

MARICOPA COUNTY 2009 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS



As Adopted by the
Maricopa County Board of Supervisors

Board of Supervisors / County Manager Issues

- The **State Budget** - Protect County Resources
Oppose state budget cutting options which would substantially shift costs to counties or create additional unfunded mandates. The County must maintain its ability to meet its core responsibilities, especially in the criminal justice system.
- **Transportation** - Work with Legislature, Governor and interested stakeholders/coalitions to help identify additional sources of transportation funding for acceleration of highway construction and maintenance.
- **Luke Air Force Base Preservation** - The outcome of an ongoing court case may necessitate additional legislative discussion.
- **Renewable Energy** – County staff will work with stakeholders to explore potential solar energy initiatives.

Statutory Issues

- **Sterilization of Unlicensed Companion Animals** – Amend ARS 11-1014 requiring that any dogs impounded as a result of biting a human or running loose shall not be released back to their owners without proper licensing and being spayed or neutered. The goal is to take the opportunity, when an animal is under the control of Maricopa County Animal Care and Control, to ensure that required licensing and desired spay and neutering occurs. (From: Animal Care and Control)
- **Increase Criminal Penalty For Not Properly Controlling Dogs with a History of Biting Humans** – Add a new ARS 13-1208 creating:
 - Class 2 Felony for committing assault by knowingly, recklessly or intentionally causing a dog to cause serious harm to a person;
 - Class 5 Felony for not properly securing a dog which the owner knows has a history of biting people;
 - Class 6 Felony for not posting a warning for areas occupied by a dog determined to be vicious or dangerous by a court. (From: Animal Care and Control)

- **Authority to Enter Premises for Inspection and Abatement** – Current statute requires the county Environmental Services Department to obtain a court order prior to entering abandoned property in order to abate a public health threat. The proposal would require the Department to post a notice 24 hours prior to entering property that is deemed abandoned. If after posting, a property owner is found and entrance is denied, the county would still be required to obtain a court order prior to gaining entrance to abate a public health threat. The change is requested due to the explosion of abandoned properties that have become breeding grounds for mosquitoes, feral bees and rodents. Obtaining court orders and awaiting police assistance to enter per the order leaves the public at risk for much longer periods of time than necessary. (From: Environmental Services)
- **Remove Sunset Clause on Authority to Use Alternative Project Delivery Methods (ADMPs)** – Current authority allows the counties to use ADMPs such as design-build on horizontal projects until June 30, 2010. The original sunset was put in place because many parties were not sure if local governments would see financial benefits from using such methods. Public Works has found these methods to be very useful and cost effective in the right situations and requests that the authorization to use these methods be extended. (From: Public Works)
- **Flood Control District Remainder Parcel Acquisition** – Under Title 11, the Board of Supervisors has the authority to purchase remainder parcels that were not needed to complete a capital improvement but were so impacted by the project that they have little value alone. The proposal would allow the FCD Board the same authority under Title 48 to purchase these remainder parcels as the BOS has under Title 11. Such acquisitions would only be made with the consent of the property owner. (From: Public Works)
- **Storm Water Legislation “Clean Up”** - Last year's successful Storm Water Pollution Prevention legislation requires a technical revision involving reference to the Arizona Administrative Code.

Other Potential Legislative Issues for Possible Board Support

- ***Support Renewable Energy Companies' Capital Investment in Arizona - Support GPEC efforts to provide economically viable incentives to help attract renewable energy companies and projects seeking to locate to this State that would be anticipated to have a significant positive economic impact.***
- ***Support CSA proposal to permit special districts to utilize Alternate Project Delivery Methods in their procurement processes.***
- ***Support CSA proposal to remove the current requirement that a county must publish its annual budget twice in the newspaper; allow publication***

of a summary budget; and remove current requirement for a special budget approval meeting.

- ***The issue of State Trust Land Reform may be revisited by the Legislature once again since a recent citizens' initiative failed to qualify for the 2008 general election ballot.***

***[Maricopa County Government Relations -
As Adopted by the Board of Supervisors on November 17, 2008]***