

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



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Supervisor Archuleta Testifies Before U.S. Senate Committee

On June 18, 2019, Chairwoman Murkowski (R, AK) convened the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for a full committee hearing to "examine deferred maintenance needs and potential solutions on federal lands administered by the Department of the Interior and the USDA Forest Service." Coconino County Supervisor Elizabeth Archuleta testified on behalf of the National Association of Counties, urging Congress to enact legislation to bring deferred maintenance to sustainable levels in order to better serve visitors to public lands and parks. Supervisor Archuleta was joined by testimony from the Department of the Interior, the USDA Forest Service, the Public Lands Alliance, and the recreational industry.



To view Supervisor Archuleta's written statement for the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, please click [here](#). To view Supervisor Archuleta's testimony, please click [here](#) for the archived webcast.

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Supervisor Fowler Attends NACo County Leadership Institute

Coconino Supervisor Lena Fowler was one of the select number of county leaders chosen from across the United States to participate in the 16th Annual National Association of Counties (NACo) County Leadership Institute (CLI) from June 9-13, 2019 in Washington D.C. Supervisor Fowler is currently in her third term as the District 5 Supervisor on the Coconino Board of Supervisors.

NACo holds this rigorous program in partnership with [Cambridge Leadership Associates](#). CLI is a four-day program that is aimed at enhancing the capacity of county officials to identify and implement innovative solutions in response to the complex challenges facing county government in the 21st century. The institute recognizes that elected county service embodies the art and practice of public leadership and offers curriculum centered on adaptive leadership techniques. For more information, please click [here](#).



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County Managers Meet



The County Managers/Administrators Association was provided an update from staff on the proposed assumption changes that the new Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) actuary has proposed for all PSPRS and CORP plans. For many counties, the plan's have significantly underperformed the current assumptions, meaning future year employer costs will have to increase to properly fund the plans under the new assumptions.

Staff also provided an overview of the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCs), which counties and the state contribute funding towards for the long term care services to Arizona's elderly and physically disabled populations. System growth along with legislative changes to increase provider payments drove up the total county contribution by 8.1 percent from FY 2019 to FY 2020. Managers and administrators also looked at trends in county-specific enrollment and utilization in ALTCs over the past decade.

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Yavapai Sheriff's Office Presentation at Managers Roundtable

Last Thursday, county managers and professional staff attended a presentation by Yavapai County Sheriff Chief Deputy David Rhodes and Executive Director of Yavapai Justice & Mental Health Coalition Beya Thayer on the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office response to mental health and drug abuse in the justice system.

Chief Deputy Rhodes noted they used the six questions outlined in the Stepping Up Initiative's framework to help guide their process. The six questions include:

- 1) Is your leadership committed?
- 2) Do you have timely screening and assessments?
- 3) Do you have baseline data?
- 4) Have you conducted a comprehensive process analysis and service inventory?
- 5) Have you prioritized policy, practice and funding?
- 6) Do you track progress?



Chief Deputy Rhodes and Thayer discussed the importance of bringing together the different areas that have a touchpoint with individuals experiencing mental illness and drug abuse and the need to establish wrap around services that address the basics such as food, transportation and housing. They also noted prioritizing an understanding of the system as a whole through information sharing has enabled decisions to be evaluated to see if the intended outcome was achieved and provides an opportunity to assess the need to modify existing processes to improve results.

For more information on Yavapai County Sheriff's Office *Reach Out Initiative* please, click [here](#).

For more information and resources on Stepping Up please, click [here](#).

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Governor's Water Council Convenes – New Work Groups Created

The Governor's Water Augmentation, Innovation and Conservation Council met at ADWR on June 13. The 41 member council, chaired by Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) Director Tom Bushatzke, is charged with evaluating opportunities to secure a sustainable water future in the state. CSA holds a seat on the council.



At the meeting, existing workgroups related to long-term water augmentation and desalination reported their progress, and ADWR staff presented their findings from a water loss study conducted on a sample of small water systems and reported on the status of the Active Management Area (AMA) plans.

Very importantly, Director Bushatzke announced the formation of two new work groups. The Management Plan Work Group was created as a stakeholder forum for the development of the AMA's Fifth Management Plans, with a goal of working to assess existing AMA conservation programs and to develop new management strategies for the 5th management period and beyond. Tim Thomure, Tucson Water, and Warren Tenney, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (AMWUA), will chair the effort.

Also established, a Groundwater Committee charged with evaluating issues in areas outside of the AMA's. Representative Gail Griffin and Jamie Kelley, Mohave County Water Authority, stepped up to co-chair this group.

For additional information on the council, along with meeting materials, please click [here](#).

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CSA on the Road



CSA enjoyed traveling to La Paz, Yuma, and Mohave counties recently to meet with county supervisors and professional staff. Over the course of the summer, staff is looking forward to visiting with all 15 counties.

In the next two weeks staff will travel to Coconino, Pinal, and Apache counties:

- Coconino County: June 25th
- Pinal County: June 26th
- Apache County: July 2nd

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JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights

On Thursday, Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) staff released their monthly summary of the state's general fund revenues and expenditures. May was a record month for general fund revenues, with collections at \$1.2 billion, 48.1 percent above May 2018. JLBC staff noted that this is largely due to a shift in large Individual Income Tax (IIT) payments from prior months to May. Over the past several months, IIT revenues have come in under forecast and were instead captured and processed in May. Additionally, the effects of conforming to the federal tax code for Tax Year 2018 have also contributed to the higher-than-forecasted revenue performance in IIT payments. High sales tax and IIT collections put year-to-date general fund revenues 11.6 percent above the same period in FY 2018, and \$183.8 million above the recently enacted budget forecast.

Year-to-date the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) has collected 1.4 billion in revenue for transportation which is 4.2 percent above the previous year and 1.7 percent above the JLBC baseline forecast.

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NACo Leadership Academy Enrollment

The National Association of Counties (NACo) in association with the Professional Development Academy is holding two 12-week mentorship-based leadership programs for county government professionals. Participants spend 3-5 hours a week engaged in an online, interactive learning platform that includes live events, video sessions, and breakout group discussions.



The High Performance Leadership program provides "best practices in leadership, organizational development and change management, negotiation and collaboration, effective business communication, and how to deliver increased value from high performance county management." To learn more about the High Performance Leadership Academy, please click [here](#).

NACo is also offering the new Enterprise Cybersecurity Leadership Academy, led by Fortune 500 CISOs and peers. This program will provide participants with "insights on how to lead and secure a network and an organization – protecting data assets and the enterprise brand" and also coaches participants on "what it means to think and act as a county cybersecurity leader." For more information on the Enterprise Cybersecurity Leadership Academy, please click [here](#).

To participate in either of the academies, individuals must sign up by July 7th for the August 5th start date, and August 30th for the September 16th start date.

Congratulations to the following January 2019 High Performance Leadership Academy participants for completing the program!

- Michael Bellamy, Chief Deputy (La Paz County)
- Don Braska, Fleet Shop Supervisor (La Paz County)
- Roberta Jones, Senior Accounting Clerk (La Paz County)
- Kathleen Kelly, Management Assistant (Coconino County)
- Jasmine Salazar, Court Clerk (La Paz County)
- Dawnafe Whitesinger, District 5 Supervisor (Navajo County)

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Wildfire Update

Effective Friday, June 21st the Department of Forestry and Fire Management implemented Stage 1 fire restrictions on Arizona state-owned and managed lands in Gila, La Paz, Maricopa and Yuma Counties and parts of Mohave County, for more information on the restriction please click [here](#).

Stage 1 includes the following restrictions and prohibitions:

- Fires, campfires, charcoal, coal, or wood stoves, other than in a developed campsite or picnic area;
- Smoking, except in specified locations;
- Fireworks or another incendiary device; and
- Welding or operating acetylene or other torch devices with an open flame.

County leaders have deployed resources to protect public safety in communities threatened by wildfires. There are currently three wildfires and three prescribed fires burning throughout Arizona, which include:

- Woodbury Fire – is burning five miles north of Superior, Arizona. The fire has reached 65,903 acres and is currently only 42% contained. The cause of the fire is unknown, but there are over a thousand people working to contain it. The fire has forced residents in the Roosevelt and Roosevelt Lake area to evacuate. The hot dry conditions and strong winds continue increase the rate at which the fire is spreading.
- Maroon Fire – caused by lighting, the fire is burning 18 miles northeast of Flagstaff off Leupp Road near Maroon Crater, and has consumed 8,206 acres. The fire is currently 80 percent contained.
- Coldwater Fire – the fire has burned 16,790 acres since started by lighting on May 30th, but is now 90% contained. The fire is located approximately four miles south of Clints Well and one mile east of state Route 87.
- Kaibab NF North Zone RX Fire – a prescribed fire of about 1,436 acres consisting of two prescribed burns, fire managers are monitoring the fire to ensure it stays contained within the designated areas.
- Long Jim I and III – a prescribed fire of about 1,761 acres is adjacent to the South Rim, the fire is burning pine and juniper and scheduled to treat 2,849 acres.
- Kaibab NF South Zone RX Fire – multiple prescribed fires within the Williams and Tusayan Ranger Districts are planned, fire managers are working to minimize the impact of smoke to communities and closely monitoring the fires. There are three main prescribed fires in the Kaibab NF South Zone:
 - Russell Fire: is scheduled to start June 24th, weather permitting, and is scheduled to burn 2,130 acres about 13 miles southeast of Tusayan;
 - Sunflower Fire: burned about 2,803 acres south of Williams, fire crews are monitoring the project as the project wraps up.
 - Reed Fire: a total of 1,403 acres have been completed near Tusayan and operations may resume in coming weeks.



For up to date information on wildfires, please click on the following links:

[Arizona Interagency Wildfire Prevention](#)
[Arizona State Forestry Division](#)
[Arizona State Parks Fire Restrictions and Information](#)
[InciWeb – Interagency All-Risk Incident Information Management System](#)
[Federal: Active Fire Maps](#)
[Fire Restrictions](#)

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NACo Webinar: A Primer for Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists

On Thursday June 27th from 11:00am–12:00pm MST, NACo will be hosting the webinar “Stepping Up 101: A Primer for Veterans Justice Outreach Specialists.” This webinar will focus on providing an overview of the mental illness crisis in jail systems and how the Stepping Up initiative can assist counties in reducing the number of individuals with mental illness in their jails. For more information on the Stepping Up initiative, please click [here](#).

For more information and to register for this webinar, please click [here](#).

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NACo Webinar: Housing Matters

On Friday June 28th, from 11:00am–12:00pm MST, NACo will be hosting the webinar “Housing Matters: How Where You Live Impacts Your Health and Well-Being.” During this webinar, NACo will explain the ways in which “housing can impact resident and community health, to include stability, quality and safety, affordability and neighborhood.” NACo will also explain upcoming opportunities on how counties can engage in the topics discussed during the webinar.

For more information and to register for this webinar, please click [here](#).

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