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Ward 6 - Newsletter

TUCSON FIRST

June 25, 2013

Pensions - Defined Contributions

I'm going to suggest that you not tune out of this item - cities have gone into bankruptcy from having made poor decisions related to pensions / and voters are being asked to make a decision about ours that could have that same net result.



A couple of weeks ago I briefly introduced the idea of a petition I had learned was gaining steam meant to force the City into a Defined Contribution pension plan. Since then I've learned who is funding that effort, and have now seen the text of the Petition. Here's an update.

The name of the local group who is heading up the petition signature effort is called the Committee for Sustainable Retirement. They have to collect roughly 13,000 valid signatures from Tucson voters by July 5th in order to get the petition on the November ballot. While there is a local PR firm and a couple of local guys leading that group, the seed funding for the petition drive is coming from a group called the Liberty Initiative Fund.

The Liberty Initiative Fund is a national not-for-profit organization that focuses on public policy issues - they're active in several states. Their self-proclaimed mission is to "put measures on the ballot that will expand and protect individual freedom, economic freedom, and that will hold government accountable." Their general orientation is Libertarian and their leadership declines to identify the organizations donors. You heard me all during the last election cycle saying that I agree with 'speech' rights, but I also would like to know who's doing the speaking. By that I mean, let us see who's writing the checks to fund your campaign/advocacy. Knowing that tends to frame the context of the message being delivered.

Right now Liberty Fund is working in Colorado, Washington, Arkansas, North Dakota, Montana, Nevada and Arizona. My bias is, and has been pretty publicly to resist huge outside monied interests coming in and 'selling' initiatives to voters. Let's look at the facts surrounding what's being proposed and have a healthy debate locally.

So, let's do that. Here's a copy of the full text of the initiative:



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

http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/files/ward6/Tucson_Initiative_2013-I004_Title_and_Text.pdf

Here are a few points that I found worth noting:

- a) Section 2 (1) states "This act is necessary to protect city employees from irresponsible politicians by securing past promises to them while modernizing the retirement system for the next generation of workers." then, in Section 2 (3) it repeats "...threatened by budget conflicts caused by the failure of irresponsible politicians to adequately fund costs of employee pension benefits."

So much for an unbiased and fact based presentation of the perceived need for the changes being proposed. The "Liberty" folks would be better served by leaving the ad hominem out of the petition.

- b) Section 2 (4) speaks of the threats to the 'economic viability' of the city. Remember that for later in this review of the proposal.

- c) Section 2 (7) states that the act is "not intended" to affect current plan members. Section 2 (8) states that it also isn't "intended" to affect current retirees who are in the TSRS plan.

The fact is that it will indeed 'affect' both groups, whether or not the people proposing the changes 'intend' for that to happen.

The plan amends our City Charter, Section XXIII - Pension Fund. In Section 3(a) of the proposed change it gives current TSRS members the right to opt out of that plan and change over to this newly proposed one. If they do opt into the new benefits plan, they may not jump back into the one they're leaving, and they acknowledge that their benefits may be reduced under the new option.

The Petition is proposing a Defined Contribution plan. I noted in the earlier newsletter that this is a plan in use in many private sector firms. What happens is that money is taken from each individual employee, matched at some level by the employer and is invested into a fund made up of stocks, bonds and other investment options. The worker's pension benefits are based on the returns gained from those investments.

Compare that to the current Defined Benefit plan that gives workers a fixed benefit that is based on a formula that calculates the benefits from years of service and wages earned in last few years of service. Those benefits won't change, and so other factors make the city obligation either more or less fully funded based on other inputs (number of workers paying into the system, rates of return on investment.)

ok, back to the language in the petition:

The folks putting this to the voters have the level of city 'match' going into each employee's account set by the Mayor and Council. Odd - those same 'irresponsible politicians' who were called out for getting us to the point of needing to make the changes. Then, the plan would be administered by a Board of Directors who will be named by - you guessed it - those same 'irresponsible politicians,' the Mayor and Council. There appear to be some rather glaring inconsistencies in the tone and tenor of the petition. Finally, there is a cap set on the level of employee contributions that the Mayor and Council



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)
(3th 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)

cil can require of employees who elect to remain in the current plan. That rate is set at not more than 17.5% of the worker's wages or salary.

So, to summarize, the Liberty folks are correctly pointing to the fact that our current pension has an underfunded long term liability. To correct that, they are suggesting that we pull people who are contributing into the system (helping to pay the benefits of existing retirees and future retirees who remain in the plan) out of it, and to give current employees that same option. They start their own new plan.

I'll be asking our finance folks what they think of that idea. If a part of our problem is that we now have fewer workers than before, and our plan is 'old,' meaning that we have more people receiving benefits than we have workers paying into the system, won't we simply add to the level of underfunded liability by having people opt-out of the system? And if that's true, where will the money come from to keep up with our current and long term obligations? Unless I'm wrong, that'd be the general fund. The same one that competes for funding of things like road repair, firefighters, parks and all of the other services we are asked to provide. I'm having trouble understanding the arithmetic. If the general fund is just paying pension benefits, we either severely reduce services, or when the well runs dry, we file for protection.

What you don't do is kill the patient in order to cure the disease.

Also, recall the language of the petition in which it states that the change is not "intended" to affect current retirees or employees. Well, if the funds dry up, it darn sure will affect them. With the built in cap the petition puts in place on employee contributions (17.5%) the balance of fund obligations is placed under even that much more pressure.

At the start of this item I encouraged you to not skip by this review. If we take a step such as this, we have got to understand the potential unintended consequences. I, as much as anybody would prefer to have a market that was over performing, and to have a supply of workers large enough so that our pension plan wasn't stressed. But we don't. And to solve that, we can't just start having people opt out of it, potentially increasing the depth of the problem, unless we've thought three moves down the board and have an idea of what options we'd be faced with other than emptying the general fund.

I also began this by identifying the group funding this petition as Libertarian leaning. I'll let you do your own homework on that label as it relates to this group, but as I stated at the outset, we need to study at the local level the implications of what's being proposed and not simply fall prey to what may be a well-funded advertising campaign put on by people who are not invested in this community.

You have the text of the petition, and you see the questions that come to my mind. If you've got others, please share them. This topic deserves a healthy and public discussion - more so than it needs an out-of-state lobbying firm putting an ideologically biased measure up to voters without the benefit of having thought through the local ramifications of seeing it go into effect.

Pima Council on Aging

To put the whole issue of an 'old' pension plan into perspective, PCOA provides us with some very eye-opening demographics of our area in their "Aging in Pima County - A Report to the Community."

This matters because as our local population ages, there will be important changes in how and where people live, costs for health care, and the related impacts on pension plans and Social Security. I'm certainly not going to solve them all here, but sharing some of this data with you will give you a picture as to just how key it is for us to make informed pension decisions. This is true not only of the city plan, but for any you may be involved with in your own lives - including Social Security.

Pima County is home to nearly 210,000 individuals who are over 60 years of age. That's 21% of the entire County population. There is a 5-year HUD study that shows 42% of the County's elderly households have low and moderate incomes - mostly fixed. Thirty-five percent have incomes under 200% of the federal poverty level. Almost 50% of older women live alone.

These folks can no longer afford unpredicted things such as home repairs, transportation cost increases, or other inflationary impacted costs of living. The report also notes that over one-half of the non-drivers who are over 65 years of age stay home on a given day, partially due to lack of transportation, causing them to miss doctor or health related appointments. These numbers make it critical that we as a community engage in some serious discussions about topics such as how we can incentivize in-home health care options / and in a related manner, how we can gracefully plan for more adult home care facilities and mitigate any possible impacts they may have on established residential areas. Both the service providers and homeowners need to recognize that we've got to address land use issues together and not simply pretend that the other side doesn't matter, or exist.

So, the issue of pensions is huge in our locale. With our population at the age it is, and clearly more yet to come as 'boomers' age out of the workforce, the need to think through the implications of pension related decisions has much more broad implications than simply what one particular employee is asked to contribute. Changing a Plan may touch lives through the ability of the city to provide much needed services.

The folks at the Liberty Initiative Fund are of course free to spend their money in advocacy, but it's up to us at the local level to consider the much more broad potential impacts of what they're proposing.

Internet Taxes

Here's another heavy weight item that will have an impact on our local finances. It's the Federal proposal to start taxing sales that take place over the internet. It's called the Marketplace Fairness Act. It has not yet been fully adopted at the Federal level.

The State Legislature just passed a bill that is intended to simplify how taxes are collected in Arizona. In order for a State to be eligible for the internet taxes, the Feds are requiring States have a uniform tax system. That was a large part of the basis for the State to pass what they're calling the Transaction Privilege Tax bill.

What we know is that the impact of the TPT will cost the City of Tucson money. Because the terms in the bill are poorly defined, and all parties at the State level concede that it needs more fine-tuning, we cannot know for sure how much of a hit to our local tax receipts it will cause. We've seen estimates that range from just under \$2M annually, up to closer to \$5M.

We have also been told by our own finance people that we're already collecting taxes from the ten largest internet sales providers. The contention is that comparing the losses from the TPT to the suggested gains we'd see from the internet sales tax could be a net loss to us. We don't know because the TPT is still being sorted out, and there are grossly differing claims as to how lucrative the internet sales taxes would be for us.

For example, one source has suggested that the State would net a new \$80M from the internet sales bill. However, in December 2012, the National Council of State Legislatures held a bipartisan advocacy day on Capitol Hill urging members of Congress to support the Marketplace Fairness Act. In their meetings with members of Congress, State legislators emphasized how their local business owners are suffering under the current competitive disadvantage (bricks and mortar businesses pay taxes – internet sales don't,) and how their state budgets are being adversely affected. In 2012 alone, it was estimated states lost out on a collective \$23 billion as a result of not being able to collect sales tax revenue on remote sales.

Here's a table that shows where that figure came from:

	NON-ELECTRONIC BUSINESS TO CUSTOMER	NON-ELECTRONIC BUSINESS TO BUSINESS	ELECTRONIC BUSINESS TO BUSINESS AND BUSINESS TO CUSTOMER	TOTAL
Alabama	101,857,313	75,877,088	170,400,000	347,734,399
Alaska	880,149	855,892	1,500,000	3,035,981
Arizona	220,741,594	118,088,880	388,800,000	708,829,254
Arkansas	87,847,572	54,484,858	118,800,000	238,811,860
California	1,188,801,807	1,118,888,840	1,804,500,000	4,159,887,847
Colorado	109,085,552	78,785,022	172,700,000	352,589,574
Connecticut	38,022,475	50,544,890	83,800,000	152,387,405
District of Columbia	21,211,812	15,805,570	35,500,000	72,517,182
Florida	478,789,709	200,120,801	808,800,000	1,489,890,010
Georgia	244,857,701	182,452,888	410,800,000	837,810,389
Hawaii	35,822,100	28,892,385	80,000,000	122,514,485
Idaho	27,838,708	28,083,778	48,400,000	109,120,482
Illinois	802,507,519	249,542,088	508,800,000	1,059,849,588
Indiana	118,819,881	88,897,847	185,800,000	398,817,708
Iowa	52,897,008	39,415,552	88,700,000	181,012,580
Kansas	85,258,525	51,097,503	142,800,000	279,224,028
Kentucky	85,859,182	48,925,127	109,800,000	224,484,309
Louisiana	238,320,247	178,091,110	385,800,000	809,811,357
Maine	19,099,252	14,281,572	32,100,000	65,480,824
Maryland	109,890,722	81,813,513	184,100,000	375,844,240
Massachusetts	78,333,340	58,889,120	181,800,000	288,002,460
Michigan	54,484,390	82,959,949	141,500,000	258,954,339
Minnesota	140,471,823	79,447,827	285,800,000	455,219,250
Mississippi	80,533,715	87,852,845	184,800,000	309,236,360
Missouri	125,778,420	88,718,503	210,700,000	439,191,923
Nebraska	38,814,235	20,137,833	81,800,000	119,052,068
Nevada	100,885,178	75,158,440	188,800,000	344,823,618
New Jersey	120,844,580	80,045,845	202,500,000	413,390,425
New Mexico	71,808,248	53,581,540	120,500,000	245,889,788
New York	518,559,974	384,803,277	885,500,000	1,768,863,251
North Carolina	127,821,785	85,086,787	218,800,000	438,517,492
North Dakota	9,159,558	8,320,881	15,800,000	31,274,219
Ohio	183,775,298	138,897,891	307,800,000	623,813,189
Oklahoma	84,054,315	71,494,343	140,800,000	296,348,658
Pennsylvania	208,483,185	153,858,377	345,800,000	708,241,542
Rhode Island	17,338,952	24,097,508	29,000,000	70,436,458
South Carolina	74,372,888	55,417,372	124,500,000	254,290,538
South Dakota	17,779,027	13,247,322	28,800,000	60,826,349
Tennessee	245,209,781	92,471,128	410,800,000	748,480,889
Texas	519,552,434	387,188,109	870,400,000	1,777,090,593
Utah	52,803,993	39,349,988	88,500,000	180,653,981
Vermont	14,982,548	4,888,781	25,100,000	44,759,329
Virginia	129,578,045	82,078,828	207,000,000	422,851,871
Washington	188,284,880	80,784,044	281,800,000	540,888,704
West Virginia	80,189,141	22,485,065	50,800,000	109,284,206
Wisconsin	84,848,450	82,059,884	142,100,000	289,008,114
Wyoming	17,074,805	18,089,787	28,800,000	61,744,705
Total	6,800,214,118	5,087,095,451	11,892,700,000	28,280,009,564

If the table is correct, Arizona would see a new influx of over \$708M that would be shared among the various jurisdictions in the same manner as sales taxes are now. Compare that to the \$80M in potential gains that we have been told, and you'll see why the discussions about how we should respond to the TPT are so unsettling.

I didn't have the answers for the impact of the Defined Contribution pension petition, and I clearly don't have the answer for this difference of opinion on TPT vs. Internet Sales Taxes. Both have to be publicly discussed and analyzed. Both have huge potential impacts on our local economy and therefore neither can be caught up in ideology or false claims. Stay tuned - and stay engaged in the conversations. I've got questions on all of this in front of our finance staff.

Palo Verde Neighborhood 4th of July Parade

It's hard to believe, but the year is nearly 1/2 over, and that means we're about to see several 4th of July celebrations popping all over town.

One note that is critical - coming from our friends at TFD; respect the fact that everything is dry. It takes very, very little to start a brush fire, and if the winds are up, it can spread extremely quickly. Nobody is naive enough to think people aren't going to fire off their firecrackers, or other similar devices, but use your head and don't be sending up Roman Candles or those sorts of things if you're remotely close to areas in which they might land and start the dry desert growth on fire.



On a lighter note, this year will be #50 for the Palo Verde Neighborhood to sponsor their 4th of July parade. They host a pancake breakfast from 7am - 8am, and the parade begins at 9am, led by a TPD honor guard. The route starts at Camden and Palo Verde, circles through the neighborhood and ends back at that same corner. Bikers, walkers, parents w/strollers - everybody is invited to participate. I'll be there for the start of the parade.

The food portion is held at 3412 E. Fairmont - on the parade route. If you want to get involved at any level, contact Sally @ 741.0849 or check out their site at Paloverdena.com.

TMM Ministries

Also over in that general area of town is the Tucson Metropolitan Ministries site. They're a local 501c non-profit that has been working with at-risk and disadvantaged people in our community since 1974. I wanted to share just one of their programs with you - the *Community Closet*. It's a voucher program that distributes free clothing and bedding to our most needy by working hand in hand with other non-profits, social and governmental agencies, as well as faith based organizations.

For a fee of \$75, an organization can purchase 100 vouchers. Each voucher can provide up to five items of clothing and bedding from the TMM *Community Closet* - that's five items per person for up to five persons per family (maximum = 25 items per family.) The

'closet' is located at their ReStore (22nd and Country Club.)

It's not uncommon for us to wait until the holidays to start to think about helping those among us who are most in need. The needs don't just emerge in December, or at Thanksgiving. I'd invite you to consider the TMM *Community Closet* - donate your goods, or help them financially. Or, if you're involved with a group who could participate in the sponsorship and/or distribution of the vouchers, give Brooke Nowak a call @ 322.9557 and learn how you can get involved.

Big Changes Coming for Cat Tran Shuttles

The Cat Tran shuttle service runs riders to campus, and around the UA campus throughout the day. This summer, in anticipation for the fall semester, they're making some changes.

UA Parking & Transportation Services is adding a GPS tracking system to the Cat Trans. The system will allow riders to access shuttle information in real time. Via an app, riders trying to find the shuttle stop closest to them will be able to do so. If you've had the experience of arriving at a shuttle stop only to realize the Cat Tran came and went about a minute earlier, or have tried to figure out which shuttle route to ride based on the color-coded system, then this change is aimed directly at you as a traveler.

...and more on how we travel -

In May US Public Interest Research Group (PIRG) released a report that may have profound implications for how we design our transportation corridors. The report affirmed the trend towards less driving. Recall that the proposed Broadway expansion is based on data that is 25 years old, and that projected increasing numbers of drivers of single passenger vehicles.

Total US driving dipped and then leveled off in recent years. However, per capita vehicle miles traveled (VMT) has steadily dropped since 2005. Per capita driving is down 8.75 percent, and is now at 1996 levels. Remember that for about the last 50 years, vehicle miles travelled showed steady and significant increases. Those were likely largely a result of cheap gasoline, new highway construction, moving to the suburbs and more women entering the workforce.

The demographics of the trends are reflected in this comment by Brad Plumer of The Washington Post - "Between 2001 and 2009, the average yearly number of miles driven by 16- to 34-year-olds dropped a staggering 23 percent." That cohort includes both Millennials and Generation X, but the trend is strongest among Millennials.

Older drivers are contributing to the end of the driving boom. The group who came of age during the 1950's, and who were our most prolific drivers, are now entering their Golden Years, and with that are driving less and less. Boomers, nearly as prolific drivers, started reaching 65 in 2011. Retirement brings less driving.

The trend dovetails with the shift toward walkable neighborhoods. US PIRG report, "A New Direction: Our Changing Relationship with Driving and the Implications for America's Future," makes a direct connection between urban living and driving. For example, the report states - "Millennials are twice as likely as Baby Boomers and Generation X'ers to express a desire to live in a city." According to a 2011 survey by the National Association

for Realtors, 62 percent of people ages 18-29 said they would prefer to live in walkable neighborhoods rather than conventional suburbs, PIRG notes.

I note this in the context of the continuing work by the Broadway Citizen's Task Force as that group studies lane configurations and cross-widths for Broadway, between Euclid and Country Club. They may take solace in knowing that the RTA attorney, the County Administrator and Mayor/Council have each suggested a creative approach to the CTF tasks. If they land on a proposed cross-width that differs from that which appeared on the RTA ballot, it will have to be defended. With the administrative support listed, the CTF is empowered to make good choices, not simply rubber stamp ballot measures that are easily demonstrably flawed.



Yes, the Circus was in town last weekend. If you're a circus fan, this item might be troubling to you.

The image below is called a Bull Hook. It's used on baby (and older) elephants to get them to

comply with 'orders' from a trainer. The Hook is drilled into the side or leg of the animal and not surprisingly, the animal obeys whatever the command was.

In September, 2014 the Association of Zoos and Aquariums will require that facilities wanting to wear the accredited label no longer use Bull Hooks in their treatment modalities. What they're suggesting the Bull Hooks be replaced with is what's called 'protected contact.' In that method of training, the animal is behind some form of barrier so the direct contact with a trainer (or a trainer's training tool) is eliminated. The alternative is called 'free contact,' and it's just what it sounds like; the keeper stays in the same space as the elephant.



I've found reports of Elephants under 'free contact' that have been routinely beaten so the mere sight of the Bull Hook instills fear and submission. About half of the zoos in the AZA system still use this cruel method but that will change by Sept. 1, 2014 if they wish to maintain their accreditation from the AZA.

Protected contact improves the quality of life for elephants. They no longer live under the fear of the Bull Hook.

So why am I mentioning it here? Because I've begun a dialogue with our legal folks and our Zoo administration to see about banning the use of Bull Hooks on City property. To be clear, they don't use them at Reid Park Zoo. In fact, the new elephant enclosures are ahead of the AZA standard in that they already employ 'protected contact' methods. But when the Circus comes to town, I'm not sure that same thing is true. The AZA does not accredit circuses.

There is a way to go with this conversation – and the rest of M&C would have to agree, but knowing how the animals are abused I'm hopeful that we can make a statement in favor of getting rid of the use of Bull Hooks in City facilities.



One more animal related item: there's a program in which you can help to reduce the number of wild cats that are roaming around the City – and it's humane.

A feral cat is one that is born and lives without any human contact. "Strays" are cats that were once in a home and know human contact. They're abandoned or lost. Feral cats have never had that experience. As a result, they're not animals who you can safely handle.

Feral cats are afraid of people; you can't hold them or pet them, and they must be caught using a humane trap that you can rent from a local feed store.

There are several rescue groups that loan out traps for free. You can check with the Humane Society, located over on Kelvin Blvd, about ½ mile north of Ft. Lowell. The TNR program includes trapping the cat, taking it to the Humane Society (or other treatment agency) having it neutered and then taken back to the area in which it was found. If you use the Humane Society, you should be there by about 8am (cover the cage so the cat doesn't get upset) leave it for the day, and in the afternoon go back to get it, keep it overnight and release it in the morning. That gives you a chance to keep an eye on it to make sure there aren't surgery related complications.

This program is in the alternative to euthanizing the cats. Here's a statement put out by the Humane Society about Trap/Neuter/Return programs:

The HSUS recognizes that there are real challenges to reducing the numbers of feral cats currently living on the streets of this country, and this statement is meant to encourage all members of the community—citizens, veterinarians, animal shelters, wildlife advocates, policy makers, public health departments, businesses—to work together toward a goal of non-lethal approaches to feral cat management.

You can go on-line and find several agencies who'll get you a humane trap for use in a TNR program. It's the responsible way to address the feral cat population without taking them to Animal Control for euthanizing.

Sex Trafficking De-Brief

The group of us who put together the sex trafficking forum have now compiled the input we received from the many members of the public who attended. They broke out into small groups and shared their feelings about the presentations they'd heard, and also shared from their own experiences with the issue. Below is a table that was compiled by the Center for Community Dialogue at Our Family Services that summarizes the variety of take-aways that the forum produced:

Themes Based on Small Group Actions
What Do You Think We Should Be Doing as a Community Regarding Sex Trafficking?

Community Forum: Sex Trafficking in Our Homes, Schools and Community
 June 13, 2013 – 6:00-8:00 pm
 PCC Downtown Campus, Amethyst Room

Awareness of the issue, local and global	Resources to support victims	Taking personal responsibility	Spread the word through media	Education in schools	Empowerment of kids	Education through forums	Education of the community	Consequences for sex traffickers	Safety and protection	Agencies working together
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intervention and advocacy: What can we do? How can we best help? Who do we get involved? • Get the word out. Let the community know • Awareness: We buzz and issue. Local and global • Awareness + perseverance – needs to be talked about. • Get more people like Steve Kozachik to raise awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid response: task force, hotline • Rehabilitation facilities • More support: programs, shelter • Resources/ Task Force • Procure resources for victims • Resources to address issues • Make victims aware of their rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Responsibility (call legislature, initiate action, spread word in own circle) • Outreach + awareness. People have to care, finding mix with voice that gets heard, find the right recipe, there is government money, loud voice • Talk to your own contacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Service Announcement (with national slogan) • Media (series, responsible, defining and redefining, all levels – news, print, internet, social media) • Get people in community to speak out. Doesn't cost much for that publicity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness in middle school through junior high • Schools (education, awareness) • Education for schools, youth, parents and professional (What we as a community can look for to spot human trafficking) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a speaker who can talk to the kids about real life experiences • Empowerment of the kids • Get kids to have trust and feel comfortable talking about it • Prevention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, Forums • Perseverance. • Small groups this time will be bigger next time. • Educate people. Hold forums across Tucson + Southern Arizona 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education of community • Educate: What are the signs and symptoms? What resources are available? • Get more involved and educate our community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosecution – penalties for pimps • Set up undercover to get information to report back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection • Community safety (examples: lights, emergency phone) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Networking, mix of agencies working together



We're in the process of talking through what some next-steps might be. There was an undeniable interest in this very important topic / as there was for the Project RAISE diversion program we coordinated earlier in the year / so this is something you'll be seeing more on in the days ahead. If you have a group who would like to have more information on this topic, feel free to call us at the Ward 6 office (791.4601) and we'll get you what you're after.

Sincerely,

Steve Kozachik
 Council Member, Ward 6
 ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Arts and Entertainment Events Calendar

This week and next week at the arts and entertainment venues in the Downtown, 4th Avenue, and Main Gate areas . . .

Rialto Theatre, 318 E. Congress St.

Saturday, June 29, 7:00pm. “Mikal Cronin @ Club Congress” 21+.

www.RialtoTheatre.com

Fox Theatre, 17 W. Congress St.

Friday, June 28, 8:00pm. “Air Supply” all ages.

Saturday, June 29, 2:00 & 7:30pm. “Laura” (film)

Sunday, June 30, 2:00pm. “Cine Plaza: Maclovia” all ages.

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Ongoing

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave.

Ongoing exhibition:

“Desert Grasslands,” and “Art + The Machine”

www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), 265 S. Church Ave.

Current exhibition: “Peter Young: Capitalist Masterpieces”

Hours: Wednesday to Sunday, 12:00 to 5:00pm.

www.Moca-Tucson.org

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

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

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

Jewish History Museum. 564 S. Stone Ave.

Open Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1:00-5:00 and Friday, Noon to 3:00pm

Special hours for school and group tours, for more information call 670-9073

www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Meet Me at Maynards

A social walk/run through the Downtown area

Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too!

Maynards Market and Kitchen, 400 N. Toole Avenue, the historic train depot

Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

Tucson Farmers' Market at Maynards

Saturdays 9:00am – 1:00pm

On the plaza at Maynards Market & Kitchen. 400 N Toole in the Historic Train Depot

Santa Cruz Farmers' Market Mercado San Agustin, 100 S. Avenida del Convento

Thursdays, 4:00 – 7:00pm.

For other events in the Downtown/4th Avenue/Main Gate area, visit these sites:

www.MainGateSquare.com
www.FourthAvenue.org
www.DowntownTucson.org

Other Community Events

Loft Cinema www.loftcinema.com/

Arizona State Museum – Woven Wonders (beginning April 28)

The Arizona State Museum is debuting a sample of 500 pieces from the world’s largest collection of Southwest American Indian basketry (over 25,000 pieces). Visit www.statemuseum.arizona.edu for more information.

UA Mineral Museum – Ongoing

“100 Years of Arizona’s Best: The Minerals that Made the State”

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum – 414 N Toole Ave.

Tuesday – Thursday, Sunday: 1100am - 3:00pm; Friday & Saturdays: 10:00am - 4:00pm
<http://www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org/>



Cinema La Placita Outdoor Film Series
presents “**Rear Window**”
on Thursday, June 27 at 7:30 p.m.
To view full schedule visit:
<http://www.cinemalaplacita.com/>

