

**From:** Arizona Heritage Alliance mail@azheritage.org  
**Subject:** The 55th Legislative Session Has Started and We Have News!  
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Quarterly updates, news, and events from the Arizona Heritage Alliance

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**ARIZONA HERITAGE ALLIANCE**  
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## The 55th Arizona Legislative Session Has Started and We Have News!

Dear Friends of the Heritage Fund

On June 30, 2021, with your support, Arizona Governor Doug Ducey signed the state budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022, including \$5 million to fund the Arizona State Parks Heritage Fund. Through a matching grant process developed by the [Arizona State Parks Board](#) in consultation with staff of [Arizona State Parks & Trails](#) and the [State Historic Preservation Office](#) the monies in the State Parks Heritage Fund have been (and continue to be) allocated as follows:

- 50% (\$2.5 million) on local, regional, and state parks for outdoor recreation and open space development, restoration, or renovation,
- 30% (\$1.5 million) on local, regional, and state historic preservation projects,
- 10% (\$500,000) on local, regional, and state non-motorized trails, and
- 10% (\$500,00) on outdoor and environmental education

As you may know this was a one time appropriation for the Heritage Fund and to date the \$5 million is quickly being awarded for projects that have been waiting the 10 long years for the restoration of the Heritage Fund (see below for a list of 2021/2022 ASP Heritage Fund grants awarded so far).

**However the future of the Heritage Fund looks bright! At the start of the 55th Legislative Session, we are quite excited to announce that [Senator T.J. Shope \(LD 8\)](#) has introduced [SB 1270](#) state parks; lottery; heritage fund to restore the Heritage Fund back into the Lottery funds.**

As a supporter of the Heritage Fund, we would like to ask you all to contact all three (3) of your District Legislators now and ask them to ***PLEASE SUPPORT SB 1270 to restore the State Parks Heritage Fund BACK into the Lottery as the citizens of Arizona intended from their vote in 1992.*** With your support, we can get this funded permanently once again. [Click here](#) to locate the Legislators in your specific Legislative District.

Senator Shope has also sponsored **SCR1010 - A concurrent Resolution "Recognizing the Importance of Outdoor Experiences to State Residents."** To express your support for the resolution, log-in to the Request to Speak (RTS) system. SCR1010 is scheduled to be heard at the Senate Natural Resources, Energy and Water Committee this coming Wednesday, January 26th at 2:00 PM in SHR 109.

**The importance of Arizona's local, regional, and state parks; trails; and open spaces has also become more evident as we work to overcome the social and economic hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.**

Our public parks and open spaces provide Arizonans the space for socially distanced recreation and respite during these continuing challenging times. Increased usage and foot traffic warrants increased maintenance and upkeep to meet the demand.

This demand has demonstrated that investing in our trails, parks, and open spaces – which contribute billions of dollars each year to the state's economy – is key to the economic recovery of our urban and rural economies. It is therefore imperative that we look toward a funding mechanism such as the Heritage Fund to invest in the physical, social, and civic structures that many of our communities, especially in rural and tribal areas, depend upon for generating tourism-related economic activities that in turn create jobs and support local business.

Not only do they protect and preserve Arizona's heritage, but as the past year has shown that they have been critical to our state's response to the pandemic. Our outdoor recreation and tourism-based jobs and businesses they support will be key to stimulate Arizona's economy and aid our economic recovery.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at [mail@azheritage.org](mailto:mail@azheritage.org) or call 602-528-7500. Thank you for your continuing support, engagement and fighting for the Heritage Fund!

Arizona Heritage Alliance Board of Directors

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## Request to Speak System Refresher

As we move through the 55th Legislative Session, we will be monitoring our bills as they are assigned to various committees and we encourage people to sign up for the request to speak system for supporting our bills as they are scheduled for committee. While it is called the [Request to Speak](#) system, **you do not have to speak**, you can register your support of or opposition to bills while they are in committee. You can also use it to request to speak, however.

Log in or sign up for [Request to Speak](#). If you had an account previously, it is still active. You can request a new password if you forgot it. If you do not have an account, go ahead and set one up, but we will have to help you connect with folks who can activate it for you, which sadly requires actually going to the Capitol. Contact me directly about that.

For people who would like to speak remotely in committee hearings, I have included instructions on how to sign up to speak in the Senate and the House right after the Committee information below.

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## 2022 Environment Day at the Capitol

Hosted by [Sierra Club - Grand Canyon Chapter](#), this year Environment Day at the Capitol will be held both in-person and virtually on Wednesday, February 9, 2022 from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM. This year's theme is Act Now! There's a climate crisis. This year we offering our lobby day both in person and virtually. Please indicate how you plan to participate when you RSVP. Please do



plan to participate when you RSVP. Please do register so we can send you details. We try to make sure most participants meet with their own legislators. We will provide training and background information on the issues we are addressing. This is a coalition event involving more than 20 organizations and schools. [Click here](#) to register for Environmental Day. For more information and to get involved, contact Sandy Bahr at (602) 999-5790 or [sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org](mailto:sandy.bahr@sierraclub.org).



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## 2021/2022 Arizona State Parks Heritage Fund Grant Awards (to date)

### Local, Regional, & State Parks Category

**Project Title:** Sundance Park Phase II

**Sponsor:** [City of Buckeye](#) (LD 13)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$500,000

**Match:** \$600,000 (Cash)

**Project Total:** \$1,100,000

**Project Title:** Splash Pad

**Sponsor:** [The City of Bullhead City](#) (LD 5)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$350,000

**Match:** \$350,000 (Cash)

**Project Total:** \$700,000

**Project Title:** Fort Tuthill Improvements

**Sponsor:** [Coconino County](#) (LD 6)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$164,346

**Match:** \$700,000 (Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)/Cash)

**Project Total:** \$864,346

**Project Title:** Splash Pad

**Sponsor:** [The Town of Quartzsite](#) (LD 5)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$485,654

**Match:** \$485,654 (LWCF)

**Project Total:** \$971,308

**Project Title:** Selna Park - Mongini Park Improvements

**Sponsor:** [Town of Clarkdale](#) (LD 6)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$500,000

**Match:** \$500,000 (LWCF/Donate in-kind)

**Project Total:** \$1,000,000

**Project Title:** Keiller Park/Quail Run Park Improvements

**Sponsor:** [Town of Willcox](#) (LD30)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$500,000

**Match:** \$500,000 (LWCF/Cash)

**Project Total:** \$1,000,000

## Historic Preservation Category

**Project Title:** Dunbar School Rehab

**Sponsor:** [The Dunbar Coalition](#) in Tucson (LD 3)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$150,000

**Match:** \$100,000 (Cash/Volunteer)

**Total Project:** \$250,000

**Project Title:** Edison Hub Project

**Sponsor:** [City of Phoenix](#) (LD 24)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$300,000

**Match:** \$150,000 (Cash/Volunteer)

**Project Total:** \$450,000

## Non-motorized Trails Category

**Project Title:** Buffalo Park Trail Improvements

**Sponsor:** [City of Flagstaff](#) (LD 6)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$100,000

**Match:** \$135,453 (Cash)

**Project Total:** \$235,453

**Project Title:** Blowout Wash Phase III—Copper Chief Trail

**Sponsor:** [The Verde Valley Cyclists](#) (LD 1)

**HF Grant Awarded** \$88,400

**Match:** \$32,655 (Cash)

**Project Total:** \$121,055

## Outdoor Environmental Education Category

**Project Title:** Fund a FUN Program Director

**Sponsor:** [Verde Valley Wheel Fun](#) (LD 1)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$50,000

**Match:** \$79,048 Cash/Volunteer

**TOTAL Project:** \$129,048

**Project Title:** "Leave No Trace" Video

**Sponsor:** [Wickenburg Cultural and Conservation Foundation](#) (LD 13)

**HF Grant Awarded:** \$8,300

**Match** \$5,738 (Volunteer)

**Project Total:** \$14,008.00

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The Arizona Heritage Alliance is a 501(c)3 non-profit with the mission to preserve and enhance Arizona's historic, cultural, and natural heritage. To accomplish our mission we actively:

- Protect the integrity and voter intent of the Arizona Game & Fish Heritage Fund
- Pursue sustainable and dedicated funding sources for Arizona's historic, cultural, and natural initiatives, programs, and activities
- Educate Arizonans on the benefits of our state's wildlife, open space, parks, and historic and cultural resources
- Monitor state legislative and agency activity



**Donate**

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