

## Peoria City Council Adopts Desert Lands Conservation Ordinance

To further its goal of ensuring that development in north Peoria is sensitive to the area's natural features, the Peoria City Council recently approved the Desert Lands Conservation Ordinance. This new ordinance is an element of the overall Desert Lands Conservation Master Plan and helps strengthen its conservation efforts by setting out specific guidelines for those seeking to build on desert lands.

The ordinance, which took effect November 5th, amends the city's zoning code to provide a framework for proposed developments that reinforces the goal of conserving native plant life, animal habitat and trails, view corridors, and natural, cultural, and historic features. In addition, the ordinance encourages communities designed with central open spaces and gathering areas for neighborhood activities and events, along with internal trail systems to help promote a sense of community.

"The Desert Lands Conservation

Ordinance encourages development that respects and accentuates the natural environment, which in turn helps preserve the scenic beauty of northern Peoria which we all value," said Debra Stark, Peoria's Community Development Director. "We appreciate the efforts of the citizens, environmental advocates, and business community who have worked cooperatively with us on this ordinance. I think the result is something that helps us continue toward our conservation goals while respecting the development rights of land owners."

The Desert Lands Conservation Master Plan was adopted by the City Council in 1999, anticipating the development now being seen in the desert areas in north Peoria. It provides a road map for future conservation efforts.

Since the master plan's adoption, the City Council has (through the zoning process) negotiated the acquisition of over 3,600 acres of open



*The recently-adopted Desert Lands Conservation Ordinance seeks to accentuate the natural beauty of Peoria's undeveloped land while respecting the rights of landowners to develop their property.*

space, mountain preserves, and parks that are either already dedicated or designated for dedication to the city for the enjoyment of all Peoria residents.

**For more information about the ordinance guidelines and conservation standards, contact the Community Development Department at 623-773-7107 or e-mail [planning@peoriaaz.com](mailto:planning@peoriaaz.com).**

**CITY OF PEORIA**  
**election2005**  
**May Election Preview Inside**

## Phase II – Rio Vista Plays it Forward

Peoria residents who have been enjoying Rio Vista Community Park have something else to look forward to – Phase II of the park has entered the early design stage.

Phase II will encompass approximately 15 additional developed acres. Planned amenities include additional lighted youth and adult sports fields, lighted walking paths around the park perimeter and down to Thunderbird Road, additional parking and a new recreation center with gymnasium space, meeting rooms, rooms available to rent for private events, and classrooms for

recreation programs. A concession stand will complement the park as well as batting cages operated by Chili Davis Premier Baseball, who will also conduct instructional clinics for youth and adults.

The focal point of phase II is the recreation center which is currently being master planned to determine specific amenities and space requirements. Once a preliminary design is complete, the public will be invited to offer their input and suggestions to the overall building design. That public meeting is expected to take place in February or March.



*The second phase of Rio Vista Community Park will feature additional youth and adult sports fields and a new recreation center.*

"Clearly people love Rio Vista Park," said Peoria Community Services Director J.P. de la Montaigne. "We look forward to continuing that momentum with the new amenities we're planning for the second phase. If you thought Phase I was cool, just wait."

Construction is expected to begin in summer 2005 and take about one year to complete. Residents interested in contributing ideas or other input can call 623-773-7137 or visit [www.peoriaaz.com/parks](http://www.peoriaaz.com/parks) for the location, date and details regarding public input opportunities.

# CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## October

- Recognized the sponsors of Peoria's Neighborhood Pride Program, who contributed funds, materials, and volunteers to make the program successful: Ace Asphalt; Allstate Energy; Christ's Church of the Valley; Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Peoria and North Peoria Stakes); Peoria Police Department Neighborhood Action Team; Cruise America; Danny White Painting; Desert Tree Nursery; Frazee Paints; IDRA; ICI Paints; Linden Tree Nursery; MCO & Associates; Mejia Tree Service; Peoria High School FFA; Peoria Rotary; Pete King Construction Co.; Progressive Roofing; RoofUSA; Ross Aerial; Rowland Companies; S & D Auto; Safeway Stores; Southwest Trees; Sunstate Equipment; Terrain Systems; Todd & Associates; United Rentals; V & P Nursery; Wasserstrom Equipment Storage; West Valley Sand & Gravel.
- Approved a \$300,000 expenditure to establish a temporary north office site for city building and engineering inspectors. The site will be located at the Beardsley Water Reclamation Facility and will allow the city's field inspection staff to work much closer to the areas they are assigned to inspect.
- Rezoned approximately 77 acres northeast of 91<sup>st</sup> Avenue & Cactus Road (adjacent to Loop 101) to allow for development of a commercial and retail business park.
- Rezoned approximately 54 acres northwest of Loop 101 and Northern Avenue to allow for development of a mixed use project featuring residential, office, hotel, a small convention center, and restaurants along Northern Avenue.
- Recognized the Peoria Community Services Department, which was selected as one of four finalists for the 2004 National Parks & Recreation Association Gold Medal Award.

## November

- Approved a resolution to work with the City of Phoenix to explore possible joint planning and revenue sharing opportunities around Carefree Highway and Lake Pleasant Road, an area where both Peoria and Phoenix share a common border that is expected to develop in the future.
- Authorized purchase of the Lighthouse Apostolic Church on Washington Street in Oldtown Peoria. This building is connected to a city-owned building and is to be incorporated into the Washington Street Redevelopment Project.

## December

- Approved an agreement with Phoenix Motor Company to develop a new Mercedes-Benz dealership at the northwest corner of 91<sup>st</sup> Avenue and Bell Road.
- Approved an intergovernmental agreement with the Arizona Department of Transportation to move forward with a \$1 million (\$943,000 in federal funds, \$57,000 in city matching funds) citywide traffic signal system. This is phase three of the city's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) program, and will fund purchase of traffic monitoring and communication devices to help improve the flow of traffic around the city.
- Approved the name "Paseo Verde Park" for the new park being developed at 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Greenway Road – the name was selected from about 60 submitted by local citizens and students.
- Amended the city code clarifying and strengthening nuisance ordinances pertaining to vehicle parking, stagnant swimming pools, and garage sales; and strengthening the ability of city park rangers to enforce rules and issue citations.

## Mayor's Report

One of the most important issues facing Arizona is the long-term preservation of Luke Air Force Base. It is the largest single site employer in the State of Arizona. The impact of Luke on Arizona's economy is staggering with over \$5 billion in assets, real property, buildings and land, and 188 aircraft. Luke employs more than 7,300 personnel and contributes more than \$1.4 billion into the state's annual economy. On a national level, Luke is the premier fighter training base in America. It is a vital link in the defense of our country.

As the West Valley has grown, unfortunately, we have taken its presence for granted. Because the base has been there far longer than the vast majority of the people in Arizona, we just assume that the billions of dollars Luke pumps into our economy each year will always be there. Too often, we overlook the highly skilled, well disciplined, and valuable neighbors that are here because of Luke AFB and we fail to equate the jets in the skies of the West Valley to the freedoms that make us the envy of the world.

In 2005, about one quarter of this nation's military bases will be selected for closure. The federal government has no interest in keeping facilities that cannot fulfill long-term missions because of limited capacity and threats by uncontrolled development. Predictability of airspace, military operating areas, development patterns, zoning and the ability to rely on state and local government protections around military installations are all key to sustaining the long term viability of Luke's mission.

In recognition of this, mayors and city councils throughout the West Valley, our congressional delegation, and supporters of Luke owe Representative John Nelson (Republican, District 12) a debt of gratitude for his efforts in the 2004 legislative session. He took heroic steps to strengthen the missions carried out by our military installations statewide. With overwhelming support of the Legislature, veterans groups, public officials and private citizens, House Bill 2141 was passed in 2004. It applies the same safety and compatibility protections around Luke's Auxiliary Field #1 (Aux 1) that exist around the main base. Without these protections, development pressures would surely close down this mission-critical asset for Luke's fighter pilots.

While Representative Nelson's bill is essential to keeping these missions viable, careful consideration was given to protecting the rights of landowners while balancing the need to continue the important mission of training fighter pilots for combat. Commercial, industrial, agricultural and other uses were spelled out in the legislation as "compatible" around the auxiliary field, to not deprive landowners of the ability to realize value on their property. Also under HB 2141, "grandfathering" rights were extended through the end of this year to all landowners who had taken actual steps toward development of any type around Aux 1. These provisions were crafted to conform to long-standing US Supreme Court decisions that balance individual property rights with community responsibilities to regulate compatible land uses.

In addition, landowners will soon be able to draw down nearly \$5 million annually set aside by the State to offset potential earnings from land sales to high-density developers. At the Congressional level, "land swap" legislation is being introduced to allow for the purchase of land around military facilities at fair market value, for those landowners interested in selling property near the base. Recent federal legislation allows the Department of Defense to purchase development rights around military installations to help buffer against further encroachment from development, while providing compensation to landowners in areas next to military installations.

The future of Luke requires a strong determination by our citizens and political leaders ensure the long-term sustainability of Luke. To weaken the protections put in place to preserve Luke's mission would be to allow unbridled development to close down one of our nation's finest military installations.

**Mayor John C. Keegan**

## CITY COUNCIL District Roundup



Contact the Mayor and Council  
by calling 623-773-7306.

Council Meetings are held the first and  
third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. in  
the Peoria City Council Chamber,  
8401 West Monroe Street

Call the City Clerk's Office at  
623-773-7340 for  
agendas or more information.

Council agendas, meeting minutes,  
district maps, and other information are  
also available on the city web site at  
[www.peoriaaz.com/council](http://www.peoriaaz.com/council)

### Acacia District – Councilmember Vicki Hunt

Theater Works is a non-profit organization committed to touching the community through performing arts. In addition to your favorite live performances, Theater Works also offers creative drama workshops for youth for children in grades K – 8. The current location of Theater Works is 10484 West Thunderbird Blvd, Sun City, 85351. Shows run Fridays – Sunday and youth workshops are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays. To register or contact the box office, call 623.815.7930.

### Ironwood District – Councilmember Bob Barrett

The Peoria Center for the Performing Arts, on Washington and 84th Avenue, will begin to take shape in early 2005. This joint project between the City of Peoria and Theater Works will serve as an anchor for revitalizing downtown. The estimated opening date is targeted for September 2006. Peoria then will be home to a gem of a performing arts facility. Stay tuned; it will be an exciting time for Peoria.

### Mesquite District – Councilmember Cathy Carlat

As the newly elected Councilmember representing the Mesquite District, it will be my duty to help lead the future of our City and the communities within the District. While this is no easy task, it is one that I welcome with open arms. I hope that you will join me in shaping the future of our city by letting your thoughts, ideas and opinions be heard. Together I am certain we will secure a strong future for Peoria.

### Palo Verde District – Vice Mayor Pat Dennis

Peoria has no "Big Boxes" that are without active tenants, although a couple are still in the design process. Most recently, the 75th Avenue and Peoria vacant grocery location is the new home of the Peoria Unified School District's alternative facility as well as commercial retail outlets. Thanks to our city's Economic Development Department and other staff who continue to work hard to make sure Peoria is a great place for businesses to call home.

### Pine District – Councilmember Carlo Leone

In December the Peoria City Code was amended to improve enforcement of neighborhood nuisance violations. Swimming pools, spas and hot tubs, according to city code, are not allowed to stagnate or become polluted with bacteria, algae, insects, or debris. Abandoned or inoperable vehicles, as well as those being restored or repaired may not be stored in sight from the street for longer than 48 hours within a fourteen day consecutive period. Take pride in your neighborhood.

### Willow District – Councilmember Joan Evans

As I embark on this new journey as the Councilmember representing the people of the Willow District, I am certain that there will be many interesting, challenging and new experiences for me. One thing that I know for sure is that I am fully committed to serving the needs of our community. It is my pleasure to serve you and the City of Peoria. At the end of four years, I would like to say, "Look what we have done together for our community."

## Police Expand Less-Lethal Options

Police officers have always faced threats that put themselves and citizens at risk, but today, additional tools are available for dealing with rapidly unfolding situations where time is short, the facts are unclear and lives are at stake. To provide another option to deal with dangerous situations, every Peoria Police Officer is now equipped with a Taser stun gun.

"In every situation involving the use of force, the goal is to minimize injury to our officers, citizens, and the suspect," said Peoria Police Chief David Leonardo. "Providing officers with the Taser system better equips us to meet that goal."

It is that commitment to the community's safety that led to the decision to train and equip each officer with Tasers. These weapons provide each officer an easy to carry, less-lethal option for subduing those who are combative or dangerous. Less-lethal force is considered force with less potential for causing death or serious injury than use of a firearm.

Some of the other less-lethal tools available to Peoria's officers include stun bags – commonly referred to as 'bean bag guns', and the pepper



**Some of the less-lethal tools traditionally available to Peoria Police Officers include stun bags and pepper ball guns. Now the Taser system is carried by every officer, providing another less-lethal option.**

ball system which fires marble-sized projectiles filled with a form of pepper spray. The difficulty with these systems, however, is their lack of portability – they are larger and therefore more cumbersome, which is why the smaller Taser system is being deployed.

Even though these systems are considered less-lethal, police don't employ them unless they have to, because any time force is applied the potential for a lethal outcome exists.

"Peoria's officers don't use these weapons without first considering the other options available," said Chief Leonardo. "Safety is our highest priority."

## Peoria's Bait Car – For Some, Too Tempting to Resist

It looks like any other vehicle in a parking lot, but it is definitely not average. Carefully designed to fool thieves, Peoria's bait cars sport some serious features not visible to the average car thief. The vehicles are equipped with satellite tracking technology and remote control devices that permit law enforcement officials control over when and where they are disabled.

Peoria initiated its Bait Car Program in April 2004. The first activation occurred in May, leading to two arrests that cleared 15 different car theft cases from Peoria, Phoenix, Glendale and Goodyear. To date there have been three successful bait car activations, leading to the arrest of five suspects.

Here's an overview of how it works. A thief unwittingly selects the bait car, breaks in and drives away. Sensors relay information that the doors or possible other components have been opened or tampered with and that the vehicle is in motion. Trained personnel start monitoring the information coming from the bait car such as direction and speed, and relay it to officers. Once an officer



is in sight of the bait car and feels it is safe to do so, they direct the communications personnel to disable the ignition. The vehicle rolls safely to a stop and officers apprehend the suspect(s). Officers can also lock the vehicle doors remotely so that the thief inside doesn't bail out and run.

Some bait cars also have internal video surveillance cameras, which can work as a backup in case the auto thief manages to escape prior to apprehension.

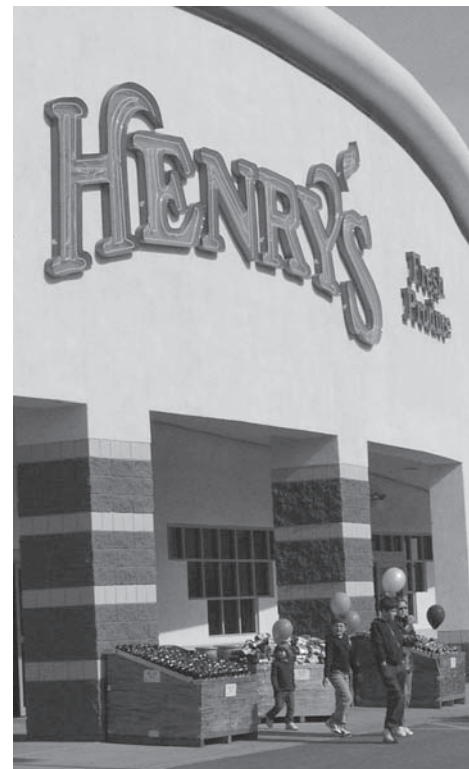
The program is off to a good start – hopefully the presence of bait cars here will deter car thieves from "shopping" in Peoria. But if they are bold enough and choose the bait car, thieves are in for a surprise, and a trip to jail.

## Empty Big Boxes

Vacant retail spaces – especially "big boxes" – are some of the most visible evidence of the dynamic and competitive nature of the Valley's retail market and the general restructuring of the retail sector. Peoria, like other cities, has seen some large stores sit empty for years, sometimes not due to lack of interest but because the renter actually continued to pay the lease on an empty building to prevent a competitor from moving in. Continued efforts by the City's Economic Development staff to alleviate this situation have been paying dividends recently.

In addition to working with the brokerage community to help fill vacant commercial spaces, Peoria Economic Development staff regularly respond to requests for information regarding zoning, land use and demographics to both property owners and retailers interested in occupying vacant shopping centers. The city also conducts market research to identify and attract new retailers, and helps identify areas of Peoria with neighborhoods that fit best with the target market of a retailer's business.

Peoria's latest redevelopment project, Zocalo Mall, is planned to take over the vacant Albertson's at Peoria Towne Center located at 83rd and Peoria Avenues. Once enough tenants have committed, the 75,000 square foot retail mall will feature corporate and artisan businesses targeted to those looking for a unique multi-cultural shopping experience. Zocalo is currently marketing for



**With Henry's Farmer's Market anchoring its redevelopment, the former ABCO center at 91st Ave. & Union Hills Dr. is bustling with activity these days.**

tenants to occupy the mall and is in negotiations with Wal-Mart to market its space, which will be available once the new Wal-Mart super center is completed at 79th and Peoria Avenues (estimated in spring 2006).

Other successful re-use projects involving vacant big boxes in Peoria include Arrowhead Crossing at 77th Avenue and Bell Road, redeveloped in spring 2004 to include a Pure Fitness, David's Bridal and Savers in what was a vacant grocery store and the long-vacant ABCO Center at 91st Avenue and Union Hills Drive, which was redeveloped this summer to include a new Henry's Farmer's Market and Fitness One.

**For more information, contact the Economic Development Department at 623-773-7735**

## Firefighter Memorial Dedicated

Although the finishing touches are still being put on the new Fire Station 191 on Peoria Avenue after its January grand opening, the Gene Mason Firefighter Memorial located at the station was unveiled at a dedication ceremony on October 16, 2004. Close to 300 people, including members of the Mason family, attended the ceremony.

While the memorial is a tribute to all firefighters, it is named for Gene Mason, a Peoria volunteer firefighter who lost his life in the line of duty in 1977. Mason, who at various times served as the volunteer fire department's chief

and on the town council, was an employee at Wilhelm's garage in Oldtown Peoria.

"Gene would do anything, anytime to help others out," said

Wayne Bradshaw, a friend and fellow volunteer firefighter. When Mason died, "one of Peoria's best was lost."

The new station held its public grand opening January 29. Located at 81st Avenue and Peoria Avenue, it replaces the outdated, undersized station

that served the downtown area for over 50 years. That building was originally built and operated as the Fuel Theater, Peoria's first movie theater.



## Citizen Bond and Transportation Committees Help Frame 2005 Ballot Issues

Peoria's voters will be asked to make some very important decisions in 2005, both on city bond issues that will appear on the May 17th ballot and on a proposed three-tenths cent dedicated transportation sales tax that could potentially appear on the September 7th ballot. These ballot items have moved forward thanks to the work of a group of citizen volunteers who spent the Fall and Winter of 2004 helping determine and prioritize the projects driving the need for these funding approvals.

Two citizen committees – one dedicated to exploring the city's construction and infrastructure needs requiring bond funding, and one committee dedicated specifically to the question of how to fund road construction and other unfunded transportation needs studied these issues over a period of months. At a series of public meetings in October, November, and December, these citizen volunteers discussed which projects were of sufficient scope and priority to rate inclusion in the ballot measures going before the voters in 2005.

The citizen's bond committee received general guidance from the City Council in advance that the total dollar amount pro-

posed for any bond financing had to be supportable without increasing the city's current property tax rate (which has not been raised in seven years).

"It has been a priority of the City Council to live within the financial boundaries of our property tax rate," said Mayor John Keegan. "As Peoria has grown, new development and increased property values have allowed us to increase the number of projects we are able to complete without raising the property tax rate."

That does not, however, change the need for citizen approval of all proposed bond financing, which is why four separate bond issues totaling \$286.5 million will go before voters on May 17, 2005. State law requires that municipalities seek the approval of the city's voters before issuing any debt.

The proposed bond package addresses much of the city's capital infrastructure and facility needs for the next few years. Within this package are dozens of street, parks, public safety, drainage, and water and wastewater projects that form the backbone of the city's service delivery system. Some of the more high-profile projects proposed for bond funding include: over \$10 million



Critical infrastructure like roads, water lines, and fire stations are often built with bond financing.

for upgrading the city's public safety radio system; \$3.7 million to construct a Police Department northern precinct station; \$2.1 million to develop Peoria's mountain trails system; \$11.5 million to build a playing field oriented community park at 83rd Avenue and Olive Avenue; \$7.6 million to build two new fire stations; \$4.1 million to widen Deer Valley Road between 91st Avenue and 83rd Avenue; \$4 million toward the Beardsley Road Connection at Loop 101; \$6.1 million for improvements to Northern Avenue; and \$20.4 million to improve Happy Valley Road from Lake Pleasant Parkway to 67th Avenue.

**For more election information, visit [www.peoriaaz.com/election05](http://www.peoriaaz.com/election05), call 623-773-7000 or visit Peoria City Hall.**

## Options for Funding Local Transportation Projects Explored

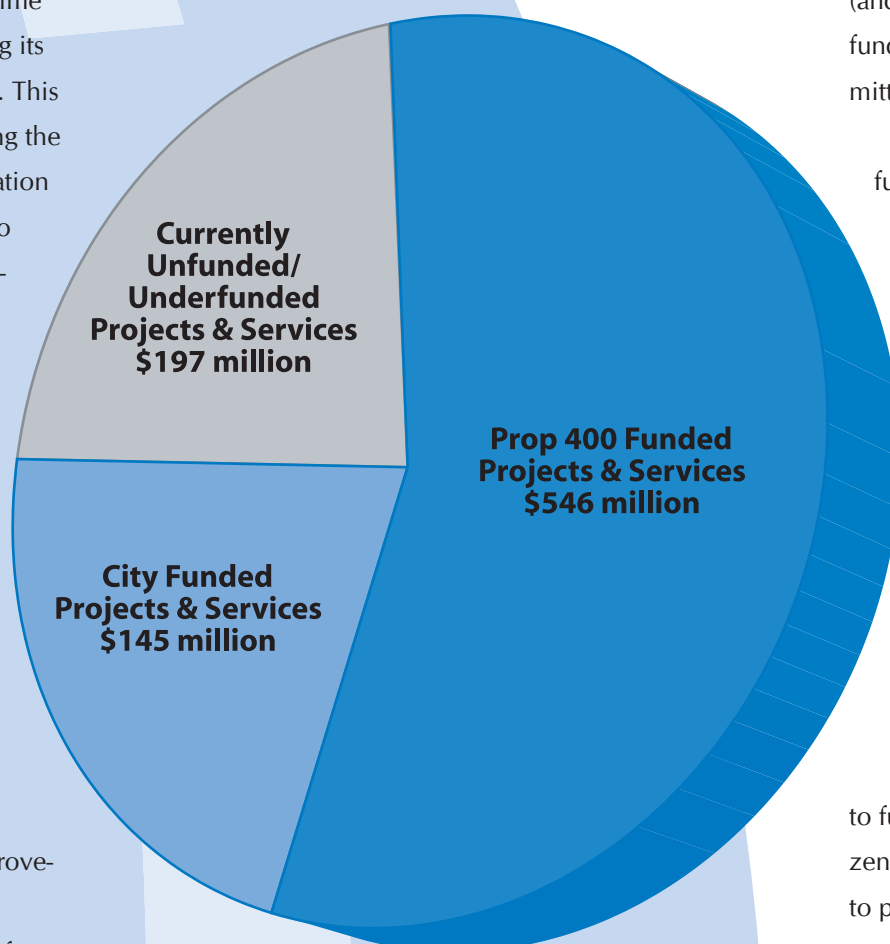
### City May Seek Dedicated Transportation Sales Tax in September Election

Few people argue that transportation issues are at the top of the heap when one talks about challenges facing the City of Peoria. At the same time the Citizens' Bond Committee was completing its work, another citizen committee was at work. This group was charged with specifically addressing the funding gap that exists between the transportation needs that the city currently has the funding to accomplish, and those needs without an identified funding source.

Existing funding for transportation projects comes from, among other sources: the countywide ½-cent sales tax which funds regional transportation projects and was recently re-authorized and extended by voters through Proposition 400 in November; bonds already approved by voters in previous elections; highway user revenue fund (statewide gasoline tax); and city operating funds. The May 2005 bond election proposes authorizing the city to sell bonds to fund \$84 million to build street improvement projects.

In addition to currently available funding for

### City of Peoria Transportation Funding Outlook Total Projected Cost: \$888 million (2004 dollars)



local road projects, nearly \$200 million in additional unfunded street and transportation projects (and service needs) have been identified. It is this funding gap that the Citizen Transportation Committee spent a great deal of time analyzing.

The final recommendation to address this funding gap is a .3% sales tax increase dedicated to funding transportation projects and services. Through the process, this solution emerged as the only alternative that provides the dollars required to address city transportation needs not funded by other means.

Some of these needs are new projects, some are to pay for the city's local matching funds required for some very large projects. All are important pieces of the city's overall traffic improvement plan which aims to improve traffic conditions throughout the city and keep things moving.

In May, the Peoria City Council is expected to further explore the recommendation of the Citizen Transportation Committee and decide whether to place the recommended .3% sales tax for transportation before the city's voters in September.

# BUILDING PEORIA

City of Peoria Bond Election • May 17, 2005

## City of Peoria 2005 Bond Election Projects

This map provides a glimpse of some of the projects included in the bond package going before Peoria voters on May 17, 2005. For a complete, detailed list, visit [www.peoriaaz.com/election05](http://www.peoriaaz.com/election05) or call 623-773-7000.

### Streets & Traffic Improvements - \$109 million, including:

- \$4.1 million to widen Deer Valley Road from 91st to 83rd Avenue
- \$4 million toward the Beardsley Road Connection at Loop 101
- \$6.1 million for improvements to Northern Avenue
- \$20.4 million to complete Happy Valley Road from Lake Pleasant Parkway to 67th Avenue
- \$1.2 million to improve Thunderbird Road
- \$10.3 million to improve various intersections around the city

### Parks & Library Improvements - \$35 million, including:

- \$1.5 million toward design and construction of a branch library
- \$11.5 million to design and construct a community park at 83rd Avenue & Butler Drive
- \$4.6 million for land acquisition and improvement of mountain and river trails
- \$3.6 million to design and construct a swimming pool in northern Peoria
- \$4 million toward completion of Rio Vista Park, phase 2

### Public Safety & Operational Facilities - \$52 million, including:

- \$10 million to upgrade the city's public safety & field operations radio system
- \$5 million to purchase land for a future city operations facility in north Peoria
- \$3.7 million to design and construct a Northern Police Precinct building
- \$7.6 million to design and construct fire stations 8 and 9
- \$8.3 million to build a joint Police/Fire training facility

### Water, Wastewater & Drainage Improvements - \$159 million, including:

- \$25 million to expand both the Beardsley and Butler Water Reclamation Facilities
- \$33 million to construct various water distribution lines
- \$3.8 million to design and build a 5-million gallon water reservoir

### LEGEND:

 Street Improvement Project

 Intersection Improvement Project

 Park, Recreation or Library Improvement Project

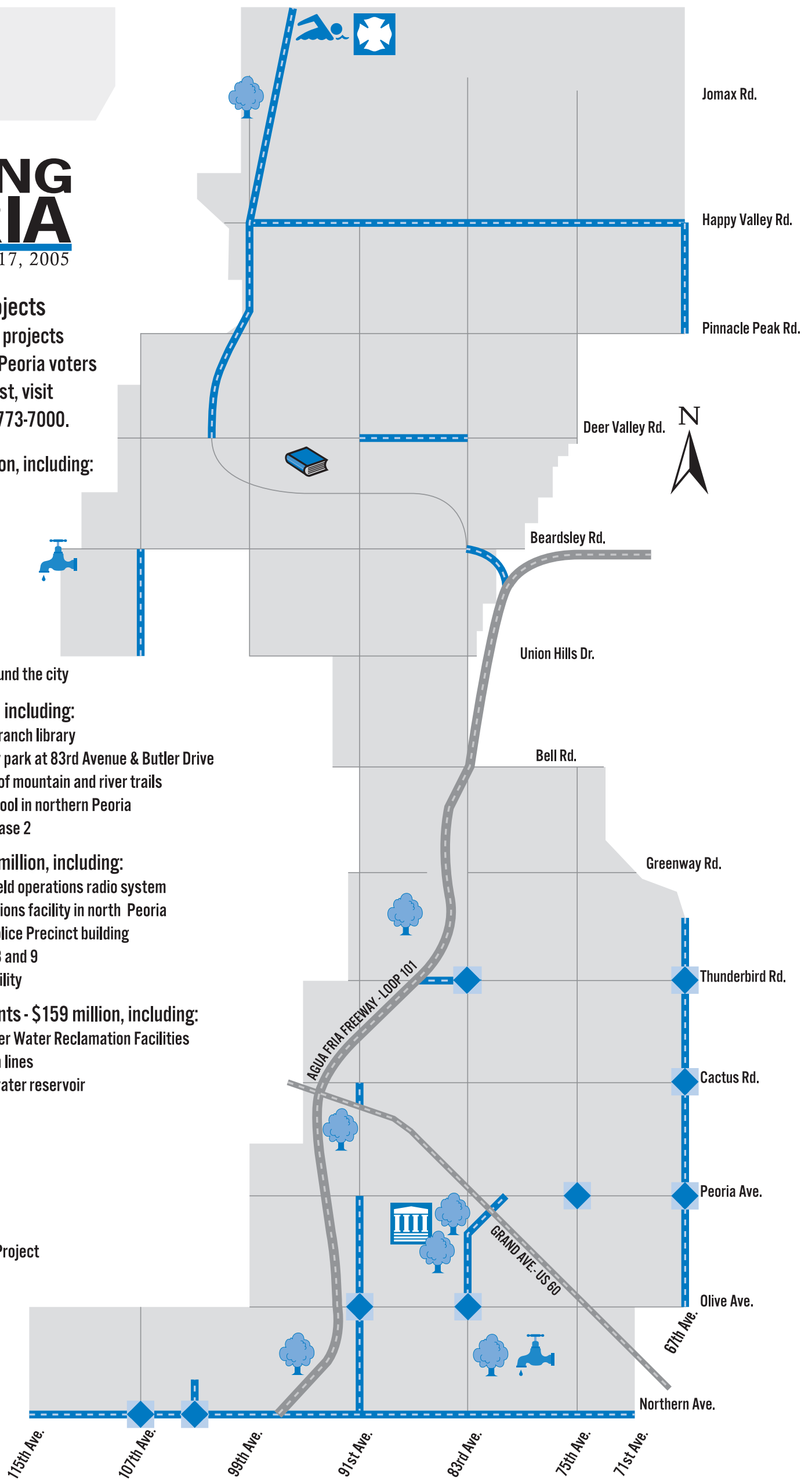
 Police or Operational Facility Project

 Water, Wastewater, or Drainage Project

 Swimming Pool

 Library

 Fire Station



Note: This map is intended for general reference purposes only. The locations for facilities provided here are in some cases tentative - the final location of some facilities may differ from what is provided here.

## Election Information Town Hall Meetings

Learn more about bond propositions that would provide funding for major projects and construction of city infrastructure over the next 10 to 15 years. These meetings are being offered at a variety of times and places - choose the one that works best with your schedule:

**Saturday, Feb. 12th**  
**10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**  
 Zuni Hills School  
 Multipurpose Room  
 10851 W. Williams Rd.

**Thursday, Feb. 17th**  
**6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.**  
 Oasis School  
 Multipurpose Room  
 7841 W. Sweetwater Ave.

**Wednesday, Feb. 23rd**  
**6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.**  
 Coyote Hills School  
 Multipurpose Room  
 21180 N. 87th Ave.

**Saturday, Feb. 26th**  
**10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**  
 Country Meadows School  
 Multipurpose Room  
 8409 N. 111th Ave.

[www.peoriaaz.com/election05](http://www.peoriaaz.com/election05)

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
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| 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |

**February 1** City Council Meeting, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.

**February 2** Election Information Town Hall, Paseo Verde School, 6:30 p.m., Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/election05](http://www.peoriaaz.com/election05) or 623-773-7000

**February 3** Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.

**February 12** Election Information Town Hall, Zuni Hills School, 10 a.m., Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/election05](http://www.peoriaaz.com/election05) or 623-773-7000

**February 15** \*City Council Study Session, City Hall, 4 p.m.

**February 17** Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.

**February 17** Election Information Town Hall, Oasis School, 6:30 p.m., Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/election05](http://www.peoriaaz.com/election05) or 623-773-7000

**February 17-20** - San Gennaro Feast & Street Fair, Peoria Sports Complex, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.

**February 23** Election Information Town Hall, Coyote Hills School, 6:30 p.m., Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/election05](http://www.peoriaaz.com/election05) or 623-773-7000

**February 26** Election Information Town Hall, Country Meadows School, 10 a.m., Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/election05](http://www.peoriaaz.com/election05) or 623-773-7000

**February 26** Spring Training 2005 Fan Fest, Peoria Sports Complex, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**February 26** 10th Annual Black History Celebration & Festival, Peoria Municipal Complex Amphitheater, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Info: 623-204-0959

**March 1** City Council Meeting, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.

**March 3** Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.

**March 3-31** Spring Training, Peoria Sports Complex (Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/springtrain](http://www.peoriaaz.com/springtrain), 623-878-4337)

**March 17** Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.

**March 22** \*City Council, Study Session, City Hall, 4 p.m.

**March 26** Dolly Sanchez Memorial Easter Egg Hunts, Peoria Sports Complex, 9 a.m. to 12 noon., Info: 623-773-7198

**April 2** Peoria's Pioneer Days, Johnny Osuna Park & Oldtown Peoria, 6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/events](http://www.peoriaaz.com/events), 623-773-7198)

**April 5** City Council Meeting, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.

**April 7** Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.

**April 7, 14, 21 & 28** Peoria Performances, Live music at the City Hall Amphitheater, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., (Info: 623-773-7198)

**April 8-10** Magic Bird Spring Arts & Crafts Show, Peoria Sports Complex, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., (Info: 480-488-2014)

**April 19** \*City Council, Study Session, City Hall, 4 p.m.

**April 21** Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.

**April 22-24** Home Improvement Expo, Peoria Sports Complex, Fri./Sat. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Info: 602-789-7222)

\*Council Study Sessions are held as needed. Call the City Clerk's Office at 623-773-7340 to confirm meeting times and for agendas, or check the web at [www.peoriaaz.com/council](http://www.peoriaaz.com/council)

†Call the Planning Division (623-773-7200) or check [www.peoriaaz.com/planning](http://www.peoriaaz.com/planning) to confirm meeting times and for agendas.

City Hall and the City Council Chamber are located at the City of Peoria Municipal Complex, 8401 West Monroe Street.

All City Council Meetings are broadcast live on Peoria's Channel 11 (on Cox & Qwest cable), and re-broadcast each night through the following Sunday.

Check the complete city meeting and events calendar online at: [www.peoriaaz.com/events](http://www.peoriaaz.com/events)

*"Where the Rubber Meets the Road"*  
**ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

**Cactus Rd. Widening - 89th Ave. to 91st Ave.**

This project will widen this section of Cactus Rd. to five lanes and provide dedicated right-turn lanes from eastbound Cactus to northbound Loop 101 and from northbound 91st Ave. to eastbound Cactus. Resurfacing of the roadway, street lighting, sidewalks and under-grounding of overhead utilities are included. Construction is expected to begin in mid-February and last about seven months.

**83rd Ave. & Thunderbird Rd. Intersection Improvements**

The project will widen the roadway to accommodate dual left turn lanes on the south leg of 83rd Avenue and a right turn only lane on westbound Thunderbird Road. Right of way acquisition and utility relocation is in progress, which will be followed by the construction bid process and approximately seven to nine months of construction time.

**Lake Pleasant Parkway**

Northbound lanes for the parkway are being constructed from Williams Road to the Dynamite Boulevard alignment (1 mile north of Jomax Road). Completion for this phase is anticipated in August 2005 - traffic will be shifted to the new pavement in segments. The first segment between Dynamite Blvd and Jomax scheduled to shift traffic to new pavement in late February 2005.

For more information on these or other road construction projects in Peoria, contact the Engineering Department at 623-773-7210. For a current list of major road closures and lane restrictions, visit: [www.peoriaaz.com/roadclosures](http://www.peoriaaz.com/roadclosures)



Go behind the scenes to see how the City of Peoria works by enrolling in any of these citizen programs:

**Peoria Leadership Institute**

Peoria Leadership Institute offers an in-depth look at all operations of city government. Class members learn more about the city's governmental structure, its budget and finances, public works, utility, police and fire operations through interactive discussions with management staff.

Spring Session: Wednesday evenings, March 2nd through May 11  
 Enrollment Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/up](http://www.peoriaaz.com/up) or 623-773-7000

**Fire Citizen's Academy**

During this nine-week program participants learn about Fire Department operations, water and hose applications, air pack use, medical services and Peoria's Technical Rescue Team. They also receive information from Southwest Ambulance and Native Air medical helicopter, tour Banner Thunderbird Hospital and see the Phoenix Regional Dispatch Center.

Spring Session: Thursday evenings, May 12th through July 7th  
 Enrollment Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/up](http://www.peoriaaz.com/up) or 623-773-7276

**Police Citizen's Academy**

Participants will experience what it is like to gather evidence, interview suspects and witnesses, book a prisoner into jail, use a radar gun, and many other law enforcement tasks. Participants will learn what it takes to become a police officer, from the hiring process to the police academy experience, from using a firearms training simulator to executing a high-risk vehicle stop.

Spring Session: Thursday evenings March 3rd through May 19th  
 Enrollment Info: [www.peoriaaz.com/up](http://www.peoriaaz.com/up) or 623-773-7099

**City of Peoria Telephone Numbers**

ALL NUMBERS ARE IN THE 623 AREA CODE

|                                 |          |                                   |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| AM/PM Program                   | 773-7137 | Library (Sunrise Mountain Branch) | 487-5150 |
| Building Inspections            | 773-7225 | Mayor and Council Offices         | 773-7306 |
| City Attorney's Office          | 773-7330 | Parks and Recreation              | 773-7137 |
| City Clerk's Office             | 773-7340 | Peoria Job Hotline                | 773-7105 |
| City Manager's Office           | 773-7300 | Peoria Municipal Court            | 773-7400 |
| Code Compliance                 | 773-7162 | Planning and Zoning               | 773-7200 |
| Community Center                | 773-7436 | Police (non-emergency)            | 773-8311 |
| Community Development           | 773-7200 | Solid Waste Billing               | 773-7160 |
| Dial-a-Ride                     | 773-7435 | Solid Waste Collection            | 773-7431 |
| Fire Department (non-emergency) | 773-7279 | Street Maintenance                | 773-7432 |
| Graffiti Hotline                | 773-7094 | Water Billing / Service           | 773-7160 |
| Library (Main)                  | 773-7555 | Water Leaks                       | 773-7433 |



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