



TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

STATE OF THE TOWN 2023

SAFE COMMUNITY

QCPD Launched

Serving the community with respect, compassion and trust, the top call for service was traffic stops, with the second being crime prevention, which includes community-based policing efforts.



Award Winning

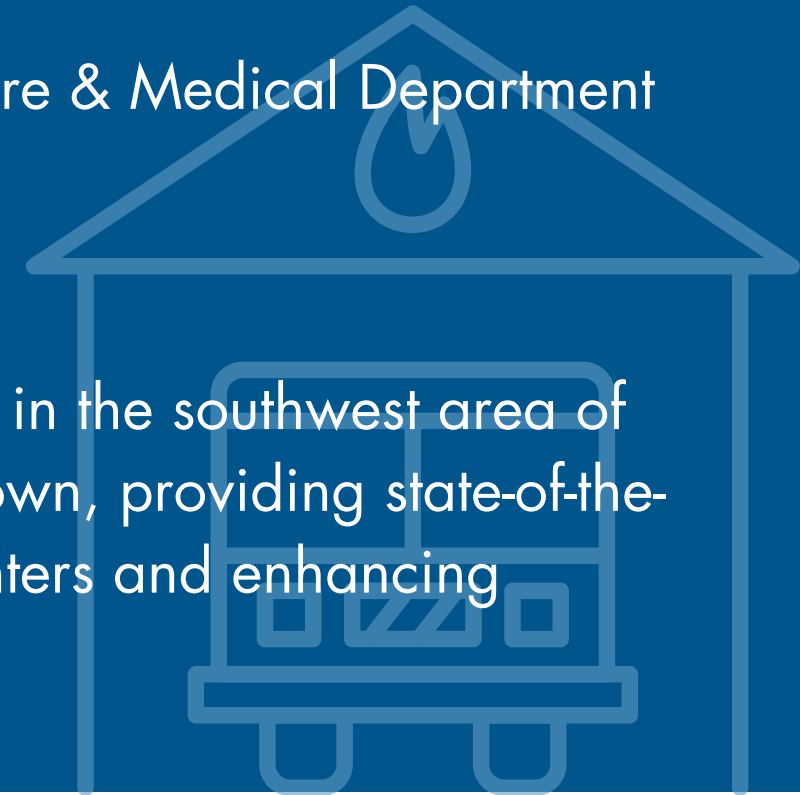
The launch of QCPD received a number of awards:

- Outreach plan - Silver Circle, 3CMA & Award of Merit, PRSA Phoenix
- "Intro to vehicles" & "Women in Law Enforcement" videos - Award of Merit, PRSA Phoenix
- Meeting the 30x30 initiative at launch - Agency of Excellence Award, Western Region IPMA-HR; honorable mention, Ragan Communications & Diversity Award, PRSA Phoenix



Four firefighters from Queen Creek Fire & Medical Department were certified as paramedics.

Opened two permanent fire stations, station 2 in the southwest area of Town and station 5 in the southeast area of Town, providing state-of-the-art technology, protecting the health of firefighters and enhancing service to residents.



Welcomed 10 new members to the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Monthly blood drives in partnership with Vitalant resulted in a 30% increase in blood donations from 2021.





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SECURE FUTURE

Tax Payer Savings

- Freezing the amount residents pay in property taxes – as home values go up, the tax rate will go down, saving the median home in QC \$353 over the next five years;
- Refinancing a loan from 4% to 2.85%, saving \$2.1 million in cash flow over the next 16 years.



Residents approved a permanent base adjustment - beginning next year, the Town's annual budgetary expenditure limit will be based on the updated formula, eliminating the need for a Home Rule election every four years.



The Town's first large-scale industrial development was approved, located near Germann and Meridian roads.



The Queen Creek Olive Mill rezoned 32 acres to agritainment. The expansion will include both residential and nonresidential uses and further implements the Town's Agritainment District.

Bond rating upgrade from Fitch and S&P to AA+, one step away from the highest rating. This rating upgrade results in lower borrowing costs and affirms our strategic policy decisions.



Issued more than 1,300 single family home permits, reviewed more than 200 business licenses, and permitted an estimated \$808 million in construction value.





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QUALITY LIFESTYLE

Broke ground on a new 85-acre community park – located on Signal Butte north of Queen Creek Road, Frontier Family Park will be Queen Creek’s largest park and future home to the recreation and aquatic center.



The Town also broke ground on phase two of Mansel Carter Oasis Park, adding tennis courts, pickleball courts and an outdoor fitness area.



The Town celebrated the extension of the Sonoqui Wash Trail to Crismon, with a number of safety enhancements for the equestrian community.

Design is underway for the extension of the Queen Creek Wash Trail to Meridian Road.

Increased engagement across all Town social media accounts, including a 16% increase on Instagram and a 37% increase in requests through the Town’s online reporting system, SeeClickFix.



Horseshoe Park & Equestrian Centre experienced record numbers with a 43% increase in revenues. They hosted more than 125,000 people and 12,000 horses with a 43% increase in revenues.



Economic Development received their reaccreditation as an Accredited Economic Development Organization (AEDO) through the International Council for Economic Development.



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SUPERIOR INFRASTRUCTURE

Working towards **Better Roads Ahead:**

ADOT completed the interim extension of the State Route 24 from Ellsworth to Ironwood.

The Town worked with the City of Mesa, and partners in Maricopa and Pinal counties to provide more north-south connections, including

- Two new portions of Meridian from Queen Creek to the SR 24
- A new portion of Signal Butte from Germann past the SR 24

Additional roadway projects completed & underway

- Chandler Heights from Power to Recker
- Power Road from Brooks Farm to Chandler Heights
- Ocotillo Road from Signal Butte to Ironwood
- Queen Creek Road from Ellsworth to Crismon
- Connectors in the downtown core



In partnership with Pinal County, secured a \$15 million Legislative Budget appropriation to be used by Pinal County to purchase the necessary right-of-way for the SR 24 extension east of Ironwood Rd.

In partnership with Pinal, secured \$35 million for utility projects in Queen Creek's service area within Pinal County.





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EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT

Economic development and tourism efforts received two awards:

- Tourism website - Golden Prospector Award of Merit by the Arizona Association for Economic Development
- Tourism postcard - Award of Excellence from 3CMA



Volunteers contributed nearly 84,000 hours of service, saving approximately \$2.5 million.



Diverted more than 5,600 tons of materials from the landfill through the Town's Recycle Center and recycling events.

Received the Platinum level "Healthy Worksites Award" for the Town's employee wellness program for the third consecutive year.



To enhance community engagement, hosted a new event "What's Poppin' in QC" and expanded the annual Pancake Breakfast.



The Town is continuing to seek opportunities to reduce its reliance on groundwater. Following an agreement with the Central Arizona Project, 20% of the Town's water supply is from a sustainable source.