



# NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative Matt Gress (R-4)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

---

Wednesday, August 23, 2023  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Representative Matt Gress Announces Victory in Ongoing Fight Against Scottsdale's Taxpayer-Funded Homeless Hotel Plan

**STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX** – In good news for taxpayers, Arizona State Representative Matt Gress, Vice Chairman of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, shared today that the Arizona Department of Housing won't be enforcing a controversial—and very likely illegal—provision in its contract with the City of Scottsdale. This contract provision would have authorized the City to use state funds to house homeless people from “the zone” in downtown Phoenix and foreign nationals who otherwise would have been expelled under Title 42 in a hotel close to Pima and Indian Bend Roads. The City was previously awarded a \$940,000 grant from the Department of Housing to carry out the terms of the contract. The Department has now admitted to Representative Gress that, despite the terms of the Contract, it does *not* intend to enforce the “Zone” or the “Title 42” provisions of its Contract with the City.

**“This is a victory for the safety and well-being of Scottsdale’s residents, many who staunchly oppose their tax dollars being spent to house homeless from other cities and foreign nationals who should have been deported under Title 42,”** declared Representative Gress, who has led efforts to stop Scottsdale’s homeless hotel plan. **“I maintain serious concerns regarding the city’s intentions to utilize area hotels for this purpose and intend to pursue this matter further. Soon I will announce details of a public subcommittee hearing where I plan to delve more deeply into the problematic approach of converting hotels to housing for homeless.”**

A copy of the Representative Gress’ August 3 letter to the Department of Housing and the response are attached below.

*Matt Gress is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 4 in Phoenix. He also serves as Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Budgetary Funding Formulas. Follow him on Twitter at @MatthewGress.*

###