

Monthly Media Tip Sheet

Beat	Story	Source
Construction	How businesses can complete construction projects despite rising costs: With construction costs skyrocketing while demand for new buildings keeps up at a steady pace, construction companies are working hard to come up with creative solutions to help bring projects to completion within or close to existing budgets. What options are available? How are companies doing more with less? How can construction dollars stretch without compromising quality?	A source from A-P Construction can explain how companies building or thinking of building can thoughtfully manage their budgets and work within the confines created by current economic headwinds.
Personal Finance	How to prepare your finances for a recession: Speculation for a possible recession remains high as we enter 2023. Although nobody knows for certain, it's a prudent strategy for individuals to take steps to prepare for a possible economic slowdown. What should people focus on when preparing for a recession? How should they approach their expenses? What about debt?	A source from Take Charge America can share tips for how consumers can prepare their finances for a potential recession and detail how homeowners can qualify for relief through the Arizona Homeowner Assistance Fund.
	How Arizona homeowners can qualify for \$40,000 in mortgage assistance: Thousands of homeowners across Arizona are still struggling to make mortgage payments because of impacts from COVID-19. Arizona homeowners who are behind on their mortgage or other housing-related payments may qualify for up to \$40,000 in assistance through the Arizona Homeowner Assistance Fund. Nonprofit financial agency Take Charge America can answer questions about the program and what homeowners can do to apply.	
Public Works & Infrastructure	How can the Valley keep pace with rapid growth? With Queen Creek and Buckeye near the top of the U.S. Census list of the 15-fastest-growing large cities in the nation and Casa Grande, Maricopa and Goodyear close behind, it is increasingly important for these municipalities to ensure critical public works infrastructure and services can not only keep pace with growth, but also accommodate future needs of the rapidly expanding area. From transportation and water works to waste and emergency preparedness, what does it take to keep growing cities running? How do public works professionals determine how best to deploy resources?	Sources from the American Public Works Association (APWA) can discuss critical infrastructure needs as well as how drones keep Valley residents safer and healthier.
	Drones ensuring public safety: Many American cities now use unmanned aerial systems (drones) to inspect roads, bridges, water systems and other critical infrastructure. They save time and money while preventing harm to public workers.	

	Which Valley cities employ this innovative technology, and what kind of restrictions do they face? What certifications and licenses are required to pilot a drone for work or business?	
Risk Management/ Labor Market/ Employee Benefits	What the SECURE Act 2.0 means for businesses: A new federal law regulating the nation’s retirement savings system will bring many changes to how employees can save for retirement. What do businesses need to know about the new law? How does it impact existing retirement plans like 401(k)s? What changes must employers make to ensure compliance with the new regulations?	A source from insurance broker Lovitt & Touché can discuss what businesses must know about SECURE 2.0 and how it impacts their employees’ retirement plans. A source also can explain the latest trends in employee benefits and what types of perks companies are offering in the new year.
	Employee benefits trends for the new year: As the labor market continues to change post-pandemic, the benefits employers offer to attract and retain talent are, as well. What does 2023 have in store for employee benefits? What types of perks are businesses adding to their suites of benefits? What are job seekers looking for from potential employers?	
Accounting/Biz Finance	Tax strategies businesses should consider before filing 2022 taxes: With tax deadlines around the corner, the window for taking action to reduce tax liability is closing. What creative strategies do businesses often overlook? Which ones make the biggest difference?	A source from Scottsdale accounting firm eeCPA can share tips for tax planning, including for vacation rentals.
	Making sure your vacation rentals are profitable: With the Super Bowl coming up, many people are considering renting their homes to make some extra cash. Unfortunately, many in the vacation rental business end up taking a loss. What mistakes do people commonly make, and what important tax considerations affect what losses can be deducted?	
Legal	What Arizona’s Predatory Debt Collection Act means for bankruptcy filings: Although voters approved Prop 209 (Predatory Debt Collection Act), a lawsuit was filed to kill the bill and a temporary restraining order requires judges to follow the old garnishment calculations. The case is expected to reach the Arizona Supreme Court, but how do the law’s increased exemptions for homesteads, furnishings and motor vehicles affect bankruptcy eligibility? Will some people now be unable to file?	A bankruptcy attorney at Guidant Law can discuss the current legal challenges Prop 209 faces, along with why holiday purchases are exempt from bankruptcy filings.

	<p>Why you can't file for bankruptcy right after the holidays: People who spent too much over the holidays thinking they would file for bankruptcy are in for a rude awakening — debts incurred three months before or after Christmas are considered non-dischargeable and must be paid. What alternatives do people have?</p>	<p>A labor and employment law attorney at Coppersmith Brockelman can discuss how employers should handle requests to bring animals to the workplace.</p>
	<p>Accommodations for service animals in the workplace: It's common to see service and emotional support animals in public places, but are employers required to allow them? What kind of animals does the Americans with Disabilities Act and Arizona law include (hint: miniature horses are allowed under Arizona law)? What documentation can employers require, and what practical questions should they be asking of employees requesting to bring an animal to work?</p>	
Multifamily Real Estate	<p>The apartment of the future: Remote work. Smart home tech. On-demand services. The way people live and work has changed dramatically in the past two years. With these changes come new wants and demands from people for the places they call home. What will the apartment of the future look like to meet these new demands? What types of spaces, features and amenities must multifamily property managers offer to cater to discerning renters?</p>	<p>Experts with AZP Multifamily can discuss what the apartment of the future will look like — from amenities to layouts, as well as provide insight into what multifamily properties can do to maintain and drive value in uncertain times.</p>
	<p>How multifamily properties can maintain value in uncertain times: As rent growth slows and other economic signs point to a possible recession, multifamily properties are seeking ways to drive value despite those challenges. What strategies can properties use to generate revenue in uncertain times? What existing resources can they take advantage of? What low-cost tactics are available to maintain value?</p>	
Residential Real Estate	<p>How can homebuyers navigate the changing real estate market? As economic headwinds from rising inflation to increasing interest rates take hold, Arizonans who are looking to purchase homes are left wondering if now is the time to buy or if they should wait? How can first-time buyers take advantage of the changing landscape? What resources can they take advantage of to lessen the financial impact? How can their REALTORS help negotiate a more favorable purchase price?</p>	<p>A source from Phoenix REALTORS® can provide insights on the latest figures and offer up tips on how sellers and buyers can continue to take advantage of the current environment.</p>
	<p>What does 2023 hold for Arizona's real estate market? As current economic conditions slow down Arizona's rollercoaster real estate market, home sellers and buyers are wondering what the future holds. What impact will rising interest rates</p>	

	have on the market? Will Arizona continue to see strong out-of-state buying? How are investors reacting? Will there be a downturn?	
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