

# Update from the Office of Heat Response and Mitigation

UHITS MEETING, MARCH 15, 2022

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# Today's updates

- Heat response planning
- Hiring process
- ARPA concepts
- **Cool Corridors**
- **Tree challenges**



# Heat response planning

- City Council Policy Session March 29
- 30+ initiatives with city leadership
- Program planning underway
- New and enhanced partnerships



## Hiring process

- Final stages of hiring process for Urban Tree Program Manager
- Built Environment Specialist interviews in progress



# American Rescue Plan Act & OHRM

- City Council Policy Session – April 12
- Continued positive discussion w/ Council and staff (Sustainability, Neighborhood Services, Public Transit)
- \$11M home weatherization (incl. mobile homes)
- \$7.5M residential tree equity accelerator
- \$3M trees for schools
- \$3M shade structures in public ROW



# Residential Tree Equity Accelerator

- Increase tree canopy in low tree equity neighborhoods from 3.5% to 10.5%
  - 200 homes in each of 25 neighborhoods
  - 4 trees per home – 20,000 trees total
  - 100 paid citizen foresters
- NASA DEVELOP team creating decision support tool (April agenda?)



## Cool Corridors

- Most Council offices have made Y1 selections
- Good alignment with UHITS April 2021 memo
- Tree planting is underway! Baseline Rd. 1st Dr – 3rd Ave, N Side
- Community engagement for Y2 selections

Collaboration with Office of Arts & Culture



# Cool Corridors

- April 16 planting & celebration (tentative)
- Baseline Rd., 35th-39th Avenue
- 4-8% tree canopy, 34% poverty, 300K boardings
- WalkPHX walking path, 5 nearby schools
- American Forests, iHeartRadio, Aspiration Bank
- Parks, Streets, Neighborhood Services



# Planting Locations



# Tree challenges presented to OHRM

## Apartment complex birds & safety

- Mature shade trees on site
- Significant bird population renders courtyard unusable
- Unsustainable maintenance \$
- Concerns about falling limbs
- Tree & Shade Plan, Climate Action Plan, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, water conservation

## Deteriorating neighborhood trees

- Suffering mature Aleppo pines
- Privately owned street trees
- Neighborhood interest in tree health assessment
- Insufficient funding from residents to move forward





# Discussion & Questions

