

Tempe Municipal Court Strategic Agenda 2025 through 2029

Mission:

Tempe Municipal Court is committed to providing the community with an independent judiciary that serves the public by the fair and impartial administration of justice resulting in the enhancement of public trust and confidence in the court system.

Strategy and Action Items:

The Municipal Court strives to align our daily operations with the Court's mission while enhancing the work environment to create and maintain courtesy, dignity, and respect for our employees and the community we serve. We aim to achieve this by collaborating with internal and external partners ensuring accountability for our actions and transparency in the justice system. Below are key projects and initiatives that support and enhance our mission and strategic goals for the next five years:

1. Ensure Equal Access to Justice:
 - Enhance the functionality and usefulness of public access terminals.
 - Explore the feasibility of using technology to assist the judicial decision-making process for reviewing and appointing court appointed attorneys.
 - Continue enhancing the court's public website to improve accessibility.
2. Enhance Infrastructure: Technology, Facilities and Security:
 - Develop and implement additional court automation to support active case imaging and electronic court forms to allow a less-paper court environment.
 - Expand acceptance of e-complaints filed in the Court's case management system to include, Arizona traffic ticket and complaints, zoning/neighborhood, and parking violations.
 - Expand the use of digital evidence portals.
 - Evaluate and implement interactive dashboards to help analyze court data and support data-driven decisions.
 - Continue to enhance court security protocols and facilities improvements to promote the safest work environment possible.
3. Enhance Operations & Administration
 - Support treatment courts and other restorative justice alternatives for individual accountability.
 - Collaborate with justice partners and other community resources to assess existing diversion programs, restorative justice programs, local needs and opportunities, and encourage early case resolution.
 - Consider ways to screen & address treatment and service needs relating to homelessness & mental health.
 - Foster professionalism, leadership development, enhanced customer service, and succession planning by providing cross-training opportunities.
 - Continue to conduct the Employee Satisfaction and Access and Fairness surveys and use survey information to guide organizational development and operational improvements.
 - Develop, review, and implement policies, procedures, and forms to support Court operations.
4. Engage in Community Outreach & Collaboration
 - Implement a Criminal Justice Roadshow event to enhance public understanding of the justice system.
 - Expand use and access to resource navigators to inform and connect the public to needed resources and information.
 - Expand the annual Law Day celebration.
 - Provide access to Court services at local community events such as the Veterans StandDown and Project Connect.