

OVERVIEW

The League of Arizona Cities and Towns, a voluntary association of the 91 incorporated municipalities in Arizona, is governed by two core principles: to protect shared revenues and promote local decision-making authority.

PRESERVE LOCAL CONTROL

Decentralized government at the local level represents a fundamental principle of American democracy, recognizing that when it comes to community governance, one size does not fit all.

The League calls upon the Legislature to respect the authority of cities and towns to govern their communities in the best interests of their residents. The League will endorse legislation that supports and sustains the principle of local control and reject legislation that conflicts with the autonomy of cities and towns.

PROTECT STATE SHARED REVENUE

The League is determined to safeguard the economic resources that cities and towns require to ensure safety and provide high-quality services for their residents. To that end, the League calls upon the Legislature to enact a budget that maintains existing historical formulas for the distribution of state-collected shared revenue to local governments.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

The League is determined to safeguard the fiscal tools cities and towns require to provide the high-quality services their residents demand and continue to attract new economic opportunities. To that end, the League calls upon the Legislature to:

- Allow for the creation of Enhanced Municipal Services Districts in areas that are not considered slum or blighted;
- Authorize the formation of Revenue Allocation Districts to foster economic activity within targeted geographic areas;
- Explore mechanisms to improve the economic sustainability of the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System; and
- Support efforts to improve Arizona's ports of entry with Mexico and related infrastructure.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The League is concerned with the ability of cities and towns to meet the ever-increasing demands that our growing population places on existing infrastructure. Therefore, the League will:

- Support legislation to allow improvement districts to pay for the operation and maintenance of retention and detention bases;
- Preserve Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) allocated to Arizona cities and towns and follow statutory formulas for the distribution of HURF monies;
- Establish a Highway User Revenue Funds (HURF) study committee to develop recommendations to improve transportation maintenance and infrastructure funding; and
- Restore funding for the Greater Arizona Development Authority to facilitate economic development in rural communities.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The League recognizes that all levels of government must work cooperatively in order to be successful and provide citizens with the quality they expect and deserve. To that end, the League calls upon the Legislature to:

- Support efforts to restore the Arizona State Park Heritage Fund;
- Seek to reduce the shortage of health care professionals; and
- Support the long-term retention of Arizona's military installations.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

The League recognizes that success at the local level requires well-written state laws. Therefore, the League will support legislation to:

- Simplify the requirements for annexation;
- Support the long-term retention of Arizona's military installations;
- Permanently authorize cities and towns to use the total number of votes cast for an office when calculating the majority of votes cast;
- Provide properly apportioned indemnification among parties in intergovernmental agreements; and
- Streamline and improve the process for creating and implementing development impact fees.