

Ward 6 Staff



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Ward 6 - Newsletter

Tucson First

June 04, 2014

Community Forum on Mental Health Issues

Last week I opened with a list of shootings that occurred and quoted two of the people involved in the Santa Barbara murders; one asking when the carnage would stop, and the other committing himself to the preventative treatment of mental health illnesses. Too often in the aftermath of shootings we learn that the perpetrator had identifiable mental illness symptoms – treatable, but unaddressed.

On Monday, July 7th, Rabbi Sam Cohon and the congregation from Temple Emanuel are kind enough to host a very important community forum on the issue of mental health. I've invited lawmakers and service providers to sit on a panel to both present to and interact with the public on laws, service modalities and what more we can do to address the needs that exist among our friends, neighbors and oftentimes relatives.



Congressman Ron Barber,



State Representative
Victoria Steele,



and State Senator Dave Bradley

will each speak from the legislative side of the topic.

From the service provider perspective we'll be joined by the head of Pasadera Network (formerly SAMHC) Chuck Burbank, and the head of NAMI, Clarke Romans. There isn't a more highly qualified group of panelists to speak to this issue that Southern Arizona has to offer.

Opening the evening will be a presentation from Jennie Grabel of the Fund for Civility, Respect and Understanding. Jennie was gracious enough to carve out time to come and describe a 90 minute training course the Fund is helping to promote that's called Mental Health Safe Space. It's a primer on how to recognize warning signs, given with the hope of encouraging people to extend their training even more fully.



Important Phone Numbers

Tucson Police
Department

911 or 791-4444
nonemergency

Mayor & Council
Comment Line
791-4700

Neighborhood
Resources
791-4605

Park Wise
791-5071

Water Issues
791-3242

Pima County Animal
Control
243-5900

Street Maintenance
791-3154

Planning and
Development
Services 791-5550

Southwest Gas
889-1888

Gas Emergency/
Gas Leaks

889-1888

West Nile Virus
Hotline

243-7999

Environment
Service

791-3171

Graffiti Removal
792-2489

AZ Game & Fish
628-5376

Continued: A Message From Steve

The doors will open at 5:30pm and our presentation will begin at 6:30. There will be a Q&A following the presentations by panel members. Many of you know that I've been on several panels related to gun safety/responsibility and have been a strong proponent of sensible gun legislation. My experience has been that combining the gun and mental health components while dissecting the aftermath of a shooting results in us getting focused solely on the guns. The purpose of the July 7th Forum is to look specifically at the Mental Health part.

I'm grateful to each of the participants and to Rabbi Cohon for being willing to engage this challenging issue. I hope you can join us.

National Violent Death Reporting System

On a somewhat related note, there's progress on the State effort to sign up for the National Violent Death Reporting System network.

Back on March 11th I penned an op/ed that the Star was kind enough to run. It described a public health data system that is geared towards policy and product changes in the area of violent deaths. Guns are of course a major factor, but the emphasis is not on gun control per se, but on deriving from National data multiple ways we can address violent death. Those will include sensible gun legislation, but they'll also touch on changes in product manufacture, and the mental health component – and more, once the data is analyzed.

The Centers for Disease Control is offering grants to States who can show a broad consortium of jurisdictions and agencies that are willing to participate in both the data collection as well as advising on how it should be used and interpreted. Arizona so far is **not** one of the 18 States who have applied to participate. That's about to change.

Over the weekend I was contacted by Dr. Charles Katz from the ASU Center for Violence Prevention & Community Safety (College of Public Programs.) He saw my op/ed and called to let me know that he has teamed up with the State Department of Health Services and is making application for the grant money so Arizona can begin providing data to the CDC system. His 'ask' was for my further involvement. He got it.

The group Dr. Katz has organized now includes Apache Junction Police Department (PD), Avondale PD, Flagstaff PD, Glendale PD, Kingman PD, Lake Havasu City PD, Marana PD, Maricopa PD, Nogales PD, Oro Valley PD, Phoenix PD, Peoria PD, Prescott PD, Prescott Valley PD, Safford PD, Sahuarita PD, Sedona PD, Sierra Vista PD, Show Low PD, Tucson PD, the Pima County Sheriff's Dept., Apache County Medical Examiner (ME), Coconino County ME, La Paz County ME, Maricopa County ME, Navajo County ME, Pima County ME, Pinal County ME, Santa Cruz County ME, Yavapai County ME. I would say the momentum is good. Those law enforcement agencies represent over 60% of the violent deaths State wide and the Medical Examiners represent over 90% of them.

In order to facilitate the use of the data once approval is secured, they're forming an Advisory Board that'll be made up of law enforcement, medical examiners, coroners, public officials, mental health service providers, and organizations who work in related fields. That is the Board on which I've agreed to participate.

The timing of our exchange is a great lead-in to the July 7th forum. That forum is all about policy and providing service to those at risk. I'm hopeful that by the night we all gather at Temple Eman-



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John
McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff
Flake (R)
520-575-8633

Congressman
Ron Barber (D)
(2nd District)
520-881-3588

Congressman
Raul Grijalva (D)
(3rd District)
520-622-6788

Governor Janice
Brewer (R)
Governor of Arizona
602-542-4331

Toll free:
1-800-253-0883

State Legislators

Toll Free
Telephone:
1-800-352-8404
Internet:
www.azleg.gov

Mayor Jonathan
Rothschild
791-4201

City Infoguide
[http://
cms3.tucsonaz.gov/
infoguide](http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/infoguide)

uel we'll have a better idea as to whether Arizona's application for the CDC grant has been accepted.

I've reached out to Jan Leshar from Pima County (who, by the way, would be a tremendous City Manager) and she's going to help generate more involvement from relevant County workers – and possibly members of the Board of Supervisors. I've also shared Dr. Katz' letter with senior staff members of some of the UA Colleges so they have a chance to also get involved.

More on this to come.

Here's a link to my March 11th op/ed the Star ran:

http://azstarnet.com/news/opinion/column/guest/steve-kozachik-it-s-time-to-apply-the-public-health/article_67a207ec-c40e-5851-af35-2572cdeb245f.html

NRA and Mom's Perspectives

And to make the point about how the conversation related to sensible gun safety/responsibility/control gets twisted, here's a quote from last week's NRA email blast to their members:

Dear Friend,

Right now, your constitutional right to own a gun is under attack by anti-gun politicians, gun ban bureaucrats, and the freedom-hating media elite.

They've vowed to fight on and never surrender until they've destroyed your right to own a gun for shooting, hunting, and personal protection.

And for the other perspective, this is from a Mom's Demand Action email blast last week:
Steve --

Moms Demand Action and Everytown invite you to join us at Senator Flake's office this Friday. This event will be one week after the tragedy in Santa Barbara, which has left our nation once again shocked.

We will be calling on Senator Flake to stand up for our communities, Not One More person should be die due to our country's broken gun laws.

For the record, Mom's did not go to Flake's office and ask that he support gun bans or anything remotely approaching 'destroying your right to own a gun.' Background checks do not equal eviscerating the 2nd Amendment. They did present his office with about 1,200 postcards from people urging him to stand by his earlier commitment to support expanded background checks.

Mom's is also making a difference in the retail community. Just last week, both Sonic and Chili's joined Starbucks, Jack-in-the-box and Chipotle in announcing a ban on open carry in their stores. These are small, incremental steps that would not have happened just a few years ago. It's too bad that it takes the carnage we've seen to get even this far in the area of gun sense safety.

Please join us at the forum on July 7th.

Medical and Leave Benefit Plans

On Tuesday the M&C voted 6-1 to approve the Medical Health Plan and Leave Benefits for City workers. There was one gaping hole I found in the Police benefits that caused me to vote in opposition. Maybe not surprisingly, it has to do with accrual of unused sick leave.

The non-public safety workers do not have the opportunity to sell back for cash sick leave that they don't use. Fire fighters can, but what we voted on last Tuesday didn't address that for commissioned firefighters. For TPOA (police union), the item directly impacted what they're allowed to do with unused sick leave.

Cops can earn three Personal Leave Days in each fiscal year if they don't use sick leave. And they can bank up to three of them year over year. If you follow this newsletter you know that they can also sell back unused sick days at the end of the year, the number varying depending on how long they've been in the Department.

If you can accrue Personal Leave Days for not using sick days, and then sell the sick days back for cash, I would call that a double-dip. If we're allowing employees to build up leave time, and there's nothing wrong with that, then I question the logic in also paying them for the unused sick leave time that they're using to build up the personal time off.

In this case, the cherry on top is also letting them use the sold back sick leave to bump their pensionable base salary in violation of State law. I ask weekly the status of our legal opinion as it relates to that issue, and will keep prodding until we get formal resolution – including ensuring we disaggregate base pay from the sell back dollars before sending the data to the Pension Board for calculating lifetime benefits.

Budget

And M&C adopted (6-1) the final budget capacity figures after having cleaned up the defunding of civic events that I wrote about last week. In FY'14 the special events that were funded through the RFP process included El Tour (\$25,586), the Tucson Audubon Society (\$10,000), Festival of Books (\$18,000) and Tucson Meet Yourself (\$7,500). We also funded small business development. The small business areas that benefitted in the most recent past were the Microbusiness Advancement Center (\$61,732) and the Hispanic Chamber (\$50,000). Other applicants included the Downtown Tucson Partnership, Gangplank and Start-Up Tucson, the National Law Center for Inter-American Free Trade, Good Neighbor Ventures, Local First Arizona and Pio Decimo. The M&C decided on Tuesday to reconsider the vote in which neither events nor small business support were funded. Since I voted against the defunding it'll come as no surprise that I support the change.

Last year, the Workforce Development allocation funded the Tucson Urban League (\$45,000), YWCA (\$80,000), Goodwill (\$115,432) and JobPath (\$186,750). Including the civic events and small business development, that was a total of \$600,000. In FY'12 and FY'13 we allocated \$500K to the RFP's and workforce development. It was only in FY'14 that we had the extra \$100K to lump in due to our shifting some of the former TREO money to these groups. Now we would have been back to \$500K except staff pulled a \$100K rabbit out of a hat and we voted to restore the full \$600K. M&C voted to allocate 70% of that to workforce development (\$420K,) 20% to small business (\$120K,) and just \$60K to civic events.

A discussion ensued about increasing our funding for Access Tucson. I suggested staff go find another hat with a rabbit lurking around in it. We'll revisit that hunting expedition in August.



While I agree with refunding the civic events you'll recall my budget proposal was to increase funding for those events, shift the selection process to Visit Tucson and increase the Bed Tax allo-

cation to VT by 5% to help pay for the events (using 2% of that to go to their Film Office.) Those events are key economic drivers, and they largely make a statement about what we stand for as a community. This year's budget did not address that proposal.

As for supporting small, local businesses – reconsideration of the earlier vote was the right thing to do.

As for the rest of the budget, I'll try to avoid redundancy – each week I've been sharing some of the reasons I find the budget unacceptable. These are significant, not just nibbling around the edges of disagreement on minor issues. Here are a few more:

We're leaving a potential of just under \$5M on the table by leaving transit untouched. We're not tackling the Sick Leave Sell Back program. That's another \$2.5M. And all \$8M in pay increases are moving forward into FY'15, despite some on the M&C saying that those raises were for the balance of FY'14 only and would be reconsidered. What is left to deal with includes:

Increase debt service and operations and maintenance costs for SunLink (Streetcar.)

These amounts are part of the fy'15 TDOT Budget:

Debt Service	\$1.3 million
Operating Costs (estimated)	\$4,201,560
Projected revenues funding the operating costs:	
Passenger Revenue	\$1,196,390
RTA Funding	2,000,000
Advertising Funding	100,000
General Fund Transfer	<u>905,170</u>
	\$4,201,560

While it balances on paper, it still includes nearly \$1M from the General Fund, and I'm not sure we haven't overshot the mark when it comes to passenger revenue projections. Time will tell, though. I'd like to be wrong.

In my first fiscal year doing this budget stuff, our General Fund budget subsidy for transit was \$29M. Now it's over \$40M. We didn't touch routes or fares this year. These issues set the stage for yet another tough budget cycle next year.

Increase retiree medical due to end of Federal Grant

In FY'14 a Federal Grant covered \$947,370 of General Fund retiree medical costs. The Grant money has ended.

As a result, the medical rate increase impact for FY'15 is increasing by that nearly \$1M. That amount is part of the FY'15 Budget under what's called our Non-Departmental, General Expense:

Increase of employer paid pension costs (millions)

Pension Plan	FY 2014 Adopted	FY 2015 Tentative
TSRS	\$19.1	\$18.4
Police	26.7	26.3
Fire	17.0	19.0
Total	\$62.8	\$63.7

Due to the decrease in positions and the anticipated change in allowing public safety to sell back unused sick time (still needs to be implemented) and charge it to their base salary, the FY'15 budget impact is about \$1M.

Increase of workers' compensation and public liability

The increase in the FY'15 Budget for workers compensation is \$185,230 and the increase for public liability is \$257,420.

Net increase for TPD DROP payouts and transition of officers from COPS hiring grant

These amounts are part of the FY'15 Budget for TPD:

Police Payouts	\$1.0 million
The net increase for the transition of officers	<u>2.4 million</u>
Total for FY 2015	\$3.4 million

Projected cost for FY 2016:

Police Payouts	\$1.4 million (in addition to FY 2015 amounts)
Net increase for the transition of officers	<u>3.4 million</u>
Total increase for FY 2016	\$4.8 million

Loss of tax revenue due to construction sales tax

The projected loss is \$1.6M is included in the revenue projections for fy'15. You can lay this one at the feet of the State Legislature.

Items deferred in prior years: vehicle replacement, maintenance and repair of city assets, insurance fund surcharge, and certificates of participation payments

General Services projects their annual funding requirement for vehicle replacement to be \$1.5 million. The FY'15 Budget includes \$1.5 million for one-time purchase of replacement vehicles, but only because we're using as a funding source the sale of land. There may be no funding source in FY'16 to replace vehicles.

In addition, General Services' ongoing maintenance need is estimated to be a \$3.6 million increase to the FY'14 amount. The FY'15 Budget only includes a \$1.8 million increase for those ongoing maintenance needs.

General Services' has asked for \$6M annually for major component repairs. There is no allocation of funding for this in our Budget.

Insurance fund surcharge of \$1.6 million is not included in the FY 2015 Tentative Budget.

Public Safety Vehicles

The cost for a new patrol car is \$46K. 30% of our patrol cars have over 100,000 miles on them. The cost of a new paramedic truck is \$270K. Currently 87% of our paramedic trucks have over 100,000 miles on them. Over a quarter of them have over 150,000 miles on them.

Cops and Cameras



Another potential budget related item has to do with TPD command advocating that we buy about 40 video cameras that'd be worn by officers out in the field. This came up a while back and I raised several questions about how the video would be used, stored, costs, etc. I still have those questions.

The total amount of the award is \$385K, and it'll be split 50/50 between the City and County. The money can be used for "training, personnel, equipment, supplies, ..." and other support sorts of services. In a memo we received last week, this is how we were told the City portion of the

grant would be spent:

Funding provided to the City of Tucson will be allocated to outfit officers with body worn cameras including storage/redaction of recordable data, as well as providing training and maintenance for such systems. There is no capacity in the Police Department's General Fund identified for this purpose.

Some of the issues I raised have to do with our I.T. system and its storage capacity. Video takes a ton of storage capacity. I'm also concerned about how the issues of responding to Freedom of Information requests would be handled, redacting inappropriate data, how much time and personnel costs this system will involve, chain of custody issues – generally what hidden costs are we absorbing to have our officers wear a body camera.

Police officers with whom I speak tell me that they've got more urgent needs than a video system. Protective vests, more ammunition, upgrades to some SWAT equipment, medical supplies. None of those bring added costs along with them.

I've advised TPD command that I do not support using the grant money for buying body cameras.

Brew at the Zoo



No, my staff isn't sending me hints quite yet again about needing a haircut, although I'm sure they won't miss the opportunity in a few months. This is an image of a White-handed Gibbon. He's the recipient of this year's proceeds from the 2nd Brew at the Zoo; Ales for Apes.

On Saturday, June 14th at 6pm, there'll be a bunch of local craft brewers out at the Reid Park Zoo offering taste tests – food vendor's too – and the money raised will go to build a new and expanded habitat for their Gibbons. Right now they've got 3 Gibbons on display – they're a single nuclear family that's got Billy (dad,) Moms (mom – creative, yes?,) and their 16 year old daughter Lilith. The family's being moved over to where the 35 year old sun bear is located, and she's moving to an interior habitat – more to her liking.

There'll be two live bands, pub-style food and beers from 15 unique micro's from around town. Check out reidparkzoo.org for ticket information / or just stop by on the 14th.

City Manager Selection Process

You know that current City Manager Richard Miranda is retiring on July 31st. The City Charter does not outline a specific process we need to adopt in order to replace him. What it says is that we ultimately appoint the replacement, but how we find that person is up to us. On Tuesday, we discussed what that process should look like. The details still need to be worked out, but generally there'll be an outside contractor to at least guide the beginning of the selection process, and at some point a citizen's committee to get involved.

We have about 6 consultants on contract who may be qualified to start the selection process. Staff will get us a breakdown on their costs, and from that we can decide on the scope of what they'll do. While that's an important piece, I'm more interested in the citizen's committee playing a robust part in the process.

We didn't decide on the # of people, but I'd like to see that committee be made up of 3 appointees from each Ward office, 3 from the Mayor's office, and 2 from the City Manager's office. I'd also like to see them get engaged as early in the process as possible, but due to sensitivities over main-

taining the confidentiality of the applicants, and the fact that much of the committee work is going to have to be done in an open setting, we'll have to work closely with the City Attorney on how we frame their role. The size and scope of that committee are still to be decided.

Ultimately the decision on who we hire is up to a majority vote of the M&C. That's also true of who we name as interim. I don't think anybody feels we'll have finished this process by July 31st, so an interim will likely be a part of this whole changing of the guards. I'll keep you up to speed on how the selection unfolds. This is certainly just the first of many steps in filling this very key position in our organization.

Charter Change Committee

We've already got a citizen's committee in place to look at possible Charter changes that can appear on the November, 2015 ballot. In order for the Clerk's office to get items ready for that ballot we have to have all of the language drafted for each item by no later than June, 2015. That means the committee needs to kick it into gear soon.

Each of us appointed 2 people to that committee. On Tuesday the M&C voted to allow that committee free reign on which portions of the Charter to consider for the ballot. My vote against that was because I feel we should give the committee direction and not allow them to send staff off on research expeditions for areas we won't ultimately favor placing on the ballot. Whether it's in what we send the committee now, or later if we have to redirect their work, at some point we have to reserve the right to put controls around their work. Each ballot measure costs about \$25K, so we can't just load up the ballot with an unlimited number of questions for the voters. For now, M&C said to let 'em have at it and we'll get updates to see if we need to tweak what they're doing.

Another area we'll have to address is how the items appear on the ballot. A couple of years ago we placed a 4 part item on the ballot. I'm convinced that including the idea of giving Council members a pay increase brought down the whole package. An alternative would be to list items separately, but doing it that way will cost more. As I noted, we're looking at about \$25K per item, so deciding how to package them will be an important consideration.

As with the City Manager topic, I'll make sure to keep returning to this as the committee gets started and we see which items they're working on.

AC Marriott Hotel

On Tuesday, we approved moving ahead to a development agreement on a new 147 room AC Marriott hotel for downtown. This would not have been possible without our having put into place some of the new development incentives that we have in the past 4 years.



The hotel will be located at Congress and 5th, behind the Playground, and around the corner from the Rialto. We received back the economic analysis related to it which verified that the impact of the hotel and its associated retail will far exceed the value of the incentives we're extend-

ing. Check off the Gift Clause box.

Without getting too deep into the weeds, the incentives include an 8 year property tax abatement, some site specific generated sales taxes being plowed back into the property and a HUD bridge loan. We didn't have any of those in our tool kit a few years ago. Credit this M&C for working to get them established.

The hotel will also include 3 restaurants and other retail components on the ground floor, as well as parking. In total the project is going to create over 200 new jobs. Upon completion, the project will have an annual economic impact of over \$22M.

We gave direction to move ahead in putting together a development agreement that will set out performance measures and time lines. The anticipated construction period will begin either late this year, or early in 2015. We are still working out from under some very convoluted agreements that date back years – the AC agreement will be straight forward and easy to follow.

Gadsden

...and by way of comparison, the M&C approved another extension and change of terms for the Gadsden development agreement over at the west terminus of the streetcar line.

This deal started back in 2008. It was amended in 2013, restated in May of 2014, and now we're doing it again. I personally enjoy the guys involved in the project plans, but have voted in opposition to each of these re-do's, wanting to put the property back out onto the street and see if we can get a clean development agreement into place – such as the AC Marriott's.

The new deadline for paying the City for the land is June 30th. That is supposed to be a \$2.3M payment. It was also supposed to be done back during streetcar construction as a way to help us defray some of the costs for that project. Instead, we've taken on debt to pay those costs – a part of our General Fund obligation this year. They're posting security again, and making application for other public funding. And we set new performance dates for the end of this year for some parts of the deal, and out another 2 years for other parts of it.

There are far too many moving parts in this development agreement for me to support it. Two years ago an outside investor swooped in and helped Gadsden stay afloat with a senior housing project out on the site. If they find another opportunity like that, it has a chance. Otherwise, I'm not optimistic that this will end up in anything but court. I will not support anything remotely resembling a development agreement like this. And as I stated at the council meeting on Tuesday, at this point they have no reason to believe that we simply won't extend again if they don't make their June 30th deadline.

Streetcar Update

One of the other catalysts to the downtown development is getting the streetcar up and running. Yes, I continue to be concerned about funding for operations and maintenance of the system, but we won't be able to measure that until we get the system rolling for revenue.

On the next page you'll see a copy of a letter we recently sent to the FTA in which we formally identified July 25th as the revenue date for the streetcar...



CITY OF
TUCSON
OFFICE OF THE
CITY MANAGER

May 27, 2014

Mr. Leslie Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
201 Mission Street, Suite 1650
San Francisco, California 94105

SUBJECT: Tucson SunLink Streetcar Operational Scenarios and Revenue Service Date - Grant AZ-78-0001-00

Dear Mr. Rogers:

As of today, Oregon Iron Works (dba United Streetcar) has now delivered all eight vehicles required for service. Therefore, the City of Tucson would like to amend our letter of February 13, 2014 to remove the previously discussed optional operational scenarios as we anticipate having all vehicles accepted before we start revenue service simulation. Currently, six vehicles have completed acceptance testing.

Therefore, the City would like to formalize our request for FTA approval for the establishment of July 25, 2014 as our Revenue Service Date (RSD). This date allows for approximately one month of pre-revenue service and allows us to begin revenue service before the University of Arizona begins the fall semester. It is very important to have SunLink service started in advance of the fall semester. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our request for a July 25, 2014 RSD.

Very truly yours,

Andrew H. Quigley
Co-Manager SunLink

AHQ/nr

We're still in the testing mode, and will be up until the July date, but finally Oregon Ironworks has delivered the 8th car so now they're all in town and going through their test phase. So far, no major glitches.

In the Gadsden section I mentioned that one of their obligations was to help fund the streetcar construction. That was supposed to be a \$3M payment. Having missed it, we've taken on added debt. Another financial issue related to the streetcar is that we'd have been in revenue operation long ago had the manufacturer performed according to their contract. They didn't and we've alerted them that we intend to collect late fees – called Liquidated Damages – from them once we've got the testing done and take ownership of all the cars. We're close. I've already sent to staff a reminder that we have a significant amount of money coming in the form of LD's – and we need it to help pay down the debt related to our inability to fully fund the system through grants and other sources. I'll be looking to see how we move that LD issue forward. By contract those amounts are

\$250 per vehicle, per day for the first 90 days they're late, \$1,200 per vehicle per day from 91 days until the 240th calendar day they're late, and \$1,800 per vehicle per day thereafter.

In the meantime, the people who have invested along the route are looking forward to seeing passengers finally riding in the now empty cars. So am I. We've got commitments to meet ahead of the start of the fall UA semester.

UA Gymcats



Speaking of the UA, the NCAA sets a high bar for our student-athletes' academic progress. Last week the NCAA recognized the UA gymnastics team for its academic excellence. They scored a perfect 1,000 in 2012-2013, the most recent scoring period.

Each year, the NCAA tracks the classroom performance of student-athletes for all Division I teams. They put together an annual academic achievement scorecard called the Academic Progress Rate. The APR takes into account eligibility, retention and graduation and measures an entire team's academic performance. It's both an annual report and a four-year average. The Gymcats have earned a perfect score since the 2010-2011 period, and last week received that perfect 1,000 APR for the 4 year period.

I work in the athletics department and see first hand the travel, training and other pressures these young people experience. The squad and their coaching staff deserve a lot of credit for this achievement.

Impact Fees

I've reported on this before – now closing the loop on how we're moving forward.

Impact fees are fees we collect on construction projects that help pay for the infrastructure impacts associated with the new development. Those include roads, parks, utilities and public safety. Back in 2011, the Legislature changed the law so we had to go through and redevelop our entire impact fee policy/charges/definitions and how we implement it. The deadline for completing that rewrite is August 1st of this year.

We're going to miss the deadline, and until we get the new plan adopted, starting on August 1st we'll be unable to collect fees. Staff estimates that we'll be done by the end of the year, with a financial loss of just over \$3M.

We're required by law to go through a pretty formal process in the course of adopting the new policy. That includes posting the new proposal for 60 days, holding a public hearing (scheduled for June 30th) on the new plan, making any changes that result from the hearing, holding another public hearing and then waiting 75 days before starting to assess the new fees. In order to meet the deadline we should have begun that progression late last year. Instead staff was focused on getting Plan Tucson onto the ballot – a misjudgement of priorities in my opinion.

I began pushing on this during the budget talks as an adjunct to advocating for retaining Parks Project Managers. We use impact fees to help fund some parks related projects. That discussion saved just one of the proposed 3 PM's who were being slated for lay off / and got us off the dime in terms of getting all hands on deck related to finishing the new policy. Too little, too late in both cases.

Puppy Mill Litigation

Lastly it's not only in races for political office that big money attempts to swing votes. Last week I learned that at least 4 pet industry groups had joined together and raised \$125K to support the lawsuit Puppies 'N Love brought against the City of Phoenix over their Puppy Mill Ordinance. Of course they hope to win in U.S. District Court up there and then use that as a stepping off point to overturn similar Ordinances in the 48 other cities who have adopted them – including ours.



The **American Pet Products Association (APPA)**, the **Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council (PIJAC)**, the **Pet Industry Distributors Association (PIDA)** and the **World Pet Association (WPA)** are the groups who have collectively donated \$125,000 to support the lawsuit brought in the U.S. District Court in Phoenix on behalf of Phoenix pet store Puppies 'N Love. That's the same guy who runs Animal Kingdom here in Tucson, and is fighting against our Ordinance. Remember, the other cities who have adopted bans on selling dogs/cats other than those that come from shelters and rescue organizations include big markets such as San Diego, Chicago and Los Angeles. We're not out there on a limb with some tiny cities who are concerned about puppy mills.

Puppies 'N Love was granted a preliminary injunction which delays the enforcement of the Phoenix Ordinance until the litigation is concluded. The trial will take place sometime in late 2014 or early 2015. We're moving forward on our proposed ban, but I made it a part of the motion to wait until the Phoenix litigation cleared before ours goes into effect. Many other cities are also watching what happens up north before moving ahead with their bans.

Meanwhile, we're asking voters to pay up to \$22M to support rebuilding the Pima Animal Care Center. You'll have the chance to vote on that Bond question in November. I've already written a letter in support of the project. There are three important parts to this moving target related to adoptable pets; getting the Bond measure passed, winning the litigation so we can source retail sales through shelters, and getting the word out that spay/neuter is the responsible way to raise your adopted pet family member.

Sincerely,



Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
Ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Events Calendar

What's happening this week in the Downtown, 4th Avenue, and Main Gate areas . . .

Tucson POPS Orchestra Summer Concert Series

Sunday, June 8 at 7 PM

American Music and the "1812" Overture will be performed by the Tucson POPS Orchestra.

Reid Park, George DeMeester Outdoor Performance Center bandshell

900 S Randolph Way

Parking: Parking at Reid Park is limited and will fill up quickly. Alternate parking will be provided at Hi Corbett or a shuttle service is available from 4:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. from the Randolph Golf Course at 600 S. Alvernon Way.

Sponsors: Tucson Parks and Recreation, Long Realty Co., and The Tucson POPS Orchestra

Ongoing

Rialto Theatre, 318 E. Congress St.

<http://www.rialtotheatre.com/>

The Rogue Theatre at The Historic Y 300 East University Blvd

<http://www.theroguetheatre.org/main.htm>

Fox Theatre, 17 W. Congress St.

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Hotel Congress 311 E. Congress St.

<http://hotelcongress.com/>

Loft Cinema, 3233 E. Speedway

www.loftcinema.com/

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave.

www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Jewish History Museum. 564 S. Stone Ave.

The Jewish History Museum presents "Cowboys, Merchants, Miners, & Booze," an exhibit that celebrates the lives of Tucson's Jewish pioneers.

www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Children's Museum Tucson, 200 S. 6th Ave.

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturdays & Sundays: 10:00am - 5:00pm

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

Arizona State Museum, 1013 E. University Blvd

November 9, 2013, through July 2015 **Curtis Reframed: The Arizona Portfolios**

www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

UA Mineral Museum, 1601 E University Blvd

Ongoing "100 Years of Arizona's Best: The Minerals that Made the State"

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, 414 N Toole Ave.

Explore regional transportation history, and see a freight train passing by, or ring the locomotive bell at the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum every Saturday, year round.

Tuesday – Thursday, Sunday: 11:00am - 3:00pm; Friday & Saturdays: 10:00am - 4:00pm

<http://www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org/>

Sacred Machine Museum & Curiosity Shop 245 E Congress St
<http://sacredmachine.com/>

Meet Me at Maynards

A social walk/run through the Downtown area
Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too!
Hotel Congress
Check-in begins at 5:15pm.
www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

Cinema La Placita

Every Thursday evening at 7:30, May through August, hundreds of Tucsonans enjoy the cool summer evenings and a pleasant summertime event. \$3 per person includes popcorn!

JUNE 5

THE 39 STEPS (1935) NR

Starring Robert Donat and Madeleine Carroll.

A man in London tries to help a counterespionage agent. But when the agent is killed and the man stands accused, he must go on the run to both save himself and also stop a spy ring which is trying to steal top secret information.