



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

July 18, 2014

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PAUL'S NOTE

During my four years in office I've heard from a number of you about Tucson's Modern Streetcar. There has been a lot of misinformation out there.

The most common complaint I hear is about the cost, and that the money could have been spent on other projects. Keep in mind that the money comes from two sources. One is a federal grant that can only be used for transit projects. If Tucson hadn't decided to use the money, it would have gone to another city and not saved our taxpayers anything. The second source of money was from the RTA. That money was approved by voters for this purpose years ago.

My office as well as Shirley Scott's had the opportunity to tour the Streetcar's maintenance facility last week. We invited along some neighborhood leaders as well. We didn't get to ride in one of the eight cars that have been delivered (American made, by the way), but we learned a lot

about how the system will operate.

The Streetcar was approved by voters in a county wide vote in May of 2006, the same ballot measure that created the Regional Transportation Authority. Five years later after work from our congressional delegation, the City of Tucson was awarded a \$63 million dollar federal grant under the TIGER program. TIGER grants, a part of the 2009 stimulus package, are specifically earmarked for transportation plans such as the Street Car.

Already, the project has been a shot in the arm for the community. 1200 local workers were employed during the 15 months of street car construction. The City gives a figure of \$800 million dollars in new (both public and private) investment along the four mile length of the Street Car. My friends at the Downtown Partnership have newer figures of \$980



million just in the roughly 1.2 miles of the line in Downtown. That doesn't count the investment in the Mercado, 4th Avenue, Main Gate or northern sections of the line. That investment is generating sales and property tax revenue, which will benefit the entire community.

The Streetcar debuts on July 25, and they will be offering free rides until July 27. On the 25th, there will be a ribbon cutting at five of the Streetcar stops, with the Grand Opening held at the stop on Fifth and Congress at 9 am. All of these events will be open to the public. You can find more information at <http://www.sunlinkstreetcar.com/rsvp>

Literacy Connects started here in Tucson in 2011

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- * Everything Lunar—A special program to celebrate the Apollo Moon Landing, see page 2
- * Save-A-Life classes to include low cost CPR class and pet CPR, July 19 and August 19. The classes cost \$50. To register, call Save-A-Life at 623-8484

PAUL'S NOTE, CONTINUED

after several smaller organizations merged. Since then, they have helped 50,000 people, both children and adults, learn to read.

Their work is mostly handled by volunteers, and they are in the process of recruiting now.

They are looking for 300 coaches for the Reading Seed program. The coaches are placed in schools in the Sunnyside and TUSD school districts and the next training is July 29.

They are also looking for volunteers for the Infusion Project, which works with adults and children in the Sunnyside community who need help with English, GED and basic literacy classes. There are also other opportunities to work with adults in need of GED and literacy help.

There are a number of ways to help, and I posted several of them at my council website (<http://government.tucsonaz.gov/ward-2/news/literacy-connects-needs-volunteers>). You can also visit them at <http://literacyconnects.org>

APOLLO ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE—EVERYTHING LUNAR

Sunday, July 20, marks the 45th anniversary of the Apollo 11 Moon landing. Join us to celebrate UA contributions to lunar missions and to learn about current research in preparation for the next step in space exploration: sustaining life on the Moon with a lunar greenhouse.

This is a free, family event! We'll have activities for children, exhibits about the Moon, and lectures! For more information, contact Maria Schuchardt: 520-621-4861, mariams@lpl.arizona.edu

For more information, visit <http://www.lpl.arizona.edu/july20>.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

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 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: August: El Rio Neighborhood Center, 1390 E Speedway

HOUGHTON ROAD UPDATE

Broadway Intersection Improvements

Intersection work started November 4, 2013, and was originally anticipated to be substantially complete by the end of July 2014 (actual contract ends in October, the contractor is hopeful they can come in early). Final wrap-up is expected in August 2014.

We are currently focusing on getting as much of our intersection paved as possible before the rains come. This means that we will be paving the east side of Houghton over the next few weeks. In order to help this work along the contractor will be working this Saturday. This means that the Walgreen's entrance off Houghton will be closed on July 2 and 3rd for the paving.

You may have noticed the large concrete boxes and pile of dirt on the north side of Broadway east of Houghton. These boxes are going to go underground on the south side of Broadway between the road and the Safeway shopping center. There are several washes that run through the area, and until now, water crossed over the roadway during larger rains. The water will now run underground, along and below the new roadway. When we start work in this area, we are going to shift traffic to the north side of Broadway. The road shift should start on Thursday the 26th and run through Monday the 30th. The driveways to the Safeway shopping center in this area might be closed a few hours on July 1st.

We are continuing to install the medians on Broadway west of Houghton, and in case you see us removing part of a new median, it is because it is not up to our standards and we are having the contractor re-do it to make sure we get the product we are paying for. In case you are interested, the reveal (amount of curb above finished paving) is not high enough and the grades are off. Access to the Broadway entrances to the shopping center in this area are adjusted to accommodate this work.

We encourage you to continue to patronize the local businesses, as this can be especially hard on them during construction, and as everyone adjusts to the new intersection configuration.

Water line work is completed. The new sewer installation is completed, and we continue to await final approval from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to activate the new pipe, remove the old pipe, and close up the trenches. We are assured the paperwork is making it through the process. When this is complete we can begin construction on a precast box culvert on the south side of Broadway east of Houghton.

Work on storm drains and catch basins is ongoing in areas where traffic is not traveling. We are also securing the site for upcoming monsoons. We have three more catch basins to install.

Landscape irrigation installation is ongoing, mostly at the northwest corner of the intersection at this time.

Street light pole installation is on hold pending some work by Tucson Electric Power, however we will be installing some of the foundations for the street light poles on the east side of Houghton north of Broadway.

Houghton Road: Broadway Intersection Park & Ride

We are finalizing the notice to proceed and the contractor is making arrangements to get this work underway. We estimate that over the next few weeks the contractor will be moving their field office and staging area to its new location at the Houghton and 22nd Street intersection. They are still trying to decide if it will be at the southeast or southwest corner of that intersection. It is estimated that this work will take about four months.

Houghton Road: Broadway Boulevard to 22nd Street

The Broadway to 22nd segment utility relocation is in progress, and full construction is anticipated to start in July or August. Southwest Gas is about 60% complete. TEP is 100% complete on their transmission line relocations, 70% complete on the distribution lines, and 10% complete with their underground work. CenturyLink 100% complete on placing conduit and pulling cable, and 20% complete with splicing. They are struggling to get enough splicers for the job, but are working on resolving this concern.

All barricading for utility relocations has been coordinated with our contractor, Borderland Construction, to keep traffic moving smoothly and with the least amount of confusion possible. We have asked utilities to be diligent with their dust control, and keeping their sites clean.

BACK TO SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS

The El Rio Neighborhood Center Foundation and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Tucson are offering immunizations this year. The immunizations are open to any child 5—18 as long as they have their parent or guardian. Bring your child's shot records, AHCCCS, KidsCare or insurance card. If you have no insurance, there will be no cost to you.

Dental screenings, eye exams, booster shots and information about mental health services will also be available. All services will be offered from 10 am—2 pm.

- Saturday July 19: Jim & Vicky Click Clubhouse, 1935 S Columbus Blvd
- Saturday July 26: Holmes Tuttle Clubhouse, 2585 E 36th St
- Saturday August 2: Roy Drachman Clubhouse, 5901 S Santa Clara Rd

PARKS PROGRAMS

Back to School Bash: The 14th Annual Back to School Bash will be held on Saturday, July 26, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Clements Regional Center, 8155 E Poinciana Drive. The event will include a pancake breakfast and raffle from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., displays and vendors from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and a grand prize drawing at 11:00 a.m. Free swim will also be offered at the Clements pool.

Contact the Clements Center at 791-5787 for additional information.

Fall 2014 Program Guide and Class Catalog: The Fall 2014 Program Guide and Class Catalog has been published, and is now available. The catalog will have complete information on leisure classes, KIDCO After-school, aquatics, sports programs, registration, and much more. The program guide and class catalog can be found at any of Parks and Recreation facilities, all Wendy's locations in the City, and in many of the local libraries. The program guide can also be viewed on-line at www.tucsonaz.gov/parksandrec

Residents and non-city residents may register for all leisure and Adaptive Aquatic classes by using either EZEereg on-line at www.EZEereg.com or by phone at 573-3933. See the program guide for registration information and deadlines. For questions or more information contact Registration Services at 791-4877.

Center Closures for Annual Maintenance:

William Clements Regional Center, August 4-9

Freedom Recreation Center, July 28 -30

Randolph Regional Center, August 4-9

Morris K. Udall Regional Center, August 11-16

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 for pool hours or call 791-4245.

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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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be Tuesday, August 5. 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>

