February 16th, 2018

CITY EVENTS

UPCOMING PUBLIC CITY MEETINGS

• Sustainability, Housing, Efficiency and Neighborhoods Subcommittee Meeting – Tuesday, February 20th, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in Assembly Room A, B, and C, Phoenix City Hall, 200 West Washington Street.
• City Council Formal Meeting – Wednesday, February 21st, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers, 200 West Jefferson Street.
• North Mountain Village Planning Committee Meeting – Wednesday, February 21st, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Cowden Center, 9202 North 2nd Street.
• Zoning Adjustment Hearing – Thursday, February 22nd, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in Assembly Room C, Phoenix City Hall, 200 West Washington Street.

For more information on these and all other public City meetings visit: https://www.phoenix.gov/cityclerk/publicmeetings/notices.
City Council meetings are live on Cox Cable Channel 11 and streamed live on phoenix.gov and facebook.com/cityofphoenix. Past City Council meetings are posted to YouTube at http://www.youtube.com/cityofphoenixaz.

DISTRICT 1 EVENTS:

DISTRICT 1 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

This month’s breakfast will be on Friday, February 23rd, 2018 at the Radisson Hotel Phoenix North, located at 10220 N Metro Pkwy E, Phoenix, AZ 85051. Breakfast will be at 7:30 a.m. and the speaker will start at around 7:45 a.m.

The speaker this month will be Lieutenant Colonel Michael Williams from Luke Air Force Base. He will be speaking on a wide range of topics related to Luke AFB and more.
CITY NEWS & EVENTS:

CALMING CONCERNS OVER PHOENIX POLICE COVERAGE

Recently, there were concerns raised regarding City of Phoenix Police services. Some information on social media, which was not from the Phoenix Police Department, described areas where police would not respond to, or where there were gaps in coverage. These supposed areas were “outside the seven-mile radius” of the police precincts. This information is not accurate. There was further speculation that the “seven-mile radius” could be something the Phoenix Fire Department uses for coverage around fire stations. This is also not accurate. There is no circular radius restricting fire, or police coverage.

The Phoenix Fire Department has stations all over the City of Phoenix and coverage overlaps. There is also a mutual aid agreement the city has with neighboring cities, so there will always be coverage throughout Phoenix. Mutual aid agreements could mean that fire apparatus from other cities occupy a City of Phoenix fire station in the event Phoenix resources are dedicated to a major event and additional coverage is required.

The Phoenix Police Department provides comprehensive patrol and investigative police services to the entire City of Phoenix twenty-four hours a day seven days a week. In addition to the Patrol Division, which includes Patrol Officers, Neighborhood Enforcement Officers and Community Action Officers, other police resources patrol and service the entire city. Other patrol support services include Air Support, Motor Traffic Officers, DUI Officers, K9 Officers, and Special Assignments Unit Officers.

The Phoenix Police Department has organized the entire City of Phoenix into Squad Areas and those Squad Areas are organized into Beats. All of these Beats, seven day a week, twenty-four hours a day, have Phoenix Police Officers assigned to them. Multiple times a day these Squad Areas and Beats are covered by more than one squad with overlapping hours. In addition to the seven main police stations there are 5 significant substations throughout the City. Phoenix Police Officers start and end their shifts from these main stations and substation. During their shifts, Phoenix Police Officers are in the community responding to calls for service, conducting proactive patrols and engaging the community.

To view a map of the Phoenix Police Department Precinct boundaries with squad and beat areas, please visit: https://www.phoenix.gov/policesite/Documents/PD%20Maps%20Beats%20with%20Street%20Labels.pdf


To see the map for coverage in the Cactus Park Precinct, please visit: https://www.phoenix.gov/policesite/Documents/900_map_cao.pdf
POLICE BODY-WORN CAMERAS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

On Jan. 18, 2017, the City of Phoenix formally cancelled the recommendation to award RFP 16-142 for body-worn cameras. The Police Department has been working with the Information Technology Services Department (ITS) to re-write the technical specifications for the body-worn camera procurement. The ITS Project Manager revised the RFP with the Law Department, Police Department and Finance Department input. The procurement documents have been updated with additional mandatory technology requirements, revised testing requirements and evaluation criteria.

Procurement Process
There are currently 300 body-worn cameras being worn by uniformed police officers through a pilot program. These cameras were purchased using grant funds. The goal of the new RFP will be for the Police Department to purchase up to 2,000 cameras utilizing a phased-in approach over a five-year period. The new RFP contains a number of new technical requirements that will allow the City to procure the best hardware, software and storage solutions possible.

The Police Department has $5 million set aside in the current year in the City's contingency fund for body-worn cameras. At full deployment, it is anticipated a portion of that total will be needed annually, depending on the type of cameras in use, to support the staff costs associated with the management of video generated by the program.

An evaluation committee will be appointed to conduct detailed evaluations of the proposals, establish a competitive range, and select the proposer(s) to receive the contract award. A portion of this evaluation phase will include comprehensive testing that will be done at the Police Academy.

WATER/WASTEWATER RATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AFFORDABILITY STATEMENT

The City of Phoenix Water Services Department provides safe, clean drinking water to 1.6 million people over 540 square miles. Phoenix Water also safely removes wastewater from homes and businesses, and provides wastewater treatment and reuse services for 2.5 million people throughout the Valley of the Sun. These enterprises entail eight treatment plants, 12,000 miles of water and sewer lines, 50,000 fire hydrants, 90,000 manholes, and hundreds of reservoirs, pump stations, lift stations, and pressure reducing valves. Approximately 5 million water quality tests are performed in the system every year. Providing these services is an enormous undertaking and responsibility; it is also an undertaking of considerate expense. Annual operational expenses total approximately $300 million; annual debt service totals $180 million; and ten-year infrastructure needs total nearly $4 million.

The City of Phoenix water and wastewater utilities do not operate for profit but must earn enough revenue to cover the utilities’ debt service, operational expenses, infrastructure needs, and target reserve levels. The Water/Waste Water Rate Advisory Committee is generally charged with reviewing the revenue requirements of the water and wastewater utilities and recommending rate and fee adjustments to the city manager and the Phoenix City Council. The Water/Wastewater Rate Advisory Committee Technical Subcommittee was
further tasked with analyzing the affordability of Phoenix water and wastewater rates and making recommendations based on this analysis.

Phoenix Water Services provides for the public health, economic opportunity, and quality of life of residents in our community by delivering safe, clean water and by safely removing wastewater from homes and businesses. To do so, Phoenix Water must also maintain rates and commensurate with the expenses of this undertaking and citizenry must pay for the services received. The Technical Subcommittee finds that Phoenix Water rates are among the most affordable in the country.

**PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND PERMITTING OF PLANNED RIGHT-OF-WAY CONSTRUCTION DURING HOLIDAYS, WEEKENDS AND AFTER HOURS**

The Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee approved moving forward with outreach to stakeholders on the Street Transportation Department's proposed policy for public notification and permitting of planned right-of-way construction during holidays, weekends, and after hours.

There has been a significant increase in the number of utility, private developer, and City projects that take place in the right-of-way. This has led to additional traffic congestion and adverse impacts to the traveling public. Often, in order to minimize disruptions to traffic, it is necessary to perform planned right-of-way work outside of normal daytime hours. This proposed policy is intended to address these situations, as well as unplanned emergency work.

In reviewing existing City policies, it is clear that consistent policies have not been adopted in all areas that may authorize, oversee or perform construction activities during holidays, weekends and after hours. For example, the Planning and Development Department requires private development construction to follow a permit process for construction taking place during holidays, weekends and after hours. However, not all areas of the Street Transportation Department use a similar permitting and notification process.

To ensure consistency in the permitting and notification process going forward, the Street Transportation Department recommended establishing a citywide policy/procedure that will be managed by a Deputy Street Transportation Director, who will serve as the single point of authorization for all work performed in the right-of-way outside of normal work hours.

Streets staff reviewed the application and permitting process currently used by the Planning and Development Department and plan to include many of the same elements as part of new Streets policy. It is important to note that although emergency work may be permitted under the new policy, advance notification requirements for emergency situations will not apply. The nature of emergency work necessitates an immediate response without an opportunity for advance planning and notification. The new Street Transportation Department policy will include descriptions of what is considered emergency work.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee approved moving forward with outreach to affected stakeholders for the broader application of the policy to utilities and contractors and to return to T&I Subcommittee in March or April 2018 for recommended approval of the final policy.
Any projects directly performed or managed by the Street Transportation Department have already begun following the policy outlined in this report: 

https://www.phoenix.gov/cityclerksite/City%20Council%20Meeting%20Files/180213010.pdf

THE HEALTH INNOVENTION FAB PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA HEALTH SCIENCES ON THE PHOENIX BIOMEDICAL CAMPUS

New technologies offer unprecedented opportunities for creating innovations in medical devices and health care delivery. Despite its importance to the future of medicine, only eight percent of allopathic medical schools in the United States currently have an innovation and entrepreneurship (I&E) program available for their medical students. I&E is a tool for physicians to create impact by translating visionary ideas into products/devices, businesses, health policies, or system-wide improvements. Successful acceleration of these ideas from bench to bedside requires multimodal problem solving and navigation of complex systems across multiple fields: science, engineering, law, and business, among others.

Recognizing I&E’s enormous potential to transform healthcare, faculty of the University of Arizona's College of Medicine-Phoenix, college of Engineering and Eller College of Management/McGuire Center for Entrepreneurship are joining forces to create The Health InnoVention Fab (HIF), a collaborative invention-to-innovation framework for students that leverage the convergence of medical sciences, law, engineering, and business disciplines on the Phoenix Biomedical Campus (PBC) in downtown Phoenix.

In its full implementation, the program will converge the disciplines of medical sciences, law, engineering, and business, and leverage the interdisciplinary infrastructure, expertise and projects portfolio of Phoenix-based academic and clinical units. It is designed to increase the level of engagement among students, faculty, business executives, physicians and entrepreneurs, foster creativity and advance knowledge and solutions in health sciences. The City will benefit through this one year sponsorship by leveraging our investments in the PBC to assist in creation of a unique program in Arizona which will develop global public-private partnerships with medicine, technology and the private sector.

FAA FLIGHT PATH UPDATE

On Sept. 18, 2014, the FAA implemented new flight paths without any process for public input. The new flight paths caused significant hardship to communities under the flight paths due to aircraft noise. In April 2015, at the direction of the City Council, the Aviation Department adopted a strategy to advocate on behalf of the community.

The City and Historic Neighborhoods negotiated an agreement with the FAA and filed a joint petition on Nov. 30, 2017. The agreement requires the FAA to engage in outreach with affected communities in February while returning west departure flight paths to approximately their original corridors in April. The FAA has created a project webpage: https://www.faa.gov/nextgen/nextgen_near_you/community_involvement/

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), with the assistance and cooperation of the City of Phoenix, held three public workshops in early February on a plan to address concerns about certain westbound routes that
the FAA implemented in September 2014 at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. The meetings were held this past week, but public comment period is still available online until February 16th at: https://www.faa.gov/nextgen/nextgen_near_you/community_involvement/

**AVIATION DEPARTMENT FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE**

Reconstruction of the Sky Harbor Terminal 3 North Inner Ramp
The Terminal 3 North Inner Ramp Reconstruction project will remove and replace the existing pavement structure surrounding Terminal 3 North concourse due to linear cracking, faulting, scaling, and failed joint seals. Alkali Silica Reaction (ASR) has also been observed on some of the apron panels. The Terminal 3 inner apron was built in 1979, and is currently entering its 39th year of service. Reconstructing the inner apron during the course of the T3 Modernization project will minimize the impact on airport operations and shorten the duration of the project, thus reducing the overall project cost. The estimated total cost of the project is $15.1 million, with a remaining balance of $14.3 million budgeted in the 2019-2023 Five-Year Aviation CIP.

Phoenix Goodyear Airport Apron Pavement Rehabilitation
Phoenix Goodyear Airport (GYR) is the busiest single runway general aviation airport in the country. The key project in the GYR CIP is the apron pavement rehabilitation. This project is essential to maintain the airport infrastructure, and to comply with FAA Grant Assurances that require proper maintenance of the airport operating surfaces. The project has an estimated total cost of $15.9 million, which is budgeted in the 2019-2023 Five-Year Aviation CIP.

Phoenix Deer Valley Airport relocation of Taxiway B and construction of Connectors B6 and B9
Phoenix Deer Valley Airport (DVT) is the busiest general aviation airport in the country. The key project in the DVT CIP is the relocation of Taxiway B and construction of Connectors B6 and B9. The relocation of Taxiway B is needed to meet the FAA’s Airport Reference Code (ARC) B-II design standards. The construction of the new acute angle connectors will reduce runway occupancy time and increase total airfield efficiency throughput. The project will be largely funded by government grants, with an estimated total project cost of $12.1 million budgeted in the 2019-2023 Five-Year Aviation CIP.

**AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT SPECIFIC AREAS OF PHOENIX FOR THE CREATION OF OPPORTUNITY ZONES**

In December 2017, the 115th Congress passed the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act." The law overhauled the federal tax code in numerous ways. Contained within the law was a provision (Sec.13823-Subchapters 1 & 2) establishing the Opportunity Zone program using the census tract system. The purpose of these zones is to promote economic development through individual or corporate investments, by deferring or possibly forgiving capital gains taxes on projects throughout the country. Capital gains recognized from the result of any individual or corporate sale may be invested into any Opportunity Fund (defined below) throughout the country.
The Opportunity Zones program allows states to create designated Qualified Opportunity Zones (QOZs) from its Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs). The definition of a QCT for this program's purpose is generally any census tract that has a poverty rate of at least 20 percent or that has a median household income that does not exceed the higher of 80 percent of the median family income of the metropolitan area ($63,868) or the statewide family income ($59,480).

To support the QOZ areas, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act also establishes guidelines for the creation of Opportunity Funds. An Opportunity Fund can be any corporation or partnership that invests at least 90 percent of its assets into a specific QOZ. Requirements for the creation of an Opportunity Fund will operate similar to the New Market Tax Credit program. Each Opportunity Fund will then make its own decisions as to the investments it makes in the specific QOZ. These Opportunity Funds will be set up throughout the country to support development in QOZs.

To create a QOZ, the Governor must submit to the Secretary of Housing a list selected QCTs. According to the program, no more than 25 percent of the state's QCTs can be designated as QOZ. In Arizona, there are currently 669 QCTs, with approximately 184 of them in Phoenix. Following the program's guidelines, there are approximately 46 possible tracts citywide that may be designated as a QOZ.

Designated areas in District 1 are Metro Center and the Deer Valley Airport.

**SOLID WASTE EQUIPMENT OPERATOR APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM UPDATE**

Attracting and retaining qualified staff is a challenge for all City departments. Maintaining staffing levels for positions like the Solid Waste Equipment Operator (SWEO) is essential due to the critical role they play in providing weekly solid waste collection services to over 400,000 customers citywide.

During 2016 Labor Negotiations, the City and LIUNA Local 777 worked collaboratively to establish a pilot apprenticeship program for the SWEO job classification for the City Council-approved three-year Memorandum of Understanding.

In March 2017, the City launched its inaugural class of SWEO Apprentices. The first year of the pilot program included seven apprentices who have all since successfully earned their Commercial Driver’s License and learned the principles of safe equipment operation, excellent customer service, and efficient solid waste collection. The apprentices are currently assigned to a region where they are performing the full range of SWEO duties on assigned training routes. The current SWEO Apprentice Class is on target to successfully graduate at the end of February 2018.

Extensive outreach for the next SWEO Apprenticeship Class took place during the months of November and December. The SWEO Apprenticeship Program recruitment and associated event sessions were advertised through numerous outlets including My Brother's Keeper, the Human Resources, Public Works and Human Services departments, Arizona Department of Economic Security (i.e. Veteran Workforce, AZ@Work, Employment Centers), City social media, Zero Waste community events, various high school districts, and PHXTV. In December, staff from Public Works, Human Resources and LIUNA Local 777
hosted three informational sessions at the City's Employee Driver Training Academy. These informational sessions attracted over 100 interested candidates.

Recruitment for the 2018-19 SWEO Apprenticeship Program is now closed with over 300 applicants. The selection process will take place during the month of February 2018 with an anticipated start date for the new SWEO Apprenticeship Class in early March 2018.

**PHOENIX PLANNED MAJOR STREET RESTRICTIONS – UPDATED FEBRUARY 16TH, 2018**

To view a listing of the latest planned major street restrictions please visit this link: [https://www.phoenix.gov/streetssite/Pages/Planned-Street-Restrictions.aspx](https://www.phoenix.gov/streetssite/Pages/Planned-Street-Restrictions.aspx)

These restrictions represent only the major planned activities reported to the Street Transportation Department’s right-of-way management office. This listing does not reflect closures or restrictions due to unexpected events such as flooding, traffic collisions, fires, utility failures or other emergencies. For street closure alerts follow the Phoenix Street Transportation Department on Twitter at [@PHXStreetTrans](https://twitter.com/PHXStreetTrans).

**VOLUNTEERS COUNT HOMELESS PEOPLE LIVING ON THE STREET**

“Point in Time” Count Conducted in January

On the frigid dark morning of January 23, 2018, hundreds of volunteers in communities throughout the Valley searched alleys, parks, riverbeds and other areas in an effort to get an accurate count of the number of people experiencing homelessness. The effort was part of an annual “Point in Time Homeless Street Count” designed to provide a snapshot of the number of homeless men, women and children on the streets.

Last year’s count showed a slight reduction in the overall number of people experiencing homelessness in the region—from 5,702 in 2016 to 5,605 in 2017. However, it also found an increase in the number of individuals and families living in “unsheltered” situations, or on the street, from 1,646 in 2016 to 2,059. Just prior to the count, the Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded the Maricopa region $25.8 million for 41 local homelessness programs. Since 1999, the region has been awarded approximately $400 million to provide permanent housing and services for people who are homeless.

**REGION RECEIVES $25.89 MILLION FOR HOMELESS PROGRAMS**

On January 11, 2018, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Ben Carson announced Continuum of Care program grant funding to help end homelessness and provide critically needed support to local programs serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The Maricopa Regional Continuum of Care was awarded $25.89 million for 41 local homelessness programs. Last year, the region was awarded $25.4 million. Although the overall award increased, unfortunately, not all projects recommended by the Continuum of Care received funding.
CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

On Jan. 8, a notification postcard was mailed to about 223,000 registered voters in Phoenix who are not currently on the Permanent Early Voting List (PEVL) informing them about the PEVL and providing an opportunity to sign and return a postcard to be added to the List. As of Feb. 2, about 6,150 voters have returned the postcard requesting to be added to the PEVL.

Economic Development & Education

Community and Economic Development staff visited SimpleWAN at 1115 W. Deer Valley Road. This early stage, technology company provides a cloud-based networking solution for branch offices, service centers, stores and franchises. The Deer Valley location is the company’s headquarters and over 90% of their business is derived from locations outside of Arizona. SimpleWAN was recently awarded an Arizona Commerce Authority Innovation Challenge grant. As the company continues to create jobs, Community and Economic Development will remain available to provide workforce recruitment and training assistance.

Neighborhoods and Livability

On Feb. 1, the Graffiti Free Phoenix campaign officially kicked off. This year’s campaign continued the outreach to neighboring cities asking them to join Phoenix in promoting February as a Graffiti Free Month. Neighborhood Services staff has been working with various departments on outreach efforts, providing flyers and posters and vehicle magnets as well as presentations to employee groups leading up to the month of February. The Communications Office will distribute social media posts and news articles throughout the month. The social media campaign will highlight graffiti community events, and graffiti staff and volunteers, including tools used for eliminating graffiti. Residents are being encouraged to join with their neighbors in organizing community cleanups to “wipe out graffiti.” Neighborhood Services will provide paint and supplies through the Tool Lending Program to assist with this effort.

The Call Center staff assisted 173 Phoenix C.A.R.E.S. customers as follows: 81 phone calls, 50 reports through PAYS, 20 after-hour voicemails and 22 e-mails.

On Jan. 30, Planning and Development staff held a pre-application meeting for the Boxes Near Me project, proposing a new 12,000-square foot bent metal framed structure for a new cardboard box resale operation on the Northeast Corner of 12th Street and Broadway Road. The business will accept industrial and customer level boxes for refurbishment and resale to the public.

Planning and Development staff conducted a pre-application review meeting to allow for a new six-story mixed-use, 185-unit apartment complex and retail building called, Willetta Apartment Homes at 102 E. Willetta Street. The project has one level of parking below grade and one level above grade podium parking, residences, and retail. The remaining five stories will accommodate residential units that will range from 800 to 1,500-square feet. The development is looking to build a bridge to connect the two buildings over the alley and that would require approval from Street Transportation.
On Feb. 1, Planning and Development staff held a pre-application meeting for the next phase of a 300,000-square foot office and an additional parking garage for the American Express Campus Expansion, Desert Ridge Campus at 56th Street and Mayo Boulevard. The applicant would like to start construction on this phase of the Desert Ridge Campus in August 2018.

Planning and Development staff reviewed a pre-application site plan submittal for a 167-lot, single family detached subdivision at 1625 W. Dobbins Road. An abandonment is required for a portion of the 17th Avenue right of way. Traffic calming is also required for several locations within the development. The developer intends to gate both Dobbins Road and the 15th Avenue entrance. A third future entrance is planned for the western side of the project at the Piedmont Street alignment.

Social Services Delivery

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) provided free tax preparation assistance at the Emmett McLoughlin Community Training and Education Center (CTEC). Tax preparation assistance is provided for free to individuals who earned less than $54,000 in 2017. Volunteers are Internal Revenue Service (IRS) certified and prepare and e-file taxes for the participants. Free tax preparation assistance was provided to 30 participants. VITA will be providing tax preparation assistance on Saturdays through April 14 at the CTEC.

On Feb. 3, the Youth Arts and Culture Council, in partnership with Phoenix Art Museum’s Teen Arts Council, held the first Young Artists’ Summit at the Phoenix Art Museum. Over 130 15-19 year-old artists from all over the Phoenix Metro were in attendance. The first annual Young Artists’ Summit is a Phoenix citywide convening of young artists to discuss arts advocacy and the intersection between art, and the power of advocating for yourself and your community. The event included live music, workshops, and hands-on art projects.

Public Safety

On Feb. 3, a Police Recruit written exam was administered on the Grand Canyon University Campus to 99 applicants. There were 241 candidates registered to take this exam. Results were provided immediately following the exam and those who passed the exam were invited to take the Physical Agility test on Sunday, Feb. 4. Applications are being accepted for the Police Recruit test scheduled for Feb. 3; Feb. 16; March 3; March 16; and now April 7.

Talent Acquisition and Management staff met with Workforce Development staff to discuss a potential partnership to help facilitate the Police Communications Operator speed typing test at the three AZ@Work offices. Currently, candidates applying for Police Communications Operator must pass a speed typing test to qualify for the next step of the selection process. The Police Department administers the speed typing tests three days a week for several hours. By utilizing AZ@Work offices, applicants can register on-line at any of AZ@Work’s three different locations potentially five days a week to complete the typing test, free of charge, without enrolling in the AZ@Work Program. If the candidate meets standards, they would receive a certificate to use to apply to the Police Communications Operator recruitment; and if they do not meet standards, the candidate has an opportunity to take advantage of AZ@Work programs.
Infrastructure

During the week of Jan. 30, Parks and Recreation’s Forestry team provided staff and equipment to plant 15 trees on the Encanto Golf course that were donated by the Friends of Encanto.

On March 1, the City will begin using an improved video live streaming service to broadcast various City Council meetings and other live programming. Informational Technology Services collaborated with the Communications Office to deliver the video streaming services’ enhancements, which include: closed captioning during live City Council events; social media sharing capabilities; “embed” option that allows users to embed the video to their websites; improved quality of display; and improved reliability. The new system will be undergoing several trial-runs prior to the go-live date of March 1.

On Jan. 29, Public Transit and the City Manager’s Office participated in a video conference with faculty and students from the Harvard Kennedy Business School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Phoenix staff collaborated with Arizona State University Sustainability School faculty/researchers to submit an application outlining a special focus study related to the Heat Island and Transit in Phoenix. The program collaborates with graduate students at Harvard to assist the City with problem solving the issue identified in the application. By the first week of February, the specific students will be selected for the collaboration with Phoenix, they will then visit Phoenix in mid-Feb. and ultimately complete the project and re-visit Phoenix in early May to present their findings and recommendations.

Water Services staff recently shut down two plants for annual maintenance. The Deer Valley Water Treatment Plant maintenance activities included changing oil and lubricant; maintenance on centrifuges for solids handling; and replacement for flow meters, valves, pump motors, chemical feed systems, and electrical equipment. Some chemical systems have been rebuilt and tested, and the solids-handling areas and other areas are being sandblasted and re-coated with protective epoxy. Maintenance activities for the 24th Street Water Treatment Plant included cleaning out sediment in the basin; performing chemical system maintenance, installation of new equipment to increase meter and reporting accuracy; and repair and inspection for piping, pumps, tanks, valves, and electrical gear. The chemical scrubber has been cleaned out in preparation for tank repair.

NEWS & EVENTS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT:

DUET LAUNCHES VIDEO DISCUSSION SERIES GROUPS FOR FAMILY CAREGIVERS IN PHOENIX AND TUCSON

Duet: Partners In Health & Aging, a Phoenix area nonprofit, is launching its “Finding Meaning and Hope” video discussion series, produced by Duet in partnership with Pauline Boss, PhD, thanks to a grant from Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust. “Finding Meaning and Hope” is a free video and discussion series for family caregivers led by trained volunteers. This spring, a variety of 10-week “Finding Meaning and Hope” video and discussion groups for family caregivers are debuting in the Phoenix metro area and Tucson. Duet has trained volunteer facilitators for the “Finding Meaning and Hope” video and discussion series who need locations to host the groups. Community members
can contact Duet at info@duetaz.org or (602) 274-5022 to find out about the “Finding Meaning and Hope” video discussion series groups or to connect about providing a space. New video discussion groups are in the works continuously; contact Duet to find out more. For the latest group additions and information, visit: https://duetaz.org/index.php/finding-meaning-and-hope-video-discussion-series/

DONNA K. EVANS FOUNDATION – Heart of a Birthmother Support Group

The Donna K. Evans Foundation is hosting a Heart of a Birthmother Support Group. The purpose of the support group is for birthmothers to connect with one another to gain support through guidance of their licensed professional counselor, Kris Bergin, who has extensive experience helping birthmoms.

Their supportive meetings explore the unique post-placement experiences of the birthmother journey.

Where: Donna K. Evans Foundation
8433 N. Black Canyon Hwy, Bldg. 6, Ste. 158
Phoenix, AZ 85201

When: Tuesday, February 20th, 2018
From 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

For more information, contact Nicole Valenzuela, Program and Care Coordinator at 480-482-0101, or via email at nicole@dkefoundation.com.

The Donna K. Evans Foundation has a mission of helping women after placing a baby for private adoption. Their goal is to provide women a safe place to return for help to reach their own life goals and dreams after private placement of their baby for adoption. Any woman who has placed a baby for adoption, regardless of the agency used for their adoption may utilize their services, at any time after the adoptive placement. For more information about the Donna K. Evans Foundation, please visit their website at: https://www.dkefoundation.com/

Phoenix Public Library’s Popular Seed Library Expands to Three More Locations!

Seed Library is now available at Agave, Desert Sage and Saguaro Libraries. Green thumbs and aspiring gardeners alike it’s time to start thinking about spring planting! Join us at a Seed Library program this month and get plant-smart for free! Learn more about the Seed Library now at seven of Phoenix Public Library Locations at the website here: http://www.phoenixpubliclibrary.org/ServicesForYou/Unique%20Collections%20and%20Services/Pages/Seed-Library.aspx

The Seed Library @ Phoenix Public Library is supported with partnerships from: Native Seed/SEARCH and the City of Phoenix Public Works & Water Departments, with additional support from the Friends of the Phoenix Public Library.
National Board-certified teachers are invaluable to Deer Valley as mentors to their colleagues and for their ability to provide guiding input for curricular decisions. This rigorous, peer-reviewed process ensures that Board-certified teachers have proven skills to impact learning and advance student achievement.

Mountain Ridge High School Teacher Elisabeth Borchers has been with the district for 16 years. Through her National Board journey, she feels that she has become a stronger teacher who is more strategic about helping her students achieve their academic goals.

Alexis LaDuca, also a Mountain Ridge High School Teacher has been with the district for 21 years and is in her twenty-second year of teaching. Alexis said that the National board process was the most challenging yet inspiring journey she has had in her professional career and saw immediate positive impacts in her classroom.

**Congratulations to National Board Certified Teachers Elisabeth Borchers and Alexis LaDuca!**

**WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS**

Congratulations to Sunburst Elementary Principal Rhonda Warren for being recognized as a finalist for the Maricopa County Education Service Agency Exemplary Principal Award! Rhonda and Principal Sue Brown from Moon Mountain Elementary were chosen as semifinalists out of 964 school principals in the Maricopa County for their accomplishments of significantly improving student learning, retaining teachers and cultivating a collaborative and positive school culture. The WESD would like to thank Rhonda and Sue for their commitment and dedication to improving the educational experience for our students! We would also like to wish Rhonda the best of luck as she moves to the final round! #WESDFamily
Donna Denial is the lead social worker for the Washington Elementary School District. Friday, February 9, she was recognized as the School Social Worker of the Year by the School Social Work Association of Arizona. Donna has been a social worker in the WESD for 20 years. In her role as lead social worker, she provides direct services at our schools while also supporting school social workers and mentoring new staff. She establishes lasting community relationships and coordinates services for families at her school and at the District. Donna also developed the Golden Ticket Program, which recognizes students and staff who go above and beyond by exhibiting teamwork and kindness.

The Washington Elementary School District (WESD) will host a Teacher Interview Fair Saturday, February 24, to hire teachers for the 2018-2019 school year. The fair will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the WESD Administrative Center, 4650 West Sweetwater Avenue, Glendale, 85304. Contracts for the 2018-2019 school year will be offered to qualified candidates. Student teachers, soon-to-be college graduates, seasoned teachers and alternative pathways are encouraged to attend!

Interviews will be conducted for those interested in teaching: kindergarten, elementary education, special education, language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, general music, art and special needs preschool. Successful candidates may be recommended for a 2018-2019 teaching contract. Apply online prior to the interview fair at http://jobs.wesdschools.org/. Please select the posting titled, Teacher – All Positions. Human Resources will contact qualified applicants directly to preschedule an interview. Walk-in applicants are welcome, but interviews will be limited. Human Resources will paper screen the application to determine if the applicant is eligible for an interview. In order to obtain a prescheduled interview, interested teachers (or soon-to-be teachers) should apply online by at http://jobs.wesdschools.org/.

Applicants will need to take the following items to the Interview Fair:
- Copy of most recent teacher or student teacher evaluation
- Teaching Certificate (if applicable)

For more information, contact the WESD Recruitment Office at 602-347-2622 or e-mail teach@wesdschools.org.

GLendale UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

It was a celebration last Wednesday evening as Greenway’s top teacher, student, support staff member, student group and volunteer were recognized as outstanding contributions to the Demon community.

“Each one of the individuals here tonight embody the passion and dedication that make Greenway the outstanding place that is, and worthy of the phrase, Excellence Runs Green and Gold,” Principal Jon Vreeken said.
Achievement Above All: Teacher
Lyn Cannaday teaches freshmen and junior Honors English and Advanced Placement Language. She is also a National Board Certified Teacher. Other duties include advising the Speech and Debate Club, Writing Club, Gamers Club and teaching PSAT and SAT prep courses. She has collaborated with Scholastic as a curriculum coordinator, consulting with the State of Arizona to help influence English curriculum.

Ms. Cannaday said her work at Greenway is a collaborative effort and receiving the award is an achievement she celebrates with all. “My success comes from my hard work, but it is also the direct result of my colleagues,” she said. “So I don’t see my achievement as above all. I see it as a function of all the dedicated and talented staff I have the honor of working with.”

Achievement Above All: Student
“As a student, she has challenged herself by taking both Honors and Advanced Placement courses, and has made it her mission to be the first member of her family to attend university,” Vreeken said.

She is president of the National Honor Society, where she led the creation of an after-school tutoring program, launched an NHS website and increased the number of member volunteer hours. She is an English peer tutor and a teacher’s assistant in Greenway’s German program. As a member of SPOT 127’s Youth Media Center, Ms. Ailport earned three Rocky Mountain Regional Emmy Student Production Awards and is a finalist in the Kindervision Greatest Save Public Service Announcement Competition. She has twice been accepted into the high school journalism program at ASU’s Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. She is also an integral part of Greenway’s theater department.

“What sets Michelle apart is her commitment to the greater Greenway High School community,” Vreeken said. “As you can see, she always puts service above self. I am confident Michelle will excel at any endeavor she chooses, and I am proud to say she has always represented Greenway High School with grace and dignity.”

Achievement Above All: Student Group
The Student Group of the Year was awarded to ReDodge Recycle, sponsored by Kent Renard and Susan Dodge. At about 30 club members, ReDodge Recycle is Greenway’s frontline organization working to reduce the campus’ environmental footprint and seek to reduce waste and promote recycling on campus. It also seeks to encourage work-related activities to support transition goals for special education students. Some of the transition skills the recycling program has helped develop include responsibility, endurance, problem-solving, professionalism, accountability, follow through and leadership.

Achievement Above All: Support Staff
Melissa Huibsch was named the 2017-18 Support Staff Employee of the Year for Greenway. Her current role as the Compliance and Transition Service Specialist (CTSS) requires her to work with families with students in the school’s Special Education program.

“I would like to recognize Dr. Rachelle Beard, Susan Dodge and the rest of the Special Education Department at Greenway High School who work diligently to provide our students with the best education they possibly can,” Ms. Huibsch said. “With their support, I will continue to hone my skills and be a positive influence on our students and faculty.”

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Achievement Above All: Volunteer
Although the school’s volunteer of the year recipient is a mother to six, a full-time psychology student at ASU and serves on the research team for the Visualizing Immigrant Phoenix project, she still finds time to make a big impact on the Demon campus. Nina Rocket is the Parent Action Club president, a group that focuses on raising money for scholarships, hosting staff appreciation breakfasts and providing financial assistance to campus clubs and activities that express a need.

“Community is an important part of life, and volunteering makes me feel like I have a place in the community,” Ms. Rocket said. “Seeing how volunteer work befits others is very rewarding. What we do, and what brings all of us together here tonight, is our support for children as they transition into adulthood. We live in an individualistic society, but I adhere to the old proverb that it takes a village to raise a child; so I would like to thank all of you for your work in the tribe of education that supports our future village.”

Thank you and congratulations to each of our Greenway Achievement Above All recipients. We are grateful for your contributions to Greenway High School and the Glendale Union High School District community.

**GREAT CHARITIES TO DONATE TO:**

**ANIMAL CRUELTY TASK FORCE:** Need cases of water, 5 lb. bags of dog/cat food, bowls, towels, collars and leashes. Bring items to our DVPNBWO / BMCA Meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the DVCC or drop them off anytime at the Black Mountain Precinct at 33355 North Cave Creek Road, Phoenix AZ, 85331.

**ANTHEM PETS** Animal Rescue: A Voice for the Voiceless
http://anthempets.org/ 480-287-3542

**ARIZONA PAWS & CLAWS** www.azpawsandclaws.com

**FETCH FOUNDATION** please go to the following site:
www.fetchfoundation.com/Newsflash/the-fido-bag-program

**M.A.I.N.** What We Do - M.A.I.N. - Medical Animals In Need, Dog Rescue in Phoenix Arizona Kelly Ferreira 480-245-9203 President / Medical Animals In Need www.medicalanimalsinneed.com Together we save lives!

**MINI MIGHTY MUTTS** for more information, contact Angie Crouse at 480-304-5654 or info@minimightymutts.com Also check out our website at www.minimightymutts.com Mini Mighty Mutts is a 501(c) 3 organization. We rescue the underdog!

**OPERATION CARE FOOD BANK** located in North Phoenix, a non-profit Christian organization committed to helping those in need with food and clothing. For additional information, please call 602-866-0135, or visit: info@operationcarefoodbank.org
WALKPHX WEDNESDAYS
FREE SOCIAL WALK/RUN

2ND & 4TH WEDNESDAYS OF THE MONTH
CHECK IN AT HANCE PARK (67 W. CULVER ST.)

3.2 MILES THROUGH DOWNTOWN
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FOLLOW COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS ON TWITTER!

Thelda is tweeting! Follow her @TheldaWilliams1

CONTACT DISTRICT 1
Councilwoman Thelda Williams

City of Phoenix
200 West Washington Street
11th Floor
Phoenix, Arizona 85003-1611
(602) 262-7444
council.district.1@phoenix.gov

HELP SAVE A LIFE...
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