

RESOLUTION 2016-051

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA, COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA; REAFFIRMING ESTABLISHED POLICY BY APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND THE CITY FOR THE COLLECTION OF TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAXES; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER, CITY CLERK, CITY ATTORNEY OR THEIR DULY AUTHORIZED OFFICERS AND AGENTS TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES AND INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Sierra Vista ( the City) currently has an intergovernmental agreement with the Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOR) to collect, remit and audit the City's Transaction Privilege Tax Code; and

WHEREAS, A.R.S. § 42-6001 et seq. was amended effective January 1, 2015 to provide that ADOR shall enter into an intergovernmental contract or agreement pursuant to A.R.S. § 11-952 to provide a uniform method of administration, collection, audit and licensing of transaction privilege and affiliated excise taxes imposed by the State, cities or towns; and

WHEREAS ADOR and the League of Arizona Cities have agreed upon amendments to the current agreement; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City that these amendments be approved and executed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1

That the policy approving intergovernmental agreements be, and hereby is, reaffirmed.

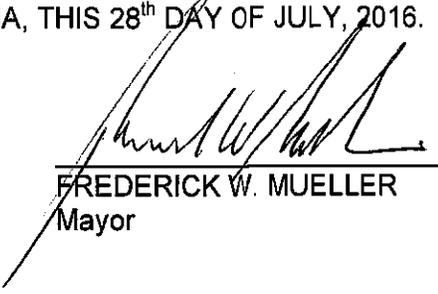
SECTION 2

The amendments to the intergovernmental agreement between the Arizona Department of Revenue and the City of Sierra Vista for the collection of the City's transaction privilege taxes, as shown in the attachment to this resolution, be and hereby is, approved.

SECTION 3

The Mayor and City Attorney are authorized, empowered and directed to execute such other documents as may be necessary or appropriate to consummate the above described transaction and to perform fully and timely all of the City's agreement and obligations in connection herewith.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA, THIS 28<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2016.



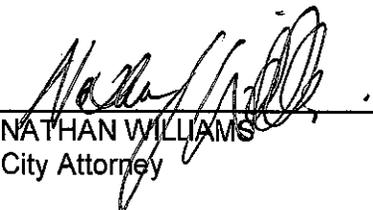
FREDERICK W. MUELLER  
Mayor

ATTEST:



JILL ADAMS  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



NATHAN WILLIAMS  
City Attorney

PREPARED BY:  
DAVID J. FELIX  
Chief Financial Officer

## **SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO THE IGA FOR TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX COLLECTION BY THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

The attached "Modification to Intergovernmental Agreement Between the State of Arizona And City/Town" incorporates five agreed upon changes into the existing intergovernmental agreement between the city/town and the Department related to the collection of the city/town transaction privilege tax. Below is a summary of the intent and impact of each change by section.

### **1) 9.6 Adjustments to Reported Taxes**

The addition of this new section addresses an issue that came up during the past year. In some cases, the Department knew there was an error by the taxpayer in identifying which city or town was supposed to receive the tax, but there was no mechanism allowing them to hold the distribution while the error was being corrected. As a result there were instances when the DOR had to send funds to a city or town knowing it was incorrect, only to pull those funds back in a subsequent distribution after the error had been resolved. This change allows the Department to avoid these incorrect distributions and recoveries when they are aware of a problem from the outset.

### **2) 9.7 Taxpayer Rulings and Uniformity**

The addition of this new section provides for municipal input in the drafting of rulings and interpretations that impact the Model City Tax Code, including interpretations of State statute that flow through to the MCTC because the Model language matches the State language. Under current statute, the DOR is responsible for addressing all taxpayer written requests for rulings, even when the question is based on the Model City Tax Code. This section allows the cities to have some influence over issues raised by taxpayers that have a direct impact on local tax imposition and interpretation, without disrupting the normal course of business within the Department on routine matters.

### **3) 10. Financing Collection of Taxes**

This section is being amended by adding the second sentence. This addition recognizes that the cities and towns have agreed to a statutory financial obligation to contribute to the State for the operation of the DOR, and this obligation is not in conflict with the Department's TPT collection and administration efforts being financed through the State general fund appropriation.

### **4) 28.1 (relating to automatic annual renewal of the agreement)**

This section has been changed to remove the specific years in the original document, so this section will not need to be changed annually. Also, this section added a provision stating any agreed upon changes that arise from the annual review in Section 28.5 are retroactive to July 1st of each year. The agreement automatically renews without any action unless there are modifications agreed upon in any given year, and if so, you only need to adopt the modifications.

### **5) 28.5 (relating to annual review of the IGA)**

This section has been changed to state the review period begins on June 1<sup>st</sup>, rather than requiring the review being completed by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline was simply unrealistic given the legislative session responsibilities of many of the typical reviewers.

**MODIFICATION TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE STATE OF ARIZONA AND CITY/TOWN**

WHEREAS, The Arizona Department of Revenue, hereinafter referred to as Department of Revenue and City of Sierra Vista, hereinafter referred to as City, have entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement regarding the administration of taxes imposed by the State or City dated June 25, 2015, hereinafter referred to as the IGA, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Revenue and the City/Town intend to continue with the IGA for an additional one year term in order to determine whether the general terms of the IGA meet the parties' needs, with the exception of the modifications set forth below.

The parties agree to modify the IGA as follows effective July 1, 2016:

1. Add the following new subsection to Section 9, Collection of Municipal Taxes:

**9.6 Adjustments to Reported Taxes:** If the Department of Revenue determines that a payment remitted by a taxpayer incorrectly identifies the city or town to which the payment should be made, the Department of Revenue may temporarily hold the payment until the distribution of the payment is corrected so that the appropriate city or town receives the payment.

2. Add the following new subsection to Section 9, Collection of Municipal Taxes:

**9.7 Taxpayer Rulings and Uniformity:** Recognizing taxpayer written requests for interpretation of the statutes and/or the Model City Tax Code, as well as guidance regarding uniform application and interpretation of the statutes and the Model City Tax Code impact all taxing jurisdictions, and further recognizing responsibility for such rulings and interpretation of the Model City Tax Code had previously been the sole domain of the municipalities, the Department shall include at least two representatives of the municipalities as regular members of any group established to respond to such taxpayer ruling requests and to issue such uniform interpretations and guidance promulgated by the Department. Participation by the two representatives of the municipalities on any such group is limited to instances when there is an issue raised that solely involves the Model City Tax Code and/or presents an issue of first impression, including requests for private taxpayer rulings. The municipal representatives may also be consulted by the Department on information letters, or when issuing statements of general guidance. Written requests involving common questions or issues that have previously been addressed, whether unique to the Model City Tax Code or not, may be handled in the regular course of Department processes without consulting the representatives of the municipalities.

3. Amend Section 10, Financing Collection of Taxes as follows:

**10. Financing Collection of Taxes.**

The costs incurred by the Department in administering this Agreement shall be financed through the State general fund appropriation to the Department. This provision does not relieve City of any financial obligation imposed by statute.

4. Amend subsection 28.1 of Section 28, Duration, relating to automatic renewal of the agreement as follows:

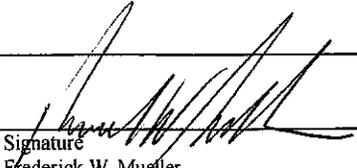
**28.1** The term of this Agreement shall be from July 1 through June 30 of each year. This Agreement shall automatically be renewed for successive one year terms thereafter unless either party shall terminate this Agreement by notice, in writing, no later than sixty calendar days prior to the expiration of the term then in effect. Any agreed upon modifications to the terms and conditions of this agreement shall be incorporated to be effective during the term identified by the review committee provided for in section 28.5.

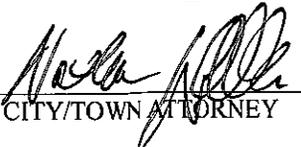
5. Amend subsection 28.5 of Section 28, Duration, relating to annual review of the agreement as follows:

**28.5** During the term of this Agreement, the terms and conditions of this Agreement will undergo an annual review to be initiated no later than June 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The review will be performed by a committee made up of equal parts representatives of the Department and representatives of the municipal taxing jurisdictions entering into an IGA with the Department for the administration and collection of Municipal Taxes.

**Signature Authority.**

By signing below, the signer certifies that he or she has the authority to enter into this Agreement and has read the foregoing and agrees to accept the provisions herein. This modification may be executed in counterparts.

			
Signature	Date	Signature	Date
Frederick W. Mueller, Mayor, City of Sierra Vista			
Typed Name and Title		Typed Name and Title	
City of Sierra Vista			
Entity Name		Entity Name	

RESERVED FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:	RESERVED FOR CITY/TOWN ATTORNEY:
<p>Attorney General no. _____, which is an agreement between public agencies, has been reviewed pursuant to A.R.S. § 11-952 by the undersigned Assistant Attorney General who has determined that it is in proper form and is within the powers and authority granted under the laws of the State of Arizona to the Arizona Department of Revenue represented by the Attorney General.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>MARK BRNOVICH</b> The Attorney General</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Signature Assistant Attorney General</p> <p>Date: _____</p>	<p>APPROVED AS TO FORM AND AUTHORITY:</p> <p>BY: <u></u> CITY/TOWN ATTORNEY</p> <p>Date: <u>28 July 2016</u></p>