

2009 MUNICIPAL POLICY STATEMENT



CORE PRINCIPLES

PROTECT SHARED REVENUES

Arizona voters approved shared revenues to bring portions of state collected taxes back to their home communities to fund public safety, streets, parks and libraries. This system epitomizes the American spirit of self-governance. The League and the Legislature must work together to protect these revenues and the communities they support.

MAINTAIN LOCAL CONTROL

The Legislature and the municipalities exist to serve a shared constituency. These citizens form cities and towns to create unique communities that provide safe and productive places to live, work and play. This goal is accomplished only if the Legislature rejects preemptions and mandates on Arizona communities and preserves the freedom to make decisions at the local level.

FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

Since the current economic downturn began, cities and towns proactively adjusted their budgets, workforces and projects to reflect fiscal reality. Municipalities will continue to properly manage their budgets during these tumultuous times, but need the state to assist by:

- Changing the law to allow cities to consider fees for services in the selection process for professional services.
- Allowing the imposition of fees for voluminous or substantial public records requests.
- Granting cities the option to post required documents on their websites as opposed to only in a newspaper.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Protecting the safety of the public remains each municipality's primary responsibility. No community exists in a vacuum and enhancing cooperation amongst the cities and the state ensures the citizens of Arizona can live and work here in safety and confidence:

- Give greater consideration to city recommendations into state liquor license issuance.
- Develop and implement practices conducive to attracting and retaining physicians.
- Allow mutual aid agreements between municipalities and private utility companies in emergency situations.

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? CALL 602-258-5786

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

During this period of economic upheaval, the state and cities must aggressively pursue opportunities to promote economic growth. Given the competition in our country and region, existing tools must be protected and new tools added to take advantage of Arizona's natural strengths:

- Protect current tools such as the Government Property Lease Excise Tax (GPLET) so cities can compete with neighboring states for jobs.
- Add new development tools to draw new manufacturing, technology and construction jobs to the state.
- Continue to enhance the mission viability of Arizona's military installations, which contribute both directly and indirectly 96,000 jobs to the state.

STRONG COMMUNITIES

Arizona residents rely on cities and towns to create high quality, safe communities for families and businesses to thrive. Particularly in these troubled economic times, the State and its municipalities must partner to fulfill this need:

- Provide the tools and resources necessary to create and maintain affordable workforce housing by establishing a uniform property tax assessment for affordable projects and protecting the Housing Trust Fund.
- Reduce property crime by increasing the penalty for graffiti offenses to a class one misdemeanor.
- Allow cities greater flexibility on signature requirements for non-partisan, local elections, ensuring more citizens the opportunity to participate in the process.

FEDERAL RELATIONS

Federal policies significantly impact Arizona communities. The League will partner with Arizona's Congressional Delegation, the National League of Cities, state officials and others to:

- Encourage comprehensive immigration reform that secures our border and protects cities and towns from bearing the burden of this national issue.
- Oppose federally mandated public safety collective bargaining.

- 1 Senator:** Steve Pierce **Representatives:** Lucy Mason, Andy Tobin
Municipalities: Camp Verde, Chino Valley, Clarkdale, Cottonwood, Jerome, Prescott, Prescott Valley, Sedona, Williams
- 2 Senator:** Albert Hale **Representatives:** Tom Chabin, Christopher Deschene
Municipalities: Flagstaff
- 3 Senator:** Ron Gould **Representatives:** Doris Goodale, Nancy McLain
Municipalities: Bullhead City, Colorado City, Fredonia, Kingman, Lake Havasu City, Page, Parker, Quartzsite
- 4 Senator:** Jack Harper **Representatives:** Tom Boone, Judy Burges
Municipalities: Buckeye, Dewey-Humboldt, Glendale, Peoria, Phoenix, Surprise, Wickenburg
- 5 Senator:** Sylvia Allen **Representatives:** Jack Brown, William Konopnicki
Municipalities: Clifton, Duncan, Eagar, Globe, Holbrook, Miami, Payson, Pima, Pinetop-Lakeside, Safford, St. Johns, Show Low, Snowflake, Springerville, Star Valley, Taylor, Thatcher, Winslow
- 6 Senator:** Pamela Gorman **Representatives:** Sam Crump, Carl Seel
Municipalities: Phoenix
- 7 Senator:** Jim Waring **Representatives:** Ray Barnes, Nancy Barto
Municipalities: Carefree, Cave Creek, Phoenix, Scottsdale
- 8 Senator:** Carolyn Allen **Representatives:** John Kavanagh, Michele Reagan
Municipalities: Fountain Hills, Scottsdale
- 9 Senator:** Robert "Bob" Burns **Representatives:** Debbie Lesko, Rick Murphy
Municipalities: Glendale, Peoria, Surprise, Youngtown
- 10 Senator:** Linda Gray **Representatives:** Doug Quelland, Jim Weiers
Municipalities: Glendale, Phoenix
- 11 Senator:** Barbara Leff **Representatives:** Adam Driggs, Eric Meyer
Municipalities: Paradise Valley, Phoenix
- 12 Senator:** John Nelson **Representatives:** Steve Montenegro, Jerry Weiers
Municipalities: Avondale, Buckeye, El Mirage, Glendale, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Phoenix, Surprise
- 13 Senator:** Richard Miranda **Representatives:** Steve Gallardo, Martha Garcia
Municipalities: Avondale, Glendale, Phoenix, Tolleson
- 14 Senator:** Debbie McCune Davis **Representatives:** Chad Campbell, Robert Meza
Municipalities: Glendale, Phoenix
- 15 Senator:** Ken Chevront **Representatives:** David Lujan, Kyrsten Sinema
Municipalities: Phoenix
- 16 Senator:** Leah Landrum Taylor **Representatives:** Cloves Campbell, Jr., Ben Miranda
Municipalities: Guadalupe, Phoenix
- 17 Senator:** Meg Burton Cahill **Representatives:** Edward Ableser, David Schapira
Municipalities: Scottsdale, Tempe
- 18 Senator:** Russell Pearce **Representatives:** Cecil Ash, Steve Court
Municipalities: Mesa
- 19 Senator:** Chuck Gray **Representatives:** Kirk Adams, Rich Crandall
Municipalities: Apache Junction, Mesa
- 20 Senator:** John Huppenthal **Representatives:** John McComish, Rae Waters
Municipalities: Chandler, Phoenix, Tempe
- 21 Senator:** Jay Tibshraeny **Representatives:** Warde Nichols, Steven Yarbrough
Municipalities: Chandler, Mesa, Queen Creek
- 22 Senator:** Thayer Verschoor **Representatives:** Andy Biggs, Laurin Hendrix
Municipalities: Apache Junction, Gilbert, Mesa
- 23 Senator:** Rebecca Rios **Representatives:** Barbara McGuire, Frank Pratt
Municipalities: Apache Junction, Avondale, Casa Grande, Coolidge, Eloy, Florence, Hayden, Kearny, Mammoth, Maricopa, Phoenix, Queen Creek, Superior, Winkelman
- 24 Senator:** Amanda Aguirre **Representatives:** Lynne Pancrazi, Russ Jones
Municipalities: Parker, San Luis, Somerton, Wellton, Yuma
- 25 Senator:** Manuel "Manny" Alvarez **Representatives:** Patricia Fleming, David Stevens
Municipalities: Benson, Bisbee, Buckeye, Douglas, Gila Bend, Huachuca City, Marana, Nogales, Sierra Vista, Tombstone, Willcox
- 26 Senator:** Al Melvin **Representatives:** Vic Williams, Nancy Young Wright
Municipalities: Marana, Oro Valley, Tucson
- 27 Senator:** Jorge Luis Garcia **Representatives:** Olivia Cajero Bedford, Phil Lopes
Municipalities: Tucson
- 28 Senator:** Paula Aboud **Representatives:** David Bradley, Steve Farley
Municipalities: Tucson
- 29 Senator:** Linda Lopez **Representatives:** Matt Heinz, Daniel Patterson
Municipalities: South Tucson, Tucson
- 30 Senator:** Jonathan Paton **Representatives:** David Gowan, Frank Antenori
Municipalities: Patagonia, Sahuarita, Sierra Vista, Tucson

CITIES & TOWNS BY DISTRICT

