

PEORIA NOW

JULY 2016

www.peoriaaz.gov/news



A monthly publication of city-centered news and current events for the citizens of Peoria, Arizona.

Monsoon Season is Here



June 15 was the first day of monsoon season in Arizona. Here are some tips to keep your home and family safe during a storm:

- Trim heavy branches and landscape that may fall and cause damage in high winds.
- Clear curbs and gutters so storm water can flow freely away from your home.
- Stay indoors during electrical storms.
- Keep fresh batteries and flashlights handy.
- Don't go around barricades or enter flooded washes and streets.

For more information about blocked streets or drainage problems, call the Peoria Streets Department at **623-773-7432** (daytime) or **623-773-8311** (weekends and after hours).

P83 PARTY
Peoria Sports Complex
16101 N. 83rd Ave.
Peoria

Featuring



TYLER FARR

**Sunday, October 2
1 - 6 p.m.**

For more info, visit
www.P83az.com/party
or call 623-773-7137





Strong Budget for FY17



Cities are in the business of delivering quality of life to their residents, and I'm sure you'll agree that Peoria is the best place to live. People want to live here - that's why our growth is among the highest in the Valley.

I'm pleased to report our city is fiscally strong, our budget is stable, our neighborhoods are safe, and our services are reliable and affordable.

Moving Peoria forward into the future with a solid economic foundation is only done when your representatives to government put aside petty political gamesmanship and work together on common goals to build the Peoria of the future, work very hard to listen and respond to their constituents and refuse to hold the community

back, mired in fighting and dispute.

To that end, our council works to spend tax dollars wisely and conservatively, bring more good paying jobs to Peoria, provide quality services and maintain and enhance our quality of life.

I want to hear your ideas on how to make our city an even better place to live. Have coffee with me at my Morning with the Mayor events, send me an email at cathy.carlat@peoriaaz.gov, or stay connected with Facebook and Twitter.

Mayor Cathy Carlat
cathy.carlat@peoriaaz.gov

City Council Roundup

Mesquite District - Vice Mayor Bridget Binsbacher



After listening and working closely with residents, I've been able to include and expedite many projects for Mesquite residents in the budget to accommodate growth in our district and enhance quality of life. I'm pleased to report that we passed a conservative, balanced budget with improved services for citizens, but strictly denying any tax increases.

Bikers rejoice! The widening of Agua Fria bridge and roadway from Lake Pleasant Parkway to the bridge will begin soon. Design comes first in the next few months, with construction beginning shortly after.

A new streetlight on Happy Valley Road has been approved. This will impact shoppers turning west bound (left) out of the Target shopping center. The design phase will start next fiscal year with construction planned the following year.

Residents will also soon see street widening, a new sidewalk and bike lanes on 83rd Avenue, from Happy Valley to West Wing Parkway, using federal funding. The design process will begin next year, with construction to follow.

Finally, the new community park will be a wonderful addition to our beautiful district. I will continue to seek your input on the amenities that you envision the community park to include.

I remain committed to protecting hard-earned tax dollars, fighting for public safety, ensuring safe neighborhoods and a high quality of life. I'd like to hear from you - register for e-alerts at www.peoriaaz.gov/mesquite or send me an email at mesquite@peoriaaz.gov.

Acacia District - Councilmember Vicki Hunt



The Acacia District is growing in all kinds of ways!

The Bungalows on Olive will soon break ground. Located at the southeast corner of 83rd Avenue and Olive Avenue, the Bungalows will bring 153 new residences to the Acacia District. The gated community will be near the Pioneer Park Lake, providing a unique local amenity for the private development. Construction is expected to begin in 2017, bringing much-needed new growth to the district. Coupled with the new Grand Manor development south of Grand Avenue, across from Peoria High School, just over 225 new residential units will come to the district.

The Lucidi Distilling Company became the first new business to open in Old Town Peoria in several years. Located in the city's former Fire Station No. 1, the distillery opened for business in March. People are coming from miles to sample the craft spirits and to enjoy the atmosphere of the nearly 100-year-old, refurbished fire station.

After a couple of years of work, the Peoria Town Center is once again open for business. State Trailer RV & Outdoor Supply purchased the former Wal-Mart site. The resulting retail and service center energized the entire shopping center, which was largely vacant for years. Additional tenants will open their doors in the next few months. This kind of commercial investment is just what the Acacia District needs.

It's my pleasure to share regular news and events through the Acacia District e-alerts. If you would like to subscribe to the e-alerts, email acacia@peoriaaz.gov and enter "Subscribe" in the subject line. We'll take it from there, and your email address will not be accessible to others.

Ironwood District – Councilmember Bill Patena



I am pleased to report the City of Peoria has made great progress over the last year with the addition of a Human Services Coordinator position that was funded in last year's budget. The purpose of

this position is to coordinate, develop, implement, manage and monitor program activities that provide social and/or human services. This is accomplished through collaboration with public, private and non-profit agencies. We currently work with more than 80 agencies to provide various human services to our residents. As I have said in the past, providing these social services to our residents is a top priority and a deep passion of mine. Due to the overwhelming success of this program, another Human Services Specialist position will be added in the new budget to provide enhanced services requested by our citizens.

Lastly, I encourage residents to contact me with any city questions, concerns or comments. Contact me at bill.patena@peoriaaz.gov or call my office at **623-773-7538**. Don't forget to sign up for your Ironwood District e-alerts by sending an email to www.peoriaaz.gov/ironwood.

Palo Verde District - Councilmember Michael Finn



It has been a privilege to serve with a council that works well together and is focused on goals that benefit Peoria residents. Most notably, we had a successful budget session that produced a balanced budget

with no tax levy increase.

Traffic continues to be a topic of concern for Palo Verde District residents. Staff will soon be evaluating the 83rd Avenue and Thunderbird Road intersection and surrounding area for potential improvements to address high traffic volumes. 79th Avenue and Thunderbird Road is currently under construction to improve access

and the 75th Avenue and Cactus Road intersection will be under construction within the next year. While the construction phase is a bit inconvenient, the outcome will definitely improve our commute.

Also, I remain vigilant in addressing egregious code violations on our roads, in particular weeds and yard signs. Earlier this year we were inundated with "going out of business" signs that were located and removed by our city code enforcement. You might have also noticed major improvements on weed abatement on the north side of Thunderbird Road. I will continue to address items like this and ask for your continued feedback on areas that need attention.

I enjoy communicating with residents on all topics that affect the district. If you are not registered to receive the e-alerts, please sign up at www.peoriaaz.gov/paloverde.

Pine District - Councilmember Carlo Leone



Communication is a priority of mine when it comes to serving my constituents. I am active in the community and like to know what is happening. One way I like to stay connected is by hosting community events such as identity theft shred events, park events, and community, HOA, and Block Watch meetings. I would love to be a guest at your next community meeting to give an update on what is happening in your city.

If you have some free time on your hands and are looking for volunteer opportunities, look no further than the City of Peoria. Please contact the Human Resources Department for more information at **623-773-7100**.

With summer upon us, it is important to find ways to stay cool. A great way to beat the Arizona heat is to take advantage of the city's public pools. The pools are located at Centennial, Peoria and Sunrise Mountain High Schools. For pricing and hours, contact the Community Services Department at **623-773-7137**. There are also fun activities and programs for all ages at the Peoria Community Center. One important program I would like to highlight is Summer Food Service. Children 18 and under may enjoy a free, hot meal Monday through Thursday from 4:30 to 5:15

p.m. and Fridays from 4 to 4:45 p.m. Accompanying parents can eat for \$3.75. For more information, please contact **623-487-5185**.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with any comments, questions or concerns. You may reach me at carlo.leone@peoriaaz.gov or **623-773-7538**. Also, don't forget to sign up for your Pine District e-alerts by sending an email to pine@peoriaaz.gov.

Willow District – Councilmember Jon Edwards



I often receive important feedback from residents about their community. This information helps me determine the needs of the community and provide an opportunity to work with staff to make improvements.

Many residents inquired about faded and mismatched paint on perimeter walls along major roadways because they take pride in their homes and communities. In the past year, we've painted walls in conjunction with scheduled roadway and right-of-way work.

Residents often suggest traffic improvements that will enhance their commute. As a result, new turn lanes have been installed at busy intersections near Sunrise Mountain High School and Lake Pleasant Parkway where it intersects with Deer Valley Road. Traffic is also flowing better due to traffic signal improvements near Liberty High School as well as at 107th Avenue and Deer Valley Road. These traffic modifications are not only timesavers, but they also provide safer road conditions.

Another issue I'm addressing is abandoned shopping carts left in neighborhoods. These "bandit carts" impact the perception residents and commuters have about our community. I have been working with city staff to enforce the city ordinance that makes it mandatory for retailers to at least have a vendor contract in place for retrieving the unattended carts.

I look forward to continuing communications with constituents. Your feedback is valuable. Stay connected by signing-up for your Willow District e-alerts by sending an email to willow@peoriaaz.gov.

How can I prevent water waste?

Adjust your sprinkler system to prevent runoff.

When your sprinkler system sprays faster than your lawn and landscape can absorb, precious water is wasted. Even a slight slope in your yard can encourage water to run off onto the sidewalk, gutter or street.

Prevent runoff by reducing watering time and increasing frequency, so grass, plants and trees can absorb the water they need without waste.



Visit www.smartirrigationmonth.org for smart ideas to save water and dollars.

