



NEWS

Media
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CITY OF PHOENIX AND GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP INCLUDES \$125,000 UNIVERSITY INVESTMENT TO FUND PUBLIC SAFETY, GRAFFITI ABATEMENT EFFORTS

On Friday, the city of Phoenix and Grand Canyon University announced the expansion of an on-going partnership through a \$125,000 investment to fund public safety efforts, including a drowning-prevention program and graffiti abatement services.

“This is an example of the kind of public-private partnerships that will fill the gaps during these tough budget times,” said Mayor Greg Stanton. “We haven’t even finalized the budget and GCU put their money where their passion is – in our community.”

“Over the last five years, Grand Canyon University has been transformed into a premier private, Christian university with new state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories and educational facilities built on its historic West Phoenix campus,” said Brian Mueller, President of Grand Canyon University. “Throughout this transformation, and consistent with GCU’s rich history of community involvement, the University has never wavered from its commitment to the Canyon Corridor neighborhood. The University is proud to continue this tradition by working with its neighborhood leaders, elected officials and families to develop another innovative public-private partnership that will further enhance the revitalization of the Canyon Corridor. Together we are building a dynamic, vibrant, successful community.”

“My policy priorities continue to be public safety, education and neighborhood revitalization, economic development and education – and this partnership with GCU is positively impacting all of those areas,” said Councilman Daniel T. Valenzuela, whose district is home to GCU. “This latest investment will help to create a graffiti-free zone in the Canyon Corridor area and has the potential to prevent another child drowning.”

Mayor Stanton, Councilman Valenzuela and President Mueller led today’s announcement, which was attended by Councilman Bill Gates, Councilwoman Thelda Williams, Phoenix City

GRAND CANYON UNIVERSITY AND CITY OF PHOENIX PARTNERSHIP

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Manager Ed Zuercher, Phoenix Fire Chief Kara Kalkbrenner, Police Commander Kevin Robinson and Dr. Kent Scribner, Superintendent of Phoenix Union High School District and Jerry Colangelo.

GCU's \$125,000 investment will fund the Fire Department's Car 99, currently designated as a potential cut on the city's Trial Budget. Car 99 provides proactive support to ensure residential pool fences meet city code requirements to prevent child drowning, among other vital services. The funding will also support the city's graffiti abatement efforts and will help foster a graffiti-free zone in the Canyon Corridor. Graffiti abatement services also could be impacted during the budget process.

During the last two years, GCU has contributed a total of \$1.375 million toward public safety and education efforts in the community. In July 2012, GCU and the Phoenix Police Department entered into a \$500,000, five-year partnership to stop crime in the Canyon Corridor. In September 2013, GCU partnered with Phoenix Union High School District to create a Learning Lounge on GCU's campus for the benefit of Alhambra High School Students. This current investment will support neighborhood revitalization, public safety and drowning prevention efforts.

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