Dear Friends:

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

On Tuesday, May 16, the good citizens of Tucson voted to approve Proposition 101, a temporary half-cent sales tax increase over the next five years. Proposition 101 passed in all six Wards. Ward 5 approved Proposition 101 by a 62% to 38% margin. This was the best voter turnout election for a May ballot measure in Tucson’s history.

The funds collected from Proposition 101, over the five-year period would be split with $100 million being used to restore, repair, and resurface City streets, and $150 million would be spent on vehicles, equipment, and facilities for the Tucson Police Department and Tucson Fire Department.

I want to thank the neighborhood associations in Ward 5 who had this as part of their agendas for their meetings. Ward 5 held a town hall about Proposition 401, which many neighborhood association members and leadership from Ward 1 and Ward 5 attended. City staff gave an explanation about the proposal and those present asked great questions about Proposition 101.

The half-cent sales tax increase was estimated to cost each household member in the City of Tucson approximately $3 per month over the course of the five-year period.

In regard to the road repair plan, $100 million that will be used for road repair. Sixty percent of the funds for road repair will be for arterials and 40 percent for neighborhood streets. The map of the major streets to be repair is in this edition of the newsletter.

Residential roads for repairs would be selected by a citizen’s oversight commission, which also would oversee the road work for the half-cent sales tax program. Streets were selected for repair based on a comprehensive engineering analysis of the condition of city streets.
About the public safety capital needs plan, $150 million would be used for vehicles, equipment, and facilities for the Tucson Fire and Police departments.

Nearly $55 million is scheduled for public safety vehicles, including police patrol cars, fire trucks, ambulances, police motorcycles, and other specialized and nonspecialized public safety vehicles.

A new south side police/fire substation for Ward 5 is part of the investments in the facilities category. Firefighter protective gear, police-worn body cameras, laptops, ballistic vests, and paramedic cardiac monitors are part of the more than $20 million pledged for public safety equipment.

I want to thank all the groups, including IFFA and TPOA who went out and walked neighborhoods to talk about the ballot measure.

Proposition 101 funds can only be spent on items identified in the listed plan in the ballot measure.

A Citizen’s Public Safety Oversight Commission, appointed by Mayor and Council, will oversee Proposition 101 public safety expenditures.

The current, Citizen’s Road Bond Oversight Commission will oversee the road repair plan and designate residential streets for repair. Both Commissions will have regular public meetings and create annual reports.

On July 1, Tucson’s sales tax rate will go to 2.5%, the same as Oro Valley and Marana. In comparison, the City of South Tucson’s rate is 4.5%.

I want to thank the good citizens of Tucson for voting for Proposition 101. This measure will help repair more roads and help our public safety to get the vehicles and equipment that were listed. There will be citizen oversight and the monies can’t be spent elsewhere.

Tucson had a great victory on May 16!

Sincerely,

Richard Fimbres
Your Ward 5 Councilmember
Update on the Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges
The ribbon cutting for the Dave and Buster’s at the Tucson Marketplace at the Bridges (aka the Bridges), located in Ward 5 was the most recent of businesses opening their doors as part of the Renaissance of the Ward 5.

Three more businesses, a Discount Tire, Popeye’s and a relocation of a Jimmy John’s franchise are next to come into the Bridges. As I had stated in the last newsletter, the first store to build was the Costco in 2011. Over time, other stores followed suit and opened, providing opportunities for Ward 5 residents to shop and for employment.

El Rio Community Health Center Update
Plans for the new El Rio Health Center on Cherrybell in Ward 5, have been submitted to the City of Tucson Development Services for review. The El Rio Health Center would offer health services and programs to Ward 5 and south side residents.

It’s the Law, Now, Hand Held Devices and Street Racing
May 1 was the first day being it's against the law to use a hand-held device while driving. The Mayor and Tucson City Council voted in March to make violation of the ban a secondary offense, meaning you must be pulled over for another reason before police can cite you.

Texting while driving already was banned in the city, but the new rules expand that ban to phone calls and the use of other hand-held mobile communication and electronic devices.

The new violation is classified as a civil traffic matter, starting with a $250 fine for a first non-accident offense, and subsequent offenses are $500. For violations involving a traffic accident, there will be a penalty of $500. Mayor and Council agreed to review the ordinance in six months to see how it's working and whether it needs to be strengthened.

The Mayor and Council also gave police officers the authority to do much more than give drivers caught drag racing on Tucson streets a ticket. The police can now impound vehicles caught drag racing. Street racing remains a Class 1 misdemeanor for drivers, with fines up to $2,500 and impoundment costs.
Las Artes Graduation
On Thursday, April 27, I had the honor of speaking at the Las Artes Arts & Education Center Getting Ahead Graduation Ceremony.

It was great to see these young people trying to better their lives by getting an education. I want to thank Arnold Palacios and the staff of Las Artes for their work and commitment and congratulations to those young people who got through the Getting Ahead program.

I also want to thank Art and Dan Eckstrom who, many years ago, had the vision to create and support such a great program. Education is the key to success!

MEC Crystal Apple Awards
On Friday, April 28, I had the privilege of presenting a Crystal Apple Award at the 27th Annual Metropolitan Education Commission’s (MEC) Crystal Awards luncheon.

I presented the Counselor Award to Karen Seabolt, Gridley Middle School, Tucson Unified School District.

Many individuals were honored for their work in education and helping their students succeed. I want to congratulate the honorees for their work.

I also want to congratulate the students who were honored and acknowledged for their academic work.

I also want to thank June Webb, Ed Nossum and the MEC staff on their event and their work to better the lives of young people.

For more information about the MEC, go online to: https://www.tucsonaz.gov/metedu/about-metropolitan-education-commission.
Arizona Bilingual Job Shadow Day
On Saturday, April 29, I took part in the Arizona Bilingual’s Children Festival, held at the Tucson Children’s Museum. Arizona Bilingual also announced the student winners for their Job Shadowing Program, which I, along with the Mayor, the Police Chief and Fire Chief were part of this program.

Four students were part of Job Shadow Day, Anna Unruh, Angelica Dorame, Belicia Dorame and Sienna Ramirez won the essay contest and shadowed me to see what a City Councilmember’s work day entailed.

On Wednesday, May 10, the four helped me with the launch of the Tucson Change Movement. I want to congratulate them on their academic achievement and thank them for helping to dedicate the first Tucson Change Movement Donation Station. I also want to thank Arizona Bilingual for their work and the Job Shadow Program.

Cholla High School Athletic Performance Center Ribbon Cutting
On Thursday, May 4, I was invited and attended the Cholla High School Athletic Performance Center ribbon cutting. I want to thank Jose Ortiz President of the Cholla Athletic Booster Club for the invitation, and congratulations to Coach Ryan Scherling and the Cholla’s student athletes. Congratulations to Jesse Lugo and Cholla High School administration on their successful efforts for this new Athletic Center.
Sunnyside All American Awards

Friday May 5, was the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association's 24th Annual All American Awards, where students are honored for their academic achievements.

I along with Pima County Supervisor Valadez, Sheriff Napier Tucson Police Department Assistant Chief, Ramon Batista and representatives from other elected officials, handed out Certificates of Appreciation to the students for their academic efforts. Also in attendance were Tucson Police Captain Bob Wilson, Lt. Lee McNitt, Sgt. Joe Merrill, Sunnyside School Superintendent Steve Holmes, Sunnyside School Board Members Buck Crouch and Bobby Jaramillo.

Congratulations to the students and their families on their recognition. Congratulations to the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association and the volunteers for their work and commitment. Special thanks also goes to Yolanda Herrera and Beki Quintero, who have kept this very important event going from their father, Manny Herrera, and Ben Bennett.

Tucson Change Movement Launched

The Tucson Change Movement was launched Wednesday, May 10.

John Jacobs with the Downtown Tucson Partnership and Fred Ronstadt with the Fourth Avenue Coalition, Donovan Durband of Park Tucson and I, along with Mark Kerr and Matt Pate from my staff, worked to create the Tucson Change Movement, where 20 parking meters will be situated for people to be able to make donations to help the homeless.

People will be able to swipe a credit or debit card if they choose, use a QR code and make a donation online, for which funds raises will go directly to homeless programs. Tucson Change Movement announced that the first program funding will go to is the Tucson Homeless Work Program.

I am pleased that these meters will provide a funding source for the Tucson Homeless Work Program. With initiative from my office, Tucson has been able to make tremendous strides in helping the homeless in our community, and I want to thank all of the different organizations involved in these efforts.
**Tucson Change Movement Launched (cont.)**
The Tucson Homeless Work Program allows homeless people to join a day-labor crew to clean streets and medians in five-hour shifts for $10 an hour in cash. Those who take part in the program, administered by Old Pueblo Community Services, get a meal, shower and other services provided by various agencies.

**Councilmember Fimbres Honors Love of Reading Students**
In celebration of Love of Reading, I challenged all students to read one book a month. In turn, I have presented each student with a certificate for their accomplishments.

We thank the following schools for their participation where we have issued close to 1,000 certificates: Math and Science Success Academy, Drachman K-8 Montessori Magnet School, Robison Elementary School, McCorkle Academy of Excellence K-8 and Sierra K-8.

**Ward 5 Memorial Day Thank You Card Event**
On Friday, May 26, I along with a contingent of elected officials, will be going to the Southern Arizona VA Hospital to give out thank you cards and letters made by school children from schools from Ward 5 and across the City.

I want to thank Lupita Robles from my staff who coordinated the effort with the following schools:

Apollo Middle School, Drexel Elementary, Gallego Primary School, Ocotillo Learning School, Rivera Elementary School, Sierra 2-8 School, Desert View AFJROTC, Alice Vail Middle School, Blenman Elementary School, Booth-Fickett Magnet School, Cavett Elementary School, C.E. Rose K-8 School, Carrillo Magnet School, Dodge Magnet Middle School, Drachman Montessori K-8 School,

Welcome Quincie Douglas Center Director!
Jerry Neely was named by the Park and Recreation Center as the new Director for the Quincie Douglas Center, located at 1575 E. 36th Street in Ward 5.

I and my staff had the opportunity to meet Jerry and look forward to working with him. I asked Jerry to write a few words to introduce himself to Ward 5.

“Hello. My name is Jerry Neely and I recently moved from Armory Park Senior Center to Quincie Douglas Center. I have worked for Tucson Parks & Recreation for 25 years. I look forward to bringing together members of the community and collaborating to build a center that meets the needs of the community. We’re always looking for volunteers and are open to suggestions. Please feel free to stop by to meet me, get a tour of our facilities, and find out what we have to offer. I can also be reached at (520) 791-2507 or jerry.neely@tucsonaz.gov. I am excited to serve the community and build a strong, vibrant center!”

Aspen Dental Helping Veteran’s
Recently, Aspen Dental held a dental care event for veterans at American Legion John Burn’s Post 36, 5845 E. 22nd Street in Tucson. I had the privilege of attending this and see the wonderful work Aspen Dental was doing. On June 24, Aspen Dental Care will be offering free dental care for veterans.

Aspen Dental dentists and teams are pleased to bring free dental care to veterans nationwide once again on June 24. Nearly 450 Aspen Dental offices in 35 states will open their doors to serve veterans in their local communities as part of the Healthy Mouth Movement, a community giving initiative.

Interested veterans should call 844-ASPEN-HMM to find a participating Aspen Dental office and schedule an appointment in advance. Advance appointments are required. During appointments on June 24, volunteer dentists and teams will focus on treating the most urgent need of each veteran by providing free services – including fillings, extractions and basic denture repair – to help get them out of dental pain.

Last year, Aspen Dental dentists and teams from Maine to Washington – and hundreds of practices in between – volunteered their time and talents to give back to veterans in their communities on one big Day of Service on Saturday, June 25. As part of the Healthy Mouth Movement, this marked the third annual Day of Service where nearly 400 participating Aspen Dental offices donated more than $2.1 million dollars in dentistry in one single day – empowering more than 4,000 veterans with a healthy smile.
JobPath Graduation
On Wednesday, May 17, JobPath held their graduation ceremony for their students at the Hotel City Tucson.

It was great to see so many people getting a better education and training for their career choices. Congratulations to the graduates, their families and friends who helped them to graduate. This year Job Path assisted 260 adult students.

At the ceremony, I was honored for my work for JobPath and helping to find resources for the program. Education is the key to success and it was great to see so many people grabbing that key at the JobPath Ceremony.

Tucson Water Holds Get the Lead Out Meeting
Tucson Water held the Get the Lead Out Public Meeting held on May 10 at the Housing & Community Development Building on West Bonita. The meeting was lead by Tucson Water Director Tim Thomure.

Midtown is the most highly affected with the lead, however, it is urged that all older homes have the water tested.

It was stressed that water is not tainted with lead, the lead is from the pipe. Initial step is to get the water tested and then proceed from there.

Ward 5 Office has brochures on Understanding Lead and Tap Water or for more information about the lead monitoring program call Tucson Water Quality and Operation Division at (520) 791-2544.
**Mark Your Calendars!**

On Wednesday, May 31, 11:30 a.m., Amigos de Pima will be holding their tenth annual Student Scholarship Luncheon, at the Pima Community College Downtown Campus, Amethyst Room, 1255 N. Stone.

Come join Amigos to honor the student recipients of the 2017-18 Amigos de Pima Scholarship Program. For more information, please call (520) 206-4646.

On Sunday, June 4, 2 to 5 p.m., the Tucson High School Football Booster Club is holding a fundraiser at the KC Club 1200, located at 601 S. Tucson Blvd.

Unfortunately due to budget cuts, the THS Football program does not have the ability to fulfill all the needs and to provide necessities for our program and players. The Team is in need of two football sleds, uniforms, and new equipment for the weight room. The Football Booster Club also assists in providing team meals, team banquets, other equipment purchases and many more needs the program incurs. The Football Booster Club is a 501c3 organization and 100% of the donations will go to all levels of the football program. Tickets are $10 and donations are accepted.

A celebration of the life and work of rural health pioneer, Dr. Augusto Ortiz, will take place Sunday, June 4, 3 to 5 p.m., at St. Mark’s Presbyterian Church. Health pioneers Augusto Ortiz, MD, and his wife, Martha Ortiz, were the founders of the Mobile Health Program and its mobile clinic. Augusto worked with the Farm Workers to get rid of the farm equipment which caused many injuries. Space is limited, to RSVP, Email augustomartha@gmail.com.

The Pueblo Gardens Neighborhood Association will be holding their June meeting on Tuesday, June 20th, 2017, 6:30 p.m. at the Holmes Tuttle Boys and Girls Club, 2585 E.36th St. It will be a potluck.

The City of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) invites you to attend a public meeting on Americans with Disabilities Act Inventory and Transition Plan on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Randolph Golf Course, Copper Room, 600 S. Alvernon Way.

A brief presentation will be given at 4:30 p.m. For accommodations, materials in accessible formats, foreign language interpreters and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact Jesse Soto at 520-791-4259 or call 520-791-2639 for a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at least five business days in advance of this scheduled event.
This map represents the proposed plan for the resurfacing of major streets based on current costs and conditions. The plan will be adjusted by the oversight commission should unanticipated circumstances arise to include such things as changes in tax revenues or changes in the cost to produce the projects. Plan adjustments greater than ten percent (10%) will require a majority vote of the Mayor and Council following a recommendation of the oversight commission.
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

Park Tucson
791-5071

Pima Animal Care
243-5900

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

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