

# City of Tucson Ward 5 Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 7

January 2014

Dear Friends:

I hope that the first month of this New Year has been a good one so far for everyone. I am happy to say that we ended the past year on many positive notes.

This past year saw the opening of the Body Central physical therapy, Hurricane Car Wash, the Burlington Store, the new Mattress Firm, the Retreat, McDonald's at the Bridges, Sprint Store and Sport Clips at the Bridges, another Dollar Store as well as the expansion of CAID Industries. Modular Mining also expanded its operations and world headquarters located in Ward 5. Continued economic growth, through increased retail sales from Costco, Curacao and Wal-Mart Super Center located in our Ward and work on the Valencia Crossing project continued forward in 2013.

Neighborhood Associations are met across the Ward to discuss the issues of concern and engaged city staff about their needs and concerns and the Southside Neighborhood Association Presidential Partnership continued to hold their meetings at the Ward 5 office. The Ward 5 Office also held Town Hall meetings on topics such as Propositions 400 and 401 that were on the 2013 Tucson ballot to help keep our residents informed. Special thanks to Tucson Police's Operation Division South ifor holding periodic meetings to update businesses and neighborhoods about what is going on in our Ward.

Community events such as National Night Out, the Gem and Mineral Show, the Pueblo Gardens Martin Luther King Breakfast and 4R Coalition Celebration in the 29th Street Area, Thanksgiving in the Barrio and others were held in Ward 5 in 2013, while sporting events such as the Tucson Rodeo and Parade, Desert Diamond Soccer Cup, and the Vamos a Tucson Baseball Fiesta occurred. Let us not forget the Sunnyside Girls, Little League Softball Team for capturing the World Series Championship!

Citywide, we worked to ensure the continued success of the Bring Back the Splash private/public partnership that opened eight city swimming pools during the summer months. We also saluted our veterans with the Tucson Veteran's Day Parade as well as remembering those who died in World War II with the dedication of the new World War II Memorial in Armory Park.

The community and Ward office came together for the shred-a-thon, the food bank drives, Love of Reading and helping to provide food boxes for those in need. In addition, the office and our community helped Peter Norback and his One Can A Week effort for the Community Food Bank.

The work on our roads continuing, thanks to the voter approved Proposition 409 - the



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## Inside this issue:

### **Ward 5 News:**

- Greetings from Councilmember Fimbres 1
- Prop 409 Update 2
- Graffiti Clean Up 3

### **City News:**

- Cross-Border Business Directory 4
- Local Film
- Treatment Plant 5
- Golf Agreement

**Ward 5  
Announcements 5**

**Congratulations  
& Thank You 7**

Important Numbers  
and  
Contact Information 9

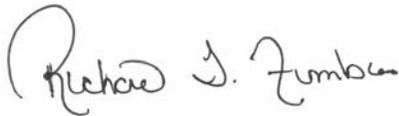
issuance of General Obligation Bonds. The repairing of potholes continues.

The beginning of 2014 has shown further progress! The construction of the Kino/22nd Overpass road project is ongoing. Construction has commenced on the new Arizona Department of Economic Securities building in the 22nd and Alvernon Area and a new Federal Express Ground facilities will be built in Ward 5. There is also new business activity and development in the Bridges Project and progress towards the Valencia Crossing development and the U of A BioPark project.

Our neighborhoods and community continue to come together, as they did for the recently held, 24th Annual Pueblo Gardens Martin Luther King Breakfast.

The work continues and we are seeing the light and the end of this tunnel we've been in since taking office. Your Councilmember and staff are continuing to do more with less to get the job done of constituent services.

Thank you.



Richard G. Fimbres  
Your Councilmember

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## Ward 5 News

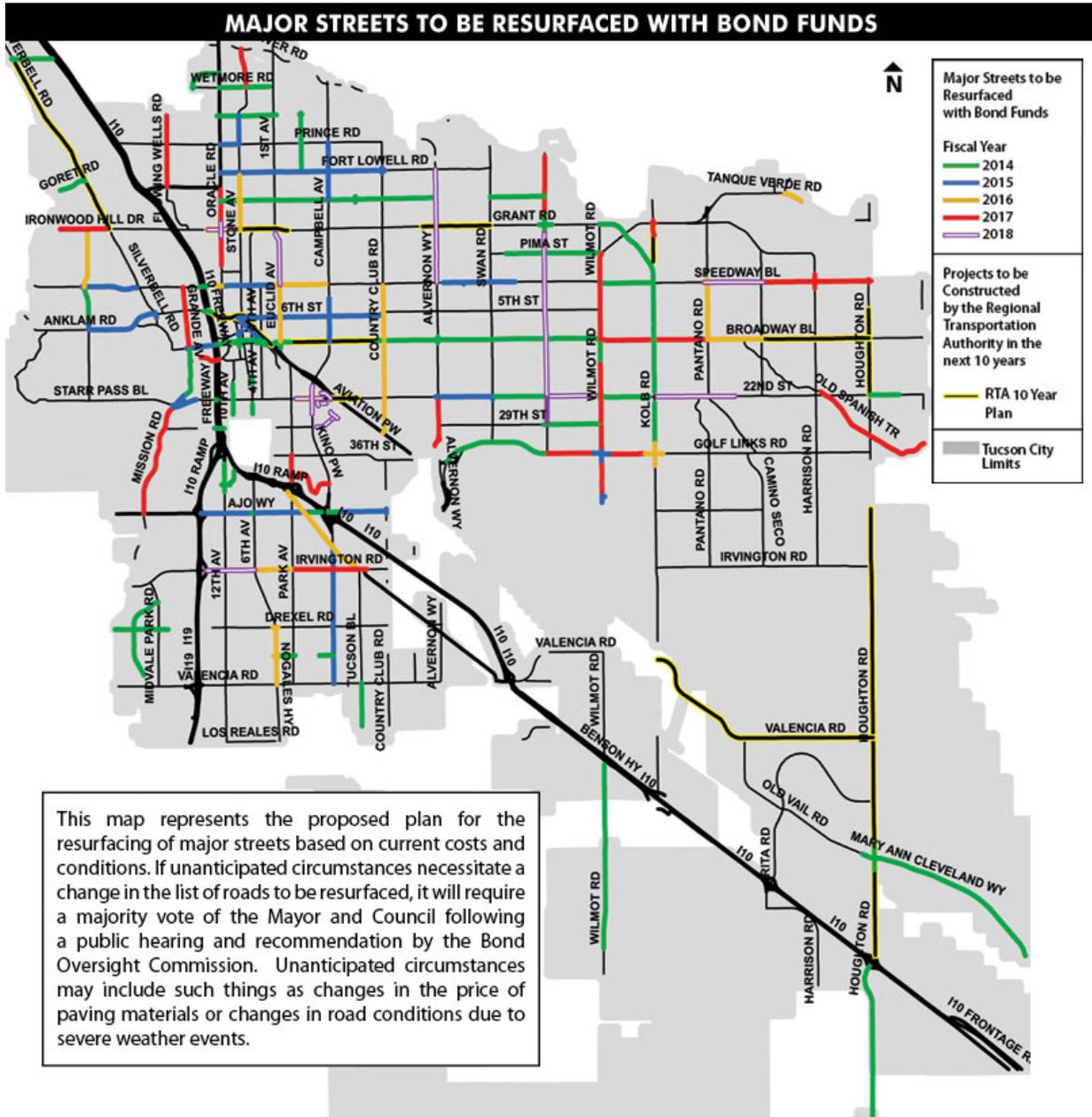
### Proposition 409 City Street Bonds Update

During the next 5 years, the Tucson Department of Transportation will be employing private sector construction companies to restore, repair, and resurface more than 200 miles of Tucson roads. This effort is a result of a \$100 million improvement program that was made possible by Tucson Voters who approved the street bonds in 2012.

Major streets and residential streets are included in this program which is being overseen by a Bond Oversight Commission of citizens. Mr. Jesse Lugo is the Ward 5 representative sitting on this Commission. Just this month, the Commission approved \$6 million in repairs for neighborhood roads over the next two years. Over five years, the \$100 million bond program sets aside \$15 million to fix residential streets. Businesses and neighborhoods where the streets are being restored will be notified in advance of work.



Ward 5 News



**Business Graffiti Clean Up**

Councilmember Richard G. Fimbres and the Ward 5 Council Office, in partnership with GPC, Inc. (Graffiti Protective Coatings, Inc.) held a Graffiti Clean Up Event on Saturday, December 21st for businesses in the area of South 6th Avenue.

“This effort is to clean up the blight and graffiti on these businesses in these areas,” Councilmember Richard Fimbres said. “Thanks to Lupe Mercado and the crew of GPC, these businesses are getting some holiday help. It is another example of how the private and public sector can work together for

## Ward 5 News

the betterment of the entire community,” Fimbres said. “Lupe Mercado and GPC are in our community, but they also work to better our community.”

The Ward 5 office worked with GPC to notify the businesses in the areas about the effort by GPC. Lupe Mercado and GPC had worked with neighborhood associations in Ward 5 and across the City of Tucson in efforts to deal with the graffiti situation. This event marked the first such targeted efforts for businesses in dealing with graffiti.

In all more than 50 businesses received assistance from GPC and a total of 167 sites were serviced to help clean them of graffiti. In total, almost 9,000 square feet were cleaned up. Thank you GPC for helping our businesses out in Ward 5 and our City.

By the Numbers:

- 70 Walls
- 29 Signs
- 23 Light Poles
- 8 Curbs
- 8 Dumpsters
- 5 Fences
- 10 Utility Boxes

## City News

### Mayors Promote Cross-Border Business Directory

Four Arizona mayors gathered in Phoenix on Friday to announce the launch of an effort to encourage cross-border manufacturing opportunities. Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild, Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton, Mesa Mayor Scott Smith and Nogales Mayor Arturo Garino are asking businesses on both sides of the border to register their information with the Arizona-Sonora Resource Guide, expected to be published later this year. Mayor Rothschild says there currently is a lack of knowledge about products and services available in the two-state region. The guide is a joint project of the Arizona Daily Star, Tucson Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and other groups.



### Mayor and Council Approve Local Film Incentive

In an effort to lure filmmakers back to Tucson, Mayor and Council yesterday directed City staff to prepare an ordinance that would provide an incentive for film production. The incentive will give films with a production cost of at least \$2 million a rent discount on City-owned or City-operated property (such as the Tucson Convention Center). Without incentives, major productions will continue to bypass Tucson, said Brent DeRaad, president and CEO of Visit Tucson. City Staff will return to the Council with a final ordinance at a later



## City News

date. At one point, the State of Arizona offered film incentives, but those expired several years ago and never were re-authorized.

### New Treatment Plant

The City of Tucson, Tucson Water and the Citizens' Water Advisory Committee last week dedicated the Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) Water Treatment Facility at 1102 W. Irvington Road. The new facility will purify up to 8 million gallons of water per day. Built adjacent to the existing Tucson Airport Remediation Project (TARP) Plant, the opening of the AOP facility marks the City of Tucson's continued commitment to provide the safest possible drinking water, above and beyond EPA standards.



### City Finalizes Golf Agreement

The City of Tucson has finalized its contract with OB Sports to allow the company to provide management of Tucson City Golf. The partnership between the City of Tucson and OB Sports will allow all five municipal golf courses to remain open and help move Tucson City Golf operations toward financial sustainability, as directed by Mayor and Council. The transition begins immediately and the first day of OB Sport's operations is projected to be Feb. 1, 2014.



Frequently Asked Questions about golf management: <http://1.usa.gov/KvouNT>

## Announcements

### Ward 5 Neighborhood Forum

On Thursday, February 13th at 6:00 PM, Councilmember Richard Fimbres and the Ward 5 Council Office will be hosting a forum for neighborhoods at the El Pueblo Neighborhood Center – Senior Center (101 W. Irvington Rd.). The forum will offer an opportunity for neighborhood residents to hear from various City departments including Police and Transportation as well as information from the Pima County Health Department. The panel of speakers will provide valuable information, resources and updates about projects in the community and services that are provided.

### La Fiesta de los Vaqueros

The first La Fiesta de los Vaqueros (Celebration of the Cowboys) in 1925 touted three days of events and competition. Today, the event has grown to a nine-day celebration centered on the Tucson Rodeo, one of the top 25 professional rodeos in North America. The 2014 La Fiesta de los Vaqueros will be held Feb. 15-23 at the Tucson Rodeo Grounds, 4823 S. 6th Ave.

Current and former Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA) world champions are featured in each Tucson Rodeo. "The entry list for Tucson could be the 'Who's Who' of pro rodeo," boasts Gary Williams, general manager of the Tucson Rodeo. "In addition to the caliber of competi-

## Announcements

tion and the prize money, cowboys look forward to Tucson because the fans are great and the sky is blue. This is the first major outdoor rodeo of the year, so they're ready for sunshine, fresh air and 11,000 fans each day cheering them on," adds Williams.

The Tucson Rodeo Parade will take place February 20th and is billed as the world's longest non-motorized parade. This two-hour spectacle features western-themed floats and buggies, historic horse-drawn coaches, festive Mexican folk dancers, marching bands and outfitted riders. An estimated 200,000 spectators view the parade each year.

The Tucson Rodeo enlists over 650 contestants from the United States and Canada competing for more than \$460,000 in prize money. The Tucson Rodeo, the first major outdoor event on the PRCA schedule, gives visitors an opportunity to see real-life cowboys and cowgirls display their ability in the only sport in the world developed from work skills.

Rodeo events include bull riding, bareback and saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, tie-down roping, team roping and women's barrel racing. Also featured each day are kids' events -- Dodge Mutton Bustin', when four-to six-year-olds test their riding skills on sheep, and the Justin Junior Rodeo for young cowpokes ages 7-12.

The Tucson Rodeo Committee and Tucson Rodeo Parade Committee, both volunteer-based, non-profit community groups, stage La Fiesta de los Vaqueros. Proceeds from the Tucson Rodeo benefit a University of Arizona scholarship fund for student rodeo athletes, the Downtown Lion's Club, Rotary Clubs and 4-H Groups. To order rodeo tickets visit them online at <http://www.tucsonrodeo.com/tickets.html> or call (520) 741-2233.

### Davis-Monthan to Host F-16s as Part of Operation Snowbird

D-M began its hosting of Air National Guard F-16 Fighting Falcons on Saturday, January 11th. Twelve F-16s from the South Dakota Air National Guard are scheduled to operate in Tucson January 11th – 25th. Ten F-16s from the New Jersey Air National Guard will be in Tucson February 18th - March 8th. Residents can expect to see and hear more F-16 traffic in and out of Davis-Monthan during these training dates. D-M says pilots will adhere to all normal arrival, departure and noise abatement procedures.



## Announcements

### Love of Reading Week

Love of Reading Week is a national celebration that promotes an appreciation of literature among students and adults. As part of the celebration, thousands of volunteers read to classrooms full of young and eager children in Tucson. This year, the celebration will be observed February 10th – 14th. Numerous public and private schools will be taking part in this celebration. Volunteers are needed, so please contact your local school schools for more information and volunteer opportunities.

### 2014 Tucson Gem and Mineral Show

About 55,000 visitors and many vendors will be in Tucson to participate in the 2014 Tucson Gem, Mineral and Fossil Showcase. This is the 60th year of the annual event, which has about \$100 million in local economic impact. The Gem Show actually is 41 shows in hotels, tents, and exhibit halls around Tucson. GemRide shuttles offer free rides between shows from 33 locations. For more information about the Gem and Mineral Show, call 322-5773.



### Arizona Gained Jobs Last Month

Arizona's unemployment rate dropped by two-tenths of a percentage point to 7.6 percent in December. State Department of Administration economists reported yesterday that Arizona's economy added 6,900 non-farm jobs in December, with the majority in the private sector. The state's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate is at its lowest rate since October 2008. A year ago, Arizona's jobless rate was 7.9 percent.

### How to Report Transportation Problems

Is a pothole on your daily commute bothering you? Is a street light out? Does your street need sweeping? Report these types of items to the Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT), (520) 791-3154, or email the exact location to [tdotsr@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:tdotsr@tucsonaz.gov).



## Congratulations and Thank You!

### Pueblo Gardens Breakfast

The Pueblo Gardens Neighborhood Association held its 24th Annual Martin Luther King Breakfast on Saturday, January 18th at the Holmes Tuttle Boys and Girls Club, 2585 E. 36th St. Over 300 people attended this wonderful event that is donation driven and raffle funded. The proceeds of the event are used to help young people with summer school, programs, band camps, etc. and to keep Dr. King's dream alive. The Pueblo Gardens Neighborhood Association is the only neighborhood in the city to hold this event to honor the work of Dr. King.

## Congratulations and Thank You!

### MLK March

Thank you to all who came out for the Annual MLK March from the U of A Mall. Special thanks to Congressman Grijalva, Mayor Rothschild, Councilwomen Romero and Ulich, TUSD School Board Members, Grilava and Juarez and Pastor Oatis Brown, Burney Starks and Ron Burton for Chairing the March!



### Beat Back Buffelgrass Day

The Southern Arizona Buffelgrass Coordination Center sponsored a "Beat Back Buffelgrass Day" on Saturday, January 25th. Thanks to all of those who helped out with this effort!

Buffelgrass is a wildfire waiting to happen and affects native ecosystems and conservation efforts. In Southern Arizona, the rapid spread of buffelgrass converts fire-resistant desert to flammable grassland and is one of the region's most pressing environmental issue. It also poses a serious threat to life, property, tourism and the regional economy. Ecotourism is a cornerstone of the economy of Southern Arizona and wildfire in the Sonoran Desert has the potential to disrupt recreational activities and degrade viewscapes.



Volunteers interested in helping with the future removal of buffelgrass from our roadways, washes, and parks can register at <http://www.buffelgrass.org/>.

### Reid Park Zoo

Congratulations to the Reid Park Zoo for their recent success with the 2013 Zoo Lights Festival. Tucsonans, both young and old, saw a fine light displays, animal-theme light sculptures, and thousands of sparkling bulbs, as part of Tucson's holiday tradition. The Zoo also had the birth of four new tiger cubs and a tapir as well. Congratulations to our Zoo for this wonderful news!

### U of A Men's Basketball

Congratulations to the University of Arizona Men's Basketball Team for their recent record setting performance, winning their 20th game in a row and remaining as the nation's number one 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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