

## **Legislative Link Update**

### **May 12, 2017**

On Wednesday May 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:59 pm the 53<sup>rd</sup> Legislature adjourned its First Regular Session sine die – meaning they will not meet again until the Legislature convenes its Second Regular Session in January 2018 unless a Special Session is called during the interim. The session dragged on at a slow pace for the last few weeks as legislators debated and negotiated a state budget centered around an increase in funding for K-12 schools and a theme of growing opportunities for all Arizonans. The Governor's Office issued this press release shortly after the Legislature adjourned sine die:

<http://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2017/05/end-session-brings-bipartisan-achievements>

Lasting 122 days, this year's session was slightly above average for what we've seen in recent years. For comparison, the 2016 session was completed in 117 days, the 2015 session lasted 81 days, and the 2014 session was 101 days.

Of the 1,150 bills, memorials, and resolutions introduced this legislative session, 353 were passed by both chambers of the Legislature and sent to the Governor. So far, the Governor has signed 302 bills and vetoed 5. Governor Ducey has 10 business days following the end of a session to take action on the remaining bills. Approximately 37 of the bills on our tracking list have already been signed by the Governor and several more await his signature or veto. The general effective date of the new laws will be August 8, 2017 unless a bill has another specified date and was passed by a 2/3 emergency clause.

Glendale's Intergovernmental Programs staff will now spend the next several weeks putting together our annual End of Session Report which will provide a comprehensive overview of the bills that we were tracking for the session. That report will be posted on our website at <http://www.glendaleaz.com/intergovernmental/index.cfm> when it becomes available.

### **State Budget Approved**

On Friday May 5<sup>th</sup> at approximately 3:56 am the Legislature passed a state budget of approximately \$9.8 billion, which is awaiting a signature or veto from Governor Ducey. It is anticipated that Governor Ducey will sign it as his administration was involved in the negotiations of the final budget package. The focal point of the budget was undoubtedly both K-12 and higher education and the additional funding for those areas has been highly reported in the media. Below are a few of the other budgetary items that have a direct impact on cities and towns.

### **HURF**

The budget sweeps \$99 million from HURF, which is \$3 million more than last year's sweep, but the Legislature repeated a one-time appropriation of \$30 million from the state general fund to cities, towns and counties to be distributed in a manner similar to the HURF formula. The additional \$3 million sweep was also backfilled through a separate appropriation.

### **University Infrastructure Capital Financing; Appropriations**

The state university bonding proposal that we have reported throughout this legislative session was approved with bipartisan support. The funding is a direct appropriation from the state General Fund for 25 years with no impact to local TPT or shared-revenue. For FY 2018-2019, the following amounts are appropriated: \$11.9 million to ASU, \$10.5 million to U of A, \$4.5 million to NAU, for a total of \$27 million. For FY 2019-2020 through FY 2042-2043, the appropriation can increase annually by an amount

equal to 2% of the prior year's appropriation, or the GDP price deflator, whichever is less. The appropriation cannot be less than it was in the prior year. In total, these funds allow the universities to bond up to a maximum of \$1 billion for a variety of projects. However, the law included language that specifically states the funds will NOT be used for constructing or operating a professional sports facility.

**Public Safety**

The Legislature approved the creation of the Arizona Department of Public Safety (ADPS) Forensics Fund which will be used for purchasing and installing fingerprint identification equipment, purchasing and maintaining crime lab equipment, and increasing DNA testing. The fund will be paid for by a 6% surcharge on civil and criminal infractions, money collected from the \$45 surcharge on defensive driving school attendance, and a small fraction of the Judicial Collections Enhancement Fund.

The Legislature also renewed a one-time appropriation of approximately \$1.2 million for border strike task force local support, \$761,700 of which is to be used for local law enforcement officer positions within the task force. Access to these funds requires a 25% local match. The remaining \$500,000 is to be used for grants to cities, towns and counties for costs associated with the prosecution and incarceration of those accused of crimes related to illegal immigration and other border-related crimes.

Thank you again for your participation in Glendale's Legislative Link Program.

This year, our bill tracking list will be available through an online report that can be accessed at the following website. The password is "Glendale". Utilizing a dynamic online report allows our Legislative Link participants to receive the most up to date information on bill status and committee hearing schedules at any time.

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25627&listid=57425&print=true>

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Arizona State Legislature Website: [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov)

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To determine who your state legislators are, [click here](#)

You can also visit the Intergovernmental Programs Department's webpage for additional information by [clicking here](#)

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Please note that the bills included on the Legislative Link tracking list are those that we believe might be of interest to you and your neighborhood. The Legislative Link tracking list does not include every bill being monitored by the City and the City does not have a formal position on all of the bills included on the list.

The information being emailed to you is a result of your subscription to the City of Glendale Legislative Link Program. We hope to grow this email distribution list to ensure that our neighbors and friends can be aware of the important issues being discussed at the legislature. To add an additional user or to unsubscribe, please email [dburt@glendaleaz.com](mailto:dburt@glendaleaz.com).

Best regards,

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