

## **District 5 Residents and Friends**

Memorial Day weekend means May is almost over and summer has officially started with high temperatures and so many programs and updates:

- Approved city budget for fiscal year 26-27
  - Summer fun: pools, splash pads, and all-day summer camps
  - Approval of Safe Medical Care and Food Distribution in Parks Ordinance
  - Launch of federal enforcement complaint portal
  - Helping PHX Families for everyday needs resource page
  - Grand-35 Project public art survey now open
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**City Approves New Budget Centered on Families, Youth, Public Safety and Community Investments.**



Phoenix City Council Policy Session - May 19, 2026

On May 19th, **I was proud to vote in support of the City of Phoenix Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget**—one that truly reflects the voices and priorities of our residents. Throughout this process, I heard from so many of you who attended community budget hearings, emailed or called my office, and shared your concerns directly. Your participation shaped this budget, and I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for your engagement and commitment to building a stronger Phoenix.

The FY26-27 budget includes major investments that support working families, strengthen our neighborhoods, and expand opportunities for our youth. We more than doubled flexible emergency financial assistance for families facing economic challenges from \$1.5 Million to \$3.15 Million, and we nearly doubled funding for teen and youth programming so more young people can access tutoring, recreation, arts, and enrichment activities across the city. **I am especially proud of the continued investments in childcare affordability assistance, SNAP navigation services, homelessness outreach, housing support, neighborhood safety improvements, and essential services like parks and heat-relief programs that residents rely on every day.**

This budget also recognizes the vital work of our city employees, whose dedication keeps Phoenix moving forward. While no budget can solve every issue, **I believe this budget reflects the compassion, responsibility, and opportunity that define us as a community.** Most importantly, it demonstrates what we can accomplish when residents, staff, and Council work together. I look forward to continuing our work to support families, strengthen neighborhoods, and build a thriving future for Phoenix. [Click here for more details.](#)

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## Summer Fun: Pools, Splash Pads, and All-Day Childcare



Summer is here and there are so many safe, affordable, and family-friendly options available through Phoenix Parks and Recreation to help keep kids active, cool, and entertained all season long. Like every year, the City provides splash pads, pools, and summer camps—offering families a variety of ways to enjoy their neighborhood parks and stay safe during the hot months. [Click here to check out PHX TV episode of our summer kick-off event with all the details. \[youtu.be\]](#)

### **Free Splash Pads Now Open Daily**

To help families beat the early summer heat, Phoenix opened all 11 city splash pads on weekends beginning in March. Starting May 23, splash pads will be open seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

District 5 has three convenient splash pad locations:

- **Mariposa Park** (31st Ave. and Orangewood Ave.) [pictured above]

- **El Oso Park** (75th Ave. and Osborn Rd.)
- **Dust Devil Park** (107th Ave. and Camelback Rd.)



### **Affordable Pools and Swim Lessons**

Phoenix continues to offer some of the most affordable swim lessons in the region, along with low-cost—and in many cases free—pool entry for kids.

This summer, 23 pools will open citywide. Three of these are located in District 5 and

are designated “Kool Kids” pools, providing free admission for children thanks to generous support from the Milwaukee Brewers:

- **Washington Pool** (23rd Ave. and Glendale Ave.)
- **Maryvale Pool** (51st Ave. and Campbell Rd.)
- **Starlight Park Pool** (79th Ave. and Osborn Rd.)

Pools will be open Memorial Day weekend (May 23–25) and then operate from May 30 through July 26.

### **Summer Camps for Every Family**

Phoenix Parks and Recreation is also offering affordable summer camps at 18 locations citywide. District 5 families can access programs at Maryvale Community Center and Washington Activity Center, with daily drop-in rates of just \$20 and weekly rates ranging from \$70 to \$80—providing a full week of safe, supervised activities for children.

Our park and community centers are here for our families, providing safe and affordable places for kids to learn, play, and stay cool. I hope every family in our district finds something fun to enjoy this summer. [Click here to learn more about summer opportunities, hours, and registration by visiting phoenix.gov.](#)

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**Approval of Safe Medical Care & Food Distribution in Parks Ordinance**



On May 6th, Phoenix City Council approved the **Medical Treatment and Food Distribution in Parks Ordinance (G-7514)**, establishing the city’s first comprehensive framework for how medical treatment and food distribution events may operate in public parks. **The ordinance passed on May 6 by a 6–3 vote and will take effect June 5, 2026.**

The purpose of the ordinance is to ensure these activities—previously occurring without any formal guidelines—are conducted safely, responsibly, and in a way that preserves park access for all residents. The new rules outline when and how medical treatment and food distribution may occur, require advance permitting, and mandate strict cleanup and supervision standards. I voiced my support for the measure, emphasizing that the ordinance is a necessary response to long-standing concerns from families and neighborhoods. **By law, we cannot simply prohibit everything. There are legal constraints we must operate within, and we have a responsibility to respond in a way that is both lawful and responsible.**

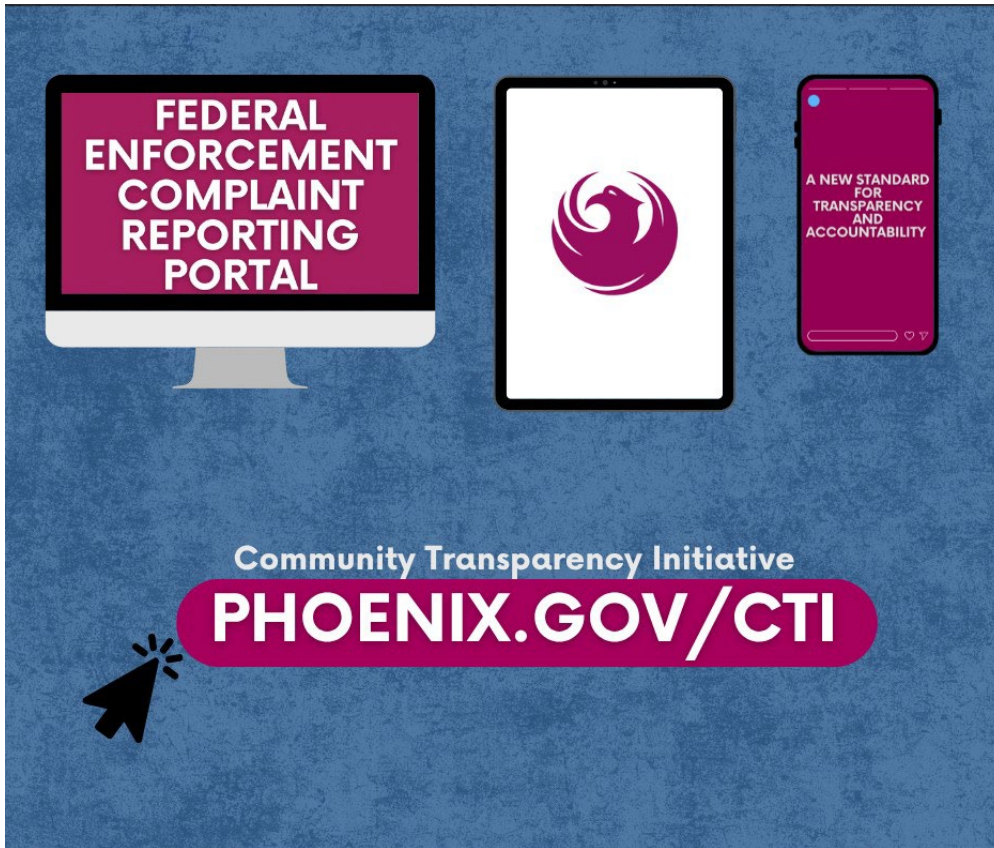
The ordinance introduces several key requirements. Individuals and organizations must obtain a Parks Services Permit to conduct medical treatment or food distribution events. Only two permits per eligible park per month will be issued. Medical activities involving needles, syringes, or medical waste must occur in enclosed tents or mobile medical units under licensed supervision, and all medical and food waste must be removed following the event. **The ordinance prohibits needle exchange programs, the distribution of syringes, and the distribution of needle/intramuscular naloxone in parks, though it does allow the use or distribution of intranasal naloxone in emergencies and other non-emergency**

**situations.** The ordinance focuses on structure, not exclusion. The question is whether we allow them to happen without oversight, or if we put structures in place to protect our neighborhoods.

Our parks are for families, for children, and for our community to gather safely. One example is the new Maryvale Park playground (the grand re-opening is pictured above), which is just one of the many renovations for children to one of my favorite parks. I carry those voices with me in this decision. This ordinance is about taking control of a situation that, without structure, creates greater risks for our communities. **The Parks Services Permit process will operate on a spring, summer, and fall allocation cycle. The inaugural summer 2026 application window is open until May 22nd, with permitted events beginning June 5.** The Parks and Recreation Department will provide an update to the appropriate City Council Subcommittee in six months. [More details is available at phoenix.gov/parksordinance.](https://phoenix.gov/parksordinance)

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**Share Your Concerns: Federal Enforcement Complaint Portal**



This month, the City of Phoenix launched the **Federal Enforcement Complaint Reporting Portal** as part of our new **Community Transparency Initiative**, a framework designed to help residents report concerns and better understand how federal enforcement activity affects our neighborhoods. We, the City Council, created this initiative in response to growing community concerns and the need for clear, consistent standards that protect residents while keeping the City in full compliance with federal and state law. Arizona’s legal requirements, especially those stemming from SB1070, limit what actions cities can take, but this initiative uses every tool available to increase transparency and safeguard civil rights.

Through the Community Transparency Initiative, the City is rolling out major improvements that strengthen communication and accountability. **Residents are now able to submit concerns through a new multilingual platform, and the City will track how federal enforcement actions affect services such as Police, Fire, and the Community Assistance Program.** New partnerships and resources—including multilingual Know Your Rights materials—will support families, businesses, schools, and community organizations. The City is also expanding translation resources and providing training to staff so they can respond

consistently, professionally, and in compliance with all legal requirements when interacting with federal officers.

Another important part of this effort includes protecting city parks, libraries, and community centers from being used as staging areas for enforcement activity without proper authorization. A proposed Administrative Regulation would require federal agencies to obtain approval before using these facilities, helping prevent disruption to public spaces while ensuring transparency. **Taken together, these steps reflect Phoenix's commitment to protecting residents, maintaining public trust, and ensuring that our community is prepared and informed should federal enforcement activity increase.** [To learn more and submit a report, click here.](#)

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**Helping PHX Families for Everyday Needs**



Need Support? Helping PHX Families Has You Covered! The City of Phoenix is here for you at every age and every stage of life. **Our new Helping PHX Families webpage makes it easy to find trusted programs and services to support you and your family all in one place.**

Need help paying utility bills? Looking for after-school programs for kids? Want transportation and services for seniors or emergency assistance during tough times? You'll find these resources and more, just a click away.

Explore the page today and connect with the support you need: [phoenix.gov/helping](https://phoenix.gov/helping)

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**Grand-35 Project Public Art Survey**

# Calling all Alhambra and Maryvale Residents!



Project artist is seeking community input!

Complete the survey by Thursday, June 11, 2026

Where:  
[surveymonkey.com/r/Grand35ART](https://surveymonkey.com/r/Grand35ART)

Questions? Email  
[arts.culture@phoenix.gov](mailto:arts.culture@phoenix.gov)



Local Artist, Daniel Mayer is seeking community input for public art! ADOT, Maricopa Association of Governments and the City of Phoenix are collaborating on the **Grand-35 Project located on the US 60 (Grand Avenue), 35th Avenue and Indian School Road Intersection**. Learn more and share input through our community survey to help shape the artwork design. [Click here to take the survey. It will close June 11, 2026.](#)

Thank you for reading and sharing the May Neighborhood News with family, friends, and neighbors. As always, please contact our office for your comments, questions, and concerns, at (602) 262-7446 or [council.district.5@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.5@phoenix.gov). For regular updates, follow us on our social media accounts by clicking on the icons below.



[Visit the City of Phoenix City Council District 5 Website](#)

[Forward to a friend](#)