

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

A Message from Director Briiana Velez

September 2026



Hello Streets Team,

This month is filled with reflection, community engagement, and recognition of the important work happening across our City. We begin by commemorating the 25th anniversary of September 11. This solemn milestone offers us a moment to honor the lives lost and the resilience shown by communities and first responders across the nation. Let us reflect on the unity that emerged during one of our country's most challenging times and carry that spirit forward in our service to Phoenix.

September also marks the start of the Community Service Fund Drive, an annual workplace giving and fundraising campaign to support local charities and non-profits. Your contributions directly support organizations that provide vital assistance to individuals and families across our community. Watch for more information on this soon.

I'm also proud to share that our department has recently reached a major milestone: 200 miles of Cool Pavement installed throughout Phoenix. This achievement reflects years of planning, partnership, and innovation aimed at reducing urban heat and improving quality of life for residents. Thank you to the teams whose dedicated efforts helped us reach this landmark.

As we move toward fall, heat safety remains critical. Temperatures are still high, and your continued attention to hydration, sun protection, and supporting one another is essential. This time of year, also brings monsoon activity. I want to extend my deepest appreciation to our Rapid Responders, who work 24/7, often in challenging conditions to keep our streets safe and accessible. Their dedication and readiness embody the very best of public service. Thank you for all you contribute to our department and our City. I'm proud of the work we accomplish together, and I look forward to a productive, safe, and engaging month ahead.

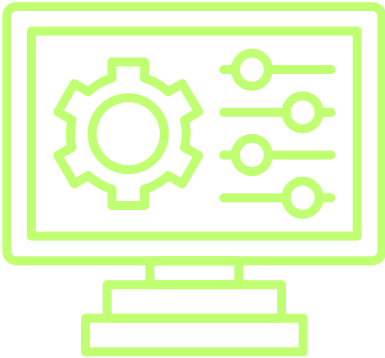
REMEMBERING 9/11

As we commemorate the 25th anniversary of 9/11 - a day that forever changed our nation. We remember the lives lost, honor the bravery shown, and reflect on the resilience that carried us forward. In preserving this history, we remain united, care for one another, and stay grateful for the freedoms we cherish. May we continue to stand together in strength, compassion, and hope.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

IT TEAM MAKING THEIR ROUNDS



The Information Technology (IT) team will begin monthly site visits to our remote facilities starting this month! These visits are an opportunity for field staff to receive hands-on support and ensure technology needs are addressed quickly.

Check out the full schedule on IT's Featured Resources webpage and make sure to review your location's upcoming visit, as the schedule will be updated periodically based off customer needs.

If you have any questions, please contact Corey Kludt at (602)262-6773 or corey.kludt@phoenix.gov.

**COMING
SOON**

CSFD



SEPTEMBER 14 - OCTOBER 30



STREETS IN ACTION

HONORING DIANA TAURASI

Mayor Kate Gallego recently joined city leaders and the Phoenix Mercury to unveil an updated ceremonial street sign reading "10646 Taurasi Way" downtown. The new number honors Diana Taurasi's final career record of 10,646 points, replacing a previous honorary sign. The event's success was supported by multiple department teams, including Traffic Services Division, Universal Inspection and CPET.



MONSOON SEASON IN FULL SWING

Our Rapid Response crews have been working hard at keeping the streets cleaned and safe for everyone!



YUP, ITS STILL HOT OUTSIDE

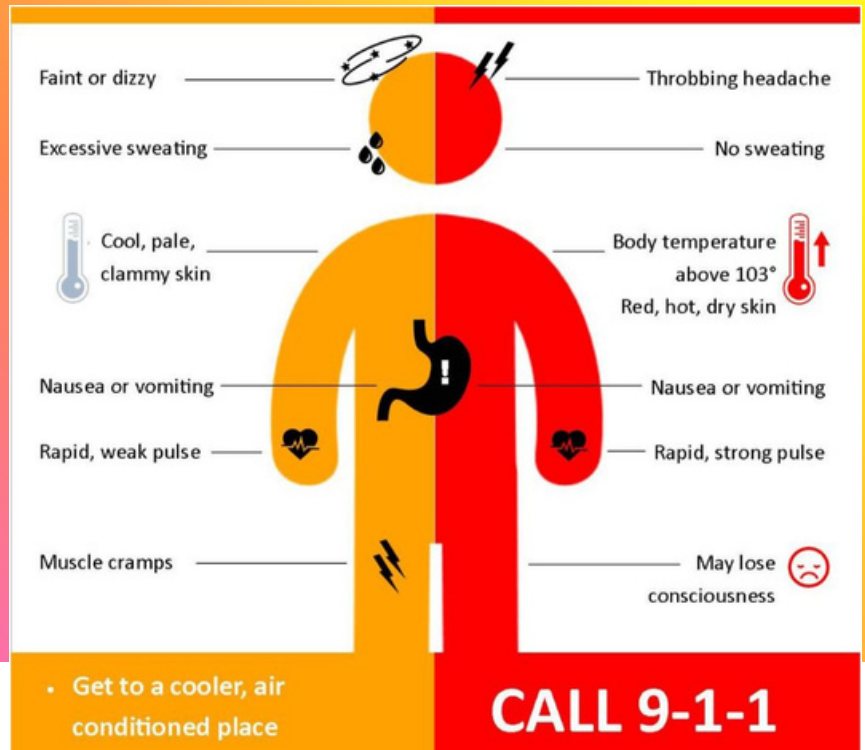
Please remember to continue to take necessary precautions when working outside! The City of Phoenix has established the Heat Illness & Injury Prevention Program to minimize or eliminate employee exposure to heat related hazards.

City departments will follow this program from May 1 to September 30, or anytime a heat advisory, watch or warning day has been issued by the National Weather Service. If you have questions, please contact your supervisor.

Throughout the summer months, exercise heat readiness and take the appropriate steps to avoid heat injury or illness! **Visit Phoenix.gov/Summer**

Safety Tips for Heat and Hydration

- Know the signs of Heat Exhaustion and Heat Stroke.
- Drink more water than usual:
 - Avoid sugary drinks, alcohol and caffeine
- Take frequent breaks and wear light-colored clothing and wide-brimmed hats.
- Look after your fellow employees for signs and symptoms of potential heat injury.
- Learn more at Phoenix.gov/Heat





WELCOME TO THE TEAM



Lynden Sanchez **Engineering Intern** **Traffic Services Division**

Lynden is a Civil Engineering student at Arizona State University and has joined the Traffic Service Division team as an intern. During her time here, she will gain hands-on experience in the field and learn all aspects of traffic and civil engineering.

Before joining the team, she interned at APS and continues to work weekends as a barista at Starbucks. She has contributed to structural analysis projects and completed an ADOT Road Safety Assessment

Outside of work, she enjoys going to concerts, baking and sewing or crocheting. A fun fact about Lynden – she taught herself how to juggle!

Josue Jimenez **Electronic Systems Specialist** **Traffic Services Division**

Traffic Services Division is pleased to welcome Josue Jimenez as a new Electronic Systems Specialist with the ATMS IT team. In this role, he will be responsible for the technical evaluation, installation, troubleshooting, repair, and maintenance of the citywide traffic signal IT network system, along with the electrical and electronic infrastructure that supports the Intelligent Transportation IT Network System.



Josue began his City of Phoenix career with the Water Services Department as a Utility Technician Trainee, where he gained hands-on experience working with essential city infrastructure and field operations.

Outside of work, he enjoys coaching boxing and staying active through the sport.





KUDOS FROM THE COMMUNITY

“

Your Dept. is currently re-paving our neighborhood and we applaud you! This 31 lot subdivision of custom homes started about 35 years ago and, although the street's have been “oiled”, they’ve never been re-paved and the neighborhood is Thrilled! We all take great pride in our unique neighborhood (adjacent. to Lookout Mountain and the Park, a cul-de-sac community, entirely custom built homes, and our privacy) and are very pleased that your Dept. has decided to do this “improvement”. The entire neighborhood wants you to know we appreciate it!

”

-Barry F.

“

[added note from another resident from the same area]

We had some errands that had to be run today. the crew was enthusiastic, friendly and anticipatory. They gave us advice on timing and were eager to divert equipment to accommodate us. This includes the Phoenix PD officer stationed next to the park.

”

-Patrick N.

“

Today I received a call from resident Patricia. She shared that she has been going through difficult times with her health and personal matters. During the recent storms, a tree from her property fell onto the street and sidewalk, and she needed assistance but wasn't sure what to do. Patricia stated that Dakari was extremely kind, understanding, and willing to help. She promptly dispatched a crew to remove the tree from the street and sidewalk. She also informed her that the tree trimmings would need to be placed back onto her property. Patricia was very appreciative of her support during a stressful situation.

”

**-Richard Mendoza
Administrative Supervisor**



CONGRATULATIONS

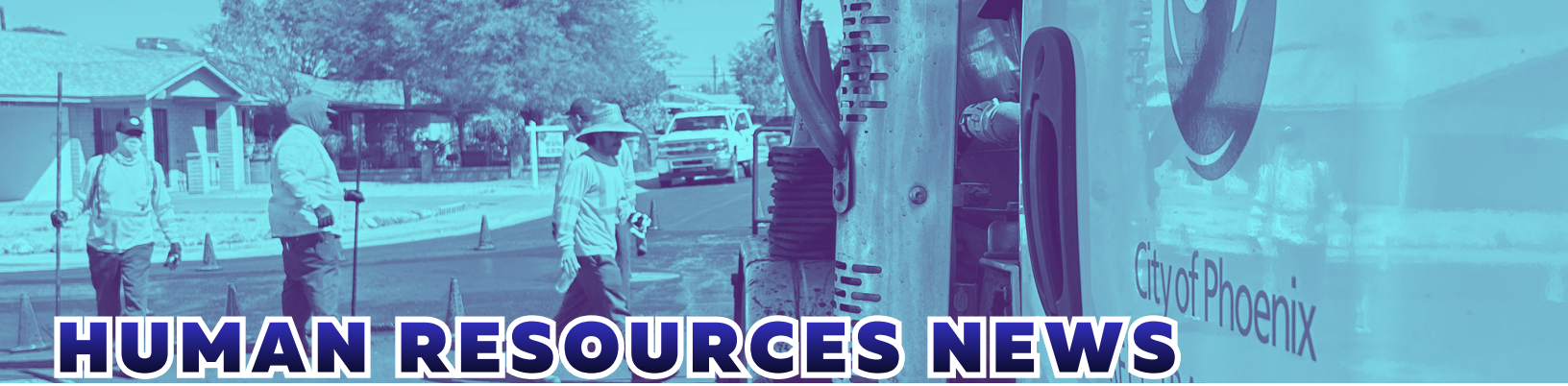
Management Services Division (MSD) Very Important Performer (VIP) Award

Management Services Division has started a new reward system for their division employees, the Very Important Performer (VIP) Award! The award has been created to recognize employees who consistently demonstrate exceptional service, professionalism, and dedication to our division.

MSD proudly presents their quarterly award to Fitna Bahnnoo, a Senior Info Tech Systems Specialist, with the IT & GIS (PMO) Team. Fitna has continually gone above and beyond in her work, and her dedication has made a significant positive impact on our team and the community we serve.



Congrats!



HUMAN RESOURCES NEWS

YEARS of SERVICE

5 Years

Javier Guzman
Melinda Jones
Alejandro Vasquez

25 Years

Derek Adams
Daniel Aguayo
Wade Barnes
Robert Torres
Jacqueline Griffin
Katrina Mendoza
Paul Thibado

10 Years

Francisco Abina
Wilfred Brady
James Hogue
Michael Pina, Jr.
Tariq Abdellatif
Veronica Austin
Michelle Nunez

15 Years

Brett Dorn

20 Years

Rudolph Delgado
Oliver Ortiz
Anthony Vega
Brenda Eden

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