempe History Museum	Black Culture Celebration
6/17	Juneteenth Celebration	Centerpoint Plaza	Black Culture Celebration

Pride Party DTA: An unforgettable night of celebration and love at Downtown Tempe's Pride Party featuring Drag Entertainer, Barbra Seville. Downtown Tempe Love is LOVE, and we're ready to show it off with you! We've got a silent disco, food, beer, and wine, along with other surprises to make sure your night is one to remember.



The **African-American Advisory Committee** presents the **10th Annual Juneteenth Celebration** on Saturday, June 17 from 11am–3pm to educate the community and celebrate freedom from slavery in the United States. The celebration will be held at the **Tempe History Museum**. This free, family-friendly event will include hands-on activities, performances, vendors, story time, a video game trailer, Police and Fire vehicles, food truck vendor and more!



Join DTA on June 17 from 7pm-10pm for a night of culture, community and joy as we celebrate **Juneteenth in CenterPoint Plaza**. Come and experience live music, dancing, roller skating, food, beer and wine, and a marketplace featuring Black-owned artists, businesses and organizations. Don't miss out on this celebration of Black culture and history!



For additional information on activities, events, and things to do in and around Tempe, visit:

Tempe Center for the Arts (Tempe.gov/TCA),

Downtown Tempe Authority (Downtowntempe.com/explore),

Tempe Tourism (Tempetourism.com), and

Tempe Public Library (Tempepubliclibrary.org).

