



April 8, 2021

Greetings,

In this newsletter you will find the latest news, announcements and event details that I want to share with you, including COVID-19 testing and mitigation efforts, library reopening information, paid summer internships for youth and young adults, and much more.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with questions, comments or concerns at (602) 262-7441 or council.district.3@phoenix.gov.

Respectfully,

Debra Stark
Councilwoman
City of Phoenix
[Council District 3](#)





Face Coverings Remain in Effect Within Phoenix City Limits

After consideration and review with legal counsel, the City of Phoenix has determined the June 19, 2020, [Declaration of the Phoenix City Council](#) requiring

face coverings in public for most people within city limits remains in effect. The mandate follows [Arizona Department of Public Health Face Covering Guidance](#) and is in accordance with current [Centers for Disease Control](#) guidance stating that masks should be worn in addition to staying at least 6 feet apart to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

At this time, the Council has decided not to rescind this declaration, joining with other municipalities including Tucson and Pima County in reaffirming the requirement to wear masks. The mask mandate within the City of Phoenix will remain in place until such time as the Council votes to terminate or amend the declaration.

For more information on this declaration, [visit the PHXNewsroom](#).

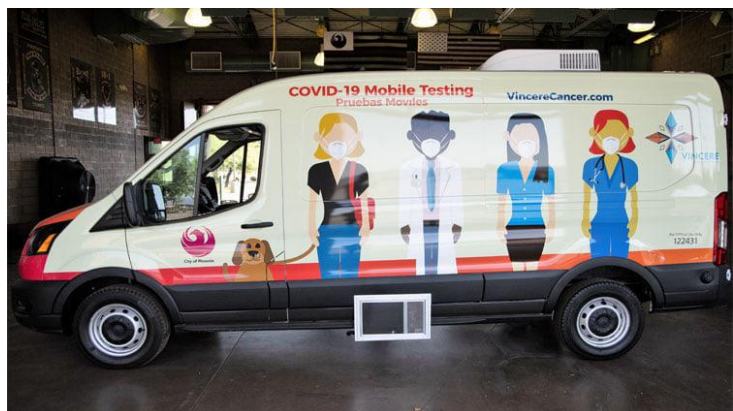
FREE COVID-19 Testing

The Mobile Testing Van #1 will be offering free rapid and antigen tests in District 3 next week!

Thursday, April 15
7:15 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Fry's Food Store
850 E. Hatcher Rd.

Register at vinceracancer.com

For all citywide locations for Mobile Van #1 and #2, visit phoenix.gov/covidtesting.



Phoenix Public Library to Resume Limited In-Building Visits

The Phoenix City Council unanimously approved a plan to restore in-building visits to the Phoenix Public Library. Restoration of in-building visits will roll out in three separate library location groupings with the first group of eight—Burton Barr Central Library, Agave Library, Desert Broom Library, Cesar Chavez



Library, Cholla Library, Ironwood Library, Mesquite Library and Palo Verde Library—offering in-building visits beginning Monday, April 19.

All in-building visits will require a 45-minute reservation, face coverings and social distancing. Beginning Friday, April 16, advance reservations can be made at select locations up to three days prior via phoenixpubliclibrary.org or through the Library's Call Center at 602-262-4636. Beginning Monday, April 19, drop-in customers may request a reservation at the door as available. Each facility's occupancy allowance will have a designated number dedicated to accommodating drop-in customers.

Customers making a reservation will be able to access several services inside a library facility:

- Use the computer or internet
- Browse the library collection
- Use a printer, scanner, or copier
- Pick up holds
- Check out materials
- Check out a laptop and/or WiFi hotspot

The second and third library location groups will continue with the current [Curbside Service](#) and hours until they transition to the in-building visits service model (Monday, May 3 and Monday, May 17, respectively). Specific schedules, hours of operation and complete details will be updated on phoenixpubliclibrary.org.

Virtual Classes Available to Help Support Early-Talk Skills in Babies



Registration is now open for the LENA Start program, offered by the Phoenix Public Library, for parents and caregivers of babies and children 0-3. The program uses LENA Talk Pedometer technology along with LENA's Talking Tips to help increase interactive talk and support kindergarten readiness.

Virtual classes will be offered in both English and Spanish. Classes are free but space is limited. The program will begin the last week of April and run for 10 weeks though the last week of June.

Learn more about [LENA Start](#) and register [here](#).



Online Teen Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have a teen in your life looking for volunteer opportunities this summer? Phoenix Public Library is offering a virtual volunteer program on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 4 - 5 p.m. Teens between the ages of 12-17 can participate and gain volunteer hours.


The focus will be to develop teen programs and services. Participants can join one or all the meetings to hang out with other teens, discuss programs, and service ideas. Teens will help Phoenix Public Library to create the next online event, crafty video, book recommendations, or other fun activities while gaining new skills and experience.

To register, click [here](#).

Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance

The Phoenix City Council recently approved the distribution of \$51 million in new federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) dollars to Phoenix residents who need help making their rent payments (including late fees) and covering the cost of home utilities (electric, gas, water and trash).

For more information, visit [Phoenix.gov/renthelp](https://phoenix.gov/renthelp). To apply online, visit wildfireaz.org/phxera/ to begin the application in English or Spanish.



WE CAN HELP

THE CITY OF PHOENIX HAS

\$51 MILLION

TO HELP RESIDENTS IMPACTED BY COVID-19

LANDLORDS MAY APPLY ON BEHALF OF RENTERS WITH THEIR PERMISSION

| ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA | CAN PAY FOR | PAYMENT AMOUNTS |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be a Phoenix resident• Able to show financial impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic• Income at or below 80% of Area Median Income or \$62,250 for a family of 4• Unemployed and/or receiving unemployment benefits• Assistance for rent and utility obligations incurred after March 13, 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rent (including late fees)• Utility bills (electric and gas)• City Services Bill (water and trash) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rental Arrears - Up to 12 months of assistance (<i>residents in subsidized housing must have a rental obligation to qualify for rental assistance</i>)• Forward Rent - Residents may qualify for 3 months forward rent once past due or arrears are paid in full, and if the household is unstable• Utility Bills (electric and gas) arrears and credits• City Services Bill (water and trash) arrears and credits |

LEARN MORE AT

PHOENIX.GOV/RENTHELP

TO APPLY BY PHONE

(602) 534-AIDE (2433)

TO APPLY ONLINE

WILDFIREAZ.ORG/PHXERA

Virtual Community Budget Hearings FY 2021-22

Throughout April, the city of Phoenix is hosting virtual community Budget Hearings to gather valuable public input. It is an opportunity for the public to let the City Council know what is important to them and where funding should be allocated.



Questions or Comments?
Email: Budget.Research@Phoenix.gov
Phone: 602-262-4800
Social Media: Follow #PhoenixBudget

The City Manager’s Trial Budget is available online: phoenix.gov/budgetsite/budget-books/2021-22_Trial_Budget.pdf. The public input process in April will help further shape the final budget that will be presented to the City Council on May 4.

Each meeting is open to any member of the public, regardless of district, and will have an interpreter available. Registration links are available at phoenix.gov/budget.



| Date | Time | Type |
|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| April 2, 2021 | 8:30 a.m. | District 2 |
| April 5, 2021 | 8:30 a.m. | District 6 |
| April 5, 2021 | 5:30 p.m. | District 1 |
| April 6, 2021 | 8:30 a.m. | Spanish, community-wide |
| April 6, 2021 | 5:30 p.m. | Youth |
| April 8, 2021 | 8:30 a.m. | District 3 |
| April 8, 2021 | 5:30 p.m. | District 8 |
| April 9, 2021 | 8:30 a.m. | Senior |
| April 10, 2021 | 10 a.m. | Spanish, community-wide |
| April 12, 2021 | 5:30 p.m. | District 5 |
| April 14, 2021 | 5:30 p.m. | District 4 |
| April 15, 2021 | 5:30 p.m. | District 5, bilingual |
| April 17, 2021 | 10 a.m. | Community-wide |
| April 20, 2021 | 5:30 p.m. | Community-wide |

Registration will open during the week of March 29. Exact details will be posted online as they become available: <https://www.phoenix.gov/budget/hearings>.

Blood Drive

The East Sunnyslope Neighborhood Association & Block Watch will be hosting a blood drive. Sign up and donate if you can!

Monday, April 19
4 - 8 p.m.

North Village Baptist Church
1010 E. Alice Ave.



Register at bloodhero.com/ and enter Sponsor Code: EastSunnyslope.
Contact Jeff Tisot at essbw16@gmail.com with any questions.



Paid Summer Internships for Youth and Young Adults

Paid employment opportunities are now open for Phoenix youth and young adults through the Phoenix Youth RISE Summer Youth

Employment program. Interested youth and young adults looking to gain real-world work experience with employers in the city of Phoenix can apply online at Phoenix.gov/HR

As an intern, the work experience helps participating employers use skills to complete lagging projects, jump-start new ones or catch up on work that may have been set aside during the long days of the pandemic.

Phoenix Youth RISE covers 80 summer intern hours for four weeks through the months of June and July. The program connects employers with youth and young adults who have undergone skills training and work-readiness preparing them to work up to 20 hours per week.

There are still opportunities for employers to offer internships through the program. The city pays all training and wage costs for employers.

For more information, email PWYouthPrograms@Phoenix.gov or visit ARIZONAatWORK.com/Phoenix. Submissions are due by May 15.

Valley Metro Small Business Financial Assistance Program Pilot



PRESTAMOS CDFI
A DIVISION OF CHICANOS POR LA CAUSA



Grants of up to \$9,000 are now available for qualifying businesses in the area of the Northwest Extension Phase II and the South Central/Downtown Hub light rail extensions. The business must be locally owned with 15 or fewer employees and \$500,000 or less in annual revenue for the overall business.

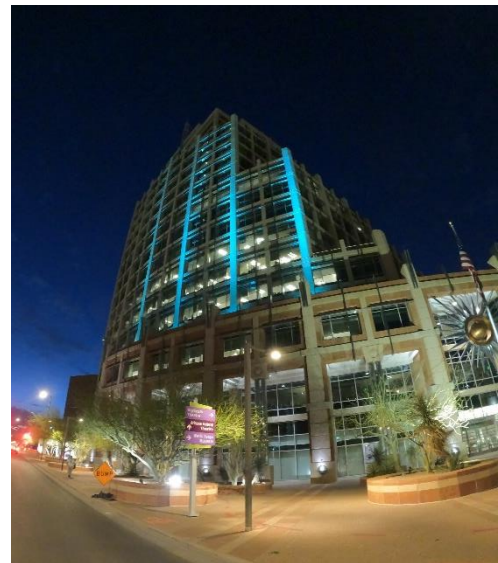
The grant can be used to pay for utilities, rent or mortgage, insurance, payroll, and other business expenses. The grant is being offered through the City of Phoenix and Valley Metro, in conjunction with Prestamos CDFI.

For more information and to apply in English or Spanish, visit prestamosloans.org/valleymetro/.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. All month, Phoenix City Hall will be lit teal to bring awareness to this important issue. Here are some facts:

- In Arizona, 2 in 5 women and 1 in 5 men have experienced sexual violence.
- 80-90% of rapes are committed by someone known to the victim.
- In the U.S., a person is sexually assaulted every 98 seconds.
- 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually abused before age 18.



Arizona has local programs that provide advocacy, counseling, and other supportive services for healing. To talk to someone or to get connected to a victim service program, contact the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual & Domestic Violence's Services Helpline at 602-279-2900, text (520) 720-3383, or chat online at acesdv.org/get-help-now.

Water Tips Virtual Workshops

Looking to spruce up your landscape with food-bearing trees? Want to learn how to design a yard using simple earthworks and low-water-use plants?

Visit Phoenix Water Services digital resource page with free virtual workshops! Watch the videos at your own pace from the comfort of your home.



Get started here: phoenix.gov/waterservices/Pages/online-workshops.aspx

Report a Water Leak



Have a water leak but not sure who is responsible? A leak can raise a lot of questions and concerns. While each case is unique, this is how the City typically determines where a customer's responsibility begins and ends when it comes to leaks.

Report a leak, 24/7 with Phoenix Water Services H2O Hotline: 602-261-8000.

Water Usage Calculator

Showers, dishwashing, laundry, toilet flushes, landscaping, and pools contribute to the water usage in your home. Discover your optimal monthly water usage with Phoenix Water Services' free water usage calculator. Simply enter information about your household, and the calculator will do the rest.

Resources are also available to help you conserve water and save on your bill.

Get started here: phoenix.gov/waterservices/usage-calculator



Inauguration Ceremony

The City of Phoenix will host a virtual ceremony for the inauguration of Mayor Kate Gallego, District 1 Councilwoman Ann O'Brien, District 3 Councilwoman Debra Stark, District 5 Councilwoman Betty Guardado, and District 7 Councilwoman Yassamin Ansari.

The ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 19. It will be livestreamed on phoenix.gov and youtube.com/cityofphoenixaz.

