

WORK SESSION AGENDA

**CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TUESDAY
APRIL 28, 2015**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
211 WEST ASPEN AVENUE
6:00 P.M.**

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**

NOTE: One or more Councilmembers may be in attendance telephonically or by other technological means.

MAYOR NABOURS
VICE MAYOR BAROTZ
COUNCILMEMBER BREWSTER
COUNCILMEMBER EVANS

COUNCILMEMBER ORAVITS
COUNCILMEMBER OVERTON
COUNCILMEMBER PUTZOVA

- 4. Preliminary Review of Draft Agenda for the May 5, 2015, City Council Meeting.***

** Public comment on draft agenda items may be taken under "Review of Draft Agenda Items" later in the meeting, at the discretion of the Mayor. Citizens wishing to speak on agenda items not specifically called out by the City Council for discussion under the second Review section may submit a speaker card for their items of interest to the recording clerk.*

- 5. Public Participation**

Public Participation enables the public to address the council about items that are not on the prepared agenda. Public Participation appears on the agenda twice, at the beginning and at the end of the work session. You may speak at one or the other, but not both. Anyone wishing to comment at the meeting is asked to fill out a speaker card and submit it to the recording clerk. When the item comes up on the agenda, your name will be called. You may address the Council up to three times throughout the meeting, including comments made during Public Participation. Please limit your remarks to three minutes per item to allow everyone to have an opportunity to speak. At the discretion of the Chair, ten or more persons present at the meeting and wishing to speak may appoint a representative who may have no more than fifteen minutes to speak.

- 6. Visitor Intercept Survey Results/National Travel & Tourism Week (Survey result about visitors to Flagstaff)**

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No action required - information only.

- 7. 2015 Legislative Session Report from Richard Travis, Triadvocates, and Discussion of Potential 2016 League Resolutions**

8. Plastic Bag Focus Group Final Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No action is requested at this time. The purpose of this item is to hear results of the groups' work and provide recognition for their efforts and the efforts of the Sustainability Commission.

9. Discussion of Procurement Preferences Regarding Carbon Footprint and Disadvantaged Businesses

10. US 180 Winter Congestion Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discussion and possible direction

11. FY 2016 Budget Confirmation

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that Council review and confirm final budget direction provided at April 22, 2015 Budget Advance.

12. Review of Draft Agenda Items for the May 5, 2015, City Council Meeting.*

** Public comment on draft agenda items will be taken at this time, at the discretion of the Mayor.*

13. Public Participation

14. Informational Items To/From Mayor, Council, and City Manager; and requests for possible future agenda items.

15. Adjournment

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Flagstaff City Hall on _____, at _____ a.m./p.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the City Council with the City Clerk.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2015.

Elizabeth A. Burke, MMC, City Clerk

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT

To: The Honorable Mayor and Council
From: Heidi Hansen, CVB Director/Acting Econ. Vit. Dir.
Date: 03/27/2015
Meeting Date: 04/28/2015



TITLE:

Visitor Intercept Survey Results/National Travel & Tourism Week (*Survey result about visitors to Flagstaff*)

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No action required - information only.

Executive Summary:

The Arizona Hospitality Research & Resource Center (AHRRC), a unit of the Center for Business Outreach in the W.A. Franke College of Business at Northern Arizona University, conducted a year-long survey project for the Flagstaff Convention & Visitors' Bureau (CVB). The purpose of this survey project was to gather current information about visitors to Flagstaff, which allows the CVB to update its Visitor Profile and help guide targeted marketing and product development. The AHRRC developed a visitor survey instrument, in consultation with Flagstaff CVB staff, that was consistent with state and national survey categories and with previous Flagstaff visitor survey instruments for comparison purposes. The survey gathered essential information on visitor origins, party types, trip purpose, information sources, activities and attractions visited, as well as demographics and other categories. It also gathered visitor expenditure data in the categories of lodging, restaurant/bar, transportation/gas, shopping, admissions/recreation, and "other" expenses while on the visit to Flagstaff. Using the data, the AHRRC developed a visitation estimate for Flagstaff and used the IMPLAN input-output model to calculate the total economic impact (including direct and indirect) of visitors to Flagstaff.

As part of the Final Report, AHRRC extracted necessary elements from visitor survey data to determine the economic impact of tourism on Flagstaff (including origin, party size, length of stay, expenditures for lodging, food, amusements and retail, etc.). AHRRC used the IMPLAN input/output economic model, aggregated to the county level, to determine the total annual economic impact of visitation to the community.

Along with our visitor survey results, we will also be discussing the importance of National Travel & Tourism Week which will take place May 2 - 10, 2015.

Financial Impact:

No financial impact.

Connection to Council Goal and/or Regional Plan:

COUNCIL GOALS:

8) Improve effectiveness of notification, communication, and engagement with residents, neighborhoods and businesses and about City services, programs, policies, projects and developments.

Goal #8 will be achieved through sharing our survey information in regards to our overall marketing program.

9) Foster relationships and maintain economic development commitment to partners.

Goal #9 will be achieved by providing the community with resources that meet or exceed expectations through increased BBB revenues.

REGIONAL PLAN:

Regional Plan Goal: ED. 6. Tourism will continue to provide a year-round revenue source for the community, while expanding specialized tourist resources and activities.

Previous Council Decision on This:

No.

Options and Alternatives:

n/a.

Community Involvement:

Inform

Attachments: PowerPoint

Flagstaff Visitor & Economic Impact Study



Arizona Hospitality Research & Resource Center

Cheryl Cothran, Ph.D.

Thomas Combrink, M.S.




NORTHERN ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY

The W. A. Franke College of Business



Survey Methods

- February 2014 to January 2015
- Flagstaff survey “champions”
- Self-administered intercept
- 1,730 completed surveys



Comparison: 2009 vs. 2014

- Flagstaff as primary destination increased from 42% to 53%
- Percent of leisure visitors increased from 52% to 57%
- Average household income increased from \$79,000 to \$99,000
- Satisfaction with the visit increased from 8.5 out of 10 to 8.9 out of 10

Visitor Origins

Out-of-state 49%

(49 states)

Arizona Residents 40%

(75 communities)

Internationals 11%

(34 countries)

Economic Impact

Average per-party per-day spending -\$553

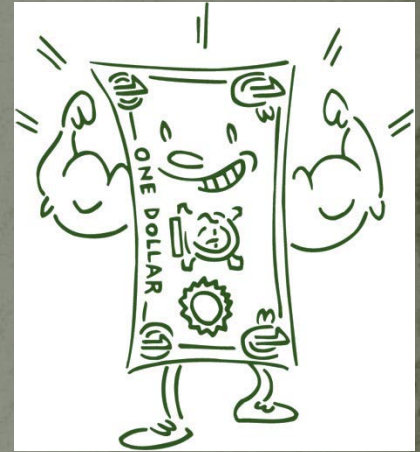
Direct spending	\$459 million
Indirect spending	50 million
Induced	66 million

Total Economic Impact - \$575 million

\$184 million in labor income

\$75 million in federal, state & local taxes

7,311 jobs



Flagstaff. . .a Tourism "Star"

- Flagstaff the “star” of AZ tourism!
- Flagstaff & Grand Canyon ended 2014 with highest occupancy rates in AZ (70%), reflecting demand
- Pima, Cochise, Yuma counties not doing well
- Flagstaff factors:
 - Grand Canyon / Sedona
 - 4-season destination for in-state
 - Pass-thru (I-40 & I-17)
 - Conferences increasing
- Consistent marketing excellence attracts visitors!

Memorandum

7.

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

To: The Honorable Mayor and Council
From: Jerene Watson, Deputy City Manager
Date: 04/20/2015
Meeting Date: 04/28/2015



TITLE:

2015 Legislative Session Report from Richard Travis, Triadvocates, and Discussion of Potential 2016 League Resolutions

DESIRED OUTCOME:

Provide the City Council with a wrap-up summary of our lobbying efforts during the 2015 State of Arizona Legislative Session and receive Council suggestions for potential League of Arizona Cities & Towns resolutions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The 2015 Legislative Session began on January 12th and ended on April 3rd, making it unprecedented in the past decade for a Session to end before the 100 days that are identified for the Legislature to accomplish its work. Our contract with Richard Travis of Triadvocates provided us instant involvement and access during the Session as he worked on the City's behalf with state legislators, opposition lobbyists and the Governor's staff. There were a variety of bills that we either supported or worked against due to their infringement on local control or loss of state shared revenues and other financial concerns. The City Council Report (CCR) with details of the bills that we worked and the outcomes of our efforts is attached as a reference

Tonight Richard will provide a Session wrap-up of our lobbying efforts and answer your questions. Following that discussion, staff will review with Council the new League process for moving Resolutions forward, provide any ideas for Resolutions that staff may have suggested and ask for proposals from Councilmembers. Just over a week ago the League provided May 15 as the deadline for Resolution proposals to be submitted to the League. The League will work with the League Policy committees over the following couple of months to determine what ideas will move for consideration at the League of Arizona Cities and Town state conference in August. Based on that timeline and the outcome of tonight's discussion, Resolutions the Council would like to consider will be brought forward on May 5th for action.

INFORMATION:

COUNCIL GOALS:

- 2) Ensure Flagstaff has a long-term water supply for current and future needs
 - 3) Provide sustainable and equitable public facilities, services, and infrastructure systems in an efficient and effective manner to serve all population areas and demographics
 - 4) Explore and adopt policies to lower the costs associated with housing to the end user
-

Attachments: CCR Bill Tracking

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: April 10, 2015

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Jerene Watson, Deputy City Manager

CC: Jeff Meilbeck, Josh Copley, Richard Travis, Triadvocates, Leadership Team

SUBJECT: 2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION LOBBYING ACTIVITIES AND BILL TRACKING

This is in response to the request from Councilmember Putzova in emails and at the April 7, 2015 Council meeting for a summary of the lobbying activities and individuals who were involved in the bills of interest to the city of Flagstaff and the votes of our district legislators.

DISCUSSION

Attached is the summary of bills of interest identifying City actions that occurred and people involved during the 2015 State Legislative Session.

With the interest by Councilmember Putzova and others on Council about how legislative items are handled through the process, a brief synopsis with additional materials are provided in this City Council Report to give a more complete picture of what occurs during the Legislative Session.

The Legislative Process and Cycle of Proposed Legislation

An abbreviated article, "How a Bill Becomes a Law in Arizona," with flow chart from the League of Arizona Cities & Town, that describes a snapshot of the cycle of the life of proposed legislation is attached. With approximately 1500 bills introduced in the Legislature each year, there are typically 200-400 bills of interest to aspects of municipal governance.

There are various ways that cities stay informed on what is happening with a bill whether they have a contracted lobbyist or dedicated staff member(s) taking on the legislative tracking and lobbying responsibilities. During the Session, weekly summaries to all cities or members from various associations are sent through Listserv or group emails from many organizations. Following is a sampling of groups who have eyes on legislation with an impact for us and assist in our tracking:

- ♦ Arizona Film and Media Coalition
- ♦ Arizona Municipal Clerks Association
- ♦ Rural Transportation Advocacy Council
- ♦ AZ Law Enforcement
- ♦ Arizona City Attorneys Association
- ♦ AZ Municipal Commercial Collections Assn.
- ♦ AZCOPS (AZ Chiefs of Police)
- ♦ AZ Municipal Commercial Collections Assn
- ♦ Coconino Plateau Watershed Partnership/Coconino Plateau Water Advisory Council (CPWP/CPWAC)

Additionally throughout the Session, the Arizona League of Cities & Towns has their attorneys and staff analyzing and watching the progress of all bills. They hold Friday meetings with the Intergovernmental (IG) staff public lobbyists or assigned staff members who carry out IG duties and go over the following week Committee assignments, discuss strategies among cities to use in supporting or opposing a bill, divide out contact assignments on legislators, etc. On Mondays they host a Legislative call for elected officials and IG staff, as well as host a separate call with municipal Finance Directors and financial staff in cities to discuss any bills with revenue impacts.

What Guides our Lobbying and Advocacy Efforts

The “Legislative/Intergovernmental Protocols for 2014/15” that is updated and provided each year with our legislative agendas is attached. This guides the actions within our city personnel, elected officials and contract lobbyists as each carries out the direction given by the City Council majority. Items 1 and 2 of the protocols are worth highlighting as this is the foundation for all actions and legislative lobbying on the City’s behalf.

“1. A City legislative priorities agenda is approved annually by the City Council so that staff has authority to weigh in on issues without going to Council every time an issue changes or arises which is not practical and, at times, not feasible due to swift moving actions of the legislature.

2. The Council establishes guidelines or rules of engagement as a formalized protocol on how the City’s positions and messaging is to be conveyed, conducted in public discussion with agreement in principle on carrying the City’s message. Each new Council should revisit these guidelines so that missteps are avoided as best as possible. Items to be determined should include:

- a. Understanding that notification is to be made when any elected officials are meeting with elected officials of other bodies at any level of government.
- b. It is customary and expected that appropriate staff in the other entity is notified of meetings between elected officials (a duty of the city-designated Intergov).
- c. Annual legislative priority agendas should be adopted so there is agreement of majority opinion on what messaging City officials are to lobby for, carry into meetings or formal settings. Activities should be coordinated through the City Manager’s office and with contracted government affairs or City staff assigned intergovernmental responsibilities.
- d. Personal opinions are to be stated as such and not representing the City if they are not in alignment with the City’s adopted position.”

RECOMMENDATION / CONCLUSION

The Legislative process is year-round. Resolutions may now be proposed throughout the year to the Arizona League of Cities policy committees (see the attached process). If proposed legislation hits an impasse during the Session, it may be referred to a legislative “Study Committee” over the summer and fall. Work on bills is initiated often long before the opening of Session. Hopefully this provides the framework for future discussions by the Council on how we manage the legislative process

This report is for information only.

2015 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY – Bills Tracking/Bills of Interest to COF						
Bill No.	D-6 Actions or Votes	Summary (DCM Watson coordinated & tracked these bills with COF staff, AZ League of Cities, and contract Triadvocates lobbyist Richard Travis)	Elected Official Interest Or Involvement	COF Departmental Staff aware, interested and/or tracking	Lobbying Partners/ Coalitions (Note: these groups reached out to COF for assistance in lobbying efforts)	City Position (Richard Travis - Actions at the Legislature on behalf of the City)
SB1072	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: LOCAL PLANNING; Prohibitions Against Inclusionary Zoning; amendment removed the authority limitation of a municipality to use conditions designed to increase the supply of moderate or lower cost housing. SIGNED BY GOVERNOR: 4/1/15		Sarah Darr, Deputy Housing Director	AZ Housing Alliance	OPPOSED until amended
SB1076	Allen (co- sponsor)	Purpose: Homeowners rebate (striker), pushing cost of property tax collected in excess of 1% will be paid by counties or cities rather than the state RETAINED ON CALENDAR 4/1/15- died		Barbara Goodrich, Management Services Director	AZ League of Cities	OPPOSED
SB1079	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: SOLID WASTE COLLECTION FOR MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING TO GIVE LANDLORDS OPTIONS FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION – would require city ordinance changes. <u>AZ League asked the City to work with Rep. Bob Thorpe to get an amendment to mitigate the impacts of this bill.</u> SIGNED BY GOVERNOR: 4/1/15	Mayor Nabours, League Executive Cmte. member	DCM- J Watson PW-Erik Solberg, Director PW-Solid Waste: Pat Bourque, Solid Waste Manager; Mike Gallegos, Landfill Manager	AZ League of Cities AMCCA (AZ Municipal Commercial Collections Assn) Member cities of SWANA (Sierra Vista, Peoria, Tempe, Prescott, Flagstaff) Sierra Club	OPPOSED until amended
SB1135	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: Allows for delinquent property taxes to be paid in partial installments and decouples year-to-year delinquent			AZ League of Cities Triadvocates	

		taxes, removes funding the Elderly Assistance Fund				
		TO GOVERNOR: 4/2/15				
SB1187	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: SOLID WASTE COLLECTION requires an in-lieu payment for taxes for county trash being hauled by the city outside municipal boundaries. <u>AZ League asked the City to work with Rep. Bob Thorpe to get an amendment to mitigate the impacts of this bill.</u> Rep. Thorpe got two floor amendments which helped reduce the impacts on the City and limit our exposure SIGNED BY GOVERNOR: 4/1/15	Mayor Nabours, League Executive Cmte. member	DCM – J. Watson PW-Erik Solberg, Director PW-Solid Waste: Pat Bourque, Solid Waste Manager; Mike Gallegos, Landfill Manager	AZ League of Cities AMCCA (AZ Municipal Commercial Collections Assn) Member cities of SWANA (Sierra Vista, Peoria, Tempe, Prescott, Flagstaff) Sierra Club	OPPOSED and worked for amendment to mitigate some of the effects of original language
SB1241 (striker)	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: To prohibit governments from restricting the use of plastic bags through fees, bans or charging a recycling fee on plastic bottles and containers TO GOVERNOR: 4/2/15		ICM Jeff Meilbeck PW-Erik Solberg PW-Sustainability Rebecca Sayers & Nicole Woodman	AZ League of Cities	OPPOSED
SB1293	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: GILTEM (Gang & Immigration Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission) subaccount appropriation for software for “Predictive policing” TO GOVERNOR: 4/1/15		Police Chief Kevin Treadway	CJCC (Coconino County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council)	SUPPORT
SB1300	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: LAW ENFORCEMENT BODY CAMERAS prescribed when a body camera could be turned off by request and takes away department policy options and officer judgment; this bill was amended on the floor by the bill	Council-member Coral Evans	Police Chief Kevin Treadway (TESTIFIED IN COMMITTEE on 2/18/15) Asst. City	AZ League of Cities AZCOPS (AZ Chiefs of Police)	OPPOSED

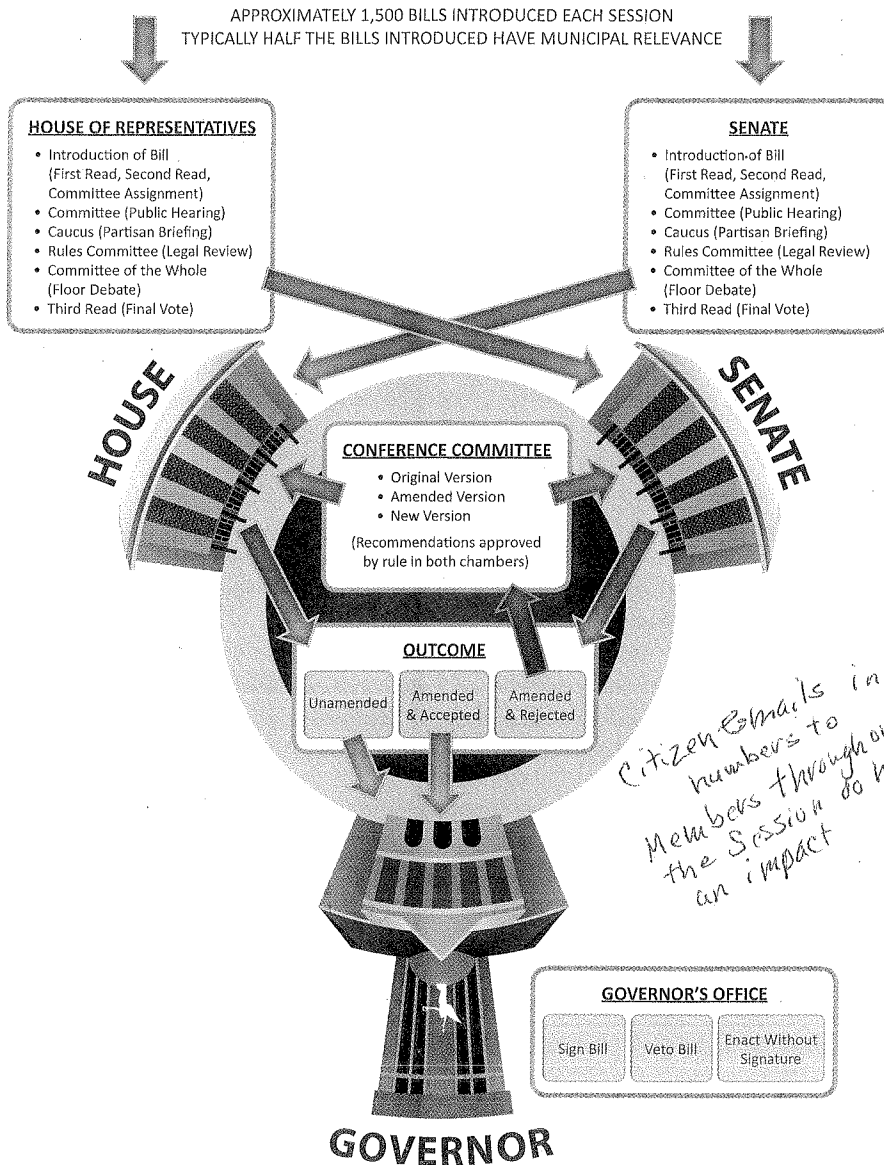
		sponsor; language turned into a legislative study committee SIGNED BY GOVERNOR: 4/1/15		Attorney Marianne Sullivan		
SB1342	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: RESPONSIBILITY OF PAYMENT FOR UTILITY SERVICES only to the person who resides at a property (rather than property owner) Rep. Thorpe introduced floor amendment SIGNED BY GOVERNOR: 4/1/15		DCM – J. Watson PW-Erik Solberg, Director PW-Solid Waste: Pat Bourque, Solid Waste Manager; Mike Gallegos, Landfill Manager	AZ League of Cities AMCCA (AZ Municipal Commercial Collections Assn) Member cities of SWANA (Sierra Vista, Peoria, Tempe, Prescott, Flagstaff) Sierra Club	OPPOSED
SB1344 (Striker)	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: DEFINES AND REQUIRES DISCLOSURE ON POSITIONS OF ANY COUNCILMEMBERS IN THE MINORITY ON AN ISSUE BY PRIVATE & PUBLIC LOBBYISTS DURING PUBLIC TESTIMONY, thereby requiring Councils to vote on every piece of legislation before it can be testified upon. It would slow the legislative process or excluded cities from being able to effectively have a voice on bills with municipal impacts		DCM Jerene Watson	AZ League of Cities Town of Gilbert	OPPOSED
		FAILED IN THE SENATE 3/30/15 - died				
SB1335 HB2005 (striker) 1335 substituted for 2005	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: PROHIBITS CITIES & COUNTIES FROM ADOPTING REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRE SPRINKLERS as part of a requirement for fire apparatus access roads enforceable by private civil action. SIGNED BY GOVERNOR: 3/30/15		Fire Chief Mark Galliard	AZ League of Cities RTAC (Rural Transportation Advocacy Council)	OPPOSED

SB1443	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX requiring cities to fully reimburse utilities for cost of adjusting/relocating facilities relating to construction projects		Dave Wessel, FMPO Director	AZ League of Cities RTAC (Rural Transportation Advocacy Council)	
SB 1446 HB 2590	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe	COMPANION TPT bills that got completed early in the Session and focused on the clarification of prime contracting SIGNED BY GOVERNOR: 2/24/15		Barb Goodrich, Mgmt. Services Director	AZ League of Cities	SUPPORTED CLARIFICATIONS
HB2008 (striker)	Thorpe (sponsor) Allen-Y Barton-Y	Purpose: ALLOWS USE OF FIREWORKS WITH CONDITIONS (such as prohibiting if a city is in a Stage 1 Fire Restriction) but pre-empt local ordinances of prohibition otherwise and conflicts with our ordinance TO GOVERNOR: 3/31/15		Fire Dept. - Paul Summerfelt, Wildland Fire Manager	AZ League of Cities	OPPOSED
HB2131	Allen - Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: TAX ADJUDICATIONS; TO REMOVE \$30K CAPS ON ATTORNEYS FEES IN TAX CASES & APPLIES TO CITIES Now the limit is what the prevailing taxpayer has paid or agreed to pay the attorney with concern that it removes ability of the courts to decide when attorney's fees are unreasonable TO GOVERNOR: 4/2/15		Anja Wendel, Sr. City Atty.	ACAA (AZ City Attorneys Assn)	OPPOSED
HB2144	Thorpe (Bill Sponsor)	Purpose: TO ESTABLISH AN OFFICE OF FILM & MEDIA Assigned to House Commerce Cmte., Appropriations & Rules, but was not put on committee agenda to be heard; no one saw a draft of any bill language		Heather Ainardi, Marketing & PR Manager	AZ Film & Media Coalition / Coconino County (Metzger)	Would be in SUPPORT

		DID NOT MOVE FORWARD				
HB2254	Thorpe-Y (vote in Rules Cmte.)	Purpose: MUNICIPAL TAX EXEMPTION ON RESIDENTIAL LEASES Note: although we do not currently have a residential tax, this bill would remove future ability to assess a residential rental tax; the AZ League asked cities to come in opposition due to the large fiscal impact on many RETAINED ON HOUSE CALENDAR 2/25/15		Barbara Goodrich, Management Services Director	AZ League of Cities	OPPOSED
HB2557	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: CODES; ADOPTION BY REFERENCE- would reduce the number of original paper copies of a Code or Public Record that must be retained by a municipality from 3 to 1 original and 1 electronic version SIGNED BY GOVERNOR: 4/2/15		Liz Burke, City Clerk	City of Maricopa AZ League of Cities	SUPPORT
HB2320	Barton (sponsor) Allen-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: Would allow concealed weapons to take guns into public buildings without metal detectors or guards FAILED IN SENATE 3/30/15	Vice Mayor Celia Barotz	Police Chief Kevin Treadway Asst. City Attorney Marianne Sullivan	AZCOPS (AZ Chiefs of Police)	OPPOSED
HB2383 (Striker)	Allen – Y Barton- Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: Invalid Annexations (Deannexation), stipulated a municipality may not require property owners located outside of the city's or town's corporate boundaries to make an improvement as a condition of providing water or wastewater service without substantial nexus. – <u>Worked for and got an amendment added that made the bill apply only to Maricopa County.</u>			AZ League of Cities Town of Marana	OPPOSED until amended

		Amended in Senate and passed out 3/30 To Governor 4/2				
HB2419	Allen-Y Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: Pawn fees collected by municipalities would be prohibited FAILED IN SENATE 4/2/15		Police Chief Kevin Treadway Asst. City Attorney Marianne Sullivan	AZ League of Cities	OPPOSED
HB2621	Barton (co-sponsor)	Purpose: Multimedia Film Production Tax Incentives and create film liaison officer DID NOT MOVE FORWARD (Never received a 1 st Read in the House)		Heather Ainardi, Marketing & PR Manager	AZ Film & Media Coalition Coconino County	SUPPORT
HB2662	Barton-Y Thorpe-Y	Purpose: SPEED RESTRICTION CAPS ON PENALTIES, reducing penalties to \$15 for those speeding under 10 mph HELD IN SENATE		FMPO Dave Wessel	RTAC (Rural Transportation Advocacy Council)	
HB2673	Barton-N Thorpe-N	Purpose: State Budget Bill reconciliation and Dept. of Revenue assessments to each City - concerns by League on structure of assessments DID NOT MOVE TO VOTE OF HOUSE		Barbara Goodrich, Management Services Director	AZ League of Cities	OPPOSED

How a Bill Becomes a Law in Arizona

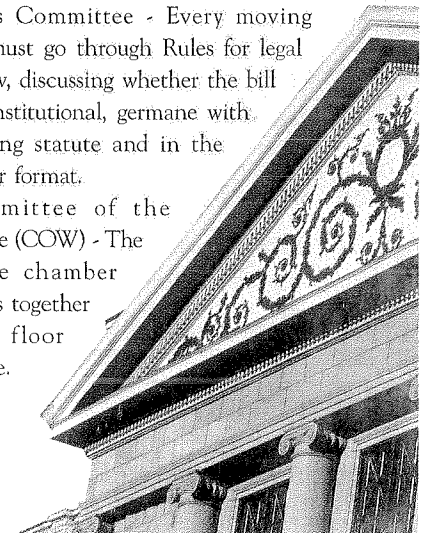


Each session state legislators introduce approximately 1,500 bills, half of which have some relevance to cities and towns. In this article we will shine some light on that process.

On the second Monday in January, the Legislature convenes. Bills start in either the House or the Senate, depending upon who sponsors the bill. Senate bills start with "1001," House bills start with "2001" and are then numbered sequentially. Although there are some differences in how each chamber operates, the basic process is the same. There are six sequential steps that take place in each.

1. A bill is "First and Second Read" on the Floor; and then assigned to a committee based on subject matter.
2. Committee – Committees are comprised of members from each party, with the majority party having the most seats. This is the only step in the entire legislative process that is truly 'open to the public' for comment. If a bill fails here, the bill is "dead," although there may be an attempt to resurrect it. If it passes, it moves on to Caucus.
3. Caucus – Each party meets to review bills and the "party position" is vetted.
4. Rules Committee - Every moving bill must go through Rules for legal review, discussing whether the bill is constitutional, germane with existing statute and in the proper format.
5. Committee of the Whole (COW) - The entire chamber comes together for a floor debate.

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**Legislative/Intergovernmental Protocols
City of Flagstaff – 2014/15**

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2. The Council establishes guidelines or rules of engagement as a formalized protocol on how the City's positions and messaging is to be conveyed, conducted in public discussion with agreement in principle on carrying the City's message. Each new Council should revisit these guidelines so that missteps are avoided as best as possible. Items to be determined should include:
 - a. Understanding that notification is to be made when any elected officials are meeting with elected officials of other bodies at any level of government.
 - b. It is customary and expected that appropriate staff in the other entity is notified of meetings between elected officials (a duty of the city-designated Intergov).
 - c. Annual legislative priority agendas should be adopted so there is agreement of majority opinion on what messaging City officials are to lobby for, carry into meetings or formal settings. Activities should be coordinated through the City Manager's office and with contracted government affairs or City staff assigned intergovernmental responsibilities.
 - d. Personal opinions are to be stated as such and not representing the City if they are not in alignment with the City's adopted position.
3. Staff's role is always to provide the opportunity for the elected official to be out front but to ensure they have been briefed on key points to speak with knowledge to an issue.
4. The AZ League of Cities & Towns sends Intergovernmental (IG) communications to the City intergov staff (currently Deputy City Manager), and at times to the Mayor, who currently serves on the League Executive Committee, to City/Town Managers, and at times to the City Clerk, City Attorney and/or Finance Director. Staff monitors legislation of interest routinely.
5. Public lobbyists must be registered with the Secretary of State's Office and the City Clerk or City Manager's Office makes sure the City Manager, Deputy City Managers and all Division (department) Directors are on the list. Elected officials do not have to be registered.
6. The laws governing gifts or favors to elected officials applies to municipalities, and any meals, gifts with monetary value, etc. should be reported (to Clerk or City Manager's staff) so that a report can be prepared as required by law.
7. Guidelines specifically for staff:
 - a. Information sent from a City computer on a legislative issue is considered representative of the City so it should not be done without blessing from the City Manager, or designee, or City Attorney.
 - b. If you are part of a professional association that lobbies, it is generally acceptable to work on their behalf on your own time, always ensuring that you are known to be representing them, not the City.



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Email: league@azleague.org • Web site: www.azleague.org

October 20, 2014

To: Mayors, Managers, Finance Directors, City and Town Attorneys
Re: Resolutions Process

Good morning;

In May, the League Executive Committee approved a change in the Resolutions process. The new system will allow for more in-depth research and greater involvement by elected officials and staff in developing the League's Municipal Policy Statement.

There will be five separate policy committees that will more thoroughly vet the issues. These policy committees will be chaired by a member of the Executive Committee, and will consist of elected officials and municipal staff. At times, other stakeholders may be invited to participate to provide needed expertise and perspective. League personnel will coordinate and staff these committees.

The five policy committees and their chairs will be:

- Budget, Finance and Economic Development, Mayor Kenny Evans of Payson;
- General Administration, Human Resources and Elections, Mayor Lana Mook of El Mirage;
- Neighborhoods, Quality of Life and Sustainability, Councilmember Gilbert Lopez of Coolidge;
- Public Safety, Military Affairs and Courts, Mayor Jerry Weiers of Glendale; and
- Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Works, Mayor Jonathan Rothschild of Tucson.

The chairs of these committees and League staff will review and assign the submitted ideas to the relevant committees. Each committee will meet to discuss and process these ideas, and will craft the actual resolution to be submitted to the Resolutions Subcommittee. Completed resolutions will then go to the full Resolutions Committee at the Annual Conference. The chairs of each committee will be responsible for presenting these new resolutions to the full Resolutions Committee.

In this new process, cities and towns will be able to submit policy ideas to the League at any time during the year and do not need to have a co-sponsoring city or town. If your city or town wishes to submit an idea for consideration, you can send it with a brief yet thorough explanation to resolutions@azleague.org. You do not need to create a full resolution as you did in the past. However, you may be consulted to provide more information on the idea and also may be invited to speak to the issue at one of the policy committee meetings. As in past years, Resolutions will be debated for final passage at the League's Annual Conference.

We are inviting you as elected officials and municipal staff to volunteer to participate in these committees. If you are interested, please submit your name, title and committee of interest

to resolutions@azleague.org. We expect these committees to meet a few times a year. We are including a general schedule of meeting dates in this correspondence. The actual committee membership and meeting schedule will be set by the committee chairs. Since we are just initiating this process, the first set of meetings will occur as soon as practical. In the future we expect committee work to be conducted year round as needed.

If you have any further questions please feel free to contact me. We look forward to your active involvement in this new process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Strobeck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ken" being more prominent.

Ken Strobeck
Executive Director

cc: Intergovs
Intergovs 2
Clerks without Managers
Ryan Anderson

General meeting schedule for Policy Committees

(Chairs are ultimately responsible for setting their schedules and agendas.)

November 2014

- Policy committees formed; chairs select members. Cities and towns invited to submit ideas for consideration. The chair may convene a meeting if there are pressing issues.
- Submitted ideas are discussed and committee decides on a course of action – decline, further study, or proceeds with drafting the resolution. League staff will draft the formal resolution.
- At the meeting subsequent to the approval of the issue going forward, the resolutions are reviewed and voted on for advancement. The committee may decide to have further refinements take place before actually voting. It may take several meetings before the resolution is ready to advance.

December – June

- Policy committees meet to continue to process issues. Frequency is determined by need and workload. League staff will keep chairs and committee members apprised of ideas submitted.
- Resolutions Subcommittee (consisting of each Policy Committee Chair and the full Resolutions Committee Chair) meet to review all submitted resolutions and make recommendations for disposition by the full Resolutions Committee.

July

- Cities and towns receive completed resolutions for review prior to the Annual Conference.

Late August (League Annual Conference)

- Full Resolutions Committee reviews and votes on recommended Resolutions. Policy Committee Chairs are responsible for presenting their resolutions to the full Resolutions Committee. Approved Resolutions go to the Annual Business meeting for final adoption.

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT

To: The Honorable Mayor and Council
From: Nicole Woodman, Sustainability Manager
Co-Submitter: Jeff Meilbeck, Interim City Manager
Date: 04/21/2015
Meeting Date: 04/28/2015



TITLE:

Plastic Bag Focus Group Final Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

No action is requested at this time. The purpose of this item is to hear results of the groups' work and provide recognition for their efforts and the efforts of the Sustainability Commission.

Executive Summary:

The Plastic Bag Focus Group was charged with developing a recommendation to the Interim City Manager on how to manage plastic bags in Flagstaff. The Interim City Manager established this group as a way to gain additional input and as a compliment to the extensive work completed by the Sustainability Commission. The group was made up of people representing diverse opinions and they were tasked with arriving at a solution that all group members could support. The thinking was that if this group of 7 could come up with a compromise solution that worked for them, the solution might also work for Flagstaff. As a result, the group developed a phased approach to reduce usage of point of sale plastic bags in a manner that enhanced civic pride. Their approach was designed to address litter, behavior, costs and ecological footprint.

Although the passing of recent legislation prohibits the City from taking action, the focus group determined the following phases to address the plastic bag problem in Flagstaff

Phase 1 (work is largely administrative during this phase)

- Draft and pass ordinance to reduce point of sale plastic bags. Ordinance will define clear phases, each one triggered by results of the previous phase. All phases will be completed in no more than 5 years. Ordinance will include education program, recycling program and fee or ban, if necessary, to achieve reduction in point of sale plastic bags.
- Develop metrics of success
- Develop statement to the community
- Develop education program for businesses and community
- Conduct audit/disclosure of bags at retail establishments

Phase 2

- Ordinance implementation begins including;
 - Recycling program implemented
 - Education Program Implemented (Education program will be implemented fully and continuously through private/public partnerships.)

- Consistent recycling program at retail organizations
- Conduct evaluation to measure success including business survey
- Results of evaluation may trigger automatic implementation of a fee or a ban

Phase 3

- If indicated by results achieved in Phase 2, a fee or ban may be automatically implemented. It should be pointed out that most members but not all members of the group agreed on an automatic trigger as an element of the ordinance.
- If Phase 3 triggered a fee, the City would continue to evaluate the success of the fee program with the possibility of implementing a ban in Phase 4.

Phase 4

- Determined by results of 3, Phase 4 may not be needed.

Although recent legislation prohibits many of the steps recommended above, staff are evaluating legal, financial and management implications and will provide another report to Council in the future.

Financial Impact:

Indicate basic financial impact in this box. Expanded financial information should be included on page 2, under Addl. Info.

Connection to Council Goal and/or Regional Plan:

This issue is not directly represented by a current Council goal; however, it does support the following Regional Plan Goals:

- E&C.2. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- WR.6. Protect, preserve, and improve the quality of surface water, groundwater, and reclaimed water in the region
- CC.1. Reflect and respect the region's natural setting and dramatic views in the built environment
- ED.7. Continue to promote and enhance Flagstaff's unique sense of place as an economic development driver

Previous Council Decision on This:

No.

Options and Alternatives:

Informational only.

Community Involvement:

Inform
Consult
Involve
Collaborate

Attachments: Plastic Bag Focus Group Report

The Plastic Bag Focus Group Report

April 14, 2015

Using a phased approach over the next 3 to 5 years the goal of the Plastic Bag Focus Group is to:

- **Reduce use of point of sale plastic bags**
- **Enhance civic pride by doing so**

We believe solutions to the problem should address:

- **Litter**
- **Behavior**
- **Cost** associated with: Clean-up, MRF/landfill issues and Alternatives to current system
- **Environmental/ecological footprint:** Wildlife, Watershed and Minimal impact

Phase 1 (work is largely administrative during this phase)

- Draft and pass ordinance to reduce point of sale plastic bags. Ordinance will define clear phases, each one triggered by results of the previous phase. All phases will be completed in no more than 5 years. Ordinance will include education program, recycling program and fee or ban, if necessary, to achieve reduction in of point of sale plastic bags;
- Develop metrics of success;
- Develop statement to the community;
- Develop education program for businesses and community;
- Conduct audit/disclosure of bags at retail establishments.

Phase 2

- Ordinance implementation begins including;
 - Recycling program implemented
 - Education Program Implemented (Education program will be implemented fully and continuously through private/public partnerships.)
 - Consistent recycling program at retail organizations
- Conduct evaluation to measure success including business survey;
- Results of evaluation trigger automatic implementation of a fee or a ban.

Phase 3

- Fee or ban is automatically implemented determined by evaluation results (most members but not all members of the group agreed on an automatic trigger as an element of the ordinance.);
- Evaluate and trigger Phase 4 (if fee is implemented at Phase 3 then evaluation results could trigger a ban).

Phase 4

- Determined by results of 3, Phase 4 may not be needed.

Memorandum

9.

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

To: The Honorable Mayor and Council
From: Rick Compau, Purchasing Director
Date: 04/23/2015
Meeting Date: 04/28/2015



TITLE:

Discussion of Procurement Preferences Regarding Carbon Footprint and Disadvantaged Businesses

DESIRED OUTCOME:

This presentation is informational only to obtain Council direction.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This work session item will provide an overview of potential procurement preferences regarding carbon footprint and disadvantaged businesses and to seek input from Council regarding next steps.

INFORMATION:

Attachments: [Procurement Preferences PowerPoint](#)

Procurement Preferences

City Council Work Session
Tuesday, March 31, 2015

Presented By
Rick Compau, Purchasing Director



Procurement Preferences

Back in August of 2014, City Council posed the following questions:

Carbon Footprint-

- Can the City award additional points to bidders who demonstrate that their use of sustainable practices will result in a reduced carbon footprint?

Businesses Who Serve Or Employ Disabled Persons-

- Can the City award additional points to bidders who serve or employ disabled persons?



Procurement Preferences

Carbon Footprint-

- The definition of Carbon Footprint is the total sets of greenhouse gas emissions caused by an organization, event, product or person.
- Can the City award additional points to bidders who demonstrate that their use of sustainable practices will result in a reduced carbon footprint?
 - **Recommendation-** Not recommended at this time until further research can be conducted.
 - **Reasons:** This type of procurement preference or giving additional points has not yet been adopted by any entity in Arizona;
 - We need additional time to review options to present to Council that are effective and legally enforceable. Some options that have been adopted have received challenges;
 - Complex methodologies are used to measure the total carbon footprint and cannot be calculated accurately because of the large amount of data required; and
 - Carbon dioxide can be produced by natural occurrences.
- If Council chooses to proceed, we will discuss whether we believe evaluation criteria could be applied to all solicitations. This will take considerable staff time to conduct this evaluation since this is a novel concept in Arizona.

Procurement Preferences

Businesses Who Serve Or Employ Disabled Persons-

- In the State of Arizona, purchases from businesses who serve or employ disabled persons are limited to the following:
 - Arizona industries for the blind;
 - Certified nonprofit agencies that serve individuals with disabilities; and
 - Arizona correctional industries.
- Can the City award additional points to bidders who serve or employ disabled persons?
 - **Recommendation**- Proceed ahead and revise our City's Procurement Code Manual to incorporate language from A.R.S., 41-2636 that allows procurement preferences for Arizona businesses who serve or employ disabled persons where the City may direct select.
 - **Reason**: Social Responsibility
 - **Alternative** – Revise our City's Procurement Code Manual and incorporate the same language as referenced above with a set aside percentage applicable to the City's purchases or contracts to Arizona businesses who serve or employ disabled persons.



Procurement Preferences

Businesses Who Serve Or Employ Disabled Persons-(Cont'd)

Proposed Language-

- “The City may purchase or contract for any products, materials and services directly from Arizona industries for the blind, certified nonprofit agencies that serve individuals with disabilities and Arizona correctional industries without competitive bidding if the delivery and quality of the products, materials or services meet the City’s reasonable requirements”, as determined by the Director and the requesting Department”.

OR

- “The City may set aside, at minimum, ??% of its purchases or contracts for any products, materials and services directly from Arizona industries for the blind, certified nonprofit agencies that serve individuals with disabilities and Arizona correctional industries without competitive bidding if the delivery and quality of the products, materials or services meet the City’s reasonable requirements”, as determined by the Director and the requesting Department”.



Next Steps

- Council Direction Tonight:

- Carbon Footprint-**

- If deemed appropriate, conduct additional research on carbon footprint measurement criteria for identifying reliable and equitable standards.
 - Additional research will include the impact on small businesses and any challenges these small businesses might experience.

- Businesses Who Serve Or Employ Disabled Persons-**

- If deemed appropriate, proceed ahead with incorporating new language in the City's Procurement Code Manual allowing a procurement preference for Arizona businesses who serve or employ disabled persons.
 - At minimum, set aside a percentage of the City's purchases or contracts for Arizona businesses who serve or employ disabled persons.



Questions??

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT

To: The Honorable Mayor and Council
From: David Wessel, Metro Planning Org Manager
Date: 04/23/2015
Meeting Date: 04/28/2015



TITLE:
US 180 Winter Congestion Report

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
 Discussion and possible direction

Executive Summary:

Traffic congestion on US 180 during peak winter activity is a historical problem with multi-hour delays for recreationists returning to town from snow play areas and the Arizona Snowbowl. The traffic backup creates concerns for emergency vehicle access to the corridor and makes residents of the corridor feel trapped in their own homes. The problem typically occurs on holiday weekends with good snow conditions and fresh snow. Implementation of a traffic signal timing plan in 2011 resolved most of the traffic congestion that season and for the following two seasons. This past holiday break saw the evening traffic congestion return and introduced a new phenomenon of morning congestion during both the Christmas and New Year's weekends. The backup extended to I-17 creating potentially dangerous conditions. This report describes those conditions and the status of the implementation strategies developed in the 2011 study developed by FMPO in cooperation with regional agencies and businesses. Active pursuit of strategies may see some read for the 2015-2016 season.

Financial Impact:

Implementation of additional strategies will have a range of financial impacts:

- Thousands of dollars for additional signs;
- tens of thousands of dollars for new timing plans
- tens of thousands of dollars for an AM radio broadcast; plus an annual maintenance or licensing fee
- thousands of dollars to manage dual, southbound right turn lanes on Milton and millions of dollars to make permanent improvements
- Tens of thousands of dollars for transit service plus considerable coordination efforts with vendors and concessionaires and/or millions of dollars to widen shoulders on US 180 for a transit bypass lane (and emergency vehicle access)

Connection to Council Goal and/or Regional Plan:

COUNCIL GOALS:

3) Provide sustainable and equitable public facilities, services, and infrastructure systems in an efficient and effective manner to serve all population areas and demographics

Winter recreation creates economic activity that, through tax collection, benefits the broader community. The traffic impacts are disproportionately born by residents in the US 180 corridor.

That said, the impacts occur on 8-12 days per year.

5) Develop and implement guiding principles that address public safety service levels through appropriate staffing levels

With emergency service access potentially restricted by congestion, contingency plans should be in place.

6) Relieve traffic congestion throughout Flagstaff

The Milton corridor is the most congested in the City. Between Butler and W. Route 66 it is over capacity during evening peak hours. The congestion on US 180 is largely event related. Both Milton and US 180 are under ADOT jurisdiction so cooperation and collaboration are critical.

8) Improve effectiveness of notification, communication, and engagement with residents, neighborhoods and businesses and about City services, programs, policies, projects and developments

Winter recreation and its positive and negative impacts warrant notice to and involvement of all in seeking resolution.

9) Foster relationships and maintain economic development commitment to partners

Winter recreation is a recognized part of the regional economy. Working in concert with the business community to balance the benefits and impacts is important.

REGIONAL PLAN:

There are several goals promoting transportation safety and efficiency, regional cooperation and quality emergency services.

Previous Council Decision on This:

The City was an active part of the US 180 Winter Congestion Study in 2011 and the Council heard several reports on the study. Alternative or dispersed snow play areas is an implementation strategy and previous councils have heard reports on locations in the city and region.

Options and Alternatives:

The Council may wish to direct City staff or request the FMPO to pursue further implementation strategies. The following is a list of what has been done and what additional activities might take place:

Coordination: The Winter Activity Task Force did not meet prior to the holiday week. A coordination meeting was held among member agencies public safety staff and Coconino County Public Works.

Traffic operations: The signal timing plan was in operation during the entire period. It may be possible to improve it, extend the hours it operates, and develop a morning signal timing plan for the same days. It may be possible to place a temporary signal at the US 180 / Snowbowl Road intersection to equitably distribute traffic between those two roads.

Traffic signing for alternate routes: No additions to the existing alternate route signing were in place. ADOT has developed new signs for additional locations and others were proposed in the 2011 Study. They are fold-up signs to be displayed during critical periods. For some visitors recreating north of Snowbowl Road continuing north to 64 and returning to I-17 via Williams may be a time advantage in particularly crowded times. This does represent a potential economic loss to businesses in Flagstaff.

Early departure incentives: No incentives were offered, but USFS personnel report that Wing Mountain

concessionaires would use a loud speaker starting at 2:00 p.m. to encourage people to leave early. USFS also encouraged Wing Mountain to stay open until 5:00 p.m. to ease the demand at 4:00 p.m. Some in the business community express concern that such actions diminish the visitor experience. Incentives may be appealing to some.

Visitor Information: Information flier was updated for 2014-2015 with improved directions to Ft. Tuthill, Mormon Lake and Happy Jack. The Visitor Center, Chamber and Convention & Visitors Bureau reported that visitor contacts were not higher than normal though all received calls or emails complaining about the traffic. Portable signs were in place on I-17 but the overhead variable message signs were not in use. Development of an AM Radio message in conjunction with signing has been proposed. Again, some in the business community have expressed concerns about the type of message sent.

Alternate Snow Play Areas: Ft. Tuthill was open with the cinder hill play area in place. They did receive many phone calls from Phoenix. No visitation numbers are collected but it did appear busier than usual. Officers reported random snow play along most regional highways.

Travel Demand Management: This was not offered in the original report but represents an opportunity to work with area residents and employers to encourage people to work from home, leave work early, take the bus or take other measures to help ease travel demand.

Background/History:

Background

In 2011 the member agencies of the FMPO requested that a study be conducted to evaluate the congestion experienced on US 180 during peak winter activity and to recommend mitigation solutions. Interviews and data indicated that the worst congestion historically occurred during holidays, on a weekend, with good snow conditions and recent snowfall with the worst conditions occurring when snowfall exceeded ADOT's ability to clear the shoulders on US 180 in a timely manner.

Modeling of the corridor indicated that traffic signal timing was the principle cause of congestion followed by a lack of capacity in the corridor. Tracking of blue tooth signals in vehicles indicated little time advantage to the use of alternate routes and very little use of alternate routes from US 180 to I-17 southbound. The study was conducted in cooperation with the Winter Activity Task Force spearheaded by the Coconino County Parks Department.

The study recommended short, mid and long-term solutions to be implemented as conditions indicated. The following table lists these strategies and their respective support from the public:

Table 3: Near-, Mid-, and Long-Term Strategies Point Totals

	MindMixer	Public Meeting	Combined
Near-Term Strategies	Points	Points	Total Points
Early Departure Incentives	57	59	116
Traffic Signal Timing	87	82	169
Traffic Signing Plan	51	72	123
Traveler Information System	67	74	141
Mid-Term Strategies	Points	Points	Total
Dispersed Snow Play Sites	94	99	193
Managed Lane	51	62	113
Transit	74	60	134
U.S. 180 Winter Recreation Parking Pass	25	18	43
Long-Term Strategies	Points	Points	Total
Alternate Route to I-40	72	63	135

Cable Propelled Transit	19	9	28
Intersection Improvements	31	71	102
Widen U.S. 180	29	50	79

Magnitude of and Effects of Congestion

Snowbowl reported employees remaining until 8 p.m. waiting for traffic to clear. Ski rental operations reported staying open to 9 or 10 p.m. waiting for customers to return skis.

- Friday, January 2 and Saturday, January 3: Northbound traffic backed up on to I-17 (some reports back to John Wesley Powell). Corroborated by ADOT District and DPS.
- Saturday, January 3: 1.5 to 1.75 hours from town (speculation) to Flagstaff Nordic Center. USFS Survey.
- Saturday, January 3: 2 hours from Flagstaff Nordic Center to USFS Ranger Station on 89 (USFS employee)
- Friday, January 2 and Saturday, January 3: 3 hours from Snowbowl to town with standing traffic up to 3 miles up Snowbowl Road. (Snowbowl employees/USFS communication)

Gas stations at Plaza, W. Route 66, and Forest reported record-breaking or double the amount of business. All businesses reported excessive traffic with some reporting customers having difficulty entering their site.

Snow Play Participation

The numbers reported below are in keeping with the historical counts from 2009-2011 reported in the congestion study.

Arizona Snowbowl Visitation:

- Thursday-Saturday: 3000+; Saturday 3800 (all reported as normal), capacity reached at 10:30 a.m.

Wing Mountain Snow Play Visitation:

- Friday (Jan. 2) = 1045 cars / Saturday (Jan. 3) = 988 cars / Sunday (Jan. 4) = 994 cars
- Parking lot was at capacity at 10:30/11:00 a.m. each day with little turnover. Earlier than past years.

Flagstaff Nordic Center (FNC)

- Reported as not reaching capacity most days. 1/1 – 290; 1/2 – 642; 1/3 – 326; 1/4 - 137

Crowley Pit Parking Area – about 1 mile past Flagstaff Nordic Center (Visitation):

- The site holds about 50-75 cars depending on conditions.
- About 275-325 cars each day.
- The parking lot was at capacity around 11:00/11:30 a.m. each day with slow turnover.

Informal Snow Play

- Informal reports from law enforcement that visitors were taking advantage of any patch of snow in which to play on US 180, SR 89a, and I-17

Potentially Contributing Factors

Most of these are anecdotal, some are fact based.

- Maricopa County population increase: Up about 200,000 people since 2011
- Holiday weekend traffic at points on I-17 up 6%-16% between 2011/12 and 2013/14.
- Holiday weekend traffic north of Snowbowl on US 180 up 8% between 2011/12 and 2013/14.
- Accidents: Several reported, but none were reported as significantly impacting traffic
- Local population and related traffic growth: Up 2,700 people between 2011 and 2013. Traffic on US 180 between Beale and Mead up 14%-25% between 2012 and 2013. Traffic on Humphreys between Dale and Columbus up 6% and 4% in 2012 and 2013 respectively.

Pending Information and/or Data

- ADOT – updated continuous traffic counts from I-17 at various locations and US 180 north of Snowbowl for the time period in question
- Flagstaff Convention & Visitors Bureau – Occupancy data for December 2014 and January 2015 and two prior years for comparison
- Flagstaff Sales Tax office – sales tax receipts for December 2014 and January 2015 and two prior years for comparison
- Grand Canyon National Park visitation at the South Entrance
- Response from Mormon Lake Lodge
- Response from Happy Jack Lodge

Key Considerations:

Economic Development: The winter season is traditionally slower for tourism with hotel occupancy dropping from 85% in the summer to 60% in the winter. Winter activity such as skiing and snow play, especially if more predictable due to snow-making, can raise that winter participation rate and make fiscal planning more predictable for many firms in the industry. Excessive traffic - especially if it becomes the norm - may depress economic activity for businesses outside the hospitality sector as local residents and shoppers from outside the region choose to stay home or take their business elsewhere.

Public Safety: If traffic congestion persists, then access for emergency service vehicles to patients and/or victims in the corridor will be compromised. Contingency practices should be developed. One such idea is to have EMS vehicles prepared to take patients northwest on US 180 to areas that can be reached by helicopter. This, of course, is weather dependent. Alternatives such as a bypass or widened shoulders are expensive.

Congestion as a public cost: Many communities with depressed economies seek congestion. Busy streets and sidewalks are signs of success. NAU, another economic driver, produces extreme congestion during graduation. A notable difference is that much of its impacts are contained on campus and the commercial corridors. There may be value in a public discussion about what is an acceptable level or duration of congestion during these events.

Expanded Financial Considerations:

Rough costs associated with various implementation strategies:

Use of Variable Message Signs (VMS): not known at this time

Installation of AM Radio: \$15,000-20,000 plus annual maintenance

Alternative Routes: \$1.8 million per lane at 6 miles = \$20 million more or less

Widened Shoulders: \$600,000 per "shoulder" mile at 4-5 miles. One-side = \$3 million more or less

Managed Lanes: \$500-600/day

Dispersed Snow Play Areas: \$200,000-\$1,000,000 depending on level of improvement

Design, environmental clearances and construction management fees will add an additional 35-50%

Community Benefits and Considerations:

Mitigating traffic impacts during peak events creates a better experience for visitors and a less inconvenient and safer situation for residents and businesses alike.

Certainly the economic activity within the hospitality sector created by snow play helps to balance the peak summer season and allow businesses to create revenue from their otherwise idle capital assets. It also brings in sales tax revenue to the region (sales tax and hotel occupancy for December and January are not yet available. A significant number of people are employed in the hospitality sector and increased activity will benefit their wages and tips.

The visits from Sonora, Mexico were noted and this represents expanded tourism opportunities and could translate to business activities in other sectors.

The availability of snow play areas and Snow Bowl add to the recreational activities in which area residents may participate.

Excessive traffic is detrimental to some businesses and several reported the difficulty their customers experienced entering and existing their businesses.

During extreme traffic congestion residents of the corridor experience difficult entering and exiting their neighborhoods. This represents delayed or deferred economic activity.

Community Involvement:

Inform - Outreach to the public continues through the distribution of winter activity maps and advertisement. Some strategies expand the "inform" type of outreach.

Involve - the original 2011 study had extensive on-line participation and two well-attended public meetings in which participants were involved in identifying problems, developing solutions and prioritizing them.

Expanded Options and Alternatives:

Managed lanes: It is possible to manage traffic lanes or Humphreys or possibly Beaver to allow for dual right turns onto westbound E. Route 66. This is only effective if the downstream traffic is cleared so well that the right turn at Humphreys becomes the bottleneck.

Transit or Shuttle Services: The successful implementation of transit services geared at relieving congestion requires considerable interagency cooperation. A base parking lot is required. No city lots are sufficient. The most likely candidate is an NAU lot which may be available since most peak winter events are during scheduled holidays. In order to reduce congestion is requires the elimination of parking at the snow play and ski destinations. This would likely including charging for parking at those locations, too. Adding transit or shuttle vehicles to the traffic stream without removing vehicles does not resolve the problem. Given the apparent increasing demand for snow play opportunities and the evident lack of capacity in the US 180 corridor some means of metering traffic into the corridor in addition to the transit services may be warranted.

Capital improvements: Major intersection improvements at Humphreys/Rte 66; widened shoulders on US 180 and some other physical changes can assist this condition. The wide shoulders could be used by transit to jump the queue and make emergency vehicle access better. It likely requires more aggressive enforcement to keep the shoulders clear.

Attachments:

CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT

To: The Honorable Mayor and Council
From: Jeff Meilbeck, City Manager
Date: 04/23/2015
Meeting Date: 04/28/2015



TITLE:
FY 2016 Budget Confirmation

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that Council review and confirm final budget direction provided at April 22, 2015 Budget Advance.

Executive Summary:

The Budget Advance on April 21st and 22nd resulted in clear direction from Council for the FY 2016 Budget. However, there is at least a small amount of confusion about final budget additions due to the process that was used. Specifically, yellow and blue cards were left on one pinned board and a spreadsheet was projected on another. These two displays were not identical. In the interest of full transparency and to ensure staff clearly understand Council's majority direction, staff will confirm final conclusions with Council.

Financial Impact:

Council had \$120,000 of ongoing revenue and \$250,000 of one time revenue to apportion at the end of the Budget Advance. Council added \$13,000 of ongoing revenue by approving a 10% increase in cemetery fees. The total of \$133,000 ongoing revenue and \$250,000 one time revenue was apportioned as follows:

ONGOING EXPENSE

1) Heart Rate Monitors	\$ 40,000
2) Dispatcher Salary Increase	61,000
3) City Manager Contingency	32,000 (reduced from \$35,000)
TOTAL ONGOING EXPENSE	\$133,000

ONE-TIME EXPENSE

1) Paramedic Pay (2 Years)	\$200,000
2) Dispatcher Attraction and Retention Strategies	50,000
TOTAL ONE-TIME EXPENSE	\$250,000

Connection to Council Goal and/or Regional Plan:

COUNCIL GOALS:

- 1) Invest in our employees and implement retention and attraction strategies
- 5) Develop and implement guiding principles that address public safety service levels through appropriate staffing levels

Previous Council Decision on This:

This was discussed on April 21st and 22nd.

Options and Alternatives:

Attachments: Yellow/Blue Card Summary

Ongoing Revenue		1x Revenue		Ongoing Expense		1x Expense	
Cemetery Fees	\$13,000	Additional General Fund	\$250,000	Heart Monitors	\$40,000	Paramedic Assignment Pay - 2 years	\$200,000
Additional General Fund	\$120,000			\$1 salary increase for Dispatchers (\$76k full budget) Contingency - City Manager	\$61,000 \$35,000	Dispatcher Retention and Attraction strategies	\$50,000
Total Ongoing Revenue	\$133,000	Total 1x Revenue	\$250,000	Total Ongoing Expense	\$136,000	Total 1x Expense	\$250,000
				Ongoing Balance	-\$3,000	1x Balance	\$0