



**Ken Strobeck,
Executive Director**

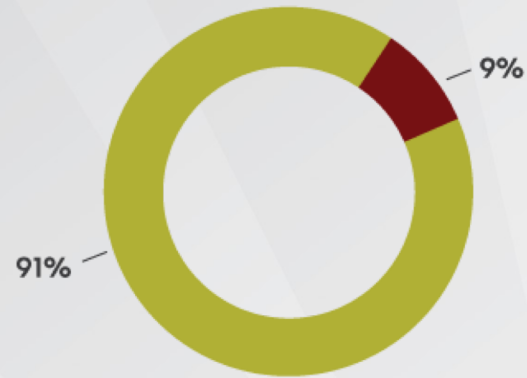
Who Are We?

- 91 Cities and towns
- More than half have a population under 10,000



79% of Arizonans live in one of the state's 91 incorporated cities and towns.

Our Economy



State-wide Gross Sales Tax
Generated within Cities



State-wide Gross Income Tax
Generated within Cities

Business, Large and Small

- Retail
- Manufacturing
- Educational institutions
- Interstate commerce
- Communications
- Corporate headquarters



A High Quality of Life

- Safe neighborhoods
- Local and regional parks and recreation facilities
- Clean water and air
- High quality streets and roads
- Modern housing stock
- Convenient Shopping



How are cities governed?

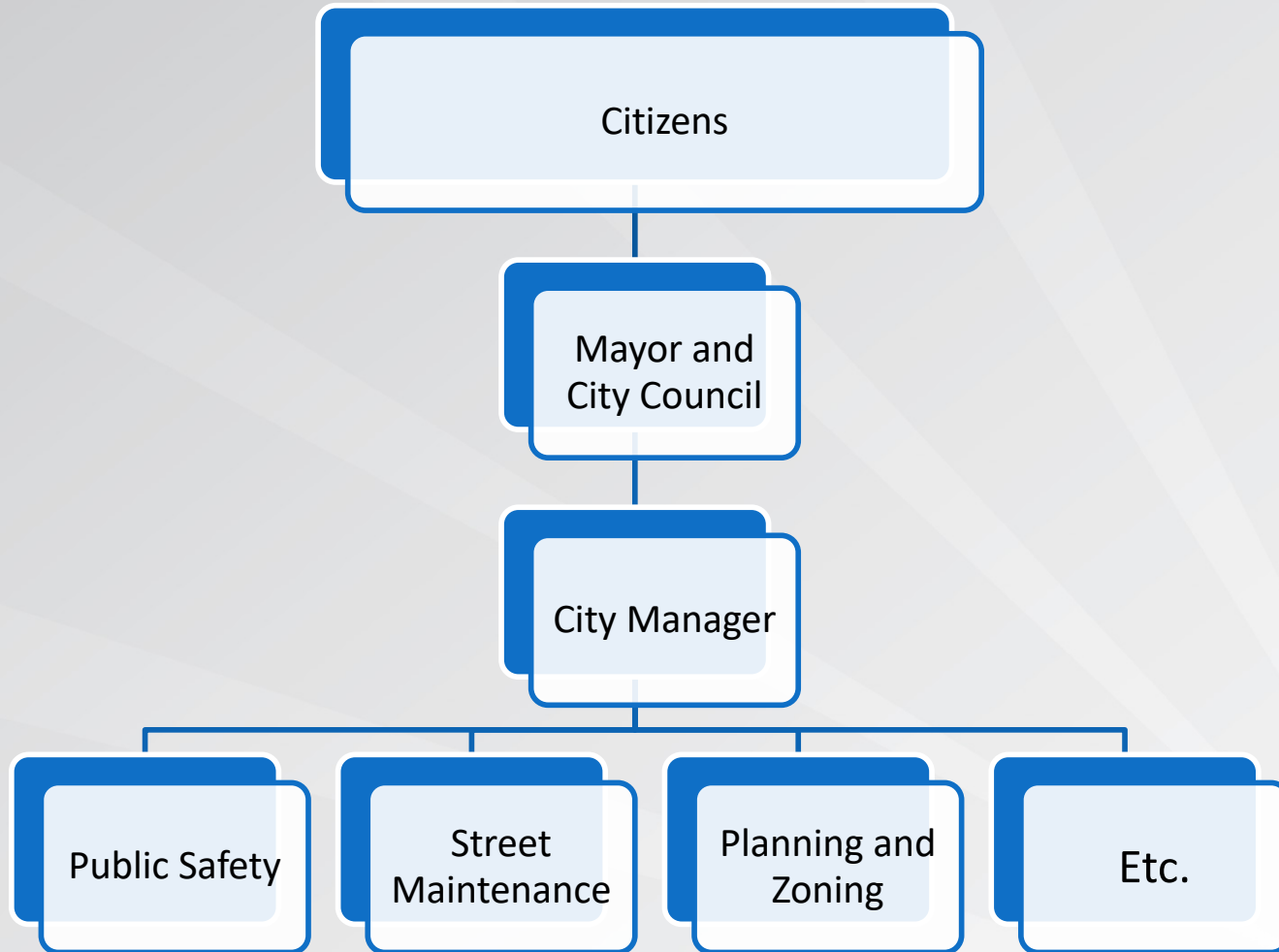
- Elected Mayor and Council
 - At large or by districts
- Organized under Council-Manager form
 - Council is the policymaking body
 - Mayor is the chair/facilitator but has equal vote with other council members
 - City is managed by professional staff led by city manager

How are cities governed? (cont.)

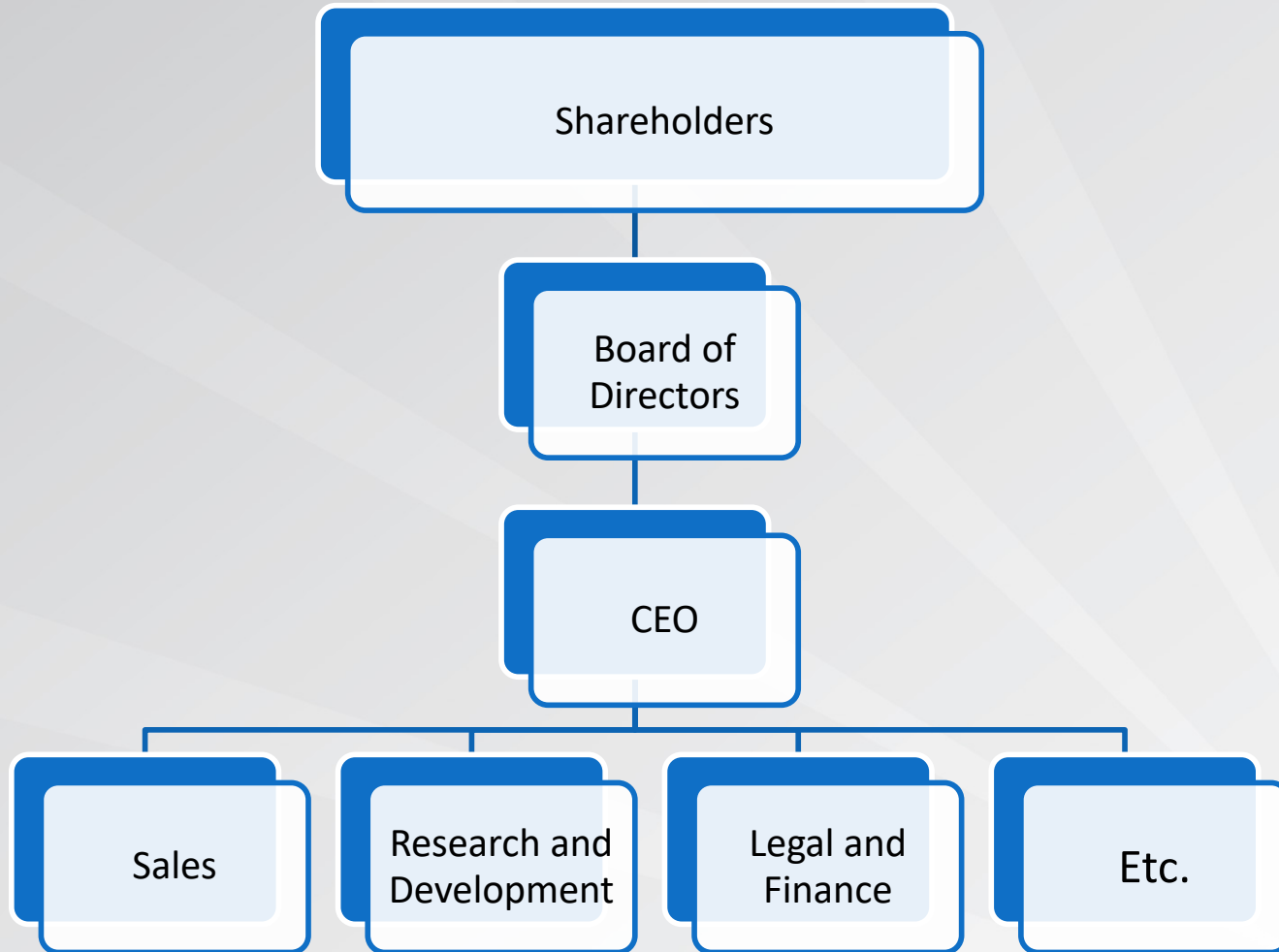
- Cities are managed under professional, businesslike standards, not political influence
- Mayors and City Council members are focused on serving their local community
- Locally accountable



City Government Structure



Corporate Structure



How are cities governed? (cont.)

- Operate under the Constitution and laws of Arizona
- The role of cities and towns:
 - to deliver the basic services citizens value most
 - to make communities attractive and livable
 - to provide economic opportunity to our residents and businesses
 - to make the state of Arizona a great place to live.

City Revenues

Total General Fund Revenue

On average, cities and towns receive almost 40% of their revenues from state shared sources-income tax, sales tax, HURF and VLT.

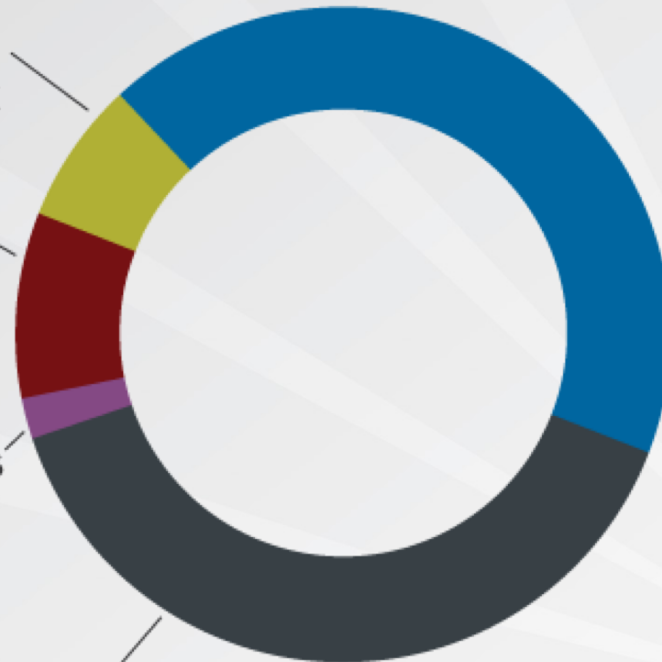
43% Local Sales & Franchise Taxes

7% Local Property Tax

9% Licenses, Permits,
User Fees
& Grants

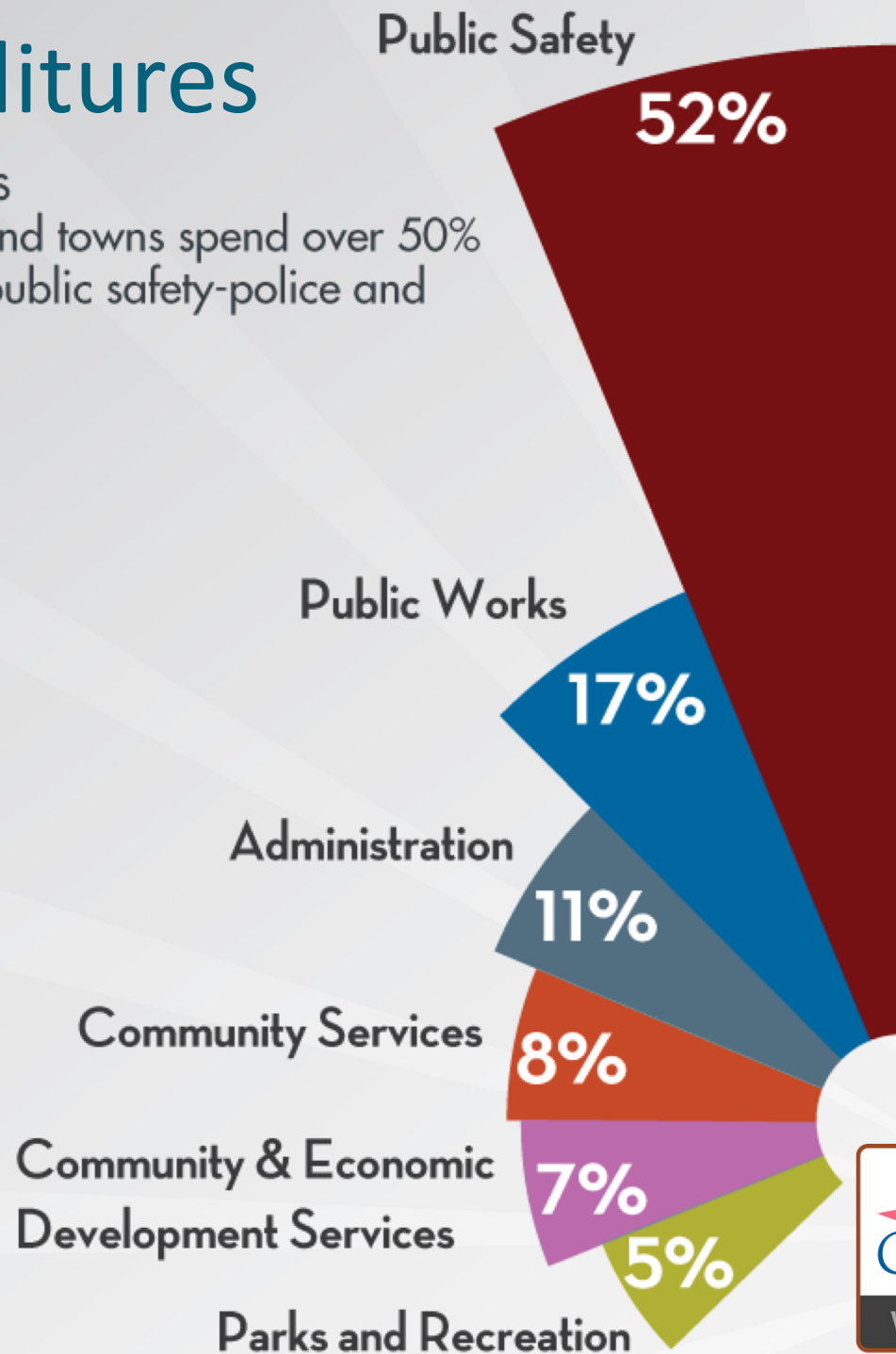
2% Fines & Forfeitures

39% State Shared Revenue



City Expenditures

Total Expenditures
On average, cities and towns spend over 50% of their budgets on public safety-police and fire departments.



Impact on your daily life

City officials are leaders in:

- economic development
- business recruitment
- urban transportation systems
- quality neighborhoods
- long-term planning



Cities are self-governing, problem-solving and self-correcting when problems emerge.

- i.e. Quartzsite

City History

- Cities predate statehood
- Created for transportation, security, services, businesses
- Process for incorporation
- Arizona population concentrated in cities and towns



Charter Cities

- Authorized in AZ Constitution
- Function like local Constitutions
- Voter-Approved
- Self governing on local matters
- Unlike “Dillon’s Rule” states

General Law Cities and Towns

- Default to ARS for governance

Cities vs. Counties vs. Other Local Governments

Cities and Towns...

- Adopt 10-year General Plan
- Required to have balanced budget
- Comply with state statute
- Subject to Open Meeting Law
- Subject to Conflict of Interest law
- May have term limits, local decision
- City officials are subject to recall
- Local ordinances are subject to referendum
- Created to serve local constituents

Each City Is Unique

- The people create cities
- Each city meets the needs of their own community
- Different service needs
- Different service levels
- Choice of where people live reflects their values



Do you take it for granted when...

- You turn on the water?
- You call 911?
- You go to the park or library?



“Get It Done” level of government

Relationship with State Government

Partner in government

- We serve the same people; represent the same constituents
- Interconnected
- Both deliver non-conflicting public services
- Cooperate in governance; mutual respect for separate roles



Relationship with State Government (cont.)

What keeps cities strong?

- Protection of local and shared revenues
- Local decision-making; sense of place
- Avoid “one size fits all” or unfunded mandates
- Recognize our mutual mission:

To protect the security of the people of Arizona and make the state a great place to live and work.

The League is...



A voluntary, nonpartisan, nonprofit association comprised of all 91 incorporated cities and towns in the state.



League History

- Formed in 1937 under the name, “Arizona Municipal League.”
- Similar organizations in 48 other states.
- Founded on principles of home rule and local decision-making.
- Promoted legislation to authorize self-insurance for cities and towns: AMRRP.

League Services

Legislative Advocacy

The primary function of the League is to represent the interests of cities and towns before the State Legislature and Executive Branch



League Services

Legislative Advocacy (cont.)

- Provide factual data on impact of legislative proposals
- Weekly Legislative Bulletin
- Testimony in Committee
- One-on-One meetings with legislators
- Special Calls for Action
- Legislative Days
- New Laws Summary

League Services

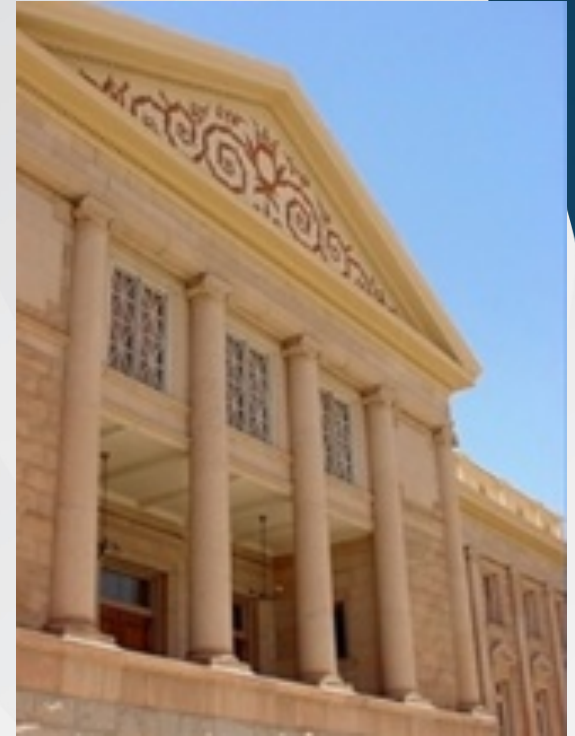
Legislative Advocacy (cont.)

Working With Cities During Session

- League staff is always available to provide information and answer questions
- City Intergovs and League cooperate on issues and communication
- We will work with you on any issue

League Today

- Core Principles
 - Maintain Local Control
 - Protect Shared Revenue
- Unified, consistent voice for the interests of all 91 incorporated municipalities.
- Provide consistently valuable training programs and coordinated services that benefit all cities, both large and small.
- Establish consistent implementation of state statutes.



Governance & Policy

- League direction and guidance provided by 25-member Executive Committee
- Legislative agenda and policy developed through resolutions process at the Annual Conference and follow-up meeting



League Legislative Staff-2017 Session



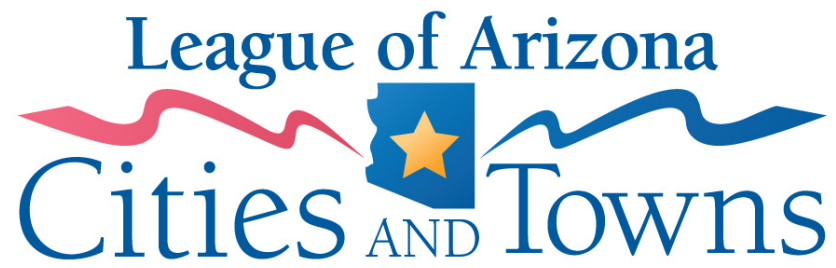
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