

**FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - SUMMARY OF ISSUES
PRESCOTT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

GENERAL FUND

FY 2010 General Fund Budget 692,000

AGENCY REDUCTION TARGET - GENERAL FUND \$103,800

Priority	Issue Title¹	Reductions Amount
1	Elimination of AzNet Requirement (2nd half FY2010)	\$12,000
2	Freeze on Physical Plant Supervisor Vacancy	\$42,236
3	Freeze of Library-Archivist Vacancy	\$32,457
4	Elimination of Exhibit Designer Position	\$26,040
	Issue Total	\$112,733
	Fund Total as a Percentage of General Fund Reduction Target	109%

¹ Please complete the attached Description and Impact Statement for each issue.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Prescott Historical Society

Issue Title: AzNET

Issue Priority: 1

Reduction Amounts:

General Fund: \$12,000

Total: \$12,000

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

- AzNET is the state mandated telecommunication system for PHA.
- Elimination of the requirement to use this system for the second half of FY2010 (savings based on the annual AzNet expenditure of \$24,000) from Sharlot Hall Museum's limited non-profit funding (because no funds are provided by state appropriations for this service) would have a positive impact on the agency. AzNET is not cost-effective or necessary because PHA does not require a secure system, and can obtain more efficient, cost-effective, and more responsive telecommunications from the private sector. AzNet doe not provide detailed billing to the PHA as the client thereby not permitting review of possible reductions in costs or a means to determine if there are personal abuses of the phone service. AzNet is not efficient. PHA pays AzNet as a pass through for telecommunication costs and AzNet adds its overhead to these costs. This is not a rational use of our extremely funds. Nor does AzNet pay the actual carriers in a timely fashion in all instances. Twice in FY2009 PHA FAX service has been cut off because of AzNet's failure to pay the carrier thereby leaving PHA without this critical telecommunication resource despite the fact that PHA reimburses AzNet on time.
- No alternative way to fund the program is suggested. The elimination of this program would be for the good of PHA, and if properly reviewed the elimination of AzNET in its entirety may be to the best interest of the state of Arizona.
- This function is agency wide
- The function is required by the enabling legislation, which created AzNet in the wake of 9-11.

**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Prescott Historical Society

Issue Title: Physical Plant Supervisor

Issue Priority: 2

Reduction Amounts:

General Fund: \$42,236

Total: \$42,236

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

- PHA consists of nearly of nearly 3.5 acres and some 15 structures. The physical plant supervisor directs and participates in the complex repair and maintenance of the buildings and grounds.
- The extreme adverse effects of not performing the functions of the physical plant supervisor will mean that the extensive property and facility assets will be placed at further risk. Over the past several fiscal years the state of Arizona often has failed to provide requested funding for major repairs and upgrades that additionally are complicated by the fact that many of the key, irreplaceable structures are of a historic nature and are more complex to maintain and repair. Thus the longtime neglect of these assets is accelerated with the passage of time. This neglect is even more significant because some of these structures are among the most historic in the state. The recommendation that these same assets could be used as collateral for the state to secure loans would be folly if such assets are improperly protected. This approach is tantamount to letting a patient reach a critical state then deciding to harvest the organs just before death. These assets also have been jeopardized by the fact that over the past several fiscal years continual state budget reductions have led to the elimination of three of six of the facilities and grounds positions, including custodial. Failing to fill the vacancy for the plant supervisor will leave only two members (i.e., staffing levels of only 33%) to perform all the work on the site. And they will have to do so without a department head to provide all the important management functions entailed in this multifaceted tasking. The duties of department head have been and will continue to be handled by the agency director, who at present also serves as department head for two other departments with vacancies, as well as is the mainstay of fundraising for the non-profit arm of Sharlot Hall Museum. This fundraising is critical to provide approximately 60% of the money required to sustain the museum. With the continued burden of additional duties as the head

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of three departments, the agency director will have to curtail severely or eliminate fundraising efforts entirely thereby further contributing to the economic difficulties of the museum.

- The only possible alternative to fund this program is a raise in admission fees, which in the present economic climate could have the opposite effect desired.
- This function is located in the buildings and grounds department, Lawler Center, 415 W. Gurley St. Prescott, AZ, but because of the nature of the duties impacts on the agency as a whole.
- The Prescott Historical Society of Arizona is a governmental unit of the State of Arizona established by Laws 1973, Chapter 157, Section 61 codified in Article 2, Chapter 4.1, Title 41, Arizona Revised Statutes, Sections 41-831 through 41-834.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Prescott Historical Society

Issue Title: Librarian-Archivist

Issue Priority: 3

Reduction Amounts:

General Fund: \$32,457

Total: \$32,457

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

- The librarian-archivist serves as the department head of the extensive library and archives for Sharlot Hall Museum.
- This position has been vacant since December 2008 because of the hiring freeze and previous fund reductions by the state. The librarian-archivist is responsible for a new state of the art facility provided by private community funding of over \$1M. The facility houses photographs, oral histories, rare books, maps, newspapers, diaries, and a wide array of other irreplaceable archival materials that serve the needs of a broad public ranging from historic preservation professionals to “down winders” who use the facility as their main clearing house for information in Yavapai County. Because the facility has operated for the nearly the past year with sole remaining staff member in the department, library services had to be reduced from five days to three days of public access. Failure to fill this vacancy will result in further reduction of hours given that a single staff member cannot operate without annual leave, regular days off, and sick leave as such an expectation would be illegal, unfair, and unrealistic. This impact will cause hardships on patrons who as both tax payers and in many instances donors have made this important facility possible. The services of scores of faithful, capable volunteers likewise will be placed at risk, and their pro bono services that can be computed in hundreds of thousands of dollars of savings to the state if their duties were performed by salaried staff, could be lost. The archives-library assets also face possible harm in that adequate staffing is not available to provide regular reviews of the physical conditions of the materials entrusted to PHA by donors who expect the agency to fulfill its duties as stewards of these important materials. As is the case for the plant supervisor failure to fill the library-archives vacancy will leave no department head. Once again, the duties of department head have been and will continue to be handled by the agency director, who at present also serves as department head for two other departments with vacancies, as well as is the mainstay of fundraising for

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the non-profit arm of Sharlot Hall Museum. This fundraising is critical to provide approximately 60% of the money required to sustain the museum. With the continued burden of additional duties as the head of three departments, the agency director will have to curtail severely or eliminate fundraising efforts entirely thereby further contributing to the economic difficulties of the museum.

- The only possible alternative to fund this program is charge an admission fee, which in the present economic climate could have the opposite effect desired, and could contribute to a major negative public reaction given that the funding for this new facility was made possible from private local sources.
- This function is located at 115 McCormick, Prescott, AZ east of the Sharlot Hall Museum main grounds.
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**STATE OF ARIZONA
FY 2010 BUDGET REDUCTIONS - ISSUE DESCRIPTIONS**

Prescott Historical Society

Issue Title: Exhibit Designer

Issue Priority: 4

Reduction Amounts:

General Fund: \$26,231

Total: \$26,231

Issue Description and Statement of Effects

- The exhibit designer oversees all in house and outside exhibit design and construction/installation for Sharlot Hall Museum.
- This position will be vacated in October 2009 and the remaining 66% of salary and benefits for the incumbent will be applied to the 15% FY2010 PHA budget reduction. This position, although mission critical as exhibits are the main means for museums to present their collections to the public, will be eliminated at that time. Given that private funds of over \$1M exist for PHA's non-profit arm to begin major, long overdue renovations and expansion to the museum's galleries, the loss of this position will place additional burdens on the curatorial department, which by the elimination of the exhibit designer staff member will be operating at 50% strength (the department has four authorized positions, but only two will remain). This situation will slow progress on the exhibit project considerably, and necessitate contracting out at for the former in house services at higher costs. These delays will result in potential loss of revenue as planned expansion of exhibits would have allowed for larger audiences and potential admission fee increases. Heightened attendance based on improved and enlarged exhibit offerings not only will benefit the agency, but also the local extensively based tourist economy. Therefore the loss of the exhibits designer will have a negative impact on the area served by the museum.
- The only possible alternatives to fund this program are to raise admission fees, which in the present economic climate could have the opposite effect desired, and to use non-profit funds for the design work, which will be far more expensive and reduce the amount of funds available for planned expansion and renovation.
- This function is located in curatorial department, Lawler Center, 415 W. Gurley St. Prescott, AZ, but because of the nature of the duties impacts on the agency as a whole.

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