

# 2021 Legislative Priorities

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# City of Flagstaff Federal Priorities

## Economy

Rio de Flag  
Flood Control

COVID-19 Relief

Rural Broadband

## Community Infrastructure

Affordable Housing

Immigration Reform

Veterans

Gun Violence



# City of Flagstaff Federal Priorities

## Transportation & Infrastructure

Flagstaff Pulliam Airport



Surface Transportation  
Reauthorization



(Transportation)  
Infrastructure Funding



Amtrak



Water Infrastructure



## Environment

Grand Canyon &  
Colorado Plateau Protection



Uranium Transport Standards



Forest Health



Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation



Environmental Funding &  
Partnerships



# City of Flagstaff State Priorities

## Guiding Principles

- Preserve local decision-making
- Protect and recover state shared revenues

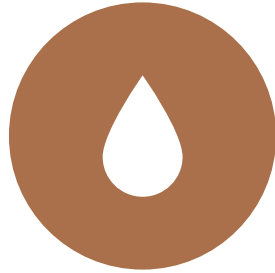




# City of Flagstaff State Priorities



AZ CORPORATION  
COMMISSION



AQUIFER PROTECTION  
PERMITS



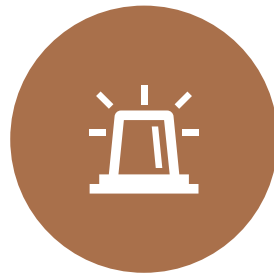
FOREST HEALTH



ENVIRONMENTAL  
FUNDING &  
PARTNERSHIPS



COVID-19 RELIEF



EMERGENCY RESPONSE



TOURISM



# City of Flagstaff State Priorities



AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING



SHORT TERM  
RENTALS



CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE REFORM



SOCIAL SERVICE  
PROVIDERS



GUN SAFETY



ELECTIONS



RURAL  
BROADBAND



TRANSPORTATION



# State & Federal Priorities





# FEDERAL PRIORITIES



# COVID-19

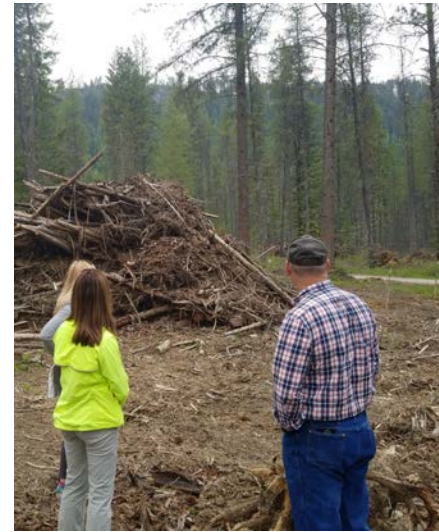
- Support robust direct and flexible funding for county governments, the local health authority, to cover costs for the pandemic response and account for lost revenue.
- Support adequate funding and administrative action for immediate production and distribution of COVID-19 vaccine to rural Arizona to ensure full vaccination in the soonest possible timeframe.





# FOREST RESTORATION

- Support policies and funding that incentivize forest products industries to harvest and process low-value timber from the Four Forest Restoration Project.
- Remove administrative policies and rules, which reduce profitability and viability of the forest products industry, that are not necessary for environmental protection and stewardship of low-value timber forests.



# RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



- Support and fully fund the USDA Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program to fund critical middle-mile and last-mile broadband connections across northern Arizona.
- Support and enact the PROMISE Act legislation to fund economic development programs for entrepreneurship and redevelopment following the decommissioning of the Navajo Generating Station, the only federally-chartered coal fired power plant in America.
- Support funding and program prioritization to fully utilize the 3,000 available acres at Camp Navajo for diverse economic development opportunities.

# PUBLIC LANDS

## Grand Canyon Protection Act

- Support and enact legislation to permanently prohibit future mining and other extraction efforts within the Grand Canyon Watershed to protect our natural public environment and critical water supply.

## Sunset Crater

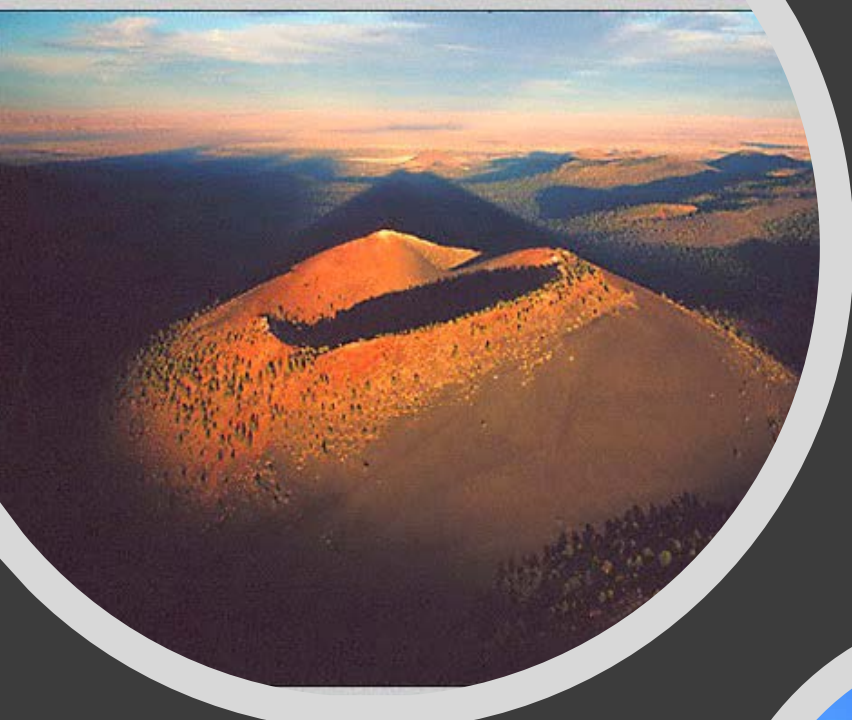
- Support and enact legislation to transfer 97+ acres of federal land from the US Forest Service to the National Park Service near Sunset Crater National Monument to align parcel ownership to the administering federal agency.

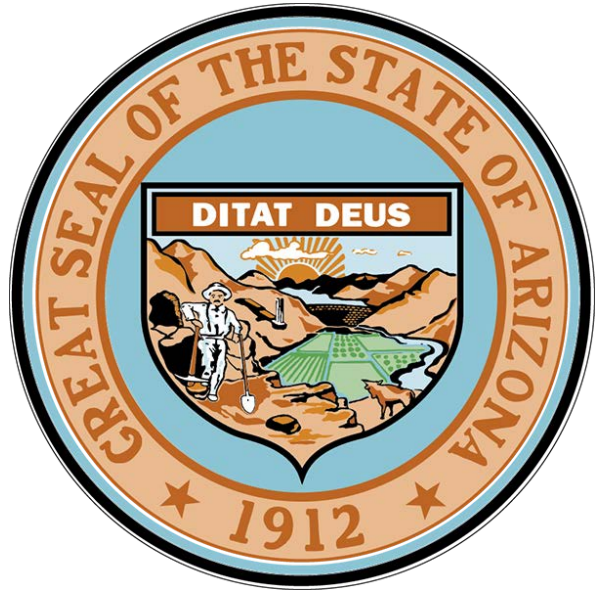
## PILT and SRS Funding

- Support full funding of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) programs to compensate local governments for federal land holdings and falling timber sales benefitting local education efforts.

## The WAVE – Vermillion Cliffs National Monument

- Support full funding and administration prioritization for infrastructure and environmental protections of the WAVE to account for increased visitation.





# STATE PRIORITIES

## COCONINO COUNTY ARIZONA BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

### PATRICE HORSTMAN DISTRICT 1

phorstman@coconino.az.gov  
(928) 253-8548

Patrice Horstman moved to Flagstaff in 1972 to attend Northern Arizona University. After completion of her undergraduate degree, she attended law school at the University of Arizona and interned in Washington, D.C. for a subcommittee for the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee. Patrice returned to Flagstaff in 1979, where she co-founded the law practice of Hufford, Horstman, Morgan, Parnell & Tucker, P.C., focusing on Indian law, education law, employment law, municipal law, non-profit law, and healthcare law.



### LIZ ARCHULETA DISTRICT 2

larchuleta@coconino.az.gov  
(928) 679-7152

Liz, 4th generation Flagstaff resident and first Latina elected to the Coconino County Board of Supervisors has 24 years of county supervisor experience. A champion of justice reform, public lands, water and natural resource policy, Liz is a lifelong advocate and is a leader in shaping public policy at the national level. She has testified before Congress on critical county issues and has been successful in passing legislation and securing millions of dollars in funding for Coconino County.



### MATT RYAN DISTRICT 3

mryan@coconino.az.gov  
(928) 606-3901 or (928) 679-7103

Matt Ryan is entering his seventh term as District 3 Supervisor. District 3 includes the City of Williams, portions of the City of Flagstaff, part of the City of Sedona, as well as several unincorporated areas of southwestern Coconino County. Over his career, strategic planning and community building are core components of his approach to bring the right people together at the right time to develop community-oriented results. Matt continues to work on many issues including Urban Forestry, Proactive Weekend Fire Defense, Dark Skies, and Short-Term Rentals among many others.



### JUDY BEGAY DISTRICT 4

jbegay@coconino.az.gov  
(928) 814-3718

Judy Begay is a lifelong resident of Coconino County and elected in November 2020 to represent District 4. District 4 includes Doney Park, Sunset Center, Wilsons, Country Club, Merrick Lake, Forest Lakes, Blue Ridge, and the southern portions of the Navajo Nation. Begay has served as a public school Board Member for 15 years in Tuba City, as well as several other non-profit organizations. Begay is experienced in the management and supervision of health programs, school administration, facilities management, roads and infrastructure, and public housing.



### LENA FOWLER DISTRICT 5

lfowler@coconino.az.gov  
(928) 600-4733

Lena Fowler is Navajo of the Tółich'íne (Bitterwater) clan and is born in the Hamdih and Tłibahjí (Diné) Extended clan and lives on the Navajo Nation in Tuba City, Arizona. Lena was elected in November 2008 to represent District 5, a diverse district that includes 7 Navajo communities, City of Page, Grandditch, Town of Fredonia and the Grand Canyon North Rim. Lena's unique perspective as an elected Indigenous woman allows her to communicate with and gain support from all stakeholders.



## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

### SHORT-TERM RENTAL VACATION PROPERTY TAX PARITY

Create legislation to establish regulatory equity between traditional hotels and investor-owned STR's to mitigate the impact on residential neighborhoods.

- Property classify STR as Class 1 property for properties rented for more than 120 days in a year with stays of less than 30 days.
- Provide an exemption for residential property owners that live in the property for more than 60 days a year.



### BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE



High-speed internet, infrastructure broadband is a foundation for economic growth and global competitiveness, access to education, and health care. Inadequate broadband access is impeding economic development, leaving rural businesses and citizens at a competitive disadvantage. We need legislation to increase first mile and middle mile infrastructure across Arizona, expand access, and increase investment in regional planning.

### TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Economic development and public safety require well maintained transportation infrastructure, but the primary resource for maintaining road systems in Arizona is not indexed for inflation and has not been raised since 1990. Transportation infrastructure continues to degrade as abating revenues fail to meet the maintenance and construction needs.



### DANGEROUS INCOMPETENT & NON-RESTORABLE

Establishes a state supported civil commitment process for dangerous individuals charged with crimes if they cannot complete the criminal justice process due to being found incompetent to stand trial and unable to be restored to competency.



### ALTCS COSTS

Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) is a state program administered by AHCCCS. Counties have no administrative role in the program, they just pay the bill.

- Between FY19 and FY21 the county bill went up by over 14%, a \$37M hit to county taxpayers.
- It takes 20% of county primary property tax collections to cover the cost of mandated ALTCS payments in FY21 on average.



### PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL STATUTE

Property tax deferral statutes have not been updated since the 1990s. Qualifications to enroll in the program are very difficult to meet, with less than 5 individuals enrolled in the program across the entire state. Legislation is required to allow for more property owners to qualify, specifically elderly owners on a fixed income and disabled individuals. When a property owner qualifies for a tax deferral, the state treasurer invests in the tax for that year. For example, if a property owner qualifies for 2021 property taxes, and the dollar amount is \$2,000.00, the state treasurer would send the county treasurer \$2,000.00 for the taxes and track this as an investment.



### DIVERSION FUNDING

Additional funding is needed to provide more diversion and wraparound services for those who have addiction issues. There is bipartisan support for criminal justice reform at the legislature in the last session, County Attorney's worked with legislators and agreed that a total of \$11, 264, 625, divided amongst the 15 counties and A/C/J for administrative costs, each year over the course of three years would be a sufficient amount for each county to either enhance existing diversion programming or create diversion programming.



## STATE GUIDEBOOK



## COCONINO COUNTY ARIZONA

JANUARY 2021



## VACATION RENTAL PROPERTY TAX PARITY

- Support legislation to establish regulatory equity between traditional hotels and investor-owned STR's to mitigate the impact on residential neighborhoods.
  - Properly classify STR as Class 1 property for properties rented for more than 120 days in a year with stays of less than 30 days.

## BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Support legislation and funding to increase first mile and middle mile infrastructure across Arizona, expand access, and increase investment in regional planning.

## TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

- Support legislative and funding to increase investment in the critical transportation infrastructure in Coconino County. Oppose legislative or administrative attempts to sweep HURF or other transportation-related funds to other purposes.

## ALTCS COSTS

- Support legislative control of cost increases and program drivers in the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS)
  - Between FY19 and FY21 the county bill went up by over 14%, a \$37M hit to county taxpayers.

## PROPERTY TAX DEFERRAL STATUTE

- Support legislation to allow for more property owners, specifically elderly owners on a fixed income and disabled individuals, to qualify for property tax deferral.
  - When a property owner qualifies for a tax deferral, the state treasurer invests in the tax for that year.

## DANGEROUS INCOMPETENT & NON-RESTORABLE

- Support legislative that establishes a state supported civil commitment process for dangerous individuals charged with crimes if they cannot complete the criminal justice process due to being found incompetent to stand trial and unable to be restored to competency.

## DIVERSION FUNDING

- Support additional funding of \$11,000,000+ divided among the 15 counties for each county to either enhance existing diversion programming or create diversion programming.



# POTENTIAL BROADBAND ADVOCACY COLLABORATION

## Smart Highway Corridors

CARES ACT (BLUE)

I-17 North Phoenix to Flagstaff

Governors Budget Proposal (PINK)

I-40 West Flagstaff to California

Advocacy Proposal (RED)

I-40 East from I-17 to US Hwy 89 (Mall)

