



Bond Exploratory Committee Training

Presented By: Tawn Kao, Deputy City Attorney Jennifer Ekblad, Deputy City Clerk

Open Meeting Law

A.R.S. 38-431 et. seq.



- A.R.S. 38-431.09 Public's business must be done in public
- Properly noticed meetings
- Posted agenda

- Quorum must be present for a meeting to be held
- 24 hours notice except for an actual emergency



Public Bodies

All Public Bodies must comply with the Open Meeting Law



"Public Body" includes:

- City Council
- Boards and commissions of the City
- All corporations and other instrumentalities whose boards of directors are appointed or elected by the City Council (i.e., Municipal Property Corp.)
- All quasi-judicial bodies of the City (i.e. Board of Adjustment
- Standing, special or advisory committees or subcommittees of the City (i.e. Council subcommittees)

Public Bodies do not include:

- Staff meetings
- Staff appointed committees that advise staff
- Single department head

What is a Meeting?

A meeting occurs ANY TIME a quorum of the public body discusses, proposes, or takes legal action.

Can be a traditional meeting or an electronic meeting.







How Do We Have a Legal Meeting?

Post an agenda in the official posting places and website at least 24 hours in advance.

Agenda MUST include:

- Date, time and place
- Description of matters to be discussed or decided (or where an agenda can be obtained)

Agenda MAY include:

- Unscheduled public appearances
- Report on current events from chair members and staff person in charge



When Can a Public Body Meet in Private?

Executive Sessions - A.R.S. 38-431.03



Employment, discipline or resignation of public officer, appointee or employee



Obtain legal advice



Contract negotiations or litigation



Discussion regarding security and critical infrastructure



Negotiations for purchase, sale or lease of real property



Discuss records exempt by law from public inspection



Employee organization negotiations

Can we discuss matters not on the agenda?



- o No
- o Seriously, No
- Not if we do not want trouble
- Maybe, if it is an Actual Emergency
- All of the above



Serial Meetings or Splintering the Quorum

It is not necessary for a public body to communicate simultaneously in order for a meeting to occur. A series of gatherings of less than a quorum MAY constitute a meeting if City business is discussed.

This means that if a councilmember talks to two other councilmembers about City business and then one of those councilmembers talks to another councilmember about the same thing, a meeting has taken place but no notice or agenda so OML violation.

Under A.R.S. § 38-431.09, you may express your opinion or discuss an issue with the public personally, through the media, or through technological means, IF...

The opinion or discussion is not principally directed at or directly given to another member of the public body

There is no concerted plan to engage in collective deliberation to take legal action

Emails

When you use e-mails to discuss City business, care must be taken not to violate the Open Meeting Law as e-mails can easily create a meeting inadvertently by:

- An e-mail to a quorum of the public body proposing legal action
- An e-mail exchange of facts and/or opinions if it is foreseeable that the topic may come before the public body for action
- Forwarding or responding to e-mails involving a majority of the council — be careful of chain emails
- REMEMBER DO NOT REPLY ALL!





Social Media and Social Events

Members of public bodies should not post or comment on each other's website or municipal websites where those comments could be interpreted as proposing legal action or discussion or deliberation/decisions on City issues. These types of postings would violate the Open Meeting Law because they would be "meetings".

It is NOT a violation of the Open Meeting Law when there is a gathering of a quorum of the public body, i.e., a wedding, but DO NOT talk about City business.

What Happens if We Violate the Open Meeting Law?

A.R.S. 38.431.07



- Actions taken are null and void
- The Attorney General may investigate
- A public official may be removed from office
- \$500/day civil penalty
- Costs for enforcement may be assessed
- Public monies can not be used for legal counsel



Minutes

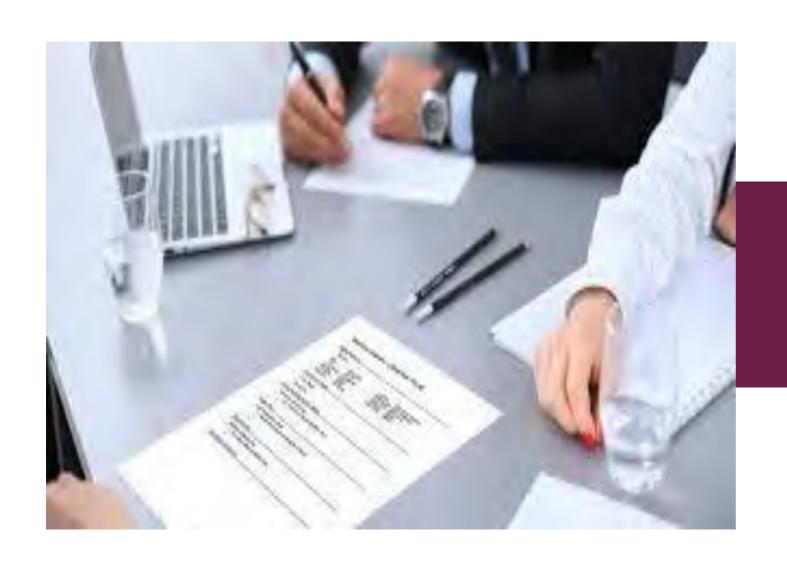
The official record of meetings.

Draft minutes must be available within 3 working days and must include:



Date, time and place

Description of matters discussed, all legal actions proposed, discussed or taken, including members who propose each motion and the vote of each member



Conflict of Interest

How Do You Know if You Have a Conflict of Interest?

Pecuniary Interest—will you gain or lose something of value from your decision?

If so, is your pecuniary interest remote or substantial?

If it is substantial, then you have a conflict!



How Do You Know if You Have a Conflict of Interest?

Common Remote Interests A.R.S. 38-502(10)

- o The interest of a non-salaried officer of a non-profit corporation
- o The interest of an attorney of a contracting party
- The ownership of less than three percent of the shares of a corporation for profit
- The interest of a public officer or employee in being reimbursed for his actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of official duty
- o The interest of a recipient of public services generally provided by the City
- The interest of a member of a trade, business, occupation, profession or class of persons consisting of at least ten members which is no greater than the interest of the other members of the trade, business, occupation or profession or class of persons

What To Do if You Have a Conflict of Interest?



Fill out a disclosure form

No discussion or action

Make conflict known

Avoid any appearance of influence

Conflict of Interest Law Violations

A.R.S. 38-510

- Civil suit may be filed
- Court may award attorney's fees
- Class VI Felony—intentional or knowingly
- Class I Misdemeanor—reckless or negligent
- Forfeiture of office
- Cancellation of contract A.R.S. §38-511





Public Records

What is a Record?

- Evidence of the organization and all of its decisions, procedures, functions, and operations
- Made or received by any governmental agency
- o Informational or historical data
- o Any medium or format

What is not a Record?

- Library or museum material solely for reference or exhibition
- Extra copies for convenience or reference
- Stocks of publications for sale or distribution

Who Has to Comply with Public Records Laws?

City Council

Boards and Commissions, including Subcommittees

Employees of Public Officers and Public Bodies





Boards and Commissions Records

Member Records

- Applications to Serve
- Oaths of Office
- Policy Acknowledgements

Meeting Records

- Agendas
- Supporting Documentation for Items
- Minutes
- Meeting Audio/Video Recordings
- Speaker and Comment Cards



Email is a Public Record

It is important to understand that electronic communications are public record and may be provided in response to a public records request or a subpoena.

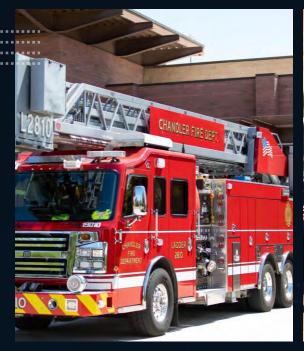
Records are categorized by their content and not the format or medium in which they are created.



Questions?













Communications and Public Affairs

Resident Bond Exploratory
Committee

Public Safety Subcommittee Sept. 25, 2024

Bond Committee Communications



Webpage: chandleraz.gov/BondElection



News Media



Social Media











Bond Election Voter Education

Videos – What is a Bond?

Webpage and Social Media content

Publicity Pamphlet and Fact Sheets

Community Engagement



Resident Bond Exploratory Committee

Finance Overview



Agenda

- ➤ 2025-2034 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Overview
- ➤ City Debt Overview
- Remaining Bond Authorization, Property Tax Rate& Next Steps





Fiscal Foundations

Current 10-Year CIP Council Guidelines

Minimize increase in property taxes

Re-imagine resident amenities scheduled for replacement

Prioritize Aging Infrastructure

Finish planned construction of streets, parks, fiber and utility systems

Prior to adding capital, ensure related ongoing O&M can be supported

Utilize master plans to guide long-term capital investment

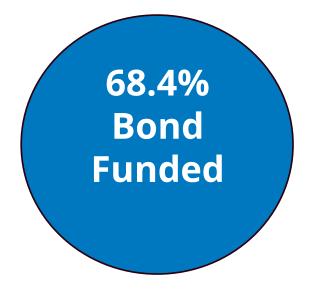
Deliver on commitments made to residents through 2021 bond election

Balance inflation, workload, and timely completion of high-visibility and grant-funded projects

2025-2034 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

\$2,488,884,031

Total 10-year CIP is funded as follows

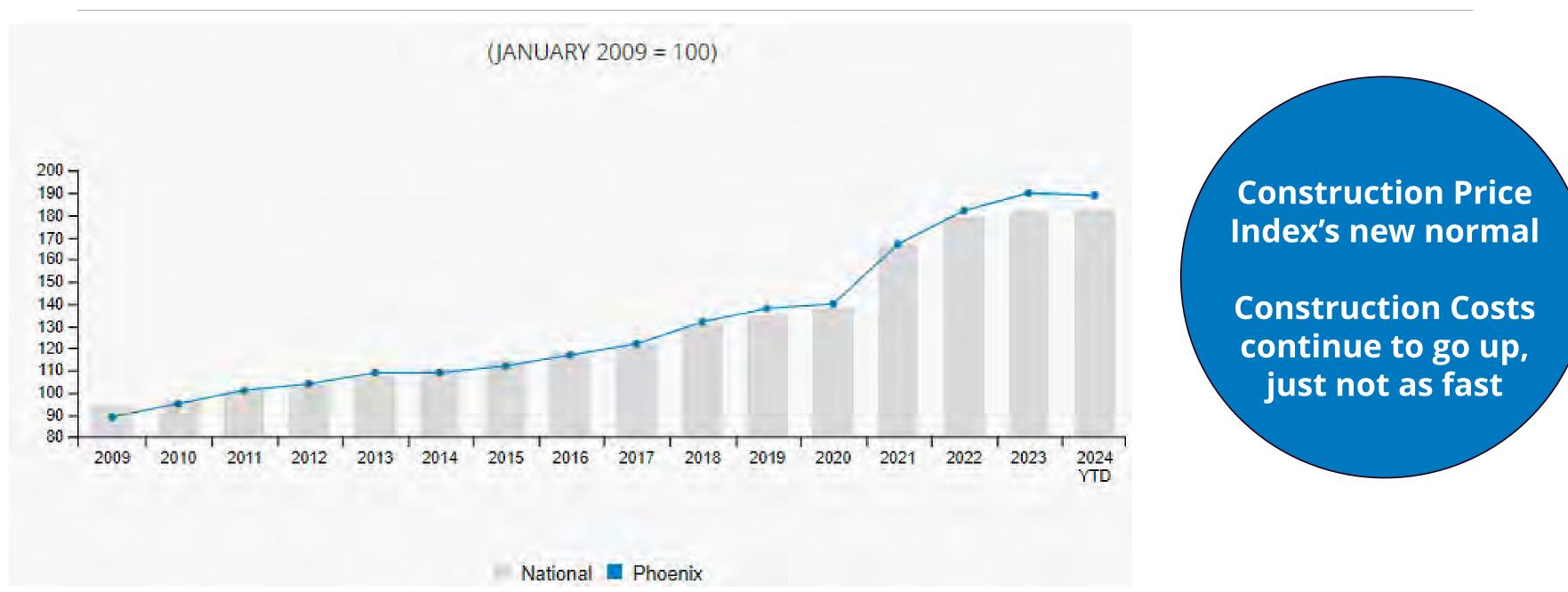








Capital Plan Inflation Impacts



Data source: The Mortenson Construction Cost Index is calculated quarterly by pricing a representative non-residential construction project in geographies throughout the country.

Summary of City-Wide Core Infrastructure



Focus on improving overall quality in rising cost environment

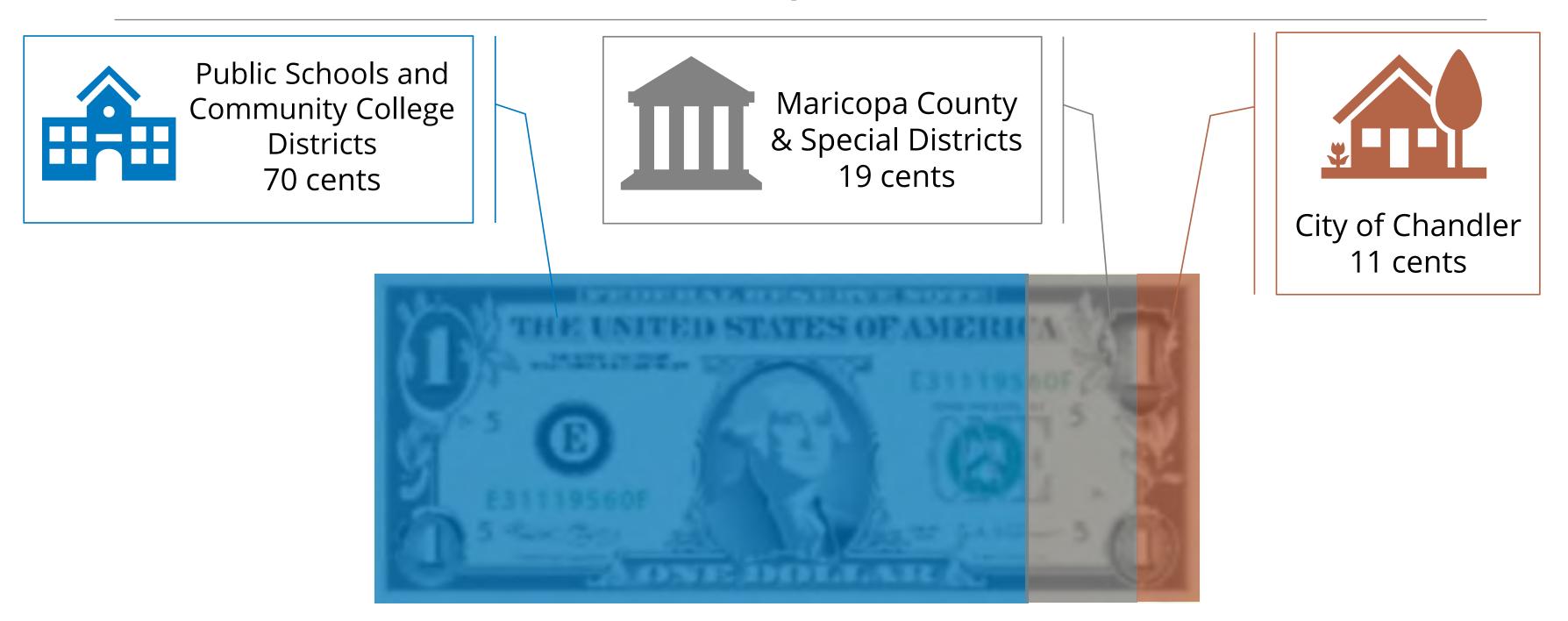


City Debt Overview



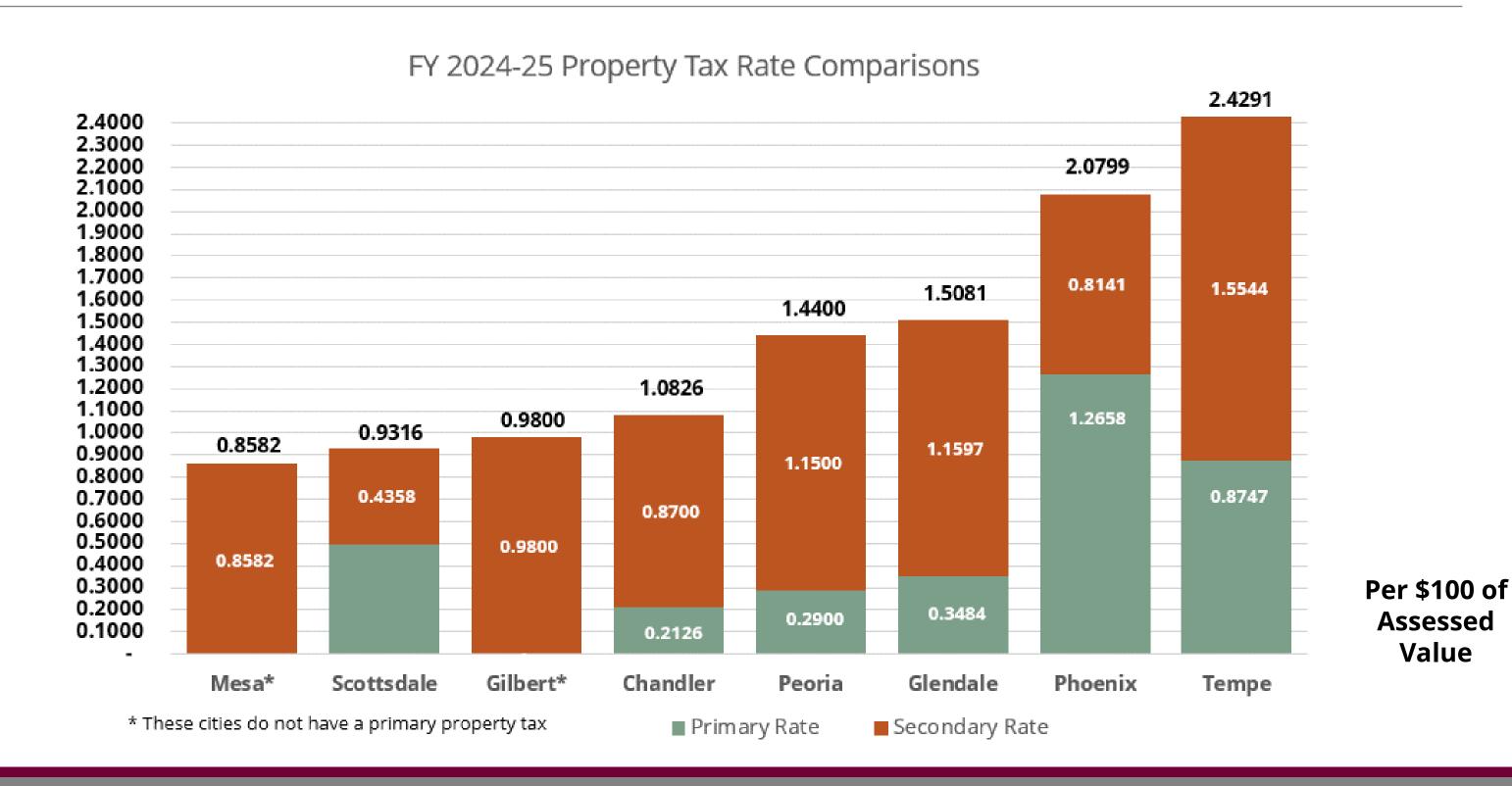
Pictured: Tumbleweed Multi-Gen Expansion

Breakdown of \$1 of Typical Chandler Property Tax Bill



*Based on 2024 Tax Bill information. Exact split will vary depending on the school district and any other special taxing districts on the bill.

Property Tax Rate Comparison



Value

Statutory Debt Capacity and Total Outstanding Debt

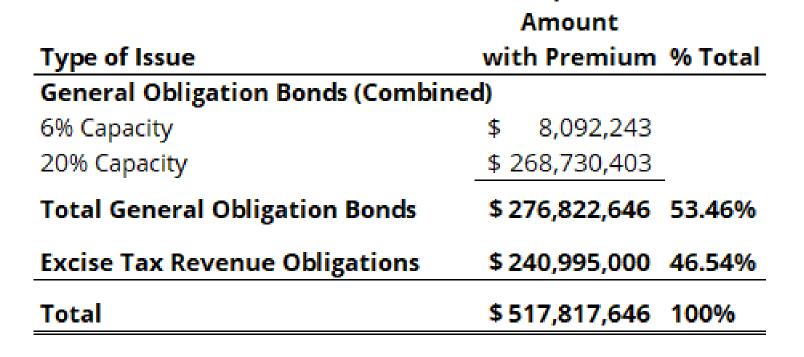
General Obligation Bond Capacity Available

Percent Capacity Available	82%	98%
Bonding Capacity Available	\$1,207,448,228	\$ 434,761,346
Outstanding Bonded Debt and Premium Issued	\$ (268,730,403)	\$ (8,092,243)
Legal Bond Limit	\$ 1,476,178,631	\$ 442,853,589
2024 Net Assessed Full Cash Value	\$7,380,893,156	\$7,380,893,156
	20%	6%

The City manages Debt well, significant unused capacity

Principle Bond

66% of City's GO Bonded debt will be paid off by 7/1/28



AAA Bond Ratings

- The City maintained AAA Bond Ratings from Moody's, Fitch, and S&P rating agencies
- One of a few communities across the nation with AAA bond ratings from all 3 rating agencies
- Results in low-cost of borrowing, thereby able to complete large projects through borrowing with less borrowing costs
- Correlates to lower taxes and utility rates (revenue streams paying debt service)



Pictured: Softball Complex at Tumbleweed



Remaining Bond Authorization, Property Tax Rate & Next Steps



Pictured: Existing neighborhood and community parks updates

GO Bond Authorization

GO Bonds cannot be issued without residents authorizing this first

- Bond Authorization generally cannot shift between categories
- Authorization is **not** new debt, nor does it raise the tax rate, it simply authorizes the City to sell bonds for projects in those categories

	Available Authorization After 2021 &							
Type of Voter	2023 Bond	Fall 2025	ı	Remaining	Fall 2027		Remaining	
Approved Debt	Sales	Bond Sale	Authorization		Bond Sale		Authorization	
Parks/Recreation/								
Museum/Arts	\$ 52,130,000	\$ (40,930,000)	\$	11,200,000	\$	(54,825,000)	\$	(43,625,000)
Streets	98,681,000	(72,725,000)	\$	25,956,000		(75,625,000)	\$	(49,669,000)
Public Safety- Police	55,340,000	(55,340,000)	\$	-		(17,000,000)	\$	(17,000,000)
Public Safety- Fire	15,181,000	-	\$	15,181,000		(3,300,000)	\$	11,881,000
Airport	494,000	-	\$	494,000		-	\$	494,000
Public Buildings								
(Facilities)	31,050,000	(7,100,000)	\$	23,950,000		(9,000,000)	\$	14,950,000
Stormwater	624,000	-	\$	624,000		(300,000)	\$	324,000
Library	3,680,000	-	\$	3,680,000		-	\$	3,680,000
Subtotal	\$ 257,180,000	\$ (176,095,000)	\$	81,085,000	\$	(160,050,000)	\$	(78,965,000)
Landfill	4,935,000	-	\$	4,935,000		-	\$	4,935,000
Public Buildings	9,960,000	(6,000,000)	\$	3,960,000		-	\$	3,960,000
Water/Wastewater	-	-	\$	-		-	\$	-
Total	\$ 272,075,000	\$ (182,095,000)	\$	89,980,000	\$	(160,050,000)	\$	(70,070,000)



GO Bond Funded Project Needs in 10-Year CIP

Sheet 1: Full project listing (all Subcommittees)

Sheet 2: Your Subcommittee projects in current

CIP with recommended adjustments

- Summarized by bond category (navy blue lines)
- Projects in gray will use existing bond authorization
- Projects highlighted in yellow will be areas of focus
- Projects support new and existing infrastructure
- Some projects may be discussed by more than one Subcommittee

Property Tax Impact

Additional bond authorization does not mean taxes will increase Bond authorization is like a credit limit to pull from when needed To achieve no tax increase, it requires a balance between

Assessed Value



Tax Rates

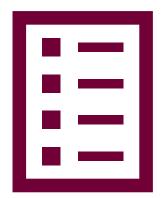
This formula generates the revenue (tax levy) required to pay the debt service on the GO Bonds

As debt is paid down, new debt can be added, which leaves the tax rate flat



Considerations & Next Steps

Prioritize



Forming Subcommittee Recommendation

- Refine project prioritization to guide financial analysis
- Recommend a project shifts to a different subcommittee

Tax Impact



Financial Analysis

- Prioritized
 Subcommittee lists
 combined for tax rate
 analysis and timing
- Will assume modest increase in Assessed Values looking out 8-10 years

Ballot Questions



Steering Committee

- Bond Counsel helps develop questions to meet the needs of all projects
- Taxpayers can then decide what they are willing to fund through property taxes



Questions?



Pictured: Fire Station 2

Resident Bond Exploratory Committee Timeline



Sep. 12, 2024

Mayor and Council approves formation of Committee and members.



Oct.-Nov. 2024

Committee meetings take place and review final recommendation with Finance



Jan. 2025

Projects reviewed with finance and bond counsel to form recommendation to Mayor and Council



Feb. - Mar. 2025

Committee chair reports to Mayor and Council on recommendation and presents executive report

Committee Kick-off

Sep. 16, 2024

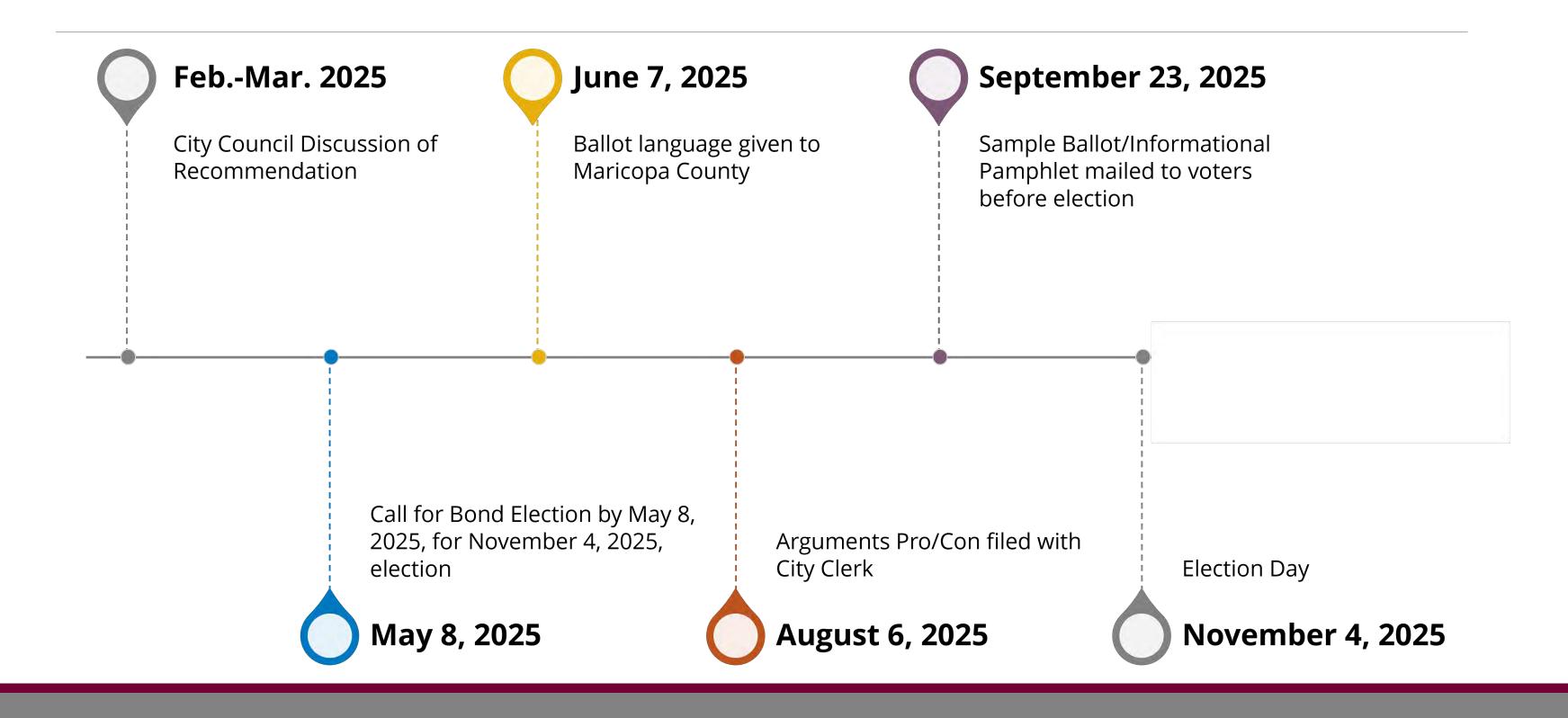
Subcommittees make recommendations to Steering Committee

Dec. 2024

Draft report prepared

Jan. - Feb. 2025

Election Timeline



PUBLIC SAFETY BOND SUBCOMMITTEE

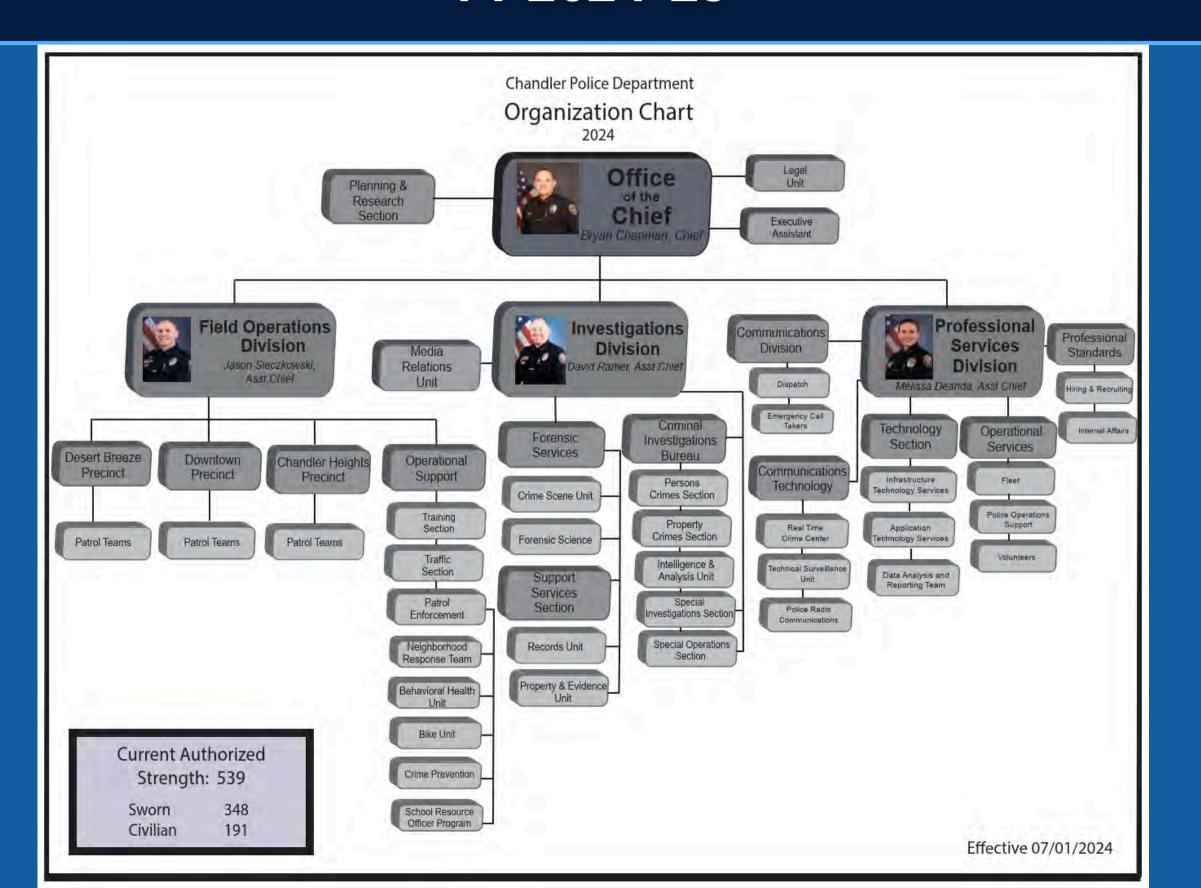
Police Department Introduction

September 25, 2024





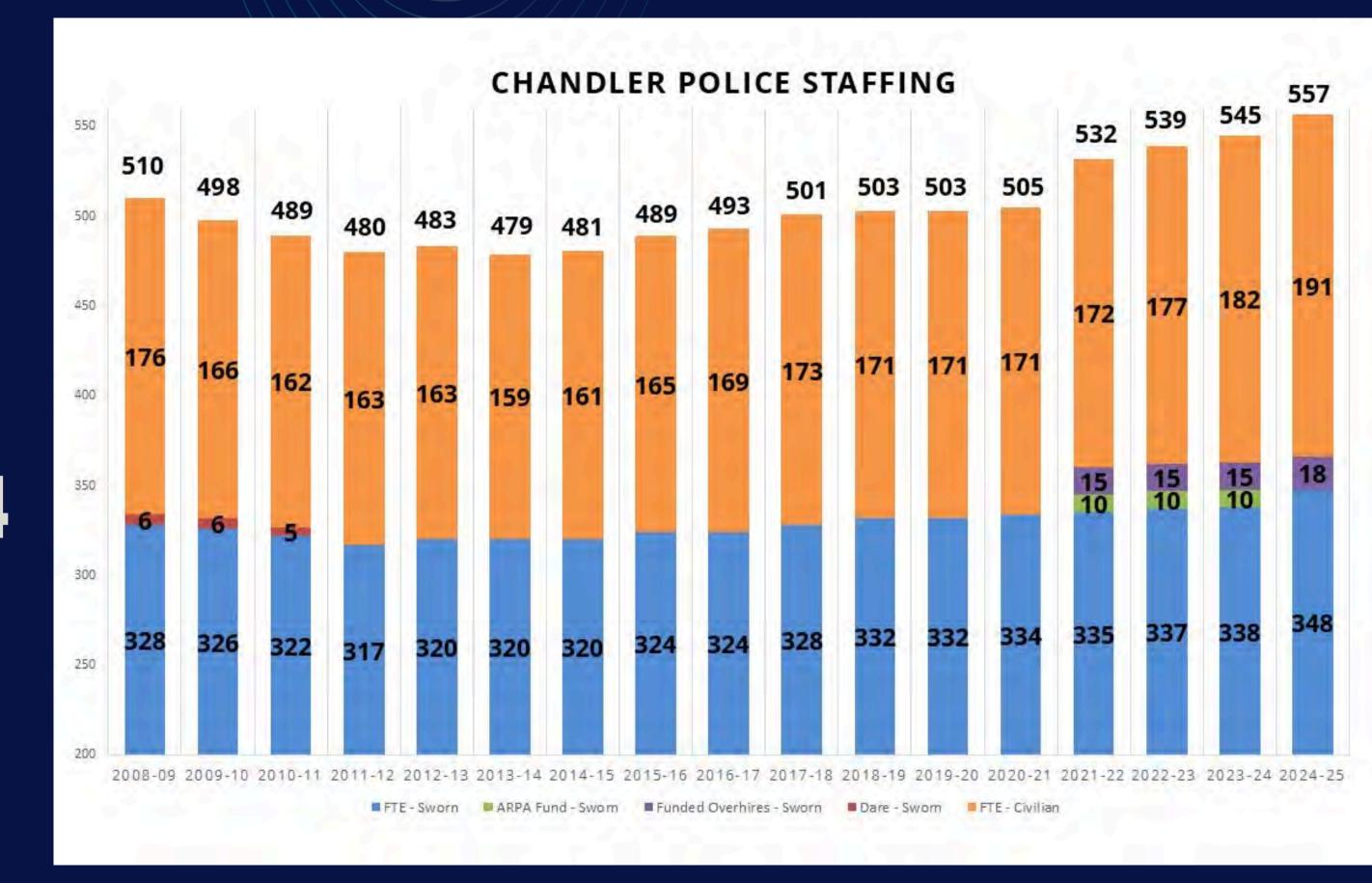
CHANDLER POLICE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FY 2024-25



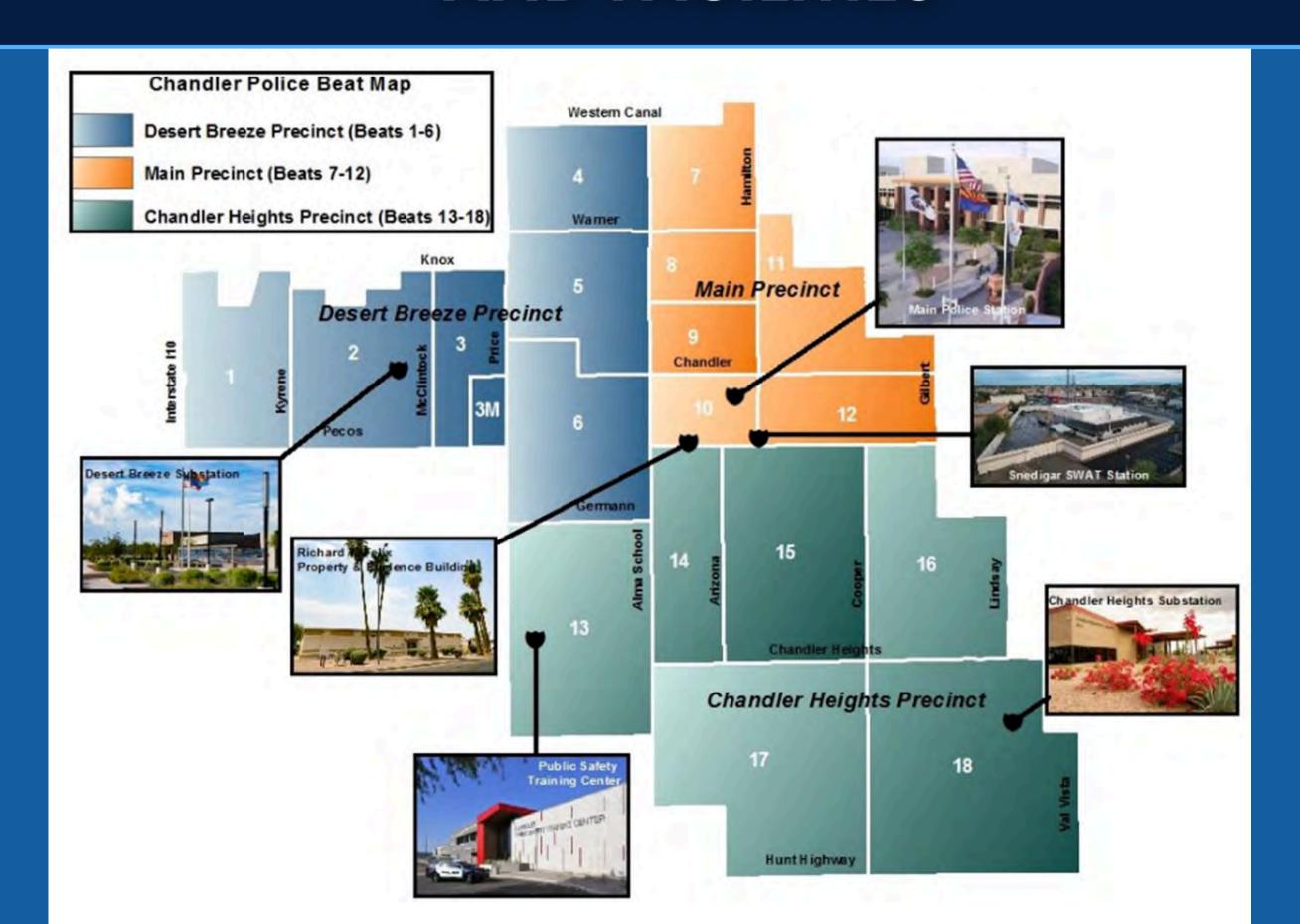
Chandler Police Authorized Full-Time Employees 2008-2024

FY2024-25 Authorized Positions: 565

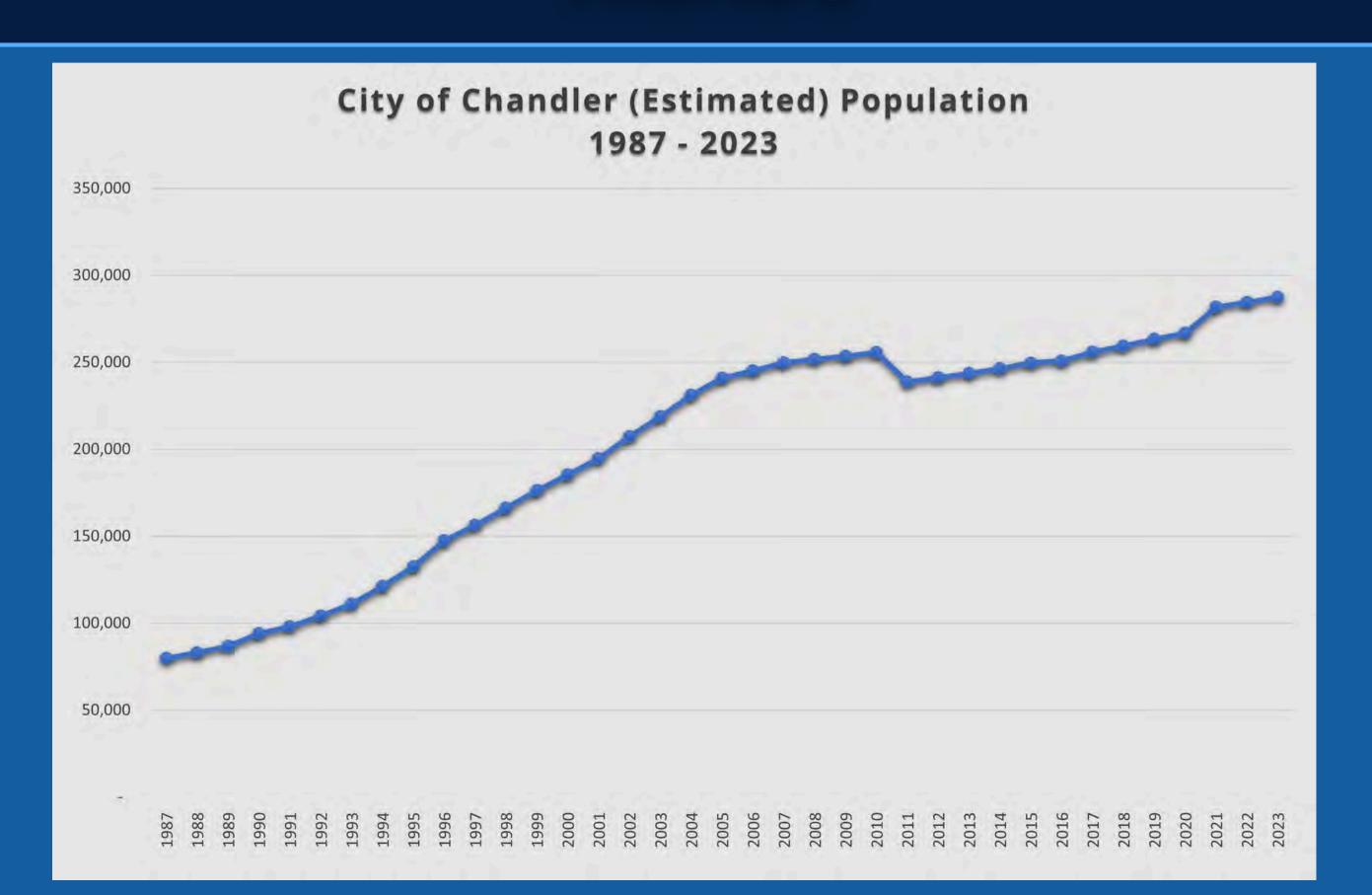
*includes 8 civilian overhire positions



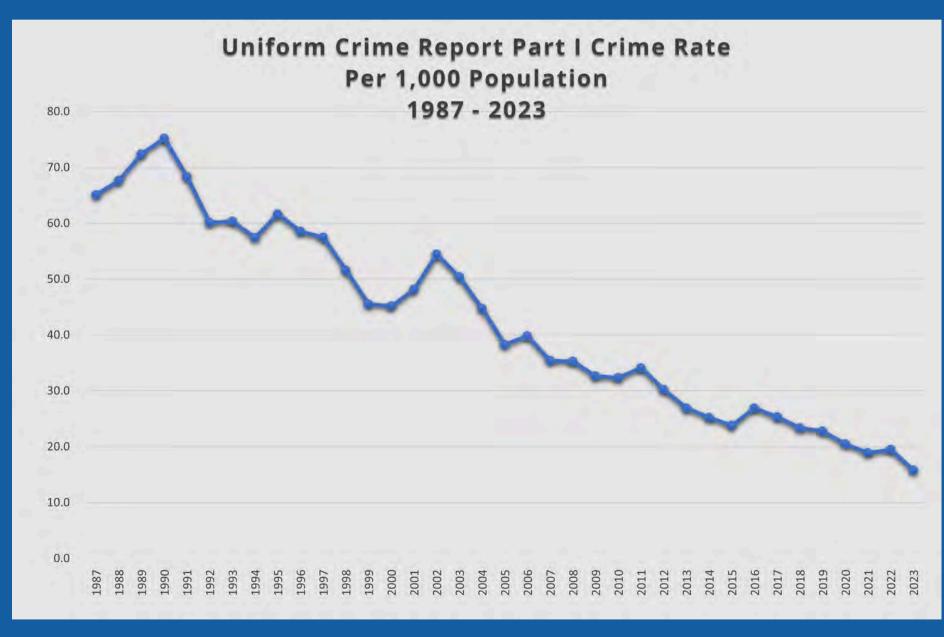
CHANDLER POLICE BEAT MAP AND FACILITIES

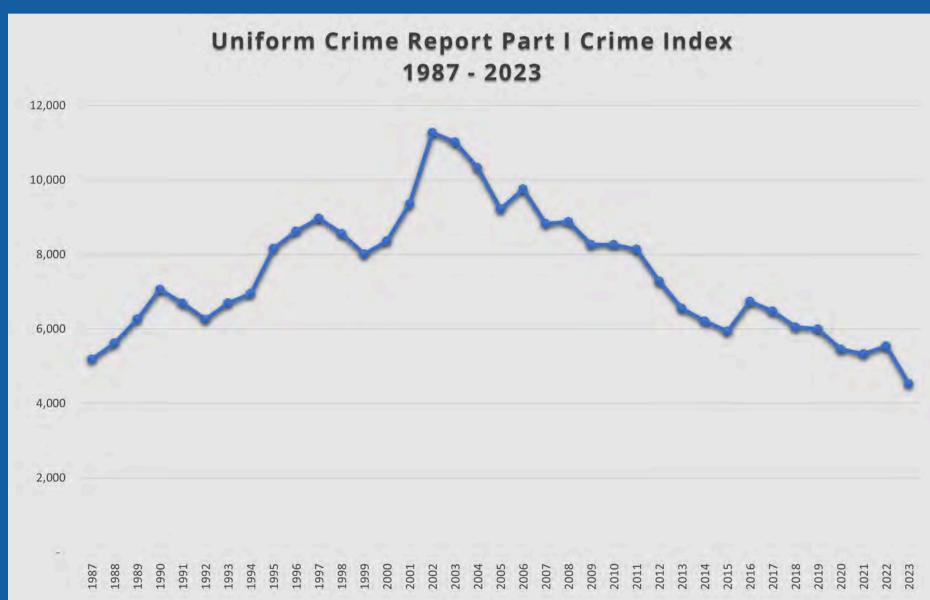


CHANDLER POPULATION TRENDS



CHANDLER CRIME TRENDS







STRATEGIC GOALS

Prevent Crime
Provide Effective Police Services
Develop & Strengthen Partnerships
Develop Personnel
Enhance Infrastructure

TOP ISSUES

Continuous Improvement
Strategies

Personnel Development

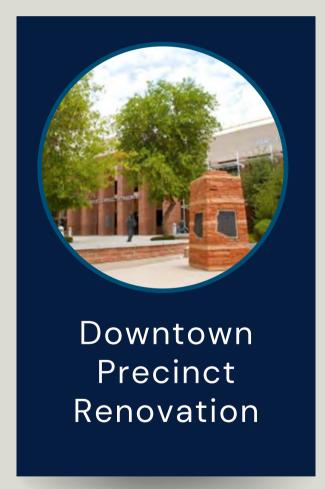
Employee Wellness & Resilience

Community Safety

Technology Advancement

CHANDLER POLICE DEPARTMENT BOND PROJECTS







2021 BOND PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Project Name	Bond Projected Amounts	Other Funding Source or Future Bond Election		
Forensic Services Facility	\$38,325,000			
CIB, Communications Renovations	\$6,361,000			
Police Emergency Vehicles	\$1,623,000			
Wellness Center	\$495,000			
Main Station Remaining Renovations	\$9,686,000			
Detention Facility		\$15,166,000		
Total	\$56,490,000	\$15,166,000		
Remaining Authorization	\$1,300,000			
2021 Bond Authorization Needed	\$55,190,000			

