



PAUL CUNNINGHAM

WARD 2

October 27, 2017

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PAUL'S NOTE

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I'll be hosting an informational meeting here at the Ward 2 office next Wednesday, November 1st featuring Mindy Blake, spokesperson for the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA). The meeting is scheduled for 5 pm.

The RTA funds its projects through a half-cent sales tax approved by voters county-wide in 2006. The money raised by that tax is used by the RTA for designated road projects. The ballot language covered both the tax and a list of projects.

The projects were, for the most part, widenings to major corridors. However, it was not just for the streets themselves. The projects include pedestrian improvements, new Park and Rides, bike lanes and extended bus hours. In a couple of corridors where animals were causing hazards for motorists, the RTA funded wildlife crossings.

Judging from the calls to

my office, it can be confusing and frustrating for people who see a pool of money for RTA projects (\$2.1 billion over the 20 year life of the RTA) but still see numerous maintenance issues and other transportation-related issues that the money can't be used for, such as potholes and broken sidewalks.

The projects have to come from the list in the original ballot language. When they were selected, they had to be new road projects, not maintenance projects. That's why, for example, East Broadway up to Camino Seco was a city project (it was considered "maintenance") but the two miles further east was put on for RTA because that road is in such bad condition that it needs a complete re-scope.

By the way, my staff talked to the project manager on that one this week and you should

start to see long delayed utility work start next month. Roadbuilding work should start early next year. The result will be a new 4 lane road with improved drainage, wide sidewalks and LED lighting. I'll keep all of you up to date, or you can go to broadwayeast.info.

In addition to Broadway East, both the Sabino Canyon/Kolb Road extension and the Houghton Road project, which is still ongoing, are RTA projects in Ward 2. Improvements to East 22nd Street are also scheduled.

Keep in mind that the RTA is different than the Proposition 101 tax that Tucson voters just passed. That tax goes into road maintenance and improvements, including neighborhood improvements. That money is administered by a citizens' committee. If you want to be on the list for neighborhood

PAUL'S NOTE, CONTINUED

improvements, please contact my office and I can get you in touch with the board.

The sales tax is set to expire in June 2026. There has been talk about getting it reauthorized and having a more robust public process to get projects on the list that's presented to voters. There are also those who would like to see some money set aside for maintenance and transit projects. Our community still has a lot of time to decide how we'll move forward.

I hope to see all of you next Wednesday. If you have any questions on regional transportation issues, I encourage you to come.

Cyclovia This Weekend!

And speaking of transportation, there's another Cyclovia this weekend. Cyclovia has become a Tucson tradition. A couple of times a year, a section of one of our streets is closed to motorized traffic and we are all encouraged to bike, walk, run, skateboard or whatever you can think of.

Cyclovia en la Doce is this weekend, and, appropriately enough, it will be on Twelfth Avenue. The route starts at Julian Wash (just south of where I-19 and I-10 converge) and heads South to Mission Manor Park.

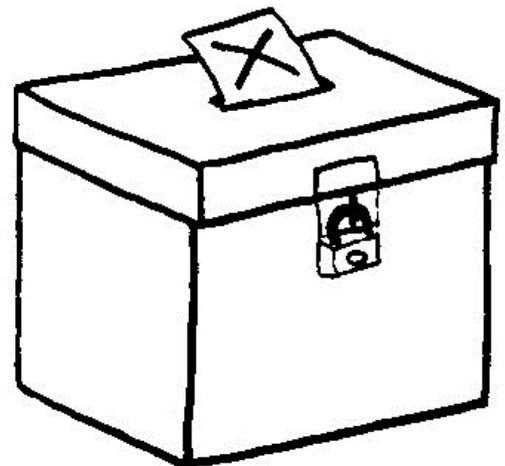
Activities along the route include music from several local Mariachi groups as well as Tucson Latin-fusion favorites Santa Pachita. There are also information booths from local medical institutions, bicycle groups and other community organizations. And food...lots of food from some of our nationally recognized Mexican restaurants.

ELECTION INFORMATION

Ballots were mailed this week. Eastsiders can vote in person at the Pima County Recorder's Office, 6920 E Broadway, Suite D from now through November 7.

Those of you mailing your ballot should do so by Wednesday, November 1 to ensure that it gets processed.

For more information, call the City Clerk at 791-4213.



PASSPORT FAIR

The Western Passport Center in Tucson is conducting its annual Passport Fair on Saturday, October 28th 2017 and the public is invited!

The Western Passport Center is located at 7373 E Rosewood Street, near Kolb and Speedway.

On Passport Day only, no appointment is needed and the expedite fee for will only be charged at the Western Passport Center if the passport is needed within three weeks; all other fees will apply.

Learn more at Travel.State.Gov.

BOO AT THE ZOO

Join your Reid Park Zoo October 27th, 28th and 29th for a Bigger, Better, Boo at the Zoo, presented by Carondelet Medical Group!

Visit the Zoo for some spooktacular fun! At this new, expanded event you will meet your favorite pirates, superheroes, princesses and wizards inspired by great books and movies. While you stroll through the Zoo, children will play old fashioned games and activities and listen to music in Rancho Sahuarita's Fall Festival area, and explore a western skele-town at a pace that works for your family. New this year is a Scary Loop at the Conservation Learning Center (suggested for children 12 and older). Event sponsors will have treats sure to please the whole family. "Scare"ousel will be open for rides for an additional fee. Cafe will be open as well as food stations in Fall Festival and "Skele"town. You can also visit "theme zones" like the Goulsh Graveyard and Pirates of the "Scare"ibbean.



The fun starts at 6:00 p.m. with early admission at 5:30 p.m. for Zoo Members. The event ends at 8:30 p.m. so arrive before 8 p.m. to make sure you get to see everything!

Ticket Prices are \$10 for Non-Members, \$8 for Zoo Members. Children under two years of age are free.

CAROL WEST SENIOR CENTER

Freedom Center Halloween Party: There will be a Halloween Party at Freedom Center Tuesday, October 31, 2017 1-4pm \$3.00 per person, cash only There will be music, dancing, finger foods and drinks.

The Carol West Senior Addition at Udall features multipurpose rooms, lounge area with TV, computer adult learning center and pool tables. It is open 6 am—8 pm Monday thru Friday and Saturday 8 am—4 pm. For more information, call 791—4121

PARKS PROGRAMS

Holiday Arts & Craft Fair Registration: Vendor registration is open for the Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair in Reid Park. The fair is scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend- Saturday and Sunday, November 25-26, 2017 from 9 am to 4 pm. For more information, visit tucsonaz.gov/parks or contact Susan Orrico, Event Coordinator, 791-4877. Attached is an event flier.

Swim Fall Schedule: The swim fall schedule began on August 3rd. For additional information: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/parks/pools-and-splash-pads>

Fall Leisure Classes: Session two of classes will run October 29 through December 16. Visit EZEereg.com for details.

Call 791-4877 for more information or questions.

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Tucsonaz.gov/
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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

**SR. JOSE WOMEN'S SHELTER—Summer items
and clothing, athletic shoes, back packs, tote**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

The next Mayor and Council meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 21**. 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>

