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District 5 Residents and Friends,

March has been another productive and busy month full of community engagement with budget surveys, a 27th Ave. cleanup, neighborhood meetings, celebrations, and historic City Council policies. Read this edition for detailed reports, learn about the city budget process, and more.

Successful Community Cleanup at 27th Ave. and Northern Ave.



Thank you so much to all the community members who joined the fifth cleanup along 27th Avenue this past Saturday. We focused on the area around 27th Ave. and Northern Ave. including schools, small businesses, neighborhoods, and the site of the new housing project for seniors experiencing homelessness, The Haven. Our group started at the "old K-mart" building on Northern Ave., which will be redeveloped into a workforce and educational center called Innovation 27.

Special thanks to our partners who supported this cleanup, including SS.

Simon and Jude Catholic Cathedral and School, Community Medical Services,

North Glen Square Neighborhood Association, Violence Impact Project Coalition,

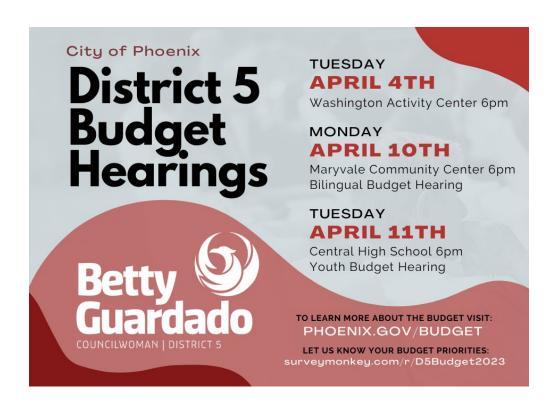
Washington Elementary School District, and Central Arizona Shelter Services.

And thanks to our City departments including Neighborhood Services, Street

Transportation, Fire, and Police that ensured the safety and success of the event.

The 27th Ave. Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan will only be successful with community participation, and the cleanups are just one important aspect of the multi-department plan that was approved in 2022. In case you missed it, click here for the news story. [12news.com]

Budget Hearings and Community Engagement Survey



Every year the City develops the operating budget based on community priorities and staff recommendations. This funds everything from Police and Fire to Water Services, Parks, and much more. Our District 5 team collects hundreds of survey responses from mostly in-person conversations with residents like you, and it makes an impact on the city budget process. Click here to respond to our short budget community engagement survey today! [surveymonkey.com] The last

day to respond is Saturday, April 15th.

The City of Phoenix will host 11 in-person Community Budget Hearings to gather feedback on the proposed fiscal year 2023-24 Trial Budget. Community feedback is a vital part of the budget process and will be considered in the development of the City Manager's Budget. Join my team and me at the District 5 budget hearing held on Tuesday, April 4th at 6 p.m. at the Washington Activity Center. Building B – multipurpose room (2240 W. Citrus Way). Click here to learn how to participate.

Rental Non-Discrimination Ordinance Passed by City Council



This month, my colleagues and I joined together to ensure we continue to make the City of Phoenix a place we can all call home. Residents from across our

city shared stories at council meetings about the struggles to find housing and the discrimination they continue to face based on their source of income.

Unfortunately, rental tenants were being denied housing if they received vouchers such as Social Security, disability, foster family credits, or even benefits from the Department of Veteran Affairs.

In response, I worked with my colleagues on council to <u>pass an ordinance that</u> would ban disqualifying a renter based on their source of income. As we face a housing and homelessness crisis throughout the region, we must ensure keeping families housed is a top priority and that discrimination has no place in the City of Phoenix.

District 5 High School Spring Break



We had a great group of Maryvale High students who spent their spring break learning more about the City of Phoenix and reaching out to District 5 residents

about the upcoming city budget. We visited the Tres Rios Wetlands, surveyed residents at two community centers, and ended the week with a Milwaukee Brewers spring training game in the heart of Maryvale. Thanks to the Parks and Recreation and Water Services Departments, AFSCME Local 2384, and the American Family Fields of Phoenix for hosting us.

Neighborhood Celebration of Gated Alleys



The West Palmaire Neighbors block watch invited us to their annual meeting on March 18th to celebrate the installation of their alley gates. Their alley segments were part of the Gated Alley Pilot Program of 2021, and the program is now expanded as a permanent program in the General Fund.

The residents reported a decrease in illegal dumping, littering, trespassing, and an improvement in overall sense of safety. Click here to learn more about the Gated Alley Program.

Parks Summer Program Registration is Open Now



Enroll your school-aged children for all-day summer camps with the Parks and Recreation Department. Check out the multiple locations around the City of Phoenix for this fun, affordable, and convenient program! Registration for the summer camp programs began on Thursday, March 23. Click here for more details. [anc.apm.activecommunities.com]

Women's History Month: Maria Elena Durazo



It is an honor for me to highlight one of my mentors María Elena Durazo during Women's History month. She was born to migrant worker parents who traveled between the fields of California and Oregon to make a living. Despite these obstacles, María Elena graduated from St. Mary's College in Moraga, California in 1975. In college she became involved in the Chicano Movement, then she joined the labor movement as an organizer for the International Ladies Garment

Workers Union (later called UNITE, the Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees). While working as a union organizer, she earned her educational degree in law at the People's College of Law in 1985.

Then, she made history as the first female president of UNITE HERE Local 11, and the first woman Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Los Angeles Federation of Labor. Now, she serves as the State Senator of California's 24th District and was elected in 2018. Today, she continues the struggle for fair wages and protection for workers. She is a champion of equal pay for women in all industries, but especially for the working class.

Senator Durazo states that unequal pay for women "is a systemic problem we must attack from all angles. Women of color have long been segregated to critical industries, like farm work, garment work, childcare, and hotel housekeeping. They are paid at best minimum wage – and are commonly still not paid what the law requires at all! That's why I'm so proud to have authored and helped pass SB62, the Garment Worker Protection Act [and]...I also fought so hard to pass SB 951, to strengthen and expand our Paid Family Leave Program for all workers in the state."

Thank you for reading and sharing the March 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. For regular updates, follow us on our social media accounts by clicking on the icons below.



<u>Visit the City of Phoenix City Council District 5 Website</u>

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