

Week of April 14-18



Legislative Update

General Issues

April 18th is the 96th day of the 51st Legislature, Second Regular Session. 1205 bills have been introduced. 191 bills have passed, 64 have been signed by the Governor, and four bills have been vetoed.

The end is near! While it's not the end of the world or a zombie apocalypse, the Legislature's work is in the home-stretch and our state lawmakers will likely complete business sometime next week. The Legislature is still on track to complete the 2014 session in close proximity to the 100-day timetable they set at the start of the session.

Scottsdale Legislation

SB 1152 – Transportation Safety Zones; Passenger Areas – SB 1152 will allow a city or town to establish two Transportation Safety Zones for the purpose of relieving traffic congestion. Inside a Transportation Safety Zone, a city or town council may establish dedicated traffic lanes for use by taxis, limousines, passenger carts, and other for-hire vehicles for the express purpose of picking up and dropping off passengers. Additionally, a city or town council may establish Passenger Convenience Areas where for-hire vehicles may temporarily park to wait for passengers. The Chairman of the Senate Public Safety Committee, Senator Chester Crandell (Heber) has agreed to be the sponsor of the bill. Provisions were added to satisfy requests from the Arizona Department of Transportation and Department of Weights and Measures.

Current Status: *SB 1152 was introduced by Senator Chester Crandell and passed the Senate with a vote of 27-0 on March 3rd. The bill was amended in the House Committee of the Whole and passed the House on April 16th with a vote of 56-0-4. Representative John Kavanagh introduced the amendment at the request of the City of Scottsdale. The amendment provides that Pedal Buses may be required to follow local ordinances while operating in a Transportation Safety Zone.*

Scottsdale Legislator Votes on SB 1152:

Kavanagh: Yes
Ugenti: Absent
Reagan: Yes

Brophy McGee: Yes
Meyer: Yes
Driggs: Yes

Alston: Yes
Campbell: Yes
Hobbs: Yes

Legislative Update

HB 2387 - Street Light Improvement Districts – This legislation will allow for the transfer of jurisdiction of county operated Street Light Improvement Districts (SLIDs) to a municipal SLID by a public vote of a city or town council. This will facilitate the transfer of approximately 40 SLIDs that are in Scottsdale’s boundaries but are still being operated and maintained by Maricopa County. Representative Michelle Ugenti has agreed to sponsor the bill.

Status: *HB 2387 was introduced by Representative Ugenti and passed unanimously out of the House of Representatives on February 24th with a vote of 59-0. **The bill did not get assigned in the Senate. The provisions of HB 2387 were amended on to HB 2148 in the Senate Committee of the Whole (see below).***

HB 2148 – Municipalities; Counties, Transfer Right of Way (Street Light Improvement Districts) – The City of Scottsdale’s legislation to allow for the transfer of jurisdiction of county operated Street Light Improvement Districts (SLIDs) to a municipal SLID by a public vote of a city or town council was amended on to HB 2148. HB 2148 was introduced at the request of Maricopa County. Maricopa County officials graciously allowed Scottsdale to amend our SLID language on to their bill.

Status: *HB 2387 was introduced by Representative Sonny Borelli (Lake Havasu City). **HB 2387, with the Scottsdale amendment, passed the Senate with a vote of 29-0 and passed the House with a vote of 59-0. HB 2148 is awaiting signature by the Governor.***

Scottsdale Legislator Votes on HB 2148:

Kavanagh: Yes
Ugenti: Yes
Reagan: Yes

Brophy McGee: Yes
Meyer: Yes
Driggs: Yes

Alston: Yes
Campbell: Yes
Hobbs: Yes

Key Bills

HB 2528 – Municipalities; Regulations; Sign Walkers – HB 2528 would prohibit a municipality from adopting any regulation that would restrict a sign walker from using public sidewalks, walkways, or pedestrian thoroughfares. The bill also provides for enforcement by private civil action against a municipality that violates these provisions.

Status: *HB 2528 was introduced by Representative Warren Petersen (Gilbert) and is cosponsored by Representative Bob Robson (Chandler). **HB 2528 passed the House of Representatives on March 10th with a vote of 57-0 and passed the Senate on April 15th with a vote of 21-9. HB 2528 was signed by the Governor on April 17th. The City of Scottsdale had submitted a letter requesting the Governor veto the bill.***

Legislative Update

Scottsdale Legislator Votes on HB 2528:

Kavanagh: Yes*

Brophy McGee: Yes*

Alston: Yes*

Ugenti: Yes*

Meyer: Yes*

Campbell: Yes*

Reagan: No

Driggs: Yes

Hobbs: No

*The City of Scottsdale had not registered its opposition to HB 2528 until the bill reached the Senate.

Other Bills of Interest

SB 1158 – Fireworks; Permissible Use – The strike-everything amendment to SB 1158 will require cities and towns in Maricopa and Pima counties to allow for the sale and use of consumer fireworks during the periods of the Fourth of July and New Year's. The bill makes these provisions optional for the remaining 13 counties.

Status:

*SB 1158 was introduced by Senator Chester Crandell (Heber) and the strike-everything amended bill passed the Senate on March 3 with a vote of 22-5 and **passed the House on April 15th with a vote of 42-17. The bill is awaiting action by the Governor. The City of Scottsdale registered its opposition to the bill after receiving Council direction.***

HB 2547- Major Event Public Safety Reimbursement – HB 2547 would establish the *Major Event Public Safety Reimbursement Fund* to reimburse the host community for the extra expense of providing public safety personnel and equipment that is directly attributable to a major Arizona event such as the Super Bowl. The bill was amended to reduce transfer from the State General Fund to the Public Safety Reimbursement Fund from \$4 million to \$2 million. In addition, the amendment adds a one-year sunset provision and creates a study committee to examine the effects of the bill's provisions after the Super Bowl event. Only public safety personnel and equipment costs directly associated with the major event are eligible for reimbursement. The bill provides a narrow definition of "major event" that states the event must exceed 14,000 attendees and must be bid upon and awarded through a formalized competitive process.

Status:

*HB 2547 was introduced by Majority Leader David Gowan (Sierra Vista) and passed the House on March 5 with a vote of 33-25. **The bill is awaiting a hearing in the Senate Committee of the Whole.***

Legislative Update

SB 1413 – Taxes; Manufacturers’ Electricity Sales; Exemption – SB 1413 will expand the deductions from the tax base for the utilities classification to include gross proceeds of sales or gross income derived from sales of electricity to a business that is “principally engaged” in “manufacturing” or “smelting” (all defined) operations that uses at least 51 percent of the electricity in the manufacturing or smelting operations. Use taxes do not apply to the purchase price of electricity by a business that is principally engaged in manufacturing or smelting operations that uses at least 51 percent of the electricity in the manufacturing or smelting operations. Under a proposed amendment, municipalities have the option to eliminate the transaction privilege or other similar tax or fee on the business in involved in manufacturing. However, if a municipality chooses to forego the collection of the TPT, it must apply to all manufacturers and is irrevocable once initiated..

Status:

SB 1413 was introduced by Senator Steve Yarbrough (Chandler) and passed the Senate with floor amendment No. 4577 on Thursday, March 6th with a vote of 25-0, and passed the House on April 8th with a vote of 51-3-6. Signed by the Governor on April 11th.