



League of Arizona
Cities AND Towns

Resolutions Packet 2026



July 22, 2026

Dear Mayor,

As chair of the 2026 League Resolutions Committee, it is my pleasure to provide this packet for your participation in the Resolutions Committee at this year's League Annual Conference. The chairs of five League Policy Committees will present the Resolutions discussed in their respective committees to the Resolutions Committee.

Included in this packet you will find:

- Resolutions Committee Calendar
- Resolutions Committee Procedures
- Policy Committee Reports and Resolutions

As the first order of business at the conference, the Resolutions Committee will meet on **Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 1:30 p.m.** Lunch will be provided before the meeting. The actions of the full Resolutions Committee will be formally adopted at the League's Annual Business Meeting on **Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 4:30 p.m.**

If you have not accepted your appointment or designated a council representative to serve your city/town on the 2026 Resolutions Committee, please [make that appointment here.](#)

We look forward to having all member cities and towns participate in the Resolutions Committee. If you have any questions or comments about the Resolutions Committee, your appointment, or the resolutions submittal process, please contact the League office.

Sincerely,



Mayor Mila Besich, Superior
League Vice President

Enclosures

cc (via email): Managers, Clerks without Managers, Intergovs



2026 Resolutions Committee Calendar

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| June: | Policy Committees meet |
| June 8: | League sends email requesting mayors or council designees register to represent their city/town on Resolutions Committee. |
| July 22: | League sends out resolutions packet to membership. |
| August 18: | Resolutions Committee Meeting |
| August 20: | Resolutions ratified at the Annual Business Meeting |



League of Arizona Cities and Towns Resolutions Committee Procedures

1. Resolutions Committee Appointment

At least two (2) months prior to the Annual Conference, the President shall appoint members of the Resolutions Committee. The Vice-President shall serve as chair of the Resolutions Committee. Only one elected official from each city or town shall be appointed to the Resolutions Committee and cast the vote of such city or town.

Municipal staff are ineligible to serve on the Resolutions Committee.

2. Duties

The Resolutions Committee shall adopt statements of policy amending the annual Municipal Policy Statement, special resolutions, and such other resolutions of courtesy, commendation or appreciation as the Resolutions Committee deems appropriate.

3. Submission of Resolutions

- A. Except as otherwise provided, all proposed resolutions submitted by a city or town, including resolutions of courtesy, commendation, or appreciation, must be submitted to the Chair of the Committee or to the League office and considered by the Policy Committees. The resolutions process allows cities and towns to submit policy ideas to the League without the requirement of a co-sponsoring city or town. If a Policy Committee recommends approval, League staff will draft the resolution for presentation to the full Resolutions Committee. Sponsoring cities and towns, or other interested stakeholders may be consulted to provide more information on the idea and may be invited to speak to the issue at one of the Policy Committee meetings.
- B. Except in the case of emergency as determined by the Chair of the Resolutions Committee, no resolutions submitted by a city or town after the deadline specified in subsection A of this section or that have not been vetted by the Policy Committees may be considered.
- C. League staff may submit resolutions for consideration by the full Resolutions Committee if issues have not been addressed through the Policy Committee process.

4. Resolutions Committee Process

- A. The Vice-President shall assign submissions to the relevant Policy Committee. The Policy Committees will review submissions and develop draft resolutions for consideration by the Resolutions Committee. Except as provided in subsection 3, only resolutions advanced by the Policy Committees shall be discussed at the Annual Conference Resolutions Committee meeting.
- B. Resolutions shall be amended according to the process established by the Chair of the Committee.
- C. The completed resolutions will go to the full Resolutions Committee at the Annual Conference for consideration. The chairs of each Policy Committee will be responsible for presenting the resolutions and their committee activities to the full Resolutions Committee. Each member shall be notified at least four (4) weeks before the meeting.

5. Final Report

After the Resolutions Committee meeting, the Chair of the Resolutions Committee or a designee shall report to the entire League membership at the Annual Business Meeting about the approved resolutions. Resolutions adopted by the Resolutions Committee shall be formally adopted by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting and become the basis for the annual Municipal Policy Statement.



Policy Committee Reports

The following policy committee reports and resolutions are arranged in alphabetical order. The recommended resolutions are categorized by their respective committee initials and numbered according to the order in which they were considered.

Budget, Finance and Economic Development – BFED

General Administration, Human Resources and Elections – GAHRE

Neighborhoods, Sustainability and Quality of Life – NSQL

Public Safety, Military Affairs, and the Courts – PSMAC

Transportation, Infrastructure and Public Works – TIPW

NUMBER	TITLE	SPONSOR	SUMMARY
BFED 3	Post-Incorporation Cleanup	League	Clarifies how and when state shared revenues are distributed to newly incorporated cities and towns, including the population estimates used until official Census figures are available.
GAHRE 1	Public Notice Correction Window	Scottsdale	Allows cities and towns to correct minor, non-substantive public notice errors without restarting statutory notice timelines.
NSQL 1	STR License Fee Increase	Flagstaff	Increases the maximum short-term rental license or permit fee from \$250 to \$500 and allows the fee to support both permit issuance and enforcement.
NSQL 2	STR Lien Authority	Gilbert	Clarifies municipal authority to file liens for unpaid short-term rental penalties or fines after they become delinquent.
NSQL 3	STR Ballot Referral	Sedona	Seeks a voter-driven pathway allowing municipalities to ask local voters whether additional short-term rental regulation is appropriate.
NSQL 4	STR Definition Clarification	Sedona	Clarifies the statutory definition of a short-term rental as it relates to mobile home parks and multifamily buildings or complexes.
PSMAC 1	Statewide 911 Funding Sustainability & Modernization	League	Supports continued work with state and local stakeholders to identify sustainable long-term funding options for Arizona's statewide 911 system.
PSMAC 2	Modernizing AZ Law Enforcement Public Records Laws	Mesa	Modernizes public records laws related to digital law enforcement records, high-volume commercial requests, and open or active investigations.

These are the only items that will be voted on. The other submissions that did not move forward are summarized in the Chair's Report and will be reported on at the Resolutions Committee Meeting.



Chair's Report of the Budget, Finance and Economic Development Policy Committee

Mayor Eric Orsborn, Chair

Resolutions Committee Meeting, League Annual Conference

On **June 18, 2026**, the Budget, Finance & Economic Development (BFED) Committee convened to discuss three policy issues submitted by Flagstaff, Goodyear, and the League. Below is a summary of the issues considered and committee discussion and recommendations.

1. Expenditure Limitation Population Multiplier Flagstaff (BFED 1)

Flagstaff Councilmember Lori Matthews presented **BFED 1**, proposing a population multiplier for the city's expenditure limitation to account for its high concentration of second homes (22%) and short-term rentals (4%). Councilmember Matthews explained that these Class 4 properties draw on city services but are not counted by the state in calculating a city's expenditure limitation population. Councilmember Matthews noted that Flagstaff's expenditures have been climbing since 2019 and the city is now at its expenditure capacity. Under the proposal, cities whose non-primary residential percentage exceeds the state average could apply a multiplier to future expenditure limit calculations; Flagstaff's non-primary residential rate stands at 24%, compared to the state average of 19%. Councilmember Matthews emphasized that the proposal would have no budgetary impact on the state and would simply allow qualifying cities with high proportions of second homes and short-term rentals to apply for the adjustment.

Apache Junction Mayor Chip Wilson noted that the repeal of the state rental tax has already hurt Apache Junction's public safety budget, since the city sees high winter tourism but no longer has the means of collecting revenue from the tourism increase. Glendale Vice Mayor Ray Malnar asked about the proposal's broader consequences for larger municipalities and whether it would impact other collected tax revenues. Councilmember Matthews clarified that the multiplier is an opt-in and would only affect the city or town's own expenditure limitation, not any school or local tax collections. Peoria Councilmember Matt Bullock asked whether the approach would scale to midsize and larger cities without additional legislation, and Councilmember Matthews confirmed any city could evaluate its own eligibility and calculate a new limit accordingly. Queen Creek Councilmember Leah Martineau asked whether Flagstaff had considered using a voter-approved permanent base adjustment. Councilmember Matthews noted that Flagstaff voters had previously approved an increase to the city's expenditure limit.

René Guillen, League Executive Director, asked whether Flagstaff had considered using Home Rule instead of a permanent base adjustment, to which Flagstaff staff confirmed that the city had not. Lee Grafstrom, League Tax Policy Analyst, added that a permanent base adjustment vote every several years is not unusual and carries no cap on the requested amount, while Home Rule would remove expenditure limit considerations altogether in favor of anticipated revenues. Councilmember Matthews stated that Flagstaff is less familiar with Home Rule, and that the purpose of their proposed resolution is to fix the census undercount of its effective population, adding that the city is wary of voter fatigue from repeated ballot measures. Mesa Councilmember Alicia Goforth added that Mesa has returned to voters on similar issues numerous times, and that communicating directly with voters can be easier than pursuing a statutory fix. Vice Mayor Malnar closed the discussion by noting that his finance officials are concerned about unintended consequences and recommended further study, while expressing sympathy for the challenges facing affected cities.

Vice Mayor Malnar motioned to assign **BFED 1** as a possible future resolution for further study. Councilmember Bullock seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously via voice vote.



2. PSPRS Tier 3 Stakeholder Engagement Goodyear (BFED 2)

Goodyear Councilmember Trey Terry presented **BFED 2**, explaining that public safety personnel had requested greater League involvement in ongoing PSPRS pension reform discussions. Nick Ponder, League lobbyist, provided background on the history of the pension system and prior reforms, clarifying that while the League has participated in stakeholder meetings to date, some public safety personnel felt their voice was missing from the process. Mr. Ponder also outlined the financial stakes involved, noting approximately \$6 billion in historical pension debt, \$1.85 billion in pension obligation bonds issued during the COVID era, and an estimated \$400 million in additional unfunded liabilities that would have resulted from previously proposed Tier 3 benefit changes. Councilmember Terry emphasized that the proposal was not intended to seek any change to the League’s current policy positions, but rather to ensure cities have a continued voice in the construction of future pension legislation, noting that cities were not adequately included in prior stakeholder discussions.

After discussion, Phoenix Councilmember Anna Hernandez motioned to assign **BFED 2** as a non-legislative solution. Councilmember Martineau seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously via voice vote.

3. Post Incorporation Cleanup League (BFED 3)

Mr. Guillen presented **BFED 3** on behalf of the League, explaining the need for greater clarity in state law regarding the distribution of revenue sharing to newly incorporated jurisdictions, as well as alternative definitions of population used in that process. San Tan Valley Councilmember Rupert Wolfert shared his municipality’s firsthand experience with incorporation, highlighting the need for a smoother and clearer statutory process for new cities and towns. League staff will develop legislation and work with relevant stakeholders, including Councilmember Wolfert and others from San Tan Valley, to clarify and improve state statutes governing revenue sharing and population definitions for newly incorporated cities and towns.

Vice Mayor Malnar motioned to assign **BFED 3** as a resolution to be considered by the Resolutions Committee. Mayor Wilson seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously via voice vote.

The table below summarizes the **BFED** Committee’s actions:

POLICY ISSUE	DISPOSITION BY COMMITTEE
1. Expenditure Limitation Population Multiplier	Assigned for further study
2. PSPRS Tier 3 Stakeholder Engagement	Assigned a non-legislative solution
3. Post-Incorporation Cleanup	Approved

Eric Orsborn
Mayor of Buckeye
Chair, Budget, Finance & Economic Development Committee



BFED 3

League of Arizona Cities & Towns Resolution

TITLE		POST-INCORPORATION CLEANUP	
Sponsor		League of Arizona Cities & Towns	
Proposal Type		Legislative Action	

Summary

This proposal would clarify state law governing when state shared revenues are distributed to a newly incorporated city or town and what population estimate is used until official U.S. Census Bureau numbers are available.

Problem / Need

Arizona cities and towns receive state shared revenue distributions through several statutory formulas, including Urban Revenue Sharing, state shared Transaction Privilege Tax, Highway User Revenue Funds, and Vehicle License Tax funds. When a new municipality incorporates these revenue allocations are recalculated to include the new city or town, but current statutes contain ambiguities regarding timing and applicable population estimates.

Proposed Solution

The proposal would establish clear statutory timelines for distributing shared revenues to newly incorporated municipalities and require the Department of Revenue and Department of Transportation to use State Demographer population estimates until official U.S. Census Bureau numbers become available.

Municipal Relevance

The incorporation of a new city or town affects the shared revenue distributions of all municipalities because the existing allocations are recalculated to include the new jurisdiction. Clearer statutes would provide greater predictability for municipal finance staff and elected officials statewide.

Fiscal / Administrative Impact

The proposal is not expected to create a specific state appropriation or direct municipal cost. It is intended to improve predictability and administrative stability when incorporations occur.

Contact Information:

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League Staff: Lee Grafstrom



Chair’s Report of the General Administration, Human Resources and Elections Committee

Mayor Alexis Hermosillo, Chair

Resolutions Committee Meeting, League Annual Conference

On **June 16, 2026**, the General Administration, Human Resources & Elections (GAHRE) Committee convened to discuss one policy issue submitted by Scottsdale. Below is a summary of the issue considered and committee discussion and recommendations.

1. Public Notice Corrections Window Scottsdale (GAHRE 1)

Scottsdale Planning Department staff member Brad Carr presented **GAHRE 1** on behalf of Councilmember Solange Whitehead, proposing legislation to streamline public noticing requirements for rezoning applications and other matters requiring public outreach. Following the model of [SB1167](#), the proposal would allow cities to correct non-substantive errors, such as clerical or typographical mistakes, on their websites rather than through revised newspaper postings. Mr. Carr explained that cities would be required to post corrections at least five days before the relevant meeting date, with the original notice specifying where and when to check for corrections, preventing delays caused by minor newspaper notice errors.

Phoenix Vice Mayor Kesha Hodge Washington asked how community members would know to check the website for corrections, to which Mr. Carr clarified that the original notice would include a specified deadline directing the public to the website. Nancy Davidson, League General Counsel, noted that multiple state statutes would need review as part of this effort and suggested looking at how other states define non-substantive errors. Clarkdale Mayor Robyn Prud’homme-Bauer emphasized that implementing the proposal would require significant modifications to existing public noticing requirements. René Guillen identified two areas requiring further discussion with external stakeholders: (1) defining what constitutes a non-substantive matter and (2) determining appropriate time windows for posting corrections.

Councilmember Whitehead motioned to assign **GAHRE 1** as a resolution to be considered by the Resolutions Committee. Gilbert Councilmember Kenny Buckland seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously via voice vote.

The table below summarizes the **GAHRE** Committee’s actions:

POLICY ISSUE	DISPOSITION BY COMMITTEE
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1. Public Notice Correction Window	Approved
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Alexis Hermosillo
Mayor of El Mirage
Chair, General Administration, Human Resources & Elections Committee



GAHRE 1

League of Arizona Cities & Towns Resolution

TITLE		PUBLIC NOTICE CORRECTION WINDOW	
Sponsor		City of Scottsdale	
Proposal Type		Legislative Action	

Summary

This proposal would allow cities and towns to correct minor clerical, typographical, or formatting errors in public notices without restarting statutory notice timelines, provided the correction does not alter the substance of the noticed action.

Problem / Need

Arizona public notice statutes require strict procedural compliance. In practice, minor errors can require a city or town to restart a notice process, creating delays, republishing costs, redundant staff work, and potential confusion even when the error does not impair public understanding or participation.

Proposed Solution

The proposal would create a limited five-day correction period in Title 9. A city or town could post a corrected notice on its official website at least five days before the hearing or action. Substantive changes would continue to require full compliance with existing notice requirements.

Municipal Relevance

Public notice requirements apply statewide to cities and towns regardless of size, staffing capacity, or service model. A uniform correction process could provide consistency while preserving public transparency requirements.

Fiscal / Administrative Impact

The proposal is expected to be cost neutral or provide a net administrative benefit by reducing republishing, rescheduling, legal review, clerk, and planning staff costs associated with minor notice corrections.

Contact Information

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League Staff: Marshall Pimentel



Chair's Report of the Neighborhoods, Sustainability, and Quality of Life Policy Committee

Mayor Mark Stanton, Chair

Resolutions Committee Meeting, League Annual Conference

The Neighborhoods, Sustainability & Quality of Life (NSQL) Committee convened on **June 16, 2026**, to discuss four policy issues submitted by Flagstaff, Gilbert, and Sedona. Below is a summary of the issues considered and committee discussion and recommendations.

1. STR License Fee Increase Flagstaff (NSQL 1).

Flagstaff Mayor Becky Daggett presented **NSQL 1**, proposing to raise the maximum allowable annual short-term rental license fee from \$250 to \$500, with the additional revenue directed toward permit enforcement and the hiring of code compliance officers. Mayor Daggett described ongoing challenges with short-term rental enforcement, noting that Flagstaff has only two code compliance officers, which is insufficient to address recurring complaints related to noise, parking, trash, and over-occupancy, and framed the increase as a tool for cities to better fund oversight of their short-term rental markets as those markets grow. Sarah Langley, Flagstaff Government Affairs Director, noted that with approximately 900 short-term rental properties in Flagstaff, the fee increase would generate roughly \$225,000 annually—enough to fund approximately one to one and a half full-time enforcement positions. Nancy Davidson, League General Counsel, clarified that adoption of the fee at the maximum amount would be optional for each municipality.

Sedona Mayor Holli Ploog added that Sedona had been compelled to hire a dedicated full-time short-term rental enforcement officer without any ability to recoup that cost through licensing fees. Chandler Councilmember Christine Ellis commended Mayor Daggett for taking the lead. Goodyear Councilmember Laura Kaino raised a note of caution regarding the Legislature's potential perception of a 100% fee increase and encouraged a broader view of how the proposal might be received at the Capitol. René Guillen, League Executive Director, echoed that the core policy concept would ultimately be subject to legislative negotiation. Queen Creek Councilmember Dawn Oliphant indicated her municipality had eliminated short-term rental licensing fees and would take no position on the item. Discussion also noted that work with Airbnb on the proposal's language is ongoing and will continue as the item moves forward.

Mayor Ploog motioned to assign **NSQL 1** as a resolution to be considered by the Resolutions Committee. Councilmember Whitehead seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously via voice vote.

2. STR Lien Authority Gilbert (NSQL 2).

Rob Bohr, Gilbert Director of Intergovernmental Relations, presented **NSQL 2** on behalf of Gilbert Vice Mayor Chuck Bongiovanni. Mr. Bohr explained that [Senate Bill 1168](#) (2022) authorized local governments to impose civil penalties of up to \$1,000 per month against short-term rental property owners who fail to obtain a required license within 30 days of written notice. Gilbert has reduced its noncompliant short-term rental operators to eight properties and has begun issuing penalties; however, the Town Attorney determined that the relevant statute does not explicitly authorize the issuance of liens against noncompliant properties, a necessary next enforcement step. The proposal seeks to add clarifying statutory language granting explicit lien authority, modeled after existing lien provisions for unpaid utility fees and code violation fines. Mr. Bohr noted that Airbnb has been notified of the proposal and has been engaged in dialogue as the item is refined ahead of the Resolutions Committee.



Ms. Davidson described the distinction between consensual liens, such as those used in homeowners' association contexts, and nonconsensual liens, noting that language could instead be crafted to make lien authority a term of the short-term rental license agreement itself. Councilmember Oliphant indicated her council would not support placing a lien on a property and stated she would vote in opposition.

Councilmember Ellis motioned to assign **NSQL 2** as a resolution to be considered by the Resolutions Committee. Vice Mayor Bongiovanni seconded the motion, and it was approved via majority voice vote.

3. STR Ballot Referral Sedona (NSQL 3).

Mayor Ploog presented **NSQL 3**, citing the legislature's sustained failure to enact meaningful short-term rental reform despite bipartisan negotiation and Airbnb's cooperation on prior bills. Mayor Ploog reported that Representative Bliss (LD1), who has championed short-term rental legislation for approximately five years, supports a more unconventional approach. The proposal is modeled after [SCR1004](#), the photo enforcement referral headed to the November 2026 ballot which would require local votes to approve use of those systems. Similarly, a ballot measure could be sent allowing municipalities to send proposed short-term rental regulations to local votes. Mayor Ploog noted that the initial concept was limited to smaller or rural cities but, in response to feedback from Scottsdale and others, the committee is open to removing any population cap. She further described Sedona's severe housing displacement, in which corporations have purchased lower-cost homes and replaced them with purpose-built, multi-bedroom short-term rental properties, leaving some neighborhoods with virtually no full-time residents.

Phoenix Councilmember Debra Stark voiced strong support and emphasized the need for all cities, regardless of size, to have access to this mechanism. Councilmember Whitehead concurred, noting that short-term rental complaints remain Scottsdale's top constituent issue and that prevention is far less costly than remediation. Mesa Councilmember Jen Duff supported removing any population cap and raised a related, emerging concern about room-rental platforms such as PadSplit, which convert single-family homes into high-density shared housing arrangements, effectively creating informal multifamily use in residential neighborhoods. Quartzsite Councilmember Lynda Goldberg underscored the importance of returning authority to local jurisdictions. Mr. Guillen noted that the proposal's political strength lies in the argument that local voters, not the mayor and council, would ultimately decide, and that the photo enforcement referral on the November 2026 ballot would serve as an instructive test case for this approach.

Mayor Ploog motioned to assign **NSQL 3** as a resolution to be considered by the Resolutions Committee. Councilmember Stark seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously via voice vote.

4. STR Definition Clarification Sedona (NSQL 4).

Mayor Ploog presented **NSQL 4**, arising from the case *Oak Creek Hospitality v. City of Sedona*, in which a corporation purchased an entire mobile home park and converted it entirely to short-term rental use. Sedona prevailed at the district court level but lost on appeal; the Court of Appeals held that the statute was insufficiently clear regarding the definition of a short-term rental, specifically as it relates to the restriction of short-term rental use to one-to-four family dwelling units. Mayor Ploog noted that the Arizona Supreme Court was actively reviewing whether to accept the case.* The proposal seeks to clarify the statutory definition so that the one-to-four-unit limitation is explicit and enforceable, foreclosing the conversion of entire apartment complexes or mobile home parks into short-term rental operations. Ms. Davidson noted that similar definitional ambiguities have arisen in other jurisdictions involving recreational vehicles claimed as dwelling units and partial-unit room rentals and referenced statutory approaches in other states that expressly exclude such arrangements.

Councilmember Duff expressed support while flagging a concern about the proposal's potential impact on high-density short-term rental arrangements near major sporting facilities, such as a planned soccer stadium in Mesa, where multi-unit buildings serve a legitimate hospitality function adjacent to large venues. Clifton Councilmember Chad Brown sought



further clarity on the definition and noted analogous ambiguity in his own community regarding RV parks and encampments. Ms. Davidson confirmed that the case’s central issue was the absence of owner occupancy and the purely commercial, corporate nature of the operation, which the current statutory language does not clearly address.

Mayor Ploog motioned to assign **NSQL 4** as a resolution to be considered by the Resolutions Committee. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously via voice vote.

***NOTE:** *The Arizona Supreme Court denied review on June 29, 2026.*

The table below summarizes the **NSQL** Committee’s actions:

POLICY ISSUE	DISPOSITION BY COMMITTEE
1. STR License Fee Increase	Approved
2. STR Lien Authority	Approved
3. STR Ballot Referral	Approved
4. STR Definition Clarification	Approved

Mark Stanton
Mayor of Paradise Valley
Chair, Neighborhoods, Sustainability & Quality of Life Committee



NSQL 1

League of Arizona Cities & Towns Resolution

TITLE		STR LICENSE FEE INCREASE	
Sponsor		City of Flagstaff	
Proposal Type		Legislative Action	

Summary

This proposal would increase the maximum allowable annual short-term rental license or permit fee from \$250 to \$500 and allow the fee to cover both issuance and enforcement costs.

Problem / Need

Some cities and towns are experiencing increasing nuisance complaints related to short-term rentals, including noise, parking, solid waste, and occupancy issues. Flagstaff identified limited code compliance staffing as a barrier to responding to short-term rental complaints.

Proposed Solution

The proposal would amend A.R.S. § 9-500.39 to allow a fee not to exceed the actual cost of issuing and enforcing the permit or license, or \$500, whichever is less.

Municipal Relevance

Any city or town that imposes a short-term rental license or permit would have discretion to choose whether to increase its annual fee to further support its short-term rental licensing/permitting activities.

Fiscal / Administrative Impact

Potential to increase local revenue available to address short-term rental impacts for municipalities that choose to increase their license or permit fees.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Becky Daggett

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League Staff: Tom Savage



NSQL 2

League of Arizona Cities & Towns Resolution

TITLE		STR LIEN AUTHORITY	
Sponsor		Town of Gilbert	
Proposal Type		Legislative Action	

Summary

This proposal would clarify that municipalities may file liens for unpaid short-term rental penalties and fines assessed under A.R.S. § 9-500.39 after a period of delinquency.

Problem / Need

Current statute authorizes municipalities to assess civil penalties against short-term rental owners who fail to apply for a required local license or regulatory permit. However, the statute does not expressly authorize municipalities to file liens against properties for unpaid penalties.

Proposed Solution

The proposal would add language to A.R.S. § 9-500.39 clarifying that municipalities may file liens for nonpayment of penalties and fines prescribed in that section when the amounts are delinquent for more than 90 days.

Municipal Relevance

The proposal would apply to any city or town that enforces short-term rental license requirements and seeks to collect unpaid penalties from noncompliant operators.

Fiscal / Administrative Impact

The proposal seeks to improve municipal ability to collect unpaid penalties already authorized under statute.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Rob Bohr

Title: Intergovernmental Relations Director

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Phone: 602-478-7015

League Staff: Tom Savage



NSQL 3

League of Arizona Cities & Towns Resolution

TITLE		STR BALLOT REFERRAL	
Sponsor		City of Sedona	
Proposal Type		Legislative Action	

Summary

This proposal would seek a 2028 legislative ballot referral asking Arizona voters whether municipalities should be able to hold local elections on short-term rental regulations that reflect local community preferences.

Problem / Need

Cities and towns have limited authority to regulate short-term rentals under current law. Sedona and other tourism-oriented communities have identified housing, neighborhood, and community impacts associated with high concentrations of whole-home short-term rentals.

Proposed Solution

The proposal would pursue a House or Senate concurrent resolution referring a statewide question to the next general election. If approved by voters, municipalities could ask their local voters to consider short-term rental regulations such as prospective license caps, distance requirements, or other locally tailored measures. Existing short-term rentals would be grandfathered under the concept presented.

Municipal Relevance

The proposal is intended to provide a voter-driven pathway for communities facing short-term rental impacts, particularly tourism-oriented and smaller communities, while allowing local voters to decide whether additional regulation is appropriate.

Fiscal / Administrative Impact

The proposal is not expected to require a state appropriation or create an appreciable state or municipal budget impact. Election administration and implementation details would depend on final legislative language.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Holli Ploog

Title: Mayor of Sedona

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Phone: 928-282-3113

League Staff: Tom Savage



NSQL 4

League of Arizona Cities & Towns Resolution

TITLE		STR DEFINITION CLARIFICATION	
Sponsor		City of Sedona	
Proposal Type		Legislative Action	

Summary

This proposal would clarify the statutory definition of vacation rental or short-term rental to address mobile home parks and multifamily buildings or complexes with five or more dwelling units.

Problem / Need

The proposal arises from *Oak Creek Hospitality v. City of Sedona*, in which the Arizona Court of Appeals addressed whether short-term rental statutes applied to mobile homes in a mobile home park. Sedona identified broader concern that, without clarification, mobile home parks or multifamily developments could be converted to short-term rental use in a manner inconsistent with local zoning expectations.

Proposed Solution

The proposal would amend A.R.S. §§ 9-500.39 and 11-269.17 to clarify that the definition of vacation rental or short-term rental does not include dwelling units located in a mobile home park or dwelling units in a multifamily building or complex with five or more dwelling units that is not a condominium or cooperative.

Municipal Relevance

Any municipality with mobile home parks or multifamily buildings could be affected by ambiguity in the current definition. The proposal would provide clearer statewide zoning and regulatory guidance for cities and towns.

Fiscal / Administrative Impact

No fiscal impact or state appropriation is anticipated for the definitional change.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Holli Ploog

Title: Mayor of Sedona

Email: hploog@sedonaaz.gov

Phone: 928-282-3113

League Staff: Tom Savage



Chair's Report of the Public Safety, Military Affairs, and the Courts Policy Committee

Mayor Tom Murphy, Chair

Resolutions Committee Meeting, League Annual Conference

The Public Safety, Military Affairs & the Courts (PSMAC) Committee convened on **June 18, 2026**, to discuss two issues submitted by the League and Mesa. Below is a summary of the issues considered and committee discussion and recommendations.

1. **Statewide 911 Funding Sustainability & Modernization League (PSMAC 1).**

René Guillen, League Executive Director, presented **PSMAC 1**, explaining that the statewide 911 backbone system faces a predicted 35% funding shortfall that would force cities and towns to either accept reduced service quality or backfill the gap with local funds. The current system is funded through a 20-cent monthly surcharge per phone line, generating roughly \$20-22 million annually. Tom Savage, League Legislative Director, clarified that the true cost of operating the system is closer to \$25 million annually. Temporary funding of approximately \$4 million was secured for fiscal year 2027 (FY27), but the resolution seeks continued guidance from mayors as League staff work with stakeholders to develop a long-term funding solution.

Committee members raised questions about how the shortfall developed after years of stable funding. Geoff Kuhn, Deputy Director of Public Safety Communications for Tucson, noted that Arizona's state rules restrict which expenditures are considered appropriate uses of 911 funds compared to other states, and clarified that cities are already subsidizing the system due to insufficient funding, with any future fee proposal also needing to account for enhancements like new technology. Discussion touched on the surcharge's history, noting it was last reduced from 37 cents to 20 cents per line on the assumption that rising cell phone use would offset the cut; instead, revenue has stayed flat at around \$20 million for years despite declining landline use, and the recent shortfall was attributed to infrastructure upgrades for the Next Generation 911 (NG911) system and revenue effects tied to the AT&T contract. Queen Creek Councilmember Travis Padilla expressed skepticism about the sudden shortfall and asked whether efficiency improvements could address the gap before the League sought additional revenue, and several members requested a detailed study of revenue versus expenditure trends over time to better understand the shortfall before any funding recommendation moves forward. Gilbert Councilmember Monte Lyons and Clifton Councilmember Chad Brown both expressed concern about the solvency of the system and revenue shortfall.

Glendale Vice Mayor Ray Malnar motioned to approve **PSMAC 1** as a resolution to be considered by the Resolutions Committee. Buckeye Vice Mayor Clay Goodman seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously via voice vote.

2. **Modernizing AZ Law Enforcement Public Records Laws Mesa (PSMAC 2).**

Mesa Mayor Mark Freeman introduced **PSMAC 2**, addressing the high volume of public records requests, particularly for digital records such as body-worn camera footage, that are creating significant backlogs for Mesa and numerous other municipalities. Mayor Freeman added that Gilbert and Glendale had also signed on in support of the policy proposal. Mesa Assistant Police Chief Gina Nesbitt and Assistant City Attorney Kristen Hooker presented Mesa's first proposal to amend the statutory definitions of *Commercial Purpose* and *News Gathering Organization* in current Arizona public records law. They explained that current Arizona law defines a "commercial purpose" for records requests, allowing agencies to assess fair market value fees, but places the burden on the requester to self-declare whether a request is commercial. They explained that the statutory definition changes would distinguish legitimate journalism from commercial operations, such as YouTube journalists and true crime content creators, who are actively exploiting the current media exemption. They noted that Mesa



itself has faced litigation from one such entity which has filed similar suits against agencies nationally. The proposed definition draws on Kentucky’s approach, which requires that content be of general interest to a broad audience and that the organization publish regularly. Adopting this statutory change would allow Mesa to address the significant digital media request backlogs created by the high-volume requests of these commercial operations.

Assistant Chief Nesbitt and Ms. Hooker additionally presented the second part of the proposal to codify a clear statutory exemption protecting records connected to open, active, or pending investigations, aligning the law with current practice and existing case law. They explained that this practice currently rests solely on case law, requiring agencies to complete full retrieval, review, and redaction before releasing heavily redacted records, and that a statutory exemption would let agencies defer release until a case is resolved while preserving ongoing communication with the public and media on matters of public safety. Nancy Davidson, League General Counsel, confirmed this type of exemption exists in more than half of U.S. states and would be a relatively straightforward statutory model to adapt for Arizona and confirmed that Arizona’s current statutory framework relies heavily on case law for records withholding and is comparatively less defined than other states. She cautioned that defining “media” carries significant constitutional complexity and would require careful drafting to withstand First Amendment scrutiny.

Mayor Freeman and Assistant Chief Nesbitt described the current request timelines, noting that digital records requests take roughly five months and video requests roughly twenty months, though pre-charging fees for commercial requesters has helped the city manage its backlog. Councilmember Padilla urged that any definition avoid discriminatory treatment of independent or new media formats relative to legacy media and suggested that a content-and-hours-based fee structure applicable to all requesters, rather than a tiered commercial/non-commercial distinction, might be worth exploring. Councilmember Lyons emphasized the cost of excessive requests, estimating the personnel time involved at millions of dollars, called for clear prioritization guidelines and safeguards against requesters working around public access restrictions, and cautioned that workarounds, such as private citizens submitting requests on behalf of commercial entities, would also need to be addressed. Phoenix Councilmember Ann O’Brien noted that Phoenix experienced a 29% year-over-year increase in public records requests between 2024 and 2025 and expressed support for the proposal proceeding to resolution. Vice Mayor Malnar recommended the committee remain focused on the two specific statutory proposals rather than broadening the scope of discussion. Discussion also focused on ensuring any new definition would protect independent media from unfair treatment relative to legacy outlets by focusing on the nature of the business rather than its method of dissemination.

Mayor Freeman motioned to approve **PSMAC 2** as a resolution to be considered by the Resolutions Committee. Vice Mayor Malnar seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously via voice vote.

The table below summarizes the **PSMAC** Committee’s actions:

POLICY ISSUE		DISPOSITION BY COMMITTEE	
1. Statewide 911 Funding Sustainability & Modernization		Approved	
2. Modernizing AZ Law Enforcement Public Records Laws		Approved	

Tom Murphy
Mayor of Sahuarita
Chair, Public Safety, Military Affairs, & the Courts



PSMAC 1

League of Arizona Cities & Towns Resolution

TITLE

STATEWIDE 911 FUNDING SUSTAINABILITY & MODERNIZATION

Sponsor

League of Arizona Cities & Towns

Proposal Type

General Policy Direction

Summary

This proposal supports the development of sustainable long-term funding solutions for Arizona's statewide 911 system and continued collaboration among state and local stakeholders regarding system modernization and operational stability.

Problem / Need

Arizona's statewide 911 funding structure is under increasing strain due to the cost of operating and maintaining Next Generation 911 services. The Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA) notified local Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) that FY27 reimbursement support for eligible NG911 call-handling services would be reduced due to lower than anticipated revenues, implementation costs, and ongoing operational expenses.

Proposed Solution

The proposal would support continued collaboration among the League, local governments, public safety stakeholders, ADOA, the Governor's Office, and the Legislature to evaluate sustainable long-term funding options, potential modernization of the funding structure, future operational needs, and interim stability for local PSAPs.

Municipal Relevance

Arizona's statewide 911 system supports 77 Public Safety Answering Points serving communities across the state. Funding challenges affect municipalities of all sizes, counties, public safety agencies, and regional emergency communications partners.

Fiscal / Administrative Impact

ADOA identified an approximately 35% reduction in FY27 reimbursement support, with an estimated statewide local government impact of approximately \$4 million if replacement funding is not identified. While a one-time appropriation was provided in the state budget for FY27, long-term fiscal impacts depend on future funding and modernization decisions.

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PSMAC 2

League of Arizona Cities & Towns Resolution

TITLE		MODERNIZING AZ LAW ENFORCEMENT PUBLIC RECORDS LAWS
Sponsor	City of Mesa	
Proposal Type	Legislative Action	

Summary

This proposal would modernize Arizona public records laws to address digital law enforcement records, high-volume commercial requests, and records connected to open or active investigations.

Problem / Need

Arizona public records laws were developed in a paper-records era and have not fully kept pace with body-worn camera footage, electronic records, and large digital requests. Law enforcement agencies report significant staff time for retrieval, review, redaction, and legal analysis, as well as uncertainty regarding commercial digital media requests and active investigations.

Proposed Solution

The proposal would seek statutory changes that may include updating definitions related to commercial requests and news gathering organizations, and creating a statutory exemption or delay mechanism for records related to open, active, or pending investigations and prosecutions.

Municipal Relevance

Law enforcement agencies and municipalities across Arizona increasingly manage digital evidence systems and electronic public records. Clearer statewide guidance could improve consistency, protect investigative integrity and due process rights, and better align state law with modern records practices.

Fiscal / Administrative Impact

The proposal is intended to reduce administrative burdens associated with high-volume digital records requests and active investigations.

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