



PAYSONAZ.GOV



# TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

JULY 22, 2021



# CONTENTS



---

**03**

MESSAGE FROM THE  
TOWN MANAGER

---

**05**

PAYSON AIRPORT

---

**08**

PUBLIC WORKS

---

**12**

STREETS/ENGINEERING

---

**13**

PARKS, REC & TOURISM

---

**17**

BUSINESS TOURISM  
INITIATIVE

---

**18**

WATER DEPARTMENT

---

**20**

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

# MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



Recently, the Town of Payson received communication(s) from residents about taxes in Payson. I would like to take the opportunity to share some information with the community about our local tax rate and structure.

The Town of Payson has a base tax rate of 2.88%. Gila County has a rate of 1.0% and the State of Arizona has a rate of 5.6%. The total combined sales tax rate in Payson is 9.48%. A recent survey was performed of the base City/Town Transaction Privilege Tax (sales tax) rate and the tax rate on food for home consumption, to compare the Town's tax rate with similar sized communities. The source of the data is the Arizona Department of Revenue Tax Rate tables. The sample population included Arizona communities with a population between 5,000 and 30,000 (2019 census).

The average base sales tax rate for the 30 communities surveyed is 2.98%. 90% of the communities sampled also apply a tax on food for home consumption; the vast majority apply their base sales tax to food, similarly to Payson. The three communities surveyed that do not apply a tax on food for home consumption are Kingman, Camp Verde and Sedona.

In conclusion, the Payson tax rate is slightly below the average of 2.98% base tax rate for the communities surveyed. Based on the survey conducted, the tax rate for the Town of Payson is competitive with other liked-sized communities in Arizona. Below are the survey results:

-Troy Smith, Town Manager



Sorted by Base Rate	<u>Base Tax</u>	<u>Food Tax</u>
South Tucson	5.50	1.50
Chino Valley	4.00	4.00
Guadalupe	4.00	4.00
Douglas	3.80	3.80
Camp Verde	3.65	0.00
Cottonwood	3.50	3.50
Sedona	3.50	0.00
Bisbee	3.50	3.50
Somerton	3.30	3.30
Eloy	3.00	2.00
Coolidge	3.00	3.00
Winslow	3.00	3.00
Page	3.00	3.00
Youngtown	3.00	3.00
Cave Creek	3.00	3.00
Holbrook	3.00	3.00
Fountain Hills	2.90	2.90
Payson	2.88	2.88
Litchfield Park	2.80	2.80
Kingman	2.50	0.00
Paradise Valley	2.50	2.50
Safford	2.50	2.50
Tolleson	2.50	2.50
Thatcher	2.50	2.50
Globe	2.30	2.30
Wickenburg	2.20	2.20
Florence	2.00	2.00
Nogales	2.00	2.00
Show Low	2.00	2.00
Snowflake	2.00	2.00
Average	2.98	2.49

# PAYSON AIRPORT

## PUBLIC NOTICE



### **PAYSON AIRPORT 2022 - 2024 DBE PROGRAM PAYSON, ARIZONA**

The Town of Payson, Arizona hereby announces its proposed Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation goal of 1.98% for FAA funded contracts/agreements. The proposed goal pertains to federal fiscal years 2022 through 2024.

Comments on the DBE goal will be accepted for 30 days from the date of this publication and can be sent to the following:

Sheila Deschaaf  
Public Works Director, Town of Payson  
303 N Beeline Highway  
Payson, AZ 85541  
(928) 472-5037  
Email: [sdeschaaf@paysonaz.gov](mailto:sdeschaaf@paysonaz.gov)

AND

Shaun A. Bouy  
DBE/ACDBE Compliance Specialist – Western Pacific Region  
Office of Civil Rights  
Federal Aviation Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
777 S. Aviation Blvd, Suite 150  
El Segundo, CA 90245

# PAYSON AIRPORT

## DBE Program policy statement

### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DBE PROGRAM – 49 CFR PART 26

#### POLICY STATEMENT

---

#### Section 26.1, 26.23 Objectives/Policy Statement

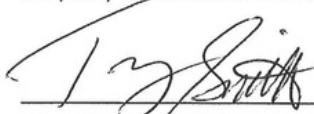
The Town of Payson, Arizona, hereafter referred to as the Sponsor, owner of Payson Airport, has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. The Sponsor has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, The Sponsor has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26 (hereafter referred to as "Part 26").

It is the policy of the Sponsor to ensure that DBEs as defined in Part 26, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also the Sponsor's policy to engage in the following actions on a continuing basis:

1. Ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT- assisted contracts;
2. Create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
3. Ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
4. Ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
5. Help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT assisted contracts;
6. Promote the use of DBEs in all types of federally-assisted contracts and procurement activities;
7. Assist the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program; and
8. Make appropriate use of the flexibility afforded to recipients of Federal financial assistance in establishing and providing opportunities for DBEs.

Sheila Deschaaf, Public Works Director has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, Sheila Deschaaf is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is accorded the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by the Sponsor in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

The Sponsor has disseminated this policy statement to the Town Council and all of the components of our organization. This statement has been distributed to DBE and non-DBE business communities that may perform work on the Sponsor's DOT-assisted contracts. The distribution was accomplished by advertising the policy statement on the Town website.



Troy Smith, Town Manager  
Town of Payson

07-09-2021  
Date

# PAYSON AIRPORT

There is still a Forest Service type 1 helicopter, (Chinook) and a type 2 helicopter (HUEY) based at the airport. On Monday morning the Type 2 helicopter based at the airport was assigned to a new fire near Strawberry that was started by lightning. This helicopter carries up to seven highly skilled helitack firefighters that are trained to drop into rugged terrain fast lining down ropes with their equipment. The helicopter can then deploy it's Bambi Bucket and support the helitack crew on the ground by dropping water where needed. This crew was able to control and extinguish the fire that day.



**example of a  
Type 1 helicopter**

**example of a  
Type 2 helicopter**



For more types of wildland aircrafts, visit the [National Interagency Fire Center webpage](#).



# PUBLIC WORKS

## Community Health Improvement Plan

The Town of Payson Community Development and Public Works Departments has begun participating in the Gila County Community Health Assessment & Community Health Improvement Plan update as a community stakeholder. The kick-off meeting was held virtually on July 13, 2021.

The CHA/CHIP process provides a foundation for efforts to improve the health of Gila County residents. It is a basis for setting priorities, planning, program development, funding applications, policy changes, coordination of community resources, and new ways to collaboratively use community assets to improve the health of the population. This plan is used by health and other governmental education and human service agencies, in collaboration with community partners, to set priorities and coordinate target resources. A CHIP is critical for developing policies and defining actions to target efforts that promote health. It should define the vision for the health of the community through a collaborative process and should address strengths, weaknesses, challenges, and opportunities that exist to improve the health status of the community.

Current and previous assessments and plans can be viewed here: [https://www.gilacountyaz.gov/government/health\\_and\\_emergency\\_services/index.php](https://www.gilacountyaz.gov/government/health_and_emergency_services/index.php)

## Town of Payson Energy Savings Contract



The Town of Payson has received our second annual performance report from McKinstry, our Energy Savings Contract partner. For the second year in a row this effort has exceeded the anticipated savings by \$5,148 to equate to a total savings for the year of \$64,961. The full report documenting this year's results will be available in the next report and the details provided in a presentation during the August 12, 2021 Council meeting.





# PUBLIC WORKS

## TRANSIT GOVERNANCE STUDY

Gila County, through the CAG, commissioned a Transit Governance Study in an effort to identify an institutional structure that will improve coordination and connectivity within Gila County. The study will provide a comprehensive guide for Gila County to enhance transit services and design investment strategies that make best use of available federal, state, regional, and local resources. The study will evaluate transit governance models and recommend a framework to guide future governance, management and implementation of public transportation services in Gila County. The analysis will include recommendations on how existing and future public transportation services can coordinate and collaborate on service delivery as well as how the region should manage, structure and oversee public transportation service development.

In March, 2021, two virtual Workshops were held to obtain input to help evaluate ways to govern existing and future transit systems in Gila County. The “Stakeholder Workshop Summary” can be downloaded if you would like to have a refresher of what was discussed. At the end of those Workshops, the study team stated one final workshop would be scheduled to present the Final Report and the recommendations. The Final Report is currently in its final review stages.

The final Workshop involving the Gila County Transit Governance Study will be held virtually.

WHEN: August 5, 2021 @ 10:00 AM

JOIN ZOOM MEETING: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87186252279?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87186252279?pwd=c1ZqN1YyMnFiSUM5cjcrT091NUFrdz09)

[pwd=c1ZqN1YyMnFiSUM5cjcrT091NUFrdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87186252279?pwd=c1ZqN1YyMnFiSUM5cjcrT091NUFrdz09)

MEETING ID: 871 8625 2279

PASSCODE: 351292

CALL-IN: 1 (877) 853-5257 (If no mic on device)

For more information about the Gila County Transit Governance Study, please visit the Study’s webpage at:

<http://cagaz.org/Departments/tpt/gilatransitstudy.html>

# PUBLIC WORKS

Beeline Bus ridership has been steadily increasing since the inception of the transit routes in October of 2018. The COVID-19 pandemic took its toll on the service. Until a month ago, there was a 3 person limit on the number of riders on the bus at any one time. The bus is now back to full capacity (9 riders). Saturday routes have been suspended since December 2020. The program has been receiving a number of requests to restart Saturday service. A driver has just been hired to fill this route, and it is anticipated that the Saturday route will restart sometime in August. Ridership has steadily been increasing month by month, pandemic excluded.

The Beeline Bus has started selling bus wraps again. This vital financing tool was impacted by the pandemic as well. Businesses were apprehensive about the unknowns, but advertising is now springing back.

Financially, the bus line was blessed with CARES ACT monies to keep things operational. Though the Town of Payson agrees to fund up to \$25,000 for the service annually, the Beeline Bus has not billed any of their cooperative funding partners since CARES act funds were received in early 2020. Some of this funding is still available and is being utilized to help the bus line and partners bridge the gap until full advertising revenues resume.



***“People need our services and we have been doing our best to listen to their transportation needs. Hopefully there will be a day that there are additional routes 7 days a week. We continually get requests for Sunday transit.”***

**Joanne Conlin, Payson Senior Center**

# PUBLIC WORKS

## BEELINE RIDERSHIP REPORT FROM INCEPTION TO PRESENT

BEELINE RIDERSHIP  
REPORT FROM INCEPTION  
TO PRESENT



	10/18-9/19	10/19-9/20	10/20-9-21
Oct	0	553	308
Nov	0	408	280
Dec	243	456	202 2
Jan	353	431	126 2
Feb	270	483	175 2
March	279	357 1	305 2
April	297	260 1	208 2
May	298	181 1	286 2
June	353	100 1	375 2
July	325	244 1	2
August	528	232 1	will start Sat service in Aug 2021
Sept	476	284 1	
TOTAL	3422	3989	2265
average month	342	332	252



COVID hit

- 1 COVID-reduced routes March thru August 2020
- 2 Temporarily stopped Saturday routes
- 2 No service due to snow 1/25-1-29/21
  - People will continue to minimize trips thru the pandemic. This is a national trend facing transit providers.



# STREETS/ENGINEERING

Sunken roadway and concrete repair on Heritage Ln.





# PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

## "B" State Girls Softball Tournament

The Town of Payson partnered with USA Softball to host the annual "B" State Girls Softball Tournament on July 10-11, 2021 at Rumsey Park. The tournament hosted a total of 16 team from across the state of Arizona and New Mexico.



# PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

## Monday Night Lights Program at the Payson Multi-Event Center

Monday Night Lights is a community outreach program held at Payson Event Center held on Monday evenings from 6pm-8pm (pending special events). This program provides the opportunity for community members to utilize the main arena to school (exercise/train) their horses, exposing horses to arena lights, flags, banners, sound systems or provide the space for upcoming show/gymkhana preparation. The schedule is posted on [paysonrimcountry.com](http://paysonrimcountry.com) and on Facebook at Adventure Payson.



## Adventure Where We Live Shirts

In collaboration with State Forty Eight, Adventure Where We Live t-shirts are available for purchase at the Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Office. Shirts at \$20.00 per, limited time only, available while supplies lasts! Shirts will also be available for sale at the Parks, Recreation, & Tourism booth at the local farmers market on Saturday, July 24 from 8am-12pm.





# PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM



# ATTENTION PUBLIC

## NO DUMPING AT PUBLIC PARKS

**IT IS UNLAWFUL TO DUMP ANY REFUSE NOT  
GENERATED DURING PARK USAGE OR OPERATIONS.**

**INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:**

**TRASH**

**REFUSE**

**GARBAGE**

**DEBRIS**

**TOWN CODE § 51.02 REPORT UNLAWFUL DUMPING TO  
THE PAYSON POLICE DEPARTMENT, 928-474-5177.**

# PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

## Concert Series - July 24, 2021

The Summer Concert Series continues on Saturday, July 24, 2021 at Green Valley Park from 7:00pm-9:00pm. Performing this Saturday will be the band, Bonfire. Bonfire is a vintage country band, inspired by a mix of classic and 90's country, with a few "country-fied" rock and roll tunes.



The poster features a dark blue background with a crescent moon and stars. The text 'summer concert series' is written in a white, cursive font. Below it, 'July 24 • Bonfire' and '7-9pm at Green Valley Park' are written in a clean, white sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a photograph of the band Bonfire, consisting of four members: a man in a cowboy hat and a striped shirt, a man in a dark cap, a woman in a yellow top, and a man in a plaid shirt. A quote is placed below the photo, and the website 'paysonrimcountry.com/concert-series' is at the bottom.

summer  
concert  
series

July 24 • Bonfire  
7-9pm at Green Valley Park

"A vintage country band. Being touched and inspired by classic country songs from the past, Bonfire plays a mix of classic country, 90's country, and a few rock and roll tunes that they have 'countryfied'."

[paysonrimcountry.com/concert-series](http://paysonrimcountry.com/concert-series)

# BUSINESS TOURISM INITIATIVE



## **ATTN: PAYSON BUSINESSES**

The Town of Payson Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Department & Economic Development are teaming up for a Business-Tourism Initiative to provide our locals businesses with fun materials to pass along and create stronger relationships with customers! These materials will be based on all of the great things that the Payson area has to offer. We want to help you to create an even stronger loyalty with each customer that visits!

To kick this off, the Town of Payson would like to provide you with QR Code Stickers that can serve as a great resource and conversation starter with your customers about Payson. This is a great way to introduce your favorite adventures in the area, as well. These can be placed on your tables, doors, registers, etc. to further enhance customer connection and experience with you.

For more information contact Courtney Page, Economic Development Specialist at [econdev@paysonaz.gov](mailto:econdev@paysonaz.gov) or visit [paysonbusiness.com](http://paysonbusiness.com) and click on "Business Resources"



# WATER DEPARTMENT

On Wednesday representatives from the FAA were in Payson to certify the Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) - a radio frequency navigation system. The DME will give Pilots another way to locate and land at the airport in addition to GPS.

The Town of Payson coordinated with the Federal Aviation Administration to construct a DME facility at the Town's water storage tank site on Falconcrest Drive to assist aircraft pilots locate the runway. Typically these installations are placed on Airport Property but the Town's tank site was found to be more advantageous. When the DME equipment arrived it was colored with high visibility orange and white paint. The Water Department coordinated with the FAA to paint the facility a forest green color to blend in with the surroundings and nearby tanks. Construction is now complete and the site is functional.



# WATER DEPARTMENT

## Update from Electrical Power Consultant

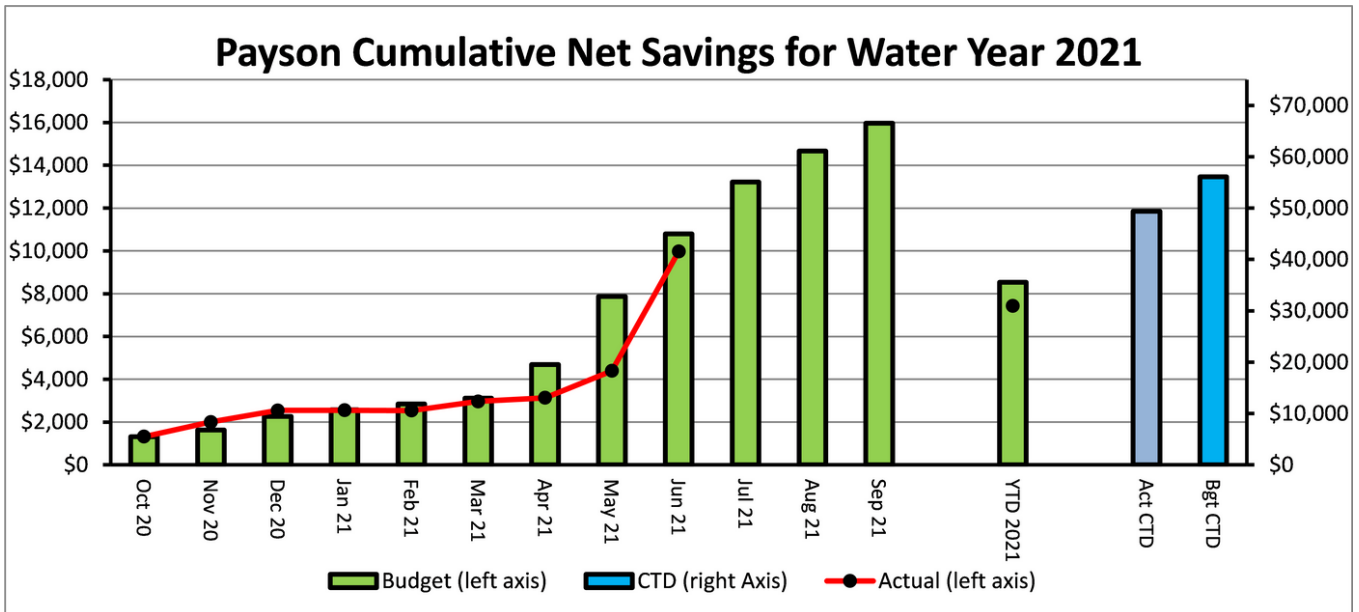
An update on the Hoover program through June 2021. June results made up for some earlier months with net savings of \$5,581 which beat forecast by \$2,655. This month, the APS billing department corrected errors from Feb, Apr and May bringing us back on track for annual profits of \$15,143 by September.

Sincerely,  
 Terry F. Urbine, PhD  
 Energy Analyst

## Town of Payson Hoover Program Annual Summary

	Energy (kWh)		Rev (\$) APS Credits	Costs(\$)		Net Savings	
	Hoover	Firming		Hoover	Firming	Hoover	Firming
Year 1	486,000	0	\$30,560	\$20,781	\$0	\$9,779	\$0
Year 2	525,000	0	\$33,086	\$20,870	\$0	\$12,217	\$0
Year 3	495,000	170,000	\$41,220	\$20,000	\$3,786	\$10,578	\$6,855
Year 4 *	400,000	107,000	\$28,314	\$15,092	\$3,248	\$6,693	\$3,282
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,906,000</b>	<b>277,000</b>	<b>\$133,180</b>	<b>\$76,742</b>	<b>\$7,034</b>	<b>\$39,266</b>	<b>\$10,137</b>

\* Year 4 is 9 months of data



# FINANCE

## Finance Professionals Highlighted

We would like to give a warm welcome to our new Town Budget Analyst, Steve Cunliffe.

Steve came to us from Delaware, after spending 22 years with New Castle County Government in several positions, including Senior Financial Officer. He has three grown children (two daughters and one son), and four grandchildren (two of whom were born last month, just one week apart). He has lived in Brazil, England and France, speaks fluent Portuguese, and enjoys soccer (though his playing days are over!).

Steve has a Master's Degree in Accounting from New York University Stern School of Business. He has a wealth of experience in the financial world of government and the private sector, with 38 years in accounting operations, debt service, capital projects, auditing, analysis, investments, and banking management.

He is excited to be a part of our beautiful Town of Payson, and looks forward to new adventures in Rim Country and the State of Arizona.





End of Report

Next Report: August 12, 2021

