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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITIES AND TOWNS URGE LAWMAKERS TO FULLY RESTORE ROAD FUNDING
SUPPORT BI-PARTISAN SOLUTION AT THE CAPITOL

PHOENIX (March 19, 2014) - As the Governor and our legislative leaders work diligently to determine spending priorities for Fiscal Year 2015, the League of Arizona Cities and Towns is proud to stand in support of a bipartisan solution that seeks to fully restore the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF).

HURF is a vital source of city and town revenue dedicated to repair and maintain streets and roads. Yet, especially during the Great Recession, these dollars have been shifted to the state's General Fund, putting critical infrastructure repairs on hold during this difficult economic period.

In fact, over the last decade, more than \$200 million in city and town HURF funds have been transferred to the state Department of Public Safety (DPS).

While we appreciate the inclusion of \$30 million of partial restoration of local government HURF funds in the proposed Senate budget as a step in the right direction, we continue to support House Speaker Andy Tobin and his bipartisan bill, HB 2692, which brings a simple, straightforward fix to this longstanding funding challenge. The bill simply re-establishes the use of General Fund monies to pay for DPS operations. In doing so, it funds more than 1,000 positions at the agency and ensures the restoration of \$119 million in total HURF funds to cities, towns, counties and the state highway fund.

Speaker Tobin and his legislative colleagues on both sides of the aisle have shown great understanding of the far-reaching impacts of the HURF sweeps, and great leadership in this proposal to restore the statutory distribution of the fund. City and town councils from throughout Arizona have passed resolutions in support of full HURF restoration.

Sometimes a simple fix is the best fix. And in this case, we believe that to be true. Our 91 cities and towns stand in full support of HB 2692.

About the League:

The League of Arizona Cities and Towns is a voluntary association of all the 91 incorporated cities and towns in the state of Arizona. It provides policy and legislative advocacy, information and inquiry services, along with publications and educational programs to strengthen the quality and efficiency of municipal government. It was founded in 1937 to serve the interests of cities and towns and to preserve the principles of home rule and local determination. For more information, visit www.azleague.org

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