

BALANCED BUDGET BRINGS VALUE TO PEORIA RESIDENTS



When you live inside the borders of a city, I believe that you should feel confident that the taxes you pay bring real value to your family, benefit your wellbeing and reflect your interests.

To ensure this happens, the city of Peoria must be laser-focused on financial management and transparency. Fortunately, we are. We balance our budget every year, and we adhere fully to the Principles of Sound Financial Management, a policy document that assures fiscally healthy planning, economic efficiency and effectiveness.

The Fiscal Year 2020 Budget of \$685 million provides funding for all the things that matter most to our citizens, while maintaining existing assets and planning for the future. The FY 2020 budget has no increase to the property tax rate or the retail sales tax rate.

Public safety remains a top priority. The Fire-Medical Department will add seven new firefighters and one more ambulance. Taking the ambulance service in-house has been a successful endeavor that provides our residents with shorter response times and continuity of the high-quality care of Peoria's Fire-Medical personnel. This budget also provides our police officers with the equipment they need to keep themselves and Peoria citizens safe. New vehicles and body worn cameras will help our first responders serve Peoria residents to the fullest through community-based policing.

Community enhancements include construction of Paloma Community Park, an extension of our trails and bike paths, and upgrades to playground equipment to accommodate accessibility of all children.

Peoria is only halfway built out and, as we continue to grow, it is imperative that we apply accurate forecasting and sensible planning. Council and I approved a new 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) of \$751.3 million. The CIP includes notable projects to enhance our assured water supply, such as an expansion of the Pyramid Peak Water Reclamation Facility, and an increase of reclaimed water infrastructure throughout our city. Water is critical to our desert community and these improvements will ensure it is protected for future generations.

In addition, we continue to maintain more than 1,400 lane miles of roadway, 1,000 miles of sidewalk, and 122 signalized intersections through a combination of maintenance programs in the capital program.

Every day we are working to meet today's demands, while planning for our best future. In the coming year, we will take action on two important projects: Transit and Shade Master Plans. We are also moving forward with a homeless outreach program that combines support, enforcement, and regional resources.

Council and I remain committed to ensuring every hard-earned tax dollar brings the most value possible to each citizen who lives within our borders. I'm pleased that this fully balanced budget is designed to do just that; and with this budget, Peoria has upheld its reputation as a fiscally sound city with prudent financial policies in place. To learn more about our FY 2020 budget, visit www.peoriaaz.gov/budget.

I want to hear your thoughts on how to make our city an even better place to live. Share your ideas at mayor@peoriaaz.gov, or stay connected with me on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. I've also developed two monthly newsletters to help ensure everyone who has an interest in our city, knows exactly what is going on. Whether you're a longtime resident or new to our community, these newsletters are for you! Sign up for my Your City Your Mayor Newsletter at www.peoriaaz.gov/mayorsnewsletter or my Peoria Insider Newsletter at www.peoriaaz.gov/peoriainsider.

— Mayor Cathy Carlat

CITY COUNCIL ROUNDUP

MESQUITE DISTRICT - VICE MAYOR BRIDGET BINSBACHER



Over the past year, I have been working closely with my constituents, businesses and community partners to understand and respond to their needs and concerns in the Mesquite District. The district has been busy with new developments, transportation options and even public art! The diversity of projects and accomplishments for the district is part of what makes this district so unique.

The most exciting piece of development news has been the groundbreaking for Peoria's newest park, Paloma Community Park. This park will bring long-awaited amenities to the surrounding area, including baseball and soccer fields, multi-use turf, a fishing lake, inclusive playgrounds, a splash pad, picnic ramadas, a multi-cell dog park and lighted pickleball courts. The park will be located east of Lake Pleasant Parkway at Dixileta Road and completion for phase one construction is set for late summer 2020. I strongly encourage everyone to stay involved with this project as it moves into phase two, where a public engagement process will accompany the final designs. The park will be approximately 120 acres when both phases are completed and undoubtedly will have an amazing impact on the community.

Peoria also added another new resource for residents this past year in the form of a local circulator. Peoria on the Go (POGO) is a new circulator bus that launched in April and provides local residents and visitors with easy connections to surrounding services, and activity and recreation centers. POGO operates from Bell Road to Happy Valley Road, Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and it is free of charge. I am excited that Peoria is expanding transportation options for its residents. This service benefits those who do not have the luxury of a private vehicle, such as high school students going to work or those living in our senior communities. As this new program moves forward, we hope to see an extension of service hours and days to allow additional opportunities for riders to enjoy stress-free commuting.

There is a lot happening in the district and it is my goal to ensure that everyone can stay engaged so that together we can create the best future for Peoria. I will always work with residents to bring quality projects to the district that will enhance quality of life and property values. To stay connected, sign up at peoriaaz.gov/mesquite.

ACACIA DISTRICT - MAYOR PRO TEM VICKI HUNT



A flurry of new development is rushing through the Acacia District! Make time, if you haven't visited Old Town Peoria in the past few months. Two of the community's most historic buildings are now beehives of activity. The historic lumberyard on 83rd Avenue is now a thriving coffee shop and community church. The local meeting spot that I've dreamed of since I took office years ago, Driftwood Coffee, also sports a wonderful outdoor patio, complete with a soothing water fountain. The Hood Building at Washington and 83rd Avenue just reopened to the public as a studio. The interior of Iron Key Studio seems too good to be true – ageless décor with unique lighting.

Beyond Old Town, we've successfully assisted several communities with transportation issues such as parking and access to major roadways. Peoria's first covered Park and Ride facility will soon be ready to serve mass transit users, having taken over the parcel where a long vacant convenience store was located. And as the fall season approaches, look for Second Saturdays, our new monthly outdoor entertainment series located near Osuna Park. These free community events feature local musicians, local food trucks and local artists during the Valley's most beautiful time of year.

Let me know if I can help at any sort of community meeting where residents have questions. Contact my office at **623.773.7306** or by email at acacia@peoriaaz.gov. To begin receiving Acacia E-News, send an email with "subscribe" in the subject line. We won't share your contact information, but you will get timely updates about local news.

IRONWOOD DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER BILL PATENA



It has been an honor for me to serve the Ironwood District as councilmember for the past year once again. I have worked hand in hand with city staff and constituents to ensure the needs of the community are being met.

This past year, my focus has been aimed at giving back to the community and honoring those who served us.

The city took great strides this year to enhance Peoria's Veterans Memorial. These efforts were recognized when Engineering News Record (ENR) Southwest, a technical publication for construction industry professionals, named the Peoria Veterans Memorial as ENR Southwest's Landscape/Urban Development 2018 Best Project. Of course, we didn't stop there. Instead, we added a new feature to the memorial, remembering those who served in the Vietnam War. The new memorial is represented by a full-size Huey helicopter and was dedicated in honor of former Arizona Senator John McCain. Over the next year, we are working on expanding the Senator John McCain Vietnam Veterans Memorial Plaza by adding shade and seating to create a serene environment for visitors.

Providing for those who are in need is at the core of my mission, which is why I'm very excited for the opening of the first Peoria Community Resource Center. The center will provide personal consultation and referrals to match needs with the most appropriate and helpful services available. The Resource Center is on track to open its doors on June 27, 2019. Examples of non-profit groups that will operate out of the center include Benevilla, Stepping Up for Seniors, AZ@Work, Foundation for Senior Living, and Medicare Planning Solutions.

There is a lot to look forward to in the Ironwood District for the upcoming year. Street-scene improvements for our neighbors in the auto district will soon be coming. Improvements include way-finding signage, monument signage, gateway features, lighting, and landscaping. Additionally, in September, I encourage residents to make plans to see the Moving Wall, a half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. This incredible experience will be at Rio Vista Recreation Center from Sept. 5-9.

I am looking forward to another year serving as your councilmember in the Ironwood District. I always enjoy speaking with the residents of Peoria, and encourage you to contact me with any questions, concerns or comments at bill.patena@peoriaaz.gov or **623.773.7538**.

PALO VERDE DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER MICHAEL FINN



Serving as councilmember to the Palo Verde District has provided opportunities to see improvements in our district, notably the improvements to Sweetwater Park. With the Capital Improvement Program's refresh and refurbishment fund-

ing, the park now includes unique features such as a zip line and accessible play structures. In addition, other parks in the Palo Verde District will receive a fresh coat of paint to structures, repair and replacement of chain link fencing around the tennis courts, resurfacing of the

tennis/basketball courts, LED retrofit to site lighting and a landscape refresh. All of these enhancements will make the parks enjoyable for families to use.

The city completed a capital improvement project to increase the turn lane capacity on Thunderbird Road from Loop 101 to 83rd Avenue. Additionally, the city continues to work on traffic signal timing on the entire Thunderbird Road corridor from Plaza Del Rio through 75th Avenue. The city is also planning the construction of a new traffic signal at Ludlow (north of Thunderbird) and 83rd Avenue this coming year that will assist in the access from the shopping center at the northeast corner of 83rd and Thunderbird that includes the Dutch Brothers, Starbucks and new apartments.

Residents may have also noticed the maintenance and repairs to walls in parts of the District, which included powerwash, stucco and painting. These improvements make our already beautiful district truly shine.

I continue to work with our Police Department in areas where speeding is an issue. Our code compliance team does a great job in making sure that any code violations are monitored, corrected and meet compliance. Residents can always report issues at **623.773.7226**.

Upon my re-election, I look forward to serving the Palo Verde District over the next four years. If you would like to receive my e-news updates, sign up at www.peoriaaz.gov/paloverde or contact me at **623.773.7785**.

PINE DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER DENETTE DUNN



Since taking office on April 29, I have hit the ground running. I led a group of our department directors on a tour of the Pine District to address the concerns I have heard from our community for over a year. I am highly encouraged by

our discussions and the willingness on their part to work with me to get these needs resolved. In addition, each of the councilmembers have agreed to ride with me in the Pine District and share our collective concerns on what needs to be addressed.

I encourage everyone to get to know me. I am available and want to meet with you and get to know each other. I feel very strongly about staying engaged and having a community that will communicate and work together. We are a diverse population with varying needs. I value and am making public health and safety a priority. It is Peoria's duty to provide a clean, well-maintained city for all! I am working to clean up vacant lots, get a substantial pavement repairs and maintenance plan for the Pine District. We are currently updating Country Meadows Park and going to expand the amenities. All of this will help contribute to and attract new economic development opportunities that pay living wages to our workforce in Peoria.

I enjoy working with people and genuinely want our community to know, I am working hard on your behalf.

I recently hosted a Meet and Greet, which promoted great dialogue between residents and city staff from fire, police, parks, streets and code compliance. The issues presented at this meeting will assist us in knowing what areas our services are exceeding and which areas need improvement. I look forward to continuing dialogue with residents at future community meetings. For more news and updates, sign up for e-news updates at www.peoriaaz.gov/pine.

WILLOW DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER JON EDWARDS



This last year has been as busy as any since taking office seven years ago. Keeping watch over managed new development affecting Willow residents has been dizzying. The Meadows community, near 91st Avenue and Deer

Valley is nearing build-out as Peoria's largest infill development. Covering nearly 700 acres with almost 2000 units, this beautiful neighborhood sets new standards for design and amenities. The Meadows Park will be Peoria's newest neighborhood asset, built in partnership with the community's developer. Four Seasons at Ventana Lakes, near 107th Avenue and Beardsley, is already on the second phase of development, as homes are selling almost as fast as they can be built. The Deseo development just recently broke ground near 71st Avenue and Pinnacle Peak with a small, semi-custom neighborhood.

Reconstruction of 107th Avenue was completed this year north of Union Hills. By the end of 2019 we will have started the improvements on the Union Hills project between 107th and 111th avenues. In cooperation with Maricopa County, new turn lanes will be built, along with the addition of curb and gutter. Soon construction will begin on the initial stages for Peoria's preparation on Deer Valley Road for the county bridged crossing over the Agua Fria River. The bridged crossing will likely kick off in the near future, and we plan to have the round-about ready at 109th Avenue when the bridge is completed. We've worked diligently this year to manage traffic near schools. Hillcrest Drive was recently resurfaced and restriped, following last year's waterline replacement. The new striping should help with the parking queue for local elementary schools. Traffic signals on 83rd Avenue were replaced to better manage left turns near Sunrise Mountain High School and at Deer Valley Road.

The city's federally required redistricting brought the Terramar, Talas and Copper Creek communities into the Willow District. It's been my pleasure to get acquainted with residents at community meetings, PTSO gatherings and local events. Please continue to share your input and inquiries, as I learn more about neighborhoods that are new to the Willow District.

Regular communication with residents is important. Follow the Willow District on Facebook and Instagram. The Willow E-News is free for subscribers – email me at willow@peoriaaz.gov and put "Subscribe" in the subject line.

TRASH/RECYCLING PICKUP HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Trash and recycling pickup will change due to the Independence Day holiday.

Independence Day (July 4)

Thursday, July 4 moves
to Friday, July 5.

Friday, July 5 moves
to Saturday, July 6.

For the full 2019 trash/recycle pickup schedule, call **623-773-7160** or visit peoriaaz.gov/solidwaste.