

City of Tempe 2016-2017 Federal Legislative Principles

TRANSPORTATION AND TRANSIT

- **Streetcar Project** – Advocate for full funding of the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Small Starts program and secure the \$75 million and a prompt release of funds from Small Starts proposed by the President for the Tempe Streetcar project.
- **Transportation Funding** – The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, which provides five years of federal transportation funding was signed into law in 2015 and the City will actively compete for road, bridge and transit grant funding.

AVIATION

- **Aviation Noise** – Support efforts to improve the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) community engagement practices so that residents of the City are better informed and have opportunities to express viewpoints on how new flight patterns in and out of Sky Harbor International Airport may affect them.
- **Drones** – Support safety requirements for unmanned aerial systems, or drones, so they do not jeopardize public safety or the City's critical infrastructure.

PUBLIC SAFETY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- **COPS Hiring** – Support the continuation of funding to hire career law enforcement officers in an effort to increase Tempe's policing capacity and crime prevention efforts.
- **Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG) Program** – Support full funding for programs that help the City improve law enforcement, prosecution and courts, crime prevention and education, corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, and crime victim and witness initiatives.
- **Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) Grant Program** – Advocate for funding of the UASI grant program, which is distributed by the Arizona Department of Homeland Security to local governments for organizational resources and planning, equipment, training, and exercise needs for urban areas.
- **Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program** – Support funding to obtain protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.
- **Radio Communication Interoperability** – Monitor opportunities that offer resources for the regional wireless cooperatives that Tempe utilizes.

HUMAN SERVICES

- **Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program** – Support an increase in funding for public infrastructure improvements, housing rehabilitation and construction, job creation and retention, and other public services.

- **HOME Investment Program** – Support funding to increase the supply of affordable housing and expand homeownership for low income households in Tempe.
- **Choice Neighborhoods Program** – Support funding to transform neighborhoods into sustainable neighborhoods, with well-functioning services, schools, public assets, transportation, and access to jobs.
- **Veterans Programs** – Support funding and the development of programs to assist veterans, including housing, services, and veterans courts.
- **Homeless Funding** – Support the increase of funding available to address services and housing of homeless in the East Valley, including work programs.
- **Trauma Informed Care Program and Resources** – Support funding for programs, resources, and personnel that support this national initiative. Programs of potential interest are the CDC’s Injury Prevention and Control program,
- **Substance Abuse Prevention** - Support funding to increase evidence-based programs for youth to address underage drug and alcohol use. Programs of potential interest are Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act funding, Office of National Drug Control Policy’s Drug Free Communities funding, Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act future funding.
- **Senior Citizens** – Support funding to increase home-based services for elderly. Programs of potential interest are the Administration for Community Living’s Falls Prevention Program, the Older Americans Act Elderly Nutrition Program, and the Administration on Aging’s Long-term Care Ombudsman Program.

ENVIRONMENT/WATER

- **Waters of the United States** – Oppose the Environmental Protection Agency proposal to redefine waters that fall under federal jurisdiction that would result in unnecessary and costly burdens and regulations.
- **WaterSMART (Sustain and Manage America’s Resources for Tomorrow)** – Support funding for Tempe’s growing water needs.

FEDERAL FUNDS

- **Tax Deductibility of Municipal Bonds** – Work with the National League of Cities and the US Conference of Mayors to advocate against changes to tax exempt municipal bonds as a part of tax reform.
- **Internet Sales Tax** – Monitor federal legislation efforts, such as the Marketplace Fairness Act, that would allow the City to use revenues from online sales to support City priorities.
- **Federal Grants** – Identify and aggressively compete for federal grant funds to support these and other priorities.