



2007 MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE



2007 First Regular Session, 48th Legislature

TOP PRIORITIES

- **Identify possible additional dedicated sources of Transportation funding.**
- **Continue to explore permanent solutions regarding counties' state-mandated AHCCCS/ALTCS contributions.**
- **Assume full county funding of Superior Court Judge and Justice of the Peace salaries in exchange for a further reduction in Maricopa County's AHCCCS contribution.**

This proposal represents a continuation of Maricopa County's strategic goal of taking full financial responsibility for previously shared state/county funding arrangements, in exchange for reduction in mandated payments to state-managed health care programs. This proposal would shift approximately \$8 million to the County for salaries, while reducing the County's mandated AHCCCS contribution on a dollar for dollar basis.

➤ THE FY 2007-08 BUDGET

The County will seek budgetary discussions this year on the following issues:

- *ALPHA Program Funding – possible expansion of this successful in-jail drug and alcohol treatment program to Juvenile level and further expansion of adult program.*
- *Arizona Meth Project Funding*
- *Air Quality Program Permanent Funding Mechanism – seek a dedicated revenue source for air quality funding that was previously eliminated.*
- *Human Services Campus Day Resource Center – explore possible state financial assistance for housing placement services.*

ADDITIONAL ISSUES

➤ AUTHORIZE ALTERNATIVE JURY SELECTION PROCESSES

This proposal would allow the Superior Courts in each County to determine juror selection procedures to best serve the court's needs and to best

accommodate the citizen juror. Each county could create its own process, which would then be subject to approval by the Arizona Supreme Court through court rule to ensure constitutionality.

➤ **SEEK AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING PEST ABATEMENT SPECIAL DISTRICT STATUTES** - *This proposal would bring the current statutory Pest Abatement District formation language into alignment with most other special districts under Title 48. Existing language is very antiquated and complicated which hinders the formation of such districts by residents seeking their creation. In addition, changes to these outdated statutes are necessary to reflect and uphold current property rights principles.*

➤ **MODERNIZATION OF COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER STATUTES** *The proposal would restructure and amend the current statutory language under Title 11 regarding the powers and duties of County Medical Examiners. Current language was adopted in the 1930s and is not reflective of current, modern practices of many Medical Examiners throughout the State. The changes will clarify and reflect current practices in Maricopa County while allowing discretion on the part of other counties in order to meet their responsibilities.*

➤ **LAW ENFORCEMENT SPECIAL DISTRICT** - *Allow for the formation of a special taxing district which could be initiated by residents in unincorporated areas of the county, to fund additional law enforcement personnel within the new district. In some areas, residents are requesting the ability to raise the level of law enforcement coverage beyond what would normally be provided in a specific area. This authority currently exists for cities/towns under Title 9. This proposal would grant counties this authority, also, under ARS Title 48.*

➤ **REVISE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSIONS** - *This proposal would alter the current criteria for serving on a county planning commission. Currently, if 60% of a supervisorial district is unincorporated, a supervisor must choose one member from an incorporated area and one from an unincorporated area. This is often very difficult due to geographic and population considerations. The suggested change would allow a supervisor to select members from anywhere within the district, regardless if they live in an incorporated or unincorporated area.*

➤ **CONTINUE WASTE TIRE PROGRAM** – *Authorize the continuation of the successful waste tire fee recycling program that is currently scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2008. The current funding allows all waste tires collected in counties to be recycled and the rubber used for other purposes. Prior to the program, most waste tires were stored in large piles throughout the State. The program allows for a \$2 fee on all new tire purchases and these fees pay for the collection and recycling of the tires. A ten-year extension is sought.*

➤ **REVISIONS TO CONSTABLE ETHICS COMMITTEE** - *Changes sought would include renaming the existing Committee the “Constables Ethics, Standards and Training Board,” authorizing the use of subpoena power during investigations and allowing the newly-constituted Board to set training criteria and approve training courses.*

➤ **INCREASE DOCUMENT STORAGE & RETRIEVAL FUND FEE FROM \$15 TO \$25** - *The existing Document Storage and Retrieval Fund was created in 1988 to assist the Clerks of the Superior Courts in offsetting the costs of converting and maintaining documents to micrographics and implementing computer automation of the system. Currently the fee does not cover the annual cost of this program and county general funds are now deeply subsidizing the system, which was not the statutory intent. This fee increase will allow full funding of the program to come, appropriately, from the fee.*

➤ **JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON ACCOMMODATION SCHOOLS** - *As a member appointed to the Accommodation Schools legislative study committee created by SB 1551 in 2006, Supervisor Brock will work closely with legislators, educators and stakeholders to develop recommendations and possible legislative solutions to complex and vexing issues of accommodation school governance and financing.*

➤ **TRANSITIONAL SUPPORTIVE HOUSING** - *Explore possible funding for the development of transitional housing for certain targeted populations within Maricopa County. Particularly explore potential private/county/state/non-profit partnership opportunities with regard to SMI housing.*

OTHER ISSUES of interest or concern which are anticipated to be brought forward during the 2007 legislative session:

- *Work with stakeholders on potential legislation regarding County Island Fire Districts, as there is still no resolution of this issue concerning a lack of fire protection and emergency medical services for county island residents in areas where private providers have withdrawn.*
- *State Trust Land Reform will be revisited since both recent general election ballot measures on this subject failed. Related to this issue is the current Hogan lawsuit against the State Land Department and political jurisdictions on “09” easements.*
- *Lot Splits – Monitor any recommendations forthcoming from the work of the Governor’s Growth Cabinet with regard to minor land divisions.*
- *Advocate Legislative Funding for Summer Youth Employment program.*
- *Address potential unfavorable Association of General Contractors legislation regarding local government use of private contractors.*
- *Protection of State-shared revenues.*
- *Monitor potential recommendations/legislation resulting from work of Joint Legislative Committee on Youthful Sex Offenders.*