

Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik



Ann Charles



Diana Amado



Amy Stabler



Alison Miller



Caroline Lee



Ward 6 Newsletter

TUCSON FIRST

August 15, 2016

In this issue...

Gun Safety.....	1
Body-Worn Cameras.....	2
A Final Police Add.....	3
Raytheon Buffer.....	3
Preservation of DM.....	4
Filling in the Blanks for the Star	
<i>Flood Control District</i>	6
<i>Mayor and Council Retreat</i>	6
<i>Sun Tran</i>	8
Sign Code – Reed v. Town of Gilbert.....	9
Unruly Gatherings and the Red Tag Ordinance.....	10
Main Gate Overlay.....	12
Another Development Height Change.....	13
Anson Voorhees Home.....	13
Puppy Mill Resolution.....	14
Visit Tucson Film Office.....	15
Local Tucson - Center on 4 th	16
Three Upcoming Events	
<i>Housing Fair</i>	16
<i>Pima Pedestrian Path</i>	17
<i>Climate Change Summit</i>	17
Events.....	18



If this were a local story, I wouldn't use it because I can only imagine how devastated everybody involved must feel.

In memory of 73-year-old Mary Knowlton.

During a police 'shoot/don't shoot' public demonstration in Punta Gorda, Florida, a public event to build relationships between the police and the community, Mrs. Knowlton was accidentally shot and killed. During these demonstrations, police show the public how they have to make split-second decisions out in the field. It's part of a citizens' academy. Mrs. Knowlton was selected randomly from the



Important Phone Numbers

Ward 6 Office
791-4601

Tucson Police
Department
911 or nonemergency
791-6813

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 Tucson
791-5071

Planning and
Development
Services 791-5550

Pima Animal Care
Center
724-5900

Pima County Vector
Control
Cockroaches 724-3401

Continued: A Message From Steve

crowd to participate. An officer inadvertently used live ammunition for the demonstration and shot her twice, killing her in front of family and friends.

The president of the National Citizens Police Academy Association said the normal protocol is to use starting guns – like what we use at track meets – that cannot even take a live bullet. If you have a weapon around the house and have kids, please make sure that it's secure.

To their great credit, the family is offering forgiveness and sympathy to the officer.

It was also troubling to find out that an active shooter demonstration being given at a Tennessee middle school last week had a near miss. The officer fired a live round, not a blank as is called for in these sessions. Sad there's not 100% attention given to what's loaded into these guns before they're used in training and work with the public. I know that our Police Chief is aware and attentive to the need for overall gun safety.



And over the weekend another police officer was shot dead. This was during a routine traffic stop in Hatch, New Mexico. Please keep in mind that every time an officer pulls over a motorist, these days nothing is 'routine.' Be considerate and cooperative.

Join us this Wednesday for a discussion about the city and TPD internal affairs restructuring, and how the public may have a voice. We'll begin at 6:00 pm at the Ward office.

I ran across a term that's new to me in a David Cohen article recently in Rolling Stone. It's "stochastic terrorism." It means using language that may incite random people to carry out acts that are 'statistically predictable, but individually unpredictable.' The analogy they used was that it's like a dog whistle – you blow it, and only a select few hear. I mention it here in the context of some statements being lightly tossed around during this political campaign that fit the definition. Most recently, it was the Trump comment that, "If she gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do, folks. Although the Second Amendment people, maybe there is."

Total plausible deniability if someone acts out violently. You've heard the 'real intent' discussions all weekend. I'm just suggesting that everyone needs to check their rhetoric in these heated political times. Everyone's so tightly wrapped that comments that *could* incite need to be restrained. Comments that dehumanize groups can lead to tragic results.

Body-Worn Cameras

I know I'm in the minority on the M&C in terms of not supporting the use of body-worn cameras for our police officers. I also know the Chief supports their use. I've shared my concerns in the past. They include how we need to put in place policies that guarantee both the public and the officers have access to the video that's recorded, the fact that people will make judgments about very short clips of video without seeing the full series of events that led up to an incident under review, and the issue of storage, cost, Freedom of Information Act requests (more on that below), and the generally hidden costs that we're

not prepared to absorb. But we're buying them, and we're using them.

Because we are, I found this national scorecard interesting. It was put together through research conducted by The Leadership Conference on Human and Civil Rights, a survey conducted by multiple civil rights related groups. If you'd like to see the entire report, including how dozens of public safety agencies compare on the metrics measured, go to www.bwccscorecard.org. It's an interesting read.

Department	Policy Available	Officer Discretion	Personal Privacy	Officer Review	Footage Retention	Footage Misuse	Footage Access	Biometric Use
Tucson	✓	○	○	✗	✓	○	✗	✗

The teal checkmark means our policies measure up to the Conference groups' standards. The yellow circles mean our policies partially measure up, and the red Xes mean we're deficient. My review of the survey tells me that many of my concerns are valid. That is, questions about access are noted as an area in which we need to up our game.

I know the Chief and our command staff are constantly looking at how we use this equipment. It's likely going to expand, so I appreciate their continued attention to making sure our use of the content is fair from a civil rights perspective, for all parties involved.

Phoenix got all red Xes except for two yellow 'partials,' and Mesa got all red Xes except for three yellow 'partials.' We did better than any Arizona city that was measured. Ferguson, Missouri got all red Xes.

A Final Police Add



Chicanos por la Causa is hosting a meet and greet with Chief Magnus. It'll be held downtown at our new El Charro Steakhouse on Tuesday, August 23rd from 4:30 until 6:00 pm. El Charro is located at 188 E. Broadway.

This event had to be rescheduled because Chief has been asked to meet later this week with Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton to talk about community policing. From what I've observed since we hired Chris, he's the right guy to be speaking on that topic.

For event details and to RSVP, go to eventstucson@cplc.org.

Raytheon Buffer

Possibly the most important action we took last Tuesday – and one that didn't get a mention in the media – was our agreement to purchase land south of Raytheon for the purpose of creating a buffer, allowing for their expansion. The deal comes with another very important piece: fulfilling the terms of our 2009 annexation amendment in which we committed to setting aside tax money in support of infrastructure out around the Raytheon site.

When the city annexed Raytheon, it came with conditions. We committed through our 2009 agreement with Raytheon to set aside up to \$8M in taxes generated by the plant into a development fund earmarked to support the company. We've been chipping away at that target, but there isn't a whole lot of tax-generating activity going on out at Raytheon, so get-

ting to the \$8M goal will take us several more years. But the purchase of nearly 300 acres of land, which we agreed to on Tuesday, comes with the condition that once the sales are finalized, the taxes generated out at the site will no longer be committed to the Raytheon property. They'll hit our general fund and support our other budgetary obligations.

There's often a debate about whether or not annexations make financial sense. Not all of them do. But the Raytheon annexation has already paid off by showing our regional support of them as a key private sector partner. Now, after the land purchase and buffer is in place, the taxes generated due to the annexation will also become an asset to our financial health.

There will be more activity in the form of land swaps, purchases, and development out around Raytheon. Much of it also plays into the importance of the Sonoran Corridor build-out about which I've written. This is a lot of good news that you deserve to know about.

Preservation of DM

Directly related to the importance of preserving and expanding Raytheon is preserving and expanding the missions out at Davis Monthan Air Force Base (DM). Between the two of them, they constitute two of our three largest employers in the region.

DM, as you likely know, is prepositioning itself to survive a base closing process when the next one comes. Our D.C. team tells us that isn't likely for another few years. Still, in advance of that it's important that we make an effort to show D.C. we value DM as a regional partner.

A part of that is supporting new and existing missions. We have an air operations center already out at the base. It's a major infrastructure asset that will help us keep DM open. We have a search and rescue mission at the base, also internationally recognized as a key asset for the military. We have the largest aircraft boneyard in the world. If you haven't visited, take an afternoon to check it out.



The place is full of history, and it serves as a huge facility for preservation, cannibalization, and possible reuse of hundreds of aircraft. We have an F-16 mission that may be increased as the military looks to relocate aircraft when they put the F-35 in other locations. DM is well suited to receive those F-16 missions. We have a Remote Piloted Aircraft mission (drones), and we are in line to possibly see that expand to the point that an additional 1,000+ jobs would end up at the base. And of course we have the A-10s that our current and previous congressional delegations have fought to preserve.

Making sure the Department of Defense recognizes the importance of continuing those missions is the key reason we agreed to join the county and DM50 in hiring an outside consultant to advise us on how best to market DM and the region.

Last week, I shared that the city and county have both agreed to fund a consultant at \$60K annually each for the next three years. Presumably, that's the right time frame in which to work ahead of a base realignment process. DM50 signed on to be the point agency in the relationship between the region and the consultant.

I also shared last week that a part of the contract the DM50 has signed with the consultant is a clause requiring monthly written reports. I've asked that those reports also be shared with us, since they're being paid for with public money. While our attorneys have told me that we're not a party to the agreement (true), what I haven't heard yet is some compelling reason public funds can or should be used in a way that keeps the documents they're being used to produce hidden from the public. If releasing them would compromise our negotiating position in relation to other bases, I understand and agree that it'd be inappropriate to release that sensitive, strategic information. But evidently, that's not information the reports contain. If they did, the consultant wouldn't have written this to the DM50:

Further, we were told the County and City wanted to be silent participants in the contract. So, if we provide a report that officially ties us to the County, this will likely become a FOIA document. Is there also a City requirement similar to the County request; and does the JSC and County and City want this public report. Again, we are happy to do it, if desired.

The "JCS" is the Joint Steering Committee of the DM50 that's working with the consultant. Nobody has been able to verify for me that we asked to be "silent partners" in this agreement. Nor has anyone been able to tell me what that means, or how it works when we're using your money to fund the agreement. And note the final sentence. The consultant says he's 'happy to do it' if we tell him to release the monthly reports required by the agreement.

I'm not alone in requesting to see what we're paying for. So is a Ms. Gomez. I found it quite troubling to run across this comment contained in a series of emails circulating between members of the DM50 related to providing that access:

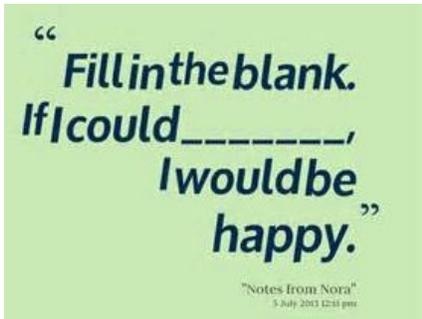
Anyway, the right thing, the political thing and the legal thing to do may be all different paths for us to take.

Let's discuss and decide which path works for us and our parties
— not for Gomez.

Here's the reality. The city and county used your money to fund an agreement with the DM50. The DM50 awarded that contract to one of its own members. The agreement contains a clause saying the reports generated from that agreement are private. And they're suggesting they'll select a path that may be neither right nor legal in responding to requests to see what you're paying for.

This isn't about DM's value to our community. I have spoken to that value many times. It is about the proper way to manage public funds. This conversation isn't over.

Filling in the Blanks for the Star



If I could write copy for the Star to help make sure they printed both accurate and context-salient points, I'd be happy. Many people ask why I spend so much time in writing my newsletter. It is because I believe strongly that our community needs to have correct and complete information about the events and decisions that affect our lives. Here are some examples of where correct and complete information from news media could have provided that information but fell short of the mark.

Flood Control District

As far as it went, the story that ran last week on the flooding, and in particular the lead about Supervisor Bronson getting caught in urban storm water, was accurate. TFD responded to 75 storm-related calls in less than two hours last Tuesday. Sharon's was one of them. Seven others were swift water rescues. Thankfully, nobody was injured – which is to the great credit of our firefighters.

The context missing from the article? Well, the Sunday lead story a week ago was how the city and county are working together to properly allocate Flood Control District funds in ways that will mitigate the stormwater flooding that too often occurs around town. Timing is everything. One of the Supervisors had a very scary and very real incident. It related to exactly the issue I've been raising about the use of these funds. Drawing the two issues together in the story would have offered the chance for some real-time input from those of us who have been involved with that discussion instead of an otherwise standard monsoon weather story.

The story also could have included an update on the positive outcomes we've seen since I brought the city and county together to talk about short-term solutions. One was the distribution of free sandbags. The distribution sites now include both Fire Station #7 (4902 E. Pima) and a new location at the Hi Corbett Field parking lot. We're still asking you to abide by the 10 bag per carload limit so we can get these out to as many people as possible.

Sharon might be taking the guys at Fire Station 7 some "thank you" sweets, and I'm sure the near-miss involving the chair of the Board of Supervisors will amp up the importance of the stormwater money allocation discussion. It was a good outcome to what could have otherwise been a very bad incident.

Mayor and Council Retreat

The story that ran last Wednesday about the finance retreat we held was mostly accurate, but it missed some important points. This is such an important issue for the community that I'm not inclined to let the Star frame the issue inaccurately.

Last week, I included in the newsletter several tables showing the responses the public gave to a survey we sent out last year. The survey questions were directly relevant to the retreat we held last week. Specifically, what do you all feel are our most urgent infrastructure needs, and how would you propose we fund them? This table answers the first of those questions. It was in last week's newsletter – a copy of which I imagine is floating around

the Star newsroom someplace:

2. What do you think is the most important issue facing Tucson right now? What do you think is the second most important issue?	Most Important	Second Most Important	Combined Total
Our roads are in need of repair	26	19	45
The growth of jobs and the economy in the city is not what it should be	24	16	40
Local taxes like sales tax and property tax are too high	11	13	24
Crime is too high	8	13	21
Our city doesn't have the funds it needs to maintain current basic services	9	9	18
Our public transit system is outdated and unreliable	4	8	12
Public employees pensions are burdening the city budget	5	6	11
We don't have enough parks and playgrounds	2	2	4
Something else	10	7	17
Don't know	2	7	9

During the retreat, I referenced this survey and this exact result. The story in the paper, though, focused on our conversation around whether or not we should sunset a proposed half cent sales tax increase in five years. Nobody on the council was advocating that we do that, and nobody on the council advocated that we choose a time-certain for placing the question of a sales tax increase on the ballot. It would be a Charter revision, and it will have to be framed very carefully so you know exactly what it is you're voting on – that is, what will any proposed tax increase fund?

As for the notion of a sales tax increase, I also included a relevant table in last week's newsletter. Here's how you feel about that idea:

3. There is currently discussion over a proposal to increase the current sales tax by half of one percent from 2 percent to 2-point-5 percent. This would cost taxpayers an extra 25 cents for every fifty dollars spent on anything other than food. Do you favor or oppose this proposal?	Tucson Voters
Strongly favor	25
Somewhat favor	14
Somewhat oppose	12
Strongly oppose	40
Don't know	9
NET FAVOR	39
NET OPPOSE	52

During the retreat, we did have a rather extensive discussion about our bonding capacity (\$100M) and how that would be impacted by extending of our Prop 409 road bonds for another five years. The reason I raised the survey results was to make the point that the longer-term conversation about Charter changes, sales tax increases, and how that money would be

used can all move forward, but fixing our roads is something we all hear all the time – and the survey gives us the data to demonstrate that. Perhaps the smart move would be to “test the waters” (my quote from the retreat) on borrowing by asking you to extend 409, and do that while we’re working out the details of the other sales tax question.

The retreat let the city manager and staff know that this topic is vastly important, and that we want a focused presentation on options later this fall. If there’s a majority will on the M&C, we could get a road bond question to you early next year, before any final decisions are made on the Charter questions.

4. Here are some things people say the money raised by the sales tax could be used for. After each, please tell me if you would be more or less likely to support an increase in the sales tax if the money raised was spent on that purpose?	Much More Likely	More Likely/ Less Likely
To repair and improve our roads	50	74 / 23
To keep the number of city police and firefighters from declining	42	71 / 23
To keep Tucson from cutting basic services	35	63 / 29
To make capital improvements, such as new police cars and improved first-responder technology	35	62 / 33
SPLIT A: To keep the city from going further into debt	33	58 / 36
To make Tucson a more thriving city	30	58 / 34
To improve our public transportation system	26	54 / 40
SPLIT B: To make it possible to balance the city's budget	24	51 / 41
To improve local parks and playgrounds	24	53 / 44

Sun Tran

In the Thursday Star, it was incorrectly reported that we’re eliminating three entire bus routes from the Sun Tran system. In fact, we voted to merge a couple of routes and extend service times on a third route.

Route 9 runs east-west on Grant Road from Campbell out to Sabino Canyon Road. Route 20 runs west on Grant from Campbell to Greasewood. Those two routes are being merged, creating one longer east-west route. They currently run south on Campbell up toward the streetcar stop. That leg won’t exist any longer after the change is implemented. The conversation we had involved the time it will take to transfer to the southbound route at Campbell so you can still make your way up to the UA. There is no southbound stop by the streetcar. It makes sense to put one near Helen if we want people to interface with bus/rail – a point I raised, but one that didn’t make the Star story.

In the other route change, we’re simply extending wait times on Route 27 during peak hours. That route is out in the Midvale Park area. Data showed that the current 15 minute wait times aren’t justified by ridership, so we voted to extend them all day to 30 minutes.

Reporters are told that they have to be tweeting and Facebooking out stories-in-progress from meetings they attend while also trying to pay attention so they can write accurate stories for the print paper. If management was asking for some suggestions, easing that requirement would be one of several I’ve got and I am sure you do as well. Our communi-

ty relies on the media. Let's work together to get it right.

Sign Code – Reed v. Town of Gilbert

In addition to the Raytheon item, we acted on several other items last Tuesday that didn't get any press coverage. Many affect quality of life. I'll share some thoughts on them here.

On June 18th, 2015 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 9-0 that the Town of Gilbert's sign code was in violation of the U.S. Constitution. The 'holding' read as follows:

Holding: *The provisions of a municipality's sign code that impose more stringent restrictions on signs directing the public to the meeting of a non-profit group than on signs conveying other messages are content-based regulations of speech that cannot survive strict scrutiny.*

The Town of Gilbert had imposed different standards on the posting of directional and informational signs related to when a church was in session than it did to commercial signs. The court said that was a free speech violation. As a result, we, along with numerous other cities and jurisdictions across the country have had to comb through our sign codes and remove anything that appears to place similar differences on what's allowed.

In addition to removing content-based differences from our code, on Tuesday we gave approval to staff to begin a public process to make some other changes. Those will include some things such as merging the sign code into our Uniform Development Code to remove redundancies and provide more clarity to both users of the code and those who enforce its standards.



We'll also look at permitting sign "master plans" for Planned Area Developments. This would allow an entire shopping center to prepare a master sign-age plan early in the design phase of a project instead of having to rely on individual stores achieving their own sign approval later in the process. By doing this, we hope to get a more aesthetically pleasing overall sign pallet in a given development and to get to that decision point earlier in the process than is presently the case. If we do it right, allowing reviewers to consider a complete program

that incorporates height, color patterns, and materials can result in a win for developers and a win for the community.

The next step will sit the Citizen Sign Code Committee members down with the Planning Commission to jointly review the recommendations staff is preparing. Those will be public study sessions followed by public hearings. Input from multiple voices and sets of eyes will of course be a part of how we make these changes. Staff is hoping to get the proposed changes back to us by January. I'm not expecting that, though. Sign Code alterations are always challenging, as multiple interests are involved and finding a good compromise will be our challenge.

Unruly Gatherings and the Red Tag Ordinance

Also not reported from our Tuesday meeting were any of the changes we adopted in terms of how we are going to monitor and enforce behavioral issues in what is largely student housing around campus. Instead, the Sunday Star had a front page story that made it sound as though student housing's just swell. More on that below.

Last May, Richard and I brought this item to M&C for review. Here's the motion we adopted back then:

- Direct staff to meet with stakeholders and bring back recommendations for the "Red Tag" and Group Dwelling Ordinances in 60 days for discussion and potential action;
- direct staff to form a working group with the Tucson Police Department (TPD), the U of A, and the Mayor and Council offices to meet quarterly to discuss issues of concern;
- have TPD staff review their procedures on "Red Tag" enforcement and update the Mayor and Council on their review and proposed changes;
- have TPD staff review the Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Arizona Police Department, and bring back recommendations to Mayor and Council for updating the agreement;
- have Environmental Services area 26 expanded, and Environmental Services Department staff to put more timely roll-off containers in the area, encouraging students to use them;
- direct Planning and Development Services Department staff to review current practices and report back to Mayor and Council with recommendations to improve the planning review process and recommendations for dealing with duplexes;
- direct Code Enforcement staff to review their procedures for Tucson Code section 16-37, Group Dwelling and Public Nuisance Abatement;
- direct staff to collaborate with the U of A to provide information for both neighborhoods and students about these ordinances and dealing with them.

A lot of work has gone into addressing each of those items. I've met with staff, TPD, the UA, and property owners, and staff from multiple departments have met together to talk through changes. Here's how we are addressing the pieces contained in our earlier motion.

I teased this part last week, but now that we've voted I want to put it out for you to act on. Neighborhood Preservation Zones (NPZ) establish design criteria for development in neighborhoods that qualify as historic districts. Most of the ones that surround campus are eligible. Soon, we're going to work with staff and neighborhood leaders to set up a meeting to present the steps involved in creating an NPZ and the benefits you may enjoy. For instance, creating an NPZ manual may have the effect of establishing design standards

that prevent construction of 'mini-dorm' like structures. It proactively deals with what has been a part of the Red Tag, unruly gathering problem.

Also coming from this current effort is an agreement by Code Enforcement to get more directly involved than they have in the past. Starting now, when a property gets its second Red Tag in a 180 day period, Code Enforcement will show up on site to check for code violations that also impact neighborhood quality of life. Debris spread around the site is most likely, but once on the site, CE can take notice of other violations and compel them to be brought into compliance. It's another way of getting property owners' attention.

During the lead-up to the discussion last week, it also became clear that both TPD and neighbors feel a little deflated when cases are dropped when they get to court. During the study session, I made a point of reiterating that concern to our city attorney. We all understand that as a result of budget cuts he has had to reprioritize staffing assignments. And yet, especially during the first month of each semester, it's important that we send a zero-tolerance message. He took note, and we hope this all-hands-on-deck approach will make a difference.

Also targeting enforcement during that first month of school, TPD will begin a new pilot project that assigns an officer specifically to unruly gathering duty in neighborhoods around campus. During September, every Saturday from 10:00 pm until 2:00 am, we'll have that officer working alongside UAPD making sure Red Tag calls are not tossed to the back of the line. Similarly, TPD and the UAPD are working together to update the Memorandum of Understanding that guides their interagency work. Dusting off that relationship can only help.

TPD has also become a formal member of the Campus Community Relations Committee (CCRC). The CCRC meets monthly and is comprised of representatives from the neighborhoods that surround campus, several UA departments, and now TPD. This new arrangement will further enhance communications.

We're also sending extra information on Red Tags via this month's Brush & Bulky notices. These will be in the form of door hangers. Here is some information TPD put together that will be included in its outreach efforts:

WHAT IS AN UNRULY GATHERING?

An Unruly Gathering is defined in Tucson City Code 16-32 as "...a gathering of five (5) or more persons on any private property, including property used to conduct business, in a manner which causes a disturbance of the quiet enjoyment of private or public property by any person or persons." These disturbances include things like excessive noise, traffic obstruction of public streets by crowds or vehicles, drinking in public, the service of alcohol to minors or consumption of alcohol by minors, fighting, disturbing the peace, littering.

If an officer is called to investigate a gathering and finds it to be unruly then a citation is issued and a "red tag" is posted prominently on the residence. Violators of this Tucson City Code and, in the case of rental properties the property owners, can be assessed fines that start at \$500 for the first offense.

The red tag remains in place for 180 days and during that period any additional violations can result in fines that increase in cost with each repeat offense.

RED TAGS ARE EXPENSIVE.

The first offense costs \$500, second offense \$750, third offense \$1000.

University of Arizona Students

Unruly gatherings are reported to the Dean of Students and may result in disciplinary action.

HOW DO I AVOID HAVING AN UNRULY PARTY?

- ***BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR.*** Acknowledge your responsibility for gatherings you host. Inform your neighbors in advance of the party and communicate mutual concerns and potential resolutions. Consider sharing your phone number with your neighbors so they can call you *before* they call the police.
- Letting your neighbors know that you're having a party doesn't mean you can allow it to become unruly - you can *still* be cited if police are called.
- If you know a neighbor has called police you should try to address their concerns. Ask people to leave. Turn down the music or turn it off. Clean up the litter. Wind things down.
- Respect your neighbor's property ..and make sure your guests do, too.
- Keep your guest list to a minimum and remember that you are responsible for *all* guests, even the uninvited ones. Call 911 if things are getting out of hand.
- Don't serve alcohol to minors or allow it to happen at your party - *you can be arrested.*
- Make sure guests have a safe, sober ride home.

If police are called and you are in violation of Tucson City Code 16-32, you will be cited.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF THERE IS AN UNRULY PARTY IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD?

When your peace or the peace of your neighborhood is disturbed, please call 911.

- Tell the police operator that you want to report an unruly gathering, provide a specific address if possible.
- Tell the operator your preference for contact - we can call you on the phone or knock on your door.
- Talk with neighbors. Multiple independent calls to 911 provide evidence that a party was unruly.
- Describe what you see and what you hear. How many people are at the party? Describe any ongoing issues with the location. Are there any recognizable odors that suggest drug use? Does everyone look of drinking age? *The more facts you share, the better prepared responding officers are.*
- ***Your safety is paramount.*** If you choose to record video please do so with your safety in mind.
- If you record video of the disturbance please let the officers or the operator know so we can collect the video from you. This contact can be in person or, if you prefer, by telephone.
- If a red tag is posted you will be asked to appear in court to describe what you witnessed and the impact on you and your neighborhood. The choice to appear in court is yours - but please remember, your appearance in court and your testimony will serve to strengthen the civil case.

Again, this will up our game in communicating that unruly gatherings will no longer just be a nuisance you've got to live with.

Finally, we're looking at how we might increase the fines associated with violations of the Red Tag ordinance. Right now, the initial fine is \$500. That would get my attention, but we're seeing evidence that mom and dad are just paying the fine and life goes on. More on that to come as we investigate what other jurisdictions are doing, what's working, and how can we implement some of it locally.

School's about to resume. Our TPD pilot program, the E.S. door hangers, TPD being involved with CCRC, getting Code Enforcement involved, and possibly increased fines will all hopefully result in a reduction in what we see around campus this time of year. We'll get a report on the pilot program mid-October.

Main Gate Overlay

On Tuesday, we also finalized the elimination of balconies from student housing towers in the Main Gate District, west of campus. This is the initiative I began in response to the multiple incidents we've seen involving the Islamic Center of Tucson. That's the mosque sitting at the foot of two large student housing towers, each of which have exterior balco-

nies. The Star gave some coverage to the problems we had the last two semesters, but this zoning change slipped their notice.

In any zoning change, people have an opportunity to participate in the process. We held multiple public meetings. In addition, people could write in support or opposition on their own. Those letters are included in our M&C material, which included the comment that there were “17 protests.” I made the point that the statement was a bit misleading. In fact, 16 of those came from one developer, Michael Goodman, listing 16 different student housing property addresses that he manages around campus. The other protest came from the owners of one of the towers sitting above the mosque.

Those protests are examples of where we take things with a grain of salt.



The change to our design standards is effective prospectively. We cannot force changes to existing structures, but any new student housing projects not already in plan review will no longer be allowed to have balconies. I found it a little disingenuous that the tower management would protest. During our last series of meetings related to the mosque being assaulted from above by their tenants, that same management team said they’re no longer designing student towers that have balconies in other locales. Now they’re welcome to design similarly in Tucson.

Another Development Height Change

We also talked about allowing some uses to occur above certain heights at last Tuesday’s meeting. I brought this forward when learning of an odd and dated restriction on what’s allowed – or more specifically, what’s not allowed – above 50’ in our zoning code.

Right around the corner from the Ward 6 Office, we have what will be a very good development project making its way through the design process. At the corner of Speedway and Miramonte, a new shopping, arts, and residential project is planned. One of the features is a 70’ tall structure that will be programmed for meeting space, and possibly for gallery or performance space. They’d like to place a restaurant near the top with views of the city and mountains. During design, we learned that an old piece of our zoning code prohibits ‘food service’ above 50’ in C-3 zones. Nobody quite knows why that restriction exists.

Also prohibited above 50’ are things such as artisan residences, craftwork, dance halls, and the ability to serve alcohol. Last Tuesday, we sent staff back to look at all of the uses that are restricted in the C-3 zone above 50’, and bring back a recommended text amendment that updates the code. I expect this to be a relatively easy item, one that will help the Miramonte project eventually incorporate the food service in its program. It’s a quirky agenda item that may get some media notice as it evolves.

Anson Voorhees Home

We have six existing Historic Landmarks in the city. Those six include:

1. San Pedro Chapel, designated May 11, 1981
2. El Tiradito Wishing Shrine, designated August 7, 1995

3. Cannon-Douglas House, designated June 23, 1986
4. Smith House, designated June 23, 1986
5. El Con Water Tower, designated August 12, 1991
6. Valley of the Moon, designated May 19, 2015

On Tuesday, we voted to add the Voorhees-Pattison house, located in Colonia Solana, to that list.

Historic Landmark zoning designations promote the preservation of community assets, the demolition of which would constitute an irreplaceable and significant loss. In this case, not only was this structure one of the signature homes in Colonia Solana, it was designed by Roy Place and built in 1929.



The story is that Anson Voorhees arrived in Tucson back in the early part of the last century. He contracted with the storied architect Roy Place to design this home. Place is also known for other local architectural works of importance including the Pima County Courthouse downtown, several iconic buildings on the UA campus, and most proximal to the Voorhees home, the El Con Water Tower.

This designation came with some controversy because the most recent owner/occupant allowed the place to fall into some disrepair. And yet, placing this historic designation on the property gives the city an added tool to compel restoration. The current owners, the Pattison family, have the property up for sale. The new owners will come into the sale knowing the importance of restoration to the community and the surrounding neighborhood, and also knowing the rich history we as a community recognize in the structure.

This was a good-news ending to what had been a tough series of public hearings in front of the Zoning Examiner. With the easy visuals, you may see more about it as the sale and restoration begin.

Puppy Mill Resolution

To cap off the fight over the Phoenix puppy mill ordinance we've been watching as it's played out in court, last week we passed a Resolution urging the State Legislature to rescind its preemptive bill outlawing local regulation of the retail sale of puppies, and also encouraging pet adoption from shelters. I've written plenty about this issue, but felt this final piece was worthy of some added notice. It's got puppies, the pre-emption fight that continues between the State and localities, and pet adoption. Here's what we passed last Tuesday:

WHEREAS, in the fiscal year of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 Pima Animal Care Center, our county's open-admission shelter, admitted 13,210 dogs and 7,123 cats; meaning 20,333 total animals entered the shelter in the last fiscal year. Additionally, PACC staff retrieved 2,091 deceased dogs and cats from

WHEREAS, the Humane Society of Southern Arizona admitted 5,807 animals in FY 2016, and in addition to HSSA and PACC, there are numerous shelters, rescues and individuals in Pima County raising funds and donating time to provide care for hundreds more homeless animals;

NOW, THEREFORE, YOUR MEMORIALIST, THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TUCSON, ARIZONA, DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson hereby proclaim the week of August 6, 2016 through August 13, 2016 to be "Pet Adoption Celebration Week" in the City of Tucson to help raise awareness regarding the need to adopt an animal from a shelter or a rescue organization.

SECTION 2. The Mayor and Council encourage all City of Tucson residents to consider adopting from a shelter or rescue organization and to further consider donating their time, talents and resource to the needs of homeless animals in our community.

SECTION 3. That the Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson urge the State Legislature to revisit the statutes amended by SB 1248 to allow for local regulations tailored to protect local consumers and promote the humane treatment of animals.

I'll add this. During the debate at the legislature over SB1248 (the bill outlawing our ability to regulate the retail sale of puppies), the Humane Society U.S. came out 'neutral' on the bill. I've shared in the past that I felt that act was a betrayal of the principles many of us were fighting for in efforts to eliminate puppy mills across the country. Given that, I thought it was odd that they've now gone on record with a letter speaking out against the bill. Too little, too late. But we've got our reso in place, a move that aligned with our earlier positions opposing the inhumane treatment of animals in puppy mill settings.



Visit Tucson Film Office

If you've spent time reading these newsletters, you're probably familiar with my support for a state-wide film incentive. We're losing major opportunities to New Mexico, Texas, and other surrounding states because they can offer production companies incentives that we simply don't have. Regardless of that uneven playing field, the Visit Tucson Film Office continues to attract some productions to our area, to the benefit of our local economy.

In July, the region had six shoots take place. Together, these brought direct spending of over \$750K to the area. Ward 6 had some of the activity, with the Arizona Inn getting a batch of room nights and Barrio Viejo as the site for some of the filming. The shoots included commercials, reality episodics, and some fashion filming that came out of the UK.

Continued thanks to Bret DeRaad and Shelli Hall, who does all of his legwork in the Film Office to attract these filming opportunities. Elections are coming – if this is important to you, ask the candidates if they'll support state film incentives. Tucson and Southern Arizona have and can once again lead the nation in filming.



Center on 4th

The staff at the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) is in the process of moving their youth drop-in center over to a new 5,000 square foot space on 4th Avenue. Last week, Diana and I toured the place. We agree with the vision of the SAAFers. The new location and the new facility will be a significant upgrade.

They're in a 'soft' phase of fund-raising for this new center, and even now they're seeing real support from the community. If you'd like to join in the vision – or just see what they're planning – check them out at SAAF.org. Scroll down to the bottom of the home page and you'll find contact information for giving.

Survey data show the top three 'problems' in non-LGBT youth are classes, career, and finances related to college. For LGBT youth, they're non-acceptance, bullying, and fear. This drop-in center is a much needed asset for the community.

Three Upcoming Events

Housing Fair

I've teased this event in previous newsletters, but now we have a time, date, and location for this important community event.

Join us at the UA Student Union Ballroom on Tuesday, September 13th for an opportunity to speak to everyone who's anyone in the field of home ownership. Contrary to what was reported in the Sunday Star, this event was catalyzed by the receipt of new Pathways to Purchase funding by the Industrial Development Authority of Tucson, not some mass exodus of students from neighborhoods to go live in the student towers. With the new funding, we felt the timing couldn't be better to try to connect buyers with lenders, and others who are important players in the home ownership field.

For those of you who read the student housing story on Sunday, I'll fill in some of the missing pieces. First, the story appeared to buy in to the notion that the upward trend in student enrollment will simply continue. Realtor Hank Amos was quoted in the article as being concerned the market is already saturated with student towers. But the guys promoting these projects say we're far from being in that position. The voices missing from the

piece are those of us who wonder what we're going to do with these towers when the baby boomer demographics do flip and we're left with hundreds of overpriced rooms that were constructed in ways that are only amenable to lease on a per bed basis. We're already seeing impacts on housing a couple of miles away from campus.

Also missing were the voices of those of us wondering what value these towers bring to the adjacent residential areas. The towers are all owned by out-of-state developers who have a history of flipping ownership and moving on. There's often little commitment to becoming a productive part of the established neighborhoods. Changing from high percentages of rentals to high percentages of owner-occupied houses is why we're promoting the Home Fair.

I work on campus and am very familiar with the projections for student enrollment. I'm also familiar with the concerns over rising tuition costs, increasing student debt, and the ability of the current enrollment trends to continue against those counter-currents. And where do online enrollment or students who live with their parents to avoid the high costs associated with the new towers fit into all of that? These excessively costly student housing towers may not prove to be 'recession proof' as was stated by the developers in the article. I guess time will tell.

So, we're holding a Housing Fair on campus to promote home ownership.

There'll be break-out sessions where experts will discuss Home Buying 101, and a range of topics a new home buyer will want to keep in mind during the process. Also, neighborhood representatives from around campus will be on hand to cheerlead for the amenities their areas offer.

The Fair will run from 3:30 until 7:30 pm on the 13th. If you're tired of renting, this is something you'll want to take part in.

Pima Pedestrian Path

Kudos to the Garden District residents who have been patiently waiting to see this project come to fruition. Finally, on Saturday, August 20th at 9:30 am, staff will conduct an on-site meeting to talk about the Pima Pedestrian Path project. It's being funded through a Transportation Enhancement Grant.

Construction is scheduled to begin late August or early September. The work will include ADA accessibility amenities, pedestrian and landscaping upgrades, bus pads, and bike lanes.

The project meeting will take place at 4109 E. Pima. Everyone's welcome, but most particularly those from Garden District who have had this on their minds for years.

Climate Change Summit

Finally, on Thursday, August 25th from 5:30 until 7:00 pm, the Armory Park Community Center will play host to this important panel discussion being sponsored by the Tucson Bus Riders Union. The keynotes will be delivered by State Senator Steve Farley and UA Associate Professor in Climate, Natural Resources and Policy Gregg Garfin. The panel will also



include:

Dan Millis, Sierra Club
Dora Martinez, Flowers & Bullets
Susan Willis, Sustainable Tucson
Dan Beckman, Tucson Rising Tide
Vanessa Cascio, Living Streets Alliance
Carolyn Campbell, Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection
Katie Hirschboeck, UA Associate Professor of Climatology
and a Catholic Church Climate Ambassador, to be named.

Come and take part. Dinner will be served beginning at 5:30, and the panel discussion will begin shortly afterwards.

The Center is located at 220 S. 5th Avenue. All are welcome.

Sincerely,



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

Events and Entertainment

Independent Police Internal Investigations and Citizen Involvement

Wednesday, August 17, 2016 | 6 pm—7:30 pm

Ward 6 Office, 3202 E 1st St

Liana Perez from the City Manager's office will join us for a discuss of internal police investigations and citizen involvement. Come hear about the policies Tucson has in place and what works in other jurisdictions. Share your input on police oversight.

Register now for AIDSWALK

Sunday, October 9, 2016 | 8 am

Joel D. Valdez Main Library, Jacome Plaza

2016 marks the 28th Annual AIDSWALK Tucson, a fundraiser for the programs and services of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation. Register today and be entered into our drawing on September 4 for a FitBit activity tracker. aidswalktucson.saaf.org

Coffee with a Cop

Wednesday, August 24, 2016 | 7 – 9 am

Beyond Bread, 3026 N Campbell Ave

Come out for coffee and conversation with Midtown officers from the Tucson Police Department.

Ongoing

Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N Alvernon Way | www.tucsonbotanical.org

Twilight Thursdays, every Thursday through the summer, 5 – 8 pm

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, 414 N Toole Ave |

www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org

UA Mineral Museum, 1601 E University Blvd | www.uamineralmuseum.org

Jewish History Museum, 564 S Stone Ave | www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Fox Theatre, 17 W Congress St | www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Hotel Congress, 311 E Congress St | hotelcongress.com

Loft Cinema, 3233 E Speedway Blvd | www.loftcinema.com

Rialto Theatre, 318 E Congress St | www.rialtotheatre.com

Arizona State Museum, 1013 E University Blvd | www.statemuseum.arizona.edu

Arizona Theater Company, 330 S Scott Ave | www.arizonatheatre.org

The Rogue Theatre, The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvd | www.theroguetheatre.org

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N Main Ave | www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org

Tucson Convention Center, 260 S Church St | tucsonconventioncenter.com

Meet Me at Maynards, 311 E Congress St | 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

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 6th Ave | www.childrensmuseumtucson.org