

Ward 6 Staff



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Ward 6 - Newsletter

Tucson First

November 26, 2012

Broadway – and planning in general

Very early in the year when I first proposed that we take a hard look at the RTA ballot language related to Broadway and reassess what we were about to do, the initial response from the RTA Board, TDOT and others who had simply assumed that we were going out to 150' on the cross-width was pretty clear resistance. The common refrain was that we had said one thing on the ballot, and we were not going to deviate.

That was the start of the conversation. Then came a fresh look at traffic projections, identifying the impact to homes and businesses along the north side of the roadway if we didn't reconsider in light of the new traffic needs, an April 30th rally outside the First Assembly of God church in which 24 neighborhood associations came together in support of some new and fresh ideas – the fruit of which was the formation of the Broadway Coalition – and I sense that the staff members who had initially felt bound by 'the way we've always done things' decided that they might not want to put themselves in the position of having to forever answer the questions that would inevitably be tossed in their laps if the demolition process was started prior to a serious look at alternatives. This graphic seems to capture what may have been in the back of some peoples' minds:



Instead of 12 hours of labor, the destruction of 115 homes and businesses without a serious study that showed no reasonable alternatives existed was not something the bureaucracy wanted to 'hear about' for the remainder of their time in the community.

In January, 2010, I had requested the framework of preservation in a study session in which we adopted policies that were intended to protect existing businesses until demolition due to construction of the roadway was imminent. Here is a copy of the memo I submitted in advance of that discussion:



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



MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: *Relating to Study Session Agenda Item #5, January 26, 2010:*

1. Proposed "Safe Harbor Ordinance"

With the Downtown Links, Grant Road, and 22nd Street projects nearing, I propose we adopt an ordinance that would have the effect of allowing businesses to remain in place and fully functional, permitting changes of use until construction forces them to move. Along the Grant Road corridor alone, 113 businesses and residences are in the alignment and will be impacted by the construction. This policy will:

- *Minimize the "Ghost Zone" effect along major roadways.*
- *Minimize vandalism, graffiti and other crime associated with abandoned buildings.*
- *Allow businesses to continue in operation, creating jobs, and generating tax revenue that pay for City services.*

I ask the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance for the Mayor and Council to review and discuss on February 9, 2010 that achieves the following:

- a) Permits users of space along construction corridors to remain operational until construction is imminent. Exceptions may be made where significant health and safety issues force them to vacate.*
- b) Include a provision for a "single visit" inspection and review and eliminate all bonding levels in change of use cases where the new use is reasonably similar to the previous use.*
- c) No requirement be imposed that a new use case be brought entirely up to present code, and that in cases where partial acquisition and relocation of portions of an existing business occur, "grandfather" them to codes that were in effect when the original building was approved for operation.*
- d) Establish guidelines for the City of Tucson and/or RTA to proactively contact building owners in order to educate them in areas regarding relocation benefits for which they are eligible. Include language that protects the City from business operators or residential owners from extending their rights of occupancy beyond the time dictated by construction needs.*



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John
McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jon Kyl (R)
520-575-8633

Congressman
Ron Barber (D)
(8th District)
520-881-3588

Congressman
Raul Grijalva (D)
(7th 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)

Note that these conditions still assume demolition, and so while the policies are certainly relevant to other roadway corridor work we're engaged in right now, the Broadway conversation is still progressing from a new assumption; that is, instead of assuming we're going to widen to 150', we'll begin with the intent of developing a functional corridor within the existing cross-width, and widen where necessary if that's not possible. I was gratified to hear our new TDOT Director affirm that as the starting point in the discussions. That's progress. When we hear from others in the planning bureaucracy that they're still bound to the 150' mind set, well, those comments are met with expressions of disapproval:



And yet, it is undeniable that we're making progress in how the conversation has changed and the direction it's going. And while we may be setting in place a new paradigm for how Tucson looks at roadway/community planning, including land use in those considerations is not unique on a national basis.

Last week on the NPR radio Diane Rhem Show, the guest was Amanda Burden, New York City planning commission, Director of the Department of City Planning. They spent the interview talking about how land use thinking has been incorporated into the

very densely developed neighborhoods that make up New York City and the surrounding area. Some of Ms. Burden's comments fit nicely with the conversation we've finally engaged with respect to Broadway. For example, she noted that *"understand at the same time that we're a city of 200 different neighborhoods. Each neighborhood is completely different. So the idea was understand the DNA of each of these neighborhoods and see if we could grow to grow but not change what makes each of these neighborhoods so unique."* That captures the spirit of the 24 neighborhoods who were present at the April 30th rally.

They went on to talk about the impact of having transit active in the corridors as connectors. The element we're discussing with regard to Broadway in which that's particularly relevant is our effort to create destination nodes that will serve to reduce auto traffic, and at the same time activate neighborhood retail and community spaces. Here are three excerpts from the interview that tie-in:

"The public spaces, the parks, the streets, just finding places that they can enjoy, have that respite, whether it's on the waterfront, whether it's in Bryant Park, or whether it's in a small place in Paley Park, whether it's on a sidewalk café. All of those things make a city wonderful. "

"How we judge a project is how it feels at the street. That's what people really care about. How does it feel walking along that street? Are there many stores along an individual block? Are there shade trees in a park? Are there places to sit that are comfortable? "

"Developers want to build and they will build as aggressively as they can. But it's the city's responsibility to set those standards in terms of both building form and high quality of development and high quality public spaces. And that's where I've also focused a lot of my energies. Get the zoning adopted, get things built and get down to that fine grain scale so that you have walkable streets, so that neighborhoods -- within one neighborhood everything is walkable so that you have a bikeable, walkable community where shopping services and

jobs are all close to home. That's New York City's goal right now. "

Nobody will come out of this process having “won” everything they’re after. And yet, listening and showing the stakeholders that we’ve heard what they said and incorporated their wishes into the eventual plans is how our community will ultimately retain its uniqueness, character – and yes, the ‘functionality’ of the roadways.

On December 4th we’ll look at some ideas related to how we plan the development while also considering the whole context of the corridor / from the outside-in. The conversation has come a long way. For that, I’ll close this opening section with this quote:

All great questions must be raised by great voices, and the greatest voice is the voice of the people - speaking out - in prose, or painting or poetry or music; speaking out - in homes and halls, streets and farms, courts and cafes - let that voice speak and the stillness you hear will be the gratitude of mankind.

Robert F. Kennedy

I, along with the people who now make up the Citizen’s Task Force for Broadway and the Broadway Coalition are grateful to staff for this new dialogue that has been opened. The result will be the better for having had it.

Well Deserved Recognition / UA and COT

Within the span of one week, The University of Arizona baseball program, the Athletics Department and the City of Tucson will all be recognized for having moved the Wildcat baseball operation over to Hi Corbett Field.

On Saturday, my wife and I were honored to attend the 28th Annual University of Arizona Hispanic Alumni Association “Portraits of Excellence Scholarship Dinner.” The person being honored this year was Coach Andy Lopez. As most of you know, he guided the ‘Cats to our 4th National Championship in baseball and was also named both the NCAA and the Pac-12 Coach of the Year. Andy’s a great role model for the players and represents both the community and the University in a way that makes us proud.

That award will be enhanced on Friday at the Metropolitan Pima Alliance’s Common Ground Award ceremony. At that event, both the City and the UA will be recognized for the joint decision to make Hi Corbett the Home of the Wildcats. The move was recognized with the MPA “Award of Distinction.”



The historic park had a seating capacity of 9,500, but during the season the Athletics Department took a couple thousand of those off from the sales manifest in order to make the venue more intimate and intimidating. It worked.



Unlike Sancet Field, Hi Corbett gave the team upgraded locker rooms, larger concessions stands, an upgraded press area and improved ADA features. Congratulations are due to former mayor Bob Walkup, current mayor Jonathan Rothschild, Director of Athletics Greg Byrne, City Manager Richard Miranda and Parks Director Fred Gray for seeing the

move through to completion.

Also deserving of mention are the event staff and facilities management people who took an entire operation from one venue to another, rebranded the new facility, made the significant upgrades to it and made it home for the team and the fans.

The fans who supported the team throughout the season are the real heroes, though.

The 2013 season begins on February 15th at 6pm. You can already reserve your season tickets @ 621.CATS.

...next we'll get to work on some of the facility issues we have to fix with Rio Nuevo at the TCC



Mid-Life Crisis

Two animal related pieces – one of which has virtually nothing to do with Ward 6, but I found it fun/interesting, and the other is an update on the greyhounds and Arizona Department of Racing. First the fun one:



No, we're not doing the "Steve needs a haircut" thing again. This is a story from the BBC Nature series that asks the question. Do chimpanzees experience a midlife low in happiness?

A group of international researchers studied over 500 chimps and orangutans (yes, I had to look up the spelling) and found a similarity between how they scored on measures of well-being and happiness when compared to humans at the same relative time in their lives (age.)

It wasn't that the chimps suddenly started gravitating towards red sports cars out in the parking lots, but they showed clear increases in interest for other "life amenities" such as mating with more females or acquiring more resources of other sorts. The lead professor on the study concluded that "the mid-life crisis is real and it exists in... our closest biological

relatives, suggesting that it is probably explained by biology and physiology". The guy (Professor Andrew Oswald – Professor of economics at the University of Warwick) has studied human happiness for over 20 years. What the study found was well-being was high in youth, fell to a low in midlife and rose again in old age, similar to the "U-shape curve" of happiness in humans.

If you're in the right age cohort and are feeling a little down from time to time, take a visit to the Reid Park Zoo and hang outside the chimp cage. You might find some level of empathy.

Ok, I said it had nothing to do with Ward 6, but you can use it at one of your Holiday parties as a conversation starter.

Arizona Department of Racing

By way of reminder, last October I asked the Director of the ADOR (Bill Walsh) these questions:

I re-read some of the annual report you recently published. Based on that, this appears clear:

- 1) Track conditions, safety, and the segregation of dogs in heat are all regulated by the ADOR. Why would your agency therefore not be the direct point of contact for monitoring those elements of the industry as opposed to allowing the system to simply be complaint driven with all of the drawbacks inherent in that process?*
- 2) If the goal is for ADOR to be self-funded, what is being done to require TGP (Tucson Greyhound Park) to bear more of the costs involved in regulating/monitoring them? You're under that mandate for next fiscal year. Will your new status as an enterprise lead to proposals for changing the manner in which TGP is financially participating in its own oversight and regulation?*
- 3) If the ADOR doesn't track injuries, how can you assure the public that the welfare of the dogs is in fact being monitored? ADOR used to request and review injury reports. If you still did that, you would be in a much better position to determine whether or not systemic problems existed.*

With the elimination of your general fund support, it certainly leads to at least the perception, if not the reality that ADOR's ability to impose strict guidelines over its own funding source is compromised. That's not an indictment of you or your staff, but is the reality of the position in which the Legislature has placed you.

Instead of replying to those questions in writing, Mr. Walsh suggested that he'd prefer to meet in person to discuss them. The opportunity for that arose recently, and in the course of trying to book the meeting I ran into a reluctance to either include any of the people with whom I have been working on this issue since the first of the year, or to clear adequate time in his schedule (he was at a conference up in the foothills) to meet. Here's but one example from an email I received in which Mr. Walsh rose the issue of my including a colleague of mine in the meeting:

I understood the purpose of the meeting was to inform him (me) on some of the issues he raised. While Ms. Via may have an interest in the greyhound industry, I'm uncertain how

she fits into this discussion.

Bill Walsh
 Director
 Arizona Department of Racing

Ms. Via is a former Federal prosecutor who has been actively engaged in the whole greyhound adoption/track condition issue for years. She also worked directly with me on the recent ban of anabolic steroids being injected into the animals in the City of Tucson by a vet under contract from the park. She certainly did fit into the discussion.

I advised Mr. Walsh that I would not meet with him in private, that everything we were discussing involved both taxpayer money, and the welfare of the animals – and therefore should be fair game for talking about in public/in front of the press if any were interested.

The short message is that he has left town and we did not meet. The Board of Supervisors has still not weighed in on the issue of steroids (they wanted to study it some more.) The elections are now over and so that topic can be readdressed. And I'll let the elections dust settle some before raising with new legislators the issues of oversight that I noted to Mr. Walsh.

Campaign donations also play a role in who, and to what level people seem to care to get involved.

Project ROSE / California Prop. 35

We continue to make progress in pulling together the elements of our local Reaching Out to the Sexually Exploited operation, and I'll give general updates as things change. But last weeks elections showed that this is neither a local, nor a State issue. It's of concern nationwide.

In California , the voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition 35. In their ballot information it was called :

Proposition 35, the "Californians Against Sexual Exploitation Act" Initiative.

Generally, the initiative does the following:

- Increases prison terms for human traffickers.
- Requires convicted sex traffickers to register as sex offenders.
- Requires all registered sex offenders to disclose their internet accounts.
- Requires criminal fines from convicted human traffickers to pay for services to help victims.
- Mandates law enforcement training on human trafficking.

As you can see from the results, the voters were clear in their intention to get their arms around this problem.

I'm just guessing, but I suspect some of the opposition came as a result of financial impacts that would fall on local jurisdictions. Those included increased costs, not likely to exceed a couple million dollars annually, to

California Proposition 35			
Result	Votes	Percentage	
 a Yes	7,324,721	81.1%	
No	1,701,734	18.9%	

state and local governments for criminal justice activities related to the prosecution and incarceration of human trafficking offenders.

There is also the potential for one-time local government costs of up to a few million dollars on a statewide basis (that's in California – ours would be much less,) and lesser additional costs incurred each year, due to new mandatory human trafficking-related training requirements for law enforcement officers.

Some of those costs may be offset by potential additional revenue from new criminal fines, likely a few million dollars annually, which would fund services for human trafficking victims and for law enforcement activities related to human trafficking.

Voter initiatives are very costly (time and money) and difficult to get on a ballot and promote. I'm looking forward to the new legislative session up in Phoenix to see if some of the ideas incorporated in the California Prop. 35 initiative might find some willing sponsors here in Arizona's new legislature. It's certainly a topic that's on our radar screen as we put the pieces in place for the Tucson ROSE.

Bike in a Box / Lugo Charities

Since 2000, the John C. Scott show listening audience has donated over \$1/4 million dollars towards the purchase of nearly 7,000 bikes for underprivileged kids in Tucson. On Thursday, 11/29 and Friday, 11/30, John will be joined by Jesse Lugo, the founder of Lugo Charities from 4pm – 5pm on the air taking pledges towards this year's goal of 500 bikes.

The call in line for the show is 790.2040. It'll take less than one minute of your time, but will result in years of enjoyment for the kids whose lives you can touch.



Jesse's the guy on the right with the legitimate UA logo on his shirt. John C's the guy wearing the goofy Kansas pull-over. They

make a wonderful team in this effort.

The actual bike distribution will be held on Sunday, 12/16 from 11am until 1pm over at St. Augustine Cathedral's courtyard – 192 South Stone Ave. Do you remember your first bike? Chances are that it came from Santa. On the 16th, 500 under privileged children will be downtown for that special day of giving – emceed by Jesse and John C. In addition to the bike, each kid will be given a bike safety helmet that is being provided by the TMC's Children's Miracle Network.

There are plenty of opportunities to give during the holiday season, but this is one that is

easily affordable (\$45 per bike,) promotes a healthy lifestyle in our youth and will touch your heart if you can make your way down on the day of the distribution.

Abandoned Shopping Carts

In September, I ran a piece in the newsletter about abandoned shopping carts. The problem continues, and so I'm going to send this reminder out to encourage you to report carts to either the store (there is a phone # on the cart that shows ownership/responsibility) or to the cart retrieval service many of the stores affiliated with the Arizona Food Marketing Alliance subscribe to (1.800.THE.CART -843.2278.)

Arizona State law Chapter 11, Article 19 makes it illegal to remove shopping carts from the premises on which they belong (shopping centers, parking areas, convenience store lots, etc.) and it places a requirement on the retail establishment to include identifying information on each cart that tells who owns it, and how to return it (phone number or address, for example). The City can impound abandoned carts after certain time limits past notification of the retailer – but we're not in the business of storing shopping carts and would much prefer that if you are having a problem with seeing them around your neighborhood, please contact the retailer at the phone number that'll be shown on the sign affixed to the cart.

The State law requiring stores to retrieve their carts is based on not only the visual blight, but also on considering them safety hazards. Stores can be fined for failing to pick up the carts, and people can be hit with a Class 3 misdemeanor for taking them without authorization.

Let's try it again – our enforcement people are stretched so thinly that getting this handled will necessarily take the help of us all.

Palo Verde Neighborhood Food Drive

Catalina High Magnet School has over 40 kids who are involved with the Youth On Their Own program, as well as numerous kids from refugee families. I met many of these kids through the International Rescue Committee here in Tucson, and walked with some families in both Sri Lanka and in Zambia who may well have been candidates for relocation due to civil war and tsunami losses (Sri Lanka) or malnutrition and health issues (Zambia.) The donations you give go to the truly needy who are living in mid-town. The school sits in the middle of PVNA, and is the recipient of that neighborhood's holiday spirit in the form of an annual food drive.

Between December 1st and 11th, you can find large decorated boxes sitting at several locations in the neighborhood. Those are the food donation sites. They'll be at the following locations:

3688 E. Farimont (SE corner)

3338 E. Camden (SW corner)

1902 N. Winstel (NE corner)

3201 E. Seneca (NW corner - Monday through Saturday.)

You can also find a donation box at the Catalina High School pool over on Dodge, north of Pima.

Last year the neighbors donated over 1,500 pounds of food and just under \$500 with which some perishable food items were purchased. Also, the Grant/Alvernon Walgreens donated

\$150 in product.

If you would like to do the cash donation, email paloverdena@gmail.com and they'll give you some contact information.

Carnegie Foundation - Albrecht Classen

I often write about the value brought to the community through the University. This week it was announced that Albrecht Classen was named the U.S. Professor of the year for 2012 by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Coming on the heels of a football loss to asu, and with the history that that school up north generally gets this sort of recognition, Professor Classen's honor this week is especially gratifying.

Albrecht teaches German studies, with a specialty in Medievalism in the European Middle Ages - a topic about which I know absolutely nothing. But I know enough to be able to say that the Germanic studies in general are a huge part of the classics on the UA campus, and that Professor Classen's courses are always full.

Congratulations - job well done, and an honor well deserved.

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.

Monday, November 26, 8:30pm. “**Ms. Lauryn Hill**” all ages

Thursday, November 29, 7:30pm. “**Kid Ink/T.Mills**” all ages

Saturday, December 1, 8:00pm. “**Doug Stanhope**” all ages

www.RialtoTheatre.com

Fox Theatre, 17 W. Congress St.

Friday, November 30, 7:30pm. “**Casablanca**”

Saturday, December 1, 7:30pm. “**Blue Christmas: A Holiday Salute to the King**”

Sunday, December 2, 5:00pm. “**Christmas Carol with a Tucson Twist**”

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Temple of Music and Art, 330 S. Scott Ave.

Arizona Theatre Company presents “**Jane Austen’s Emma**” by Paul Gordon

Saturday, December 1 – December 22, 2012.

www.arizonatheatre.org

Tucson Convention Center <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/tcc/eventcalendar>

Music Hall

Saturday, December 1 & Sunday, December 2. “**Ann Hampon Callaway**”

Arena

November 30 & December 1, 7:30pm. “**AZ Wildcat Hockey vs. San Diego State**”

Ongoing

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave.

Ongoing exhibition, Opening Saturday, October 6 and ending January 20:

“**Barbara Rogers: The Imperative of Beauty, A Fifty-Year Retrospective**”

www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org

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

Current exhibition: **The AIR Show & Vinjon Global Corp: Quietly Taking Over the World**

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

The Drawing Studio, 33 S. 6th Ave.

Ongoing Exhibit, Opens November 10 and runs December 15

“**Small Wonders**”

<http://www.thedrawingstudio.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.

Science Downtown: Mars + Beyond 300 E. Congress St.

Open by appointment only
 2nd Saturday of each month, extended hours to 5:00pm – 9:00pm
<http://www.sciencedowntown.org/index.html>

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**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 for more information.

UA Mineral Museum – Ongoing

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

Flandrau Science Center

Join the Flandrau Planetarium on the University of Arizona Campus for their weekly Planetarium and Laser Show. Call (520) 621-4516 or visit www.flandrau.org/ for events and information.

Trees for Tucson - \$2.00 Discount until December 1

Now through December 1, Trees for Tucson is offering Tucson Electric Power customers \$2.00 off each home shade tree purchased through their home shade tree program. The trees must be within 15 feet of the west, south, or east side of the home. Visit www.treesfortucson.org or call (520) 791-3109 for more information.