



Pima Association of Governments

PAG, a nonprofit 501(c)4, is a council of governments and metropolitan planning organization. PAG is governed by a nine-member Regional Council, representing local, state and tribal governments.

Our Mission

To address regional issues through cooperative efforts and pooled resources, and to provide accurate, relevant data that leads to effective regional planning decisions.

PAG Programs

PAG programs focus on cross-jurisdictional planning issues, such as air quality, water quality, transportation and economic vitality. One of PAG's responsibilities as the MPO is to coordinate development of a long-range regional transportation plan to maintain eligibility for federal funding. PAG's activities and services include traffic data collection, mapping, population projections and travel reduction.

Regional Transportation Authority

PAG manages the Regional Transportation Authority of Pima County through a memorandum of understanding. The RTA, which was established in 2004, is the fiscal manager of the \$2.1 billion, 20-year RTA plan and half-cent, countywide excise tax approved by Pima County voters in May 2006. The RTA Board is governed by a nine-member board, representing local, state and tribal governments.

PAG/RTA Members

The chief elected official or designee of each local government serves on the PAG Regional Council/RTA Board: Pima County, City of South Tucson, City of Tucson, Town of Marana, Town of Oro Valley, Town of Sahuarita, Pascua Yaqui Tribe, Tohono O'odham Nation, Arizona State Transportation Board – Governor-appointed Pima County representative.



PURPOSE OF LEGISLATIVE POLICY PRINCIPLES

Pima Association of Governments' legislative principles help guide PAG staff as they track bills before the Arizona Legislature and respond to proposed legislation in a timely and consistent manner. The principles also provide a framework for proactive jurisdictional support of legislative solutions that may be discussed/considered within the PAG committee structure.

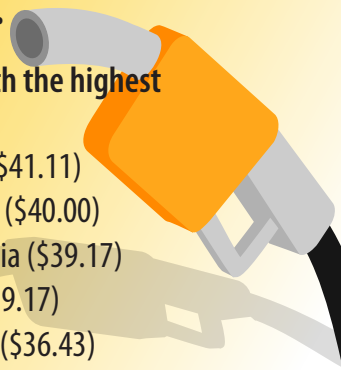
**Arizonans pay
\$19.93 per month
per vehicle in state +
federal gas tax.**

Arizona ranks
47th on this
metric.

Top Five States with the highest monthly gas tax:

1. California (\$41.11)
2. New Jersey (\$40.00)
3. Pennsylvania (\$39.17)
4. Indiana (\$39.17)
5. Mississippi (\$36.43)

Source: FHWA Office of Highway Statistics, 2017 (includes using current gas tax sales)



Legislative Policy Principles & Positions





- **Protect and Enhance Transportation and Other Revenues within the Region**

PAG POSITIONS:

A1: Opposes any reduction in Vehicle License Tax revenues.

A2: Supports legislation, introduced by others, that may provide for an adjustment in the state gas tax by providing for an automatic annual adjustment that reflects changes in the Consumer Price Index.

A3: Expand transportation revenues and develop sustainable funding sources.

A4: Supports reinstating funding for transportation from the Local Transportation Assistance Fund or identifying an alternative funding source for public transportation that is dedicated and sustainable.

A5: Supports legislation that would promote and enhance the potential for public-private partnerships in Arizona.

A6: Supports legislation and/or administrative actions that protect and retain state-shared revenues to assure adequate local community services in response to local needs; PAG opposes any reduction in State Shared Income and Sales Tax Revenues for local governments. PAG also supports any continued Air Quality Fund appropriations for regional air quality programs.

A7: Supports the distribution of federal transportation funding in an equitable manner, as demonstrated by the Casa Grande Accords, a resource allocation agreement.



- **Protect Governance and Self-Determination**

PAG POSITIONS:

B1: Opposes any changes in the composition of the Arizona State Transportation Board that further dilutes PAG regional representation or that changes the rotation of the chair that currently provides for a PAG chair every six years.

B2: Opposes legislation that would alter the composition of the PAG Regional Council in a way that would make the council less effective or less able to meet its statutory responsibilities.

B3: Supports protecting and maintaining the integrity of the Regional Transportation Authority-enabling legislation.

B4: Opposes legislation that would curtail or restrict jurisdictions' power of eminent domain, increase the cost of transportation and other public projects, or limit a jurisdiction's ability to implement those projects.

- **Enhance Transportation Safety and the Environment**

PAG POSITIONS:

C1: Supports legislation recognizing buffelgrass infestation as a health and safety concern, not just as a threat to native species.

C2: Supports legislation that promotes the development of rail infrastructure projects designed to improve or increase rail system freight-handling capacity, as well as safety and security.

C3: Supports the use of clean alternative-fueled vehicles, and the development of infrastructure to support those vehicles.

C4: Supports efforts to pursue funding at both state and federal levels to improve public safety and security in the region.



- **Foster Economic Development**

PAG POSITIONS:

D1: Supports legislation that would prohibit the use of state tax revenue to lure businesses from one Arizona community to another Arizona community.

D2: Supports transportation infrastructure legislation, projects, initiatives and long-term trade agreements that enhance trade and economic development, including international trade between the United States and Mexico.

D3: Supports regional efforts that enhance air passenger service and air cargo connectivity as a means to increase multimodal connectivity, business opportunities, tourism and investment.

D4: Supports legislation that streamlines the visa process for Mexican nationals traveling to Arizona for tourism and business purposes, while maintaining high security.

D5: Supports workforce development legislation, investments and strategies that help align education and workforce training programs with employer needs.

D6: Supports legislation, investment, testing, deployment or other efforts that help to advance the region's role as a leader in emerging transportation technologies and smart cities'/communities' initiatives.

D7: Supports appropriately funding education at all levels to ensure a highly skilled workforce that will strengthen Arizona's global competitiveness.

D8: Supports legislation that helps retain and attract high-wage jobs in target industries as well as those that export products and services.