

REGINA ROMERO

Tucson City Council - Ward I

Westside | Southside | Downtown

www.tucsonaz.gov/ward1

520.791.4040 | ward1@tucsonaz.gov



MAY 2014 NEWSLETTER

MAY 12, 2014

A MESSAGE FROM COUNCILOR ROMERO

Hello Neighbor,

Closing in on our last month of budget discussions, I believe we are moving in the right direction. Thanks to all those that have reached out to my office to share their feedback on what services are most critical to them. Despite the progress made at the table, we still have a few things to sort out. My colleagues and I still have outstanding questions about what realignment in parks and recreation administration will look like, especially when it comes to project managers. Cuts to this team may hurt us when it comes to addressing capital improvements, at a time that we are prioritizing these improvements for a likely bond initiative. I also have concerns about human services and ensuring we protect our most vulnerable by maintaining this funding. I am happy to see major efficiencies identified in transit and general services administration, two of our larger departments that have taken smaller cuts over the year. I would also like to revisit revenue projections, which have been historically conservative and forced deeper cuts than necessary in critical services. I have expressed my priorities to the city manager, and look forward to seeing these concerns addressed at the Mayor & Council meeting May 20th.

Changes at Ward 1

Many of you know Diana Rhoades, my Chief of staff and longtime friend. Diana has been with me for over 7 years, working by my side to help deliver on my commitment to Tucson voters and our community. This week she is moving on from my office, and we will miss her dearly. Laura Dent in my office will be taking over as my chief of staff. Please join me in bidding farewell and best wishes to Diana!



Included in this issue:

- ◆ Pima County Bond Meeting
- ◆ NEXTDOOR
- ◆ HURF Road Repair
- ◆ Streetcar Safety
- ◆ CDBG
- ◆ Local Business Spotlight
- ◆ Water Safety
- ◆ Tucson Water e-Bill
- ◆ Beware of Buffleggrass
- ◆ YW Café
- ◆ The Dream is Now
- ◆ New Native American
- ◆ Dia De San Juan
- ◆ Monsoon Squad Program
- ◆ Southline Transmission Line
- ◆ The Grrrls Project

COUNCILOR REGINA ROMERO, WARD 1

PIMA COUNTY BOND ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING



For the past several years, I have been seeking out funding sources for investment in 12th Ave. We currently have a request in front of Pima County Bond Advisory Committee for **\$3.2 million investment into 12th Ave.**

The 25-member bond committee is tasked with reviewing roughly 135 bond projects worth an estimated \$1 billion, and prioritizing project proposals. The recommendations go to the Pima County Board of Supervisors, who will prioritize projects for a bond election to place before voters in either 2015 or 2016. The South Side Business Coalition, in conjunction with our Ward 1 office, have been collaborating to seek out funding and support for 12th Ave.

Please come, we need your voice on 12th Ave/ LA DOCE!

When/What: May 16th- Support our Economic and Community Development Project for 12th Ave./ La Doce

Where: Downtown at the Riverpark Inn- 350 S. Freeway (South of Congress)

Time: 8 am to Noon

This includes:

- ⇒ S. 12th Avenue Cultural and Culinary Corridor
- ⇒ Neighborhood reinvestment funding

For more information contact our office at ward1@tucsonaz.gov.

NEXTDOOR IS THE NEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION TOOL

Nextdoor is the new private social network for you, your neighbors and your community! It has become the easiest way for you and your neighbors to talk online and make all of your lives better in the real world. And it's **FREE**. Thousands of neighborhoods are already using **Nextdoor** to build happier, safer places to call home. *People are using Nextdoor to:*

- ⇒ Quickly get the word out about a break-in
- ⇒ Organize a Neighborhood Watch Group
- ⇒ Track down a trustworthy babysitter
- ⇒ Find out who does the best paint job in town
- ⇒ Ask for help keeping an eye out for a lost dog
- ⇒ Find a new home for an outgrown bike
- ⇒ **Nextdoor's mission is to use the power of technology to build stronger and safer neighborhoods.**

Some Ward 1 Neighborhoods are already using Nextdoor! Dunbar Springs and Sunnyside for example!



For more information contact:
Priscilla Teran
Field Organizer | Tucson
520-549-8337
pteran@nextdoor.com

COUNCILOR REGINA ROMERO, WARD 1

HURF ROAD REPAIR



Some good news on the transportation front: For years the state legislature has been sweeping highway user revenue funds (HURF), dollars that local jurisdictions depend on to maintain streets and roadways. These annual sweeps have been occurring for years, bringing down spending across the state on local roads at a time when infrastructure needs major investment. Though Tucson voters approved a \$100 million road bond last year, which is proceeding ahead of schedule and under budget, we certainly feel the pinch of the HURF sweeps by the state.

This year, cities and counties were successful in reversing about \$30 million of the approximately \$120 million amount of the state fund sweep. While the increase to Tucson only adds about \$2 million to our HURF pot (bringing us up to approximately \$36 million), the boost makes a difference and puts us back on a path towards restored funding. We are hopeful that state leaders and our constituents will continue to support the complete reversal of the sweeps. This would mean returning the other approximately \$90 million to the HURF fund for distribution to cities and counties for road repair and other critical transportation needs.

STREETCAR COMING THIS JULY! LEARN ABOUT STREET CAR SAFETY

Great news - Sun Link will run until 2 a.m. Thursday - Saturday. I am looking forward to revenue service, beginning this July!

As the Sun Link Tucson Streetcar vehicles go through testing in preparation for a summer start, the streetcar's management team continues to educate community members and streetcar operators about safety. Sun Link's "Be Street-Smart" educational safety campaign is an ongoing effort to educate citizens about the streetcar's presence and how to be safe around the tracks.

Visit <http://tucsonstreetcar.com> for more information and to watch the safety video.



CDBG- COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS

At the May 6 Mayor & Council meeting, city leaders approved our FY 2015 HUD action plan, which helps us map out federal grant spending for housing and programming funds geared towards low income areas in our community. You may recall several years ago Mayor & Council adopted our Poverty and Urban Stress report, identifying target areas of greatest need. Focusing CDBG investment in our high stress areas will help us focus and leverage our resources most effectively in the neighborhoods that need it most.

LOCAL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Located in the heart of downtown Tucson, QuikPrint has a 25 year history of providing quality printing services. QuickPrint also strives to be an environmentally-responsible company! Including *Green products, recycling, waste reduction, energy conservation, indoor air quality, underwriting Downtown events and much more!* Support QuickPrint and their Green business initiative by considering them for your next project!

Check out Quick print at **33 N. Stone Avenue, Ste. 145 Tucson, AZ** or by calling **(520) 622-2859** or by going online at www.quickprintonline.com

COUNCILOR REGINA ROMERO, WARD 1

WATER SAFETY: KNOW YOUR ABC'S

As the weather gets warmer and you and your family enjoy the fun of water, remember the ABC's of water safety.

- A) **Adult Supervision** – an adult should always supervise children around water.
- B) **Barriers** - a self latching/locking gate should be in place to isolate your pool and spa from the home and play yard.
- C) **Classes** - including **CPR** for adults and swim lessons for children. You are your child's first responder!



Drowning is a leading cause of unintentional injury and death for children 4 years and younger. Floaties and other flotation devices should NEVER be substituted for adult supervision.

INTRODUCING A NEW WAY TO PAY YOUR TUCSON WATER BILL

You can now go paperless and pay your Utility Services Statement online! Set up an *eBill* account to pay your bill, you can get notification of your billing statement, view your water usage, and



read Tucson Water's newsletter for information on ways to conserve more water making your bill statement less expensive. You can sign up for eBills at www.tucsonaz.gov/water.

BEWARE OF BUFFLEGRASS AS THE HEAT RISES



Buffelgrass is an invasive grass species first brought over from Africa in the 1930s for grazing and erosion control. It has taken over large swaths of land in Southern Arizona, strangling native plant roots. The thick density of Buffelgrass is perfect fuel for massive summer fires. The Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center routinely organizes community events to remove Buffelgrass and it recently developed a mobile app for mapping and removal. For more information visit www.buffelgrass.org

CHECK OUT THE YW CAFÉ FOR YOUR NEXT LUNCH DATE!

The logo for The YW Café, featuring a stylized line drawing of a coffee cup and saucer. The text "The YW Café" is written in a mix of fonts, with "The" in a simple font, "YW" in a large, bold, orange font, and "Café" in a cursive script. Below "Café" is the text "@ the" in a small font.

525 N. Bonita Ave.
Tucson AZ 85745
520) 884-7810
www.ywcatucson.org
Hours: M-F 7:30am - 2:30pm
*Ask us about delivery & catering
your next event!*

COUNCILOR REGINA ROMERO, WARD 1

The Dream is Now

Join the *Jewish Community Relations Council* for a private Screening of *The Dream is Now*. This 30-minute film puts a human face on the pressing issue of undocumented children of immigrants. Following the screening, local "Dreamers" will share their experiences. Local leaders will discuss the current local and national status of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). A reception with light food and drink will follow.

When: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 @ 4:30-6:00 PM

Where: The Loft Theater, Screen Three

Info: bdavis@jfsa.org, 577-9393

RSVP to: jscott@jfsa.org, 577-9393



LA PRIMERA VISTA –TOHONO O'ODHAM FAMILY-MONUMENT EVENT

SAVE THE DATE! On **Saturday, June 14 at 9 AM** join us for the dedication ceremony of the *Tohono O'odham Family Monument, First Sighting of Padre Kino in Chukson!* A beautiful bronze sculpture by Tucson artist Luis Mena has been located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Mission Road and Starr Pass Boulevard. The ceremony will begin at 9 AM so please arrive a little bit earlier (parking to be determined). The Mission Starr Pass Intersection Improvement is a project of the City of Tucson Department of Transportation and the RTA. Both entities contributed 1% percent for Art funding for the artwork as did numerous individuals from the community. The Tucson Pima Arts Council administers the Public Art Programs of Tucson and Pima County.



DIA DE SAN JUAN– VENDOR APPLICATIONS AT WARD 1

Dia de San Juan is just around the corner! The 17th annual event will take place on **June 24th, 2014** from **5 PM-10 PM** in the vacant lot west of the Mercado San Agustine This is a wonderful community event circulated around tradition and expresses our Tucson culture. If you are interested in being a vendor at the event, please contact **Sally Polanco** at **520-861-4504** for more information.



JOIN THE MONSOON SQUAD PROGRAM!



Through gardening and observation, Monsoon Squad members play a pivotal role in making our rain gardens look great and function properly. Members help care for WMG's community rain gardens including four City Council Offices (including Ward 1!) and WMG's Living Lab and Learning Center. Be the frontline defense for our public rain gardens by joining the Monsoon squad!

You will join a force of people that gather for exclusive trainings, special outings, and make water harvesting a shining public example. Now's your chance to join. On **May 21st from 6 - 8 pm**, we're hosting a squad outing and orientation. Contact Joe Silins at jsilins@watershedmg.org for more information.

COUNCILOR REGINA ROMERO, WARD 1

SOUTHLINE TRANSMISSION LINE PUBLIC MEETING

There will be a Public Meeting on **May 22** regarding the Southline Transmission Line in Westside neighborhoods and Tumamoc Hill!

When: Thursday, May 22 | 5:30pm - 8pm – Presentations at 6pm

Where: El Rio Neighborhood Center-- 1390 West Speedway Boulevard | Tucson, AZ 85745



The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Western Area Power Administration (Western) are soliciting input on draft plans for the proposed Southline Transmission Line Project that crosses through Ward 1 and Tumamoc Hill.

Comments may be submitted at the agency meetings, the public hearings, or in writing to:

Southline Transmission Line Project

Attn: Frances Martinez, Realty Specialist

Bureau of Land Management Las Cruces Office 1800 Marquess Street ,Las Cruces, NM 88005-3371

You can e-mail your comments to: blm_nm_southline@blm.gov

All comments must be postmarked by July 10, 2014. For more information, visit the BLM's webpage at www.blm.gov/nm/southline or call Mark Mackiewicz, National Project Manager at (435) 636-3616.

A GREAT SUMMER PROGRAM FOR GIRLS!



WHO? Girls ages 11-15

WHAT IS IT? The Girls Project is designed to give girls the skills and knowledge they need to plan for a future of success

WHEN? May 31– July 26, 2014, Saturdays 1:30– 3:30pm

WHERE? At Child & Family Resources-
2800 E. Broadway Blvd.

WHY? Youth who participate in positive programs are more likely to:

- * Make healthier choices, like avoiding drugs and alcohol and eating right
- * Enjoy school and have better self-control and higher self-esteem

(www.afterschoolalliance.org)

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED In Person: Saturday, May 31, 2014 @ 1:00– 1:30pm
2800 E. Broadway Blvd.

Or by calling 520-881-8940 or Email: grrrls@cfraz.org



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City of Tucson Resource Directory – 792-CITY (2489), www.tucsonaz.gov

Business Licenses and Information: 791-4566, www.tucsonaz.gov/business

City Manager's Office: 791-4204

City Attorney: 791-4221

City Clerk and City Council Agendas: 791-4213, <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

City Courts Administrator: 791-4189

City Prosecutor: 791-4104

Code Enforcement: (520) 791-5843, Report violations online <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/code-enforcement>

Community Services: 791-4742

Disability Transportation and Services: 791-5409

Downtown Tucson Partnership: 837-6504

Environmental Services (Trash, Household Hazardous Waste, Brush and Bulky), 791-3171

Elections: 884-8683

Fire Department: 791-4512 Emergency: 911

Graffiti, 792-2489 – Graffiti@tucsonaz.gov

Graffiti on State Property? Call 388-4200

Housing and Community Development: 791-4171

Illegal Dumping: (520) 791-5843

Neighborhoods – Form one? Request a free rolloff? Call 791-4605

Neighborhood Watch - Police Department Community Services Officer – 837-7241

Parks and Recreation: 791-4873

Parking Tickets: 791-4216 103 E. Alameda St. Pay by phone: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/cwp/>

Planning and Development Services Director: 791-5612

Police Emergency - 911

Police (Non-Emergency), 791-4444

Pothole Reporting, Street Lights (report outages - give pole number or address by the light pole), Street Maintenance

791-3154 – tdotstreetstrafficmaint@tucsonaz.gov

Recycling, 791-5000, <http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomtucson/>

Senior Citizens Services: Pima Council on Aging – 790-7262

Sewer (Pima County), 740-6609

Small Business Enterprise Program: 791-4593

Tucson Clean and Beautiful (adopt a park or street to cleanup), 791-3109 – Jean Hickman

Voting district? Find your elected officials by entering your address <http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomtucson/>

Water Department Customer Service: 791-3242