



City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

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August 2013

Dear Friends:

A lot took place during this past month, but I want to begin with the great news from the Sunnyside Girls Softball Team and their championship at the Softball Little League World Series.

It was great to see the Sunnyside Little League Girls team win the 2013 Little League World Series with two convincing shutout victories.



These young ladies come together as a team, to get to the World Series, then rebounded after dropping the first game to win their last two, by the margins of 10 – 0 and 9 – 0.

The girls came from Sierra Middle School (Jazmine Ayala and Alejandra Tapia), Challenger Middle School (Yanira Acuna, Arlett Areolla, Alyssa Ortiz, Danitza Aguirre, Alexis Anderson, Destyne Payan, Angel Salas and Lauffer Middle School (Anacely Gutierrez, Viviana Orantez, Jaylen Marquez).

Rene Ayala is the Head Coach and a graduate of Sunnyside High School, the assistant coach is Sam Gutierrez, a Desert View High School graduate and the manager is Manuel Tapia.

This was the first ever Little League Softball World Series for the Sunnyside Girls team, and as well as for Tucson.

Our community came together to celebrate and welcome the girls and coaches back from Portland.

Mary Davis and Bonnie Allin from the Tucson Airport organized a terrific welcome back event. The Sunnyside School District came together to organize a celebration at the airport and at Mission Manor Park.

I want to congratulate them on a fantastic season. They made the City of Tucson shine. I wish them well in their future endeavors, both academically and athletically.

Your Councilmember.

Ward 5 News

Postal Reform Update

The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, chaired by Rep. Issa, approved, 22-17, the Postal Service Reform legislation (H.R. 2748).

Among a number of provisions, this bill would allow an immediate change to five-day-per-week delivery of letters, with the caveat that there be no more than two consecutive days without mail delivery, including federal holidays. It would require the Postal Service to continue delivery of profitable products, which include packages, six days a week through the end of 2018. It also would require the Postal Service to move from door-to-door delivery of mail, which less than a third of customers receive today, to cluster mailboxes and curbside delivery. Customers would be able to pay a fee to maintain their to-the-door delivery, and the Postal Service could provide waivers to those with physical hardships. The Postal Service would have to convert 30 million addresses within 10 years.



According to Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Chairman Tom Carper's (D-DE) website, he and Tom Coburn (R-OK) have released their draft of a bipartisan Postal Reform Act of 2013 (S.1486). For more information, please see: <http://www.carper.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/sen-carper-on-postal-reform>

This Senate bill would change the formula used to determine how much the USPS must pay into the pension and retiree health-care systems; place a two-year moratorium on standard service changes and plant closings; lift the prohibition against shipping alcohol; and bring compensation levels of older postal employees in line with their retirement benefits.

Connect2Compete

Cox Communications has made crossing the digital divide easier with the launch of Connect2Compete internet. Cox Communications has partnered with Connect2Compete and Sunnyside Unified School District to offer discounted Internet service to families with children who qualify for the National Free School Lunch program. Cox is offering its Starter Cox High Speed Internet service to eligible families for \$9.95 per month for two years, including free installation and modem rental fees.



“Cox has a legacy of reaching into the communities that we serve and partnering to address important issues. By giving students the access to technology we are removing barriers that will open up the world to them,” said Lisa Lovallo, Market Vice President, Cox Communications Southern Arizona.

It's the Way to Fly!

At the August 6th Mayor and Council meeting, Mary Davis, Senior Director of Business Development and Marketing for the Tucson Airport Authority (TAA) provided an update on their activities.

The TAA is a nonprofit entity that was created in 1948 by State Charter and currently oversees the activi-

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ties of Tucson International Airport and Ryan Airfield. TAA consists of 115 community members with a 9-member Board of Directors. In total, it is estimated that the activities of TAA result in an annual financial impact of \$3.2 billion to our local community, supporting nearly 35,000 jobs.

In 2012 alone, the Tucson International Airport (TIA) provided 14 nonstop destinations, 58 daily departures, and on average filled 41,700 passenger seats per week. Although there has been a decline in the number of destinations, departures and passengers traveling since 2007, efforts are being made by TAA to improve customer satisfaction as well as increase the number of passengers flying out of TIA.

Currently, TAA is working to expand air service development with Mexico and other U.S. and Canadian destinations and will be implementing a community survey to obtain feedback about their services and flight offerings. TAA is also exploring options to resolve challenges that surround nonstop service to the east coast.

Support Tucson business, fly local!

Quick Facts:

Tucson International Airport

- 8,300 acres
- 3.6 million passengers in 2012
- 55 daily departures
- Served by the top 5 U.S. Airlines
- Fly worldwide with one stop
- More than 100 businesses

Ryan Airfield

- 1,800 acres
- General Aviation airport located 12 miles west of TIA
- 117,000 aircraft operations in 2012
- Over 300 based aircrafts and 20 businesses



City News

Economic Initiatives Office Update

Since February 2013, the Economic Initiatives Office has been focused on delivering the Mayor and Council's message of the importance of trade with Mexico. The Office has established relationships in Tucson and in Mexico with individuals who will be instrumental in making progress in the City's international trade efforts. During this time, an analysis of Tucson's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats as an international trade hub has been conducted resulting in the identification of the following priorities: 1) attract foreign direct investment, 2) promote local exports, 3) attract suppliers to Tucson, and 4) develop foreign relations.



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In order to accomplish these priorities, Mr. Francisco Padrés, International Trade Specialist, has been active in meeting with Mexican counterparts of municipal and state governments, particularly in Sonora and Sinaloa. These meetings have been important in cultivating a strong working relationship with the end goal of attracting businesses to Tucson. In an effort to attract suppliers to Tucson, Mr. Padrés has begun to reach out to industrial parks that house maquiladoras to identify how Tucson can be incorporated into the maquiladora supply chain. He is currently identifying the proper channels necessary to strategically reach out to the various companies.

The Economic Initiatives Office was established in the summer of 2012 to accomplish the following priorities that were established for the City of Tucson's economic development efforts based on Mayor and Council direction:

- ⇒ Recruitment, Retention and Expansion – Assist existing Tucson firms in continuing to thrive and expand and attract firms that bring primary jobs to Tucson.
- ⇒ International Trade – Expand our international trade efforts, especially with Mexico.
- ⇒ Entrepreneurship – Facilitate the creation of new firms through technology transfer, working with University of Arizona and other entrepreneurship efforts.
- ⇒ Investment in Key Commercial Areas – Encourage investment and revitalization of Tucson's key commercial areas/corridors, in all areas including downtown, through incentives and infrastructure improvements.
- ⇒ Annexation - Grow the City's economic base and increase the amount of revenue available for public investment through annexation.

Primary Jobs Incentive Program

The Primary Jobs Incentive Program aims to increase the wealth in our community by bringing in new dollars that raise the average wage of Tucsonans. The term "primary jobs" refers to jobs that produce goods or services in excess of what can be consumed by the local market (i.e., the goods or services are exported out of Tucson). Exporting goods or services out of our community brings new dollars into our community, thereby increasing the wealth in Tucson. This is different from retail jobs that, while important, circulate dollars from within our community.



The goal of the Primary Jobs Incentive Program is to raise Tucson's average wage relative to other metropolitan areas so that Tucsonans are better able to afford goods and services. When a new job is created that has a wage higher than our current average, our average is increased. As mentioned, average annual pay for the Tucson Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA) is \$41,918, while the average pay in Arizona is \$45,595, and the national figure is \$49,289 (figures from the Economic and Business Research Center at the UA's Eller College).

The Mayor and Council have established over twenty tools, incentives, and process changes that provide financial benefit, regulatory relief, and streamlined development review for business and property owners. On August 9, 2011, Mayor and Council adopted the Primary Jobs Incentive Program in support of economic development in the City of Tucson. The program seeks to create new primary non-retail, high wage jobs. Under this incentive, 100% of City building permit fees may be waived and the City may credit the 2% construction sales tax to the project to cover eligible expenditures, which include the costs of public infrastructure improvements associated with the project, job training, and/or offsets to impact fees. Currently, in order for an employer to qualify for the Primary Jobs Incentive Program, they must meet the following criteria and thresholds:

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Employer invests at least \$5 million in new or expanded facilities within City limits;
 Employer creates a minimum of 25 new, primary, non-retail jobs that pay average wages of at least 150% of average annual pay for the Tucson MSA (currently this would establish a pay threshold of \$62,877), and at least 51% of all local company employees must earn at least this wage;
 Employer must pay 75% of each employee's healthcare costs.

City LED Lighting Retrofits

LED retrofits on City facilities are under the purview of the City's Energy Manager who works out of the General Services Department's (GSD) Architecture and Engineering Division (A&E). The City of Tucson recognizes that while retrofitting with light emitting diodes (LED) is an expensive undertaking, it ultimately reduces energy usage which saves citizen's tax dollars.

Timeline of LED Activities:

- Mayor and Council adopted the Sustainable Energy Standard on July 6, 1998 and the Updated Green Building Policy on April 18, 2006. This action requires all construction of new City facilities or remodels greater than 5,000 square feet either reduce energy use by 50% or meet the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification. Since then, new construction projects (e.g., Fire Station #22, Martin Luther King Apartments, Zoo School, Fire Central, TPD's Crime Lab, and Tucson Water's Satellite Facility) have all utilized LED lights in different applications to meet the energy and LEED requirements.
- In 1999, 2000 and 2001, all City red and green traffic signals were converted to LED. Currently, all traffic signals are LED.
- In 2010, \$200,000 in Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant (EECBG) funds were used to retrofit the 86 lights in the Thomas O. Price Service Center (TOPSC) parking lot with LED, saving approximately \$16,000 each year in energy costs.
- In 2010, \$424,000 in EECBG funding was used to retrofit 850 street lights in six ward neighborhoods with LED fixtures saving an estimated \$33,000 each year.



Since 2010, additional LED lighting retrofits have not been pursued due to the lack of funding, a long pay-back period, and evolving technology. However, GSD has researched the potential of a city-wide energy performance contract that could leverage dollars for guaranteed energy and water savings using a Sustainable Energy Financing Program model which has been successful in Delaware and California.

Immigrant Welcoming City

As an Immigrant Welcoming City, the City of Tucson has now established a web portal with a centralized resource directory for immigrants in the community. The directory consolidates resources and services that are available to immigrants from all backgrounds in one accessible place. The Immigrant Resource Center is at <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/welcometucson>

The web portal includes links to child care, civic engagement, consumer services, educational institutions, government agencies, health services and recreation. The Mayor and Council voted to support establishing the City of Tucson as an Immigrant Welcoming City in August 2012.

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“Recognizing Tucson as an Immigrant Welcoming City demonstrates the pledge by city leaders to establish a city that values the contributions of all residents, regardless of background,” said Vice-Mayor Regina Romero. “Our city’s identity is built upon its promise of equality, esteem for diversity, and commitment to innovation. Tucson shares influences of Spanish, Mexican, European, and indigenous cultures which come together to make our city unique.”



Said Mayor Jonathan Rothschild: “Tucson is a city with roots in many cultures. That diversity adds to our strength and it helps us not fear change even as we celebrate our traditions.”

For more information on the City of Tucson’s new Immigrant Resource Web Portal, call 791-4593 or tucsonimmigrant@tucsonaz.gov

City of Tucson Cleared to Increase Solar Usage

The City of Tucson will now be able to increase its usage of solar energy following the Arizona Corporation Commission’s (ACC) approval last week of the City of Tucson’s Community Solar Agreement with Tucson Electric Power (TEP). This follows the Mayor and Council reviewing and approving the agreement in March 2013.



Under Mayor and Council direction, the City of Tucson has been a leader in the promotion and use of solar energy for over 15 years, resulting in a current capacity of 4.7 megawatts (MW) on City facilities. The Bright Tucson Community Solar Rider Agreement offers a way to increase the City’s solar usage by up to an additional 10 MW. It also offers the City protection from future electric base power supply charge increases for 20 years, resulting in avoided utility costs ranging from an estimated \$800,000 (without inflation) to \$2.9 million (with inflation).

Key provisions of this Community Solar Agreement include the following:

- The City can purchase solar power at a premium of 1 cent per kilowatt hour (kWh) over a 20-year term.
- The Base Power Supply rate is locked in at a weighted rate (versus summer and winter rates).
- Participants in the program have no up-front expenses or equipment maintenance costs, protection against future energy cost increases and are exempt from paying surcharges on renewable energy, fuel and purchased power.
- Excludes any demand charges, delivery services, ACC assessments, and taxes.
- The City may purchase from 1 to 10 megawatts (MW) of solar generating capacity.
- Termination for convenience will require the City to pay an early termination fee equal to the sum of the avoided REST surcharges plus any net difference in Base Power Supply and PPFAC charges calculated since the Effective Date.
- The City will strategically subscribe only 50 percent of any account load to give ourselves flexibility to move that subscription based on future conservation, solar, sale, or property loss.

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TEP's Bright Tucson Community Solar program is available to most customers of Tucson Electric Power. For information, visit tep.com.

Tucson is Tops for Fleet Services

From the squad cars that respond to our calls, to the trucks that collect our trash, the front line employees that keep these vehicles on the road take pride in the jobs they perform. For its outstanding performance, the City's Fleet Services Division earned special recognition this year from Government Fleet Magazine. The Top 100 Best Fleets Award taps into the heart of the City's mission to provide quality services to all of the citizens of Tucson. The awards program recognizes peak-performing public sector fleet operations in North America, and encourages ever-increasing levels of performance improvement within the fleet service industry.



Ward 5 Announcements

City of Tucson Ballot Initiatives

Proposition 401 - The City Council will be asking voters to approve a \$50 million increase to what it can spend in a given year. Voters will decide whether city can lift state spending cap : The request won't raise taxes or bring in any other new revenues, but it will authorize the city to spend an extra \$50 million each year, if it can find the money.

Plan Tucson - The Mayor and Council unanimously adopted Plan Tucson, the City of Tucson General and Sustainability Plan 2013, which will effectively refer the plan to the November 5, 2013 ballot. If approved by voters in November, Plan Tucson will become the City of Tucson's new General Plan. Plan Tucson is the City's proposed replacement to the current General Plan approved by voters in 2001. Arizona State Law requires municipalities to adopt a new or existing plan once every 10 years

Selection of New PAG Director

In a special meeting on Aug. 2, Farhad Moghimi was selected by the PAG Regional Council to lead the Pima Association of Government, pending contract approval by the Regional Council most likely at their next meeting scheduled for Sept. 25.

Mr. Moghimi was the former Assistant Town Manager for the Town of Sahuarita and previously was the Town's Director of Public Works. He also has worked in private consulting and for the Town of Marana. He currently chairs the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Technical Management Committee's Policy Subcommittee and is Vice Chair of PAG's Transportation Planning Committee.



7th Annual Gathering of American Indian Veterans

Mark your calendars for the 7th Annual Gathering of American Indian Veterans taking place on Sunday, September 22, 2013 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Casino Del Sol Conference Center, at 5655 W. Valencia Road in Tucson, Arizona. This is a day of activities and services for American Indian Veterans, their families, and their friends. This annual event has been organized by the coalition for American Indian Veterans of Southern Arizona since 2007. Members of the Coalition include representatives from Indian Health Services, the Tucson Indian Center, and the Southern Arizona VA Health Care System.

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Although American Indians make up only 4% of the U.S. population, 20% of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations are serving or have served in the U.S. Military, the highest percentage of any ethnic group. Traditionally these Veterans do not make application for benefits that they are entitled to receive. As President Barack Obama has said, "Since the birth of America, (American Indians and Alaska Natives) have contributed immeasurably to our country and our heritage...they have also served in the United States Armed Forces with honor and distinction, defending the security of our Nation with their lives." "It is our mission to ensure that all Veterans, including American Indian Veterans, are aware of their benefits and that they receive these benefits with honor and dignity."



This "Gathering" provides a "one-stop shop" to the AI/AN Veterans throughout Arizona, and an opportunity to learn about the many benefits and services to which they are entitled including employment assistance, Veterans Court, health screenings, on site enrollment for VA health care, wellness education, activities for children, entertainment, food, and fun! The event ends with a special honoring and coin presentation to all Veterans in attendance.

This Event is made possible each year thanks to donations from organizations that include Casino Del Sol (Pascua Yaqui), Desert Diamond Casino (Tohono O'odham Nation), Military Order of the Purple Heart, American Legion Auxiliary, National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and countless community businesses that give generously as a means of giving back to those who have given so much to this country. All Veterans and their families are welcome. For more information on the "Gathering" itself or on how you can support this important event, please contact Phyllis Spears at (520) 629-4960. Vendors interested in participating should contact Michael Spotted Wolf at (520) 884-7131.

Veterans Celebration Day Event

SAVAHCS will be hosting and joining the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA); VA Regional Office; VA Vet Center; Wounded Warrior Program; State and local Veteran service organizations for the 7th Annual "2013 Veterans Celebration Day Event." The event will be held Saturday - November 9, 2013 from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m. at the VA Medical Center (Sports Park) at 3601 South Sixth Avenue, Tucson, Arizona (take the Sixth Avenue gate to parking lot "Q").

This event will allow the VA to join together with the Tucson community to provide information and resources to all Veterans, Service members and their families. The SAVAHCS invites all Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND) combat Veterans, Active duty military, Reserve, National Guard personnel and their families, and all Veterans in Arizona to come out and get valuable information on their benefits and also bring their family out to enjoy the afternoon.



This event will also host a wide range of family activities and live entertainment throughout the day. Snacks will be provided for all registered attendees. For further information call Mike Ramsey at (520) 792-1450 ext. 6261. Media wishing to cover the event are asked to contact Pepe' Mendoza, SAVAHCS, PA Office at (520) 629-1819.

Ward 5 Announcements

Resource Fair
 Success stories
 Panels
 Presentations from leading experts

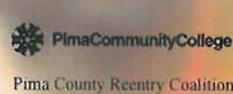
Second Chance

SUCCESSFUL STRATEGIES *for*
 COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION

A *FREE* community-wide conference focused on overcoming challenges from prior convictions

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH, 11:30 AM - 6:00 PM

Pima Community College, West Campus *at* 2202 W. Anklam Road
 Gym, Building B, Northwest part of campus



For more information call Karla Avalos-Soto *with the* Office of Mayor Jonathan Rothschild *at* (520) 791-4201

Ward 5 Announcements

SHRED-A-THON

Saturday, September 7, 2013
8:00 am - 11:00 am
The Ward 5 Council Office
4300 S. Park Ave.



- ✓ 1st box is free!
- ✓ 2nd box is only \$5 or 3 non-perishable canned goods.



All donations to benefit the
Community Food Bank



Hosted by Ward 5 Councilmember
Richard G. Fimbres

520.791.4231 Ward5@tucsonaz.gov

Congratulations and Thank You!

Fred G. Acosta Job Corps Graduation

On August 23rd, Fred G. Acosta Job Corps held their Class of 2013 Graduation Celebration. Congratulations to all of the students who graduated! Special congratulations to students Jeffrey Espinosa, Natalie Grandados, Stacey A. Boatman and Sarah V. Odiaga who all served as interns with the Ward 5 Council Office. You have made us very proud and we look to seeing great things from you in future. May you go on to achieve all of your academic and personal goals!

Congratulations Sunnyside Girls Softball Team!



Frequently Used Phone Numbers

Emergency Services

Tucson Police Department or Tucson Fire Department
DIAL 911

Permits

Planning and Development Services Department
791-5550

Housing Assistance

City of Tucson Community Services Department
791-4739

Tucson Convention Center

791-4101

Code Enforcement & Graffiti Removal

792-CITY (2489)

Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services

City of Tucson Environmental Services Department
791-3171

Transportation & Street Maintenance

Tucson Department of Transportation
791-3154

Tucson Water Department

Billing - 791-3242
Public Information - 791-4331

ParkWise

791-5071

Pima Animal Care

243-5900



Community Food Bank

**Help those who are in need.
Give to the Community Food Bank.
For more information call: 520-622-0525**

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and include the word unsubscribe in subject line.

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