

**SUMMARY MINUTES
COMMUNITY BUDGET HEARING
COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 and DISTRICT 3
PARADISE VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER
APRIL 14, 2025 at 6:00 PM**

Assistant City Manager Inger Erickson opened the meeting at 6:00 pm and introduced interpreter Mario Barajas. Mr. Barajas introduced the second interpreter, Elsie Duarte, and provided instructions for residents requiring Spanish-language interpretation during the hearing.

Ms. Erickson introduced Councilwoman Debra Stark who thanked residents for attending and noted that the comments residents make help shape the budget. She referenced the prior year budget hearing comments about cricket fields and now there are cricket fields in the City of Phoenix. Councilwoman Stark opened the floor to Councilman Jim Waring who thanked residents for attending.

Ms. Erickson noted where to find additional information on the proposed FY 2025-26 Trial Budget, additional ways to provide budget feedback, and the next steps in the budget process.

Ms. Erickson requested the budget video presentation to be played.

After the video, Ms. Erickson opened the floor for public comment.

1. Chris Murphy expressed support for the Fire Department's budget to help with response times.
2. Tim Knobbe expressed his support for the increase in Transaction Privilege Tax (TPT) rate. He expressed support for the Fire Department's budget to help with response times.
3. Bill Scheel requested funding for a dedicated park ranger for Hance Park and strict enforcement of park rules. He expressed support for the budgeted funding for homelessness efforts.
4. Anne Ender expressed her support for the increase in the TPT rate but advocated earmarking the funds to support the Fire Department. Ms. Ender noted the poor condition of some public safety facilities.
5. LeeDell Bunton VI submitted a comment in support of the Fire Department's budget to help with response times.
6. Isaiah Vigil submitted a comment in support of the Fire Department's budget to help with response times.

7. Gabriel Santistevan submitted a comment in support of the Fire Department's budget to help with response times.
8. Abraham Gordillo-Aula submitted a comment in support of the Fire Department's budget to help with response times.
9. Michael Duffy submitted a comment in support of the Fire Department's budget to help with response times.
10. Bobby Holmes submitted a comment in support of the Fire Department's budget to help with response times.
11. Nancy Kroening provided a written comment about providing funds for memory café programs. Comment attached to minutes.

Councilwoman Debra Stark thanked the public for coming.

Councilman Jim Waring thanked the public for coming and the comments today will be compiled and given to council.

Ms. Erickson concluded the hearing at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Klich-Corbin
Budget and Research Analyst

To: City of Phoenix Budget Hearings Process

April 14, 2025

Paradise Valley Community Center

Re: Memory Cafe Programs

I admit I am mystified about the City's reluctance to assist families whose loved ones are suffering from the many kinds of dementias. The two groups meeting separately have been a big success until recently when every three months there is only one a month and the other months two and summer there will be none. Our people are very discouraged.

Yet I see invitations by the City for new teachers to be paid for a list of programs. I know that our loved ones can escape. But, we can find ways to keep them safe. Private groups are trying to fill the gaps, but it isn't the same as using our wonderful City facilities like Paradise Valley Senior Center. The need is huge as 62% of dementia caregivers die before their loved ones. Then, too often, the State has to step in for care.

We have several people who appear to be willing to lead caregiver groups around the City. I am a volunteer and love doing it. With up to 1/3rd of the population thought to going into dementia in senior years, it seems appropriate to help the community of caregivers to have fun and be together sharing ways to keep loved ones home instead of being put into care homes at great cost. The State also can save money this way. I request that funds be provided to allow us to have weekly Memory Cafe meetings again. They are so heart-warming and special. Thank you for your serious consideration.

Nancy (Frosty) Kroening [REDACTED]

Nancy Kroening