



# PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

April 18, 2014

**WARD 2 COUNCIL OFFICE**  
**7575 E SPEEDWAY**  
**791-4687**  
**WARD2@TUCSONAZ.GOV**

## PAUL'S NOTE

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- \* Mark your calendars: Our next community Shred-It event will be **April 26th** (Note new date) See page 2
- \* Arizona Symphonic Winds starts their series of concerts in Udall Park on May 17. See page 4

My staff and I are still analyzing options for how the city can get a hold of the budget situation. I'd like to see money for Parks & Recreation preserved. We have already made some severe staffing cuts over the past couple of years. I don't understand the policy reasons for the cuts to the leisure programs given that the fees we charge pay for the instructors and materials. More importantly, I worry that the cuts will leave the parks neglected. How will our parks look in four or five years with these cuts? Remember what happened with our roads when we neglected funding for them a few years ago; now we are stuck having to borrow money to play catch up. We could end up doing the same thing for parks.

There are other places we can look for savings. Take our insurance, for example. We pay a half million dollar premium to an insurance company for settlement or claims of over \$3 million versus the city. In the past 5 years, we have never paid a claim of that amount and that our out-of-town carrier has collected

\$2.5 million. We need to cash out and hire a firm (preferably local) for a lower amount.

We spend \$2.2 million on a procurement process that recently took 20 months to buy parking meters. Is there a way to do that better and cheaper? We spent \$600,000 to auction off surplus equipment, but don't turn a profit. Again, can we do that better and cheaper?

And, again, why are we giving car allowances to upper level employees who make in excess of \$100,000 dollars? How do we explain that to the average Tucsonan who may only make a fourth of that salary? By the way, many of these executives already have access to city vehicles.

Keep letting me know your ideas.

We did have a bit of good news from the state capitol. The legislature has (at least partially) restored the highway user revenue fund. It's known as the HURF fund and is supposed to go to localities to

pay for roads. Unfortunately, the legislature "sweeps" the money and uses it for other things. The restoration of money will mean another \$1.6 million that can get spent on Tucson's roads. There will also be a share of money (we don't know exactly how much yet) that will go to Arizona's three biggest cities, which would include Tucson.

This week, TPD's East Side Division held its quarterly Division Advisory Council meeting. Among the things that they did was hand out crime statistics for our area of Tucson.

The good news is that homicide, robbery, burglary and auto theft are down on the East Side. Aggravated assaults are up by 48%, despite the fact that they are down city wide. Captain Carla Johnson reported to the group that a number of these assaults are domestic violence cases.

It's an unfortunate reminder of what goes on

## PAUL'S NOTE, CONTINUED

behind closed doors in many of our neighborhoods. First thing, don't hesitate to call 911 if you or one of your neighbors is being victimized. Also, keep in mind that Emerge Center Against Domestic Abuse has a 24 hotline, 795-4266, and they have emergency shelters.

If you want to learn more, this Saturday, the YWCA is putting on a presentation called "Keeping Our Daughters/Girls Safe From Victimhood." It will cover a variety of topics ranging from sexual harassment, bullying and domestic violence. The presentation will take place from 12:30 – 3:30 and will be at the YWCA at 525 N Bonita Ave. It will be free, but they are requesting donations.

As you know, water conservation is a passion of mine and is our most critical environmental and economic issue. Tucson is participating in the National Mayor's Water Challenge this year and is ranked among the top 10 participating cities so far. We were the number one city last year, and there is no reason we can't keep our title.

The challenge has been running since April 1, but you still have time to participate. Visit <http://www.mywaterpledge.com/campaign/national-campaign-2014/> to sign a pledge, and you can learn more about the challenge at <http://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/challenge2>.

Remember that next week will be our Shred-It event. It was originally scheduled for this Saturday, but will be next Saturday, April 26. Bring any of your material to be shredded, old bills, financial records, personal paperwork, to our parking lot from 8 am—11:30 and Shred-It will have its shredding trucks there to safely and securely destroy them for you.

The first reasonably sized box is free, but we ask that if you have any additional boxes, you bring a donation (either \$5 or an equivalent amount of non-perishable food) for the Community Food Bank.

Remember that we still have post cards at the office to send to TESLA Motors. Last week came the news that the El Paso-Las Cruces area was off the list, but we are still on it. I am still hoping that the legislature will get rid of the law that makes it hard for the company to do business here. TESLA denies that it would have anything to do with their decision, but it can't hurt.

Come by the office and fill out a card for TESLA and tell them what a wonderful community we have.

As always, thank you.

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## SHRED-IT (NOTE NEW DATE—APRIL 26)



Your Ward 2 office and Shred-It is hosting another Shred-It event on April 26. Bring any of your material to be shredded, old bills, financial records, personal paperwork, to our parking lot from 8 am—11:30 and Shred-It will have its shredding trucks there to safely and securely destroy them for you.

The first reasonably sized box is free, but we ask that if you have any additional boxes, you bring a donation (either \$5 or an equivalent amount of non-perishable food) for the Community Food Bank.

Note: This event was previously scheduled for April 19, but had to be moved. We regret any inconvenience.

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## HOUGHTON ROAD UPDATE

### **Houghton Road: Broadway Intersection improvements**

This project continues to move forward toward completion. We are hoping to wrap this up in June.

### **Houghton Road: Broadway Intersection Park & Ride**

This project should start up work in June as the intersection work begins to wrap up.

### **Houghton Road: Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street**

Utility companies are out on site working on relocating their facilities. Our contractor is helping with the plant relocations, but most of the work is being performed by the utility companies themselves. It is tight going in that area, and everyone is working hard to get their facilities in without stepping on the other utilities.

We are working to wrap up enough of the design plans to get the contractor under contract to start their work as soon as the utilities are out of the way.

### **Houghton Road: Irvington to Valencia**

As you may have noticed, the art piece is now on site. The concrete pad was poured and this week they are working on hooking up the lighting and getting the path through the art placed.

The Pima County Fair starts on April 17, so we are keeping barricading and travel restrictions to a minimum. We will have small areas blocked for the safety of landscapers that are out there installing plants, working on the reclaimed irrigation system, and generally cleaning up the weeds and preparing the site for the rock mulch and decomposed gravel that will come in and make everything look much better. The rock started coming in last week and will continue this week. We think you will like the new look once it is in.

We also want to let you know that the rubberized asphalt will start coming in on April 28. This will take a few weeks to put down, and barricading will be back up for that process. We will place temporary striping back down, instead of barricading, as the asphalt has to set up for 30 days before the final thermoplastic reflective striping and reflective pavement markings can be placed. Once this is done, this project will be complete.

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## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

The Tucson/Pima County Household Hazardous Waste Program has changed the 2nd Saturday Outreach Collection to a “mobile” event. Every month, the collection event will be in a different neighborhood so that more Tucsonans will have easy access to the program. The 1st Saturday collection at the Eastside Service Center, 7575 E Speedway, will still continue. The collections run from 8 am to noon. For more information, visit [www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/hhw) or call 888-6947

**IMPORTANT:** Do not drop off household hazardous waste at the Ward 2 Council Office. We have no way of storing it. Please wait until a scheduled monthly drop off.

1st Saturday: Eastside Service Center, 7575 E Speedway. Enter site by turning north on Prudence.

2nd Saturday: May: Mansfield Park, 2000 N 4th Avenue

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## UDALL CENTER INFORMATION

**Music from Yesteryear:** Fletcher Music Centers will host a performance of "Music from yesteryear" on Thursday, April 17, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. A light lunch will be served during the event. Sign-up at the front desk of the Carol West Senior Addition.

**Picnic:** Seniors will have an opportunity to attend a picnic at Agua Caliente park on Tuesday, April 29, 2014. Departure from the center is at 10:00 am. and return is 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$4.00 per person. Lunch will be provided.

For additional information on any of the programs listed above contact 791-4142.




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## PARKS PROGRAMS

**Leisure Classes:** The Summer 2014 Program Guide and Class Catalog has been published is available for free pick-up at all Parks and Recreation facilities, including district offices, centers, and pools. The catalog is also available for viewing on line at [www.ezeereg.com](http://www.ezeereg.com)

The catalog has complete information on leisure classes, swim lessons, summer KIDCO, aquatics, sports programs, sports camps, registration, recreation center programs, and so much more.

Use the EZEereg Registration system, either online at [www.ezeereg.com](http://www.ezeereg.com) or by phone at 573-3933.

Registration for City Residents begins Saturday, April 26 at 6:00 a.m. and for the following programs; InBetweeners, Sports Camps, Junior Staff in Training and KIDCO

Registration for Non-City Residents begins Wednesday, April 30 at 6:00 a.m. for all offerings

Please see the program guide for registration information and deadlines. Registration Services may be contacted at 791-4877 for assistance or any questions.

**Eggstravaganza:** The 15th Annual Eggstravaganza will be held at Mansfield Park on April 19 from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The annual community-wide event is free and will include family fun activities including inflatables, egg hunts and music entertainment. Attached is the event flyer with additional information.

**Arizona Symphonic Winds:** The Music in the Park concert series will take place in the Laszlo Veres Amphitheater in Udall Park (7200 E Tanque Verde Rd.) on May 17, 24, 31 and June 7. Concerts begin at 7:00 p.m. Attached is a map of Udall Park.

**Tucson POPS:** The Tucson POPS concerts will take place at the DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center in Reid Park on May 11, 18, 25 and June 1, 8 and 15. The concerts begin at 7:00 p.m.

**Farmers Market:** The Tucson Farmers Market continues at Jesse Owens Park on Fridays from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The park is located at 400 S. Sarnoff Road, between Broadway and 22nd Street. The market has a variety of fresh produce and organic foods. Come out to the park and shop around for healthy and tasty foods.

**Summer Swim Schedule:** Pools open for summer May 29 through July 30. Visit [www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec/aquatics](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec/aquatics) for pool hours or call 791-4245.

**University of Arizona Baseball:** U/A versus Arizona State Friday, April 25 at 7:00 pm, Saturday, April 26 at 7:30 pm, Sunday, April 27 at 4:30 pm; U/A versus Stanford: Friday, May 9 at 6:00 pm, Saturday, May 10 at 6:00 pm, Sunday, May 11 at 12:00 pm

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**PAUL CUNNINGHAM,  
CITY COUNCIL, WARD 2**

Eastside City Hall  
7575 E Speedway  
Tucson AZ 85710

Phone: 520 791 4687  
Fax: 520 791 5380  
E-mail: ward2@tucsonaz.gov

Tucsonaz.gov/  
ward2

Remember to like  
Paul on Facebook!

Please bring these items to the Ward 2 Office  
for the following charities:

**THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK—Non Perishable  
Items**

**DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA—  
Infant/Child/Adult Diapers**

**TIHAN - Personal Care Items for Individuals  
and Families in Need**

**LIONS CLUB—Eye Glasses**

**DANCING IN THE STREETS ARIZONA—Ballet/  
Dance Equipment**

**CASA MARIA—Plastic bags**

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## MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on Wednesday, April 23. Note that this is not on our regular Tuesday. Regular Session starts at 5:30 pm following an afternoon study session. There is always a short call to the audience before the business portion of the meeting. Council chambers are located downtown at 255 W Alameda.

The agendas for the meetings are posted online at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mcdocs>

