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Ward 6 Newsletter

TUCSON FIRST

September 28, 2015

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Poaching and Overexposure

Call this an 'Editor's Note' or a 'Note to Producers.' I often hear that local media editors and producers think their reporters 'overexpose' me. Well, I also know that they use this newsletter for story ideas. So, let me first suggest some reasons I might garner media attention:

- 1) Significant activity frequently occurs in Ward 6
- 2) I don't shy away from issues
- 3) I answer my phone and respect reporter's deadlines
- 4) I don't dance – my comments are on point and not just 'safe.'

So, at least for this week, I'll answer these editor/producer concerns by giving a heads-up on what may be particularly 'story-relevant' items in the newsletter by



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

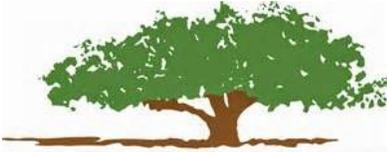
Continued: A Message From Steve

using this graphic:



I think it's okay to poach items from here – and okay to call if you'd like a comment.

Tucson Parks and Recreation



Tucson Parks and Recreation
A Nationally Accredited Agency

I want to open with a note of congratulations to our Parks and Recreation staff and volunteers for having been recognized again for excellence in parks management and service delivery. The national accreditation came last week from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA).

Tucson Parks received its first CAPRA accreditation in 2010. One of the requirements from that agency is a five year review. That review covers the administration of lands, facilities, programs, and other services we offer to the public. As Parks Director Fred Gray stated, attaining that national recognition again confirms the hard work of our entire staff and our volunteers. We're one of only six parks departments in the state, and one of just 139 nationwide, to receive this recognition. I'll add that our Parks employees, with significant help from hundreds of volunteers and docents, have achieved this despite budget cuts in the past few years.

Check out this link for more on our recognition and the Parks Department in general:
<http://1.usa.gov/1QwBaQC>



While I'm on the topic of Parks, it's time for this year's ZooCSON. It will feature food and drink from 30 local restaurants, live music provided by Jovert, and a very unique acrobatic and pyrotechnic routine from Flam Chen.



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff Flake (R)
520-575-8633

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

Congressman Raul Grijalva (D)
(3rd District)
520-622-6788

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

Mayor Jonathan Rothschild
520-791-4201

ZoomTucson Map
<http://maps.tucsonaz.gov/zoomTucson/>

The event will run from 6pm until 9pm on October 16th. This is an event for adults, ages 21 and above. If you'd like ticket information, please call 881.4753 or check out the webpage (<http://reidparkzoo.org/events/public/zoocson-2015/>). I'll be there with my bride. We hope to see you there, too.

More Partying

It's nice to finally see somebody referring to the period of time during which I grew up as being "Modern." The radio stations always seem to mislabel the music as 'classics' or 'oldies.' During Modernism week, we'll set the record straight and invite you to celebrate the era at a couple of 'period parties.' I could write a narrative, but it will be easier to just let you look over the flyers. They've got all the relevant information.

CELEBRATE
Modernism On The Mile
Broadway between Euclid & Country Club

Visit our 1950's home
Free tours 11-5 Oct 2-3-4
2536 E. Broadway Blvd.

the sunshine house

Step back in time in our 1950's furnished & decorated home. What things do you remember?

October 2 - 10
Mid-Century Exhibits at Sunshine Mile Businesses

Deco
Sahuaro Trophy
Caps & More Embroidery
Perimeter Bicycling
Cook & Co. Signmakers

www.Sunshinemile.com
Facebook: sunshinemilemerchants

CELEBRATE
Modernism On The Mile

Bon Voyage Retro
COCKTAIL Party
6:00 pm - ?

Oct. 6th
242 S. Park
Park Ave. Weddings & Events

Period Dress Contest with great prizes

Dance to the Tunes of the Time with KTKT DJ - Jim Bednarek

www.Sunshinemile.com
Facebook: sunshinemilemerchants

Everybody's welcome to come and party – and to visit the Sunshine Mile businesses that are sponsoring the events listed in the flyers.

Some Public Safety Items

Incarceration – Dreamcatcher

Last week, I teased the issue of the relationship between educational attainment and later involvement in crime. In previous newsletters, I've shared our work in Project RAISE, the alternative to incarceration work we do with the courts and TPD. I also promo'd the presentation of the Hanson Film Institute sponsored show *Dreamcatcher* at The Loft. Connecting those dots may result in a significant initiative in the coming months.

Dreamcatcher was a 90 minute documentary about a Chicago-based program geared toward helping women escape prostitution. Project RAISE is similarly aimed at providing women alternatives to being pimped and trafficked. Both programs rely on the work of survivors, and both respond to the reality that tossing a woman who has been busted for prostitution into jail doesn't serve anybody's interests.



Several of us will soon be organizing an effort to consider ways to address mandatory sentencing on a statewide basis. Judges should have the latitude to look at circumstances specific to an individual's charges and assign an appropriate sentence. If we can keep non-violent offenders in school or employed while they serve their time, the community wins, as does the person being given the second chance.

Thanks to Vicky Westover from Hanson and to Peg Johnson from The Loft for keeping prostitution, sentencing, and survival on the front burner. I'll be sharing more on the larger sentencing reform item as it unfolds.

Here's the text of a guest column I've written for Arizona Bilingual. It speaks to the issue and the source from which solutions will have to come:

Arizona has the 6th highest incarceration rate in the nation. We have the highest rate of any western state, including California. That's not something we should be proud of.

In a state where the Governor and Legislature continue to slash our education budget, the cost of the Department of Corrections has increased by 67% since 2003. Today it absorbs over 11% of our entire state General Fund and is the 3rd highest agency share of the budget. That's not sustainable economically, and it makes no sense from the standpoint of reducing future crime.

In Arizona, we have a perverse incentive to put people in prison. Why? Because the state is beholden to the private prison industry, and the contracts that guide that relationship rely on beds in prisons being filled. Conservatives cry foul when it comes to big government, and yet the prison industry is big government on steroids. Follow the money to campaign contributions and you just might find the answer as to why this nonsensical system continues to exist.

In recent years even conservative states such as Mississippi and Texas have embraced prison and sentencing reform. In fact, in 26 states across the nation where reforms have been implemented, prison populations have dropped by nearly 30,000, despite overall population increases. Being creative makes economic sense. And being creative makes sense from the standpoint of social equity.

I believe we can – no, I believe we must immediately begin a statewide conversation about reversing the unhealthy trend that exists in Arizona towards populating our prisons. Judges must be given the liberty to consider alternatives to incarceration. Mandatory sentencing laws must be reformed. Non-violent offenders must be given the opportunity to stay

employed and to stay connected with their families. But making those changes legislatively is an uphill fight as long as the private prison industry is buying our legislature. Changes in sentencing are going to have to come through the will of the people, expressed through initiative at the ballot box.

In the very immediate future, I will be working with a multi-partisan advisory committee to discuss how we can get such an initiative onto the 2016 ballot. This is not a partisan issue. It's an economic issue, and it's a human rights issue. This is an issue that speaks to keeping people on the job, keeping families in tact, and treating non-violent offenders in ways that will reduce the likelihood they'll simply enter a revolving door at the prison gates.

Through the cuts to education funding and the increases to funding the Department of Corrections, our state leaders have sent the message that they've given up on our kids. Less room in classrooms, but more room in jail. Many of us don't share that view. I look forward to working on this critical issue in the days ahead. Maintaining the status quo is a recipe for continued economic and social disaster. We can do better. If the politicians won't lead, the people must. And we will.

On a related note, I'd like to alert you to what will be a very interesting presentation coming next week at the UA/Banner Health Duval Auditorium. The Southern Arizona Peer and Family Coalition will host a panel discussion including NAMI Southern Arizona, HOPE, Inc., MHC Healthcare, and our new regional service provider Cenpatico Integrated Care. The title of the presentation is "Criminal Justice and Mental Health." The overlap in the two issues is a key to so many of the alternatives to incarceration issues we're facing – and in that regard, the whole topic of reducing the huge statewide budgetary impact.

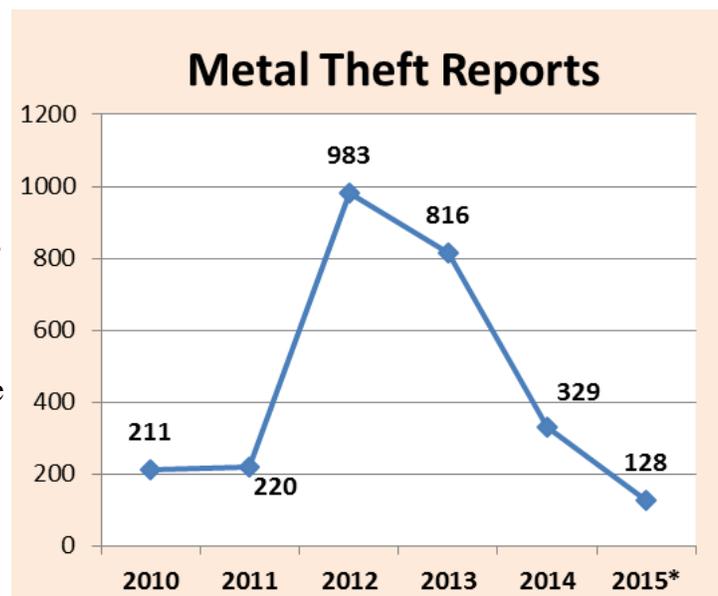
Being able to divert dollars from prison to effective treatment would be huge. Check out the discussion on October 8th. It runs from 6pm until 8pm and is free to the public. You can RSVP in advance [here](#).



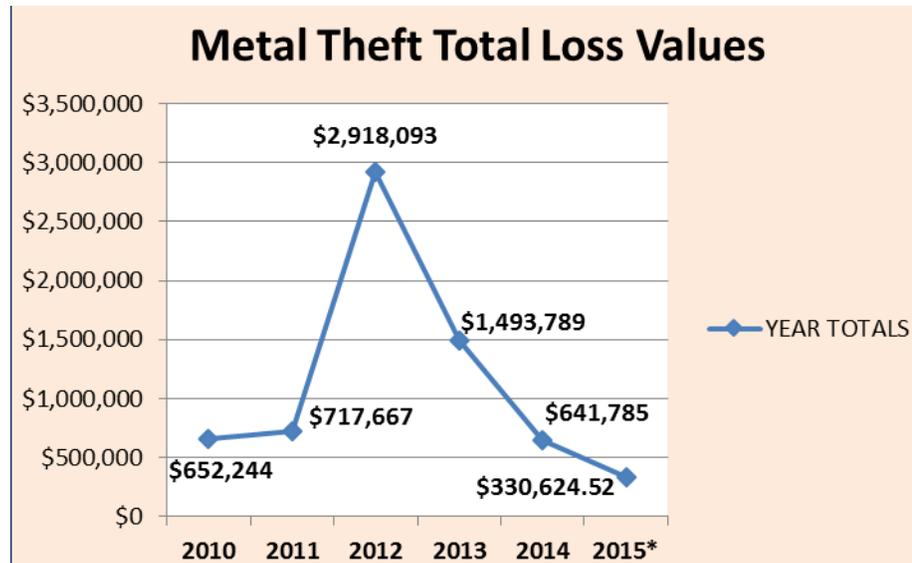
More on Public Safety and Dollars

Thanks to the hard work and organization of the Metropolitan Pima Alliance, we have new and evidently effective statutes in place to address metal theft. The Metal Theft Task Force continues to meet and recently presented updated data on theft reports and the cost of metal theft to the community.

As you can see from the graphs, the trends are moving in the right direction. As this issue has gained traction locally and legislatively, the number of thefts has decreased:



...as have the costs associated with those losses:



To continue in this good direction, property owners must stay alert and notify TPD when they see something that looks amiss. It's also important that TPD continues to regularly engage with metal recyclers to counsel them on relevant statutes related to buying scrap metal. While there's no current movement at the state level to ratchet down on this again, there's talk among Task Force members to advocate for decreasing the amount of money that can be given to metal sellers at a given time (currently, that's \$300 per day).

As a property owner, you should know that vacant buildings constitute the vast majority of structures being hit by metal thieves. Taking some common sense steps such as using alarms, guards, or other protective measures on and around your property may decrease the insurance rates you pay.

Many thanks to Amber Smith at the MPA for keeping this topic alive. As you can see from the graphs, even with the improvement, hundreds of thousands of dollars in metal are still being ripped off in the community. It's not 'solved.' Call 911 if you see suspicious activity.

Domestic Abuse Awareness Month

While it seems as though every month gets some special designation, October has a particularly important one. It's Domestic Abuse Awareness Month.

Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse is leading a regional effort to generate widespread awareness of the significance of the domestic abuse issue. Go to the EmERGE website and invest a few minutes to read up on the topic: www.emergecenter.org.

You'll begin seeing some memory joggers around town. The City will be placing bumper stickers on its vehicles and purple lights on the exterior of City Hall. (Thanks to TEP for providing those.) Our public information people will also be sharing educational emails with staff throughout the month. The initiative is called Paint Pima Purple, and the County will also participate.

Yet this awareness-raising effort extends beyond just this part of the state. The Governor's office is endorsing "Lighting Arizona Purple" as a way of broadening the outreach. They're going to light the State Capitol dome with purple lights during October. With all of this, the issue will get some much deserved and needed exposure.

Thanks are due to Ed Mercurio-Sakwa for his hard work as CEO of Emerge! Please take some time during October to visit the website site and do what you can to get involved at some level in this very important issue.

TPD Pay and Benefits

At our last M&C meeting, the police union asked us to toss a double merit pay increase and a \$2 cost of living adjustment into our next budget cycle. I've asked our City Manager what that would cost to implement. I'll share the answer with you when staff computes it.

This all needs perspective. I'm sharing multiple public safety related items for the second newsletter in a row. Obviously, police and fire are critical components to our quality of life. It was also made obvious during the Sun Tran/Teamster's strike that we're not rolling in enough cash to give raises to everybody who asks. The increased amounts given to the bus drivers came from budget savings, not reopening our budget mid-cycle. Had the fact that we weren't going to open the budget been accepted earlier, the strike could have been shortened.

Last week, the Star ran an article about Pima County Sheriff's officers who are talking about jumping ship to other agencies due to their own pay rates. I recently heard our outgoing Chief of Police state that he has seen reduced resources each of his six years at the helm. This has truly been a time of doing more with less. And yet, benefits for our police officers do constitute a significant chunk of our budget. Here's a listing of what we just finished negotiating with the police union:

LABOR AGREEMENT BENEFITS	LABOR	CODE	AD	TPOA
OVERTIME	Art 13 Art 17 Art 18		2.01-2	\$ 4,533,667.23
VACATION LEAVE PAY	Art 15		2.01-7A	\$ 3,590,145.23
SICK LEAVE SELL BACK	Art 25 Sec 8	TC 22-93/94		\$ 1,017,194.94
SICK LEAVE PAY	Art 15		2.01-7B	\$ 1,228,774.04
HOLIDAY WORKED	Art 14	TC 10-49	2.01-6	\$ 1,108,825.51
COMPENSATORY TIME	Art 13		2.01-2	\$ 868,557.73
EQUIPMENT ALLOWANCE	Art 20			\$ 544,948.54
SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL - POLICE	Art 19		2.01-1B	\$ 570,781.23
PERSONAL LEAVE	Art 15	TC 22-95		\$ 456,121.00
Proposed Wellness Incentive - \$250 2x year				
UNIFORM ALLOWANCE	Art 20	TC 10-31(8)		\$ 441,180.11
Proposed Uniform/Equip Allow - \$250 1x year				
BEREAVEMENT LEAVE	Art 15	TC 22-5	2.01-7H	\$ 117,023.30
BILINGUAL PAY CERT - Police	Art 25 Sec 7	TC 10-33.1		\$ 120,275.00
SICK LEAVE SELL BACK - PAYOUT upon Separation	Art 25 Sec 8	TC 22-93/94		\$ 35,511.09
EDUCATIONAL ALLOWANCE (Tuition Reimbursement)	Art 25 Sec 4		2.01-1I	\$ 23,627.00
2ND LANGUAGE PAY	Art 25 Sec 6	TC 10-33	2.01-1D	\$ 31,290.00
SPECIAL AWARDS - Referrals	Art 25 Sec 5	TC 10-47		\$ 400.00
			TOTALS:	\$ 14,688,321.95

ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE / TUCSON CODE BENEFIT	LABOR	CODE	AD	TPOA
REGULAR PAY			2.01-1A	\$ 46,940,477.51
SPECIAL DUTY POLICE		TC 2-131		\$ 2,863,730.80
PAY OUTS (COMP TIME & SICK LEAVE)			2.01-2 2.01-7B	\$ 445,130.58
PAY OUTS (VACATION)			2.01-7A	\$ 233,389.74
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMAND DEPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE		TC 10-53.4		
CAREER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM		TC 10-53.3		\$ 67,650.00
INSURANCE INCENTIVE			Ins Hand	\$ 46,556.12
MEDICAL LOSS REBATE			Ins Hand	\$ 15,930.00
BOARD OF INQUIRY STIPEND		TC 10-49		
TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT			3.03-1 6.02-1	\$ 8,371.01
LONGEVITY			2.01-1E	\$ 8,217.60
OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENT			2.01-1	\$ 1,678.28
TOTALS:				\$ 50,631,131.64

FRINGE BENEFITS	LABOR	CODE	AD	TPOA
POLICE PENSION				\$ 24,514,876.55
GROUP INSURANCE EMPLOYEE				\$ 8,740,162.67
PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE				\$ 2,037,628.70
WORKERS COMPENSATION INSURANCE				\$ 1,787,592.78
FICA				\$ 868,759.48
STATE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE				\$ 67,173.97
TSRS PENSION				\$ 15,655.88
TOTALS:				\$ 38,031,850.03

TOTAL PAY & BENEFITS	GRAND TOTAL: \$ 103,351,303.62
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I do not begrudge them any of that. I also have to keep in mind that we'll be facing a public safety pension lawsuit settlement that will force another \$20M or so out of our pockets next year. When faced with a similar settlement last year, we chose to pay it in three annual installments. We will save money this year by paying down about \$40M in public safety pensions early and refunding our internal account throughout the year, but we cannot avoid the litigation hit we'll face.

Some of us have suggested a dedicated funding source for transit. I've been asking for four years that we take a look at the existing RTA sales tax, increase it, and allocate some of the new revenue for road repair. Now we can add the notion of a dedicated transit function to that idea.

The Mayor has come out and suggested a dedicated funding source for public safety. Looking at the numbers in the graph above, that seems to me to be a pretty high bar. We can't just ask voters to pass a dedicated tax for everything we do or you'll justifiably say 'no' to them all. We need to choose wisely.

For my money, I continue to support the RTA funding allocated to roads and transit. Getting that approved would free up General Fund money which we could use to improve base pay for all of our workers, not just one component of them. But as we enter the FY'17 budget talks, we're going to be facing an opening deficit north of \$25M. We will not be in the position to add significant pay adjustments like the ones being suggested.



There is one item on which I would support moving ahead immediately. There are \$1.2M in performance bonds outstanding on a development that the City can call at any time. That has been true since July 1st. If we don't call the bonds, we violate the State gift clause. If we do call the bonds, we could use the money to place orders for police and fire vehicles. Recall this quote from staff that I elicited during our last budget cycle:

“If we identified funding today, by the time the new vehicles are placed into service, 76% of our pumper fleet, 93% of our paramedic fleet, and 33% of our ladder fleet will be in need of replacement.”

The money's sitting and waiting. Mr. Attorney, Mr. City Manager, Mr. Mayor – what do we gain by any further delay?

The transit shutdown has been a catalyst for an important regional conversation about how we fund core services. Transit and public safety both qualify. I look forward to engaging in that as we enter this budget cycle.

TPD Hiring

While that conversation goes on, we're hiring at TPD. There are several positions open, but one that may be of particular interest is for Community Service Officers (CSO). We're looking to fill 25 of those positions.

The CSO job involves driving in a marked police car and responding to burglary calls, traffic accidents, and certain property crime cases. The Department will be taking applications for only a short time, and we expect these positions to fill quickly. There are more openings than these CSO positions, so check this link: <http://1.usa.gov/liMfvcV>. You can see all of what we're filling at TPD, along with job descriptions, requirements, and application deadlines.

Public Safety and Dogs

Here's a bit of a different angle on public safety, but one that you'll recognize.

You know I'm a dog lover, big time. But I'm also a strong proponent of being a responsible dog owner. If you're not one, don't have a pet.

In the past couple of weeks, we've seen some vicious dog attacks in midtown. If you see a dog running around that appears to be vicious in any way, please immediately call both TPD and Pima Animal Care Center.

Our local ordinances state that dogs must be confined on the owner's property, restrained while off the owner's property, and on a leash in parks and in public areas. Tie-outs are a prohibited method of confinement.

Report unconfined dogs by phone to PACC at 724.5900. They will spay or neuter any dog that's impounded more than once in any 12 month period and bill the owner. Spay/neuter is the long-term answer to overpopulated shelters.

PACC staff is extremely busy. As such, your call will be given more immediate attention if

it involves a loose dog that meets one of the following conditions:

- The dog is aggressive or has already bitten somebody
- It's on or very near school grounds
- The dog's address is known by the caller

PACC officers can and will cite owners if they directly observe the violation, if it was verified by two people from different addresses, or there's some video evidence of the incident.

In the cases that occurred last week, the owner of the dog was cited for two offenses. That's as it should be. Don't own a dog if you're not going to be responsible. If you do own a pet, love it as a family member.



Final Public Safety Item

Last week, I shared the 'Safe Seniors' event with you. I want to reiterate that promotion this week. It's a hugely important event for the community.

From 10am to 2pm on Saturday, November 14th at the La Quinta Inn (102 N Alvernon), our Operations Division Midtown will be presenting a first-ever "Safe Seniors" event. TPD is presenting the event with support from the A.G.'s office, the Association for Resources and Choices "Elder Shelter," the U.S. Postal Inspector, Pima Council on Aging, the Southern Arizona Legal Aid folks, Michael McDonald and the Community Food Bank, and the Pima County Health Department.

This 'safety fair' will alert seniors to areas in which they're particularly vulnerable to scams and share the availability of services geared toward people in their age group. The event is being catered with food and drink by local vendors, so even though it's over the noon hour, you can find something to keep you sharp as you tour the activities.

Please mark your calendars for this event. It's worth committing to drive a senior family member, one who may live in your neighborhood, one who worships with you at your church/synagogue/mosque, or simply an acquaintance.

La Quinta is two blocks north of Broadway on Alvernon. Easy to find, plenty of parking, and the event is free, but invaluable.

Tucson Water

I'm done with the public safety items, but this one ties in with support for our seniors. In this case, though, it extends to support for our low income residents.

Tucson Water provides a 50% monthly bill credit if you qualify under our low income standards. I know many of our seniors will, but so will many others around the community.

To qualify, you need to be the person whose name appears on the Tucson Water bill, and you need to meet the Federal household size and income guidelines we follow. That would be, for example, a \$1,286 monthly income for an individual or \$3,575 for a house-

hold of four. You can skip checking into those standards if you're already qualified for low income assistance through two other City of Tucson programs such as trash collection or our Parks and Recreation programs. You remain eligible for 12 months from your date of approval. Give the folks at Tucson Water a call at 791.5443 and they can talk to you about how to get signed up. Every little bit helps these days. Here are a couple of links that'll give you more information:

[Tucson Water Low Income Assistance Program](#)
[Tucson Water Programa de Ayuda a Personas con Bajos Ingresos](#)

Sun Tran

Unless you've been living under a rock, you know we just went through month-plus long strike. We have two other major transit systems that we don't need to sit and watch go through that same mess. To that end, I've requested a study session for our next meeting in order to force a proactive approach to both Sun Van and the Sun Link streetcar.

Sun Van is organized by the Teamsters, the same group that just went on strike over Sun Tran. The disruption to the community was bad, and we certainly don't need to see that happen on the system that serves the disabled community. The streetcar is not organized by the Teamsters, as the jobs are of a different sort. Sun Link jobs include people who work on propulsion systems, electricians, other maintenance technicians, and of course operators and other front-end staffers.

In both cases, we need to learn from what just happened with the busses and do a better job of planning – and of giving direction to management that they need to come to the table early and with creative minds so both sides are working towards a solution that doesn't impact the riding community.

Here's a copy of the agenda request I've submitted:

I'm requesting 20 minutes on the October 8th study session for a staff update on Sun Van and Sun Link labor issues. Specifically, please have staff address:

- a) Expiration date of Sun Van and Sun Link labor agreements*
- b) Bargaining agent for employees*
- c) Projected budget for each system that will form the basis for negotiations*
- d) Status of labor discussions related to each contract; have the parties met, shared information, discussed issues related in any way to wages, hours and working conditions?*
- e) What is the plan for getting the parties to the bargaining table well in advance of contract expiration?*
- f) How will M&C be kept advised of status of labor negotiations and be made aware of potential stumbling blocks that would prevent the successful settlement of talks without a strike?*

The community cannot afford another interruption in transit operations. Staff and respective management teams must come to the October 8th study session prepared to convince Mayor and Council that appropriate plans are in place to avoid that occurring again.

Advanced preparation will lead to better results than we just saw. Tune in on the 8th if you'd

like to hear the exchange.

Films, Job Creation, and the UA

Up above, I mentioned Vicky Westover from the Hanson Film Institute. What I didn't include is the fact that Hanson operates out of the UA. It produces and otherwise supports all sorts of educational programs, and it participates in public events such as the *Dreamcatcher* presentation. Hanson's programs include Tucson Cine Mexico, The Bisbee Film Festival, Tucson Pitch Fest (which I've promoted in previous newsletters), and DocScapes, the program that resulted in our hosting *Dreamcatcher*. This is an industry that brings millions of dollars to the state. How? Well, while on location, film, TV, and commercial productions spend the vast majority of their location budgets with local companies, local locations, and local hires. It's an industry that wants to spend its money in Tucson because of our rich history in film and the ease with which shows can select from any number of sets without having to totally leave the area.

Last week, Michael Ohrling reinitiated the effort to get a state-level film office established. He's soliciting your help. Getting this accomplished wouldn't level the playing field between us and surrounding states that have full incentive packages, but it would be a big step in the right direction.

Last legislative term, there was talk about opening a film office that would operate out of the Governor's office. Whether that's its home or not, getting a shingle above some state-level door is important.

In order to encourage the Governor to take this step, Michael's asking people to write letters supporting the move. Even if you don't work directly in the film industry, this impacts you in some way. Why? Because film production touches the tourism sector, hotels, catering, set production, car rentals, and a whole lot more. It brings new tax revenue into the region. I wrote about funding public safety. A renewed film industry would help to facilitate that.

There have been over 1,600 feature films produced in Arizona. Our film history extends over 100 years. The industry is pro-business, pro-jobs, environmentally clean, and is begging to come home to Arizona shoots. Reestablishing a state-level film office sends the message that we want to see sets constructed, actors and others hired from our local workforce, and our region displayed on the big screen.

Please consider writing in support. You can find more information on how to do that by going to this link (<http://www.azproduction.com/news-events/help-bring-back-arizona-state-film-office/>) or calling 602.694.0248.

More Job Opportunities

Last week, we approved construction incentives related to Tucson Medical Center. The result will be the formation of 59 new jobs in the region that have an average salary of over \$77K annually. In order to get this project funded, we offered to TMC what's called a Primary Jobs Incentive.

To qualify for that, projects need to be investing over \$5M, and adding at least 25 jobs

that pay over \$52,400 and at least 75% of employee health premiums. In the case of the TMC project, the only box they didn't fully check was the 25 jobs at \$52,400. But due to the rest of what they brought to the table, we approved a pro-rated incentive of 88%; that is, an 88% reduction in building permit fees, and 88% of the construction sales taxes generated by the project being applied to impact fees. The total value of benefits to TMC is \$120K. The value of the project to the City over the incentive period is \$286K, and the value to the region is \$1.2M.

The services being offered will include specialties such as OB/GYN, pediatrics, cardiac rehab, and plenty more. The facility will fill a gap that exists in these sorts of services out on the east side of town. This is an excellent example of adding to our employment base across the valley and adding jobs that not only pay well, but that serve a critical need in the area where they're located.



Mainstreet Health Care Facility

TUSD is selling Ft. Lowell Elementary School. It's located on Pima Street at Rosemont Boulevard. The buyer is proposing a medical treatment facility that'll require some zoning changes. On October 7th at 5:30pm, the development team will hold a neighborhood meeting to present the project to the surrounding community.

The facility will provide transitional care. It's not a residential care institution. The average length of stay will be around 20 days, and the patients head back home after their rehab. The environment is gourmet meals, state-of-the-art rehabilitation facilities, and a variety of social areas for family visits.

If you'd like to see the proposal, please join us on the 7th at the Sheraton Tucson (5151 E Grant Road). The Planning Center's the A/E on the project. It'll fill another niche in our regional health care system.

Better Than Ever

This section's for a family friend, Terry. She's going through some tough post-cancer issues. It's for Ann in our office who is just resuming cancer treatment. And it's for the tens of thousands of others in the region who have or know people who've been touched by cancer. Better Than Ever is a program operated out of the UA/Banner umbrella focused on finding cures and assisting people in their rehab.

We know that regular exercise and other lifestyle behaviors such as maintaining a healthy diet, weight control, and avoiding smoking are cornerstones for preventing several chronic diseases. Those include breast, ovarian, prostate, and colon cancer. The people participating in the Better Than Ever program are helping UA researchers fund studies looking for cures to those and other forms of cancer. So far, Better Than Ever has trained over 4,000 people at all fitness levels in a non-competitive exercise environment, and in the process has helped the UA to leverage over \$1.8M in research grants.

If you'd like to get involved, contact Adrienne Lent at the UA.



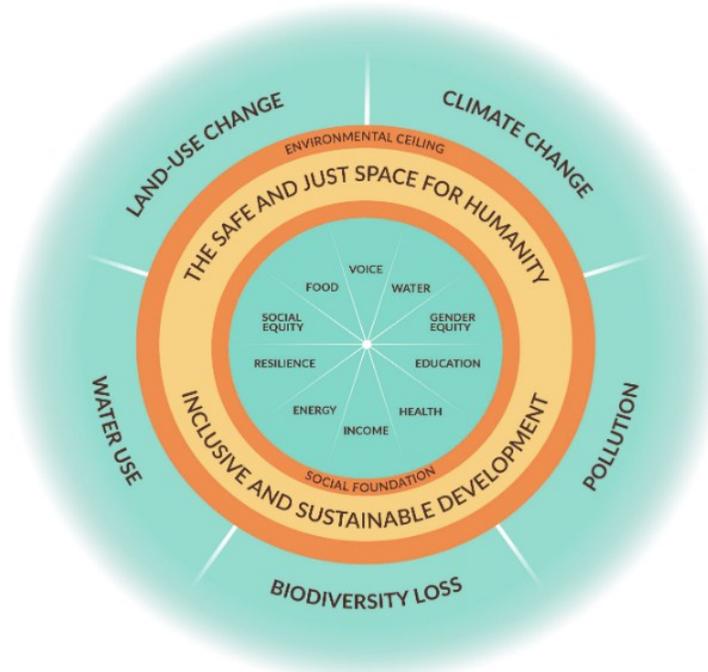
You can find her at adrienneleent@email.arizona.edu. She'd love to get you involved in the Better Than Ever program for your health, and for the benefits your participation will deliver for cancer victims in the area.

UA Health and Environmental Research



Agnese Nelms Haury Program
in Environment and Social Justice

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
FOUNDATION



The Agnese Nelms Haury Program operates out of the UA and is tied to the UA Foundation. The Haury Program deals with social and environmental justice. Currently, it's offering a series of different funding opportunities, each tied to proposals related to those sorts of issues. There's seed funding for projects from one to two years in duration, a Challenge Fund for longer projects, and visiting fellowship money for short-term projects.

The Haury Program model is shown in the graphic above. It invests funds in projects that are focused in the Southwest region, including Arizona and the border areas. The programs being funded under these requests for proposals will relate to improving social justice and the environment. Past projects have touched on things such as assisting indigenous communities in efforts to develop resilience to climate change, promoting Hispanic community voices in discussions related to water issues, and working directly with UA students as they get involved with local communities to encourage educational attainment.

The current funding opportunities must involve both the UA community and collaborating local non-profits. The program will be looking for proposals that deal with marginalized people, resource identification and distribution, and expansion of the diversity of voices that take part of the important discussions on those and related topics.

Here are the timelines for getting your proposals in:

Calendar for Seed Charitable Grants and Visiting Fellows Charitable Grants

Activity	Date
RFP announcement	September 15, 2015
Information Sessions	October 8 & 9, 2015
Submittal Deadline	October 30, 2015
Evaluation, Selection, Notification	December 21, 2015
Contracting of projects	starting January 3, 2016
Delivery of funds	starting January 11, 2016

Calendar for Challenge Charitable Grants

Activity	Date
RFP announcement	September 15, 2015
Information Sessions	October 8 & 9, 2015
Submittal Deadline	October 30, 2015
Evaluation, Selection of Three Finalists, and Notification	December 21, 2015
Contracting of finalists	starting January 3, 2016
Delivery of funds	starting January 11, 2016
Presentation to Review Panel	April 30, 2016
Evaluation, Selection, Notification	May 27, 2016
Contracting of projects	starting June 15, 2016
Delivery of funds	starting July 1, 2016

You can learn more by going to the UA Foundation website, or by going directly to the Agnese Nelms Haury site.

Houghton Road and Union Pacific Railroad

A quick heads-up for your radar screen: Last week, we agreed to an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the State and PAG for planned construction on Houghton Road. It'll involve work over a Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) crossing. The project is very important to commuters on the east side and, assuming funding sources come through, it needs to move ahead as scheduled.

We have a way of including language that comes back to bite us in otherwise good and necessary IGAs. I believe we just did that with the recent Pima Animal Care Center IGA with the County by not including language that requires them to consult us before taking on capital debt and sending a bill. I raised concerns over the Bond Ordinance language that would have put us in a similar situation for the next quarter century. We fixed that wording.

In the Houghton Road IGA, this wording appears: "The City and PAG wish to accelerate the construction phase of Houghton Road, UPRR Overpass." There's absolutely nothing wrong with that. We should accelerate it if the money's available. But the funding issue gets murky with these statements from the IGA: "The City is willing to expend City funds to complete the Project, and will seek reimbursement for authorized costs in the Federal Fiscal Years of Reimbursement as identified in the TIP. Therefore, the City and PAG request the

State submit the Project to FHWA for approval for AC (Advanced Construction) authorization and federal aid funding. **If federal aid participation is not available, the City agrees to be responsible for the total cost of the Project.**

The total cost is just north of \$11M. We don't have just north of \$11M lying around to fund this or any other project. I pulled the item from consent in order to make sure, on the record, that if the Federal Highway Administration money doesn't find its way to us we don't just blindly move ahead with the project without it first coming back to M&C for approval. That approval would be based on the ability to pay for the work without putting other priorities we have in jeopardy.

In the legal world, words have meaning. The City Manager has committed to bringing this project back to us for a policy decision if the FWHA cannot fund it. That's what I was after.

La Pilita and Spoken Futures



I'm going to end on an up note. We signed a lease agreement last week with a group called Spoken Futures. It will be taking over the former La Pilita Museum space and using it in conjunction with the Borderlands Theater. The Spoken Futures program will engage our youth through poetry and the spoken word in ways that will speak to social justice and self-awareness. I'm particularly upbeat about this because

the two people who are leading the effort live right in the area. At my request, they reached out to the Barrio Viejo Neighborhood Board and have already established great rapport with its members. This is important since it's the neighbor kids who will ultimately benefit.

Carrillo School is right across the street, so TUSD will also be able to send kids to take part. Spoken Futures runs what it calls a Poetry Slam, a free event in which kids share in an open setting. This year another Ward 6 partner – Bentley's, up on Speedway just west of Campbell – opened its space for the competition. At our M&C meeting last week one of the winners from this year shared her work. Here's an excerpt from what Eva Sierra wrote:

"El Orgullo"

In recent years, I was too proud to embrace my Mexican culture.

Ironic considering just a few years ago, I couldn't speak proper English.
Saddening, porque mi mamá no dejó su tierra para que yo la olvidar.

In third grade, we covered a unit on Latino poets and I could just not relate.
However—

I could relate to German expressionism.

I could relate to Russian literature.

I could relate to Japanese haiku.

But how could that be if I never rubbed dirt off my bloody knees in Germany, I was never given a bath with a garden hose in Russia, and I never rode a "burro" in Japan?

My tough exterior has been penetrated by a passion like no other. And I'm glad, because a lot of times, "el orgullo" is all we have.

We're thrilled to have Spoken Futures occupying the La Pilita space. The organization will be an asset to the area and to the kids who take part in its program.

Sincerely,



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

Events and Entertainment

Court Night

Wednesday, October 7, 2015, 4:00 – 5:30 pm and 5:45 – 7:15 pm

Pima County Courts' Training Center, 2225 E. Ajo Way

The Arizona Superior Court in Pima County invites you to this free event. Attorneys will lead two sessions (4:00-5:30 and 5:45-7:15) providing participants with the opportunity to learn about common legal issues and court procedures, such as child support, probate matters, landlord/tenant issues, debtor/creditor matters, divorce, paternity and legal custody. Free parking available. Call 520-724-4200 for more information.

January 8th Memorial Public Forum

Thursday, October 8, 2015, 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Tucson Fire Department, 300 S Fire Central Pl

The first of two more public forums is scheduled for community input into the proposed January 8th Memorial design concept at El Presidio Park downtown. Los Angeles-based Chee Salette Architecture Office (CSAO) was chosen to design a master plan for the park and memorial. A final design could be completed in January, followed by a development and construction stage that could start next year. Read more or provide feedback at: www.tucsonsmemorial.org/what-do-you-think.

Tucson Festival of Films

Thursday, October 8 – October 10, 2015

Temple of Music and Art, 260 S Scott Ave

Enjoy cinematic highlights from eight different Tucson film festivals shown over three days at Temple of Music and Art in downtown Tucson. The festival includes filmmaker panel presentations, surprise guests, special events, and one special screening at the Loft Cinema as well as a program of films representing diverse genres--ranging from global issues, art house, and underground to films with themes related to Jewish, Mexican, and Native American cultural experiences--and one film screening featuring Tucson each night.

www.tucsonfestivaloffilms.com

Ongoing**Mission Garden**, 929 W Mission Ln

Saturdays 8 am – 12 pm, April to November; 12 pm – 4 pm, December to March

A re-creation of the Spanish Colonial walled garden that was part of Tucson's historic San Agustin Mission. Features Sonoran Desert-adapted heritage fruit-trees, traditional local heirloom crops and edible native plants. *For guided tours call 520-777-9270 and leave message.***Children's Museum Tucson**, 200 S 6th Ave

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday & Sunday: 10:00am - 5:00pm

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org**Tucson Botanical Gardens**, 2150 N Alvernon Way

September 11, 2015 – January 3, 2016: "Nature Connects, Art with LEGO Bricks"

www.tucsonbotanical.org**Jewish History Museum**, 564 S Stone Avewww.jewishhistorymuseum.org**Fox Theatre**, 17 W Congress Stwww.FoxTucsonTheatre.org**Hotel Congress**, 311 E Congress Sthotelcongress.com**Loft Cinema**, 3233 E Speedway Blvdwww.loftcinema.com**Rialto Theatre**, 318 E Congress Stwww.rialtotheatre.com/**The Rogue Theatre** at The Historic Y, 300 E University Blvdwww.theroguetheatre.org**Arizona State Museum**, 1013 E University Blvdwww.statemuseum.arizona.edu**Arizona Theater Company**, 330 S Scott Avewww.arizonatheatre.org**Tucson Museum of Art**, 140 N Main Ave

July 25, 2015 - October 11, 2015: Arizona Biennial 2015

www.TucsonMusuemofArt.org**Meet Me at Maynards**, 311 E Congress St (north entrance on Toole)

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

www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

UA Mineral Museum, 1601 E University Blvd

February 7, 2015– February 7, 2016, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

"Meet the Trilobites – Arizona's First Inhabitants," the new exhibit at the Flandrau Science Center and Planetarium, features world-class trilobite fossils from around the globe.

www.uamineralmuseum.org

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, 414 N Toole Ave.

Tuesday – Thursday, Sunday: 11:00am - 3:00pm; Friday & Saturday: 10:00am - 4:00pm

www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org