

**TOWN**  
*Of*  
**PARADISE VALLEY**



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**STAFF REPORT**

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**TO: Mayor Bien-Willner and Town Council Members**

**FROM: Jill Keimach, Town Manager**

**DATE: March 11, 2021**

**DEPARTMENT: Town Manager**  
Jill Keimach, 480.348.3533

**AGENDA TITLE:**

Legislative Update and Summary of Bills Relevant to Paradise Valley

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

The Town's Legislative Contract Lobbyist, Doug Cole updated the Town Council during a Study Session on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Council gave direction during that meeting to return with recommendations so the Council could formally support and oppose bills most relevant to the values previously articulated by the Paradise Valley Town Council. On February 11, 2021 the Town Council received a legislative update from Doug Cole and formally adopted the attached positions on those bills.

Since that Council action, the Mayor has testified in opposition to one bill on Short-Term Rentals (SB1379 Mensard) and testified in support of HB2481 (Kavanagh). SB1379 passed out of Senate on a 27-3 vote with it stripped of its occupancy amendment. Again, this bill assists somewhat in allowing cities and towns to further penalize bad hosts, but doesn't go far enough. The Town is in full support of HB2481 which the industry is now (as of Friday, March 5) considering amendments posed by the League. It is awaiting Rules Committee.

The Police Chief testified in opposition of a photo enforcement bill (SB 1419), which did not pass out of committee. HB 2348, which repeals A.R.S. 13-1813, failure to return a motor vehicle subject to security interest, is currently scheduled to be heard by the Senate Judiciary Committee next week. Chief Wingert also was asked to present ideas on HB 2765, which is a police deadly force investigation bill currently still in the House. The Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police (AACOP) would like to work with the law enforcement stakeholders during 2021 to ensure legislation addresses the needs of those stakeholders.

The Town Council also registered their support or opposition in conformance with their adopted direction on February 11, 2021 or the Town Council's previously adopted legislative agenda. The Council's formal support or opposition has been extremely

helpful to the lobbying efforts by Doug Cole and the Arizona League of Cities and Towns.

Of note were 3 bills that the League ranked as 'bad bills'. All would have impacted the Building and Community Development Department financially or procedurally. HB2717 and SB2861 regarding building permits fees and timing are now both dead. SB1409 regarding consideration of costs of development prior to approving a zoning ordinance amendment passed out of the Senate 16-14.

There were also bills discussed during the last meeting which would 'defund' the Police Department. Those bills either died in committee or became a 'striker' bill in which all language was struck out and replaced with new language unrelated to the original bill.

Doug Cole will be available to update the Town Council on bills currently alive and relevant to the Town. Because the League and Highground will be working with legislators on potential amendments this coming week, Doug Cole will give an update at the Council meeting that reflects the most up-to-date information on State legislation. There will not be a prepared powerpoint since the information is constantly changing.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

None at this time, although Short-Term Rental bills, if not locally regulated will continue to take Town resources to respond to party houses and other unruly and disruptive behaviors.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Discussion and Update of State Legislation

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

- A. Staff Report
- B. February 11, 2021 Adopted Legislative Positions