



A research and advocacy association, supporting efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.

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President Martin Hosts Fall WIR Board of Directors Meeting



Gila County Supervisor Tommie Martin, President of the Western Interstate Region (WIR), hosted the WIR Board of Directors this week in Phoenix. WIR is a coalition of 15 western states focused on deliberating and engaging federal policy issues affecting western counties. Each state appoints two elected officials to the WIR Board. Arizona is represented by Supervisor Martin and Coconino County Supervisor Liz Archuleta.

During the 2-day meeting, President Martin led deliberations among board members regarding important WIR business matters including: WIR priorities, federal engagement strategies and coalition operations.

Additionally, WIR officials participated in round-table conversations with experts on wildland firefighting, forest restoration, public lands management, tourism promotion and economic development.

Congratulations to President Martin for hosting an informative and productive WIR Board of Directors Fall Business Meeting and for your leadership in building a stronger coalition of western counties.

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Election Season Update

The 2018 General Election on November 6 is less than a month away, this week voter registration closed and early ballots were mailed. CSA's [website](#) has a chart with the federal, state and legislative candidates and a document with background information on the proposed ballot initiatives.

For more information on the 2018 elections, please visit the [Secretary of State's](#) website.

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JLBC Projects Significant Increases in State Revenue

The Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) meeting was held on Thursday this week to review the state's revenue forecasts for the budget and consider the future economic outlook. The FAC usually convenes three times each fiscal year and is made up of private and public sector economists who present their views on the United States and Arizona economies over the next few years. The FAC also serves as one of the inputs to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee's (JLBC) four-sector consensus budget forecast.



JLBC anticipates that the strong growth seen in FY 2018 (6.9%) will continue into FY 2019 and revised the budget forecast for FY 2019 from 4.8% to 6.0% growth. As a result of above-forecast revenues in FY 2018 and increased FY 2019 projections, JLBC now projects that the state's cash balance in FY 2019 will be \$825 million (up from \$236 million in the enacted forecast) and \$1.15 billion in FY 2020, absent legislative changes. The increased projections also affect the state's projected structural balance over the next three years; the FY 2021 structural balance was estimated to be just \$3 million in the enacted budget and is now projected to be \$211 million. The budgeted spending does not include the county relief items scored as one-time in the FY 2019 budget (ADJC relief and EORP relief for the eight smallest counties).

The FAC also heard presentations regarding the economic outlook in Arizona over the next three years. The economy is anticipated to continue growing through 2019, and most leading economic indicators do not show signs of a recession in the short-term. However, the U.S. is currently in the second longest expansionary period on record, and two-thirds of forecasters surveyed by the National Association for Business Economics believe a recession will begin by 2020.

To access the FAC October meeting materials, please click [here](#).

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NACo Webinar: Discussing the Third Key Measure in the Stepping Up Initiative

On October 25, 2018, from 11:00 pm – 12:15 pm MST, the National Association of Counties (NACo) is hosting a webinar titled, [Stepping Up Four Key Measures #3: Increasing the Number of People with Mental Illnesses Connected to Treatment](#).

More than 425 counties have joined the national *Stepping Up* initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in their jails. The *Stepping Up* framework focuses on Four Key Measures for people with mental illness: jail bookings, jail length of stay, connections to treatment and recidivism. This is the third webinar in the series and will provide strategies for increasing the number of people with a mental illness who are connected treatment in jails and in the community. It will provide details on key data points to collect and provide feedback on how to measure success. Previous webinars in this series are available on the *Stepping Up* [toolkit](#).



To register for the webinar, please [click here](#)

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