

Exciting news to share with you!

We've taken a major step forward with the Modern Streetcar! The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has issued a letter of approval for the Tucson Modern Streetcar project to proceed with final design. This moves the project's design and engineering into its final stage and means the City of Tucson can begin to purchase the vehicles and rail and begin the relocation of utilities along the route.

This is the result of years of hard work, collaboration among the private sector, elected officials and city staff. It's a critical step forward on a project that is vital to future economic development in our community. It will create jobs, jobs, jobs. It will spur new commercial and residential projects along its path. Our entire community will benefit, but I think the people who are most excited about this major step forward are people along the route.

University of Arizona President Robert Shelton said the University of Arizona is pleased that the FTA is moving this important project forward. "The Modern Streetcar project is needed to support the environmental sustainability goals of the UA and future growth at the UA."

Representatives of Main Gate, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Merchants, Downtown entrepreneurs, and Mercado District business people all see this as a major step forward in linking these key areas of our community.

Congress Entertainment District developer Jim Campbell said, "I speak for many when I say moving the Modern Streetcar project forward is both a significant and revolutionary moment for Downtown Tucson. Simply imagine the University, Main Gate, Fourth Avenue and Downtown as one connected neighborhood, sharing the best of each. Now that is exciting!"

This linkage from the University down Fourth Avenue through Downtown and eventually to the West Side will bring new energy and synergy to all four areas. The modern streetcar will offer students and those who live and work downtown the opportunity to get out of their cars and enjoy a more urban existence.

The Tucson Modern Streetcar will be a 3.9-mile fixed rail transit system with more than 100,000 people living and working within a half-mile of the route. The Modern Streetcar project was authorized for a \$75 million match by Congress in 2005 and the Pima County voters approved \$87 million from the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) in May 2006. For more information on the Modern Streetcar, please go to: [www.TucsonStreetcar.info](http://www.TucsonStreetcar.info).

**UPCOMING FORUMS AT WARD VI:**

## TONIGHT! SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>

Please join Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard and me for a discussion on Fraud and Crime Prevention here at Ward VI. Panelists will also include County Attorney Barbara LaWall, Assistant Police Chief Kathleen Robinson and Stewart Grabel from Pima Council On Aging. This should be a highly information session. I do hope you can join us at 6:00 this evening.

## OCTOBER 5<sup>TH</sup> ~ PROPOSITION FORUM

Come hear the facts on each of the four issues on which you will be voting on November 3rd. From 6 - 7:30PM you can get information on each of the proposals. This is not an advocacy session, but an opportunity to get straight facts upon which to base your personal decision. Join us here at Ward VI.

## OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup> ~ COMMUNITY KEY SERVICES DIALOGUE

The City of Tucson is beginning a new era of communication and collaboration with you – and the first step is the Community Key Services Dialogues. We want to discuss with you how the city can best address the budget challenges we face. City Manager Mike Letcher and I will be hosting this dialogue at the Ward VI office on the 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 8:30PM.

## Thanks for coming to Go GREEN!!!

- Our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Go Green was last week at the Ward VI office. This year we focused on WATER. Many thanks to the numerous experts, nonprofits, local businesses, and of course the City of Tucson, who shared their valuable insight into our most precious resource. Special thanks to Laura Burge and Christal Ferree of the Ward VI team

I'll be in touch again soon, but I just had to share this good news with you.

*Nina*

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