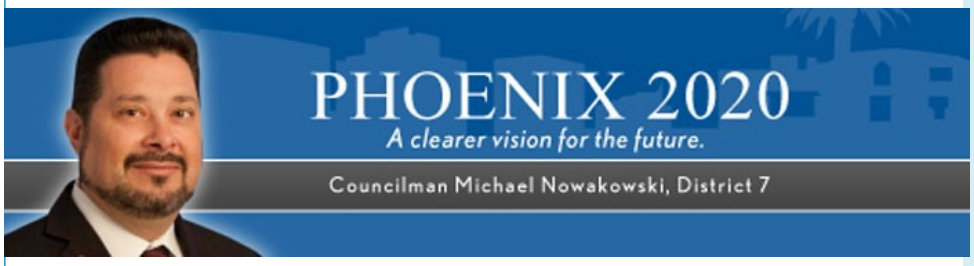

Happy February!

Our office has begun to prepare for our Spring event season! We have lots of exciting things planned starting with the March 19th Grand Opening of Cesar Chavez Park's newest amenities including soccer fields, a dog park and an amphi-theater. Thanks to the generosity of Support Sky Harbor Coalition, we are also planning a community clean up for the St. Mathew's Neighborhood in April. Also in the spring will be our Bike Safety events and finally our annual Star Spangled Celebration over Memorial Day weekend. To stay up to date on all these events and more, be sure to like us on Facebook.

February is "Graffiti Free Phoenix Awareness" month in the City of Phoenix. Love your city by joining the city to help make Phoenix graffiti free. You can make a difference in your community by painting over graffiti. The City offers free graffiti-removal supplies by calling 602-534-4444.

This month the City of Phoenix Municipal Court rolled out the Compliance Assistance Program to help those individuals resolve past due traffic fines that are owned to the court and may be preventing the reinstatement of their Arizona driver license. The program allows a person to enter into a payment plan for all traffic, civil and parking charges without having to see a judge. For more information, contact the City of Phoenix Municipal Court at 602-262-6421.

Make sure to stay in touch through social media to learn about all the events we are planning in your community and issues affecting our residents. If you have any questions or feedback please feel free to contact my office at 602-262-7492.

Best Regards,
Michael Nowakowski
Councilmember, District 7

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Youthbuild Program
- Coffee With A Cop
- S. Mnt. Environmental Ed Center
- McDowell Music Festival

City of Phoenix
Office of the City Council
Councilman, Michael Nowakowski, District 7
200 W. Washington ST.
11th Fl.
Phoenix, AZ 85003-1611

602.262.7492

CouncilmanNowakowski

MRNowakowski

CouncilmanNowakowski

Cityofphoenixaz

Families are invited to take the annual "We READ" 30-day challenge at Phoenix Public Library. It's easy! Just pick up a gameboard at any Phoenix Public Library location and mark off each day that children read (outside of school).

Shared reading time is one of the most important ways to prepare a child for success in school. Research shows that children who are read to from birth have:

- larger vocabularies
- higher IQs
- stronger social connections
- better problem-solving skills

Furthermore, research shows that children who read on grade level by third grade are better performers in high school and more likely to go on to college. Build a strong learning foundation, have fun as a family at the same time and come to Phoenix Public Library to take the challenge and make reading a habit!

Read together for 30 days between Feb. 1 and April 1 to earn fun prizes including a "We READ" t-shirt for kids and library tote bag for adults. For more information, visit one of our 17 locations, visit phoenixpubliclibrary.org or call 602-262-4636.

Coffee with a Cop
Wednesday, March 2, 2016
Pendegast Community Center
10550 W. Mariposa St.
9:30—11:00am

Please join the officers from the Maryvale Estrella Precinct. Meet the police officers that patrol your neighborhoods. No agenda or speeches, just a chance to ask questions, voice concerns and get to know the officers in your community!

If you have questions, please contact Officer Angie Shuman 602-495-0354.

SENIOR CENTERS & CONGREGATE MEALS

The Human Services Department operates 15 senior centers in which it provides an integrated system of services and resources for seniors. Each center provides adults a variety of opportunities of support through recreation, social, education, health and wellness, advocacy and social services. Meals are served at each of the city's 15 senior centers Monday through Friday, however lunch times may vary between centers.

There is no charge for meals for individuals age 60 years or older or disabled adults, however we do ask for contributions. Contributions are used to fund and maintain the meal program. All contributions are confidential and are accepted on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. An inability to contribute will not prevent you from receiving a meal. Center participants under the age of 60 and/or not disabled, are required to pay a nominal fee for each meal.

Lunch reservations are requested three days in advance of the meal(s) and may be made when attending the center or by calling the senior center.

To find a senior center near you and lunch time service time visit, https://www.phoenix.gov/humanservices/programs/older/senior-centers or call 602-262-7379.

GRAFFITI FREE PHOENIX

The month of February is Graffiti Free Awareness month! Our office and Neighborhood Services Department want to ensure you have the resources to help remove graffiti in your neighborhood. The presence of blight can have a tremendous negative impact on the quality of neighborhoods, economy and the welfare of residents.

There are a variety of resources that are available to residents to encourage the clean – up of graffiti in their neighborhood. One example is The Neighborhood College Workshop which provides residents the opportunity to become certified with various removal tools that are available for use through the tool lending program.

STAND TALL is a customized presentation that can be requested by schools, associations and organizations. The presentation is used to teach participants about the negative impacts graffiti has on youth, resources for residents, current trends in graffiti and how to utilize the latest technology in reporting blight and graffiti.

The City of Phoenix is committed to removing graffiti but it's important to remember to report it when you see it. The City has many tools for individuals to use to report graffiti, below are different ways you can use to report graffiti:

- See graffiti happening, call Phoenix Police's Crimestop at 602-262-6151
- Report graffiti in your community by calling NSD at 602-534-4444 or by email blight@phoenix.gov
- Use the city's website to "report it" at phoenix.gov/nsd/report-blight
- Through the city's free smartphone app (MyPhxAz)

Help us spread the word about Graffiti Free Phoenix by using the hashtag #GraffitiFreePHX and #ilovePHX on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

To learn more about how you can help us fight graffiti please visit, https://www.phoenix.gov/nsd/programs/graffiti.

Phoenix YouthBuild Program Now Accepting Applications

The city of Phoenix YouthBuild program is accepting applications from youth 16-24 years old who are at-risk or have not successfully completed their secondary education. The program offers youth development services that support the completion of the High School Equivalency (HSE) exam, provide academic and work-related skills, career pathways, leadership and community development.

Interested applicants are required to attend one of the upcoming information sessions held at 2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout February, at the Maricopa Skill Center, 1245 E. Buckeye Road in Room 202A.

Participants selected for the program must be available all day Monday through Friday for up to 10 months, reside in the city of Phoenix and not have a high school diploma or High School Equivalent (HSE).

To register for an information session, call 602-534-3794. For more information about YouthBuild, visit phoenix.gov/phxwc

FREE Tax Preparation

Since 2003, the City of Phoenix Human Services Department has implemented an Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) Campaign. The Earned Income Tax Credit, EITC or EIC, is a benefit for working people with low to moderate income. Throughout the course of the campaign, more than 53,000 low- and moderate- income families have received more than $74 million in federal funds at free tax preparation sites across Phoenix. To qualify, you must meet certain requirements and file a tax return, even if you do not owe any tax or are not required to file. EITC reduces the amount of tax you owe and may give you a refund.

To learn more about the program and to find a volunteer Income Tax Assistance Site (VITA) location near you visit, https://www.phoenix.gov/humanservices/programs/tax-prep

You can also choose to do your State and Federal taxes yourself FREE online at myfreetaxes.com, for individuals or families with combined household income of $60,000 or less in 2015. Learn more now about myfreetaxes.com.

Jeff Barton has been named Budget and Research Director for the city of Phoenix. He has worked for the city since 1999 and recently served six months as acting director for the department.

Barton oversees the development of the city's $3.2 billion operating budget. He brings a depth of budgetary experience and insight that is critical in the city's annual budget process.

Previously, he served as Deputy Budget and Research Director and Management Assistant with the department and as an Internal Auditor at the city. Jeff earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Morehouse College and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.

Facts about Jeff Barton:

* From Philadelphia, PA

* Married for 16 years to a librarian and has three children

* Hobbies: Visiting revolutionary and civil war battlefields, boxing and music

* Interesting fact: Barton is a direct decedent of Abolitionist Frederick Douglass. His great-great grandfather and two great-great uncles were members of the famous 54th Massachusetts first all-black infantry unit in the U.S. Army. Famous for its battle at Fort Wagner, S.C. during the Civil War as depicted in the movie Glory starring Denzel Washington.

City of Phoenix

City of Phoenix releases Floodplain Management Plan for Public Comment - The city of Phoenix has prepared and released for public comment an update of its floodplain management plan. A floodplain management plan is an overall strategy of programs, projects and measures aimed at reducing the adverse impacts of flood hazards on the community. This plan identifies flood risks, their impact on the community, and a prioritized action plan for reducing flood risks. The city's draft floodplain management plan is available online at phoenix.gov/streets/floodplain-management. The public comment and review period for the plan takes place Jan. 28, 2016, through April 28, 2016.

Questions and comments may be submitted in writing by 5 p.m., April 28, 2016, to:

Hasan Mushtaq, P.E., Ph.D., CFM
Floodplain Manager
City of Phoenix Street Transportation Department
200 W. Washington St., 5th Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85003-1611
Email: hasan.mushtaq@phoenix.gov

In addition, the city will host four public meetings to share details about the plan and solicit comments from the public. The meetings will be held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. During each meeting a brief presentation will be provided at around 6:30 p.m. and the same information will be presented at each meeting. The meetings are scheduled as follows:

Tuesday, April 5: Goelet A.C. Beuf Community Center - Multipurpose North, 3435 W. Pinnacle Peak Rd.

Wednesday, April 6: Pecos Community Center - Multipurpose Room, 17010 S. 48th St.

Thursday, April 7: Burton Barr Public Library - Pulliam Auditorium, 1221 N. Central Ave.

Tuesday, April 12: Phoenix Fire Department Station #57, 1708 W. Dobbins Road

To request reasonable accommodations or information in an alternate format please contact the City of Phoenix Floodplain Management Section at 602-262-4960 or email floodpln@phoenix.gov.

Parks and Recreation Partners with Arizona Center for Nature Conservation Re-Opened South Mountain Environmental Ed Center

Through a partnership between the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department, and Arizona Center for Nature Conservation (ACNC), an Arizona non-profit, the South Mountain Environmental Education Center (SMEEC) has re-opened. This center is a resource to hands-on activities, educational programming, learn about nature and outdoor recreation a whole lot more! The facility will operate Wednesday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and on "Silent Sundays," the fourth Sunday of each month when the park's main access roadways are closed to motor vehicle traffic. To learn more visit, http://phoenixzoo.org/south-mountain-environmental-education-center/.

NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF

Phoenix residents and Solid Waste customers have multiple opportunities to take part in the Non-Hazardous waste drop off events. Once the material is dropped off it is sorted and disposed of as municipal solid waste. No commercial loads, large residential quantities, medical waste, explosive or radioactive waste will be accepted.

Acceptable Items:

Auto related fluids
Household Appliances
Household Paint (no more than 10 gallons)
Maximum of 5 tires
Rechargeable Batteries
Vehicle Batteries
Pool Chemicals
Propane gas cylinders (5 lb or 10 lb)
Fire Extinguishers
Pesticides – herbicides/insecticides

Important Tips for Drop – Off:

Proof of City of Phoenix Solid Waste is required.
Bring your current city of Phoenix city services bills showing solid waste fees and a matching photo ID
Events begin at 7 a.m. and ends at Noon.

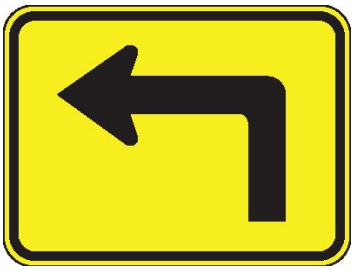
Schedule of Events:

Friday and Saturday, March 18 and 19, 2016
Desert West Park
6602 W. Encanto Blvd.
7 a.m.- Noon

Friday and Saturday, April 15 and 16, 2016
Pecos Park
17010 S. 48th St.
7 a.m. - Noon

For more information contact:
Email: pwserve@phoenix.gov
Customer service line: 602-262-7251
Website: https://www.phoenix.gov/publicworks/garbage/hazwaste/collection-events

LEFT TURN ARROWS IN ROOSEVELT ROW



I am happy to inform that after multiple inquiries and meeting with our Street Department regarding adding left turn arrows in the Roosevelt Row neighborhood, the city will be installing a left turn signal on the intersection of Roosevelt Street and Central Avenue and a left turn signal at the Roosevelt Street and 1st Avenue intersection as well. The installation of the arrows is scheduled for mid-February.

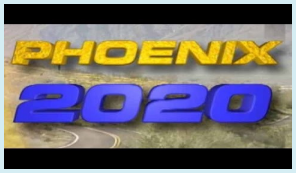
Business Highlight

Smoothie Run Internet Café

6115 S. 51st Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85339

602-237-2325
www.smoothierun.com

Quality service, free Wi-Fi and delicious treats for everyone to enjoy, while working, studying or just relaxing. We are excited to have Smoothie Run Internet Café in District 7!



Every month you can catch our show Phoenix 2020 "A Clear Vision for the Future" on Cox Cable Channel 11 or catch us on www.youtube.com/cityofphoenixaz.

Remember, to catch all the episodes online and stay tuned for all future episodes as I explore the district to visit new restaurants and businesses and bring you all the latest information pertaining to the City of Phoenix. Remember to like me on Facebook and follow me on Twitter to get all the latest District 7 news and events!

The Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department's Aquatics Division is researching ways to improve programs and operations at its swimming pools. It is considering a pilot program schedule for swim lessons and open swim hours at Cielito, Deer Valley, Starlight, Paradise Valley and Pecos pools for summer 2016, and wants your valued input on this possible change. Please visit this link to learn more information about the proposed change and to complete a quick survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/swim-lessons-format. The deadline to complete the survey in March 1, 2016.

McDowell Music Festival
Margaret Hance Park
1202 N. 3rd Street Phoenix, AZ 85004
602-343-0453
www.mmmf.com
March 11 –13, 2016

McDowell Mountain Music Festival, Arizona's musical and cultural destination, is celebrating its 13th year since its inception in 2004. Headline performers have included Widespread Panic, Passion Pit, Thievery Corporation, Phantogram, David Crosby, The Black Crowes, Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, Blues Traveler, Ben Harper, Slightly Stoopid, Michael Franti, The Shins, The Roots, Umphrey's McGee and many others.

McDowell Mountain Music Festival is Arizona's 100% non-profit music festival. Designed to promote three elements – community involvement, corporate participation and charity – McDowell Mountain Music Festival exists to support, entertain and educate the community, the arts and families throughout the state. The Festival attracts visitors from around the country for great music, beautiful Arizona weather and an opportunity to experience true culture. All of the proceeds from the Festival will benefit two local, family-based, non-profits: Phoenix Children's Hospital Foundation and UMOM New Day Center.

Come have a great time with your family and at the same time support local charities!

Grand Opening
Cesar Chavez Park
Dog Park Soccer Fields Amphitheatre

Councilman
Michael Nowakowski
District 7

Saturday, March 19, 2016
9 - 11 a.m.
Cesar Chavez Park

7858 S. 35th Ave.
Laveen, AZ

Councilwoman
Kate Gallego
District 8

PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF CESAR CHAVEZ PARK'S NEWEST ENHANCEMENTS! BRING YOUR 4 LEGGED FRIENDS, A SOCCER BALL & MEET YOUR FELLOW NEIGHBORS! FREE SOCCER CLINIC, ARIZONA HUMANE SOCIETY, REFRESHMENTS, GIVE-A-WAYS, MUSIC AND LOTS OF FUN!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT DISTRICT 7 AT 602.262.7492, COUNCIL.DISTRICT.7@PHOENIX.GOV OR FOLLOW US AT FACEBOOK.COM/**COUNCILMANNOWAKOWSKI**.

FUN PLACES City of Phoenix GREAT SPACES Parks and Recreation