



# City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

August 2020

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Councilmember  
Ward 5

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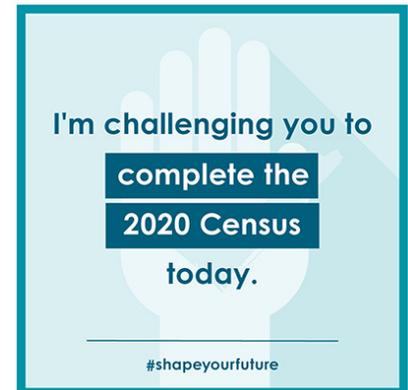
## IN THIS ISSUE:

Councilmember Fimbres Letter  
JTED Opening  
Being A Good Neighbor  
City of Tucson Offering Rental  
& Utility Assistance  
Kidz Expo A Success  
Receive & Return Your Ballot  
By Mail On Time  
Tucson Water Low Income  
Assistance Program  
Other Assistance Available  
COVID-19 Update  
Welcome Captain Prieto!  
Ward 5 Updates  
TEP Prepares For Removal of  
Coal Facilities In September  
PCOA Grocery Shopping  
Program Announced

Dear Friends:

The challenge has come once again to respond to the Census questionnaire.

The Census is the decennial process mandated by the United States Constitution, that is designed to count every person currently living in the United States. It is incumbent upon all of us to complete this questionnaire as promptly as possible. **We now have only until September 30, 2020 to complete the Census.** Doing so will ensure that the \$675 billion per year in federal funds are allocated appropriately to better serve us, and our communities.



The federal funds that are allocated, go to our schools, hospitals, public works programs and our roads. These funds are vital for programs and services that ensure that our communities thrive and prosper for our benefit.

**We need your help, please complete the Census form before September 30, 2020.**

On the national scale, the results from the Census are used to adjust or redraw electoral districts in order to reflect the increase or decrease of a population of an area. Such adjustments, determines how many seats each State gets in Congress, thus affecting our representation. In addition to Congressional representation, State and local officials use the Census counts to draw boundaries for our state legislature and school districts.

It is up to all of us to make sure our voices are heard and accounted for. Rest assured, by law, none of your identifying information can be revealed.

Be Safe, Stay Healthy and Wear a Mask.

Richard G. Fimbres  
Councilmember - Ward 5

### JTED's New Campus is Now Open

Pima JTED's dream to build a high-tech campus to bring its signature Career and Technical Education programs to a greater number of students, particularly those living on the Southwest side, is now a reality.

The project went from concept to completion in a little over a year thanks to Councilmember Fimbres working on many fronts, including quickly arranging neighborhood meetings in the Spring of 2019. He helped fast track getting the project to the City Manager and Council for approval, and was instrumental in working with utilities such as Tucson Water.

Pima JTED received the keys to the 50,000 square-foot Pima JTED Innovative Learning Center At The Bridges campus at South Park Avenue and I-10.



JKaiser Workspaces has installed modern furnishings for classrooms and accompanying maker spaces. These will house programs such as; Air Transportation/FAA Drone Operator, Engineering Aerospace and Mining Technology, and 3D Animation/Virtual Reality and Game Design. In addition to Registered Medical Assistant, and the Licensed Nursing Assistant/Personal Assistant Caregiver/Home Health Aide programs, JTED's new Comprehensive Health Care Technician program enables students to earn certifications to work immediately as a Phlebotomy Technician, EKG Technician, and Electronic Health Records Technician. A spacious laboratory houses the Cybersecurity and Artificial Intelligence program, which allows students to earn CompTIAA+ certifications for direct employment. Students in the Culinary and Nutritional Arts program will work with a professional chef in an industrial kitchen with amenities including a vertical herb garden. The campus is operating at a reduced capacity until Pima County Health Officials determine it is safe for students to return to in-person classes.

"We are grateful that every step went so smoothly. The collaboration and cooperation among all parties, and Councilmember Fimbres' determination to make this happen, is a testament that local residents have long desired and deserve a campus like this for the community." said Pima JTED Superintendent Kathy Prather. "We've hired a talented group of teachers who have a wealth of teaching and relevant industry experience who are going to make the JTED Innovative Learning Center an exceptional place for students to achieve their career goals."



**Being a Good Neighbor**

With the COVID-19 pandemic, another school semester has started. The school zone 15 miles per hour signs are out in the morning and afternoon, with crossing guards helping students cross our streets to get to our schools. The University of Arizona and Pima College are starting their spring semesters and college students are moving into the dorms and houses in our neighborhoods. My office has gathered information, to inform everyone who may not know about: Some of the rules about parking; dates of times for trash pick up; dates for upcoming Brush and Bulky pickup; noise levels and what to do about loud parties.

**Parking:** Parking your vehicle is a permitted use on any portion of a property provided the vehicles do not block City right-of-way (sidewalks, alleys). Also, when you park your car, please don't block access to your neighbor's mailbox or driveway. If you are intending to have an event, be courteous and let your neighbors know about the event and when parking will be available on the street. Please ensure all vehicles have current registration and are operable.

**About your trash:** To reduce flies and odor, please bag and securely tie all your trash and do not over fill containers. Never place hot ash or coals, or other burning materials in containers. Yard waste may be disposed of, as long as it fits within the container with the lid closed. Don't leave your containers out past your pick up date. Please return it to the space you have it in your yard. For any damaged trash containers, contact Environmental Services at (520) 791-3171. To find out your trash pick up date, either call Environmental Services at (520) 791-3171 or go online to [maps2.tucsonaz.gov/zoomtucson/](https://maps2.tucsonaz.gov/zoomtucson/).

Please have your trash and recycle containers out to the street and on those days, please try not to block mail boxes and driveways. Residential recycling is collected every other week. To check your schedule, go to [www.tucsonaz.gov/es/residential-recycling](https://www.tucsonaz.gov/es/residential-recycling) and type in your address or use the Recycle Coach app to view your schedule, set up reminders, or submit a service request.

**Brush and Bulky:** Environmental Services offers Brush and Bulky twice a year. Environmental Services will pick up 10 cubic yards of materials with the following guidelines: They will take brush, cacti (must be contained), lumber up to five feet, scrap metal, piping up to five feet, appliances, refrigerator and freezers with doors removed, automobile tires (limit five), and home furnishings.

Environmental Services will not collect: Dirt, stone, concrete, gravel, glass, household hazardous waste (i.e. paint, oil, pesticides and liquids).

To find out your Brush and Bulky pick up date, either call Environmental Services at (520) 791-3171 or go online to [maps2.tucsonaz.gov/zoomtucson/](https://maps2.tucsonaz.gov/zoomtucson/).



**TIPS TO BEING A  
GOOD NEIGHBOR**

**Cleaning up after your dog:** It doesn't take much to remember that we have pets in our community. In fact, if you don't watch your step, you are liable to step in one such reminder! Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community and other pets. One of the most common forms of disease transmission between dogs is through fecal matter.

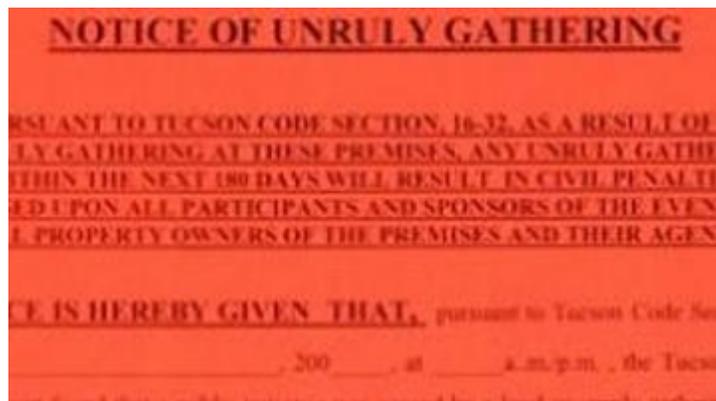
When walking your dog out in our community, remember that it should be leashed. Also, it is important to remember to immediately clean up after your pet. Take along a baggie with you to pick up waste with and then dispose of it properly. Tucson Code Chapter 4-102 says that it shall be unlawful for the owner or person having custody of any dog to fail immediately to move and dispose of in a sanitary manner any solid waste deposited by such dog on public property or deposited on private property without the consent of the person in control of the property. This section shall not apply to blind persons, persons with mobility disabilities, or police officers or other law enforcement officers accompanied by police dogs while on emergency.



By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beautification of our community, but also towards the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in our community.

**Loud Parties and Red Tags:** With the start of a semester come loud parties. Although I understand student excitement about the school year, there are codes that are in place and must be followed.

A loud party or unruly gathering can result in a red tag, which has several consequences. If red tagged, a visible "red tag" will be placed in street view, notifying the neighborhood of the issuance. The red tag comes with a fine and if a college student is involved, a report to the Dean of Students of the respective school.



**The "red tag" states that if another unruly gathering occurs within 180 days that fines will be given in amounts of \$500-\$1500.**

As a part of our Police Chief's community policing approach more officers have been put into patrol functions. This means more visible TPD presence. TPD is also partnering with UAPD so that responses to loud parties are consistent between both departments.

The collaboration will mean greater information sharing and consistency in handling these types of calls. It is important to call in loud parties, don't assume others are doing so. If it isn't reported, we can't adequately address the situation.

The Tucson Police Department will respond to any gathering of a loud and unruly nature. A loud and unruly gathering is any gathering of five or more persons who disturb the peace of their neighbors through excessive noise, littering, obstruction of public streets, drinking in public, minors consuming or being served alcohol, fighting, excessive traffic, or similar conduct. The existing noise ordinance, Section 16-31, remains in effect and the "Unruly Gatherings," Section 16-32, provides additional violations for loud or unruly conduct.

For Section 16-32 to apply, the following criteria must exist:

- \* complainant (the ordinance may be enforced even if the complainant is a refused complainant)
- \* there must be a gathering of five (5) or more persons,
- \* it must be on private property (this also applies to businesses such as bars)
- \* the gathering must cause a disturbance as a result of conduct described above

The practice of social distancing and wearing masks, as well as washing hands have been strongly advised during this COVID-19 pandemic by the Pima County Board of Supervisors, the Pima County Health Department and Tucson Mayor. Be safe and be healthy, and also wash your hands.

The following numbers are meant to be tools for our University neighbors if there should be an issue with loud parties (520 area code): TPD Red Tag: 837-7318, UAPD Non-Emergency: 621-8273, UA Neighborhood Hotline: 282-3649, UA Dean of Students: 621-7057, Pima College Police – West Campus: 206-6643, Pima College Police - Downtown Campus: 206-7087, Pima College Police - East Campus: 206-7652, Pima College Police - Desert Vista Campus: 206-5052, Pima College Police - Northwest Campus: 206-2286.

#### **CITY OFFERING RENT/UTILITY ASSISTANCE**

The Mayor and Tucson City Council have allocated more than \$4.5 million of Federal CARES Act dollars to fund an emergency rent and utility assistance program for City of Tucson residents struggling to pay rent or utilities due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City's Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department has partnered with several agencies to administer this program including Primavera, Interfaith Community Services, Catholic Community Services, and International Rescue Committee.

Program details and requirements include:

Household applicants requesting assistance must be City of Tucson residents and financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. A household may be assisted once for up to three months of late or upcoming rent or utility obligations incurred after March 1, 2020. One application will be accepted per household for up to \$2,500 of rental and utility assistance. Applicants will need to provide a copy of identification, copies of bills, and income and household information.

**NEED HELP PAYING RENT OR UTILITIES DUE TO COVID-19?**

Apply for assistance:  
[www.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/rent-help](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/rent-help)

WE ARE ONE SOMOS UNO | CITY OF TUCSON | Federal CARES Act Funds

Eligibility is limited to households making up to \$68,400. An agency representative will contact applicants within five days of application submittal for a phone interview and may ask them for additional information.

If approved, the financial assistance will be sent directly to the applicants' landlord or utility company. Submitting an application does not guarantee assistance. Applications are open online and households are encouraged to apply as soon as possible, as funds are limited. To apply online, visit [www.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/rent-help](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/hcd/rent-help) If you need assistance with the application process or are unable to complete the application online, contact (520) 837-5364 or email [covidemergencyassis-tance@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:covidemergencyassis-tance@tucsonaz.gov).

“Keeping Tucsonans safe and healthy in their homes is the most important thing as many of our residents have been greatly impacted financially by this pandemic,” said HCD Director Liz Morales. “We’re grateful to Mayor and Council and our partners for this additional tool to help residents facing housing instability.”

#### **Kidz Expo A Success**

The 9th Annual Arizona Bilingual Kidz Expo took place, Saturday, August 15, in the parking lot of the El Pueblo Center. This year’s event was a drive through event, due the COVID-19 pandemic.

I want to thank Tucson Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Tucson Police and the City Manager’s Office for working with Arizona Bilingual for this event, with the planning and logistics, so the event was safe for families and event volunteers and organizers. I want to thank Alma R. Gallardo and the staff at Arizona Bilingual for putting on the Expo and adjusting to have it as a drive through event, similar to the MaskUp Tucson event held on July 18.

I also want to thank TEP, Walgreens, U.S. Census, Food City, Vantage West Credit Union and all the sponsors for their support. I want to thank Mayor Regina Romero and City Manager Michael Ortega, who worked with me to get and distribute 3,000 kid's masks for the event. Lastly, I want to thank everyone who came out for the Expo. Education is key to success.



### Receive and Return Your Ballot By Mail on Time

In preparation for mailing ballots for the November 4, 2020, General Election

Pima County Recorder F. Ann Rodriguez and her staff had a productive meeting with the Tucson Postmaster and staff from the Cherrybell U.S. Postal Service processing center. “We spoke with the Postmaster regarding ballot delivery to voters and voters mailing ballots back to the Recorder’s Office,” said Ms. Rodriguez.

The Recorder and the U.S. Postal Service confirmed that both offices are ready to mail ballots for the General Election on October 7, 2020. Ms. Rodriguez continued, “Regardless of what happens in other states, the local post office assured us that they will continue to provide the excellent delivery service as they have always done. We will continue to pick up ballots daily at the Cherrybell plant beginning October 13, 2020.”

Usually, Recorder staff would begin daily pick-ups on Monday, October 12; however, the post office will be closed on that day for the Columbus Day Holiday.

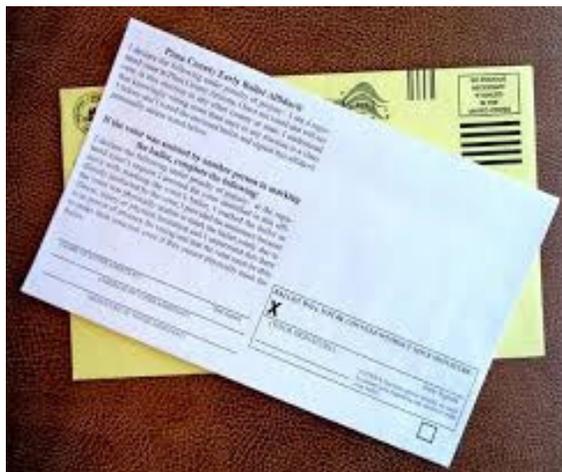
“Because Pima County has been using ballot by mail for over two and a half decades, Pima County post offices know how to quickly process ballots by mail,” said Ms. Rodriguez. Over 75% of Pima County Voters are on the Permanent Early Voter List, and receive their ballots in the mail. Tuesday, October 27, 2020, is the recommended date for voters to mail back their ballots.

Voters may also drop off completed ballots at Early Voting Sites, which are open Wednesday, October 7 – Tuesday, November 2. Voters may drive up, bike up, or walk up for curbside ballot drop off at most sites Monday, October 26 – Tuesday, November 2, 2020. The complete list of sites with hours of operation is here: <https://www.recorder.pima.gov/EarlyVotingSites>. In addition, voters may drop off completed ballots at any polling place on Election Day.

Some voters may be out of town when the Recorder mails ballots. “By federal law, the U.S. Postal Service will not forward Official Election Mail, including ballots,” said Ms. Rodriguez. “Even if you have a forwarding request at your local post office, ballots will not be forwarded.” If voters will be out of town when ballots are mailed in October, they should go online to request that their ballot be mailed to a temporary address: <https://www.recorder.pima.gov/BallotByMail>. Select “I would like my ballot sent to a different address.” Voters may also call the Recorder’s Office at 520-724-4330, and request that their ballot be sent to their temporary address.

If you are not registered to vote, please do so, you can register online at <https://servicearizona.com/VoterRegistration/selectLanguage>. If you haven’t signed up to have your ballot mailed to your house, please do so. For more information, please call the Pima County Recorder’s Office, (520) 724-4330.

Be Heard, Be Seen and Be Counted in 2020!



**Tucson Water's Low Income Assistance Program**

The City of Tucson offers a discount to qualified customers for water charges on their monthly utility statement through Tucson Water's Low-Income Assistance program. Eligibility is primarily determined by household size and income; other guidelines do apply. Eligible customers can receive the discount for up to three years from the approval date. Call (520) 791-5443 for more information, or visit [tucsonaz.gov/cares](http://tucsonaz.gov/cares) to learn more about this and other assistance programs offered by the City of Tucson.

**Other Assistance Available****Utility Companies**

Southwest Gas, (877) 860-6020, Water Department Emergency (520) 791-3242 and Pima County Sewer Emergency (520) 724-3400.

**Rent & Utility Assistance**

Pima County Community Action Agency (520) 724-2667, Monday – Friday 8:30am – 10:30am.

Interfaith Community Services (520) 297-6049, Address: 2820 W. Ina Road Tucson, AZ 85714, Monday – Friday: 9:00am – 4:00pm.

The Project PPEP rental assistance phone number is (520) 741-4397 and the utility assistance phone number is (520) 806-2506.

Tucson Electric Power (520) 623-7711 , Lifeline Program (\$15/month discount) - <https://www.tep.com/customer-assistance>; Lifeline Online Form - <https://account.tep.com/MyAccount/UserValidationLifeLinePlan>; Emergency Short-term Assistance - <https://www.tep.com/short-term-assistance>.

**COVID-19 Update**

I want to thank everyone during this COVID-19 health crisis who have been following the health guidelines of washing their hands, practicing social distancing, using masks and gloves and leaving their homes only for essential trips.

With the COVID-19 virus, it is important to wash your hands frequently and wash your hands immediately after blowing your nose, coughing, sneezing, using the bathroom or touching surfaces in a public space.

Wash your hands before eating or preparing food and before touching your face. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommend you wash your hands for 20 seconds.

If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.



Social distancing, also called “physical distancing,” means keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home. Stay at least 6 feet from other people. Do not gather in groups or go to gatherings. Keeping space between you and others is one of the best tools we have to avoid being exposed to this virus.

I hope you will thank our locally owned restaurants and businesses who are trying to survive through this health crisis as well. Remember, support our locally owned restaurants by ordering food from them, either through a drive through, by delivery or by take out and remember to buy local. Let’s do our part!

My Ward 5 staff and I are here to help you. Please call us at (520) 791-4231 or Email: [ward5@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:ward5@tucsonaz.gov). With the COVID-19 pandemic, City offices are closed to public access but we are working. The City of Tucson also has a COVID Hotline, (520) 791-2540, to answer your questions about city services operating during this health crisis.

### **Welcome Captain Monica Prieto**

Lt. Monica Prieto was promoted to Captain and became Commander for Operations Division South, which includes Ward 5.

Captain Monica Prieto joined the Tucson Police Department in 1999 after receiving her Bachelor of Science in Public Administration from the University of Arizona.

She was an officer in the Field Services Division (patrol) until her promotion to detective in 2005. She remained a detective for 7 years working in both the Child Sexual Abuse Unit and the Adult Sexual Assault Unit.

Captain Prieto was promoted to sergeant in 2012 and assigned to Operations Division West. As a sergeant, she also worked in the Office of Professional Standards ("IA") and the Audit and Best Practices Unit.



She was promoted to lieutenant in 2017 and returned to the Field Services Bureau until becoming the Violent Crimes Section Commander overseeing the department's criminal investigative units, including Homicide, Aggravated Assault, Robbery, and Traffic. Captain Prieto is a 2019 graduate of Northwestern University’s Center for Public Safety, School of Police Staff and Command. Captain Prieto grew up in the Operations South Division and is a proud Desert View graduate. She is excited to be returning home to lead Operations Division South.

Welcome Captain Prieto to Ward 5, we look forward to working with you for our community!

### **Ward 5 Updates**

Recently, the Mayor and Council considered a proposal about expanding the City’s wifi outreach, and with discussions with my colleagues on the Council, to include areas on the South side, including Sunny-side School District. This is a work in progress and will be completed by February 2020. More updates to follow in future newsletters...

The City of Tucson is finishing up the 2020 Poverty and Urban Stress Report, a report that shows the statistics and demographics for the City of Tucson.

From 2012 to 2020, Ward 5 has lowered the rate of poverty from 31.2% to 26.8%.

In Ward 5, more people have obtained their GED or high school diploma. Those who have not obtained either, has been reduced from 33.8% to 24.3% from 2010-2018. The biggest drop in all Wards. In 2000, 40.3% of Ward 5 residents lacked a high school diploma.

Ward 5 did not have highest property crime, violent crime and overall crime rates.

There have been improvements made but we have work still to do. For more information, go online to: <https://poverty-and-urban-stress-cotgis.hub.arcgis.com/>. ...

With the COVID-19 pandemic continuing, the Tucson Mayor and Council meetings are being conducted virtually. To view the meeting, go to the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0yCSKOfCIMA>. ...

Tucson Electric Power had worked with the Ward 5 Council Office, elected officials and the community to begin the process to remove the coal-handling facilities at their generation station on East Irvington Road located in Ward 5. Below are the details of what will be happening at the TEP Irvington Campus.

For more information, go online to [tep.com](http://tep.com).

## TEP PREPARES FOR REMOVAL OF COAL FACILITIES IN SEPTEMBER

Tucson Electric Power (TEP) is preparing to remove obsolete coal-handling facilities the H. Wilson Sundt Generation Station, located at TEP's Irvington Campus on East Irvington Road.

In August 2015, TEP ended its use of coal as a fuel source at Tucson's largest local power plant as part of a long-term plan to build a cleaner, more diverse energy portfolio. Beginning the week of Sept. 8, 2020, TEP will begin removal of a large A-frame structure known as the live coal storage facility and other equipment located along the southern edge of the campus near Interstate 10. The demolition of these facilities will last approximately 10 weeks.

TEP recently installed flexible natural gas-powered reciprocating engines at the plant. These efficient generating resources and the planned retirement of our last coal fired plants will support a plan to provide more than 70 percent of our power from wind and solar resources and reduce carbon emissions 80 percent by 2035. For more information about our Integrated Resource Plan, please visit [tep.com](http://tep.com).



These renderings depict the appearance from Interstate 10 of the H. Wilson Sundt Generating Station today (above) and after removal of coal handling and storage facilities (below).

## Do you need help with grocery shopping?



With COVID-19, it is important for people 60 years of age and older to avoid trips outside of their home and to maximize physical distancing.

### Requirements:

- 60 years of age or older
- Annual income at or below 200% of the federal poverty level (\$25,520/person/year)

Call PCOA's Helpline at (520) 790-7262  
or email [help@pcoa.org](mailto:help@pcoa.org)



\*Requirements may differ for people who do not reside within the City of Tucson

*This program is in partnership with the City of Tucson through \$500,000 of federal CARES Act Funds.*



Important Numbers  
and  
Contact Information

Ward 5 City Council Office  
4300 S. Park Avenue  
Tucson Arizona 85714

Phone: 520-791-4231  
Fax: 520-791-3188  
[Ward5@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:Ward5@tucsonaz.gov)

**Stay Informed!**  
Visit our other  
information outlets:



**HTTP://  
WWW.TUCSONAZ.GOV/  
WARD -5**

To unsubscribe to this  
newsletter please send an  
email to:  
[Ward5@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:Ward5@tucsonaz.gov)  
and include the word *un-*  
*subscribe* in subject line.

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



**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

**City of Tucson Code Enforcement**

791-5843

**TPD Red Tag Unit**

837-7318, Email: [redtag@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:redtag@tucsonaz.gov)

**Graffiti Removal**

792-CITY (2489)

**TPD Non Emergency**

791-4444

**Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services**

City of Tucson Environmental Services Department  
791-3171

**TDOT Street Maintenance**

791-3154, Email: [tdotconcerns@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:tdotconcerns@tucsonaz.gov)

**Tucson Water Department**

Billing - 791-3242, Public Information - 791-4331

**Park Tucson**

791-5071

**Pima Animal Care**

724-5900

**University of Arizona Police Department**

621-8273

**University of Arizona Dean of Students**

621-7057