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## PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Attention- Clarkdale Adopts an Arts & Entertainment District

The Clarkdale Town Council approved an ordinance adopting an Arts & Entertainment District at their September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. This overlay district is a component of Clarkdale's Sustainable Community & Economic Development Plan and will support economic growth in the Town's central commercial area.

The boundaries of the approved district include the historic central business area of Clarkdale, as well as the Broadway corridor from Main Street through to the industrial area gateway. The district also includes 19 single-family homes adjacent to the historic downtown area of Clarkdale. Inclusion of these homes recognizes the potential for these properties to transition to commercial uses through a zone change process. While not changing any of the existing property zoning, the Arts & Entertainment District recognizes the potential for revitalization of this area to promote the vibrant art community and historical significance of Clarkdale.

Per Arizona State Statute 4-207, business requesting a liquor license located within an entertainment district may request a waiver of the 300-foot distance requirement from a church and school. Any waiver requests would need to be approved by Clarkdale Town Council.

The ordinance adopting the district includes general design guidelines to help preserve the historic character of the area. Discussion regarding formation of the District began in February of this year. The concept has been widely supported by business owners in the area. Although some residents had expressed concerns during public hearings at the Planning Commission about possible increases in noise and traffic, everyone who spoke at the Council meeting endorsed adoption of the District. Recognizing negative impacts could be mitigated through existing codes and during the public process for a zone change approval, the Clarkdale Town Council voted unanimously to adopt the district.

The Town will sponsor a kick-off event for the new District this fall, including a 'Name that District' contest.

Questions may be directed to the Community Development Department at (928) 639-2500.

*Clarkdale, AZ*

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