

Arizona Trucking Association Candidate Survey 2018

Name: **KATHY PAPPAS PETSAS**

Office Sought: **Arizona House** District: **28** Status: **Challenger** Party: **Republican**

Website: **WWW.KATHYPETSASAZ.COM**

Previous Office(s): **NONE**

Education: **UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA - BACHELOR OF ARTS&SCIENCES - COMMUNICATION**

Occupation: **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER, HOMEMAKER**

Accepting PAC Contributions: **Yes** Are you interested in an endorsement: **Yes**

5. If elected, what are your top three priorities for 2019-2020?

Answer: 1) Water - responsible management of water is the most important resource we have for our future stable economic development. 2) Education funding formula - needs to be remodeled to take into consideration education choices, geographic and socio-economic areas of poor & high performing schools. 3)

6. Do you support the continued use of bona fide independent contractors in the trucking industry and oppose efforts by state and local governments to reclassify owner-operators as employees?

Answer: Yes

Comments: The owner operator model in the trucking industry truly embodies the free enterprise spirit. The owner /operators take on the risk and responsibility of a very unique service with clear expectations by their customers. This industry should have the rewards, opportunities and tax advantages as would any other type of independent contractor in the general marketplace. One of the advantages for the general public with this industry model is the attention to road safety and consideration for other vehicle operators.

7. Do you support the conversion of our existing infrastructure into toll roads?

Answer: No

8. Do you support the use of toll roads for construction of new infrastructure?

Answer: Yes

9. On a scale of one to ten (one being low) how important do you believe transportation infrastructure (roads and highways) is to the success of the Arizona's economy?

Answer: 10

Comments: Properly maintained roads, assist in economic development by providing efficient and reliable roadways for goods to be delivered quickly. Also with fewer hassles we more effectively connect customers to product and workers to their jobs. The connection to safety benefits of better roadways is positive for commercial and non-commercial drivers and insurance costs. Infrastructure investment reaps larger rewards than the investment made.

10. Currently, alternative fuel vehicles (natural gas and electric) do not pay any taxes or fees for use of the roads. (i.e. a gas tax substitute) Do you believe that these vehicles should pay something for use of the roads, or do you believe that they should continue to get a discount for using alternative fuels?

Answer: I believe alternative fueled vehicles should pay something for use of the roads.

Comments: Alternative fuel vehicles create the same traffic and have wear and tear on our roads just as any other vehicle, time for them to pony up.

11. Currently, both the Department of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety have law enforcement officers that specialize in commercial vehicle enforcement. Do you believe Arizona should look at consolidating all truck enforcement activities under the Department of Public Safety?

Answer: Yes, I believe we should look at consolidating ADOT's law enforcement under the DPS.

Comments: I would like to speak to stakeholders of this proponent before making a decision. From what I know today I would say if there is an economic benefit without sacrificing safety to consolidating ADOT law enforcement under DPS then it should be strongly considered.

12. Given the importance of transportation is to our economic success, how would you propose we solve the revenue shortfall needs for transportation?

Answer: All roadway users must be payees in to support this infrastructure improvement. The State must stop sweeping the funds set aside for this

purpose. Discipline to maintain a funding source for proper maintenance is necessary. Many of our roads are in disrepair the State may need to "cry once" and outlay the needed funds to have the wholesale improvements made and not bandaid our roadway issues.