

CITY COUNCIL REPORT



Meeting Date: May 5, 2026
 Charter Provision: *Provide for the Orderly Administration of City Affairs*
 Objective: *Fiscal Management*

ACTION

Adopt Resolution No. 13694 authorizing the City Attorney and/or his designee to take all legal action necessary to defend and prosecute all claims to the benefit of the City, including any claims, crossclaims, and counterclaims as it relates to *Chromed in Hollywood, Inc. v. City of Scottsdale, et al.*, Maricopa County Superior Court Case No. CV2026-005959.

BACKGROUND

On February 10, 2025, at approximately 2:38 p.m., a Learjet 35A, registration number N81VN, landed on Runway 21 at Scottsdale Airport and thereafter veered from the runway and was involved in a collision with a Gulfstream G200 with registration number N199DF. Since that time, several of the parties involved have filed lawsuits against the City, including a lawsuit entitled *Chromed in Hollywood, Inc. v. City of Scottsdale, et al.*, Maricopa County Superior Court Case No. CV2026-005959. In all of the lawsuits, the City is represented, pursuant to a policy of insurance, by outside counsel experienced in aviation litigation.

Upon information and belief, there are claims which could be asserted by the City to protect the City's interests. The Open Meetings Law, A.R.S. § 38-431.01(A), requires that "[a]ll legal action of public bodies shall occur during a public meeting." Without the City Council's authorization, the City Attorney may not be able to timely assert necessary claims, crossclaims, or counterclaims to protect the City's position or pursue recoverable damages. Because insurance counsel is defending this matter, the City will not be expending additional public funds for legal fees or litigation expenses such claims were asserted. Authorizing these claims therefore delivers potential financial recovery with no current budgetary burden.

Accordingly, the City Attorney recommends that the City Council approve Resolution No. 13694 authorizing the City Attorney and/or his designee to take all legal action necessary to defend and prosecute all claims to the benefit of the City, including any claims, crossclaims, and counterclaims as it relates to *Chromed in Hollywood, Inc. v. City of Scottsdale, et al.*, Maricopa County Superior Court Case No. CV2026-005959.

ANALYSIS & ASSESSMENT

Recent Staff Action

Action Taken _____

The City Attorney's Office is working closely with outside aviation litigation counsel to manage the litigation and represent the City's interests in this matter. The City is not expending additional public funds for the defense or prosecution of this matter by the adoption of this resolution.

Policy Implications

None.

Significant Issues to be Addressed

None.

Community Involvement

N/A.

RESOURCE IMPACTS

Available funding

The City is not expending additional funds for the defense or prosecution of this matter as a defense is being provided through a policy of insurance.

Staffing, Workload Impact

None.

Future Budget Implications

The City is not expending additional funds for the defense or prosecution of this matter as a defense is being provided through a policy of insurance.

OPTIONS & STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Recommended Approach

The City Attorney's Office recommends that the Council consider adopting Resolution No. 13694.

Proposed Next Steps

If the legal action is approved, the City Attorney and/or his designee will take all legal action necessary to defend and prosecute all claims to the benefit of the City, including any claims,

crossclaims, and counterclaims as it relates to *Chromed in Hollywood, Inc. v. City of Scottsdale, et al.*, Maricopa County Superior Court Case No. CV2026-005959.

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT(S)

City Attorney's Office – Civil Division

STAFF CONTACTS (S)

Luis E. Santaella, City Attorney, lsantaella@scottsdaleaz.gov

APPROVED BY



Luis E. Santaella, City Attorney
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5/11/2026

Date

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 13694

RESOLUTION NO. 13694

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY ATTORNEY AND/OR HIS DESIGNEE TO TAKE ALL LEGAL ACTION NECESSARY TO DEFEND AND PROSECUTE ALL CLAIMS TO THE BENEFIT OF THE CITY, INCLUDING ANY CLAIMS, CROSSCLAIMS, AND COUNTERCLAIMS AS IT RELATES TO *CHROMED IN HOLLYWOOD, INC. V. CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, ET AL.*, MARICOPA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. CV2026-005959.

WHEREAS, on February 10, 2025, at approximately 2:38 p.m., a Learjet 35A, registration number N81VN, landed on Runway 21 at Scottsdale Airport and thereafter veered from the runway and was involved in a collision with a Gulfstream G200 with registration number N199DF;

WHEREAS, several of the parties involved in the aircraft crash have filed lawsuits against the City, including the lawsuit entitled *Chromed in Hollywood, Inc. v. City of Scottsdale, et al.*, Maricopa County Superior Court Case No. CV2026-005959;

WHEREAS, in all of these lawsuits, the City is represented, pursuant to a policy of insurance, by outside counsel experienced in aviation litigation;

WHEREAS, upon information and belief, there are claims which should be asserted in the *Chromed in Hollywood* case by the City to protect the City's interests;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona, as follows:

Section 1. The City Attorney and his respective staff and designees are authorized to take all legal action necessary to defend and prosecute all claims to the benefit of the City, including any claims, crossclaims, and counterclaims as it relates to *Chromed in Hollywood, Inc. v. City of Scottsdale, et al.*, Maricopa County Superior Court Case No. CV2026-005959.

Section 2. That the City Council authorizes and directs the City Manager, the City Treasurer, and the City Attorney, and their respective staffs to execute such documents and take such other actions as are necessary to carry out the purpose of the Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona this ___ day of May, 2026.

CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, an Arizona
municipal corporation

ATTEST:

Lisa Borowsky, Mayor

Ben Lane, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Luis E. Santaella, City Attorney