

PPGRC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

FEBRUARY 27, 2024



GENERAL UPDATE



Today is the 51st day of session

1,629 bills introduced, one signed into law

130 memorials/resolutions introduced, 6 transmitted



Initial committee deadline passed 2/15, next committee deadline is 3/22



Expect slowdown next week due to several members traveling



Focus will shift to budget negotiations

BUDGET UPDATE



As of January 2024, budget shortfall projected:

(\$835) million in FY '24

(879) million in FY '25



Most recent budget numbers show consistency with the baseline projection



Executive budget proposal addresses shortfall in part by eliminating numerous transportation projects funded over several recent fiscal years

BUDGET UPDATE

- Executive budget proposal eliminates \$419 million in transportation projects:
 - **\$88** million for the SR 24 extension, including a new interchange at SR 24, and Ironwood Rd design
 - **\$67** million for SR 347 improvements, including a new interchange at Riggs Rd and intersection improvements at Casa Blanca and Cement Plant.
 - **\$12.3** million for a Tier 2 study on the North / South Corridor in Pinal County
 - **\$269K** for design improvements on SR 87 near Coolidge
- Of the \$419 million proposed for clawback, **Pinal County loses almost \$168 million, shouldering roughly 40% of the proposed cuts**
- Also sweeps \$13 million from the state aviation fund



BUDGET UPDATE

We are asking everyone to **communicate how bad these cuts will be in our region** to:

- Governor
- Legislators
- ADOT

Roads will get more expensive with time, and these projects are needed now

Losing state funds will jeopardize our ability to get federal grants

Rapid growth in Pinal County mandates infrastructure investment – the safety of our residents and economic vitality of our communities depend on these funds

CITY REQUESTED LEGISLATION

HB 2381 non-contiguous county island fire districts (Carter) on behalf of Queen Creek

- Allows the expansion of boundaries of non-contiguous fire districts formed to parcels located adjacent to the city or town's boundaries or the existing fire district and contained within a city or town's municipal planning area
- Allows service to neighborhoods, when requested by the residents and all other statutory requirements are met, located adjacent to, but not included in the municipality's jurisdiction.
 - Provide residents of these neighborhoods with enhanced options for fire service should San Tan Valley decide to incorporate



CITY REQUESTED LEGISLATION

HB 2132 municipal land sales; public notice (Griffin) on behalf of Maricopa

- Creates middle tier for land sales valued between \$1.5 million and \$15 million
- Enhanced transparency / public comment, but no election requirement
- Requires sale at or above appraised value

HOUSING BILLS

- There are a handful of housing bills that are extremely concerning as they restrict local control and the voice of our residents in shaping their communities
- Many jurisdictions have **thousands** of available lots to build on, supply is not the issue
 - Queen Creek: 10,000 platted/approved lots
 - Apache Junction: 3,100 platted/permitted lots
 - Maricopa: 30,007 platted residential lots; 27,725 permitted lots
 - Florence: 2,405 platted lots, 27 approved PUDs—only 2 in active development
 - Casa Grande: 19,000 platted lots

HOUSING BILLS

These are bills we have concerns with, and are continuing to engage stakeholders on:

- **HB 2570 / SB 1112 planning; home design; restrictions; prohibition**
- **SB 1665 municipal development; permits; review**
- **HB 2297 adaptive reuse; commercial buildings; zoning**
- **HB 2720 / SB 1415 accessory dwelling units; requirements**
- **HB 2721 municipal zoning; middle housing**
- **SB 1506 municipalities; housing; commercial redevelopment; zoning**

WATER LEGISLATION

Relevant water legislation this session includes:

- **SB 1181** groundwater replenishment; member lands; areas
- **SB 1172 / HB 2647** physical availability credits; water supply
- **HB 2017** assured water supply; commingling
- **HB 2200 / HB 2201** groundwater transportation; Harquahala non-expansion area

TRANSPORTATION BILLS



HB 2037 / SB 1184 department of transportation; continuation

ADOT must be continued this year in law, but these bills are vastly different right now
Will likely be reconciled at the end of session



HB 2412 appropriations; highway and road projects

This is RTAC's priority project bill
Likely dead due to current budget, but highlights infrastructure needs in rural AZ



HB 2866 electric vehicles; registration fee


Adds \$135 annual fee to all EV registrations
Considered in conjunction with bills that prohibit vehicle miles traveled monitoring

GENERAL LEGISLATION

HB 2309 GPLET; agreement posting; abatement period

- Reduces abatement period to four years
- Negative impact on usefulness of GPLET as a tool for economic development

SCR 1006 / HCR 2023 property tax refund; nuisance enforcement

- Referred to the ballot, bypass Governor's action
 - Drafted without definition, will be open to administrative interpretation
 - Likely to result in expensive and contentious litigation
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QUESTIONS?

