

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

A Message from Director Briana Velez

November 2025



Hello Streets Team!

As we quickly begin approaching the holidays, I want to take a moment to share some exciting updates and recognize the outstanding work happening across our department!

First, congratulations to our Community Service Fund Drive committee for another successful fundraising season! Not only have we exceeded our goals for both participation

and funding, we have given back to our community in more ways imaginable. Thank you, everyone, for your overwhelming support! You may notice that the tone throughout this issue is incredibly celebratory, with lots of recognition for a job well-done, as well as special moments of observance, such as our most recent holiday - Veterans Day. Your dedication, innovation, and commitment to public service continue to set the standard for excellence throughout our community. These honors reflect the hard work you bring to our City every day. Myself, Andy and Matt, also had the recent opportunity to visit with all of you, who keep our department working and serving the City of Phoenix. I want to extend a sincere thank you for the warm welcome and professionalism. Your dedication, hard work, and commitment to excellence were clearly evident and left a strong impression. Thank you for everything you do to support our mission and the residents of Phoenix.

Briana



This year's Community Service Fund Drive was a huge success for Streets, as we were able to surpass our department participation goal by 4%, as well as our overall monetary goal by \$4,600! Thank you to those who have been able to participate, support and be a part of this special time of year of giving!

Department Participation Goal



64%

60%



Donation Goal



\$17,000



Hands & Hearts Street Fair

A few weeks back, the annual Hands & Hearts Street Fair took place, which served as a way to help departments strive to continue to meet their department CSFD goals by hosting activity and food booths. The Street Transportation CSFD team sold 150 bags of popcorn and hundreds of drawing tickets for some amazing prizes they acquired through community partner donations.



CELEBRATING VETERANS DAY



In recognition of Veterans Day, we had the chance to reach out to staff recently in order to pay tribute and recognize veterans within the Street Transportation Department. These individuals have not only served their country with honor but continue to dedicate themselves to the City of Phoenix through their work in public service.



NAME: JAPHETH HURLBUT-NYSTROM
BRANCH: U.S MARINE CORPS
YEARS OF SERVICE: 5 YEARS



Japheth has been with the City for more than 9 years as a GIS Technician!



NAME: MICHAEL SEXTON
BRANCH: U.S NAVY
YEARS OF SERVICE: 4 YEARS



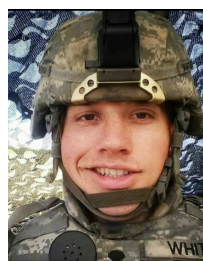
Michael has been with the City for 5 years, currently working as a Survey Engineer!



NAME: ANTHONY MIDDAUGH
BRANCH: U.S ARMY
YEARS OF SERVICE: 4 YEARS



Anthony has been with the City for 11 years, currently working as an Electrical Maintenance Crew Chief!



NAME: ERIC WHITNEY
BRANCH: U.S ARMY
YEARS OF SERVICE: 7 YEARS



Eric has been with the City for 2 years as a Traffic Signal Technician!



NAME: LAUREN EVANS
BRANCH: U.S ARMY
YEARS OF SERVICE: 8 YEARS



Lauren has been with the City for 3 years as a Public Information Officer!



NAME: AUSTIN TALLADEN
BRANCH: U.S ARMY
YEARS OF SERVICE: 4 YEARS



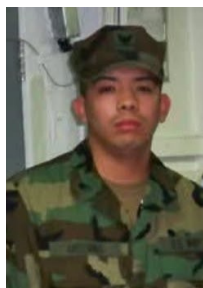
Austin has been with the City for 2 years currently as a Trades Helper in Signing and Striping!



NAME: ROBERT DUVAL
BRANCH: U.S ARMY
YEARS OF SERVICE: 4 YEARS



Robert has been with the City for 19 years currently as a Project Manager!



NAME: DANIEL MEDINA
BRANCH: U.S NAVY
YEARS OF SERVICE: 5 YEARS



Daniel has been with the City for more than 8 years, currently working as a Foreman II in Street Cleaning!



NAME: ADAN CLEMENTE
BRANCH: U.S ARMY
YEARS OF SERVICE: 4 YEARS



Adan has been with the City for 1 year, currently working as a Senior Construction Inspector!



NAME: TRENT LOWRY
BRANCH: U.S ARMY
YEARS OF SERVICE: 12 YEARS



Trent is currently working as a Traffic Signal Technician!





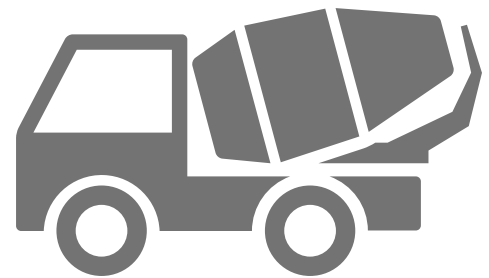
WHAT'S HAPPENING

Mayor's Milkweed Program

Our team recently partnered with the neighborhood at 20th Street & State to plant 40 Desert Milkweed. The team supplied the vegetation and volunteers from the community gathered to conduct the planting.



Some of our Streets team recently had the opportunity to attend a free educational commercial concrete Ready Mix and Quality Control Lab tour at the Martin Marietta plant!



SHOWCASE YOUR TEAM!

Did your team achieve training or awards?
Did you or one of your team members go above and beyond?
Feature your team here in the Director's Newsletter!
Send submissions to: streetsconnect@phoenix.gov.

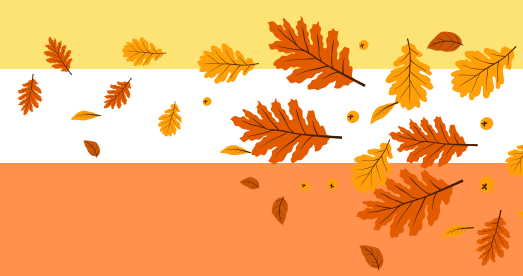


WELCOME TO THE TEAM



Victor SanMiguel **Chief Engineering Technician, Utility Coordination**

Victor SanMiguel started his career with the City of Phoenix in 2006 as a Utility Technician with the Water Distribution Department. In 2016 he transferred to the Water Customer Service Department as a Water Customer Service Representative. In 2018 he joined our Planning & Development Department where he worked in various positions such as: Engineer Tech, Senior Engineer Tech, Fire Prevention Specialist, and Chief Engineer Tech. In his free time, he enjoys reading; he likes to compare books to their movie adaptations. He enjoys going to concerts, the most recent one was back in June in Colorado watching Metallica perform.



Garrick Gene **Chief Engineering Technician, Utility Coordination**

Garrick Gene completed his Associate of Applied Science in Architectural Drafting and then pursued further education at ASU, earning a Bachelor of Science in Urban Planning. Before his role with the City of Phoenix, he dedicated nearly 11 years to the private sector, specializing in engineering. After a year away from utility coordination, Garrick felt a strong pull to return to what he is passionate about. His extensive experience in utility plan review positions him perfectly to support utility companies and project managers in navigating projects within the City's rights-of-way.

Garrick values quality time with his wife and three children, and they often kick off their weekends by playing video games together or enjoying a cozy movie night at home. He's a fan of football, rooting for the Packers, Go Pack Go, and ASU Forks Up, and he enjoys golfing—even if he's not the best at it.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Traffic Management Center and Traffic Signal Shop Awarded 2025 Best ITS Implementation Project from ITS Arizona



The Traffic Management Center and Traffic Signal Shop were recently awarded the 2025 Best ITS Implementation Project Award from ITS Arizona.

This recognition honors the successful deployment of passive detection technology at 30 intersections, enhancing safety and mobility for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. The project, supported by the USDOT SMART Grant, showcases Phoenix's leadership in smart mobility and commitment to Vision Zero principles.

Senior Inspectors Earn Arizona Certified Landscape Professionals Certification

This month, two Senior Landscape Inspectors, Rickey Smith and Carlos Contreras, completed the Arizona Landscape Contractors' Association program, earning their certifications as Arizona Certified Landscape Professionals.

The Arizona Certified Landscape Professional (ACLP) is a comprehensive certification program that is designed to elevate the expertise of landscape professionals in Arizona.

This certification helps professionals gain the knowledge they need to remain at the forefront of their industry. ACLP teaches the foundational concepts, techniques, and best practices of landscaping in the Arizona. ACLPs will stand a step above other landscape professionals because they carry their certification as a badge of expertise and integrity of the services they provide.



Pictured, graduating class for certification program. Rickey and Carlos third and fourth from left.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Matt Wilson Named Street Transportation Assistant Director



Join us in Congratulating Matt Wilson on his promotion to Assistant Director effective 11/3/2025!

Matt re-joined Street Transportation in 2018 as a Traffic Engineer III in the Development Coordination Section. He's served Streets as Deputy Director for the Traffic Services and Street Maintenance Divisions. Matt has previously held government roles with the County of Sacramento and the Oregon DOT as well as with several engineering consulting firms primarily focused on traffic engineering design.

He holds a civil engineering degree from Sacramento State and a master's in civil engineering from Arizona State. As a father of 5 kids, Matt enjoys spending time and traveling with family.

Congrats Matt on your well-deserved promotion!



Jason Fernandez Accepts Promotion to Project Manager

Jason Fernandez recently accepted a promotion to Project Manager in Streetlighting! Jason began his career with the City in 1998 and has spent the last 23 years moving up the ranks, where he was most recently Plan Review Coordinator for Streetlighting. In his new role, Jason will be responsible for overseeing streetlight infrastructure projects, managing design and construction efforts, and coordinating with internal and external stakeholders.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Amy Thomas Selected as Special Projects Administrator for Office of the City Engineer

Amy Thomas has been selected as the Special Projects Administrator in the Office of the City Engineer (OCE) where she will oversee Labor Compliance, Central Records and Administrative Services.

Amy has been with the City of Phoenix for 8 years, all of which have been with OCE, while also serving a temporary assignment in Water Services.

Amy holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Arizona State University, and in her spare time enjoys both competitive Outrigger and Dragonboat paddling, and traveling with her husband.



Priscilla Motola Earns Professional Engineer (P.E.) License

Priscilla Motola officially earned her Professional Engineer (P.E.) license! Priscilla joined the City of Phoenix Floodplain Management Team in 2022, bringing strong technical expertise and dedication to our community.

Congratulations, Priscilla, on this achievement and milestone in your engineering career!





KUDOS FROM THE COMMUNITY

“ —
Greetings Mr. Contreras and Mr. Purvis,

Thanks so much for taking the time to chat with me the other morning. Your information was indeed insightful, educational and resourceful. I've lived in Peters View since 1982 and the area has gone through many, many changes. It is unfortunate that the situation has become so pervasive but it is good to know that city resources are available for both homeowner and the homeless.

Happy to report that the pedestrian bridge on the 51 at 18th street and Campbell is again passable and safe. I might also add that the landscaped "mini park" area on Highland from 18th to 20th street is again free of shopping carts, garbage, and illegal paraphernalia. For a period of time it was in my opinion, unsafe for our evening bike ride with the grandkids.

Thanks for the app info, bravo! In conclusion it was great meeting and conversing with both of you. Thank you both for your keen insight and dedicated work ethic for all residents in Peters View.

Sincerely,
Wayne M.

— ”

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HUMAN RESOURCES NEWS

Years of Service

5 Years

Christine Abrams
Willie Gordon, Jr.
Monica Rubio

10 Years

Bart Baldenegro
Boe Hall

25 Years

Steven Harding

20 Years

Stephen Gorman
Manuel Lopez
Jimmy Sanchez
Aaron Sneathen

**Keep updated on
career opportunities!**

[Phoenix.gov/Jobs](https://phoenix.gov/jobs)



Who to contact:

Employee Relations

Rita McClinton
602-495-7213

Crystal Crooks
602-534-4409

Tracie Armstead-Payton
602-262-6851

Erin Bobo
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602-534-1973

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Safety

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Miguel Vasquez
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