

## Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik



Ann Charles



Diana Amado



Amy Stabler



Alison Miller



Caroline Lee



# Ward 6 Newsletter

## TUCSON FIRST

March 29, 2016

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### Sonoran Corridor Update



The image above is Raytheon. It's the largest private sector employer in the region. A lot of vacant land beyond Raytheon in the photo may one day play host to manu-



### Important Phone Numbers

**Tucson Police  
Department**  
911 or nonemergency  
791-4444

**Water Issues**  
791-3242/800-598-9449  
Emergency: 791-4133

**Street Maintenance**  
791-3154

**Graffiti Removal**  
792-2489

**Abandoned  
Shopping Carts**  
791-3171

**Neighborhood  
Resources**  
837-5013

**SunTran/SunLink**  
792-9222  
TDD: 628-1565

**Environmental  
Services**  
791-3171

**Park Wise**  
791-5071

**Planning and  
Development  
Services** 791-5550

**Pima Animal Care  
Center**  
724-5900

**Pima County Vector  
Control**  
Cockroach: 443-6501  
Mosquito: 243-7999

## Continued: A Message From Steve

facturing, logistics, and aerospace businesses. On Tuesday of last week, I got an update on how the Sonoran Corridor process is moving forward. It's key to preserving Raytheon, expanding Raytheon, and adding the rail, air, and over-the-road cargo commerce we need to the area.

Prior to securing the Federal dollars necessary for full build-out, we have to complete an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). These assessments look at the proposed alignment and make determinations on the impacts the project may impose on the environment. They're required by law, and given how extensive they are, they can take up to two years to complete.

The Pima Association of Governments (PAG) will allocate \$3.5M to conduct the study soon, and will start the process shortly thereafter. I asked the PAG Director Farhad Moghimi what that means in terms of securing our local piece of the project funding and getting the Feds on board with what they've committed. The short message is that we can begin working toward those goals in 2017.

I appreciate Farhad's information, and I appreciate that PAG is getting the ball rolling on the EIS. Anybody who's running for office in 2017 should be promoting this project as a significant part of his/her campaign. In fact, I'd be running on it this fall if I was on a ballot.

As I've noted in the past, without the full build-out of the corridor, the region doesn't progress economically.

### **Other Economic Development Initiatives**

Last week we also put in motion the process for making changes to our economic development tools. Those changes include an expansion of our map for awarding Government Property Lease Excise Tax (GPLET) incentives, changes to our special exception rules, expansion of the Planned Area Development (PAD) tool, and adjustments to the rules for development along our Major Streets and Routes. I'll touch on each of them and indicate where you'll have an opportunity to get involved in the process.

### ***GPLET Map***

The GPLET is a property tax abatement for new development that occurs within our Central Business District. There are some objective criteria by which cities can designate such districts. We adopted ours a few years ago – the current boundaries are shown in blue on the next page.

Cities can have just one Central Business District (CBD). It can account for no more than 5% of our land mass, has to be in areas designated as economically stressed, and it must be contiguous. Those are the objective criteria. A CBD must also be "compact." That's the piece open to the eye of the beholder. One could argue that what we already have isn't compact – but we've had it in place for a while and it has both gone without challenge and worked well to catalyze economic development. Last week we voted to expand the map



### Important Phone Numbers

Senator John  
McCain (R)  
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff  
Flake (R)  
520-575-8633

Congresswoman  
Martha McSally (R)  
(2<sup>nd</sup> District)  
(202) 225-2542  
Tucson Office: 520-  
881-3588

Congressman  
Raul Grijalva (D)  
(3<sup>rd</sup> District)  
520-622-6788

Governor Doug  
Ducey (R)  
602-542-4331  
Tucson office:  
520-628-6580

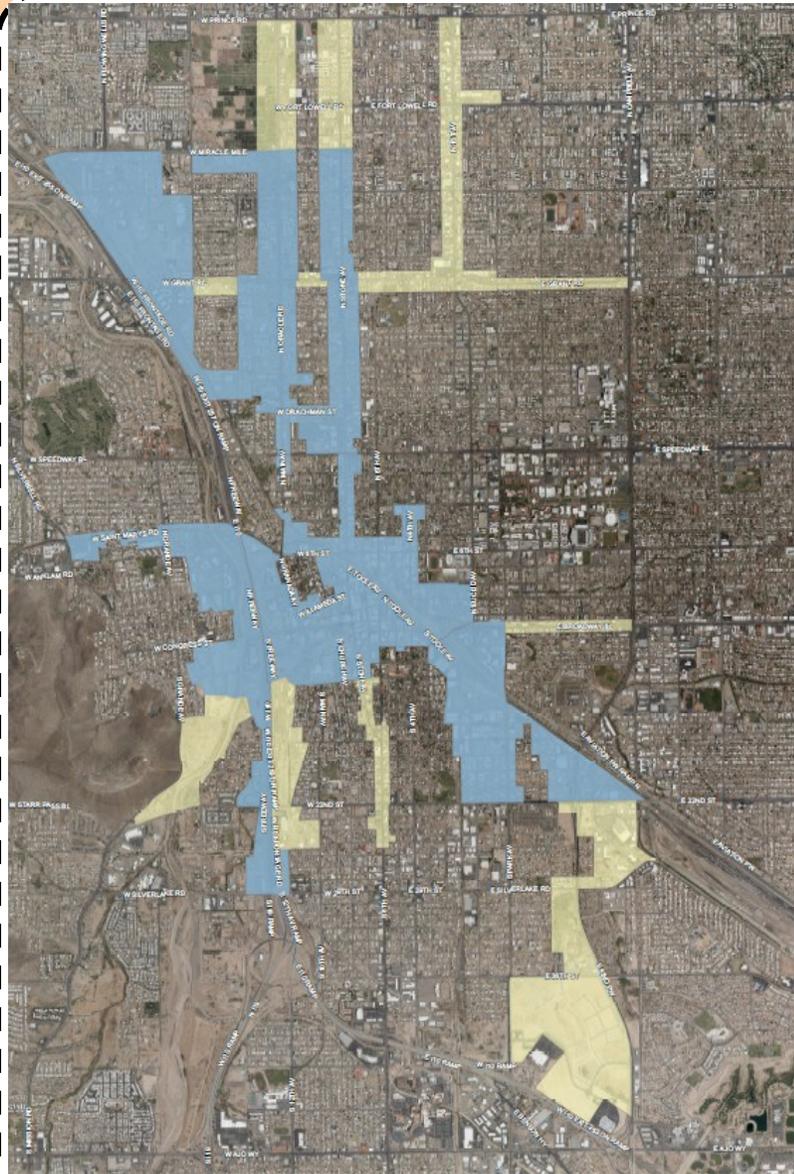
Mayor Jonathan  
Rothschild  
520-791-4201



so more areas can use the tax incentive.

Our current map constitutes 1.4% of our city area. The proposed map bumps that up to 2.2%. Many of us on the M&C felt taking that incremental approach is too conservative when we have areas that can qualify based on the objective criteria. My feeling was that we should not worry about challenges based on compactness. Others identified specific areas (to the south and to the north) that should be included, assuming they qualify. We voted to send staff back to create a map that comes closer to the 5% limit on land area and to begin the public process of putting it into effect.

ZoomTucson Map  
[http://  
maps.tucsonaz.gov  
/zoomTucson/](http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomTucson/)



Here's a closer view of what they're starting with. The yellow areas were the proposed additions that would have brought the total area up to 2.2%. The new map will run further down 6<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, up Stone, and – if the areas qualify – it will also incorporate land along Grant Road. Because adjusting the map will involve advising all of the affected property owners, this will take a while. But when it is done, our ability to use this tool to get more projects up and running will benefit us economically. In particular, it will benefit many of the smaller potential developments that are on the fringe of being financially doable. The Sonoran Corridor is about large scale development. This one's about more human scale projects.

We each appreciate the work staff is about to engage in to get this done.

### ***Special Exception Process***

Plan Tucson, the voter approved long range development document we're working from, includes a goal of "streamlining the development process in order to encourage infill, preservation, adaptive reuse, and quality new development within appropriate Plan Tucson designated growth areas." On Tuesday, we gave staff the go-ahead to start the public process of making changes to the special exception process. These changes will trim time off the process without eliminating the chance for public input.

In Plan Tucson, there are maps designating areas ripe for infill development. The text amendment we're moving toward will allow for additional land use exceptions when they're in compliance with Plan Tucson and the underlying neighborhood or area plan.

The changes may affect requirements related to alley access and use, parking, loading, landscaping, and so on. In instances where building height or use are in question, a Zoning Examiner hearing would also be required. In either case, exceptions would only be con-

sidered if they pose no public safety hazard, and do not cause excess drainage, noise, glare, or other nuisance conditions.

Here’s a graphic that clearly describes what’s being considered for the text amendment:

## Plan Tucson Special Exception Text Amendments

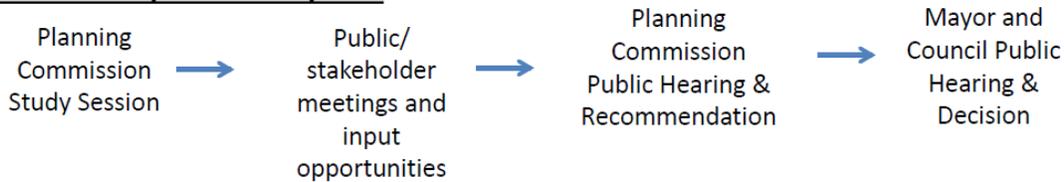
- Allow for additional land use exceptions, when the request is supported by Plan Tucson, and the underlying Neighborhood or Area plan.

### Customer Choices:

- PDSO Director’s Decision Procedure
  - Adjustments to site requirements such as parking, loading areas, landscaping, setbacks, waste collection design, etc.
- Zoning Examiner Special Exception Process
  - Increase in building height or land use
- Both procedures would include notification and opportunity for comment
- If project does not comply with Plan Tucson and Neighborhood/Area Plan, would have to come to Mayor and Council for amendment

And here’s the full public process we’ll go through before any of this is finalized:

### Plan Tucson Special Exception



### Planned Area Development

A Planned Area Development (PAD) is a zoning tool that can create flexibility for quality mixed use developments. Instead of having to rezone individual parcels within a larger site’s boundaries, one larger PAD is proposed and the full site is rezoned to accommodate the eventual project. Recently, we did this for the Banner UMC hospital.

Right now, the Uniform Development Code (UDC) has a restriction on a Planned Area Development that requires the development site to be at least 40 acres in size. In reality, we haven’t been adhering to that standard – the proposed change would codify the ability of smaller parcels to use the PAD zoning tool. In addition to removing the 40 acre limit, staff will look for ways to reduce the fee schedule tied to the process so that smaller projects can afford to use it.

Any project that’s approved for a PAD will still have to conform to Plan Tucson and any other land use plans that exist in the area being developed. The projects will have to demonstrate a rationale for using the PAD process instead of a traditional rezoning procedure, and they will have to show the eventual development’s suitability with regard to existing infrastructure and surrounding services. M&C will still retain final approval through the rezon-

ing process.

### ***Major Streets & Routes***

Right now, if the city has a note on the books that it might potentially expand a given street in the eventual future, development is prohibited within what may become the right-of-way. That's true even if everybody knows the likelihood of the expansion is virtually nil. We have several roads that fit that category.

To go through and change the plans on the books for all of the streets and roadways that may fit that condition would be a huge undertaking. Instead, we've asked staff to create a process to simply allow developments to encroach on potential future rights-of-way in cases where we know the road isn't likely to be widened anytime soon, and only if the developer agrees to build into that ROW at his/her own risk.



Here's an example. The dotted yellow line shows where the boundaries of Stone Avenue are marked in the Major Streets and Routes plan. A development was proposed that would be impacted by a widened roadway, but we're very certain that the road won't ever be changed to take over what's shown on the map. As a result, we're proposing to allow the development to encroach, with the caveat that if the road is ever widened, the city is not on the hook to compensate the developer for taking a portion of the project.

This is a creative work-around of what would otherwise be a very long and time-consuming process of

changing one by one the rights-of-way on streets that we know won't ever be widened to the extent currently depicted in our long-range development tools. I asked staff to bring this to us so we can stop placing unnecessary roadblocks on projects that will benefit the wider community.

### ***Concurrent Plan Amendments and Rezonings***

When I voted against the Plan Amendment for the Houghton East Neighborhood Plan (the Fry's grocery store), it was because I did not believe – and continue to not believe – that the proposed development complies with the neighborhood plan. By state statute, a rezon-

ing cannot take place until the development complies with all underlying area plans. I think that project is still in trouble, but the problem is that under our current rules they couldn't begin the rezoning process before securing an amendment to the Area Plan. The change I've proposed is that we allow those two processes to run concurrently if the developer opts to do it that way.

By making this change, not only the developer, but the community, staff, and the M&C will have the full picture of the project earlier in the process. As it now stands for Fry's, the developers will have to come back with a rezoning application that I expect will still be out of compliance with the Houghton East Neighborhood Plan, or have conditions tied to it that will require significant adjustments to the project plan over the next nine to twelve months while the rezoning process unfolds. At some point in some projects – and this might be one of those – the required changes may render the project unviable. It's much better to know that up front than to spend time and money slowly reaching that conclusion.

Here's the language staff will present to the Planning Commission for discussion and a recommendation:

- Unified Development Code text amendment to Section 3.5.3.D.3 to allow for Rezoning and Plan Amendments to run concurrently.
- *Rezoning cases applications must be in conformance with adopted plan policies prior to Mayor and Council authorization or adoption before a rezoning application may be accepted for processing.*

If adopted, the development process could be shortened by half, to about six months. On top of that, everyone in the process will benefit from the clearer picture of the project's scope.

As I mentioned above, a very open public process must take place before any of these new tools are adopted. Here's what that process will look like for the Major Streets and Routes, PAD, Concurrent Plan Amendment and Rezoning changes:

**Concurrent Plan Amendment/Rezoning, MS&R, & PAD**



***Main Gate District***

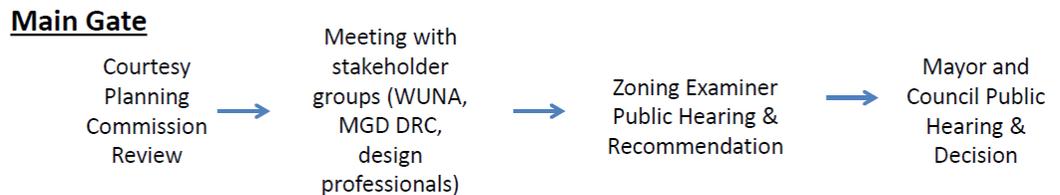
I asked that one more item go to the Planning Commission for review – my proposal to change the Main Gate District to prohibit balconies from student housing above the third floor, unless the balcony faces the interior of the project. Here's the language:

- Main Gate District (MGD) amendment to Section C-19.L relating to balconies

- *Architectural elements such as balconies, outdoor stairs, ornaments and surface detail shall be used to enhance the architectural style of the building. For group dwellings, balconies shall not be allowed above the third story unless oriented toward an interior courtyard.*

The reoccurring incidents of bottle and other object tossing from the Sol y Luna student housing towers, largely onto the mosque below, catalyzed this discussion. Somebody's going to be seriously injured if it continues. I want to stop this sort of juvenile behavior before that happens.

Getting the Main Gate District overlay into place was a year and a half long process that included a wide variety of stakeholders. Making this change will include those multiple voices at the table as well. Here's a graph that shows where we're headed before this is finally adopted:



I know there are a few possible sites for redevelopment that will be impacted by this proposal, and I'll be very transparent up front and say that I have already let staff know that I don't want to see any of them enter the permitting process until the public has had a chance to weigh in on this proposed change.

Taken together, I believe these changes to our processes will yield positive economic results as they're rolled out. None of it will come at the expense of public involvement. We'll continue to look for ways to tweak our regs in ways that benefit the wider community, generate jobs, and expand our tax base in the process.

**Metro Chamber Forum**

A quick note of thanks to Dr. Steve Reffs and Mike Varney from the Metro Chamber for pulling together the economic development forum we held at city hall last week. Each of the proposed changes to our development process is in line with the comments we heard from those in attendance. It's good to see that we're apparently pulling the rope in the same direction.

Right at the end of the meeting one person made a comment related to how long our processes seem to take. Her general message was that the M&C need to pull the plug on input at some point and move into decision-making mode. Because we were just ending the session, I didn't get a chance to respond. I know there are plenty of the Chamber members who see this newsletter, so I'm hopeful this part gets back to the woman who had the question.

She's right, of course, that at some point we have sufficient information to move ahead with a decision. Time equals money in these processes, so it's our job to call for a vote when we have what we need and people have been given a fair opportunity to offer their

input. It's a totally fair point to make. What I would like her and others to recognize, though, is that the planning and zoning processes oftentimes take a while for other reasons.

Here are a few examples. There are statutory timeframes regarding advance notice of public hearings and zoning or planning meetings by which we are required to abide. We can't accept a set of plans on a Monday and schedule the vote for Tuesday. We are required to give people a fair amount of notice before we begin public discussion. To the person waiting for the process to finish so they can begin their project, that lull may look like a bureaucratic stall, but in fact we're following statutorily required notice rules.

Processes can also appear to drag on when a developer takes extra time to engage surrounding neighborhoods during the design phase. We just went through a very time-consuming rezoning process for what will be a new retail development. While the developer would have preferred to jump from the one required neighborhood meeting right to the zoning examiner hearing, he decided instead to meet over and over with residents in order to be able to walk into the Zoning Examiner hearing with a set of site plans that reflected changes he could make in response to neighborhood concerns. That adds certainty to the rezoning process, reduces the number of conditions that would likely have been written into the rezoning approval, and allows the vast majority of people who come to the zoning examiner hearing to stand in support of the project. Putting in the time up front streamlines the back end of the process.

A final kind of case in which I've seen the process drag on occurs when the zoning examiner is faced with two sides at such odds with one another that he 'continues' the public hearing to tell them to go back and try to sort out their differences. I attended two of those in Ward 6 last year. The Zoning Examiner isn't Solomon. He isn't compelled to divine creative ways to impose compromise on groups. He's totally within his rights to tell the parties to go work on the issues and come back when things aren't so contentious. Sometimes it works, and sometimes it doesn't – but in the cases we had, it was worth the extra effort.

So, yes. We have a duty to work toward closure on issues and not prolong the process because we want to avoid making a decision. And yes, sometimes processes take longer than might otherwise be preferable, though the delay has nothing to do with M&C avoiding our obligation.

In closing, we have a new health care provider project in Ward 6 going in next year. It took two neighborhood meetings, a very quick zoning examiner hearing, and a five minute public hearing when we voted on it. Delays are not inherently built into our process.

### **Budget**

We'll hold another special budget meeting on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at Fire Central, across from the TCC. It's of course open to the public if you'd like to attend. We will start at 4:00 p.m. and go until about 8:00ish.

The City Manager has been holding meetings with all of the department heads and building a team approach to how we're going to tackle this deficit. The purpose of the meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> is to bring all of us together to talk about the implications of some of the proposed cuts. That message will come from the police and fire chiefs, transportation, parks, and so on.

Anyone who has worked with me on projects knows I see a huge value in getting all the players into the same room at the same time to sort through issues. I'm expecting the meeting next week will be productive in that sense.

Each department has already been challenged to reduce its budget. Here's a table that shows roughly how much each is being asked to reduce:

Procurement	\$337,130
Information Technology	\$919,750
Environmental Services	\$100,000
Finance/Budget	\$1,017,500
General Services	\$651,400
Human Resources	\$181,780
Parks and Recreation	\$1,947,300
Planning & Development Services	\$1,012,170
Transit	\$430,430 - \$2,619,830
City Attorney	\$669,100
Public Defender	\$138,960
City Court	\$543,120
Police	\$7,112,940
Fire	\$4,784,290
City Clerk	974,220
Housing & Community Development	\$146,490
Tucson Convention Center	\$300,000
General Government	\$1,113,850 - \$1,613,850

On the 4<sup>th</sup>, we'll hear how those reductions will impact service delivery. As I've noted multiple times before, we won't solve our budget problem through reductions alone. Growing the tax base is the long-term key.

#### **Films and the Tax Base**

A few weeks ago, I gave a short update on how the Visit Tucson Film Office attracts new dollars to the community through various film and commercial activities. This is the cleanest of industries, and it touches so many segments of our local economy that I will continue to advocate for it until the state reestablishes a film office up in Phoenix and some level of incentive to help get us back on Hollywood's map.

Even without that pump-priming, Shelli Hall and her staff have churned this work through our region:

- Nissan Commercial - left \$210K in the local coffers
- Chickasaw Nation Health Services Commercial - \$200K in direct spending
- Aritzia (a Canadian print catalog) - \$166K in direct spending

Both of those last two were shot in Wilcox – the whole region benefits from the work put into this by Visit Tucson.

- Bizarre Foods: Delicious Destination (a Travel Channel show) - \$30K in direct spend-

ing, but maybe more important in the long term is that the show featured El Charro, Tucson Tamale Company, El Guero Canelo, Teresa's Mosaic Café, and Sonoran Delights.

People see what Tucson has to offer, come here, drop some cash, and go home. Nice transaction.

These efforts have resulted in over \$800K in direct spending since February. We're also going to host commercials promoting Harley Davidson and American Road Maintenance, plus independent westerns and some other studio film projects.

I'm eternally optimistic that the state will soon see the value that can be added by investing in this industry. Until they do, Shelli and those others of us who are passionate about what it can mean to the region will continue to lead by example.

### **Neighborhood Newsletters**

Here's final budget add for the week. It relates to the print newsletters your neighborhood associations produce. Right now, your point of contact is through city hall. Last week, I sent staff an email offering to take on that task for all Ward 6 neighborhoods. It has been included in the budget discussions as a proposal for all ward offices, but I didn't think we needed to wait until the end of the fiscal year to begin making the transition. With the cuts to staffing downtown, these sorts of shared efforts are going to be necessary.

I've asked to meet with staff to learn the protocols they have in place. Those may or may not work for our office, but they'll serve as the baseline for how we take on this work. Once we have a handle on what's already in place, we'll talk internally and then communicate with the Ward 6 neighborhood leaders to see how we can best work with you to make sure your newsletters get out in a seamless manner. More on this to come, but the conversation has begun.

### **Green Stormwater Infrastructure**

You've seen these sorts of passive rainwater harvesting projects all over town. They reduce the negative impact of water flowing down the street, provide shade by sidewalks, reduce the heat island temps, and generally make Tucson a more livable desert community.



Last week we had a presentation by Brad Lancaster on the value of our investment in these sorts of projects, plus the work many of us on the council are doing to generate more incen-

tives to help people defray the costs of both passive and active rainwater harvesting systems at their homes.

Brad is a widely-published, award winning advocate of water harvesting and permaculture systems. His work includes construction for the Tucson Audubon Society, the Milagro Development, Stone Curves Co-Housing project, and the Nature Conservancy. Seeing the impacts of these sorts of projects makes our advocacy of expanding the city incentives more than just intuitive. The results are objective.

Tucson Water offers rebates on the purchase of rainwater harvesting systems. Here's a breakdown on where they've awarded these incentives to Tucson Water customers throughout the county:

Location	Count
Ward 1	73
Ward 2	137
Ward 3	105
Ward 4	56
Ward 5	38
Ward 6	218
Marana	17
Oro Valley	8
Pima County	372
South Tucson	1

There's some work being done to identify a large, potentially full-neighborhood scale rainwater harvesting demonstration project. I'd support reallocating portions of our conservation fee money to something like that. We spend a lot of that fee on printed materials. Maybe a better one-time use would be to get something tangible out in the community for people to see in action. Or, in the alternative, we're projected to leave \$1.2M in the conservation fund at the end of this coming fiscal year. Instead of just leaving all of that as reserve, why not invest some of it in a large-scale demonstration project?

I'm also still promoting the notion that the way we report on the benefits of water harvesting applications like curb cuts and roof-top systems needs to better reflect the thousands of gallons we as a community are capturing and putting to irrigation use. Currently our monthly reports say we're saving zero gallons of potable water. That's simply wrong. We're working with staff to come up with ways to estimate savings and other benefits so if our rebates are ever challenged from a cost/benefit standpoint, we can show the value in our investment of your dollars.

Tucson is a leader not only state-wide, but is recognized nationally as a leader in water conservation. Last week, our new water director Tim Thomure was flown to D.C. to talk

about the agreement we have made to store Phoenix CAP water in our aquifer. The pilot program started relatively small, but has the goal of recharging up to 40,000 acre-feet annually. When a shortage is declared on the Colorado River, the region will be better prepared to react to reductions in what's sent to us. Note that I said "when" a shortage is declared. That's not an "if." Here's a short video demonstrating how the region has been impacted by drought since the year 2000 – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tbLvcyij2I>. The darker the color, the more severe the drought condition. Credit to Cornell University for putting it together.

Along similar lines, the UA continues to lead in the environmental arena with the addition of a new program in the College of Architecture, Planning & Landscape Architecture (CAPLA). It's now the only school in the nation with an integrated curriculum that offers training – and a degree – in integrative sustainability. The program, Sustainable Pedagogy, is an entire curriculum that has so much promise it was honored last fall with the Crescordia Award (basically an Oscar in the environmental community).

In the curriculum, students learn environmentally sound architectural design while focusing on energy consumption, water scarcity, water cycles, and the various materials which enhance green building.

I've shared the Lake Mead bathtub ring images in the past. While 'seeing is believing,' it's great to also see the work done by Tucson Water, advocates out in the community, the M&C, and by Tucson Water on this key issue.



### **Trump Rally – TCC**

You've likely seen media reports on the incidents that took place last week during a political rally down at the TCC. I want to share with you the perspectives of our police chief, Chris Magnus. He was at the event, inside and out, and in plain clothes so his observations aren't tainted by having had a uniform possibly affect the behaviors of those around him. Here are a few direct quotes from his response to what I'd characterize as provocative questions by a non-local media outlet:

In response to the allegation that there were rocks being thrown at "Trump supporters:"

*It is true that there were protesters, as well as Trump supporters, who were escorted out of the building based on their disruptive behavior. The grounds and adjacent property outside the building are areas where members of the public can freely gather or assemble. TPD could not prohibit supporters or protesters from remaining in these areas. I was present before, during, and after the event both outside and inside the building. I never saw or heard (from either officers or members of the public) anything about rocks being thrown at any time associated with this event.*

In response to the allegation that supporters were subjected to “screaming obscenities” and “elbowing in the line from both sides, kicking and shoving people from behind:”

*Protesters were physically separated from the line of individuals entering the building to attend the rally. I specifically stood for several hours with the police officers who created the barrier between protesters and event attendees, so I had an excellent view of exactly what occurred. It is fair to say that many of the protesters were loud, worked up, and hostile towards Trump supporters entering the venue. Although SOME protesters were provocative and angry (making obscene chants, etc.), it is NOT accurate to say they were physically interfering with the people waiting in line. **At no time did I see anyone being kicked, shoved, or elbowed.** To be fair, I should also note that quite a few of the Trump supporters waiting in line were also provocative towards the protesters. There were multiple occasions when attendees jeered and yelled profanities at the protesters, made obscene gestures, and tried to physically engage with them. The bottom line is that a number of protesters and supporters behaved badly and seemed to be looking for opportunities to rile up each other. I was very impressed with how our officers kept these folks separated from each other and were able to keep tensions from reaching a point where public safety was compromised.*

I’ve also been asked about the costs associated with the event. Both the Trump and the Sanders events were charged our standard non-profit rental rate for the arena, \$3,100. They were also charged additional fees based on the level of support service and equipment they requested. For Trump, that came out to just over \$10K. For Sanders it was just under \$3K. TPD staffing was organized between the Secret Service and Tucson Police. Both campaigns will be sent a bill for the services performed. Whether or not they pay is yet to be seen. I’ve read that it’s not uncommon for cities to be left holding the bag for costs associated with political rallies. We’ll see.

I appreciate TPD’s approach, as reflected in Chief Magnus’ response to the media inquiry.

### **Erik Hite Foundation**

More on the TPD front – the Erik Hite Foundation was formed in honor of a TPD officer who was killed in the line of duty. The Foundation was formed to help surviving spouses and kids deal with their grief and to assist all law enforcement families with child care and family outreach. It’s being run by the wife of Officer Hite.



Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> will be this year’s Touch-a-Truck event, their annual fun run in support of the Foundation and its work. This flyer includes all of the information on the event. It’s a great cause, and you can use the event to support their work and burn off a few extra calories in the process.

**WHEN**

Sat, May 14, 2016

**TIME**

Event: 7 A.M.

5K: 8 A.M.

Walk: 8:30 A.M.

Breakfast: 9:30 A.M.

Kids Race: 10:00 A.M.

Awards: 10:30 A.M.

**WHERE**

Reid Park Ramada 20 & 22  
 Northeast Corner of Country Club  
 & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Tucson, AZ

**CONTACT**

Erikhitefoundation.org

520-495-0430

Contact@erikhitefoundation.org



Run, walk, and mingle at the Erik Hite Foundation's Annual Fun Run and Touch-A-Truck family festival.

Participate in the 5K, Family Walk, or Kids Race. Awards will be given for the top finishers. For more information on registration or becoming a sponsor, visit [erikhitefoundation.org](http://erikhitefoundation.org) today!

We are offering participants an opportunity to run or walk in memory of one (1) Fallen Officer. Once we provide the names of the Law Enforcement Officers 2016 Honor Roll of Heroes, participants can send an email to [Nohemy@erikhitefoundation.org](mailto:Nohemy@erikhitefoundation.org) indicating the Fallen Officer they will honor.

Also, join us for a chance to touch, interact, and talk to drivers of dozens of cool trucks and vehicles! Trucks of all sizes, motorcycles, construction, classic trucks, and more!

The family-friendly festival will have craft vendors, free fingerprinting, DJ, and live music, raffles, and more!

**SPONSORS****Some Animal Stuff**

From otherwise animal behavior to real animal behavior – the furry kind.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, and plan to take part in a presentation on cheetah conservation at the Reid Park Zoo education center. Last week, I shared the picture of one of the amazing multi-colored birds I saw in Kenya. I have a shot of a cheetah we came across on video – absolutely stunning cats.



While this isn't my shot, it looks amazingly similar to the photos I have from our trip.

Dr. Laurie Marker will make the presentation on the 7<sup>th</sup>. She founded the Cheetah Conservation Fund, and this event will be a fundraiser for its work. The doors will open at 5:30, and the lecture starts at 6:00 pm. Please check out [www.reidparkzoo.org/events](http://www.reidparkzoo.org/events) to sign up.

**Coffee and Cuddle**

This coming Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Humane Society will introduce you to some therapy and comfort dogs at an event downtown – while also taking in some coffee. I think all dogs are

comfort animals, but this event is geared to those VIPs in the field. I'll let the flyer speak for itself.

# Coffee and a Cuddle

## Downtown

10 am  
to  
1 pm

**Friday, April 1, 2016**

**Downtown Tucson Partnership  
100 North Stone Ave. #101**

Enjoy cuddle time with some of our great VIP therapy and comfort dogs, along with a delicious cup of coffee from one of Downtown Tucson's great local coffee shops.



**\$10 donation at the door supports our Arizona Gives Day campaign.**

[fb.com/hssaz](https://www.facebook.com/hssaz)

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



*And I'll just toss in here that the bill that will end live dog racing in Arizona will be heard in committee this week. It's HB2127. If you agree with the goal of the bill, let your legislator know today.*



The final animal piece is also this week's local Tucson item.

The Adopt Love/Adopt Local event is an initiative of the Pima Alliance for Animal Welfare. It aims to connect adopters with a wide variety of local shelters and rescues, thereby increasing adoptions. More than 30,000 pets enter our shelters annually. Not all of them make their way to forever homes. The preemptive bill about to be passed by the legislature to support puppy mills will only make that condition worse.

# ADOPT LOVE      ADOPT LOCAL

This one-day mega adoption event will be held at on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Tucson Expo Center (3750 E Irvington, between Palo Verde and Alvernon). It'll run from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. They ask that you leave your pets at home when attending the expo.

To show just how broad a reach this event will have, here's a list of who the exhibitors will be, along with links to their websites. When we did the free rabies vaccinations here at the Ward 6 office, we had several of these agencies represented.

- Pima Animal Care Center [Visit Site](#)
- Humane Society of Southern Arizona [Visit Site](#)
- The Hermitage No-Kill Cat Shelter [Visit Site](#)
- Handi-Dogs [Visit Site](#)
- Paws Patrol [Visit Site](#)
- VCA, Valley Animal Hospital [Visit Site](#)
- Pawsitively Cats [Visit Site](#)
- Desert Harbor Doberman Rescue of Arizona [Visit Site](#)
- SOS Cat Rescue [Visit Site](#)
- PAW PACKZ [Visit Site](#)
- Hope Animal Shelter [Visit Site](#)
- Bridge Rescue for Dogs, Inc. [Visit Site](#)
- Pima Paws for Life [Visit Site](#)
- Dawg House [Visit Site](#)
- Central Pet Resort [Visit Site](#)
- Cactus Drug [Visit Site](#)
- Tucson Cold Wet Noses [Visit Site](#)
- Arizona Greyhound Rescue [Visit Site](#)
- Best Friends Animal Society [Visit Site](#)
- Pawlicious Pet Treats and More, LLC. [Visit Site](#)
- Holistic Animal Care Shoppe [Visit Site](#)
- Sabino Canyon Pet Resort [Visit Site](#)
- Arizona Cattle Dog Rescue [Visit Site](#)
- Southern Arizona Greyhound Adoption [Visit Site](#)

Animal Ally of Arizona [Visit Site](#)  
 Ironwood Pig Sanctuary [Visit Site](#)  
 Southern Arizona Golden Retriever Rescue [Visit Site](#)  
 Animal Crusader [Visit Site](#)  
 Animal Ministry of St. Mark's United Methodist Church [Visit Site](#)  
 Arizona Border Collie Rescue [Visit Site](#)  
 Asavet Veterinary Charities [Visit Site](#)  
 Pit and Proud & Pup Pillows and Other Custom Dog Artifacts  
 Saving At Risk Animals (SARA) [Visit Site](#)  
 The Animal League of Green Valley [Visit Site](#)  
 Tucson 2 Tails Cat Rescue  
 Claws and Paws Rescue [Visit Site](#)  
 Humane Society of the United States [Visit Site](#)  
 Bella Dog Psychology [Visit Site](#)

To get more information on this big event, go to [www.adoptloveadoptlocal.org](http://www.adoptloveadoptlocal.org). The groups represented at this event are working their tails off to support the community through finding great homes for the animals in their care.



I'll end with this. The folks over at Emerge! are kicking off a new initiative to foster a more comprehensive approach to domestic violence than is currently in place. Since the DV movement began, the focus has been on intervening with the victims of abuse. While that's of course absolutely critical, their new work expands on that to include more proactive work in the community, prevention work with people who display abusive behaviors, and work to change our social norms which are too accepting of DV. They are getting out ahead of the problem – not waiting for people to be victimized.

The kick-off of the new program will be at their “Mother of the Year” luncheon on May 9<sup>th</sup> (11:30 am to 1:30 pm up at La Paloma). Tony Porter will be the keynote speaker. Tony's a former athlete who is now working to draw attention to many of the destructive behaviors people engage in that end up making their homes an unsafe environment. He's a compelling speaker – here's a link to an 11 minute presentation by Tony:

[http://www.ted.com/talks/tony\\_porter\\_a\\_call\\_to\\_men?language=en](http://www.ted.com/talks/tony_porter_a_call_to_men?language=en).

Check out the video and google Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse to get more information on both the event and on the new initiative in general.

Sincerely,

Steve Kozachik  
Council Member, Ward 6

[Ward6@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:Ward6@tucsonaz.gov)

## Events and Entertainment

### **Garden District Porch Fest**

**Sunday, April 3, 2016 | 3 pm—6 pm**

**Garden District Neighborhood | Grant Rd to Pima, between Alvernon and Columbus**

Join Ward 6 neighbors in the Garden District neighborhood for an evening of local music and food. Visit the Garden District's website for a schedule and map of concert and food truck locations: [gdna.weebly.com/porch-fest.html](http://gdna.weebly.com/porch-fest.html).

### **Community Demonstration Workshop: Ward 6 Rain Garden Expansion**

**Friday, April 8, 2016 | 8 am – 12 pm**

**Ward 6 Office | 3202 East 1<sup>st</sup> St**

Join the Watershed Management Group for this public workshop to expand the Ward 6 City Council Office rain garden to capture more roof runoff and grow another large shade tree. Come learn how to dig basins, plant native landscapes and harvest the rain. The work day will be led by WMG's Sonoran Landscape Specialist, Emma Stahl-Wert, and University of Arizona WaterWRLD Intern, Zachary Whitney. For more information and to register, visit: [watershedmg.org/event/community-demonstration-workshop-ward-6-rain-garden-expansion](http://watershedmg.org/event/community-demonstration-workshop-ward-6-rain-garden-expansion).

### **Arizona Gives Day**

**Tuesday, April 5, 2016 | [azgives.org](http://azgives.org)**

Arizona Gives Day is a grassroots, statewide single day of giving that invites Arizonans to find their favorite causes and donate day-of or schedule their donations in advance. On April 5, the public will be asked to “invest in Arizona” by giving to organizations that are doing important work to improve well-being in our state. Participating nonprofits include large and small organizations working in arts and culture, children and youth, community development, health services, animal welfare and more. Learn more and find your favorite non-profit at [azgives.org](http://azgives.org).

### **4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Spring Street Fair**

**Friday, April 1 – Sunday, April 3, 2016 | 10 am – 6 pm each day**

**4<sup>th</sup> Ave between 9<sup>th</sup> St and University Blvd**

Free to the public, the Fourth Avenue Street Fair brings together 400+ arts and crafts booths, 35+ food vendors, 2 Fantastic Stages, street musicians, food, jugglers, street performers, face painting, sidewalk entertainment, the ever so popular free kids hands-on-art pavilion and tons of other fun activities. [www.fourthavenue.org/general-information](http://www.fourthavenue.org/general-information)

### **Ongoing...**

**Meet Me at Maynards**, 311 E Congress St | [www.MeetMeatMaynards.com](http://www.MeetMeatMaynards.com)

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

**Mission Garden**, 929 W Mission Ln | [www.tucsonbirthplace.org](http://www.tucsonbirthplace.org)

A living agricultural museum and ethnobotanical garden at the site of Tucson's birthplace, the foot of “A-Mountain.” A non-profit educational organization demonstrating the region's rich agricultural history by growing the heritage crops that represent the more than 4000

years of cultivation in the Tucson Basin. Open Saturdays: April through November 8 am to 12 pm and December through March 10 am to 2 pm. For guided tours call 520-777-9270.

**Children's Museum Tucson**, 200 S 6<sup>th</sup> Ave | [www.childrensmuseumtucson.org](http://www.childrensmuseumtucson.org)  
Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm

**Loft Cinema**, 3233 E Speedway Blvd | [www.loftcinema.com](http://www.loftcinema.com)  
**Tucson Botanical Gardens**, 2150 N Alvernon Way | [www.tucsonbotanical.org](http://www.tucsonbotanical.org)  
*October 1, 2015 – May 31, 2016: "Butterfly Magic" Exhibit*

**Southern Arizona Transportation Museum**, 414 N Toole Ave |  
[www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org](http://www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org)

**UA Mineral Museum**, 1601 E University Blvd | [www.uamineralmuseum.org](http://www.uamineralmuseum.org)

**Jewish History Museum**, 564 S Stone Ave | [www.jewishhistorymuseum.org](http://www.jewishhistorymuseum.org)

**Fox Theatre**, 17 W Congress St | [www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org](http://www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org)

**Hotel Congress**, 311 E Congress St | [hotelcongress.com](http://hotelcongress.com)

**Rialto Theatre**, 318 E Congress St | [www.rialtotheatre.com](http://www.rialtotheatre.com)

**Arizona State Museum**, 1013 E University Blvd | [www.statemuseum.arizona.edu](http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu)

**Arizona Theater Company**, 330 S Scott Ave | [www.arizonatheatre.org](http://www.arizonatheatre.org)

**The Rogue Theatre**, The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd | [www.theroguetheatre.org](http://www.theroguetheatre.org)

**Tucson Museum of Art**, 140 N Main Ave | [www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org](http://www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org)  
*January 16 – June 3, 2016: "Waterflow: Under the Colorado River"*

**Tucson Convention Center**, 260 S Church St | [tucsonconventioncenter.com](http://tucsonconventioncenter.com)