

2025 POLICY SUMMIT

HOSTED BY YUMA COUNTY





Summit Process Overview

State & County Financial Context

Coalition Priorities

- State County Partnership
- Provide Sufficient State Funding for the Courts
- Increase Investment in Transportation Infrastructure
- Protect Investments in Public Safety Pensions

Research Report & Projects

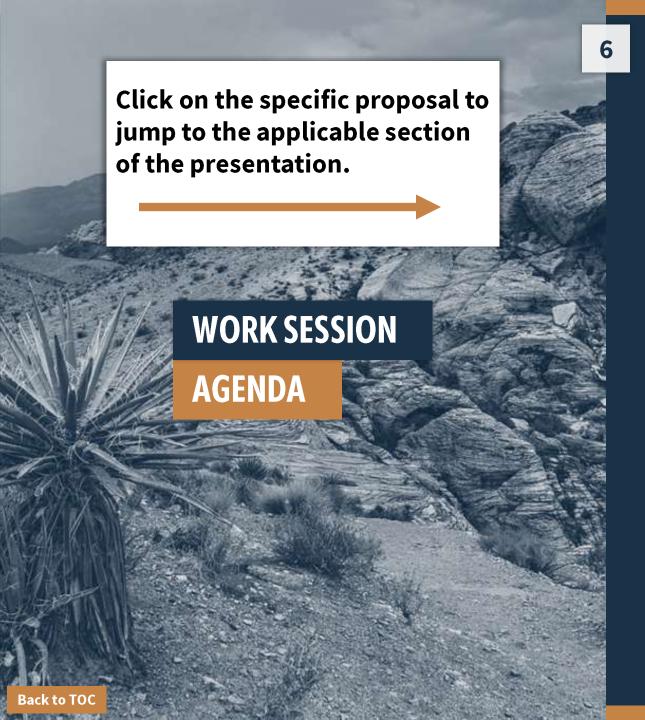
- Detention Retention & Recruitment Study Briefing
- 2025 Workplan Update
- 2026 Workplan Projects

Emerging Issues

County Submitted Proposals

See next page for links to individual proposals

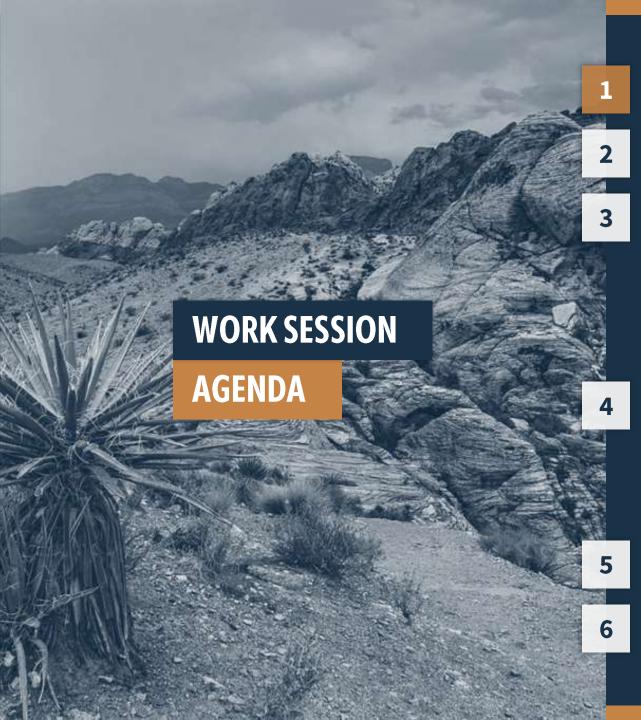




County Submitted Proposals

- 1. Permanent Crops
- 2. Compensation Equalization
- 3. "Recapitalization Of The Wildfire Emergency Response Fund"
- 4. Coordinated Reentry Across The State Of Arizona
- 5. "Accountability For Taxpayers Maintaining Non-Owned Properties"
- 6. "Solar Energy Consumer Protection"
- 7. "Maintaining Public Trust By Preserving Name Rights"
- 8. Cold Plunge Regulatory Authority
- 9. "Addressing Homeowners' Insurance Affordability And Stability"
- 10. Adjustments To Open Meeting Law
- 11. WIFA Forgivable Funding For Cesspool And Outdated Septic System Infrastructure
- 12. Revised Sellers' Property Disclosure Form
- 13. Permanent Funding For The State Historic Preservation Office
- 14. "Fire Code Inspection Waiver For Municipalities Over 100,000 People"
- 15. Board Of Supervisors Retaining Outside Legal Counsel
- 16. "Increase Local Control Over Short-Term Rentals"
- 17. Permanent Statewide Solution To Election Calendar Issues





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PURPOSE OF THE SUMMIT

CSA works to inform decisions and to protect and enhance county authorities and resources and in order to promote efficient, responsive constituent services.

To this end, the CSA Summit convenes county supervisors and professional staff to:

- Discuss political context (legislative make-up, emerging issues) and create a foundational educational opportunity for elected
 officials and staff
- Reach agreement on CSA legislative agenda and advocacy strategies for the upcoming legislative session
- Review the research initiative workplan for the year

Phases of the Research Plan & Policy Development Process

Evaluate Ideas Pre-Summit Preparation ☑

Counties submit legislative proposals, CSA review & assists.

Pre-summit briefings: County Managers and Administrators

Review process and agenda: Dialogue and critical feedback from managers

Pre-summit briefing: Board of Directors

• Explain process and opportunity to gain feedback on proposals

CSA Policy Summit October 28th-30th

Board of Directors decision-making process

- Staff policy and research briefings
- Facilitated workgroup session
- Board of Directors consideration
- Deliberate and adopt

Post-summit Board & LPC meetings

Oversee implementation of research and policy priorities

Allow ongoing opportunities for reconsideration of issues

Respond to emerging issues

Evaluate organizational performance

01

Discussion of Proposed CSA Priorities for 2026:

Staff will identify and present for discussion, legislative priorities important to all 15 counties, including strategies to prevent and mitigate cost shifts, and protect/promote local control.

02

Discussion of County-Submitted Proposals:

- 1. CSA staff will present each proposal to the Board of Directors.
- 2. Sponsoring county will speak to the issue.
- 3. County professional staff available to provide additional information.
- 4. The issue will be discussed by the membership.
- 5. After dialogue, the facilitator will gauge level of support and assess need for additional work, if necessary*.

^{*} Note: If issues arise, the sponsoring county may attempt to address those issues prior to official consideration at the Board of Directors meeting



FORMAL VOTING ON PROPOSALS

Official voting on proposals will be at the formal meeting of the Board of Directors on Thursday, October 30th at 9:00 a.m.

- Each proposal will be acted upon individually, pursuant to CSA Bylaws (Art.5).
- A measure is adopted if a quorum is present and 2/3 of participating supervisors vote in favor of the motion.
- Proxy voting is permitted: Supervisors with proxy votes of fellow members must HOLD UP A
 CARD with the TOTAL number of votes they represent:

of proxy votes + your own vote = total vote



WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE SUMMIT?

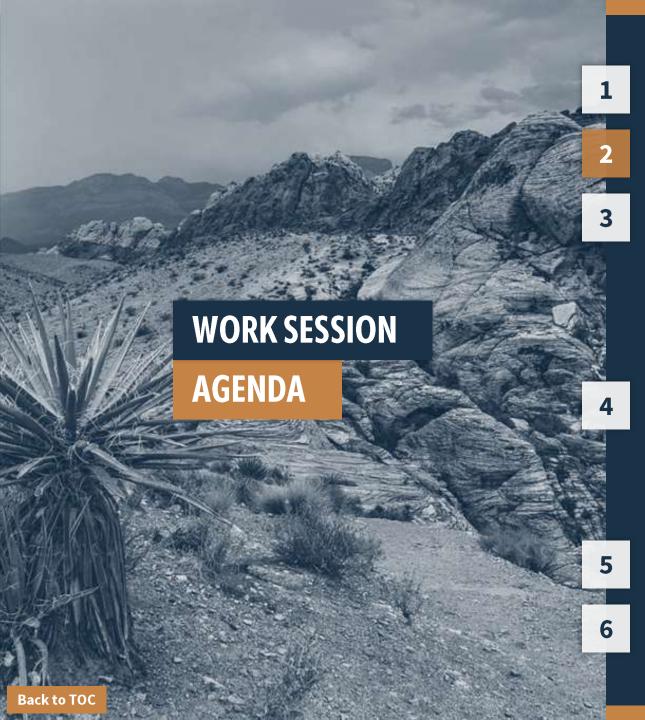
CSA Board, county managers and the Legislative Policy Committee (LPC) provide for oversight of staff implementation of adopted policy positions, flexibility to respond to emerging issues and ongoing opportunities for additional consideration of issues.

Why are Board and LPC meetings important?

- The legislative process is unpredictable and there may be a need to adjust allocation of staff and political capital.
- CSA staff reports progress and any need to adjust deployment of resources.

LPC members are advised to participate regularly and inform their county colleagues of ongoing legislative activities.





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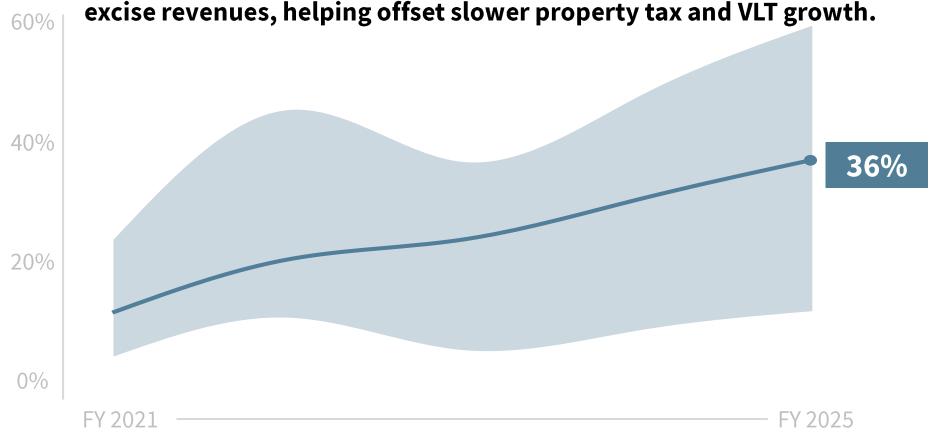
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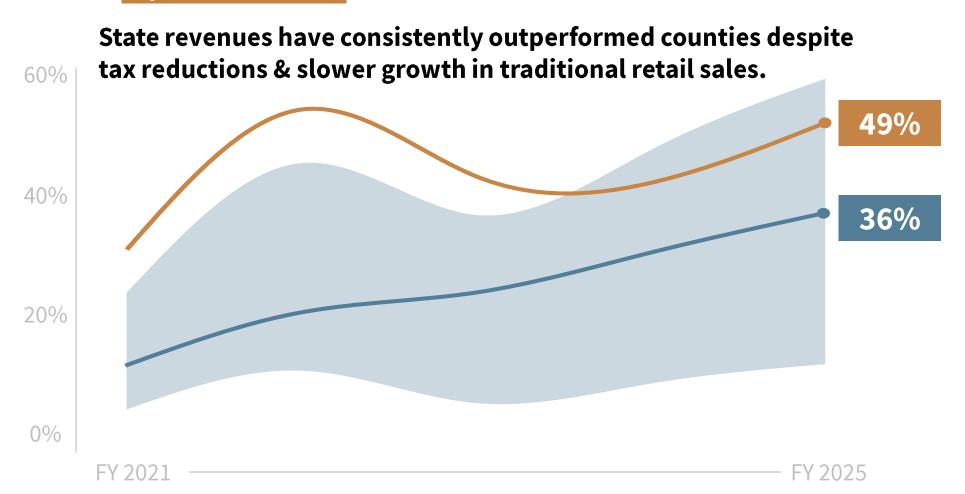
Total Growth in Major County Revenues FY 2020 – FY 2025







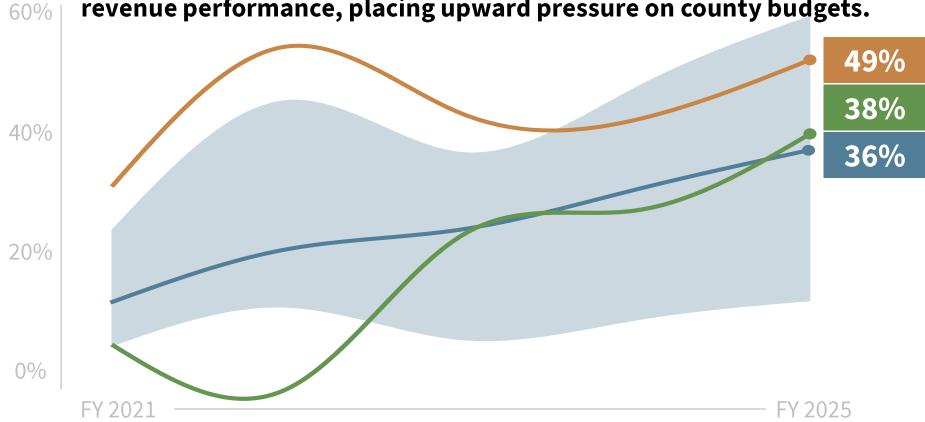
Total Growth in Major State Revenues FY 2020 - FY 2025





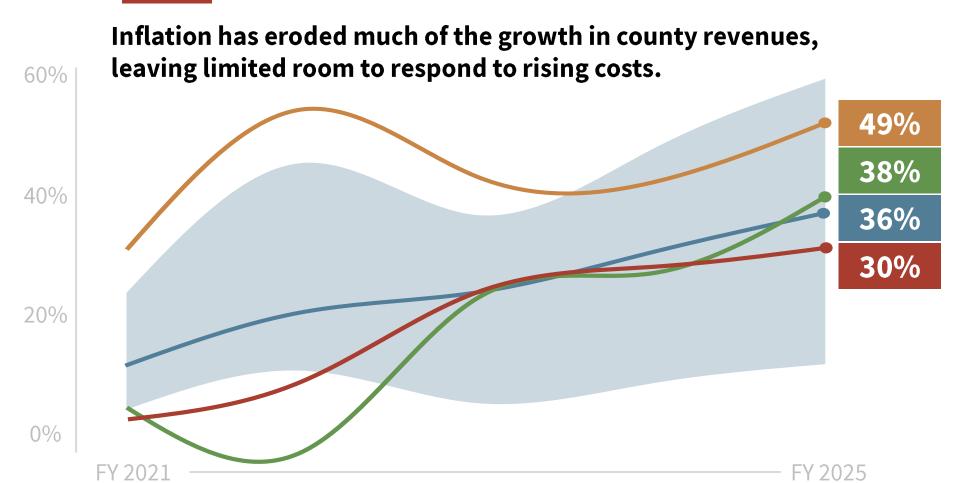
Total Growth in County ALTCS contributions FY 2020 – FY 2025

Persistent growth in county ALTCS contributions exceeds county revenue performance, placing upward pressure on county budgets.





Total Growth in Inflation FY 2020 – FY 2025

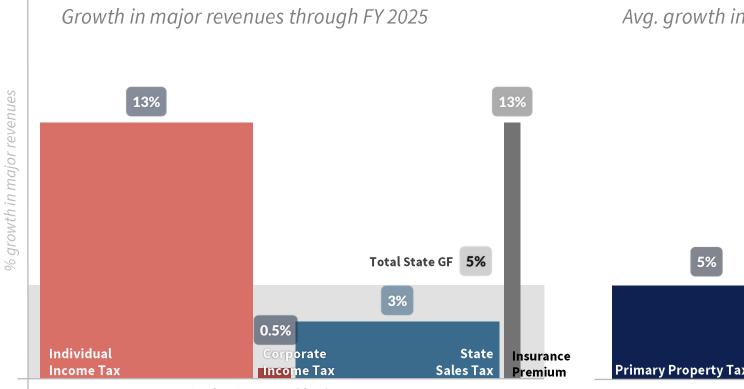




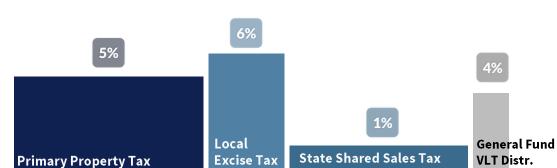
STATE & COUNTY REVENUE PERFORMANCE FY 2025

State revenue performance driven by robust growth in individual income and insurance premium tax categories, despite slow growth in sales tax revenues.

County primary property tax and local excise tax categories show moderate gains, offset slower growth in traditional retail and VLT.



Avg. growth in major revenues through FY 2025



% of major general fund revenues

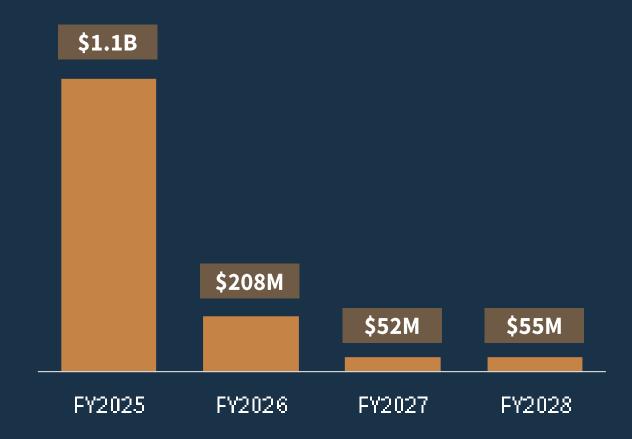




State's FY26 budget outlined a \$17.6B spending plan focused mainly on one-time investments.

- Transportation Investments
- One-time stipend for State Corrections Officers
- Childcare Investments
- Increasing the Business Personal Property Tax Exemption
- Pay raises for DPS, DFFM Firefighters

FY25 Budget as Enacted Projected Ending Balances





"State agencies told to limit budget requests due to looming federal funding cuts"

- AZ Capitol Times 8.20.25

"Hobbs seeks \$760 million from Trump administration for Arizona border security costs"

- AZ Mirror 7.31.25

"Arizona agencies request millions to fill the gaps left by federal funding cuts"

- AZ Capitol Times 9.20.25

"The legislature, particularly, has a lot of policy decisions to make over the next year to figure out how we're going to prioritize scarce resources"

- Ben Henderson, Director OSPB 10.9.25



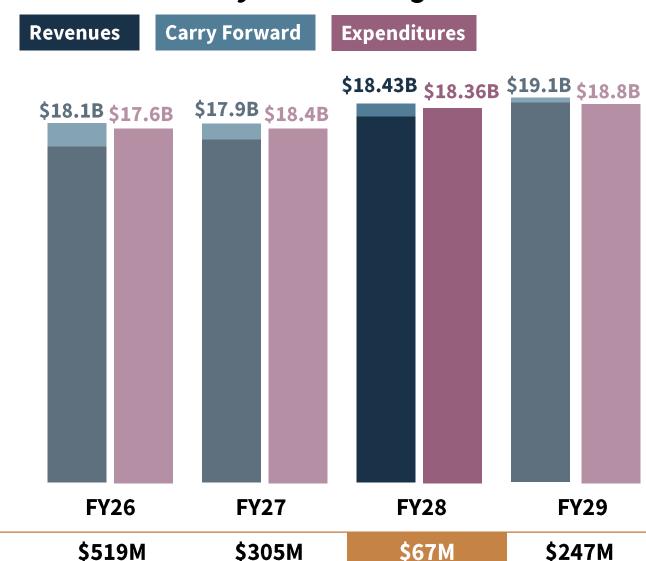
Each year's carryforward is used to balance the following year's budget.

Revenues alone not enough to cover projected spending.

Projected ending balance in FY28 is \$67M, represents ceiling for discretionary spending.

Ending Cash Balance

October FAC Projected Ending Balances





\$67M insufficient to cover key stress points:

"Ongoing one-time" costs – \$580M

• State employee health insurance subsidies

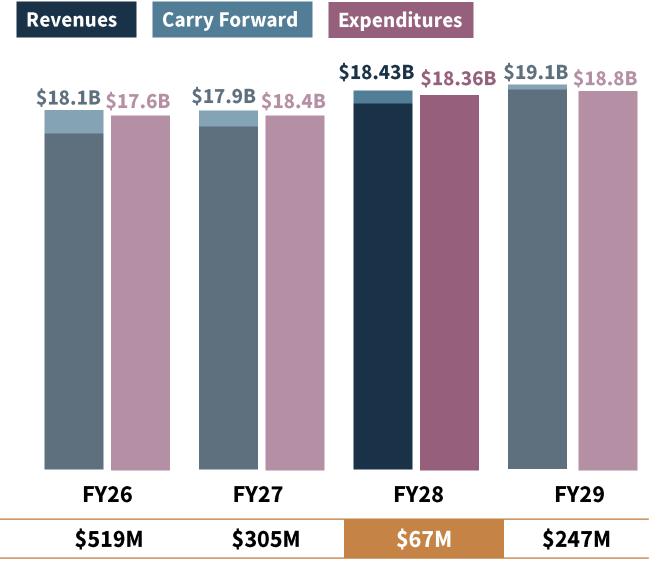
Ending Cash Balance

School facilities repairs

Impacts of H.R. 1 - **\$1.1B**

- Tax conformity (optional)
- SNAP
- Medicaid

October FAC Projected Ending Balances





BUDGET CONTEXT

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT (H.R. 1)

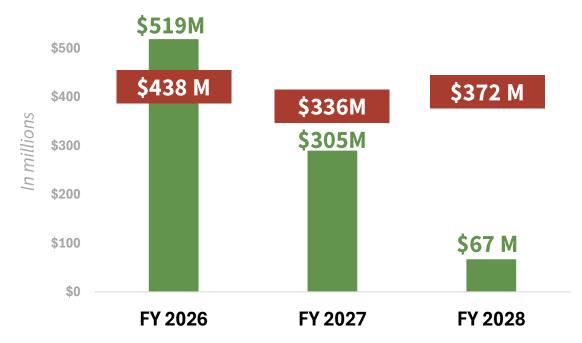
While H.R. 1 has **no direct mandates** on counties, several provisions **may have downstream impacts** on county budgets depending on how the state chooses to respond.

Tax Conformity

Arizona does not automatically conform to federal tax changes, the **Legislature would need to pass conforming legislation** to apply these changes at the state level

JLBC estimates a state General Fund cost of \$438 million in FY26 if the state chooses to conform; ongoing cost of over \$300M

FY 26 State Budget Ending Balance vs. Cost of Federal Tax Conformity FY 2026 - 2028





BUDGET CONTEXT

ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT (H.R. 1)

SNAP Adjustments

Increased state share of SNAP administrative costs from 50% to 75%

- **\$33 Million** in FY 2027
- \$44 Million in FY 2028

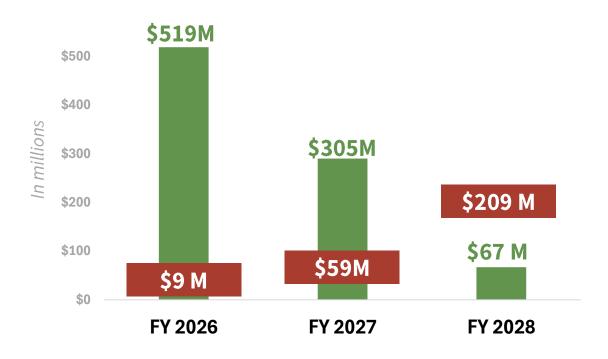
State cost sharing of benefits if error rate is 6% or higher

- \$139 Million in FY 2028 (based on state error rate from FY 2024)
- \$185 Million annually going forward
- DES has requested \$7.5M in FY26, and \$26.3 in FY 27 and FY28 to lower SNAP error rate

Expanded work requirements

• DES requested **\$1.8M** in FY26

FY 26 State Budget Ending Balance vs. Estimated Impact of SNAP Provisions FY 2026 - 2028





BUDGET CONTEXT

MEDICAID PROVISIONS

H.R. 1 also includes **several health-related provisions** that are expected to carry financial and administrative implications for the state, including **expanded work requirements, eligibility redeterminations, and provider tax limitations**.

Provider Tax Limitation:

- The bill lowers the federal "safe harbor" threshold for provider taxes from 6% to 3.5% by 2032
- Arizona currently assesses a 6% tax on providers to draw down additional federal dollars for Medicaid
- JLBC assumes AHCCCS will still be able to fund expansion population under limitation through Hospital Assessment Fund

6% Provider Tax \$1.5B expected FY26

Est. \$529M

Est. \$989M

Hospital Assessment Fund

- Covers state match for expansion pop.
- Statutory trigger: repeal of HAF and elim. of coverage if revenues insufficient

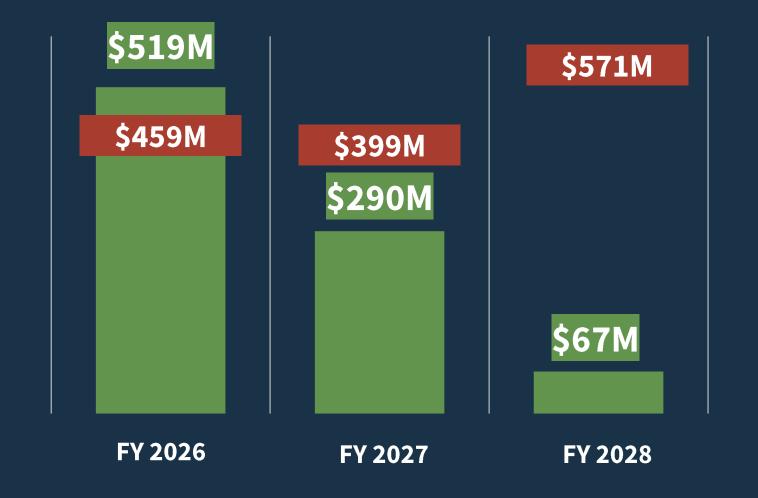
Health Care Investment Fund

 Increased payments to hospitals, physicians, dentists above current Medicaid reimbursement rates



TOTAL STATE IMPACT H.R. 1

FY 26 State Budget Ending Balance vs. Total Cost of H.R. 1 FY26 - 28





KEY FINANCIAL TAKEAWAYS

STATE

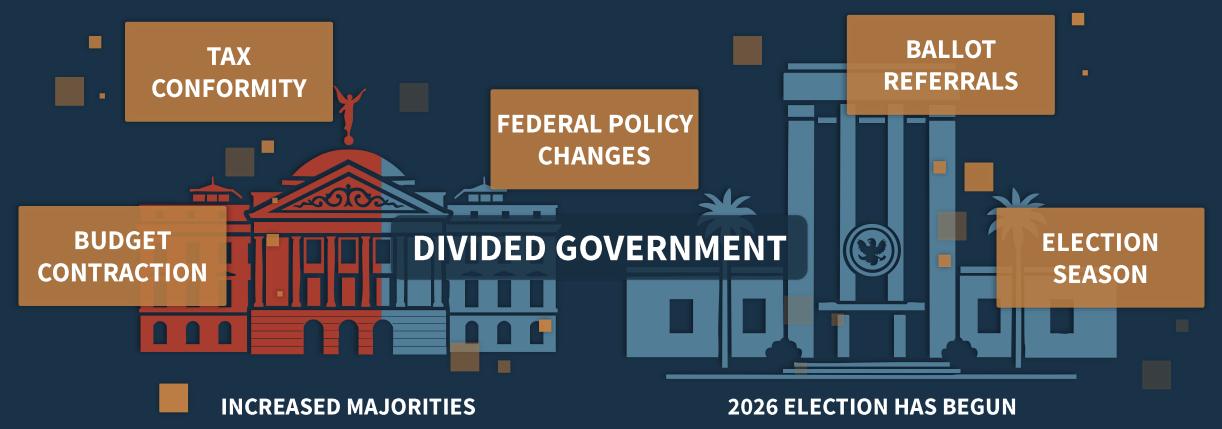
- Projected cash reserve gives state little room for new spending priorities.
- Slower state revenue growth insufficient to cover baseline spending, forcing state to rely on cash on hand.
- Federal legislation will add uncertainty and pressure to state budget lawmakers may need to consider spending cuts, offsets, or delayed initiatives to maintain positive cash balance.

COUNTY

- Inflationary pressures have eroded purchasing power.
- Counties rely heavily on property and sales taxes, which some legislators have indicated they want to reduce.
- State mandated costs, like ALTCS contributions, continue to put pressure on county finances.



LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

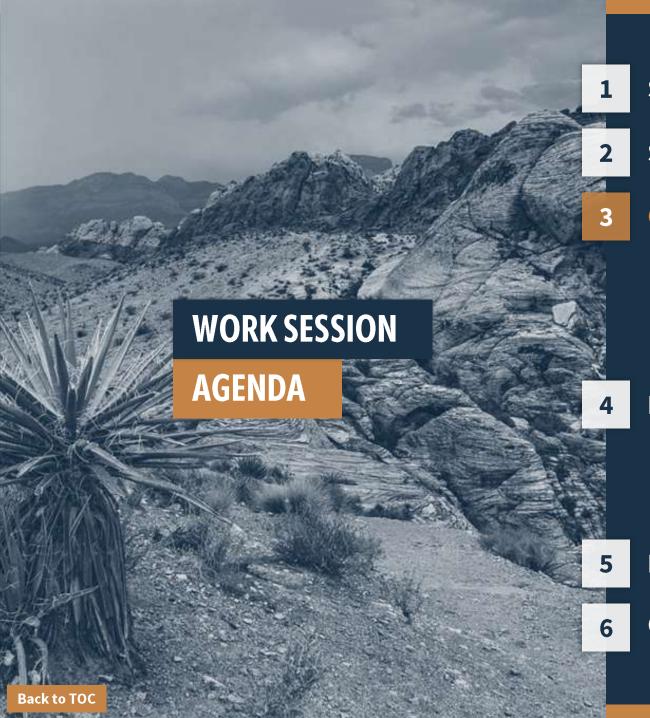


Senate: 17 R - 13 D

House: 33 R - 27 D

Governor & Attorney General will be hotly contested





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STATE-COUNTY PARTNERSHIP

ADOPTED RESOLUTION



APPRO

X

Lynne i Preside

Pinal Co

ATTEST

Craig A.

County

Resolution Number 1-25

A Resolution of the County Supervisors Association of Arizona Affirming its Dedication to Providing Quality Analysis and Feedback to Inform State Policy Deliberations Affecting Limited Local Tax Dollars and Constituent Services, and Respectfully Requesting a Collaborative Partnership Between State and County Governments for the Benefit of Our Shared Constituents.

WHEREAS, county governments are established by the Arizona Constitution, and state law mandates they provide essential services at the local, regional level to all Arizonans, and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Constitution establishes locally elected county officials to oversee and implement these state mandated services, and

WHEREAS, county supervisors in partnership with other county elected officials are dedicated to providing efficient, high-quality services to constituents, and

WHEREAS, within the confines of state law, county supervisors are elected to oversee county operations and to act as the legislative body for the county, and

WHEREAS, chief among the boards of supervisors' responsibilities is to manage local taxpayer resources by adopting the county budget and setting county tax rates, and

WHEREAS, county finances are bound by Constitutional and statutory restrictions, and cost drivers within county operations are heavily influenced by legislative and judicial policy decisions, and

WHEREAS, as administrative arms of state government, county roles and responsibilities are outlined in state law, and

WHEREAS, this statutory connection requires counties to seek legislative action to address policies affecting efficient and responsive service delivery at the local level, and

WHEREAS, this statutory connection also means that hundreds of legislative proposals introduced each year have direct implications on limited local resources and county services, and

WHEREAS, county officials seek to support informed decision-making by providing state policy-makers with analysis and feedback regarding how implementation of legislative proposals may affect local tax dollars and constituent services, and

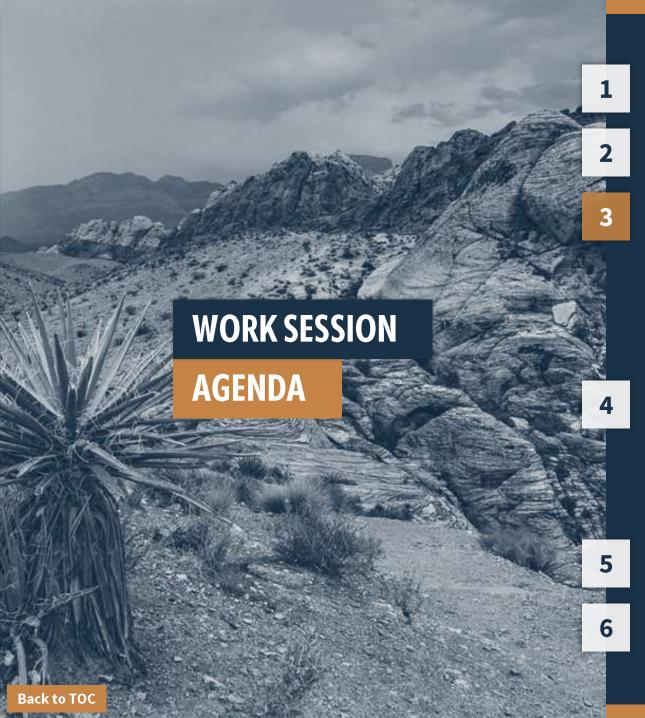
WHEREAS, a strong partnership and collaboration between county elected officials and state policy makers will promote principles of good government and improved service to constituents, and

WHEREAS, dating back to at least Feb 10, 1913, locally elected county supervisors, first as the Associated Boards of Supervisors and now as the County Supervisors Association, have partnered to forget this important collaboration with elected state leadership.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the County Supervisors Association of Arizona hereby:

Declares the Association's commitment to providing high quality analysis to inform state leaders' deliberations of proposed policies that impact county operations, responsiveness to constituents, and limited local resources, and

Respectfully requests state law-makers partner and collaborate with county officials regarding pending legislation in order to promote efficient, high-quality state-mandated services at the regional level.



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"The judicial power shall be vested in an **integrated judicial department** consisting of a supreme court, such intermediate appellate courts as may be provided by law, a superior court, such courts inferior to the superior court as may be provided by law, and justice courts."

Arizona Constitution, Article IV, Sec. 1

"In general ... there is **only one superior court** in the state of Arizona."

State v. Flemming (1995)



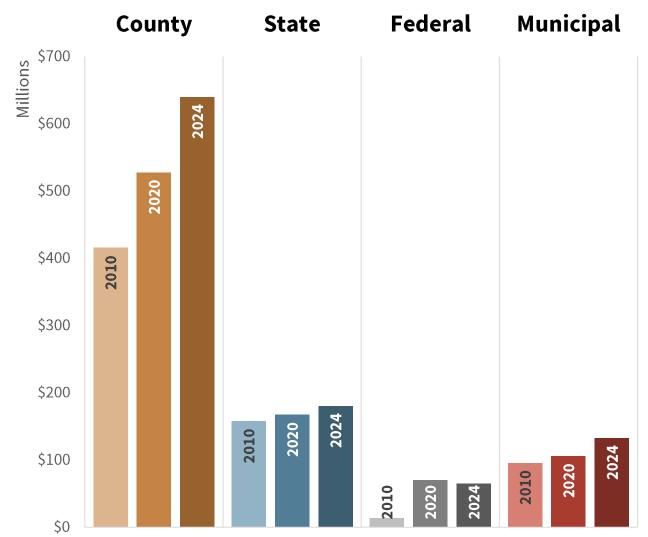
FUNDING PARTNERSHIP CHALLENGES

No clear cost-sharing structure between the state and counties for superior and justice court funding.

According to AOC reports, **counties** have born most of the increase in funding for the courts.

Arizona Court Funding

FY 2010, FY 2020, FY 2024



Source: Administrative Office of the Courts, Total Court Spending & Share of Court Spending, Court Expenditures Dashboard

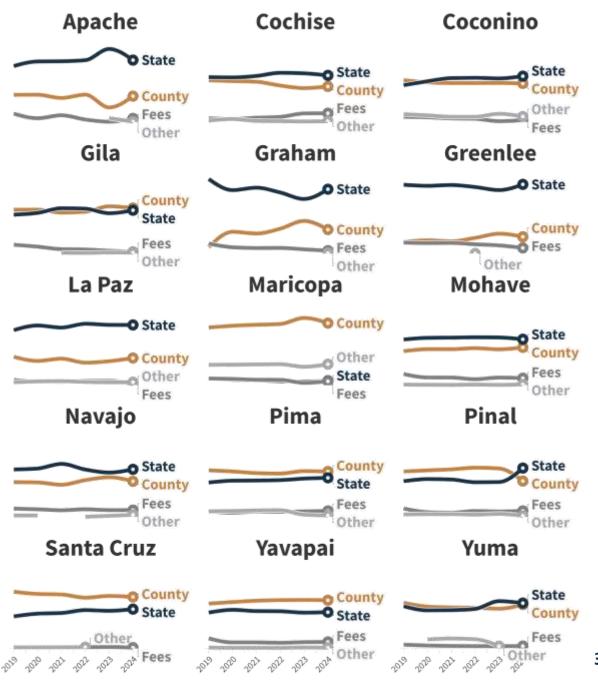


PROBATION FUNDING

Share of Probation Funding FY 2019 to FY 2024

Outside of Maricopa, state funds approximately half of probation costs.

- Maricopa County funds probation without state support, in exchange for offsets in other costs
- State primarily funds case-carrying officers
- State-county cost share varies across counties



PROBATION FUNDING BACKGROUND

ARS §12-252 & § 8-203 **require BOS to set salary ranges** of probation department personnel, on recommendation of the presiding judge.

Prior to FY 2022, state would provide supplemental funding for adjustments for state-funded officers.

Pre-funding policy begins.

2.5% increases funded.

Legislature authorized 10% for DPS, 5% for DOC.

AOC indicated sufficient funds for BOS approved adjustments.

Pre-funding continued.

2.5% increases pre-funded.

Legislature provided double-digit adjustments for other public safety functions.

One-time federal funds used to cover remaining state funding obligation.

Pre-funding language removed.

NO increases pre-funded.

State provided \$6.7M *one-time* to cover FY 2023 adjustments.

NO increases pre-funded.

State provided **no funds** for prior adjustments – Governor **backfilled with one-time federal funds**.

FY23

FY22

FY24



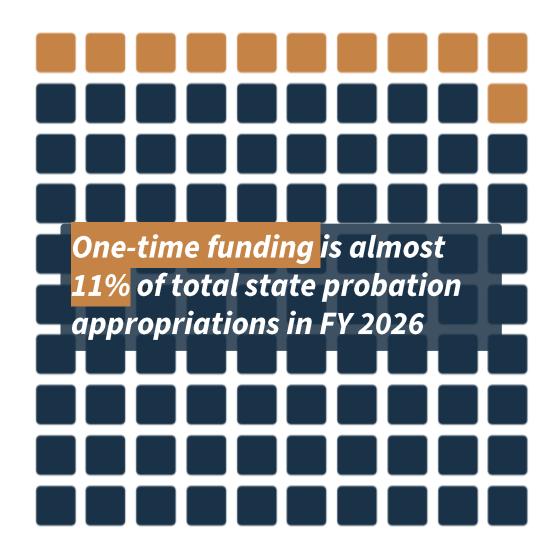
COURT BUDGET REQUEST

FY 2026 State Funding for Probation

One-time Federal Funds State General Fund Appropriations

AOC FY 2027 State Budget Request: \$10.4M

- Maintain existing salaries for probation officers
- Equivalent to 129 PO positions (of 275 non-Maricopa case carrying POs)
- Cited morale challenges with ongoing uncertainty around state funding
- Could result in fewer individuals on probation, more revoked to prison



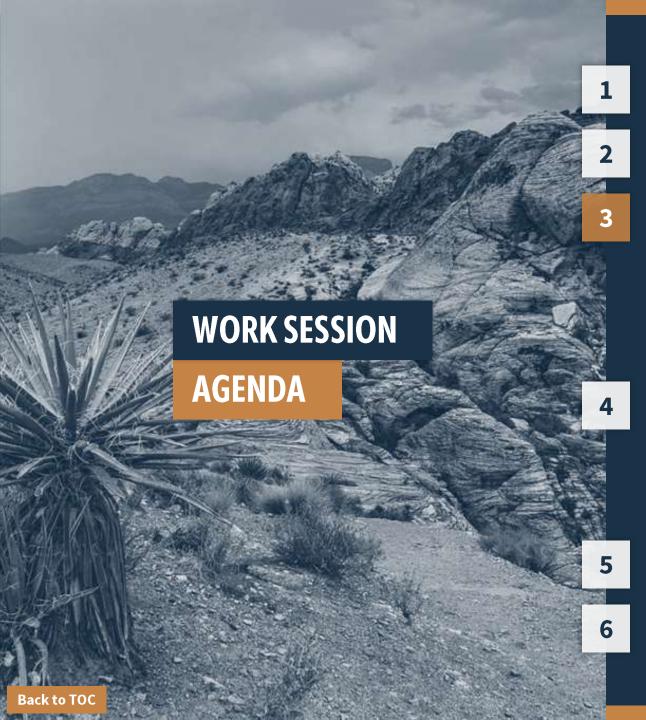
COURT FUNDING

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CSA calls on State Lawmakers and the Administrative Office of the Courts to:

- Provide sufficient ongoing state funding for probation officer salaries in FY 2027 without shifting additional burden to the county general fund, and
- Implement policies that effectuate greater state support for the court system, particularly in areas where state policy choices are driving additional costs, and
- Improve the efficient deployment of taxpayer resources, and
- Find a sustainable funding solution for the judiciary that works for the counties, the state, and the courts.





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TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

SOURCES

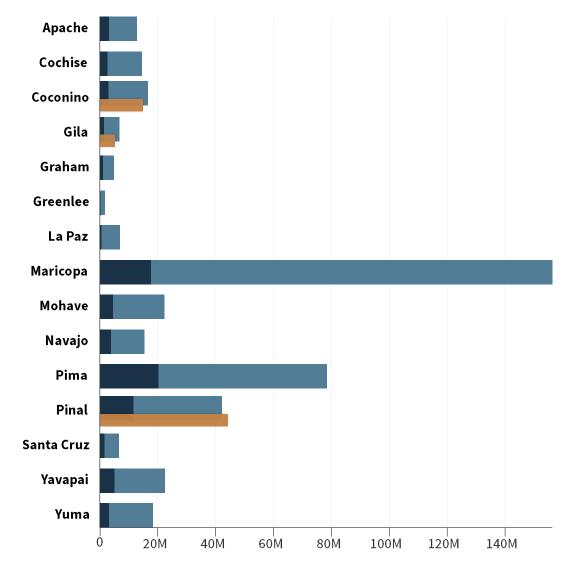
Counties primarily fund maintenance of local roads through:

- Highway User Revenue Fund
- Vehicle License Taxes
- Local Excise Tax for Roads

Other local funding structures, like those levied by Regional Transportation Authorities (RTA) also exist.

Counties do receive some federal and state grants for roadway infrastructure, but funding isn't consistent/ongoing.

FY 2025 Collections or Distributions to Counties for Transportation Funding

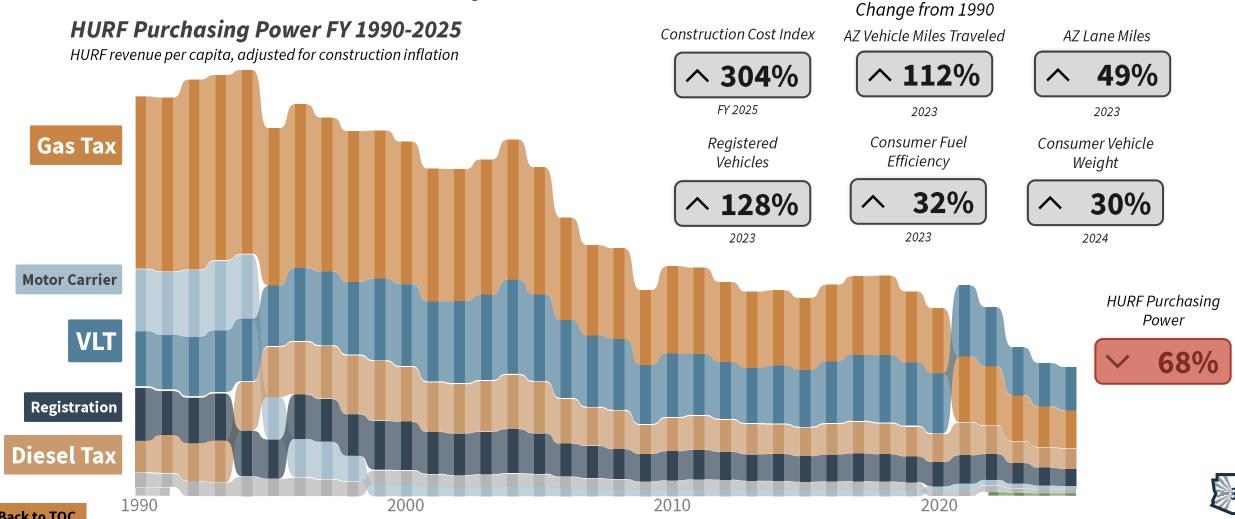




TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

PURCHASING POWER

HURF per capita purchasing power is just 32% of what it was in 1990, the last time Arizona's fuel tax was adjusted.



ROAD USER TAXES & FEES

NATIONAL COMPARATORS

Arizona's fuel tax is 18 cents per gallon.

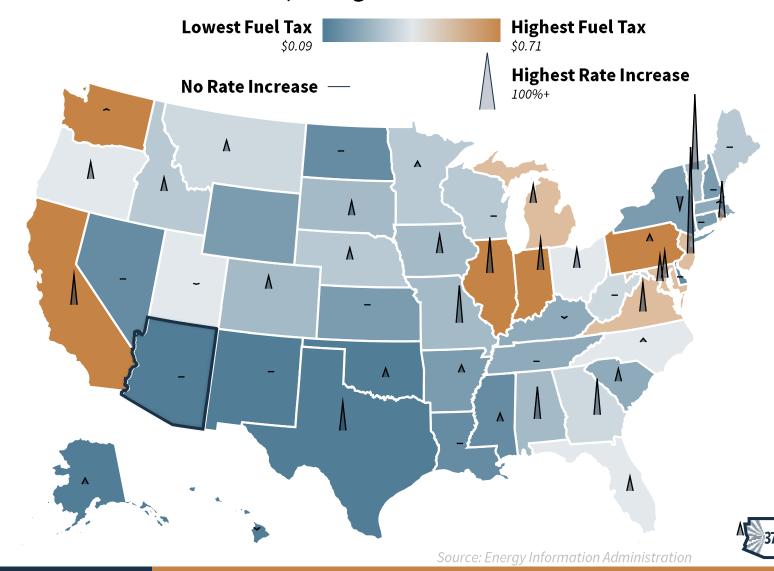
- **Bottom 10%** of state fuel taxes
- Additional 1 cent for underground storage (19 cents total).

Nationwide, average state fuel tax is \$32.6 cents per gallon.

Arizona's fuel tax has not been increased in 35 years.

 Since just 2015, 36 states have increased fuel taxes or fees.

State Fuel Taxes & Fees; Change since 2015



ROAD USER TAXES & FEES

NATIONAL COMPARATORS

41 states currently charge additional fees on plug-in electric vehicles.

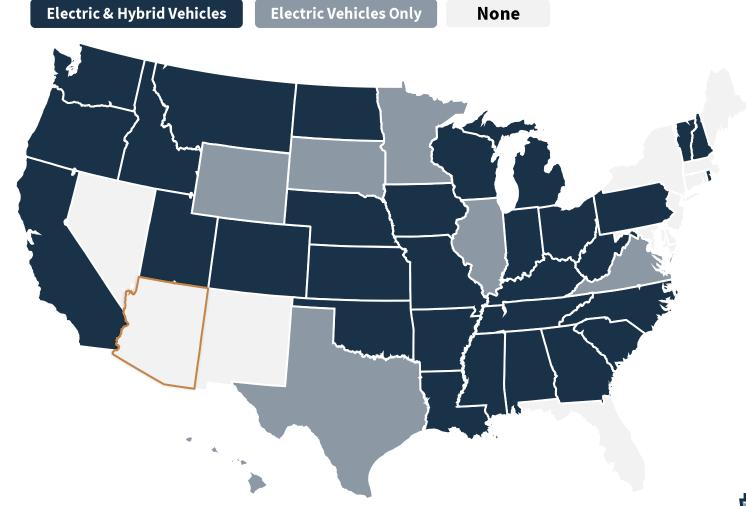
34 assess on plug-in hybrids

Variety of different fee types including:

- Fixed fee amounts
- Fee based on fuel efficiency
- Inflation-adjusted fee amounts
- Fee tied to gas tax rate

Since FY 2021, number of electric vehicles registered in Arizona has **increased by more than 3x**

States with Additional Fees on Electric & Hybrid Vehicles





ROADWAY NEEDS

STATEWIDE PICTURE

County & state roadway needs are substantial.

Most recent estimate was a \$2.2 billion funding gap for county infrastructure over 10 years.

Construction inflation in recent years has likely made this more acute.



STATEWIDE PICTURE

Infrastructure is degrading, roadway funding needs are growing.

Statewide, lane miles in poor condition more than doubled (+125%) from 2019 to 2023.

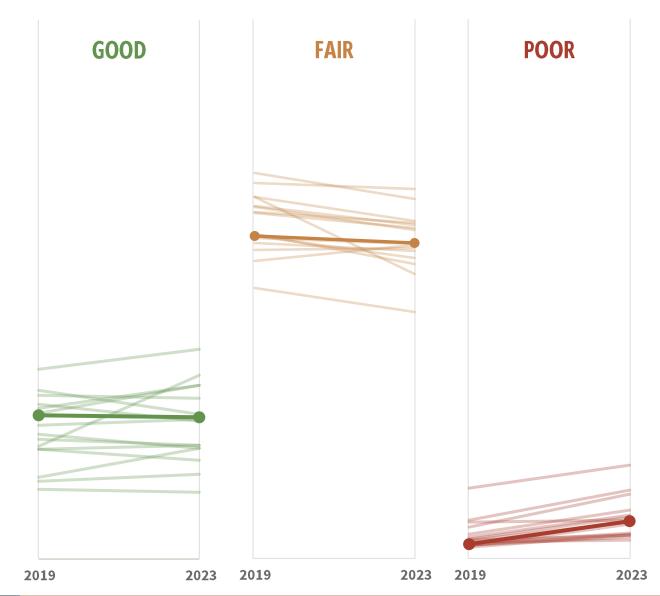
• Share of total lane miles increase to ~7%

ADOT estimates shortfall of \$112B for transportation infrastructure, \$162B total through 2050

Arizona Pavement Conditions

Share of Total Lane Miles; 2019 to 2023 by County

ADOT Highway Performance Monitoring Data



FUNDING OPTIONS

Gas & Use Fuel Taxes



County Road Excise Tax





50% to pass

\$-\$\$

Vehicle License Tax or other state fees



Regional Transportation Excise Tax

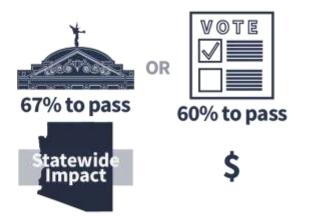




50% to pass

\$-\$\$

New: Alt. Fuel Tax Parity



Road Improvement Districts Property Tax Levy





50% to pass

\$



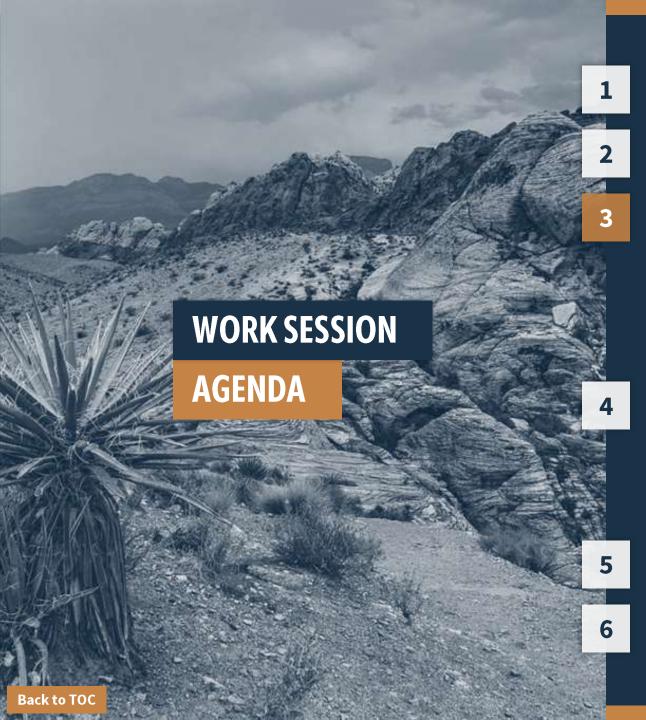
TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

CSA urges the Governor and Arizona State Legislature to:

- Identify and implement a long-term funding solution for statewide transportation needs, including establishing fuel tax parity with alternative fuel vehicles, and
- Allocate any additional one-time resources using existing distribution mechanisms for transportation funding, and
- Oppose the reduction or diversion of existing transportation revenues.





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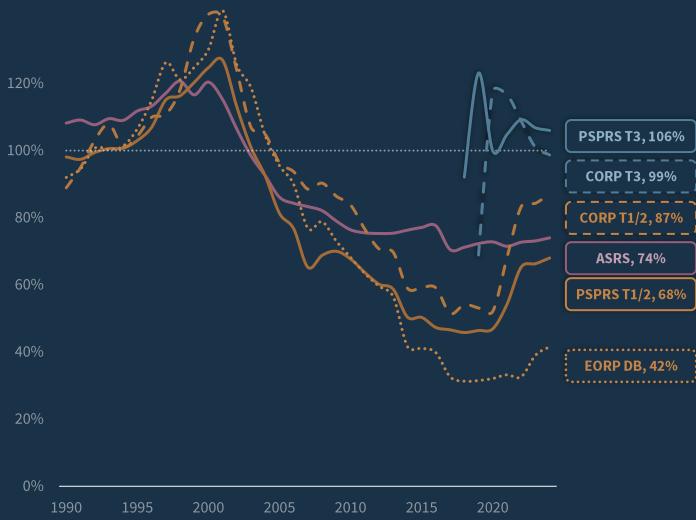
WHY IT MATTERS

Plan design, decisions by lawmakers & prior System, & investment performance caused plan to deteriorate

- County contribution rates increased by 5x.
- Crowded out other investments, like salary adjustments, given tight revenue environment during recession.

Plan Funded Status

1990 to 2024, Year of Actuarial Valuation





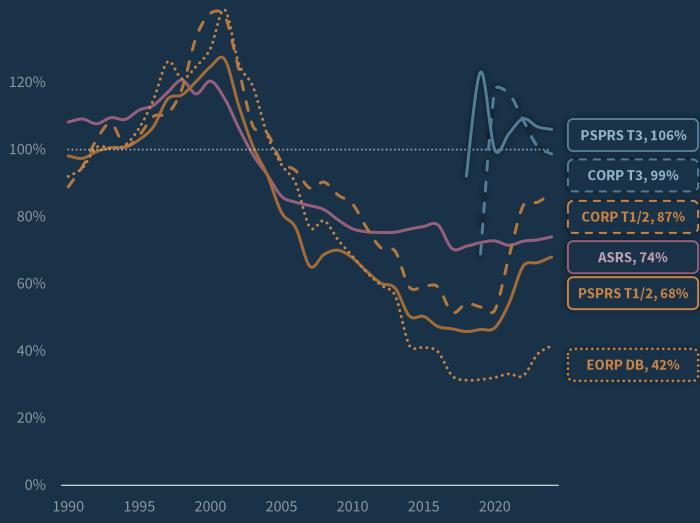
WHY IT MATTERS

Actions by local government employers, pension reform stabilized system & reduced taxpayer cost

- Employers deposited almost \$5.8B to reduce unfunded liabilities
- Counties made \$1.2B in additional contributions, mostly financed through bonding

Plan Funded Status

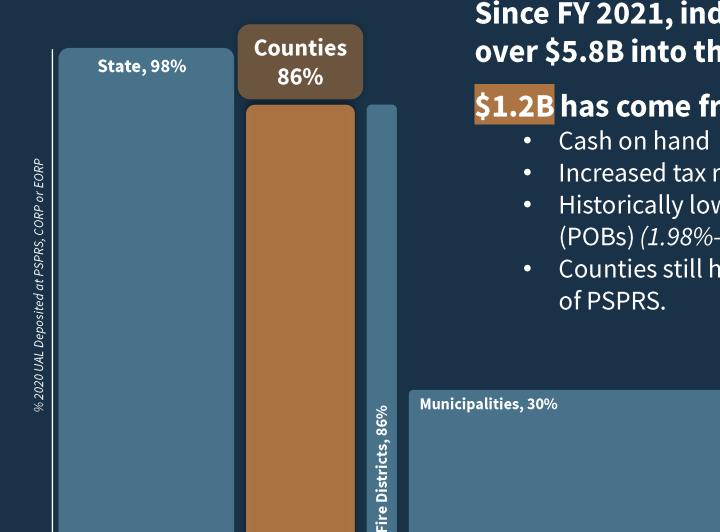
1990 to 2024, Year of Actuarial Valuation





POST-REFORM

ADDRESSING LEGACY DEBT



Since FY 2021, individual employers have deposited over \$5.8B into the PSPRS and CORP systems.

\$1.2B has come from 15 counties using:

- Increased tax rates
- Historically low interest rate pension obligation bonds (POBs) (1.98%-2.98%)
- Counties still hold over \$630M in pension debt outside

EORP, 9% Other. Courts, 10% 0%

PENSION CHANGES CSA POLICY LENS

Key County Perspective

- Counties still carry almost \$1.0B in pension debt through POBs, remaining UAL.
 - Not including ~\$1B in pooled plan UAL
- Pension benefits are irrevocable once extended; policies should be considered carefully.
- Want to efficiently deploy limited taxpayer resources to most effective tools for specific issues.
- Pensions are a very broad, blunt tool to address workforce challenges.

CSA Pension Modification Evaluation Framework

- 1. Is this the appropriate policy solution to this problem? Are there other policy avenues that should be evaluated?
- 2. Is there a demonstrable taxpayer value?
- 3. What is the funding mechanism? Is it sustainable long-term?
- 4. Are their potential cost drivers that may cause long-term issues with providing the benefit?



PUBLIC SAFETY PENSIONS

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

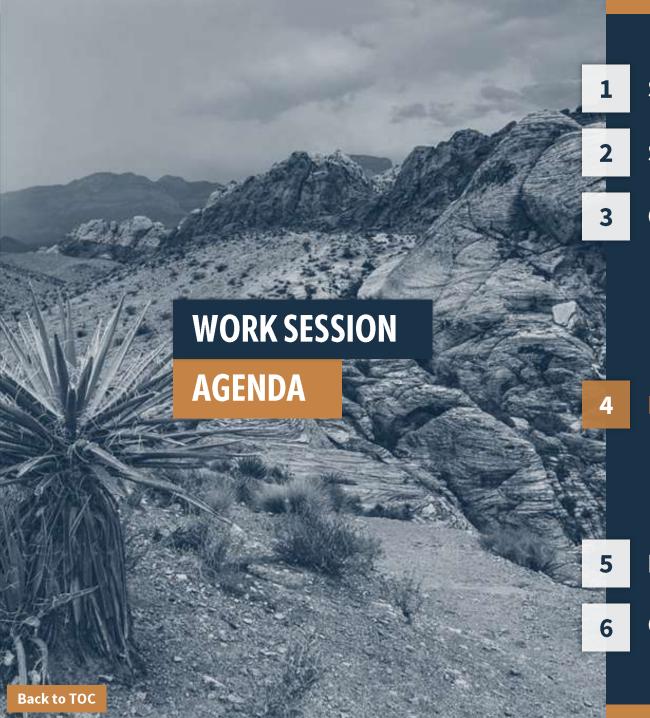
CSA urges the PSPRS Board of Trustees to:

- Continue to work with stakeholders on changes that may allow for reduced repayment costs of the System's pooled plans, and
- Utilize the Advisory Committee to perform data driven analysis of proposed changes with all system stakeholders, and

CSA respectfully requests the Arizona State Legislature and Governor:

- Exercise restraint in enacting policies that increase costs or reduce contributions into the system without a clearly defined problem and demonstrable benefit to taxpayers, and
- Protect the structure created through pension reform to control costs, specifically the 50/50 contribution sharing and the requirement to fully fund any new benefits when enacted.





Summit Process Overview

State & County Financial Context

Coalition Priorities

- State County Partnership
- Provide Sufficient State Funding for the Courts
- Increase Investment in Transportation Infrastructure
- Protect Investments in Public Safety Pensions

Research Report & Projects

- Detention Retention & Recruitment Study Briefing
- 2025 Workplan Update
- 2026 Workplan Projects

Emerging Issues

County Submitted Proposals

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Employee Behavior

Statewide Trends: No consistent pattern in hiring, terminations, or headcount

FY24: 12 counties hired more staff than they lost

Short Tenure: Only ~30% of FY18 & FY19 hires remained after 4 years

Retirement: Few retirements, even under CORP Tier 1

Comparison: DB cohort stayed longer than DC overall, but reversed in Maricopa & DOC

Transfers: ~25% of exits moved to other state/local government public safety, primarily local law enforcement roles

Recruitment

Career Path: Seen as a steppingstone to law enforcement, but interest exists

Messaging: Messaging, imagery matters. Could be improved & shared best practices

Attractors: Helping others and perceived compensation boost interest

Detractors: Stress and job danger reduce appeal

Compensation: Salary, bonuses, and retirement income matter more than retirement plan design

Difference: Recruits and current officers differ in retirement plan importance

Retention

Satisfaction: Officers generally satisfied, but less so with compensation and staffing levels

Culture & Leadership: County cultures and leadership styles vary—and impact retention

Training: Standardized programs and shared best practices may help

Retirement: Loss of DB was substantial issue for those surveyed & interviewed

Mental Health: Noted strain from role, poor staffing levels

Second Class: Employees perceived being treated as lesser than other public safety jobs

MEMBER DATA FINDINGS STAFFING CHANGES

Staffing changes improved in FY 2024 and half of counties saw increases in staffing since FY 2018.

Net Change in Staffing FY18 to FY24

7 counties Staffing **increase**

- 3 hired at a rate that exceeded high exit rate (Graham, Santa Cruz, La Paz)
- 2 show substantial increase in hiring at end of the data period (Yavapai, Pima)
- 1 able to **decrease in turnover** in recent years (Navajo)
- 1 consistently had **hires** matching or exceeding departures (Yuma)

6 counties Staffing **decrease**

- 2 had **moderate-high turnover** with hires not quite matching departures (Apache, Cochise)
- 3 showed **recent growth**, but not enough to offset significant declines during COVID (Coconino, Gila, Mohave)
- Maricopa trend is different turnover rates are generally low, but hiring remained substantially lower than pre-COVID

1 county No change

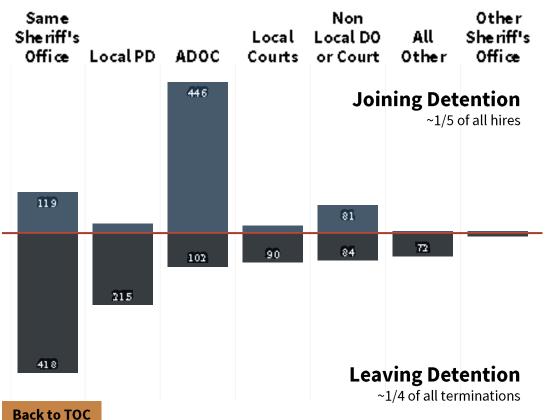
• One county had no net change; hiring generally matched departures (Pinal)



MEMBER DATA FINDINGS EMPLOYEE BEHAVIOR

Most common transfer out to same county sheriff's office or local PD; most common transfer in from Dept. of Corrections.

Figure 17a. Out-migration and in-migration moves statewide between detention agencies and other PSPRS/CORP data agencies.



Some evidence that county DC members left sooner than DB counterparts, but opposite true for DOC.

All personnel, regardless of plan tend to leave quickly – only 30% employed after 4 years.

Comparison Strong DB Neutral Strong DC Benefit Benefi	retainen	Statistical Power
ALL COUNTIES FY18 DB v. FY19 DC	DB	Medium
ALL COUNTIES <i>FY18 DB v. FY19-21 DC</i> 29.5%	DB	High
MARICOPA ONLY FY18 DB v. FY19 DC	DC	Low
NON-MARICOPA COUNTIES FY18 DB v. FY19 DC 19.3%	DB	High
DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS FY18 DB v. FY19 DC	DC	High
DEPT. OF CORRECTIONS FY18 DB v. FY19-21 DC	DC	High

Table 6b: Summary of models examining the impacts of the DB vs. DC plan change



Graun



- Staffing levels are improving in FY 2024
 - About 50/50 for counties above/below FY 2018 headcounts
 - 12 of 14 counties saw hiring exceed exits in FY
 2024
- Hiring is rebounding after COVID-slump in most, but not all, counties
- Turnover is common across counties, but turnover rates vary considerably within and across counties by year
- About 3/4 of terminations don't rejoin another PSPRS/CORP agency
 - Retirements are rare (outliers in Maricopa & Pinal)
 - Remainder go to other agencies, primarily law enforcement
 - Dominated by movements to same Sheriff's Office
- Demographics haven't shifted consistently across the state

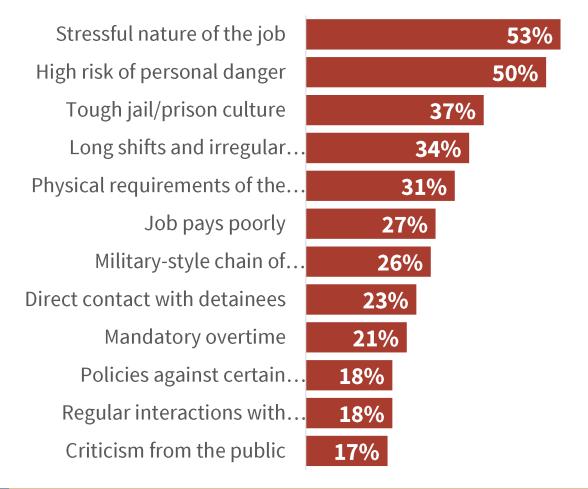
RECRUITMENT FINDINGS DRAWS & DETRACTIONS

Perception of compensation, opportunity to help were all factors that increased interest in the work.

Table CC: Top Ten Factors Supporting Interest in a Detention Center Officer Career

Opportunity to help people 28% Job pays well 28% 27% Job security Early retirement 26% Opportunities for promotion 26% 24% Opportunity to solve problems Potential for bonus pay 22% To have a challenging career 20% To help rehabilitate criminals 19% To be a role model for others... 18% Excitement of the work 17% Minimal prior experience or... **15%**

Safety, stressful nature of the profession are primary detractors from interest in field.





RECRUITMENT FINDINGS INTERVIEWS

Interviewees

- **47** Sheriffs and local government leaders
- 43 current detention officers
- 32 former detention officers

Overlooked and Undervalued Labor

- Work is demanding and dangerous in stressful, often understaffed, environments.
- Felt that they received little recognition or support from leadership or the public.
- The physical and emotional toll, along with limited personal time and long shifts, further discourages potential recruits.

Barriers in the Hiring Process

- Application process regarded as lengthy, rigid, and excessively complex.
- Factors like polygraphs, background checks, and disqualifications due to prior conduct (e.g., drug use)

Negative and Unclear Public Perception of the Work

- Stigma associated with detention officer work
- Leads to a sense of being undervalued by both the public and sworn law enforcement officers, contributing to low morale and recruitment challenges.



RECRUITMENT FINDINGS INTERVIEWS

Inadequate Compensation

Felt that the pay for detention officers is still inadequate, when compared to roles in the public and private sectors.

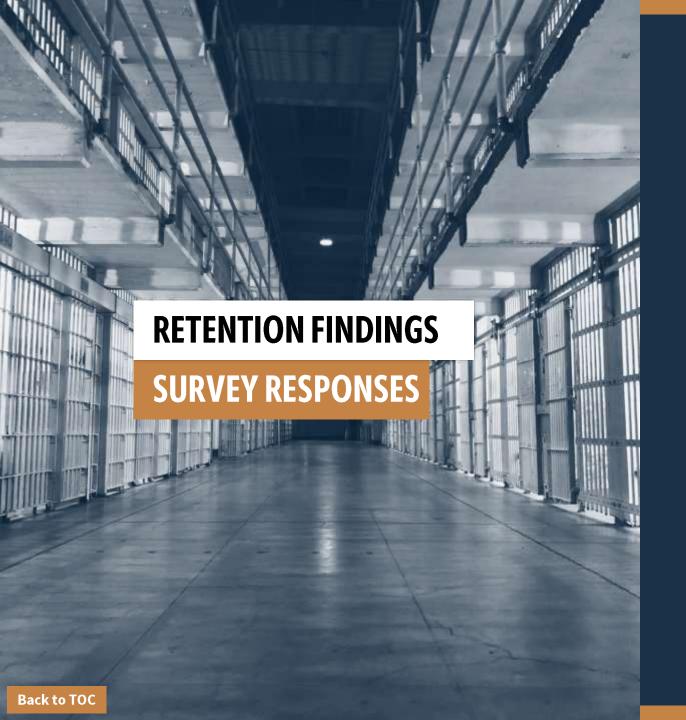
Loss of Pension as a Deterrent

- Argued that shifting from a DB to DC significantly diminished the appeal of careers.
- Eliminates a key incentive that previously drew in long-term employees.

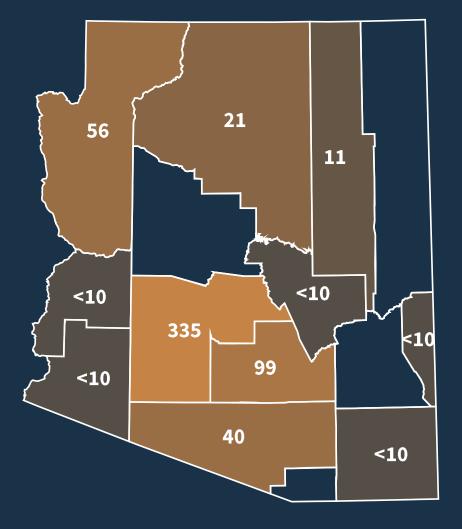
Policy & Practice Needs

- Engaging with the current generation of recruits: updating messaging about the work and benefits
- Streamlining personnel processes
- Support from leadership, including compensation & benefits





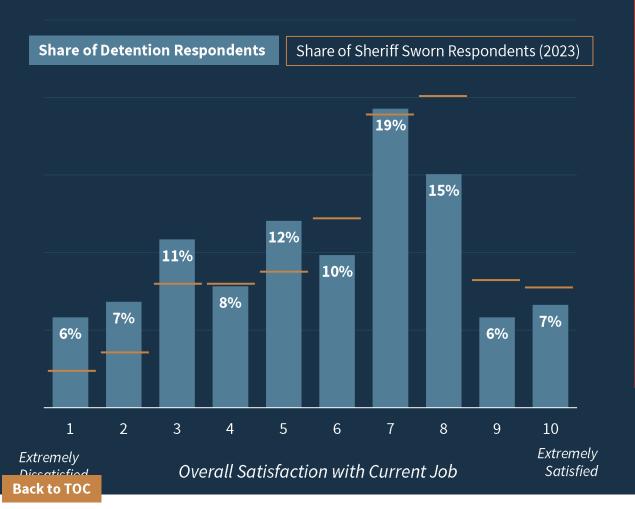
Over 600 current detention employees responded to survey, from 11 counties.



RETENTION FINDINGS JOB SATISFACTION

Current detention employees express moderate to high job satisfaction

Figure AA: Job Satisfaction (1 to 10 Scale)



Satisfaction with job aspects varied; less satisfied with compensation than in-kind



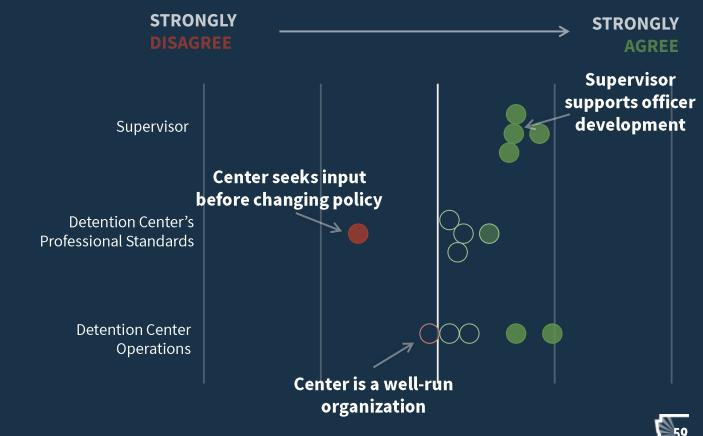
RETENTION FINDINGS

WELL-BEING & CULTURE

Detention work taking a toll on officers despite officer values, ambitions and perception positivity.

Figure SS: Officers' Emotional and Mental Well-being **STRONGLY STRONGLY DISAGREE AGREE Emotionally Drained Burned Out from Work Job Emotionally Numbing** Difficult to Work with People All Day I Make a Positive Difference Mostly Socialize with Coworkers

Figure OO through RR: Officers' Sentiments about Supervisors, Professional Standards and Department Operations



RETENTION FINDINGS

INTERVIEWS

Benefits of Job but Mental Health Challenges

- Meaningful engagement with incarcerated individuals
- Provides law enforcement skills, steppingstone in career
- Camaraderie with colleagues
- Understaffing/overwork primary reasons for burnout

Structural Imbalances and Issues

- Officers site pay disparity with other public safety as reason for leaving
- Lack of advancement opportunities make officers more likely to leave
- Uncompetitive compensation with other low-skilled jobs
- Small organizations have more camaraderie but less upward mobility and vice-versa with larger organizations



SHARED CHALLENGES JOB OFFER CHARACTERISTICS

Impact of hypothetical pension amount or salary adjustment is similar but cost to implement is

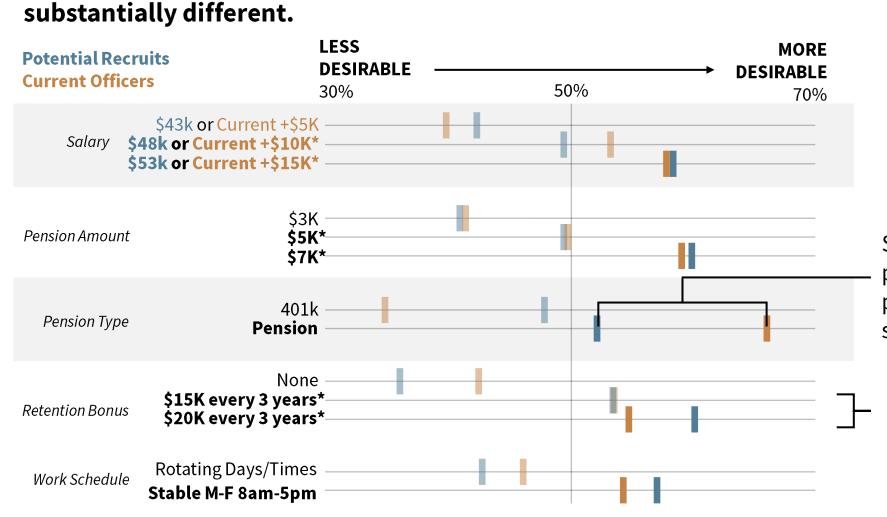


Figure DDD: Current Officers Hypothetical Job Offer Selection (MM) Figure HHH: Recruitment Survey Hypothetical Job Offer Selection (MM)

Substantial difference between potential recruits & current DO perspective on importance of pension structure.

Larger retention bonuses appealed to potential recruits, even more than max offered salary.



SHARED CHALLENGES

Public Perception

Employees neutral and potential recruits more positive on public perception

- Some disconnect between two
- Messaging about the job needed to focus more on availability of job openings, positive aspects of the job instead of just compensation

Financial Education and Planning

DOs need to understand whatever retirement they have better and how to maximize

 Naturally people will lean toward making money in the short-term

Training Opportunities

Training is a draw for both new recruits and a retention tool for showing investment in DOs careers

Rural Needs Different

Affordable housing as well as the lack of hospitals, stores and entertainment make the career harder to sell

 Long commutes to work because of house prices in some communities

Pension Loss and Disincentives

- DO sentiment that loss of pension shows lack of value
- Hard to do the job for 20-25 years and beyond advanced age
- Leaders comments about dangling carrot hurt prospect of people making detention a career.
- Leaders said loss of pension was a shared challenge to both retention and recruitment



DETENTION STUDY

KEY TAKEAWAYS

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Statewide Trends: No consistent pattern in hiring, terminations, or headcount

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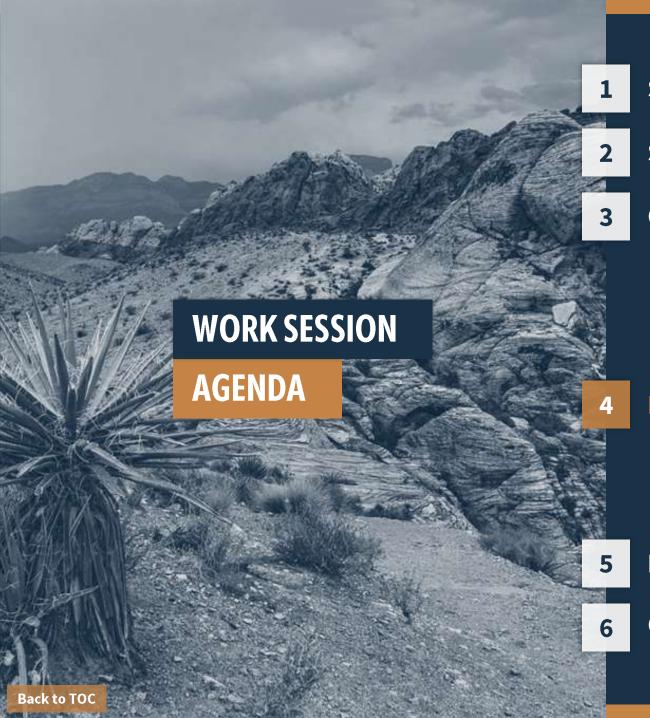
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County Submitted Proposals





Purpose

• Support CSA's goal to develop and disseminate high-quality research & analysis to inform state and local decision-making.

Ongoing Priorities

- Develop materials & tools on key county issues
- Expand capacity through university partnerships
- Maintain strategic engagements

FY 2025 RESEARCH & DATA METRICS

8M DATA POINTS ADDED

6 DATA TOOLS MAINTAINED

25+ DOCUMENTS PRODUCED

2 RESEARCH GRANTS MANAGED

12 SURVEYS CONDUCTED

6 RESEARCH REPORTS PUBLISHED



2025 RESEARCH WORKPLAN

ONGOING & PRIOR PROJECTS

- **PSPRS Engagement:** Ongoing appointment of new administrator, assumption changes, legislative proposals
- Broadband Deployment: Engaged during final proposal development, permitting during deployment
- **Federal Monitoring:** Ongoing NACo engagement & evaluation of federal policy changes
 - Interactive County Profiles: Available on CSA's website
- **Expenditure Limit Resource Guide:** Updated for 2024 Elections, available on CSA's website
- Public Safety Retention & Recruitment: Research concluded, stakeholder report distributed



2025 RESEARCH WORKPLAN

PROJECT UPDATES

- Resource Guides: Levy Limit Overview; BOS Role in Property Tax, special districts complete
- CSA Capacity & Website: Website & brand redesign complete; budget data under development
- Department Metrics: Public works metric in development with working group
- County Central Services Matrix: Complete, available on CSA's website
- County Mandated Healthcare Payments: Monitoring federal context; expanding ALTCS dashboard
- **Procurement Model:** Draft report complete, full report Winter 2025
- **Detention Study:** Report complete, final report available November 2025
- Construction Bid Market Failure: Pilot study fall 2025



RESOURCES ON COUNTIES

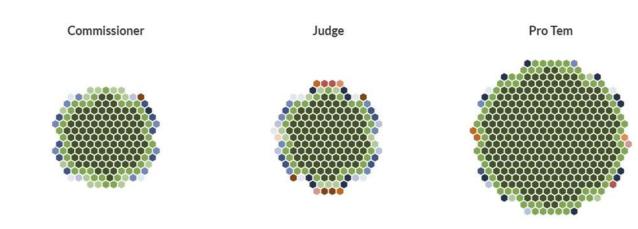
COURTS

www.countysupervisors.org/courts

Superior Court Policies & Funding Survey

- Insights into policies & practices across courts operating locally.
- Executive summary visualized for high-level takeaways
- Detailed survey responses for specific policy comparisons







RESOURCES ON COUNTIES

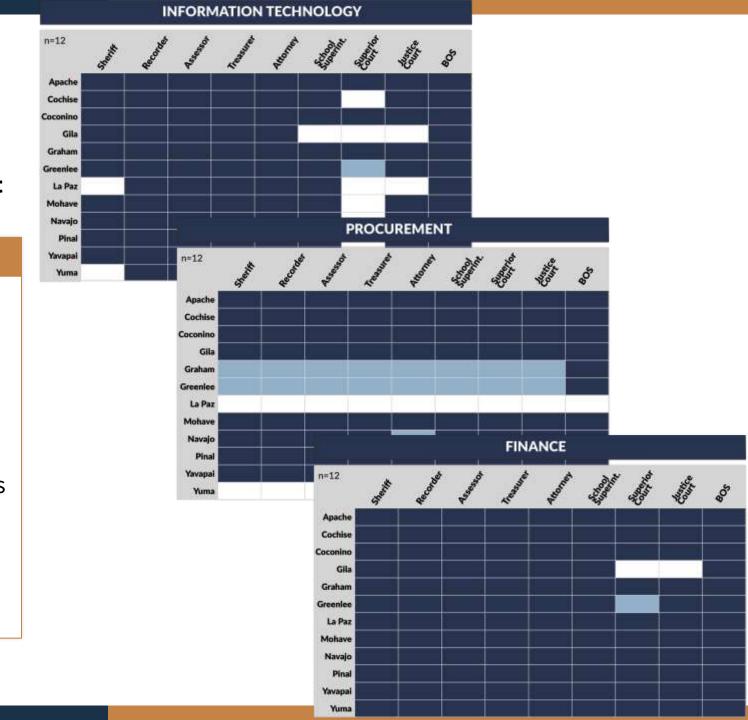
OPERATIONS

www.countysupervisors.org/general-government

Central Services Matrix

(12 counties responded)

- Resource on how county offices do or don't utilize consolidated administrative services like HR, procurement, IT
- Most county offices (Recorders, Assessors, Treasurers, etc.) use centralized admin functions, with some procurement exceptions
- Benefits: Cost savings, efficiency, standardization, and skilled talent
- Perceived Challenges: Possible service delays and concerns over control/trust



RESOURCES ON COUNTIES

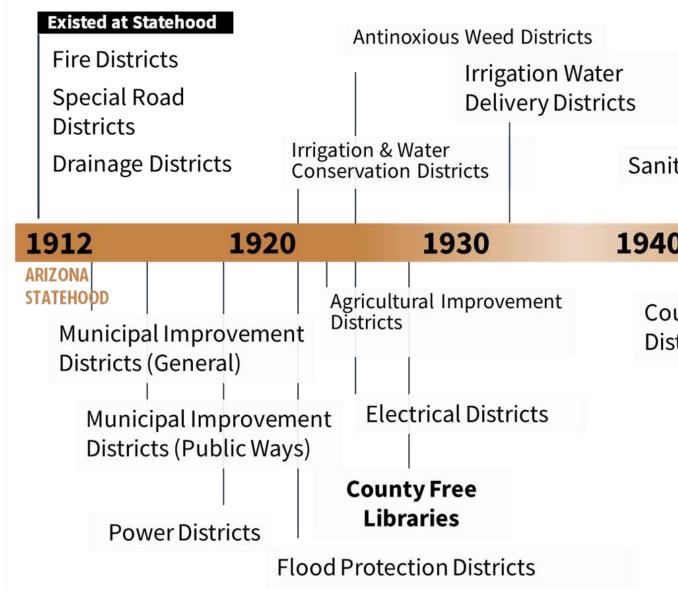
SPECIAL DISTRICTS

www.countysupervisors.org/budgets-taxes

Special Districts Overview

- Matrix on Title 48 and all BOS-controlled countywide special districts
- Outlines formation, financing and governance for each type of district
- Details on existing BOS-controlled special districts, which counties currently utilize







UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

PROCUREMENT MODELS

What Arizona Local Governments Are Doing Now

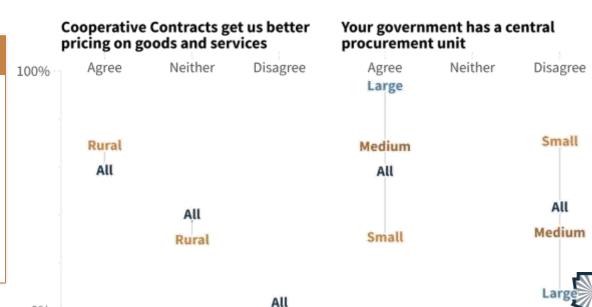
- Hybrid structures are the norm
- Staffing capacity remains limited
- Compliance drives daily practice
- Vendor and technology gaps persist

Cooperative Procurement in Arizona Local Governments

- Cooperative procurement is widespread
- Collaboration among governments remains limited but valuable
- Professional networks fill critical gaps
- Outsourcing and shared services offer pragmatic alternatives

Survey of County & Municipal Procurement & Purchasing Professionals





0%

UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS

PROCUREMENT MODELS

Return on Investment Analysis Tools

Categories of potential savings:

- Administrative savings from streamlined tasks
- Personnel hour reductions from greater efficiency
- Purchase price reductions from improved competition or cooperative contracts
- Savings from eliminating inefficiencies such as errors or rework

Recommendations: How to Generate Value for Arizona Residents via Procurement

- Build organizational foundations
- Use data to drive improvement
- Source strategically
- Leverage tools and technology



RESOURCES ON COUNTIES

INDIGENT DEFENSE

www.countysupervisors.org/courts

Indigent Defense Overview & Case Study

- Overview of AZ model for indigent defense services, funding
- AZ is 1 of **only 5** states that funds this exclusively at the local level
- Map of how state policies, independently elected official actions can impact caseloads & costs
- Detailed case study on impacts of 2022 state policy that increased caseloads and costs in Cochise County

Indigent Defense



Case Study

County Supervisor Association Dec. 2024

Summary

Indigent defense caseloads and costs are largely driven by factors outside of the various indigent defense offices' control. This case study provides an example of how state policy choices impacted local operations and costs in Cochise County from FY 2020 through FY 2024. ¹⁵

Cochise County Indigent Defense Structure

Prior to FY 2024, Cochise County had three indigent defense offices, the Public Defender, Legal Advocate and Legal Defender. Cases that could not be handled within those three offices due to conflicts of interest or high caseloads were contracted out to private law firms. In FY 2024, the county eliminated the Legal Defender due to staffing challenges.

Legislative Background

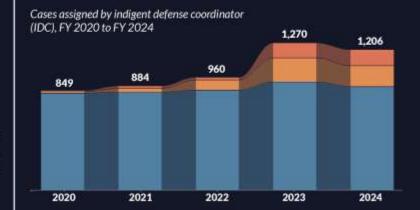
In 2022, the Arizona State Legislature passed HB 2696 which, among other provisions, modified the definition of participating in a human smuggling organization (HSO) in the criminal code to include transporting or procuring transport for a person with the intent to either conceal the person from law enforcement, or assist the person in fleeing law enforcement that is attempting to lawfully arrest or detain the person. Laws 2022, Ch. 197 became effective on September 24, 2022.¹⁴

House Final Read Vote 37-20-3 Senate 3rd Read Vote 17-11-2





From FY 2022 to FY 2023, indigent defense caseloads in Cochise County increased by over 30%.



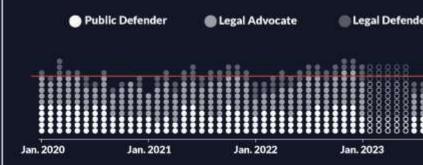
Cases with only charges related to human smuggling or fleeling law enforcement grew from 17 in FY 2022 to 124 and 134 in FY 2023 and FY 2024, respectively.

Cases including charges related to human smuggling or fleeling law enforcement, along with other charges, grew from 82 in FY 2022 to 204 and 176 in FY 2023 and FY 2024, respectively.

All other cases Increased slightly, from 867 in FY 2022 to 939 and 897 in FY 2023 and FY 2024, respectively.

Although cases are up, the number of attorneys in indigent defense offices is down from FY 2022 levels.

Attorneys in indigent defense offices, by month Jan. 2020 to June 2024



Case assignment data only available in aggregate from January 2023 to June 2023, represented b

RESOURCES ON COUNTIES

PROPERTY TAX

www.countysupervisors.org/budgets-taxes



ARIZONA PROPERTY TAX SYSTEM

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

KEY GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS IN PROPERTY TAX SYSTEM



BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

SET COUNTY PROPERTY TAX RATES & LEVIES

The primary role of the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in the property tax system is to set the county-controlled primary and secondary tax rates and levies.

- County-controlled primary and secondary taxes account for 20% of all property taxes levied statewide.
- The property tax is the only rate that the Board can adjust to deal with new annual costs.
- On average, primary levies make up 40% of county general fund resources.¹

The county primary property tax levy is used to fund general government services, like document recording and elections, along with critical public safety services, the criminal justice system, and the state courts.

County-controlled special districts, like jail districts, library districts, and flood-control districts, may also have a property tax rate and levy set by the county Board of Supervisors, who serve as the Board of Directors for those districts.

Property taxes are typically the primary source of local tax revenue for the district, unless the district levies a sales tax instead.

State law and the constitution limit the amount of money that can be collected by the county for primary and secondary property tax levies. These limits include levy limits, tax rate caps for special districts, and requirements for unanimous approval for levy increases above 15%. In addition, these levies are subject to transparency requirements, called Truth in Taxation, that require public hearings and various notices be provided if the proposed tax levy is higher than the previous year.



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WHAT ARE LEVY LIMITS?

revenue from taxing new construction.

generate additional property tax revenue.1

evy Limit Utilization FY 2025

COUNTY LEVY LIMITS

Levy Limit Utilization Levy Capacity





horize a temporary v at least two thirds

to exceed 7 years)

h year if the voters

pprove the override

not included in the the resolution Any hority expires or the y property tax levy.*

THE PROTESTING TERROTERS

THE RESERVE AND PARTY. KIRTPRITURES SCARLING

LIMITS ON PROPERTY TAXES IN ARIZONA



home prices.

Arizona ranked very low (48th) in property tax burden in 2023, according to the Tax Foundation - demonstrating that although local governments like schools, counties, and municipalities rely on the property tax to fund essential services, they do so at a lower rate than other states.

Constitutional levy limits set a cap on how much local governments collect in property taxes. Article 9,

Section 19(1) of the Arizona Constitution restricts the annual growth of primary property tax levies by counties, cities, towns, and community college districts to 2% over the prior year's limit, plus additional

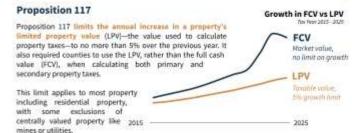
Primary property taxes represent a critical component of county funding, comprising an average of

40% of county general fund revenues in FY 2024*. Because levy limits constrict how much property tax revenue can grow by each year, they directly shape counties' ability to fund essential services. In FY

2025, eight counties utilized more than 85% of their levy limit capacity, leaving limited flexibility to

Since property tax reform in the 1980s, Arizona has operated with several constitutional and statutory limitations that restrict the amount of property taxes collected, the rate at which they grow, and require transparency when they are increased.

Restriction on Growth in Taxable Value



Transparency Requirements

Truth in Taxation (TNT) laws apply to both primary and secondary property taxes. They require Arizona taxing entities to notify the ublic and hold a hearing whenever they propose increasing tax levies above the previous year's level, giving taxpayers a chance to provide input before any increase is approved.

Restrictions on Property Taxes Collected

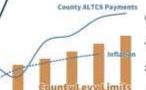
Constitutional Levy Limit

Established by the voters in 1980, levy limits set a Test Charge from 2017 cap on how much counties can collect in primary property taxes. The Arizona Constitution restricts the annual growth of these limits to 2% over the previous year's limit, plus additional revenue from taxing new construction.

These limits can only be temporarily overridden by voters for a maximum of years, and don't account for increases in costs outside of the county's control.



1% Cap



Over 10 years, levy limits have barely kept pace with

inflation, been outpaced by state mandated costs &

AZ Home Prices

Homeowner Rebate

2023 2024

2022

Arizona's Constitution limits the amount of primary property tax a residential property owner can pay to 1% of the property's limited value (LPV). This cap applies to the combined primary property taxes levied by all taxing jurisdictions, including counties, municipalities, community colleges, and school districts.

The State of Arizona effectively pays 50% or up to \$600 of what a homeowner would pay in primary property taxes to support the basic operational costs of their local school district. This rebate or offset appears automatically on a homeowner's property tax bill. On the tax bill it is labeled "State Aid to Education."

CSA WEBSITE REVAMP

OBJECTIVES & IMPROVEMENTS

www.countysupervisors.org

Explore the new site: www.countysupervisors.org



Objectives

- Improve access to CSA resources, tools & materials
- Demonstrate utility of Association to county community, state lawmakers
- Integrate quick insights into counties & Association priorities
- Modernize interface for easier updates, integration with data tools/newsletter
- Align with new CSA branding for consistent, professional presentation

Key Improvements

- Added educational content on key policy areas
- Updated advocacy page to allow easy access to resolutions, priority docs
- Created interactive graphics to provide fast access to key county data
- Modified navigation to easily get to core areas (Data, Research, Advocacy)
- Improved search feature to access info faster





Your trusted source for research, policy development, and advocacy in support of Arizona's counties.

CSA PODCAST

CREATURES OF STATUTE

Purpose:

Enhance reach to county supervisors, professional staff, and the capitol community

Topics:

- Discussion of CSA materials
- Exploration of policy topics
- Updates on the legislature
- Conversations with partners and subject matter experts



Listen on Apple



Listen on Spotify

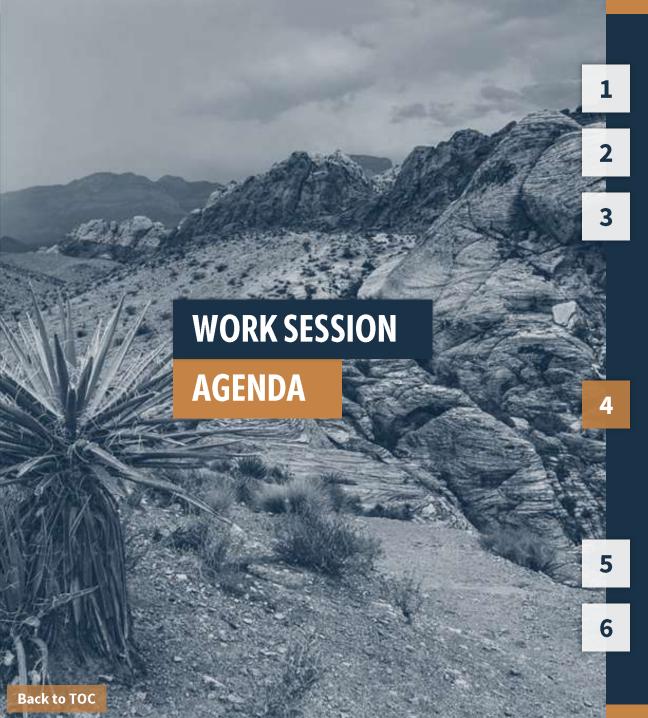


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Or search for "Creatures of Statute" wherever you get your podcasts





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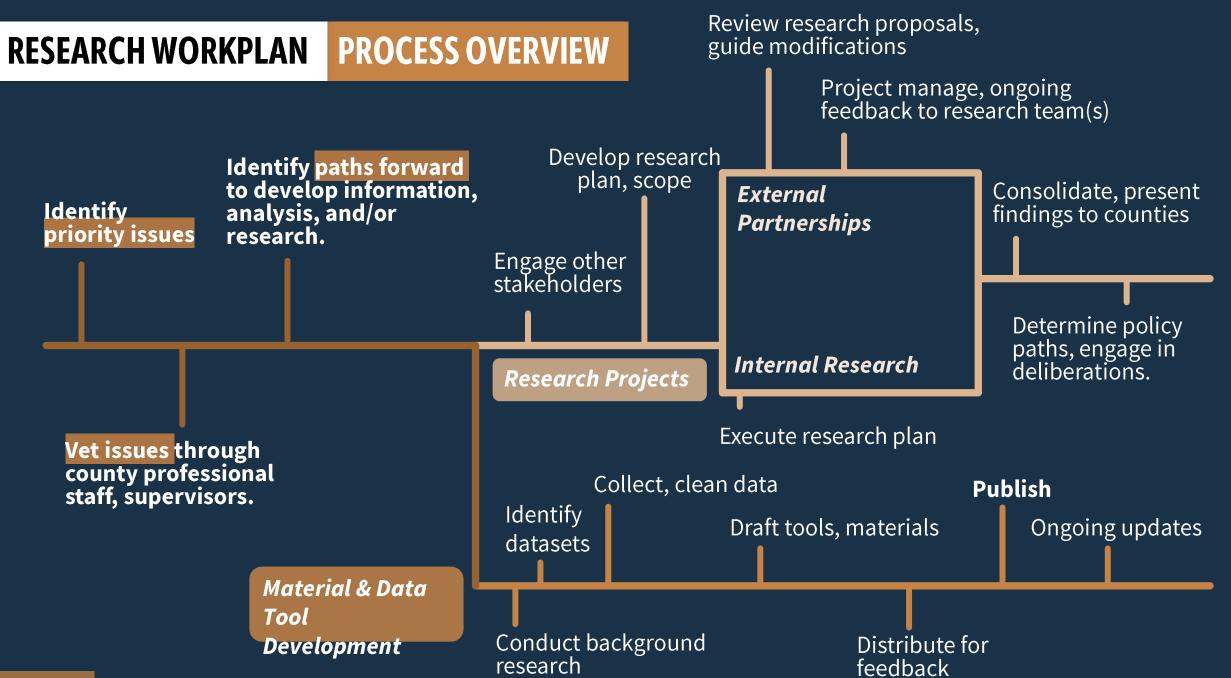
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Research Projects & University Partnerships

- Transportation Modeling
- Elections Statistics
- Resource Guide: Wildcat Subdivisions

Conduct Supervisor Learning Series

Enhance Access & Maintain CSA Resources

Support Study Implementation

Continue Strategic Engagements



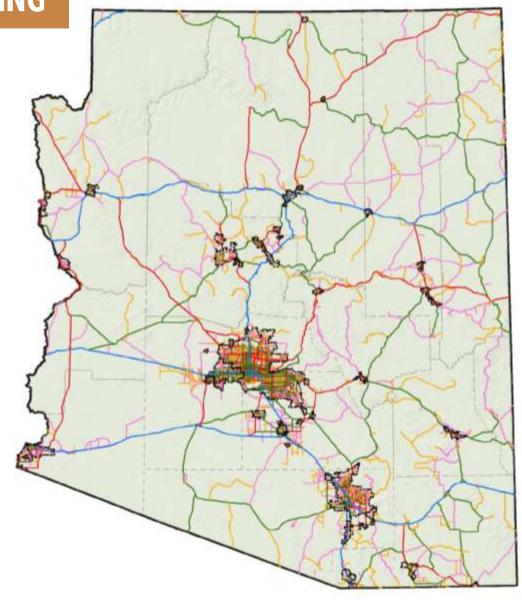
RESEARCH PROPOSAL TRANSPORTATION MODELING

Research Objective

Partner with the ASU Decision Theatre & ADOT to create a statewide map of roadway conditions and model the implications of current funding levels and alternative funding levels on Arizona's roadway system and key socioeconomic indicators over the next several decades.

Proposed Deliverables

- Statewide map of current county and state roadway conditions
- Model and map roadway conditions under current revenue structure over 10-30 years
- Model and map roadway conditions under various revenue structures including: periodic, one-time infusions into roads, local sales or property taxes, permanent increases in statewide revenue
- Model various socio-economic indicators under each scenario, including access to emergency services, economic development potential, others
- Facilitated conversations with state and/or local policy makers utilizing the map/modeling tool





RESEARCH PROPOSAL ELECTION STATISTICS

Policymakers at the state level continue to be interested in **proposing modifications to Arizona's elections systems**. Currently, CSA **does not have a centralized resource** on how counties deploy their elections each cycle.

Research Objective

data collection efforts to capture key operational metrics from counties and enable CSA to respond more quickly to emerging issues in election administration.

Select Research Questions

- What voting model does each county use—vote centers, precinct-based polling places, or a hybrid system?
- How many voting locations did each county operate, and of what type?
- What are the cost implications of different voting models or proposed legislative changes (e.g., mandatory hand counts, changes in equipment requirements)?



RESEARCH PROPOSAL WILDCAT SUBDIVISIONS

In many counties across the state, land is being developed through lot splits leading to "wildcat subdivisions" that fall outside formal planning processes. This creates challenges for counties around road maintenance and enforcement authority.

Research Objective

Produce a policy explainer for counties and the public on the legal and practical responsibilities counties have regarding infrastructure in wildcat subdivisions, and document the challenges counties experience in this space.

Select Research Questions

- Why are counties responsible for maintaining some private roads but not others?
- What is the legislative history of statutes relating to wildcat subdivisions?
- What aspects of resident occupation of lots in wildcat subdivisions cause the largest amount of outreach to counties?



SUPERVISOR LEARNING SERIES

Objective

Provide ongoing opportunities for continuing education for supervisors, county professional staff on key policy topics.

Preliminary Topic List

- Authorities of Supervisors and Counties in Practice
- Impact of Renewable Energy on Local Natural Resources
- Artificial Intelligence in Government
- State of Housing Report Morrison Institute
- Special Taxing Districts
- ROW Officers Roles & Responsibilities
- Arizona's Property Tax System
- Arizona Elections
- Constituent Communications Strategies



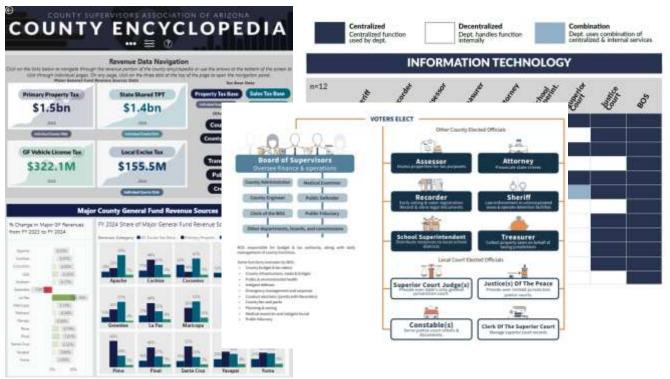
ENHANCE ACCESS & MAINTAIN CSA RESOURCES

CSA maintains a wide variety of data tools and informational resources to support county government operations. As turnover among elected officials and professional staff continues, there is a growing need to increases awareness and access to these tools to help build institutional knowledge.

Research Objective

Develop and implement a strategy to **enhance visibility, accessibility, and usability** of CSA's educational and data tools.

Refine existing tools and migrate content to new CSA website to promote access to key resources.







Public Safety Pensions

- Conducting analysis of proposed benefit/contribution changes
- Engaging with System on modeling tools for impact of salary adjustments on pension liabilities
- Engaging with System on actuarial changes, funding requirements
- Ongoing CORP stakeholder discussions

Indigent Healthcare

- Implementation of federal Medicaid policy changes at state level
- Educating, developing materials on county-state funding relationship
- Analysis of proposed changes on counties

Broadband

BEAD permitting support



SUMMARY

Research Projects & University Partnerships

- Transportation Modeling
- Elections Statistics
- Resource Guide: Wildcat Subdivisions

Support Study Implementation

- Procurement Study
- Detention Study and/or CORP Benefits

Conduct Supervisor Learning Series

- Authorities of Supervisors and Counties in Practice
- Impact of Renewable Energy on Local Natural Resources
- Artificial Intelligence in Government
- State of Housing Report

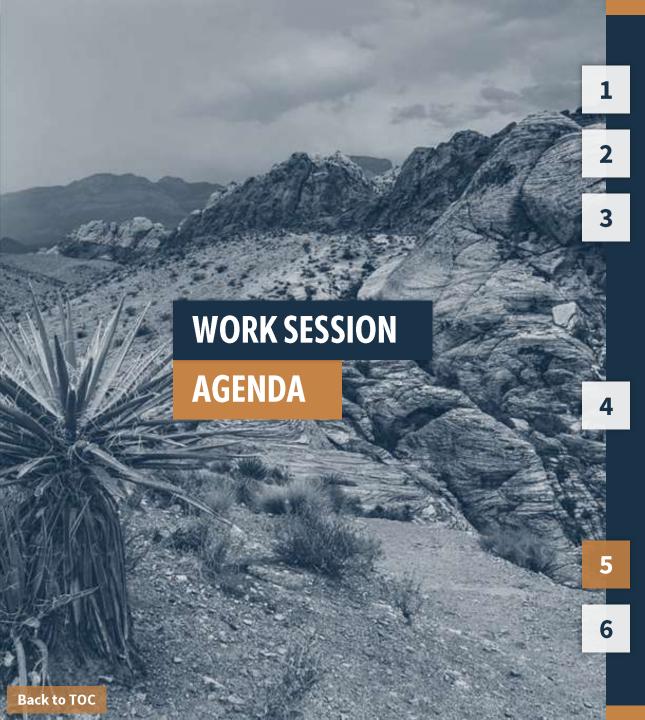
- Special Taxing Districts
- ROW Officers Roles & Responsibilities
- Arizona's Property Tax System
- Arizona Elections

Continue Strategic Engagements

- Public Safety Pensions
- Indigent Healthcare
- Broadband

Enhance & Maintain Access to Resources





Summit Process Overview

State & County Financial Context

Coalition Priorities

- State County Partnership
- Provide Sufficient State Funding for the Courts
- Increase Investment in Transportation Infrastructure
- Protect Investments in Public Safety Pensions

Research Report & Projects

- Detention Retention & Recruitment Study Briefing
- 2025 Workplan Update
- 2026 Workplan Projects

Emerging Issues

County Submitted Proposals



EMERGING ISSUES

TAXING AUTHORITY

- 2/3rds majority to raise fees or taxes
- National focus on property taxes
- Greenhouse valuation
- VLT for transportation

ELECTIONS

FIRE DISTRICTS

BENEFITS

- Cancer presumptions
- Craig Tiger Reauthorization
- Pension enhancements

FIRE INSURANCE

- DIFI's Resiliency & Mitigation Council
- DIFI's Fire Insurance Review Task
- House's Fire Preparedness Ad Hoc Committee

COURTS/CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- Push for additional jury trials
- Changes to Judicial Productivity Credits
- Secure Behavioral Health Residential Facilities

PUBLIC RECORDS; PUBLIC NOTICE

SPECIAL DISTRICTS

- Tourism Improvement Areas
- Prescott; Library District

WATER

- Rural groundwater management
- Colorado River negotiations

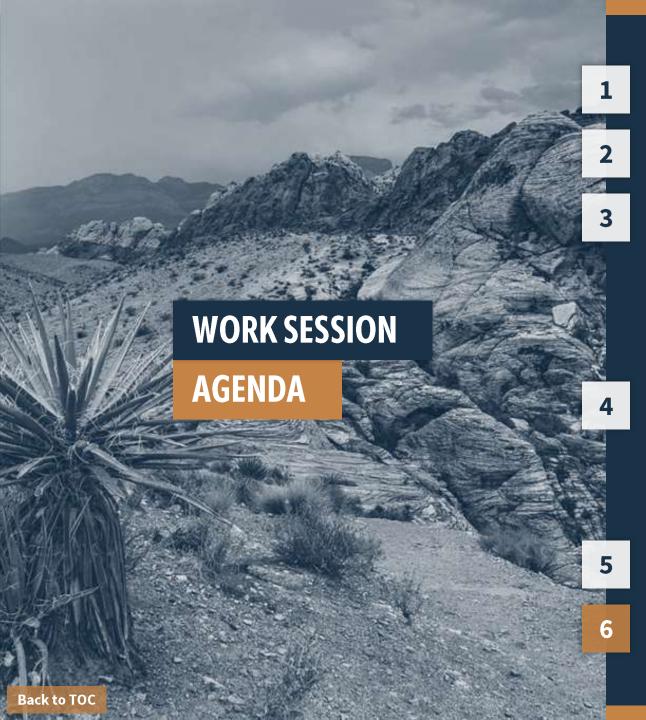
EDUCATION

Prop. 123 extension?

PLANNING & ZONING

Short-term Rentals





Summit Process Overview

State & County Financial Context

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- State County Partnership
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Research Report & Projects

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- 2025 Workplan Update
- 2026 Workplan Projects

Emerging Issues

County Submitted Proposals



17 PROPOSALS

BY TYPE

- proposals for **LEGISLATION**
- proposals for **RESOLUTIONS**
- proposals for APPROPRIATION

BY COUNTY

- **ASSOCIATION** submittal
- **COCHISE** submittals
- **COCONINO** submittals
- **GILA** submittals
- **NAVAJO** submittal
- **PIMA** submittals
- YAVAPAI submittal
- **YUMA** submittals



"PERMANENT CROPS"

Cochise County

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

CONTEXT

- **Historically,** County Assessors have valued orchard and vineyards by valuing permanent crops *plants such as grapevines or fruit trees* separately from the land.
 - Previously, the two-step valuation process prescribed by the Department of Revenue (ADOR) required Assessors to (a) value the land (using a statutory formula) and then (b) use ADOR crop value tables to value the permanent crops.
- After not updating these crop value tables for decades, ADOR removed the tables and directed Assessors to value permanent crops at market value. This caused valuations of these properties to spike.
- A rancher filed suit A&P Ranch Ltd. v. Cochise County and both the Superior Court and the Court of Appeals found that counties lacked the statutory authority to value permanent crops separately from the land.

COUNTY CONTACT:

Supervisor Antenori, Cochise

CSA CONTACT:

Jacob Emnett

PECAN ORCHARD VALUATION:

1980 - 2020:

Land value (§ 42-13101)

Tree value (\$12.50/tree)

2023:

Land value (§ 42-13101)

Tree value (\$250/tree)

A&P Ranch, Ltd. v. Cochise Cty:

Land value (§ 42-13101)



"PERMANENT CROPS"

Cochise County

COUNTY CONTACT: Supervisor Antenori, Cochise CSA CONTACT: Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

PROPOSAL

• Cochise County proposes legislation that would codify the ability of counties to value permanent crops separately from the land where they are situated.

UPDATES: OUTREACH

- Association staff has conducted an additional meeting with the sponsoring county, receiving supplementary information and feedback.
- The Arizona Association of Counties has received an identical proposal.
- Association staff have reached out to the Cochise County Assessor, receiving a number of materials related to the ongoing litigation, and the Arizona Department of Revenue, which has not provided feedback.
- Association staff have reached out to the **Arizona Farm Bureau**, which shared the following:
 - "The Arizona Farm Bureau recognizes the challenges stemming from ADOR's shift to market-based valuations for permanent crops ... However, we are reluctant to address this issue legislatively at this time due to ongoing litigation involving one of our members ... Until this case reaches its legal conclusion, we believe it prudent to defer legislative action to avoid complicating or prejudicing the outcome."

"COMPENSATION EQUALIZATION"

Yavapai County

COUNTY CONTACT: Supervisor Compton, Yavapai CSA CONTACT: Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

CONTEXT

The salaries of Arizona's county elected officials are established in state statute - A.R.S. § 11-419
 with two tiers – one with higher salaries, and one with lower salaries – corresponding roughly to county size.

County Officer Salaries Legislative Action; 1999 – Present (% rounded)												
LEGISLATION		HB 2322: county officers; salaries ²		SB 1366: county officials; salaries ³			HB 2102: county omnibus ⁴			HB 2700: county officers; salaries; increase ⁵		
YEAR o	YEAR of ACTION		1999		04		2007			2021		
VOTE	HOUSE	35-1	L6-9	44-1	13-3		58-	-0-2		37- 23		
VOIE	SENATE	20-	9-1	26-	3-1		22-	-5-3		22-	-7-1	
YEAR EFFECTIVE		2001		2005			2009			2025		
COU	NTY SIZE	< 500 K	> 500 K	< 500 K	> 500 K	Δ	< 500 K	> 500 K	Δ	< 500 K	> 500 K	Δ
Att	orney	\$96,600		\$109,450		13%	\$123	3,678		\$143,678		16%
Ass	sessor	\$49,875	\$54,600	\$56,500	\$67,800	13%; 24%	\$63,800	\$76,600		\$83,800	\$96,600	31%; 26%
Red	corder	\$49,875	\$54,600	\$56,500	\$67,800	13%; 24%	\$63,800	\$76,600	120/	\$83,800	\$96,600	31%; 26%
SI	Sheriff		\$78,750		,225	13%	\$100,824		13%	\$120,824		20%
Superi	intendent	\$49,875	\$54,600	\$56,500	\$67,800	13%; 24%	\$63,800	\$76,600		\$83,800	\$96,600	31%; 26%
Supervisor		\$49,875	\$54,600	\$56,500	\$67,800	13%; 24%	\$63,800	\$76,600		\$83,800	\$96,600	31%; 26%
Tre	asurer	\$49,875	\$54,600	\$56,500	\$67,800	13%; 24%	\$63,800	\$76,600		\$83,800	\$96,600	31%; 26%

- * Due to a change in the 1990s, County Sheriffs and County Attorneys have the same salaries across both tiers.
- **The most recent change to county salaries occurred in 2021, and became effective January 1, 2025.



"COMPENSATION EQUALIZATION"

Yavapai County

COUNTY CONTACT: Supervisor Compton, Yavapai CSA CONTACT: Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

PROPOSAL

 Yavapai County proposes the Association pursue legislation lowering the population threshold, for purposes of salary demarcation, from 500,000 persons to 200,000 persons.

UPDATES: OUTREACH

Arizona Association of Counties (AACo) (18 separate respondents; 17 opposed, 1 neutral)

- Being elected in larger counties does not necessarily mean a larger workload.
- One respondent noted salary tiers should distinguish "between those who treat their elected role as full-time public service and those who do not."
- The Association representing the Clerks of the Superior Court believe that their exclusion is unjustified, as they are "integral to county operations" and similar to other row officers.



"RECAPITALIZATION OF THE DFFM WILDFIRE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND"

Coconino County

COUNTY CONTACT: Keith Brekhus, Coconino CSA CONTACT: Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR APPROPRIATION

CONTEXT

- In 2021, the severity of the
 Telegraph and Mescal fires led to a
 special session where the State
 Legislature appropriated \$75
 million to capitalize a new "Wildfire
 Emergency Response Fund" (WERF).
- The FY 2023 budget appropriated an additional \$65 million to the WERF.
- The FY 2026 budget appropriated \$27 million to the WERF, but the Department indicates that money will fund fire suppression alone.

HB 2001: appropriations; fire suppression (Griffin)									
TRANCHE		PURPOSE	LIMITATIONS						
	1	Fire suppression, pre-positioning of related equipment and staff	Informally capped @ \$19 M (see below)						
\$75 M to the	2	Capital expenditures and equipment related to 1	Formally capped @ \$10 M						
Department of	3	Mitigation projects to address postfire flooding and other damage from fire and fire suppression							
Forestry and Fire	4	Government liabilities related to emergency sheltering, wraparound services, and support activities							
Management (DFFM) for Wildfire Emergency Response	5	Financial assistance to public and private landowners for emergency repairs for infrastructure damage resulting from fire and fire suppression	Formally capped @ \$10 M; "Payor of last resort after all other sources of payment have been exhausted.						
	6	Reimbursement to state and local government for their cost- share of eligible emergency claims							



"RECAPITALIZATION OF THE DFFM WILDFIRE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND"

Coconino County

COUNTY CONTACT:
Keith Brekhus, Coconino
CSA CONTACT:
Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR APPROPRIATION

PROPOSAL

 Coconino County proposes a resolution urging the Arizona State Legislature to ensure "appropriate and sustainable" funding for the WERF.

UPDATES: OUTREACH

• The Department of Forestry and Fire Management has noted that it currently receives insufficient funding for fire suppression – \$3.2 million annually – and its primary focus in 2026 will be securing significantly more in ongoing funding for these purposes.

UPDATES: PROPOSAL

- Association staff received additional clarity from Coconino County regarding the amount of funding requested.
 - PREVIOUSLY: \$35 M annually
 - NOW: "...an appropriate and sustainable level to ensure continued statewide wildfire response and post-wildfire flood mitigation..."



"COORDINATED REENTRY ACROSS THE STATE OF ARIZONA"

Pima County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Michael Racy, Pima Kate Vesely, Pima

CSA CONTACT:

Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION

CONTEXT

- Over the past few years, the state has provided funding to county jail reentry programs via one-off appropriations in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- For the past two legislative sessions, the Legislature has contemplated legislation that would have created a structured grant for these programs (2024: HB 2383 (Livingston); 2025: SB 1312 (Angius)), but these bills excluded Maricopa and Pima counties from receiving any portion of the funds.

PROPOSAL

Pima County proposes that the Association adopt a resolution urging state lawmakers to ensure – *if monies are appropriated for county coordinated reentry programs* – that all counties are eligible to receive funding for coordinated reentry.



"COORDINATED REENTRY ACROSS THE STATE OF ARIZONA"

Pima County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Michael Racy, Pima Kate Vesely, Pima

CSA CONTACT:

Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION

UPDATES: OUTREACH

- Association staff has conducted an additional meeting with the sponsoring county, receiving supplementary information and feedback.
- Association staff has received the following feedback from the Arizona Association of Counties:
 - The Arizona Sheriff's Association noted that the two previous bills were a result of internal discussions about coordinated reentry funding, and that those involved in the conversations were aware of the counties included on the distribution model.
 - Neither Pima or Santa Cruz's County Sheriffs are listed as members of the ASA, though these conversations could have occurred elsewhere.
 - The Sheriffs have discussed the proposal and have no issues with all counties being eligible for coordinated reentry funding if it is made available, but noted that as the overall pot of money will likely stay the same this could mean smaller distributions.



"ACCOUNTABILITY FOR TAXPAYERS MAINTAINING NON-OWNED PROPERTIES"

Gila County

COUNTY CONTACT: Michael O'Driscoll, Gila CSA CONTACT: Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

CONTEXT

- Gila County has experienced two longstanding issues relating to blighted homes:
 - The **first** occurs when **(a)** the owner of the property has died, but **(b)** the property still remains in their name, and **(c)** individuals occupying the house are paying the property taxes (via cash payment to the Treasurer, and as such not identifying themselves) but not keeping to code.
 - Gila County is unable to follow-up with or hold accountable the individuals responsible for home maintenance.
 - The **second** occurs when **(a)** the owner of the property has fallen behind on their property taxes, **(b)** the tax lien process has begun (*another individual/investor has purchased their tax liens at auction*), and **(c)** the property is blighted.
 - Gila County can clean the blight up, placing a lien on the property, but the final sale of such a
 property will result in the lien being extinguished. As such, the county will never receive
 repayment.



"ACCOUNTABILITY FOR TAXPAYERS MAINTAINING NON-OWNED PROPERTIES"

Gila County

COUNTY CONTACT: Michael O'Driscoll, Gila CSA CONTACT: Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

PROPOSAL

Gila County proposes amending statute to treat the lien for blight abatement under § 11-268 like a special
district assessment, resulting in its inclusion (a) on the annual property tax bill, and (b) in the amount paid by
investors after auction.

UPDATES: PROPOSAL

- Proposal received substantial changes.
 - PREVIOUSLY: Would have expanded the definition of "owner" and "responsible party"; created "duty to abate nuisances."
 - NOW: Treats the lien for blight abatement under § 11-268 like a special district assessment.

UPDATES: OUTREACH

- Association staff held a county stakeholder meeting including county management, county planning and zoning, and county civil deputy attorneys, and have reached out to the League of Arizona Cities and Towns.
- Staff have reached out to the **Arizona Association of Counties.**
 - The **Assessors** were concerned with **(a)** placing a "fine or blight assessment" on the bill that was not "a specific tax levied and approved by a taxing authority," and **(b)** addtl. work on cities' behalf.
- The Arizona Tax Research Association acknowledged the problem, but shared concerns about including non-tax items on the bill.

"SOLAR ENERGY CONSUMER PROTECTION"

Yuma County

COUNTY CONTACT: Alejandro Figueroa, Yuma County CSA CONTACT: Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

CONTEXT

Yuma County has shared constituent concerns about the practices of rooftop solar companies, particularly:

- lack of quality assurance,
- faulty installation practices,
- negligent roof assessments, and
- restrictive service agreements.

PROPOSAL

Yuma County proposes legislation to increase protections for solar energy consumers by:

- requiring rooftop solar companies to evaluate and disclose the existing condition of the homeowner's roof before installation, and
- requiring solar companies with a documented history of complaints or violations to obtain third-party inspections not necessarily from counties verifying compliance with installation requirements.



"SOLAR ENERGY CONSUMER PROTECTION"

Yuma County

COUNTY CONTACT: Alejandro Figueroa, Yuma County CSA CONTACT: Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

UPDATES: OUTREACH

- Association staff has met with the sponsoring county and received an in-depth walkthrough of solar permitting process
- Association staff have reached out to the Arizona Solar Energy Industries Association, the Governor's policy staff, the Registrar of Contractors, the Arizona Roofing Contractors Association, and the Arizona League of Cities and Towns for additional feedback
 - The **Governor's policy staff** had not reviewed the proposal, but shared initial feedback about (a) the health of the industry (and how further regulation could affect that), (b) requiring installers to judge the work of roofers, (d) the issues in comparing salesmen (independent contractors) and installers, and (e) the difference in lifespan between roofs and solar projects.
 - **AriSEIA** expressed concerns with the proposal, including: (**a**) noting that roofing assessments already occur, and (**b**) opposing treating all allegations as fact (with no due process). They've requested additional clarity on a number of provisions.
 - The **League** wanted to ensure that these inspections should not take the place of local inspections, and noted that third-party inspectors should be qualified and vetted.



"MAINTAINING PUBLIC TRUST BY PRESERVING NAME RIGHTS"

Navajo County

COUNTY CONTACT: Rochelle Lacapa, Navajo CSA CONTACT: Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

CONTEXT

- Recently, the Navajo County Sheriff's Office (NCSO) looked to establish a new posse: the *Navajo County Sheriff's Office Search & Rescue*.
- An existing posse, no longer affiliated with the NCSO, objected to the new posse's name – contending that they had trademarked it - and sought an injunction against the NCSO.
- The Court denied the request, noting that "the common law right most likely belongs to the Navajo County Sheriff's Office," that the original posse did not demonstrate it would be irreparably harmed, and that the public

interest would be served by NCSO having the ability to choose the entity that uses their name.

PROPOSAL

Navajo County proposes codifying the ruling, (a) expanding restrictions on use of the county seal (§ 11-251.17) to include any county name, logo, or brand identity coupled with any elected office, and (b) allowing a County Sheriff's Office to maintain naming rights for the posses associated with their search and rescue efforts.



"MAINTAINING PUBLIC TRUST BY PRESERVING NAME RIGHTS"

Navajo County

COUNTY CONTACT:
Rochelle Lacapa, Navajo
CSA CONTACT:
Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

UPDATES: OUTREACH

- Staff have reached out to the Arizona Association of Counties, which has received a similar proposal.
- Following a survey of counties, staff also received feedback from **another County Sheriff's office** indicating similar issues with an all-volunteer advisory board, on which the Sheriff has no representation, bearing the office's name.

UPDATES: PROPOSAL

- Navajo County has agreed to a proposed amendment by Coconino County that expanded protections to include a county's logo and brand identity.
 - PREVIOUSLY: Expands statutory protection provided to county seal to include county name when coupled with an elected office.
 - NOW: Expands statutory protection to include county name as well as logo and brand identity – when coupled with an elected office.



"ABOVE-GROUND COLD PLUNGES"

Coconino County & Maricopa County

COUNTY CONTACT: Michelle Hindman, Maricopa Eric Peterson, Coconino CSA CONTACT: Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

CONTEXT

- At present, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) rules do not provide specific regulations for a "cold plunge."
- In the absence of specific direction, counties believe that ADEQ rule requires "cold plunges" to be regulated as spas.
 - The definition for "spa" in rule includes "... a spa may include features such as ... cold water ...".
- If regulated as spas, a number of operational cold plunges will not meet standards.

PROPOSAL

 Maricopa and Coconino counties propose amending statute to exempt cold plunges that meet specific standards from county regulation or enforcement.



"ABOVE-GROUND COLD PLUNGES"

Coconino County & Maricopa County

COUNTY CONTACT: Michelle Hindman, Maricopa Eric Peterson, Coconino CSA CONTACT: Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

UPDATES: PROPOSAL

• To avoid legislation – an agency preference - Association staff has reached out to **ADEQ** formal guidance for county public health professionals advising that cold plunges are not spas

UPDATES: OUTREACH

- Association staff has presented the proposal to ACDEHSA and participated through ACDEHSA in an informative presentation by the Pool & Hot Tub Alliance on regulation
- The sponsoring county has explored what potential guidance statute could require, such as:
 - **Design standards**: (a) single use only, (b) temperature maintenance, (c) shallow depth, (d) and disinfection, filtration, and circulation systems
 - **Operation standards**: (**a**) facilities used by ages 16+, (**b**) signage discouraging patrons from dunking their heads, (**c**) sick individuals or individuals with open wounds excluded from use, and (**d**) daily draining, cleaning, and refilling requirements



"ADDRESSING HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY AND STABILITY"

Coconino County, Pima County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Keith Brekhus, Coconino Michael Racy, Pima

CSA CONTACT:

Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION

- Recent years have seen significant change in the homeowner's insurance market,
 particularly in communities that exist in the "wildland-urban interface," with residents
 experiencing large increases in their insurance rates or losing coverage entirely.
- In **2024,** the Association passed a resolution respectfully urging "the Governor, the Legislature, and the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions to research homeowner's insurance reform and support programs and potential legislation ensuring the availability of affordable homeowner's insurance coverage.



"ADDRESSING HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY AND STABILITY"

Coconino County, Pima County

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION

PROPOSAL

• **Coconino** and **Pima counties** propose that the Association adopt a resolution on homeowner's insurance that meets the needs of both counties.

UPDATES: PROPOSAL

• Initially, Coconino and Pima counties submitted separate proposals for the Association to adopt a resolution. They have since combined their proposals.

COCONINO

Urge the State Legislature to (a) enact automatic homeowner policy extensions following disaster declarations (and extend moratoriums on nonrenewal cancellation), (b) improve rate and cancellation oversight, (c) incentivize risk mitigation, and (d) mandate transparent communication.

PIMA

Seek the following statutory changes: (a) limiting non-renewals based on conditions of premises, (b) providing ability to appeal non renewals.

COUNTY CONTACT:

Keith Brekhus, Coconino Michael Racy, Pima

CSA CONTACT:

Jacob Emnett

- Association staff have continued to participate in the Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions' Resiliency & Mitigation Council.
- Association staff have continued to meet with the sponsoring counties – Coconino County and Pima County – to craft a resolution in preparation for the Summit and conduct further outreach with stakeholders.



"ADDRESSING HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE AFFORDABILITY AND STABILITY"

Coconino County, Pima County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Keith Brekhus, Coconino Michael Racy, Pima

CSA CONTACT:

Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION



NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THE COUNTY SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION OF ARIZONA:

Respectfully urges the Governor, the Legislature, and the Arizona Department of Insurance and Financial Institutions to adopt legislation that would expand access to and affordability of homeowners' insurance in wildfire-prone areas that may include, but not be limited to, provisions such as: incentives for Firewise building codes, policy cancellation restrictions and/or notice expansions, increased state funding for mitigation efforts, ensuring accuracy in underwriting, and other statutory provisions as they may so desire.



"OPEN MEETING LAW"

Cochise County

COUNTY CONTACT: Supervisor Antenori, Cochise CSA CONTACT: Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

CONTEXT

- The sponsor reports that, by virtue of two members of a three-member county Board of Supervisors being considered a "quorum," the current text of the state's Open Meeting Law (OML) can burden smaller, 3member Boards.
- The sponsor has shared that these difficulties center around the broad interpretation of what constitutes a "meeting" subject to OML.
 - Per § 38-431, a "meeting" is defined as "a gathering, in person or through technological devices, of a quorum of the members of a public body at which they discuss, propose or take legal action, including any deliberations by a quorum with respect to that action".

PROPOSAL

- Cochise County proposes amending what constitutes a "meeting" under Open Meeting Law to add clarity to the open meeting law statute by:
 - **a**) amending the definition of "meeting",
 - **b**) requiring tangible evidence for an accusation of open meeting law violations, and
 - (c) separating political and nonpolitical discussion.



"OPEN MEETING LAW"

Cochise County

COUNTY CONTACT: Supervisor Antenori, Cochise CSA CONTACT: Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

- Association staff has conducted an additional meeting with the sponsoring county, receiving supplementary information and feedback.
- Sought feedback from the **Arizona Association of Counties (AACo)**; two County Attorneys that responded shared concerns about transparency.
- Association staff have reached out to the Arizona Newspapers Association, the Arizona League of Cities and Towns, and the Arizona Ombudsman-Citizens' Aide for additional feedback
 - At a post-Board informational session, an **OCA** representative noted that social gatherings, or incidental encounters, do not constitute a violation of OML so long as no official business is discussed (*however, they recommended noticing whenever possible*).
 - The **Arizona Newspapers Association** expressed concern with the requirements that accusers provide evidence, noting that OML cases are rarely prosecuted and this additional hurdle would make them essentially impossible. They noted that social and incidental meetings are already not considered a violation.
 - The **League** has not gotten feedback from city elected officials, however early feedback from staff indicates they could be in support.



"WIFA FORGIVABLE FUNDING FOR CESSPOOL AND OUTDATED SEPTIC SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE"

Gila County, Pinal County, & Yavapai County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Jake Garrett, Gila Tami Ryall, Pinal

CSA CONTACT:

Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

CONTEXT

- At present, counties are limited especially in comparison with other political subdivisions, like cities, and some districts in how they may secure funds via loans from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority (WIFA).
 - Pima County has specific authority to enter into indebtedness with WIFA, limited to the management of its sewer system and the remediation of non-point source pollution.
- Recently, Gila County has sought forgivable loans from WIFA to help remediate cesspools and on-site septic systems in their county – even making it to the end of the Authority's process – but were unable to acquire the funding due to lack of statutory authority.

PROPOSAL

The counties propose amending existing statute pertaining to counties, indebtedness, and WIFA – specifically, the Pima County sewer statute – to allow all counties to receive forgivable funding from WIFA to remediate cesspools and outdated septic system infrastructure. The proposal would further exempt projects funded with forgivable loans from the requirement to go to the ballot.



"WIFA FORGIVABLE FUNDING FOR CESSPOOL AND OUTDATED SEPTIC SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE"

Gila County, Pinal County, & Yavapai County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Jake Garrett, Gila Tami Ryall, Pinal

CSA CONTACT:

Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

UPDATES: PROPOSAL

 Association staff have noted that existing statute requires voter approval, Gila County has suggested new language that could exempt forgivable loans.

- Association staff met with WIFA and have engaged with ADEQ and ACDEHSA
 - WIFA noted that this would be a potential focus of theirs.
 - ADEQ indicated they would have no concerns with the underlying proposal; however they did note that there could be a need for counties to amend their Clean Water Act, Section 208 plan to qualify for the funds. Staff have reached out to Gila County to ensure that the Central Arizona Governments'
- Association staff have also set meetings with key members of the Legislature to gain further background



"REAL ESTATE DISCLOSURES"

Cochise County

COUNTY CONTACT: Supervisor Antenori, Cochise CSA CONTACT: lacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

- The sponsor reports that there is a need for additional pre-purchase disclosures for prospective buyers of various types of property (*rural, unincorporated, residential, or raw land*) who plan for further development.
- There are presently two better-known disclosure requirements:
 - § 33-422. Land divisions; recording; disclosure affidavit contains pre-sale disclosure requirements for "a seller of five or fewer parcels of land, other than subdivided land, in an unincorporated area of a county." These 24 separate requirements encompass, among other things: (a) access to the property (legal, physical, and whether the access point is traversable by a two-wheel drive vehicle), (b) how/if the roads are maintained, (c) available utilities, (d) location in relation to the floodplain, and more.
 - Additionally, the **Arizona Association of Realtors** a trade association of some, but not all, realtors produces a form, the *Residential Sellers Property Disclosure Statement*, in-house for its members.



"REAL ESTATE DISCLOSURES"

Cochise County

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

PROPOSAL

Cochise County proposes adding additional pre-sale disclosures, including (a) the property's zoning, (b) the property's proximity to commercial and industrial zoning, (c) the proximity of utilities to the property line, and (d) that wells are the responsibility of the owner (and the need for inspection).

UPDATES: OUTREACH

- Staff have reached out to the Association of Arizona Realtors, who have indicated that they are likely to OPPOSE the proposal. They noted that the RSPDS is only available to their members, not all real estate licensees, and that this proposal would be adding a "whole new set of requirements into state statute for the first time."
- Staff have reached out to the **Arizona Association of Counties (AACo)**, receiving feedback from one **Assessor**. This elected official noted that several items like parcel zoning or proximity to commercial and industrial areas may already be available. They also noted, with respect to utilities, that the seller may not know where they are or if there is legal access. Heavy emphasis placed on the need for due diligence by the buyer (*rather than additional notice*).

COUNTY CONTACT:

Supervisor Antenori, Cochise

CSA CONTACT:

Jacob Emnett

UPDATES: PROPOSAL

 Staff have reached out to the county to see if their goals could still be accomplished by amending the statutory disclosure rather than the RSPDS.



"PERMANENT FUNDING FOR THE ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE"

Pima County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Michael Racy, Pima Ian Milliken, Pima

CSA CONTACT:

Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION

CONTEXT

- The Arizona State Historic Preservation Office is responsible for:
 - ensuring state compliance with the various national and state historic preservation acts, and
 - overseeing the State Historic Property Tax Reclassification Program.
- SHIPO receives **\$1.1 million** in funding from the federal government, which covers **60%** of their operations. However, the state has not appropriated the remaining **40%** for SHIPO operations since 2009.

PROPOSAL

 Pima County is proposing a resolution urging the State Legislature to fully fund the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office (SHIPO) on an ongoing basis.



"PERMANENT FUNDING FOR THE ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE"

Pima County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Michael Racy, Pima Ian Milliken, Pima

CSA CONTACT:

Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION

- Association staff has met with sponsoring county.
- Association staff has reached out to the **State Historic Preservation Office** for insights on the impacts of potential federal cuts on their operations.



"FIRE CODE INSPECTION WAIVER FOR MUNICIPALITIES OVER 100,000 RESIDENTS"

Yuma County

COUNTY CONTACT: Alejandro Figueroa, Yuma County CSA CONTACT: Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

- At present, statute exists that delegates enforcement of the fire code in cities larger than 100,000 to the State's Fire Marshal in specific instances involving state, county, and school district buildings.
- While there exists the option for larger cities to enter into an agreement with the Fire Marshal to enforce the code, the city must enforce the state's adopted fire code (and not their adopted fire code, with any local options they may have chosen).
- Yuma County is currently in the middle of constructing a number of capital projects within the municipal boundaries of the City of Yuma, and encountered this issue in so doing.
- Given the Marshal's statewide jurisdiction, inspections by their office can require a substantial wait.



"FIRE CODE INSPECTION WAIVER FOR MUNICIPALITIES OVER 100,000 RESIDENTS"

Yuma County

COUNTY CONTACT:
Alejandro Figueroa, Yuma County
CSA CONTACT:
Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

PROPOSAL

• Yuma County is proposing establishing a statutory waiver process whereby counties may seek inspection of their buildings by cities – under the city fire code – if waiting for the Fire Marshal would unduly strain their resources.

UPDATES: PROPOSAL

- Proposal received substantial changes.
 - PREVIOUSLY: Permitted an eligible city if their fire code was more stringent than the state's and waiting for the state to inspect would be burdensome to seek a waiver to inspect county buildings under their fire code.
 - NOW: Permits a county, on a building-by-building basis, to seek a waiver to have the city inspect their buildings (under the city's fire code) if waiting for the state would be unduly burdensome.

UPDATES: OUTREACH

Staff have met with the City of Yuma and the Department of Forestry and Fire Management, have requests for feedback out to the League of Arizona Cities and Towns and the Yuma Southwest Contractors Association.



"BOARD ATTORNEYS"

Cochise County

COUNTY CONTACT: Supervisor Antenori, Cochise CSA CONTACT: Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

CONTEXT

- Presently, a County Board of Supervisors may seek legal counsel outside of the County Attorney on a case-by-case basis if:
 - there is a conflict of interest that renders the County Attorney unavailable, or
 - there is a lack of harmony between the Board and the County Attorney about legal strategy.

PROPOSAL

 Cochise County proposes broadening a County Board of Supervisors' ability to hire or retain permanent legal counsel independent of oversight or recommendation of the County Attorney.



"BOARD ATTORNEYS"

Cochise County

COUNTY CONTACT:
Supervisor Antenori, Cochise
CSA CONTACT:
Kaytlin King

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

- Association staff met with sponsoring county and received feedback from the Arizona Association of Counties (AACo).
 - AACo sent the Association feedback from one County Attorney, who expressed concerns
 that this change could fragment legal authority, politicize legal advice, increase costs, and
 result in less accountability to constituents
- Association staff is **conducting research** into:
 - other states' laws, and
 - present exclusions to County Attorney representation

"INCREASE LOCAL CONTROL OVER SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNITS"

Coconino County, Yavapai County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Keith Brekhus, Coconino Supervisor Kuknyo, Yavapai

CSA CONTACT:

Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION

- In **2016,** Laws 2016, Ch. 208 preempted a locality's ability to prohibit or restrict the use of vacation or short-term rentals (STRs) and limited any subsequent regulation to matters involving **(a)** public health or safety, **(b)** nuisance, or **(c)** requiring an emergency contract. Established prohibitions on using STRs for illicit activity as well as the "online lodging marketplace" tax classification. Specifies that STRs must be Class 4 property (with accompanying 10% assessment ratio).
- In **2022**, Laws 2022, Ch. 343 returned limited authorities to local governments, permitting imposition of civil penalties, permitting the creation of a local permitting structure, and creating the option for suspension under certain circumstances.



"INCREASE LOCAL CONTROL OVER SHORT-TERM RENTAL UNITS"

Coconino County, Yavapai County

COUNTY CONTACT:

Keith Brekhus, Coconino Supervisor Kuknyo, Yavapai

CSA CONTACT:

Jacob Emnett

PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION

PROPOSAL

• Coconino County proposes that the Association issue a resolution encouraging the State Legislature to: (a) return comprehensive regulatory authority of STRs to local governments, (b) permitting local jurisdictions to set occupancy limits, density caps, and zoning restrictions, (c) enable enforcement tools, such as registration fees and penalties, to support compliance and safety, and (d) protect residential neighborhoods and housing availability.

UPDATES

- Association staff have reached out to the Arizona League of Cities and Towns, which has passed a similar resolution, and the Arizona Association of Counties, which is contemplating a similar proposal.
 - The Maricopa County Assessor notes that much attention needs to be paid to the statutory distinction between Mom & Pop and commercial STRs.
- Association staff have also reached out to representatives of other interested groups.



"PERMANENT STATEWIDE SOLUTION TO ELECTION CALENDAR"

Election Officials of Arizona (EOA)

PROPOSAL FOR LEGISLATION

COUNTY CONTACT:

Scott Jarrett, Maricopa Elsir Musta, Coconino

CSA CONTACT:

Jacob Emnett

CONTEXT

- In 2022, former State Senator Ugenti-Rita sponsored a bill that greatly increased the likelihood of an automatic recount by increasing the difference between candidates that necessitated a recount from one-tenth of one percent to one-half of one percent.
- For 2024 the first general election under the new recount law counties were concerned that (a) an automatic recount of Primary Election results could impact meeting statutory deadlines to mail ballots to uniformed and overseas voters (UOCAVA), and (b) a statutory recount of General Election results specifically, during a Presidential election could impact the state getting its Electoral College votes transmitted in time.
- A bill in **2024** solved this issue by making changes to election law moving the Primary Election, shortening the cure deadline from 5 business days to 5 calendar days, and requiring research and disposition of provisional ballots within 7 calendar days but the solution was only temporary.

PROPOSAL

• The Election Officials of Arizona propose making these changes permanent, thereby solving this issue in future election cycles.

