



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Sierra Davenport
Community Promotions and Marketing Manager
Parks and Recreation
520-837-8032
Sierra.Davenport@tucsonaz.gov

Date: 07/23/2013
TDD: 791-2639

SUNSET AT SENTINEL PEAK PARK (“A” MOUNTAIN) THURSDAY, AUGUST 1 -A celebration of park improvements and kickoff to Tucson’s birthday month-

Join Tucson Vice-Mayor Regina Romero, Pima County Supervisor Richard Elias, Tucson Parks and Recreation Staff, the Friends of "A" Mountain and the Downtown Tucson Partnership at a ribbon cutting for new park improvements at Sentinel Peak Park, Tucson’s largest natural resource park. The dedication will take place on Thursday, August 1, at 5:30 p.m. at Sentinel Peak Park, 1000 S. Sentinel Peak Rd. The City contracted with M. Anderson Construction and Wheat Scharf Associates Landscape Architects to do the improvements completed as Phase I of a master plan approved in 2010 by Mayor and Council. Trail work was provided by Southwest Conservation Corps youth crews. Parking is limited at the top of the mountain, so hiking and biking is encouraged.

Cyclists will meet at 5 p.m. at the Mercado San Agustin, 100 S. Avenida Del Convento and ride together to Sentinel Peak with Susan Reed of the Greater Arizona Bicycling Association (GABA). This ride was organized by the Tucson/Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee. For information on the bike ride contact Susan at susanwreed@gmail.com.

“Sentinel Peak is an iconic place for Tucsonans – rich in history and open to everyone,” said Tucson Vice-Mayor Romero. “We want people to bring their out-of-town guests to enjoy the views, stay to learn the history and go for a hike, and then go downtown, both the east and west sides, for fabulous food and entertainment.”

The park could see \$2.5 million more in improvements if a Pima County bond proposal is approved by a bond advisory committee and voters in 2014. August is Tucson’s birthday month, celebrating 4000 years of history in the Old Pueblo, originating at the base of Sentinel Peak. The City of Tucson was officially founded on August 20, 1776.

Improvements to the park include:

- Park Entry Signs to direct the public to the park– at the intersection of West Congress Street and Cuesta Avenue;
- Parking: new bike parking and two new accessible spaces in the upper lot – per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA);
- Trailhead Plaza: A new plaza adjacent to the park’s upper parking lot to orient visitors, including colored/textured concrete seat walls, interpretive signage, trail map signage, bicycle parking, and benches (ADA accessible);

-More-

If participants require an accommodation or materials in accessible format or require a foreign language interpreter or materials in a language other than English for any event, please call Tucson Parks and Recreation, 791-4873, at least five business days in advance



CITY OF
TUCSON



NEWS RELEASE

- Overlook Plazas: Two new overlook plazas with shade ramadas, concrete seatwalls, and interpretive signs (ADA accessible);
- Trails: New path to connect the improvements, constructed of “XeriTec” paving, a stable, porous, colored natural rock paving system designed to blend with the geology of the site;
- Trail System Signage: A variety of signage to alert visitors regarding trail difficulty, directions, and mileage.

The cost of current construction is approximately \$320,000. Funding for this project has been provided via Restricted Use City of Tucson General Fund (from the sale of land around Juhan Park), CDBG funds provided by Ward 1, City of Tucson HURF funds, 2000 City of Tucson General Obligation Bonds, and West District Impact Fee funds.

###

If participants require an accommodation or materials in accessible format or require a foreign language interpreter or materials in a language other than English for any event, please call Tucson Parks and Recreation, 791-4873, at least five business days in advance