

# TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS PROGRAM

# 2017 Legislative Agenda

The Town of Paradise Valley Governmental Affairs Program addresses legislative initiatives at the county, state, and federal levels which follow annual legislative calendars. The program mission is to develop and advocate for Paradise Valley by fostering and maintaining relationships with individuals and entities that affect the Town's interests. As a member of the League of Arizona Cities and Towns, the Town has helped develop and sign on to League Resolutions.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

- Local Control: Paradise Valley believes local government best represents local communities regarding legislative, financial and administrative policy matters. This representation requires opposing any matter that preempts local control and any unfunded mandates at the federal and the state levels. Further, protecting local revenues and local authority is the top guiding principle of our legislative agenda.
- Council Goals: Advancing or defending goals of the Mayor & Town Council in affect during the 2017 legislative session does not require additional Council action.
- **Limited Government:** The Town values solutions to difficult problems that do not create new agencies or regulations nor duplicate existing ones.
- Partnerships: Paradise Valley is a small community within a large metropolitan area. The Town believes partnerships develop positive relations and are essential for success.

# STATE - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

- TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX (TPT): Defend any and all further attempts to shift construction sales tax to point-of-sale. Seek to reduce the negative financial effect current statutes are having on construction sales tax revenues to the Town from maintenance, repair, replacement, and alterations (MRRA).
- PENSION REFORM: In coordination with the League of AZ Cities and Towns, support efforts relating to pension reforms which obtain greater flexibility to manage pension plans affecting municipal employees. This includes excluding payments to reduce unfunded liabilities from the State Expenditure Limitation Rule.
- USE OF RIGHT-OF-WAYS Defend attempts by utility companies to usurp control
  of publicly held, maintained, and acquired right-of-ways in the Town.
- POLICE TECHNOLOGY Photo enforcement, body cameras, and license plate recognition technology and other technology provide powerful crime fighting, behavior modification, and resource efficiency tools to municipal police

- departments. Protect the ability to use these tools and defer to local municipalities to best reflect each community's value of individual and corporate privacy.
- STATE SHARED REVENUES: Protect state shared revenue to municipalities as a revenue percentage and a revenue source.
- HURF FUNDING LEVELS INCREASE: Continued support of full funding of HURF (Highway User Revenue Funds) dollars for transportation funding.

# STATE - EXECUTIVE BRANCH

- PENSION REFORM: In coordination with the League of Arizona Cities and Towns, support efforts relating to pension reforms which obtain greater flexibility to manage pension plans affecting municipal employees. This includes advocating for risk pooling of tier 3 members in a manner that most reduces risks to the Town.
- REVENUE COLLECTION Work cooperatively with the Department of Revenue to ensure a smooth transition to new revenue collecting software and processes and preserve the Town's ability to audit, particularly short term vacation rentals.
- BUDGET: Arizona's revenue structure was established to ensure appropriate public service is provided at the state, county, and local level. Advocate for a balanced, sustainable state budget that protects local control and state-shared revenues, and does not transfer burden for state expenses on cities and towns.

## **FEDERAL**

 AIRCRAFT NOISE – Work with the Arizona delegation and federal agencies to minimize noise impacts associated with federally regulated aircraft flying over the Town.

## **STRATEGIES**

- GENERAL STRATEGIES
  - Develop relationships between PV elected officials, senior staff and legislators
    - Coordinate a legislative breakfast with the Town's delegation to the State Legislature
    - Provide complete and timely information to legislators before, during and after related issue are presented in the Legislature. Be a resource
  - Effectively testify to advance a Town position when appropriate
  - o Develop relationships with other municipalities and agencies
    - Increase attendance at key functions, such as League conference, MAG Regional Council, NLC, etc
    - Identify and attend key events
    - Identify and participate in MAG committees
    - Meet counterparts in other cities / towns and League staff to learn, build relationships, and understand how PV can be a great partner community
  - Communicate with Town residents through Town Reporter, guest editorials, and direct mailings
- TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX (CONSTRUCTION)
  - Participate in League efforts to negotiate a suitable solution

- Develop a fact sheet regarding impacts past, present and future to statutory changes
- Work closely with delegation
- Communicate concerns and learn from PV builders through Town's quarterly builders meeting

#### POLICE TECHNOLOGY:

- Provide on-site tours and demonstration of PVPD Technology to State Delegation and other interested legislators
- Promote citizen-centric attributes
- Advocate with citizen groups (men's breakfast, HOA, Coffee with a Cop, and reference dialogue with legislators as illustration)
- o Provide data and analysis to reinforce positive impact on public safety
- o Participate in GAPC (DMB) and IACP (Chief) policy discussions

#### USE OF RIGHT-OF-WAYS

- Coordinate with League and Arizona Municipal Attorneys Association telecommunication committee on information, solutions and impacts of legislative changes
- Educate stakeholders as this is a public asset private utility companies are trying to seize for proprietary financial benefit
- Emphasize the public investment PV residents have made to bury overhead lines; they have a right to influence their own community

### STATE-SHARED REVENUES:

- Detailed trend and historical analysis of revenues and impacts to services
- Actively participate in League Finance