

## Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik



Ann Charles



Amy Stabler



Diana Amado



Molly Thrasher



# Ward 6 - Newsletter

## Tucson First

July 30, 2013

### County Bond Election

I felt this was an important enough item to repeat it two weeks in a row. This is your opportunity to vote in the Pima County bond survey.

The link is shown below.

They have about \$1.3B in proposed projects. The Bond Advisory Committee will cull the chaff from the wheat and end up with about \$600M in projects that will go before the voters - maybe next year. I timed myself on doing the survey and it was just over 10 minutes. These are both City projects, and projects that affect the broader region. Your voice is important in this.

\*[www.pima.gov/bondsurvey](http://www.pima.gov/bondsurvey). For more information about the bond program, please visit: <http://webcms.pima.gov/government/bonds/>\*

...and don't forget to consider the Sunshine Mile as a write-in at the end of the survey if you feel that it's deserving of consideration.



This proposal is intended to work in concert with the design plan that the Broadway Citizen's Task Force is now developing for this segment of the corridor. If you're doing the survey and want to support this Sunshine Mile proposal, you'll have to do it as a write in candidate since it won't appear on the list included in the survey. On the very last page of the survey there is a comment page that you can use for the write-in.

### Broadway Corridor Project

At last week's Citizen Task Force meeting there was what I'd describe as a fundamental change in the discussion. To put it briefly, staff and the consultants finally advised the CTF that they are no longer bound to considering designs and cross width dimensions that are "what appeared on the ballot" (150' and only expanding to the north.) The task force may now look at any cross width and also take the south side of the roadway into consideration for the purpose of expanding the Right of Way.

A year and a half ago when multiple neighborhoods met at the Assembly of God



### 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

church parking lot and rallied in opposition to the demolishing of 115 - 120 homes and businesses along the north side of Broadway in order to accommodate the 150' cross width that the RTA was hanging its hat on, the immediate push back from the then leadership of the Authority was that the voters 'had approved' that width and direction, and that they were therefore simply going ahead with it. Things have changed for the better - for the rational. The CTF was shown cross widths last week that ranged from 67' out to 175', and were told that the roadway could "snake around" back and forth from north to south in an effort to avoid hitting any businesses. The word "impact" was used as a euphemism for demolishing them - but the CTF members clearly understand that they have the purview to propose designs that minimize 'impacts' of any kind, as long as the net result is a functional roadway that the City (Lead Agency) and RTA can demonstrate meets the needs of the community.

To that end, we also discussed new design criteria that will be a part of the ultimate proposal. Those included items such as this being a gateway that needs to reflect the mid-modern historic architecture that gives this section of Broadway a sense of place, and that expresses a relationship between it and the downtown core. Pedestrian environment, visual qualities, walkable amenities and those sorts of characteristics are also now a part of what the CTF is going to be able to include in their ultimate design proposals. They're all connected to the criteria the M&C approved several months ago, but to have staff and the consultants include them in their presentation to the committee was a very important step in the direction of ending up with a proposal that preserves, and in fact enhances what this corridor can and should become at the end of this process.

This is a good point at which to share that the second annual Modernism week will be presented on October 4, 5 and 6. Again this year, the focus will be on this segment of Broadway. Details to come

### Ronstadt Transit Center

Tom Fisher, project manager for Downtown Links, also shared an update on the process we're going through with respect to development of the RTC. The Center was first built in 1991. Recently there have been Federal dollars invested into upgrading the aesthetics and functionality of RTC. About \$1.2M has been put into lighting, security cameras, fencing, landscaping, fixing some brick pavers, ADA accessibility issues, signage and work on the brick east median. Those were important changes, each made with an eye towards making the space friendlier to transit customers.

We're also in the midst of considering ways to further enhance the area. We will have the scope of a Request for Qualifications come back to us early this fall. That is a document we'll send out to prospective developers/planners who will send us their resumes and describe their ability to engage in the redevelopment of the RTC. Our intent is to preserve the transit function, and also look at creative ways to add mixed uses to parts of it that will continue with the private sector attraction we're seeing in the downtown core. The goal is to short list the RFQ's and by the end of the year to send to the short listed firms a Request for Proposals. That's where they'll put on their creative caps and come back to us with de-



### Important Phone Numbers

Senator John  
McCain (R)  
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff  
Flake (R)  
520-575-8633

Congressman  
Ron Barber (D)  
(2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
520-881-3588

Congressman  
Raul Grijalva (D)  
(3<sup>rd</sup> 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](http://www.azleg.gov)

Mayor Jonathan  
Rothschild  
791-4201

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

sign alternatives.

Simultaneously with that, we're going through the Comprehensive Operational Analysis that will show just how transit customers use the Center. Is it a destination, or is it a transfer station? What does that mean to riders, and what does it mean for the development of the space? What are Federal restrictions on how we can move some of the functions to adjacent properties? Lots of items will be on the table, and I think we're all looking forward to digging into them when the RFP and COA materials are all back to us early next year.

Right now there are just under 900 busses daily that pass through RTC. They carry about 20,000 passengers. We're not going to be making any quick decisions on this. Far too many people, and far too much in the way of possible continued downtown development is dependent on our making an informed and prudent series of decisions. Lots of people have their eye on how this process moves forward. I'm looking forward to being a part of how it unfolds.

### Moms Demand Action



On Wednesday at 10am, Moms Demand Action is going to stage another "Stroller Jam." They'll leave from 1010 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street (TUSD HQ) and march over to Roskrue Middle School where they will board a Sun Tran bus with signs promoting that the State rescind their control over local jurisdictions' ability to adopt gun control measures that are more stringent than what exists in State statute. Specifically, to allow Sun Tran to ban guns from being carried on public busses.

A few weeks ago it was reported in the local media that some guy boarded a Sun Tran bus with an AR15 that was

stocked with a clearly loaded oversized clip. His behavior had others on the bus in a rather unsettled state of mind. And yet, what he did was legal.

I have been pretty public in my belief that when you have bus drivers placed in the position of sometimes having to ask unruly riders to get off a bus, adding a weapon to that dynamic could likely escalate the confrontation into a lethal one. And with other passengers seated on the enclosed and confined bus can only lead to another scene of carnage that we don't need again in this community.

I'm grateful to Moms for taking this public stand. The burden shifts to the Legislature to send decision making on this issue back to the level of government that's closest to the people – Cities and towns. If you'd like more information on this week's event, or on Moms in general, contact Jocelyn Strauss at 429.0915, or [mail-to:momsdemandaction.tucson@gmail.com](mailto:to:momsdemandaction.tucson@gmail.com)

### Jobs / Alliance of Construction Trades

I'd like to take a quick moment here and give kudos to ACT chief Jim Kuliesh for opening up talks with both General Contractors and members of the Home Building community.

Previous to his efforts, ACT represented only subcontractors in specialty trades. The groups have now agreed to create a GC, Home Building Council and allow those groups to also become members in good standing with ACT.

I work with both subs, and GC's in the capital project work that I do. Home building also incorporates cross-trade relationships. Having them all under one roof will make it possible to bring efficiencies into the work being done, and it will allow them to share industry related concerns in a more cohesive manner. The goals of well built, and cost efficient homes (and other structures) are shared across the board. Kuliesh and the groups now working together have taken a logical step forward.

Note to realtors - cost efficient homes are easier to sell. That's a worthy goal. Just sayin'.

### **Spay/Neuter Update**

Two new pieces of information on this issue. First, I received word back from County Administrator Huckelberry in response to my request for his opinion related to the City allocation of resources to the Pima Animal Care Center spay/neuter program. He was very supportive of the City earmarking a portion of our investment into that facility for that function. Here's a part of the text of his letter:

Our focus for the coming year will be on spay/neuter programs. PACC staff would love to never have to euthanize another animal again, except to end severe or terminal suffering. Key to that goal is a spay/neuter program that keeps animals out of shelters by reducing their numbers. When the County increased licensing fees several years ago, so did the City of Tucson. The County increased the fee from \$12 to \$15 and dedicated the \$3 increase to the spay/neuter program. The City of Tucson, however, did not opt to pass on those funds for the purpose of spay/neuter. I encourage you to lead the City of Tucson to being the first jurisdiction to match the County's commitment to this program.

Pima County contracts with the Animal Welfare Alliance of Southern Arizona (AWASA) to provide spay/neuter services. I would encourage the City of Tucson to join us by dedicating a portion of the City's licensing fee to this critical program. Since the City licenses approximately 50,000 animals each year, if you dedicated the same portion of the license fee increases as the County, it would raise about \$150,000 more for spay/neuter programs. If you choose to provide those funds to Pima County, we will pass those dollars through to AWASA and ensure they go to spay or neuter only animals from within the City limits. If you prefer, the City could provide the funds directly to AWASA or another spay/neuter program. How you choose to deploy the funds is not as important as the fact that you have chosen to financially and proactively address this critical issue.

I have a letter into the City Manager and his finance people to see what the most time efficient manner is to address the funding. I suspect it'll be a M&C study session discussion. If there's a more streamlined way for Mr. Miranda to review the proposal and make an administrative decision, I'd also favor that.

Also on the animal control/welfare topic, there's a program that's effective this year through which any pet owner who is on government assistance can get help in paying for spay/neuter services. Turning off the faucet is a key part to reducing the euthanizing that shelters are now performing all too routinely.

The program is called The Pet Fix. Through it you can get free spay-neuter surgery for up to two pets a month at a participating clinic. Those with more than two pets may still apply for the services, but will require a subsequent visit. Government assistance might include Section 8 housing, the state's Medicaid program (AHCCCS,) food stamps or other

similar benefits geared towards low income earners.

In addition, if you live in one of 16 residential areas you may still qualify, regardless of whether or not you're receiving assistance. The Pima County Health Department sponsors the program. It is being administered by the Animal Welfare Alliance of Southern Arizona. There are several neighborhoods in Ward 6 that may qualify. For example, any resident within the core area bounded on the west by Interstate 10, Prince Road to the north, Columbus Boulevard to the east and Speedway to the south is eligible for assistance. There are plenty of other neighborhoods scattered around town that also qualify.

Here are some of the participating clinics, and some of the common sense rules that they want you to observe when taking your pets in for treatments:

- \*Ajo Veterinary Clinic, 382 W. Ajo Way, 623-5728\*
  - \*Animal Birth Control, 1145 S. Craycroft Road, 745-4564\*
  - \*Arizona Spay/Neuter Clinic, 4 W. Grant Road, 624-5005\*
  - \*Guadalupe Veterinary Clinic, 5107 S. 12th Ave., 889-5949\*
  - \*Humane Society of Southern Arizona, 3450 N. Kelvin Blvd., 881-0321\*
  - \*Santa Cruz Veterinary Clinic, 5408 S. 12th Ave., 889-9643\*
  - \*The Spay and Neuter Clinic, 7340 Cortaro Farms Road, 744-3458\*
- Dogs must be on leashes or in carriers; cats must be in carriers.
  - Pets should not have any food after 6 p.m. the day before the surgery, although water is fine.
  - Pets must be between the ages of 2 months and 5 years, and weigh at least 3 pounds.
  - Appointments are available on a first-call, first-serve basis.

Here's the web site for you to check out for more information:

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



One more County / animal welfare related item. Big thanks go out to County Administrator Huckelberry for directing his staff, and PACC in particular, to step up their inspection function out at Tucson Greyhound Park. Here's a link to the letter he sent that gets that ball rolling.

<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/files/ward6/7-30-13PCALetter2JanLeshner2.pdf>

The recent personnel changes at the Park make this a particularly timely check on the place. The local news has covered the change in CEO, workers being let go due to drug use, and the fact that they're not seeing large numbers of female dogs going into heat make it clear that steroid use is still taking place. I'm grateful to the CA for his spearheading this opportunity to shine some light on how the animals are being treated.

The track license is up for renewal at the end of the year. With the prevalence of Off Track Betting that can be piped in from out of State tracks, this one is certainly unnecessary as an on-going operation.

### **Road Repairs**

We occasionally get asked about the process and timing for decisions to be made related to which residential streets will be included in the Prop 409 Bond package.

As many of you know, we formed a Bond Oversight Commission to ensure the money is headed where it was intended by the voters. That group will be reviewing data that is now being gathered by TDOT. They'll get information related to an overall condition index for the various streets in the City and from that will make recommendations for which of them get tackled first. They'll be looking at the budget numbers and making decisions that will take the money as far as it can go. That means the worst streets may not necessarily jump to the front of the list if they determine that Preventative Maintenance will be a more cost efficient long term strategy in some areas.

The final streets list is not expected until after late this year or early next year. There's a lot of data being compiled - and a lot of work to do with limited resources, so we want to get this right and spend your tax dollars as efficiently as is practical.



**And speaking of driving, did you know that Arizona has a law that holds drivers responsible for evading barricades and getting themselves caught in flooded washes? Here's the text:**

Arizona's "Stupid Motorist Law"

"28-910. Liability for emergency responses in flood areas; definitions"

---

A driver of a vehicle who drives the vehicle on a public street or highway that is temporarily covered by a rise in water level, including groundwater or overflow of water, and that is barricaded because of flooding is liable for the expenses of any emergency response that is required to remove from the public street or highway the driver or any passenger in the vehicle that becomes inoperable on the public street or highway or the vehicle that becomes inoperable on the public street or highway, or both.

**B.** A person convicted of violating section 28-693 for driving a vehicle into any area that is temporarily covered by a rise in water level, including groundwater or overflow of water, may be liable for expenses of any emergency response that is

required to remove from the area the driver or any passenger in the vehicle that becomes inoperable in the area or the vehicle that becomes inoperable in the area, or both.

C. The expenses of an emergency response are a charge against the person liable for those expenses pursuant to subsection A or B of this section. The charge constitutes a debt of that person and may be collected proportionately by the public agencies, for-profit entities or not-for-profit entities that incurred the expenses. The person's liability for the expenses of an emergency response shall not exceed two thousand dollars for a single incident. The liability imposed under this section is in addition to and not in limitation of any other liability that may be imposed.

D. An insurance policy may exclude coverage for a person's liability for expenses of an emergency response under this section.

E. For the purposes of this section:

- 1 "Expenses of an emergency response" means reasonable costs directly incurred by public agencies, for-profit entities or not-for-profit entities that make an appropriate emergency response to an incident.
2. "Public agency" means this state and any city, county, municipal corporation, district or other public authority that is located in whole or in part in this state and that provides police, fire fighting, medical or other emergency services.
3. "Reasonable costs" includes the costs of providing police, fire fighting, rescue and emergency medical services at the scene of an incident and the salaries of the persons who respond to the incident but does not include charges assessed by an ambulance service that is regulated pursuant to title 36, chapter 21.1, article 2

So, it's monsoon season. You can save yourself some money and grief if you observe the safety barricades.

### **Pension Reform**

This is the third week in a row that I'm giving an update on this important topic. A few new tidbits this time around.

First, last week a law firm out of Phoenix filed a protest against the petitions that were submitted to the City Clerk's office putting the Pension proposition on the ballot. The claims are that many of the petition circulators had prior convictions and were therefore not eligible to pass petitions. They also alleged that much of the information on the forms turned in was written in after the people signing the forms had signed – some was incorrect, dates wrong, etc.

Here's some of the language that appears in the complaint:

### Circulators Not Qualified to Vote in Arizona

12  
13           30. An initiative petition circulator need not be a resident of the City of Tucson  
14 but must otherwise be qualified to register to vote in Arizona and the City. A.R.S. § 19-  
15 112(D).

16           31. An individual is not qualified to register to vote in the State of Arizona if  
17 the individual has “been convicted of treason or a felony, unless restored to civil rights.”  
18 A.R.S. 16-101(A)(5).

19           32. These statutes establish a non-discretionary duty whereby the City Clerk  
20 must reject petition signature sheets that have been circulated by circulators who are not  
21 qualified to register to vote in the State of Arizona and the City of Tucson.

1           34. By virtue of their prior felony convictions, these individuals are not  
2 qualified to register to vote in Arizona, rendering the entire petition signature sheets  
3 collected by them invalid.

There were 6 people named with prior felonies and one petition had what was alleged to be a false signature. In such cases, the entire petition is tossed. If these charges hold up, that would eliminate about 6,700 signatures.

In addition, 3 people were listed as not being registered w/Sec. of State. If correct, that would take out another 3,800 signatures. If all of the charges are validated, the measure would fall about 5,300 signatures short of what is required to appear on this fall’s ballot. I’d make a couple of points here. First, it is not in the scope of the City Clerk’s job to do background checks on the people who sign petitions. If challenges are to be brought, they come in the fashion that this one did; that is, from an outside, but affected party. Also, when these sorts of errors are found on petitions, the Clerk has no discretion to ignore them. Here’s the language that affirms that.

4           38. Circulators who are not residents of this state must be registered as  
5 circulators with the Secretary of State before circulating petitions. The Secretary of State  
6 shall provide for a method of receiving service of process for those petition circulators  
7 who register pursuant to this subsection. The Secretary of State shall establish in the  
8 instructions and procedures manual issued pursuant to § 16-452 a procedure for  
9 registering circulators and receiving service of process.

10           39. This statute establishes a non-discretionary duty whereby the City Clerk  
11 must reject petition signature sheets that have been circulated by out-of-state circulators  
12 who have not registered as such with the Secretary of State’s office.

The accuracy of the charges is still in doubt. There will be more investigating, but in the complaint the challenge included the wording "Upon Information and Belief," words indicating that the plaintiffs may not have done their own homework. People can have their rights restored in a State in which they're guilty of a crime, and with that may end up being eligible to pass the petitions. So, there's a ways to go yet on whether or not the pension measure will even be something you can vote on this fall.

Let's say that it is – to review, it gives current employees the chance to opt-out of the current system, and to opt-into a new one. It forces all new workers into the new system. That results in fewer people paying to support the currently accrued obligations that exist under the current system. In order to make up for that, the funding obligation from the City would be accelerated by some degree (can't know exactly how much without knowing how many people would opt-out.) Since we're funding existing obligations with new hires, when they are forced into the new system, the General Fund is tapped for the losses. There is concern that as existing workers see the new pressure on the current system that is resulting from the opt-outs, they'll join the parade out of the current system and exacerbate the acceleration in payments. The self-fulfilling prophecy of crashing the system – it'll happen sooner and sooner as more people join the new plan.

So what options do we have? I've already shared that some of this self-corrects as we hire more new workers and the stock market increases the value of our investments. We also need to make policy changes related to things such as pension 'spiking,' and allowing fringe and accrued benefits to count towards the pension formula that people take out the door with them. ("Spiking" is mainly an issue with the police pensions, and primarily with supervisors who add the value of unused benefits to their base salary – unused sick time, payment in lieu of vacation, payment for unused comp time, etc.) which has the effect of increasing the lifetime pension payouts due to the worker. I've asked our City Manager to report back to us on what policies we have in place to guard against spiking, both for our public safety workers, and for our non-public safety workers. We've got to address policies where we can, and this is an area that needs to be looked at.

Lots of moving parts still to come on this issue. We'll see if it even gets to the ballot, and if it does, the educating effort is going to be crucial so you can make an informed decision this fall.

### **Military Community Relations Committee**

About 7 years ago, the MCRC was formed at the behest of DM leadership as a way for the base command to stay in touch with members of the community. Here's a part of the letter from back then that announced its formation:

Colonel Ronald K. Laughbaum  
Commander  
5275 East Granite Street  
Davis-Monthan AFB AZ. 85707

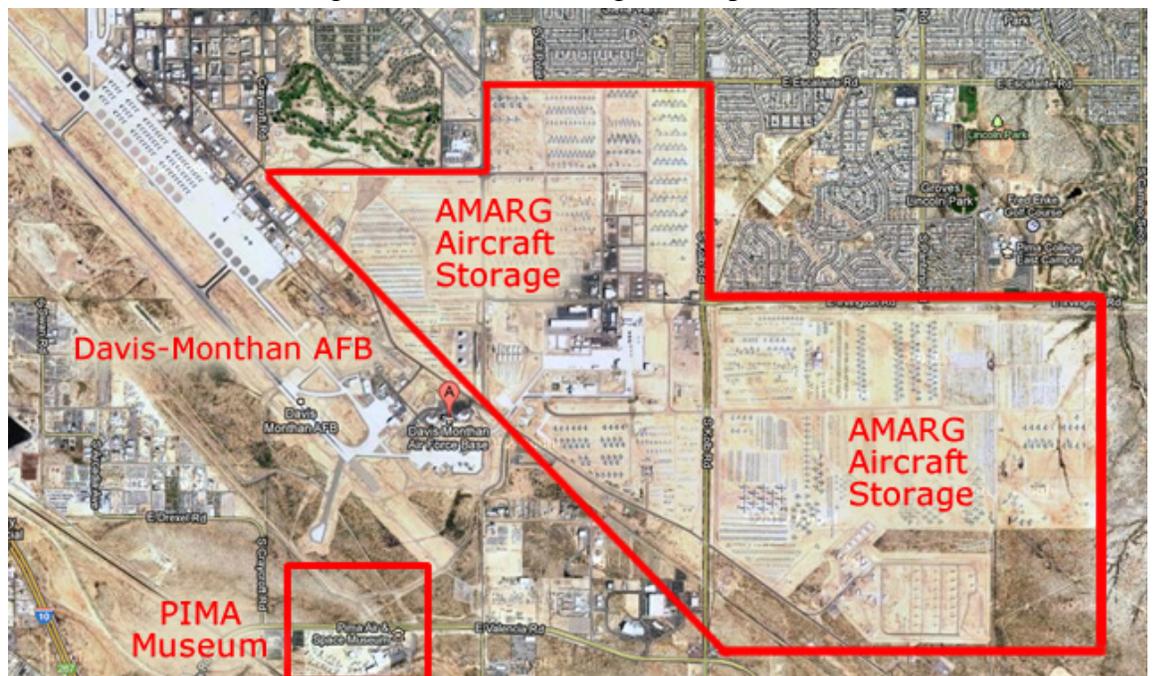
Dear [REDACTED]

I am pleased to announce that Davis-Monthan AFB has created an important communication forum known as the Military-Community Relations Committee (MCRC). The committee's purpose is to discuss concerns, joint problem solve, and monitor recommendations made by the Military-Community Capability Committee relative to Davis-Monthan AFB and the community.

The committee is made up of both residents from around the community as well as members of the Metro Chamber, the DM50 and other business/development related constituencies. As is described in Col. Laughbaum's letter, the purpose is to discuss concerns and work towards joint problem solving.

It's as much about the process of staying engaged as it is specific outcomes. It was developed through the Udall Foundation for Conflict Resolution to allow all parties involved and impacted by DM to be at the table. At their last meeting, there was a draft motion presented that, if approved would dissolve the committee. That vote is scheduled to occur during their September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Those meetings are open to the public, and they're held at 6pm at the Ward 6 offices.

As you can see from the proximity of the base to the immediately surrounding residential areas, there can be a strong case made that dialogue is important:



I have attended several of the meetings and can say that there's more discussion than agreement on specific issues, but the clear reading of the letter cited above indicates that that's in keeping with the original intent of the group. The base is a community asset that impacts other community assets. There's a value in communication.

The last meeting was contentious, and so in order to try to set the stage for a healthy discussion of the issue of dissolution, I offered the Chair of the MCRC that if the group wanted me to, I'd look for a neutral third party facilitator/mediator who would attend and lead that agenda item for them on the 18<sup>th</sup>. I'm waiting to hear from them if they're interested.

The day after I sent out that offer, the M&C were advised by email from Ward 4 that *"It is my understanding that DM leadership is in the process of putting together a new and more dynamic committee that will have direct communication between area Mayors and the Base Commander. This committee will meet quarterly and will initially include*

*Mayors of surrounding cities and towns and senior leaders of the county, which will meet quarterly to discuss items of joint interest. The objective, I am told, is to have routine direct engagement between the Commander of Davis Monthan and the various community political leaders.”*

I applaud such a group, but not to the exclusion of direct contact between the base and the residents and other stake holders who live in Tucson. Certainly DM is a regional asset, but first it's a Tucson asset and so if the MCRC wants to continue to engage, this new 'dynamic' group can coexist together and different purposes can be served by them both. The MCRC is not a city sponsored committee, and it is not intended to serve as a direct link from DM to the M&C. But as was envisioned by the base leadership from the beginning, it is in fact intended to serve as a direct link between the base and the residents of the City. Despite suggestions from some that I should not even offer to find a facilitator/mediator, I'm going to leave my offer on the table, and if the committee members want to give that a whirl, I'll be happy to see if I can get them somebody to serve that role.

### **Another Regional/County Item**

This is a good news update on funding that the County is increasing into the downtown Business Improvement District (BID.) During our recent conversations about funding for the Downtown Tucson Partnership, one concern was that the City owned buildings were paying to fund the BID – the funding source that the Partnership relies on to do cleaning, security and other downtown functions, but the County was only paying a fraction of what they'd be in for if they contributed based on the formula the City and other businesses are assessed by.

Last week, the County negotiated an increase to their investment into the downtown core by increasing their payment from about \$40K up to about \$65K. Once the new courthouse is finished and they have taken occupancy, they'll bump that up another \$25K. Every bit helps when it comes to continuing to upgrade the aesthetics and safety of downtown. I join the DTP in saying 'thanks' to the County for stepping up their game in this area.

### **Neighborhood Preservation Ordinance**



The NPO meeting we hosted at the Ward 6 office last week was very well attended. Both the Ward 3 office and the mayor's office were represented, along with TPD, the City Attorney, and of course Teresa Williams from Code Enforcement.

The consensus was that she's a rock star, given the amount of resources we give her to use.

For the entire City, CE has 18 inspectors and 5 call center representatives. They average about 12,000 cases being called in annually. Those are for items such as graffiti, junked motor vehicles, debris in yards, overgrown vegetation, and those sorts of Code violations. They break the City up into five distinct Districts and assign inspectors to each, of course leaving themselves the liberty to move their people around if they get a flurry of issues that pop up in a given area for a short period of time.

For Fiscal Year 2014 the Code Enforcement budget is \$2.7 million. The Code Enforcement re-inspection fee revenues are approximate \$36,000. That money goes back into the General Fund, not back to Teresa's department. That's something we might be discussing during the next budget cycle.

A re-inspection fee is charged when a notice of violation has not been abated in the time given (usually 30 days.) The fee is \$75, but the inspector has the liberty to temporarily waive it if there are extenuating circumstances in a particular case. Some of us felt the \$36K figure demonstrated a pretty high rate of grace being offered; that is, assuming 90% of the cases take care of their issues within the 30 days, that means 1,200 still are subject to the \$75. Doing the math, that would yield \$90K in fees, not \$36,000. While most of us would agree that the goal is compliance, and not issuing fines, that gap would indicate some level of tightening up might be worth considering.

To that end, Code Enforcement has begun a six month trial during which they're going to reduce the abatement period after the first notice of violation down from 30 days to 10 days. The violations included in the trial run are high weeds, trash, front yard storage, dead vegetation, graffiti, junked motor vehicles and large trucks. The test will be to see what that does to levels of abatement, and also what stresses it puts on Teresa's folks for being able to respond to first time calls. Speeding up the re-inspection dates will take time on the part of the inspectors.

One more change you'll see this month is that CE will begin to remove non-political signs from the Rights of Way. They'll set aside a specific, but limited amount of time to focus solely on this issue. Formerly we had told them to avoid any potential conflicts with speech issues (related to political signs) and just leave everything alone. Now, that's changing, in no small part due to the recent issue of signs being plastered on utility poles that you've seen in recent newsletters.

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, 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and Main Gate areas . . .

**Rialto Theatre**, 318 E. Congress St.

Friday, August 2, 7:00pm. “Local Love Tribute Fest” all ages.

Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm. “Madeleine Peyroux” all ages.

[www.RialtoTheatre.com](http://www.RialtoTheatre.com)

**Fox Theatre**, 17 W. Congress St.

Sunday, August 4, 7:00pm. “Rock ‘N’ Blues Fest”

[www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org](http://www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org)

Ongoing . . . .

**Tucson Museum of Art**, 140 N. Main Ave.

Ongoing exhibition:

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

[www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org](http://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](http://www.Moca-Tucson.org)

**Children's Museum Tucson**, 200 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.

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

[www.childrensmuseumtucson.org](http://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](http://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](http://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/4<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Main Gate area, visit these sites:

[www.MainGateSquare.com](http://www.MainGateSquare.com)  
[www.FourthAvenue.org](http://www.FourthAvenue.org)  
[www.DowntownTucson.org](http://www.DowntownTucson.org)

**Other Community Events**

**Loft Cinema** [www.loftcinema.com/](http://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 South-west American Indian basketry (over 25,000 pieces). Visit [www.statemuseum.arizona.edu](http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu) for more information.

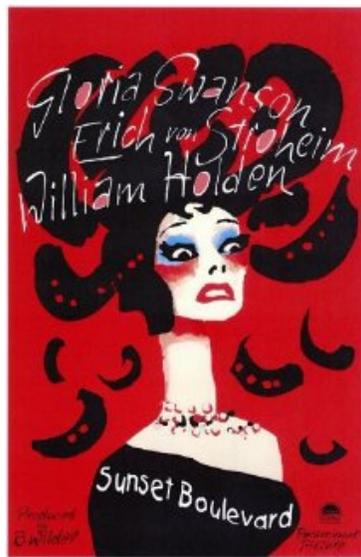
**UA Mineral Museum – Ongoing**

“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 “**Sunset Boulevard**”  
on Thursday, August 1 at 7:30 p.m.  
To view full schedule visit:  
<http://www.cinemataplacita.com/>

