



ASU Sustainable Cities Network  
Arizona State University  
Project Cities

# ASU Project Cities

## Sustainability Through Local Action

Project Cities is a university-community partnership. Through the program, sustainability faculty and students pair with a city to co-create strategies for better environmental, economic and social balance in the places we live. Students from multiple disciplines research difficult problems chosen by the city and propose innovative sustainability solutions that enable the city to make progress toward a better future.



### 2017-2018 Inaugural Partner: City of Apache Junction

Projects include:

- **Positively Apache Junction**, a marketing and public image campaign.
- **Sustainability and Solid Waste**, a project addressing compliance, health hazards, and citizen's perceptions of waste management.
- **Off-Leash Dog Park Site Analysis**, an investigation of dog park locations.
- **Understanding Homelessness**, an exploration into the drivers of homelessness.



#### Benefits to Cities

- Access to knowledge and expertise of sustainability scholars and scientists
- Fresh research-supported ideas for sticky municipal challenges
- Low risk option for exploring sustainability pathways
- Additional student research capacity for project support

### Mission

The mission of Project Cities is to assist cities with the advancement of sustainability initiatives by connecting students, faculty and academic courses to sustainability projects prioritized by community stakeholders.

### Vision

Students engage in innovative and practical solutions with local communities, advancing both communities' sustainability goals and students' career paths.



#### Benefits to Students

- Hands-on experience applying sustainability principles and practices
- Exposure to professional work environments
- Stakeholder engagement experience
- Project work experience applicable to future employment opportunities

**For further information:**  
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### 2018-2019 City Partner: City of Glendale

Projects include:

- **Digital Media Policy and Strategy**, a project that developed social media rules and guidelines as well as a strategic implementation plan.
- **Multi-Generation Community Engagement**, a project to make excluded voices in the community heard.
- **Sustainability Options for Glendale Facilities Master Plan**, incorporating sustainability into the facility's master plan.



#### Benefits to Faculty

- Engage with city staff invested in project success
- Meet new colleagues and work together on transdisciplinary projects
- Complex and challenging community work
- Attracts motivated, top tier students
- Increases student engagement
- Media attention to courses and projects