

## ASU Grad Student Keeps Peoria in Touch with Itself

Arizona State University graduate student Jose Rivero didn't have to spend much time studying Peoria before starting a first-of-its-kind internship in the city manager's office.

"I've spent my entire life here in the city of Peoria," he explains. "I live in the Varney Tract; I started my education there – K through eighth grade at Peoria Elementary. From there, I went to Peoria High School."

After earning bachelor's degrees in political science and secondary education (social studies) on ASU's West campus, Rivero crossed the Valley to enroll in the master's of public administration program on the Tempe campus. When Peoria City Manager Terry Ellis turned up as a guest speaker in his city and county management class, Rivero's thoughts turned to home.

"One of our assignments was interviewing a deputy or city manager," Rivero says. "I interviewed [Peoria] Deputy City Manager Susan Thorpe. I started asking about the functions of city government. One of my last questions was, 'Do you offer internships for students who are aspiring to be a city manager or

deputy city manager?'" That got the ball rolling. And months later, Rivero had a desk at City Hall.

According to James Mason, assistant to the city manager, Rivero's inquiry came at a good time for Peoria.

"There is an age gap developing" in the ranks of city managers, Mason says. "With the Baby Boomers advancing, there is a lack of folks in the queue to replace them." Rivero's Peoria roots helped as well. "He's a neighborhood guy – lives just a few blocks from City Hall."

Rivero expects to complete his master's program in December. In the meantime, he's making the most of his internship. That's crucial, according to one of his ASU instructors: "For young people, I think it's extremely important to work with individuals who are very well thought of in the field, because they pick up so many things about how to approach situations and deal with problems that come up," says Lloyd Harrell, a retired Chandler city manager.

Rivero has been involved in Peoria's effort to implement curbside recycling. "One of the projects I'm working on is creating a newsletter



Peoria native Jose Rivero (right) is taking full advantage of his opportunity to learn the inner workings of city government from municipal veterans like Deputy City Manager Carl Swensen (left) and Assistant to the City Manager James Mason (center).

that will go out to all citizens," he says. He also is helping to create a recycling curriculum the city will offer to the Peoria Unified School District. In addition, he is working on a request for money from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

"Thorough" and "diligent" are words Mason uses to describe Rivero's work so far. "He's a person who is very engaged," Mason says. "He asks a lot of questions because he understands. He's also very self driven – here 'to

do.' He's here as much to contribute as to learn."

For his part, Rivero says he appreciates being treated not as "the intern" but as a member of the team. And his efforts may benefit other ambitious students.

"We are looking at opportunities to make this more of a regular internship program – with ASU or other universities," Mason says.

## Interns Develop Skills Alongside Major-Leaguers

### Turf-Management Students Learn Hands-On at Peoria Sports Complex

Spring training couldn't go on without them, but they're not professional athletes, coaches or sports journalists. Instead, they manicure the baseball diamond and pull the tarp on or off the field as the weather dictates.

One wonders: Where does the Peoria Sports Complex find workers to meet its shifting personnel needs not only in March, but year-round?

Many of those on the grounds crew are interns from Peoria High School and Glendale Community College. They are studying "urban horticulture" – greenhouse and nursery management; commercial and residential landscaping; and parks and golf course maintenance – occupations in demand throughout the Valley.

The Sports Complex employs 20 to 30 at a time, with the number swelling to the mid-30s during Spring

Training, according to Sports Facilities Manager Chris Calcaterra. Most of the internships last eight to 12 weeks. The high schoolers are paid; the college students receive academic credit.

"The benefit for us is definitely application," says Kevin English, a teacher in Peoria High School's agricultural program. "They're putting to work the skills we teach in our classrooms."

"It's like an apprenticeship," Calcaterra says.

But Calcaterra is no Donald Trump: He's more likely to say "you're hired" than "you're fired."

"We used to spend a lot of time and energy hiring people off the street who would quit after a week because they didn't like what they were doing," he explains. Now, the sports complex can fill positions from



Thanks to an intern program with Peoria High School and Glendale Community College, students learn techniques and skills alongside full time staff at the Peoria Sports Complex.

a ready pool of young people who have demonstrated promise and are interested in the work.

"We also can network with the golf guys around town to find jobs for

them," Calcaterra says. "As openings occur, the interns frequently are successful in competing for the jobs."

# CITY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

## January

- Newly-elected Mayor Bob Barrett and Councilmember Ron Aames (Palo Verde District) were sworn-in, along with re-elected Councilmembers Vicki Hunt (Acacia District) and Carlo Leone (Pine District). New Councilmember Dave Pearson (Ironwood District) was sworn-in Nov. 27, 2006 (immediately after the general election) because he was elected to a seat that was being filled on an interim basis.
- Approved a contract for a Police Department program review and master plan to help maximize effectiveness and efficiency in police services.
- Recognized Angelo Alemendarez, a sanitation driver in the Public Works Department who spotted a vehicle wanted by police as part of an Amber Alert. Thanks to his attention, police were able to advance their investigation and close the case.
- Approved an agreement with the Peoria Unified School District (PUSD) to cooperate on funding and installation of fiber-optic cabling to support high-speed data needs for both city facilities and PUSD schools.

## February

- Amended the Peoria General Plan, re-designating approximately 20 acres at the southwest corner of Loop 101 and Peoria Avenue from medium-density residential to business park/industrial, a change that allows for development of a 230,000 square-foot commerce park.
- Authorized the purchase of a 5-acre parcel immediately north of the Pinnacle Peak Public Safety Facility for future parking to support expanded police hours at the facility.
- Approved the sale of \$94 million in general obligation bonds to fund capital projects, including widening Thunderbird Road west of Loop 101, additional traffic signals, an improved citywide radio system and various trail and park improvements.
- Approved a construction contract for a pedestrian bridge over New River that will connect the west bank of the river to Rio Vista Park.
- Accepted an \$80,000 grant from the Gila River Indian Community for purchase and installation of an ethanol (E85) fuel tank at the city's Municipal Operations Center. Adding ethanol capability to the city's vehicle fleet will have the same impact as removing 13 vehicles from the road.

## March

- Authorized spending \$16,600 to install traffic-calming measures at 68th Drive and Saddlehorn Road and 81st Avenue and Hillcrest Boulevard – recommendations that came from the city's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. (For more information on the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program, visit [www.peoriaaz.gov/NTMP](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/NTMP) or call 623-773-7394.)
- Authorized the sale and issuance of \$35 million in general obligation refunding bonds to refinance existing debt at a lower interest rate.
- Adopted the final plat for the Park West mixed-use project at 99th and Northern avenues.
- Received a staff report on, and discussed details of, the curbside recycling program to go into effect later in the year.
- Adopted the 12-Month Policy Agenda, a working document that reflects the City Council's top priorities and goals for the next 12 months.

## New City Councilmembers May Seem Familiar

Peoria's new mayor and two new City Councilmembers were sworn-in recently to start their four-year terms. Two of the three may seem familiar, however, because they have previous experience on the City Council.

### Mayor Bob Barrett

Mayor Barrett was first elected to the City Council representing the Ironwood District in 2001 and was reelected to a second term in 2004. He had to resign his City Council seat to run for mayor in 2006. A resident of Peoria since 1993, Mayor Barrett served in the Army and was awarded the Bronze Star in Vietnam in 1971.

Mayor Barrett graduated with honors from Arizona State University with a degree in Mass Communications-Journalism and worked for the *Arizona Republic* for more than 20 years as a magazine writer, reporter and editor. He currently works in the Communications Department of Central Arizona Project and is a member of the Peoria Sunrise Lions Club.



### Councilmember Dave Pearson, Ironwood District

Dave Pearson previously served two terms on the Peoria City Council from June 1991 through June 1997, and was Vice Mayor in 1993. Pearson was chairperson of the Peoria Municipal Sports Complex Authority during the construction the Peoria Sports Complex. He was also a founding member of the Peoria Diamond Club, the community volunteer group that works at the complex to support Peoria charities.

Councilmember Pearson is a teacher/librarian in the Peoria Unified School District, where he has been an educator for 26 years. Prior to teaching, he was a newspaper reporter and editor. He holds bachelor's degrees in journalism and elementary education from Arizona State University and holds a school library endorsement from the state of Arizona.



### Councilmember Ron Aames, Palo Verde District

Ron Aames has a background in planning and city development, areas he anticipates will benefit him in his work as a councilmember. His degrees include a doctorate, which focused on urban development, from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a master's from California State Polytechnic University-Pomona (Cal Poly Pomona), which focused on transportation planning.

In business, Aames has been a corporate executive for high-tech, banking and marketing companies. In the marketing arena, he was a managing consultant for eight years for the Gallup Organization, where his clients included federal government agencies. Aames currently is an independent marketing consultant.



## 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 agenda packets and meeting minutes are also available at [www.peoriaaz.gov/council](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/council)

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

### Vice Mayor Vicki Hunt – Acacia District

The beautiful new Peoria Center for the Performing Arts is inviting not only to adults, but to young visitors as well. Theater Works has a full line up of summer camps designed to bring the art of theater to youth. Professionals in the field will offer instruction in all areas of stage production including set and costume design, as well as acting. For more information on Theater Works summer youth programs at the Peoria Center for Performing Arts call 623-815-1791.

### Councilmember Dave Pearson – Ironwood District

Some new linkages in the city's trail system are bringing our vision of a citywide trail system to life. In March, a trail bridge over the Greenway channel was completed. Walkers, joggers, and bicyclists on the trail along the west bank of New River can now travel all the way from Bell Road to Grand Avenue. Soon, construction will begin on a bridge that links that side of the trail into Rio Vista Park. Even more links are in the design phase and planned over the next few years.

### Councilmember Cathy Carlat – Mesquite District

When exploring the desert with off-road vehicles, remember that the majority of Peoria's northern open areas are State Trust Land, Maricopa County Flood Control District land or private property. To enter any of these areas requires permission of the land owner. The State Land Department provides permits for access to State Trust Land for responsible recreational use. Learn more at [www.land.state.az.us/programs/natural/rec\\_offroad\\_permit.htm](http://www.land.state.az.us/programs/natural/rec_offroad_permit.htm).

### Councilmember Ron Aames – Palo Verde District

I represent you, so please call or email me if you have concerns about matters in your neighborhood that the city can address, such as speeding vehicles, excessive weeds, graffiti, or other city violations. My telephone at the city is 623-773-7306, while my email is [ron.aames@peoriaaz.gov](mailto:ron.aames@peoriaaz.gov).

### Councilmember Carlo Leone – Pine District

The City of Peoria offers many opportunities for citizens to learn about the inner workings of city government and to get involved in its future. The Neighborhood Grant Program is designed to assist neighborhood-based improvement projects to prevent the decline of neighborhoods throughout the city. Neighborhood groups and associations who are active partners in their community and interested in improving the quality of life of their neighborhoods are encouraged to apply by contacting Neighborhood Services at 623-773-7250.

### Councilmember Joan Evans – Willow District

Graffiti can result in more graffiti, and then seems to breed vandalism and more serious crime. Please help keep our community clean by reporting any graffiti to our hotline (623-773-7094). Here's a tip – program the number into your cell phone and dial it whenever you see graffiti around town. We want to remain proud of our city, and we can all make a difference with just a simple phone call.



A mix of retail, office and residential development is planned in Oldtown Peoria, including this project along Washington Street near the Peoria Center for the Performing Arts.

## Private Sector Follows Arts Center to Historic Oldtown

The Peoria Center for the Performing Arts drew more than 2,500 people to Oldtown in its first two and a half weeks, boosting hopes for several private-sector developments in the works for the historic area.

Plans include a 20,000-square-foot retail, office and residential project on Washington Street across from Osuna Park, while an 8,000-square-foot retail development will complement the new theater and park improvements adjacent to Osuna Park and Grand Avenue. The city expects construction to begin on these privately developed projects within the next 12 months.

Wal-Mart has started work on its new, 224,000-square-foot super center at 79th and Peoria avenues. The builders of Peoria Place, a 127-acre development including retail, office and medium- to high-density

residential space that will be located just east of the Peoria Municipal Campus, plan to start infrastructure development this fall.

"This is an exciting time for Oldtown Peoria," says Peoria Economic Development Director Steve Prokopek. "The additional retail traffic generated by Wal-Mart and the additional population generated by Peoria Place will help sustain existing local businesses and attract new retail services to the area."

Benefits from the Peoria Place project already can be seen with the cleanup of the old Swap Meet site along Grand Avenue.

Upon completion of these developments, a new road to be called Cotton Crossing will open from Mountain View Road to Peoria Avenue, providing better access and relieving Oldtown of drive-through traffic.

## Curtain Goes Up for Arts Center

The Peoria Center for the Performing Arts – a copper-topped, \$12.9 million jewel that will anchor redevelopment of the city's Oldtown – opened Saturday, Feb. 10, with a special performance of the one-woman show *Tea for Three*.

"What a spectacular evening it was," said Vice Mayor Vicki Hunt, whose City Council district is home to the new facility. Hunt said the theater itself was the star of the event – and that its opening "marked only the completion of one stage of the dream of bringing cultural venues to Peoria. In a way it's really the beginning of the renaissance."

The center includes a 280-seat main theater and a smaller "black box" theater that can seat up to 80 people. The nonprofit arts group Theater Works, which contributed \$200,000 toward construction, operates the facility under a 20-year lease with the city. Part of the agreement is for Theater Works to make the facility available to other theater and arts groups as scheduling permits.

In the works for almost a decade, the building took nearly 15 months to



build. It is located on Peoria Avenue in historic Oldtown. In addition to the performance spaces, it boasts two classrooms for high school, camp and youth programs.

### Coming Soon to the Peoria Center for the Performing Arts

#### Main Stage

##### Working

April 13 through April 29

##### The Miracle Worker

May 11 through May 27

#### Black Box Theater

##### Copenhagen

March 30 through April 15

##### Beyond Therapy

May 4 through May 20

##### Speed the Plow

June 15 through July 1

Info/Tickets: 623-815-7930 or [www.theaterworks.org](http://www.theaterworks.org)

Out with [peoriaaz.com](http://peoriaaz.com), in with... **peoriaaz.gov**

Peoria's Web address, along with its e-mail configuration, switched from ".com" to ".gov" the first of the year, becoming [www.peoriaaz.gov](http://www.peoriaaz.gov).

Until a couple of years ago, ".gov" was reserved for the federal government. When this domain was opened to all levels of government, Peoria – like many cities and counties – decided to embrace the more logical suffix.

"While in the earlier days of the Internet the '.com' address was more familiar and, as such, a good choice

for our Web site, the use of '.gov' is much more specific," said Bill Mims, Peoria's webmaster. "Our citizens and other visitors can be sure they are dealing with an official government entity whether e-mailing or visiting our Web sites."

Through [www.peoriaaz.gov](http://www.peoriaaz.gov), residents can access utilities accounts, browse the Peoria Public Library catalog, sign up for recreation programs or request street or streetlight repairs, among other things.

### Tourism Web site debuts

The city has launched an official tourism Web site: [visitpeoriaaz.com](http://visitpeoriaaz.com). The site offers the latest on dining, entertainment, events, recreation, shopping, sports and transportation, as well as information on lodging and relocation.

According to Jim Brink, Peoria's marketing manager, "We're trying to offer information that individuals can't receive from the municipal Web site and promote the fun things the city has to offer – not only to local residents but also to people coming from out of state."

## Off-Roaders: Be Aware of Land Ownership



The Peoria Police Department reminds residents that they should take care choosing locations for off-road recreation.

The section of northern Peoria bounded by Carefree Highway to the north, the New River channel to the east, New River Dam to the south and Lake Pleasant Parkway to the west is off-limits.

Those wishing to take vehicles off-road west of Lake Pleasant Parkway should determine the ownership of the intended recreation site beforehand, as permission of the landowner – private or public – might be required.

Good places to start are the Web sites for Arizona State Parks ([www.pr.state.az.us/partnerships/ohv/ohv\\_sites.html](http://www.pr.state.az.us/partnerships/ohv/ohv_sites.html)), the Arizona State Land Department ([www.land.state.az.us](http://www.land.state.az.us)) and the federal Bureau of Land Management ([www.blm.gov/az/ohv/index.htm](http://www.blm.gov/az/ohv/index.htm)).

**CALENDAR** See more listings at [www.peoriaaz.gov/events](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/events)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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27	28	29	30	31		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- TV April 3** City Council Meeting, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.
- April 5** ‡Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.
- April 5** Peoria's Performances: Arizona Singing Cowboy Gary Sprague, City Hall Amphitheater, 7 p.m.
- April 7** Dolly Sanchez Memorial Easter Egg Hunts, Peoria Sports Complex, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- April 12** Peoria's Performances: Come Back Buddy, City Hall Amphitheater, 7 p.m.
- April 15** Fire It Up Car Show, Peoria Sports Complex, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- TV April 17** City Council Meeting, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.
- April 19** ‡Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.
- April 19** Peoria's Performances: Steelin' the Night Away, City Hall Amphitheater, 7 p.m.
- April 26** Peoria's Performances: The Needham Twins, City Hall Amphitheater, 7 p.m.
- April 28-29** Relay for Life, Peoria Sports Complex, 4 p.m. Saturday to 10 a.m. Sunday.
- TV May 1** City Council Meeting, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.
- May 3** ‡Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.
- TV May 15** \*City Council Study Session, Location TBA, 4 p.m.

- TV May 15** City Council Meeting, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.
  - May 17** ‡Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.
  - TV June 5** City Council Meeting, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.
  - June 7** ‡Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.
  - TV June 19** \*City Council Study Session, Location TBA, 4 p.m.
  - TV June 19** City Council Meeting, Council Chamber, 7 p.m.
  - June 21** ‡Planning & Zoning Commission, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.
- The Peoria Municipal Campus (8401 W. Monroe St.) includes the Council Chamber, City Hall (& amphitheater) and Main Library.
- \*Call the City Clerk's Office at 623-773-7340 for agendas and to confirm meeting times and locations, or check the Web at [www.peoriaaz.gov/council](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/council).
- ‡Call the Planning Division at 623-773-7200 or check the web site at [www.peoriaaz.gov/planning](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/planning) for agendas and to confirm meeting times.
- TV** City Council meetings are broadcast live on Peoria's Channel 11 (on Cox & Qwest cable), and re-broadcast each night through the following Sunday.

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS

## WASTE DROP-OFF

**SATURDAY, MAY 19**

**8 A.M. TO NOON**

Peoria Municipal  
Operations Center

**8850 N. 79th Ave.**

Free disposal of your motor oil, car batteries, cleaners, paint & other household hazardous materials.  
Peoria residents only.  
More info: 623-773-7431

## Prescription Drug Discount Card Saves You Money

- + Free prescription discount cards are available to all Maricopa County residents regardless of age, income or insurance coverage**
- + Use the card any time prescriptions are not covered by insurance**
- + It's easy - no enrollment form, no membership fee and no restrictions or limits on frequency of use - simply present the card at any participating pharmacy**
- + Don't forget Fido - the card also can be used for certain pet prescriptions available at pharmacies**
- + Cards are available at Peoria City Hall, Peoria Main Library and all Maricopa County public libraries**
- + Call 877-321-2652 or visit <https://naco.advancerx.com> for info**

**Pick up your free prescription discount card at any of the locations mentioned above, or send a request via e-mail to:**  
**[askmc@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:askmc@mail.maricopa.gov)**  
**(Subject: Prescription Drug Card Request)**

# SUMMER fun

### SUMMER CAMP - MAY 25 TO AUG. 3

Summer Camp provides childcare (for grades K through 6) weekdays from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Apache, Sundance, Paseo Verde, Frontier, Cheyenne, Desert Harbor, Alta Loma, Parkridge and Santa Fe elementary schools. Daily fees include all field trips along with morning and afternoon snacks. (A hot lunch program is offered Monday-Friday for an additional fee.) \$30 registration fee (includes t-shirt); \$85 per week (full time) or \$20 per day (part time). Licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services.

### SUMMER RECREATION - MAY 29 TO JULY 19

A drop-in program (for grades 1 through 5) that runs 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Cotton Boll, Country Meadows, Coyote Hills, Ira Murphy, Oakwood, Oasis, Vistancia, and Zuni Hills elementary schools. One-time registration fee, t-shirt included (\$50 for residents, \$90 for non-residents). Daily field trips are offered at an additional fee.

### TINY TOTS - MAY 29 TO JULY 19

A pre-school drop-in program for ages 4 and 5 with locations at Paseo Verde, Parkridge and Peoria Elementary. Tiny Tots runs from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. One-time registration fee, t-shirt included (\$50 for residents, \$90 for non-residents).

**Info: 623-773-7137 or [peoriaaz.gov/recreation](http://peoriaaz.gov/recreation)**

## 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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 Sign up for Peoria Snapshots,  
 the city's electronic newsletter,  
 at [www.peoriaaz.gov/e-news](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/e-news).

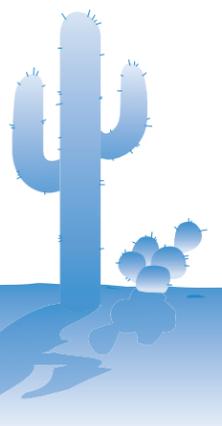
# PEORIA FOCUS

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**Building Peoria is a biannual update about major city construction projects.**

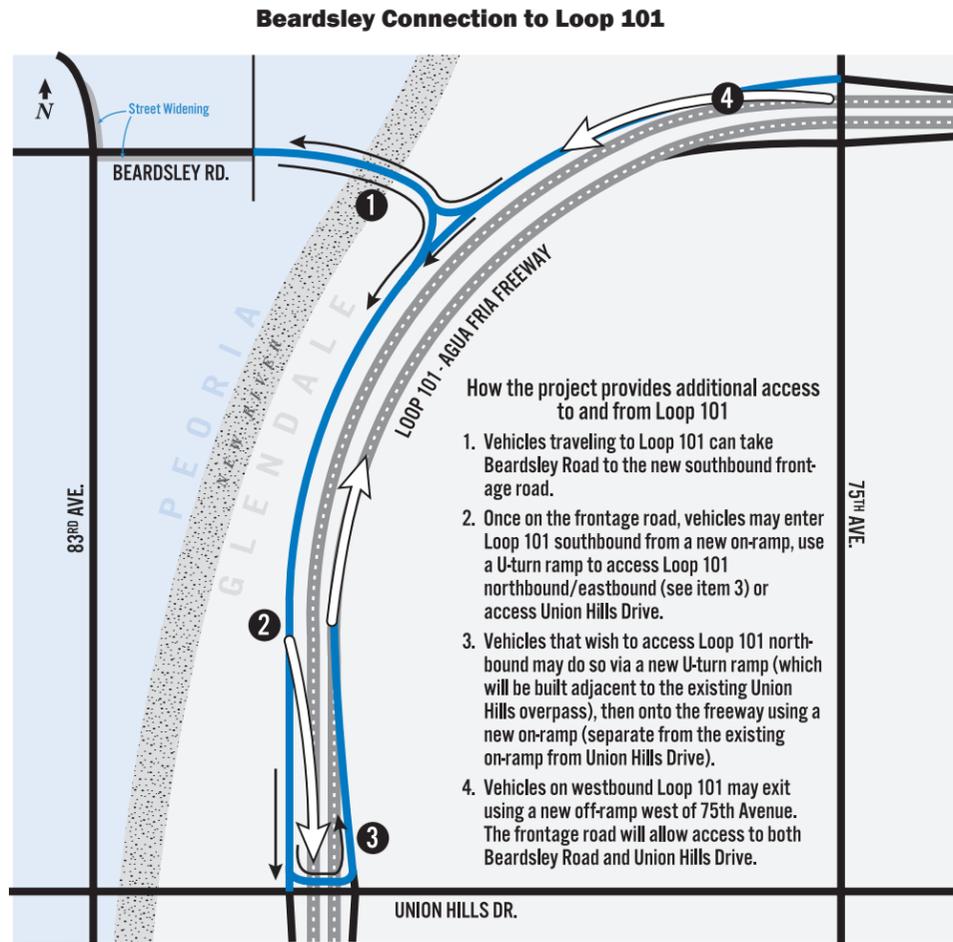
**Find more information online at:**  
[www.peoriaaz.gov/BuildingPeoria](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/BuildingPeoria)

## Beardsley Connection to Loop 101 Enters Final Design Phase

Motorists in Peoria are a step closer to easier freeway access via the long-anticipated Beardsley Connection to Loop 101. Work this spring and summer will pave the way for construction to begin in the fall.

“We’ve kicked off final design and currently are working for construction to begin in the fall of 2007,” says Chris Kmetty, the senior civil engineer who is managing the project for Peoria. Some of the unseen tasks in this final design phase are ground testing at the site, state and federal environmental permitting, designing the bridges and roadway, and planning for lighting and drainage. The other major activity for 2007 is acquiring the land needed for the freeway connection.

The Beardsley Connection is expected to ease the pressure on the Loop 101 interchanges at 75th Avenue and at Union Hills Drive by extending Beardsley Road east of 83rd Avenue and across New River to link up with a one-way frontage road to be built alongside Loop 101.



The project will be built in three phases. Initial construction will improve Beardsley Road between 83rd and 81st avenues. The second phase – which will include a bridge over New River – will run east from 81st Avenue to the edge of Loop 101. The final stage – the frontage road, crossover and

ramps – will be built by the Arizona Department of Transportation.

The current estimate for completion of the \$30 million project is the fall of 2010, says Kmetty, who will invite the public to meetings this summer to talk about the construction that lies ahead.



**Rio Vista Recreation Center will be home to a number of firsts for the city when it opens this summer, including the first public indoor climbing wall - all 20-plus feet of it.**

## Rio Vista Recreation Center Update

Peoria’s first recreation center, under construction at Rio Vista Community Park (west of Loop 101, north of Thunderbird Road), is scheduled to open late this summer.

The center will be home to Peoria’s first public indoor gymnasium, first indoor climbing wall and first indoor racquetball courts.

Other features include a full indoor exercise facility, basketball/volleyball courts, an indoor track for jogging or walking, on-site child care for the tiny tots and an adventure center for older kids and teens.

## Construction of Happy Valley Road Extension Starts This Year

Construction of the missing segment of Happy Valley Road between 91st Avenue and Terramar Boulevard is scheduled to begin by the end of the year.



This new link to Peoria’s street network will provide a vital east-west route across the city, creating additional options for traffic now using Lake Pleasant Parkway, 83rd Avenue, 67th Avenue and Deer Valley Road.

The first improvements will include one lane of roadway in each direction plus bike lanes, street lighting, landscaping, drainage and a 16-inch water line. Eventually, this pavement

will serve as the three westbound lanes of what ultimately will be a six-lane roadway.



## Street, Traffic and Drainage Projects



### 83rd Avenue & Pinnacle Peak Road Intersection

Intersection widening to accommodate one through lane in each direction and a left turn lane, plus traffic signal installation. Other improvements: curb, gutter, sidewalk ramps and street lighting.

**Status:** *Completed March 2007*



### Happy Valley Road, 91st Avenue to Terramar Boulevard

Extension of Happy Valley Road between 91st Avenue and Terramar Boulevard. Initial construction will include one lane of roadway in each direction, plus bike lanes, street lighting, landscaping, drainage and a 16-inch water line. This pavement ultimately will serve as the three westbound lanes of what will become a six-lane roadway.

**Status:** *Land acquisition in progress*

**Estimated Construction Start:** *Fall 2007*



### Beardsley Connection to Loop 101

Extending Beardsley Road from 81st Avenue across New River to a one-way frontage road on the west side of Loop 101 from 75th Avenue to Union Hills Drive. A U-turn bridge over Loop 101 adjacent to the Union Hills Drive overpass will allow frontage road traffic to access the northbound/eastbound lanes of Loop 101, while southbound traffic may access the freeway from a new on-ramp.

**Status:** *Final design & land acquisition in progress*

**Estimated Construction Start:** *Winter 2007*



### Pinnacle Peak Road Drainage Improvements, 83rd Avenue to 91st Avenue

Improvements will capture drainage in the area north of Pinnacle Peak Road between 83rd and 91st avenues and convey it via existing pipes to New River. Project elements include storm drains, laterals, catch basins and two large retention basins.

**Status:** *Utility relocation in progress*

**Estimated Construction Start:** *Spring 2007*



### Lake Pleasant Parkway, 95th Avenue to Williams Road

Construction of two northbound and two southbound lanes on Lake Pleasant Parkway between 95th Avenue and Williams Road. In addition to the roadway improvements, the project will include bike lanes, street lighting, traffic signals, median curbs, box culverts and landscaping. The developer of the Camino a Lago South subdivision is paying for and managing this project.

**Status:** *Construction contract awarded*

**Estimated Completion:** *Summer 2008*



### Rose Garden Lane Drainage Channel

The Rose Garden Lane Channel is one of several individual drainage projects recommended in the Glendale-Peoria Area Drainage Master Plan. This project will intercept drainage north of Rose Garden Lane and west of 95th Avenue and convey the flow to the Agua Fria River. Project elements include a drainage channel, box culverts, laterals, catch basins and a large retention basin.

**Status:** *Construction contract in bid process*

**Estimated Construction Start:** *Summer 2007*



### Thunderbird Road Widening

The southern half of the roadway (the eastbound lanes) will be expanded from two to three lanes from Loop 101 to 94th Drive, while the northern half (the westbound lanes) will be expanded from two to three lanes from Loop 101 to 91st Avenue. The bridge over New River will also be widened. Other planned improvements include a raised landscaped median, sidewalks and bike lanes from 91st Avenue to Rio Vista Boulevard.

**Status:** *Final design underway*

**Estimated Construction Start:** *Fall 2008*



### 83rd Avenue & Thunderbird Road Intersection

Street widening and intersection improvements to add turn and acceleration lanes. The Arizona Department of Transportation will manage construction of this project.

**Status:** *Utility relocation underway*

**Estimated Construction Start:** *Summer 2007*

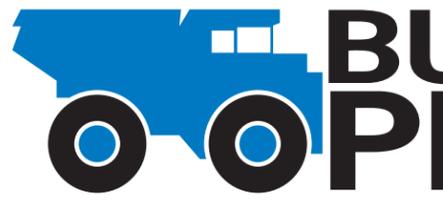


### 67th Avenue Improvements, Olive Avenue to Thunderbird Road

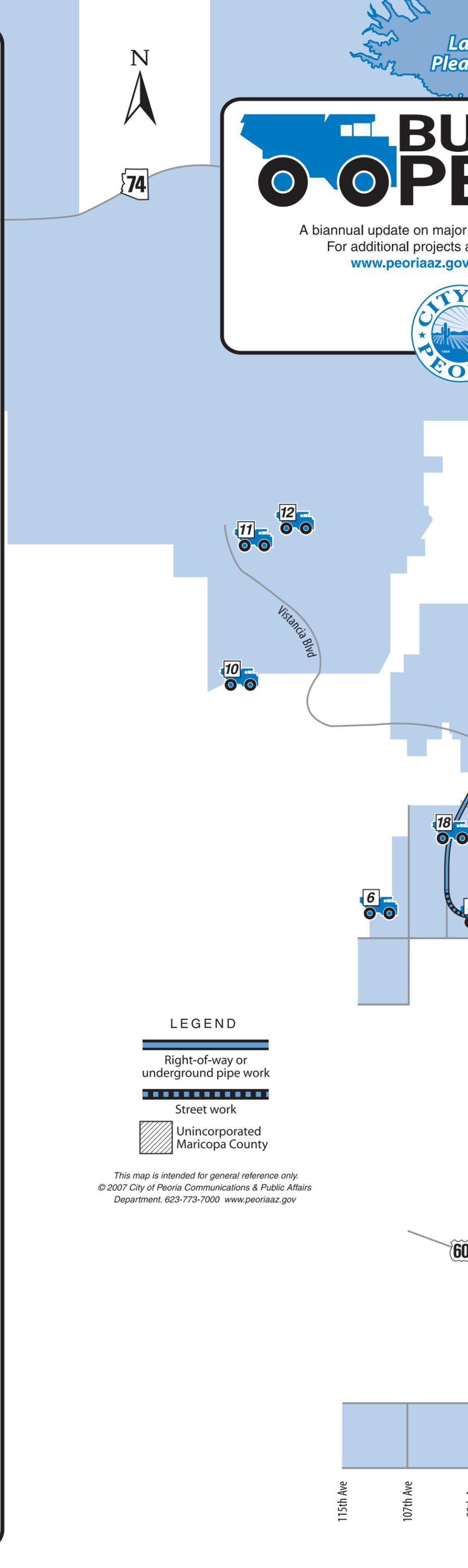
The cities of Peoria and Glendale are cooperating to complete drainage, street and right-of-way improvements along 67th Avenue between Olive Avenue and Bell Road. Improvements include: intersection widening at Olive Avenue, Cactus Road and Thunderbird Road; storm drain improvements north of Peoria Avenue; street light installation; landscape and irrigation system improvements; and curb, gutter, sidewalk and paving improvements.

**Status:** *Final design and land acquisition is underway*

**Estimated Construction Start:** *Summer 2007*

A biannual update on major  
For additional projects a  
[www.peoriaaz.gov](http://www.peoriaaz.gov)

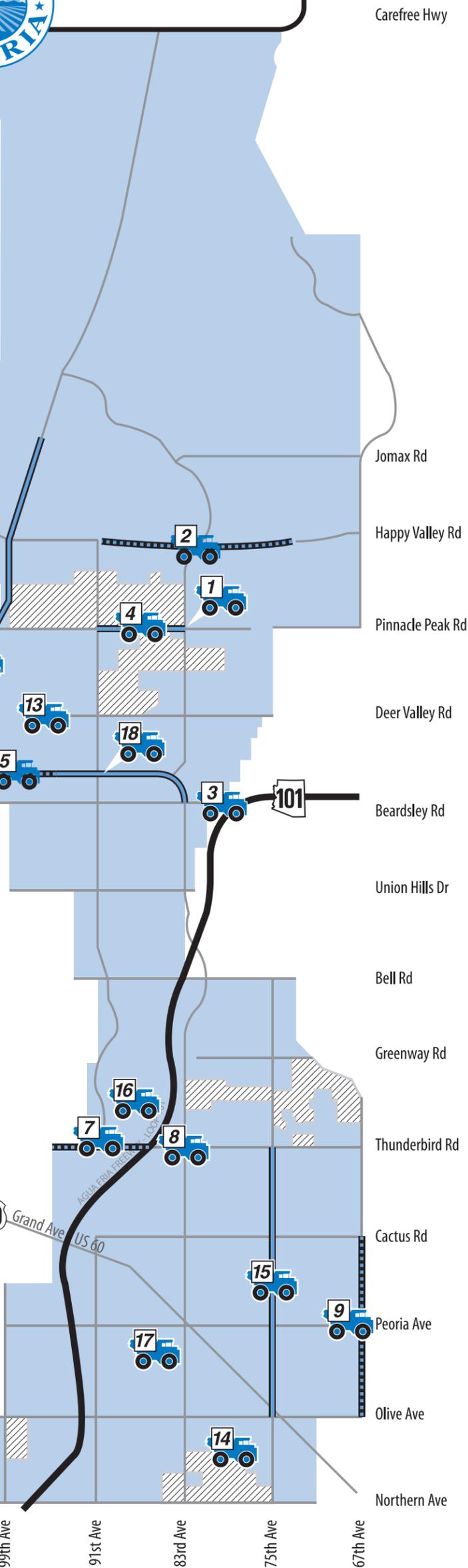
#### LEGEND

-  Right-of-way or underground pipe work
-  Street work
-  Unincorporated Maricopa County

This map is intended for general reference only.  
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# BUILDING PEORIA

city construction projects.  
and information, visit:  
[BuildingPeoria](http://BuildingPeoria)



## Parks, Facilities, Water and Wastewater Projects



### Jomax Water Reclamation Facility

The Jomax Water Reclamation Facility expansion will increase treatment capacity from 750,000 gallons per day to 2.25 million gallons per day. The facility serves Vistancia and future development in the area.

**Status:** Construction in progress

**Estimated Completion:** Spring 2008



### Twin Buttes Water Treatment Plant

The plant will treat water from the Central Arizona Project canal west of the Agua Fria River to serve northwest Peoria.

**Status:** Final design begins Summer 2007

**Estimated Construction Start:** Summer 2009



### West Agua Fria Water & Wastewater Lines

Construction of water transmission pipelines and wastewater interceptor pipelines in the area of Peoria located west of the Agua Fria River in Vistancia. These lines will be sized to meet the needs of the Vistancia development and other future developments planned in the area.

**Status:** Construction in progress

**Estimated Completion:** Spring 2008



### Deer Valley Road Sewer

Design and construction of a 24-inch sanitary sewer line along Deer Valley Road from Lake Pleasant Parkway to 91st Avenue. This sewer will provide service to the Camino a Lago project and additional capacity to serve the area.

**Status:** Construction in progress

**Estimated Completion:** Spring 2008



### Butler Water Reclamation Facility

The facility will treat 10 million gallons of wastewater a day when completed in 2008. The treated effluent will flow by pipeline to a facility being built by Salt River Project near Bethany Home Road and New River, where it will percolate back into the aquifer. This process will allow the city to claim groundwater recharge credits through which it can draw potable water through its well system. At \$121 million, the Butler plant is the largest capital project in Peoria's history.

**Status:** Construction in progress

**Estimated Completion:** Fall 2008



### 75th Avenue Water Line

Construction of a 16-inch water line along 75th Avenue from Thunderbird Road to Olive Avenue. This water line will provide service to the southern areas of Peoria located east of the Agua Fria River.

**Status:** Construction in progress

**Estimated Completion:** Summer 2007



### Rio Vista Recreation Center

Construction of a 50,000-square-foot recreation center that will include two gymnasiums, an indoor walking/jogging track, a rock climbing wall, an aerobics room, an exercise room, a weight room, a child watch area, classrooms, locker rooms and a large meeting & conference room with outdoor patios to accommodate groups up to 350 people.

**Status:** Construction in progress

**Estimated Completion:** Summer 2007



### Development & Community Services Building

This 75,000-square-foot facility on the southwest corner of the municipal campus will house the Community Development, Community Services, Engineering, Public Works (Administration) and Utilities departments. Customer access to the city's development counters and parks & recreation office will be much improved thanks to a substantial parking area directly in front of the building.

**Status:** Construction in progress

**Estimated Completion:** Winter 2007



### Lake Pleasant Parkway Right-of-Way Landscaping

Design and installation of median landscaping along Lake Pleasant Parkway from 83rd Avenue and Union Hills Drive to 95th Avenue, and from Williams Road to Pinnacle Vista Road.

**Status:** Construction contract in bid process

**Estimated Construction Start:** Summer 2007

# City of Peoria Construction Lingo

Consult this list to help understand some of the terms found in city construction documents.

## **Bonds**

A method for financing construction projects. When “selling” bonds, the city actually is borrowing money to finance construction projects – an action that can happen only with approval from the city’s voters. The bonds are paid off (the loans are repaid) through a dedicated funding source such as the secondary property tax rate, water rate or wastewater rate.

## **Box Culvert**

Structures built beneath roadways as conduits for buried storm water or sanitary sewers.

## **Capital Improvement Program**

The city’s 10-year plan for construction and financing of facilities and infrastructure.

## **Catch Basin**

A curbside opening that collects rainwater from streets and serves as an entry point to the storm drain system.

## **City Transportation Sales Tax**

A three-tenths-cent (\$.03) sales tax collected in Peoria and used exclusively to fund transportation projects and programs. Approved by the city’s voters in September 2005.

## **County Half-Cent Transportation Sales Tax**

A half-cent countywide sales tax used to fund regional transportation projects such as freeways, bus routes and major arterial streets. In Peoria, this fund helps pay for projects such as the Beardley Connection to Loop 101.

## **Design-Build**

A construction method through which a single contractor is responsible for both design and construction of a project. Considered an alternative to the traditional design-bid-build process, design-build reduces project schedules and improves efficiency because all participants of the process (such as architects, engineers and contractors) are in regular contact.

## **Design Concept Report (DCR)**

Through the Design Concept Report process, project parameters are defined and different construction alternatives are compared and contrasted. Once a Design Concept Report is finished, the project moves into the Final Design phase.

## **Development Impact Fees**

Fees paid by developers to reflect the incremental cost of expanding city infrastructure to support new development.

## **Final Design**

The final design of a project from which construction documents will be created.

## **General Obligation Bonds**

A method of financing city construction projects (see “Bonds”), general obligation bonds are used to finance construction of general city infrastructure and facilities, and are repaid through the city’s secondary property tax rate.

## **Half Street**

New streets are often constructed one-half at a time. For example, a developer building a large shopping center may be required to build the roadway adjacent to the development – the half street. This half street will be configured to allow traffic to move in both directions until the second half of the street is completed.

## **Lateral**

A drainage pipe that transfers flow into a main drainage line.

## **Notice to Proceed (NTP)**

Authorization for a contractor to begin construction.

## **Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**

Maricopa County’s Regional Transportation Plan provides a broad vision for the regional transportation system for the next two decades, addressing freeways and other highways, streets, transit, airports, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, freight, demand management and system management, including intelligent transportation systems and safety. Learn more at [www.mag.maricopa.gov/project.cms?item=411](http://www.mag.maricopa.gov/project.cms?item=411).

## **Retention Basin**

An area built to collect and retain storm-water runoff.

## **Revenue Bonds**

A method of financing city construction projects (see “Bonds”), revenue bonds are used to finance construction of water or wastewater infrastructure and are repaid through water or wastewater rates.

## **Right of Way**

Publicly owned land within which roads or underground infrastructure (such as water or wastewater lines) are built.

## **Traffic Signal Warrants**

Traffic signal warrants are a set of criteria used to determine whether a traffic signal can be installed safely at a particular intersection.

## **Utility Relocation**

When building a road or other city project, underground or overhead utility infrastructure such as fiber-optic cable and electric power lines often must be relocated. This is a potentially time-consuming element of city construction projects.

## **Value Engineering**

A process through which the conceptual design of a project is carefully compared with the ultimate project goals in order to ensure the project will deliver maximum value for minimum cost.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## **How do I report streets in need of repair?**

Request service online at [www.peoriaaz.gov/streetrepair](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/streetrepair), or call the Public Works Streets Division at 623-773-7432 (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

## **How do I request paving or re-paving on my street?**

The Public Works Streets Division (623-773-7432) will take requests for paving or re-paving and refer them to the pavement maintenance supervisor. (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

## **How do I request a sidewalk or sidewalk repair on my street?**

Request service online at [www.peoriaaz.gov/streetrepair](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/streetrepair), or call the Public Works Streets Division at 623-773-7432 (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

## **How do I find out what streets or lanes are closed because of road construction?**

Sign up to have updates e-mailed to you by visiting [www.peoriaaz.gov/e-news](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/e-news), then check mark the “Road Closures” box and follow the instructions. Or, visit the city’s street restrictions page ([www.peoriaaz.gov/engineering](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/engineering)), then click “Traffic Engineering,” then “Road Closures”).

## **How do I report loud noise caused by construction work?**

Call Code Compliance at 623-773-7162 (Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). After hours or weekends, call the Police Department non-emergency line at 623-773-8311.

## **How do I report excess dust from a construction project?**

Signs are posted at each construction site with contact information to report complaints or concerns. If no such sign is posted, call Code Compliance at 623-773-7162.

## **I’m concerned about speeding and cut-through traffic in my neighborhood. What can I do?**

The Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP) is designed to reduce speeding and cut-through traffic by partnering neighborhood leaders with the city’s traffic management staff. For more information on the program, visit [www.peoriaaz.gov/NTMP](http://www.peoriaaz.gov/NTMP) or call 623-773-7394.

