

2022 Legislative Priorities

Sarah Langley – Interim Public Affairs Director
Bob Holmes – Federal Lobbyist
Todd Madeksza – State Lobbyist





Agenda



- Program operations
- Overview of the federal landscape
 - Council input - 2022 federal legislative priorities
- Overview of the state landscape
 - Council input - 2022 state legislative priorities
- Next steps

Intergovernmental Affairs Program

Operations

- Legislative priorities guide the work of staff and lobbyists
- Regular email updates
- Periodic discussions on legislation during Council meetings
- Virtual lobbying trips





HOTEL
MONTE VISIT



Federal Landscape





Proposed Federal Legislative Priorities

Economy

Rio de Flag Flood Control Project	Utilizing the \$52 million in secured funding, support expedited award and completion of the project while working with the Army Corps, BNSF Railway and the Arizona Dept. of Transportation to ultimately remove more than half of the City's residents, as well as the downtown and NAU areas, from the flood plain and protect more than \$1 billion in property assets.
--	---

Transportation & Infrastructure

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)	Pursue competitive grants and formula funds from the IIJA to finance high-priority infrastructure projects within the City, including resilient stormwater infrastructure, multi-modal transportation, roads, bridges, highways, and restoration initiatives for the Museum Fire burn scar area.
--	--



Proposed Federal Legislative Priorities

Transportation & Infrastructure

Water Infrastructure	Utilize funding dedicated by the IJA to complement and improve City water infrastructure.
Rural Broadband	Utilize funding dedicated by the IJA for rural broadband access and capacity to encourage and develop economic activity, including allowing for remote education, business attraction, revenue creation and the attraction of remote workers.
Flagstaff Pulliam Airport	Advocate for funding for projects included in the Flagstaff Pulliam Airport five-year Capital Improvement Program, including a new Snow Removal Equipment (SRE) building.
Amtrak	Utilize funding dedicated by the IJA to increase reliability and certainty along the Southwest Chief line for long-distance passenger train services as a generator of economic development for municipalities located in the I-40 corridor.



Proposed Federal Legislative Priorities

Community/ Social Infrastructure

Affordable Housing	Promote additional funding of Public Housing, the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.
Immigration Reform	Advocate for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and other federal immigration policies that help keep families together while supporting their higher education goals.
Veterans	Support legislation and funding that improves the lives of all veterans and their families.
Gun Violence	Support legislation that ensures the protection of all people from gun violence.
Census	Advocate for funding and assistance in performing special enumerations to address undercounts and deficiencies of the 2020 Census.



Proposed Federal Legislative Priorities

Environment

Grand Canyon Protection	Support Chairman Grijalva's legislation preventing uranium mining in areas surrounding Grand Canyon National Park and strengthen the laws, regulations and policies that govern uranium mining to ensure protection for public health and safety; support efforts to instate a permanent ban on uranium mining for the nearly one million acres around the Grand Canyon. Protect the wilderness, wildlife and cultural resources throughout the Southwest region.
Uranium Transport Standards	Urge the Arizona Dept. of Transportation and/or the US Dept. of Transportation to strengthen uranium transport standards to reduce the possibility of contamination.
Forest Health	Utilize funding from the United States Forest Service, the IJJA, and other legislation to support important regional projects such as the Flagstaff Watershed Protection Project, the Four Forests Restoration Initiative (4FRI), NAU's Ecological Restoration Institute (ERI), the Fire Learning Network (FLN) to thin and restore forests. Advocate for collaborative prescribed fire efforts that support the development of a technically skilled workforce.



Proposed Federal Legislative Priorities

Environment

Carbon Fee & Dividend Legislation	Urge the federal government to pass carbon fee and dividend legislation in support of climate change mitigation.
Environmental Funding and Partnership	Support federal funding and partnership opportunities to expand open space, parks, natural areas, trails and “dark skies” initiatives across northern Arizona.
Endangered Species Act	Protect and strengthen the Endangered Species Act and encourage Congress to maintain its funding and enforcement while working to promote the restoration of threatened and endangered species in northern Arizona.



HOTEL
MONTE VISIT

State Landscape





Proposed State Legislative Priorities

Preserve Local Decision-making	Support legislation that preserves or enhances the City's ability to govern locally and oppose legislation that reduces or restricts the City's local authority.
State Shared Revenues	Support legislation that will protect (and recover) state shared revenues to municipalities and oppose new legislation seeking to divert shared revenues away from municipalities.
Short-Term Rentals	Work with stakeholders supporting legislation to allow for local regulations over investor-owned residential properties used as short-term rentals and ensure equity in the hotel industry.



Proposed State Legislative Priorities

Forest Health	Advocate for investments in forest health on state-owned land in northern Arizona, augmenting municipal efforts to protect our region. Support appropriate funding of local responses to flood mitigation efforts from wildfire burn scars.
Transportation	Advocate for additional funding to the Arizona Department of Transportation to plan, build and maintain projects that affect northern Arizona and our tribal partners.
Affordable Housing	Support legislation and seek funding in support of affordable housing.



Proposed State Legislative Priorities

Rural Broadband	Support and encourage continuing state efforts to increase rural broadband access and capacity to encourage and develop economic activity, including allowing for remote education, business attraction, revenue creation, and the attraction of remote workers.
Criminal Justice Reform & Diversion Programs	Support legislation that creates and strengthens alternative diversion programs, rehabilitative programming, mental health services and other approaches to reduce reliance on prisons and create more equity in the criminal justice system.
Arizona Corporation Commission	Urge the Arizona Corporation Commission to adopt an aggressive statewide clean energy standard that achieves 100% carbon-free clean energy in our state.



Proposed State Legislative Priorities

Environmental Funding and Partnership	Support state funding and partnership opportunities to expand open space, parks, natural areas, trails and “dark skies” initiatives across northern Arizona.
Elections	Support efforts to protect voter rights and access and secure the integrity of the election process.
Tourism	Urge the State to continue to fund tourism and the Arizona Office of Tourism to support northern Arizona as a four-season destination.

Next Steps

- Final language to be approved at the January 4 Council meeting
- Virtual lobbying trips in the Spring

Questions?

