

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



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Huge Turnout for Rural Transportation Summit



Local officials from across the state convened this week for the 21st Annual Rural Transportation Summit, hosted by the South Eastern Arizona Council of Governments (SEAGO).

SEAGO Chair David Gomez (Greenlee) and Rural Transportation Advocacy Council Chair Steve Miller (Pinal) led the event during which county supervisors from eleven counties joined city council leaders to engage state and federal officials about the critical need for increased investment in infrastructure. Local officials also participated in a series of informative breakout sessions to discuss important policy items and to share best practices. Sessions included briefings on the importance of infrastructure to support international trade, innovative project management techniques, transit planning, and the emerging fleet of autonomous vehicles.

State Transportation Board (Board) members, including Board chair Jack Sellers (Maricopa) and member Jesse Thompson (Navajo) participated throughout the conference. The Board capped off the event by convening an important public hearing in Sahuarita on Friday.

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2020 Census

Coconino County Supervisor Lena Fowler, discussed making the U.S. 2020 Census count at the National Association of Counties Rural Action Caucus (RAC). She noted that in the 2010 count, nearly 1 in 7 Native Americans living on the reservation were missed according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Coconino County is the second-largest county by area in the United States and 37.91 percent of the land is Tribal acreage. Fowler shared some of the work done in Coconino County to develop outreach strategies to reach hard to count populations including providing materials, outreach reports, and radio ads in Navajo. County officials also attend Navajo chapter meetings, community meetings and conduct outreach events at local gathering places.



In April this year Governor Ducey issued an executive order establishing the Arizona Complete Count Committee (AZ CCC) for the 2020 U.S. Census. The AZ CCC is tasked with developing a strategic communications plan, a targeted plan to address populations historically undercounted, and to partner with local complete count committees to “provide state-level perspective, guidance, and coordination.” In August, Governor Ducey announced the members of the AZ CCC and Yuma County Recorder Robyn Sallworth Pouquette was selected as the County Government Liaison. Chairwoman Stallworth Pouquette tapped Santa Cruz County Manager Jennifer St. John to serve as the Co-Chair of the County Government Subcommittee (Subcommittee). Ms. Sallworth Pouquette and Ms. St. John will attend their initial training next week and hope to have at least one individual from each county represented on the Subcommittee before the first Subcommittee meeting.

To read Governor Ducey’s Executive Order please, click [here](#). To view the full AZ CCC membership please, click [here](#).

CSA has compiled an overview of the county role in the 2020 census and redistricting process which can be found [here](#). For more resources on the 2020 Census, please visit the U.S. Census website, [here](#).

Photo Source: [@CoconinoCounty](#)

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County Spotlight – Pinal County Skydiving World Cup

Pinal County's Economic Development Program Manager Tim Kanavel represented the county at the 22nd FAI World Cup of Formation Skydiving and Artistic Events (World Cup) last weekend. The World Cup is an international competition where skydivers are judged based on their formation and artistic dives. Skydivers from 16 different nations participated in the competition. Team USA won the gold, silver and bronze medals in the 4-Way Formation category. Congratulations to all of the competitors and a thank you to Pinal County for hosting an extraordinary event.



Photo Source: [@PinalCounty](#) & [@PinalPartnership](#)

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Interim Legislative Meetings

This week the House Ad Hoc Committee on Abuse and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults (Vulnerable Adults Committee) and the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Minimizing Contaminant Risk and Exposure for 1st Responders (1st Responders Committee) met.



The Vulnerable Adults Committee is charged with reviewing and identifying best practices for the reporting and investigative processes to ensure the safety of vulnerable adults. The Committee heard public testimony regarding personal challenges with assistive technology and lack of support services.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 12th. Chairwoman Longdon noted the report and recommendations to the Governor will include eliminating the current gaps in background checks, investing in better assistive technology services, and improving methods identifying and documenting abuse.

The 1st Responders Committee, Chaired by Senator Paul Boyer, met for its first hearing on Thursday. The 1st Responders Committee was established to research and make recommendations on best practices for cancer screening and prevention for first responders, evaluate the effectiveness of interventions to reduce fire service carcinogen exposure and effects, and develop recommendations for future legislation.



The 1st Responders Committee heard a presentation from Dr. Jeff Burgess, Associate Dean for Research and Professor at the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health at the University of Arizona. Dr. Burgess provided an in-depth overview of the science behind developing cancer decades after carcinogen exposure and how that is impacting firefighters. He addressed the ways in which firefighters are exposed, through both smoke inhalation and through the skin, and discussed intervention methods to protect firefighters. The 1st Responders Committee also watched a KTAR documentary short on the existing system providing for firefighters with cancer and discussed the next steps.

The 1st Responders Committee plans to meet at least three more times before its deadline to report its findings and recommendations on December 15th.

To view an archived recording of meetings, please click [here](#).

Upcoming Legislative Committee hearings:

- [House Ad Hoc Committee on Groundwater Supply in Pinal County](#), Tuesday, October 21st at 1:30 p.m. in the Pinal County Board of Supervisors Hearing Room.
- [House Ad Hoc Committee on Earned Release Credits for Prisoners](#), Tuesday, October 21st at 10:00 a.m. in HHR 4.
- [Study Committee on Special Education Weights and Funding for Gifted Pupils](#), Tuesday, October 21st at 1:00 p.m. in HHR1.
- [Study on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls](#), Tuesday, October 29th at 10:00 a.m. MT in Tuba City, Arizona.

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NACo Webinar: Developing Metrics to Measure Mobility from Poverty

On October 22, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. MST, the National Association of Counties (NACo) is hosting a webinar titled Developing Metrics to Measure Mobility from Poverty.

This webinar will focus on advancing mobility from poverty. Counties are deeply invested in local residents' economic stability and prosperity, and county leaders are engaging in innovative cross-sector efforts to systematically address obstacles to upward mobility and the expansion of economic opportunities for all residents. NACo and the Urban Institute will co-host this webinar to better understand how to reliably measure mobility from poverty and help local leaders better assess progress in their communities. This webinar will bring together stakeholders to provide feedback on a preliminary set of mobility metrics and a prototype data dashboard and offer insights on what would make these tools most useful for counties in their efforts to increase mobility from poverty.



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

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