

WORK SESSION
January 12, 2015
6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR

1 ROLL CALL BY THE CITY CLERK

2. UPDATE FROM COX COMMUNICATIONS

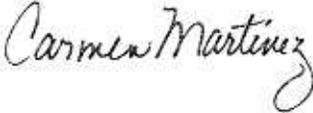
City Council will receive an update from Mr. Michael Stull, Manager of Government Relations for Cox Communications regarding the quality of the services being offered to Avondale residents as well charitable service programs that benefit the community. For information only.

3. 2015 STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Council will review and provide guidance to staff on the proposed 2014 City of Avondale Federal and State Legislative Agenda. For information, discussion and direction.

4 ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,



Carmen Martinez
City Clerk

Council Members of the City of Avondale will attend either in person or by telephone conference call.

Los miembros del Concejo de la Ciudad de Avondale participaran ya sea en persona o por medio de llamada telefonica.

Individuals with special accessibility needs, including sight or hearing impaired, large print, or interpreter, should contact the City Clerk at 623-333-1200 or TDD 623-333-0010 at least two business days prior to the Council Meeting.

Personas con necesidades especiales de accesibilidad, incluyendo personas con impedimentos de vista u oido, o con necesidad de impresion grande o interprete, deben comunicarse con la Secretaria de la Ciudad at 623-333-1200 o TDD 623-333-0010 cuando menos dos dias habiles antes de la junta del Concejo.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to A.R.S. 1-602.A.9, subject to certain specified statutory exceptions, parents have a right to consent before the State or any of its political subdivisions make a video or audio recording of a minor child. Meetings of the City Council may be audio and/or video recorded and, as a result, proceedings in which children are present may be subject to such recording. Parents, in order to exercise their rights may either file written consent with the City Clerk to such recording, or take personal action to ensure that their child or children are not present when a recording may be made. If a child is present at the time a recording is made, the City will assume that the rights afforded parents pursuant to A.R.S. 1-602.A.9 have been waived.

De acuerdo con la ley A.R.S. 1-602.A.9, y sujeto a ciertas excepciones legales, se da aviso que los padres tienen derecho a dar su consentimiento antes de que el Estado o cualquier otra entidad politica haga grabaciones de video o audio de un menor de edad. Las juntas del Concejo de la Ciudad pueden ser grabadas y por consecuencia, existe la posibilidad de que si hay menores de edad presentes estos aparezcan en estos videos o grabaciones de audio. Los padres puedan ejercitar su derecho si presentan su consentimiento por escrito a la Secretaria de la Ciudad, o pueden asegurarse que los niños no estén presentes durante la grabacion de la junta. Si hay algun menor de edad presente durante la grabacion, la Ciudad dara por entendido que los padres han renunciado sus derechos de acuerdo a la ley contenida A.R.S. 1-602.A.9.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

SUBJECT:

2015 State and Federal Legislative Agenda

MEETING DATE:

1/12/2015

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Pier Simeri, Community Relations and Public Affairs Director (623) 333-1611

THROUGH: David Fitzhugh, City Manager

PURPOSE:

Council will review and provide guidance to staff on the proposed 2015 City of Avondale Federal and State Legislative Agenda. This report presents federal and state legislative policy priorities that have been identified by staff as well as the Council.

BACKGROUND:

Legislation enacted at both the federal and state level can have significant effects on the ability of municipal government to serve its citizens. Therefore, it is important to identify the City of Avondale's Legislative priorities regarding potential or pending legislative actions.

The approved Agenda will define the City's legislative priorities and guide the staff's advocacy efforts. Updates will be provided during the Session as necessary.

The First Regular Session of the Fifty-Second Legislature will convene on Monday, January 12, 2015. Governor Ducey will give his State of the State address on this same day.

The 114th Congress will convene on January 6, 2015. President Obama is scheduled to give the State of the Union on January 27, 2015.

DISCUSSION:**Avondale's Guiding Principles**

In order to prioritize and guide staff's lobbying efforts, staff recommends that the Council endorse the following two key principles as our highest priorities.

- **Support to Preserve Local Funding Mechanisms**

Protect existing federal and state funding sources and authorities that generate revenue to the City of Avondale. Work to maintain local taxing authority and oppose unfunded mandates to local governments.

- **Oppose any Preemption of Local Authority**

Support efforts to ensure continuing local decision making authority and to prohibit preemption. Like other municipalities, Avondale has unique needs and characteristics and those needs are best met

by policies set by its local governing body. Statewide preemptive efforts to remove the ability to set policy at the local level should be opposed.

Avondale's Legislative Priorities

In addition to the guiding principles described above, staff recommends the review and consideration of additional issues to include in its agenda for 2015. These issues have been identified by staff as well as the Council to respond to the specific needs of the community.

Financial Stability

· **Support the maintenance of state-shared revenues from sales and income tax revenues and oppose any state action that would reduce state-shared revenues.**

The City's budget includes revenues from a number of state sources, most notably state-shared revenues. State-shared revenues comprise approximately 35% of the City's general fund, which assists in supporting police, fire, streets, parks and other critical City services. *Staff recommends opposing any action that would reduce state-shared revenue.*

The Marketplace Fairness Act is another measure that could affect City revenue. This bill would enable cities to collect sales taxes and use taxes from remote retailers with no physical presence in their state. *Staff recommends supporting the passage of this measure.*

Transportation

· **Support federal and state legislation and administrative programs to provide funding for major transportation projects within the City of Avondale and its regional jurisdiction.**

Current authorization for the federal Highway Trust Fund expires in May, 2015, and discussions will focus on finding sufficient revenues to fund a long-term bill. *Staff recommends supporting measures that would fund the Highway Trust Fund for future years.*

The State is forecasting a \$189 million deficit for FY15 and \$667 million shortfall for FY16. Given this shortfall, all funds are vulnerable as a means for closing the budget gap, including the Highway User Revenue Fund (the fund used for street maintenance programs). *While no details have emerged, staff recommends opposing sweeping of the HURF fund to aid in balancing the budget.*

BUDGET IMPACT:

Staff will closely monitor any legislation that may have a budgetary impact on the City.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff seeks input and direction from Council regarding the 2015, City of Avondale Federal and State Legislative Agenda.