

Oro Valley 101: Things you should know

1. **Oro Valley does not assess a property tax.** Oro Valley residents do pay property taxes to Pima County and special districts. The Town does not receive any portion of the property taxes paid by residents.
2. **Oro Valley operates under the council-manager form of government.** This form of government is the most prevalent form of local government in the State of Arizona, as well as the United States. It combines the political leadership of elected officials with the managerial experience of an appointed, professional local government manager. The Town Manager is appointed to serve the Town Council and the community, and provides the benefits of training and experience in administering local government projects and programs, while also managing day-to-day operations.
3. **Tourism and local businesses are essential to the health of our community.** Since the Town does not assess a property tax, the generation of sales tax revenue from businesses and tourism become essential to providing services such as roads and public safety. In fact, sales tax represents approximately 50% of the Town's General Fund. In addition, tourism contributes to nearly 100% of bed tax revenues and about 1/3 of sales tax revenues.
4. **Doing business in Oro Valley has never been easier.** Oro Valley is home to world-class leaders Sanofi and Ventana Medical Systems, a member of the Roche Group. To continue to attract high-tech/bioscience companies, Oro Valley Town Council approved an Economic Expansion Zone (EEZ) on October 3, 2012. The EEZ is an overlay district that streamlines the process and reduces the time required to establish or expand a business in Innovation Park. Securaplane, a leading supplier of avionics products for business, commercial and military aircraft, was the first business to benefit from the EEZ.
5. **Oro Valley's water rates have only recently increased for the first time in three years.** The residential rate increase is only 0.6% and as a result, the average residential customer using 8,000 gallons of water per month would only experience an increase of \$0.23 in their monthly water bill. However, Pima County has increased its sewer rates each year, and since a person's sewer cost is calculated based on the amount of water used between the months of December and February, their cost is expected to be reflective of the County's rates.
6. **Oro Valley has a Constituent Services Coordinator dedicated to receiving inquiries and addressing resident questions and concerns.** This staff member also documents the inquiries received and will produce a bi-weekly report to Town Council regarding issues received, as well as the information provided back to the constituent in response.
7. **Oracle Road is a state-designated highway.** As such, it falls under the control of the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), so most of the Oracle Road traffic signals are operated by ADOT, not by the Town.
8. **Oro Valley does not regulate which kinds of businesses locate within the Town.**

The Town tries to recruit a wide array of businesses that provide products and services reflective of Oro Valley residents' needs and desires. However, it is ultimately the decision of each business on whether they would like to locate to Oro Valley. As long as the business falls within the designated zoning of that particular parcel, the Town cannot dictate which individual business can or cannot locate in Oro Valley.

9. **The Town of Oro Valley does not provide nor contract for trash pick-up service.** There are several trash service providers that operate within the Town and are options for residents; however, some homeowner associations (HOAs) enter into a contractual agreement with a specific company for servicing their entire subdivision, which may result in a reduction of that HOA's overall cost for service.
10. **Oro Valley does not choose nor regulate which cable/internet providers can operate within Town boundaries.** The Town allows and welcomes all cable/internet providers to conduct business within Oro Valley. In order for a provider to do so, they must pay a Franchise Fee which recovers the cost of the provider utilizing the Town's right-of-way. Additionally, federal law prohibits municipalities from regulating a provider's prices and/or services.