

**SUMMARY MINUTES  
COMMUNITY BUDGET HEARING  
COUNCIL DISTRICT 5  
MARYVALE COMMUNITY CENTER  
APRIL 8, 2025 at 6:00PM**

Deputy City Manager Ginger Spencer opened the meeting at 6:09 pm and introduced Councilmember Betty Guardado and Deputy Budget & Research Director Aaron Mertz. Ms. Spencer then introduced Spanish interpreters Mario Barajas, Elsie Duarte, and Caprice Moreno. Mr. Barajas provided instructions for residents requiring Spanish-language interpretation during the hearing.

Councilmember Guardado thanked various neighborhood leaders and provided a recap of new additions to the budget in recent years across various departments and the community impact of these additions.

Ms. Spencer thanked residents for their attendance and explained the purpose of the hearing, where to find additional information about the budget, and how to make a public comment.

A brief video on the proposed Trial Budget was played in English and then in Spanish.

Councilmember Guardado opened the floor for public comment.

1. Jorge Castaneda spoke about speeding issues on Indian School Road and requested photo enforcement cameras and other technology to address the speeding. He also requested additional resources to address issues related to a substance abuse clinic on 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Indian School.
2. Marco Marcial spoke in support of the gated alleys program and thanked residents for participating in the budget process.
3. Scott Crowley acknowledged the additional funding for the Fire Department that was provided through the TPT rate increase. He also advocated for additional resources for the Fire Department to reduce response times.
4. Daniel Gonzales expressed gratitude for the TPT rate increase and the additional resources that it provided to the Fire Department. He also advocated for additional resources for the Fire Department to reduce response times.
5. Monica Barriontos requested support for the Resolution for Thriving Communities and explained the directives of the proposed resolution. She expressed opposition to City resources being used to harm immigrants in the community.
6. Laura Rodriguez requested support for the Resolution for Thriving Communities and discussed concerns about the Police Department.

7. Lupita Mora requested support for the Resolution for Thriving Communities. She expressed opposition to City resources being used to harm immigrants in the community.
8. Yolanda Barrera requested support for the Resolution for Thriving Communities. She expressed opposition to City resources being used to harm immigrants in the community.
9. Mari Nori spoke about issues impacting her son in the justice system. She expressed opposition to City resources being used to harm immigrants in the community.
10. Estela Varela requested support for the Resolution for Thriving Communities. She expressed opposition to City resources being used to harm immigrants in the community.
11. Mike Nydes spoke in support of gated alleys and discussed the 1000<sup>th</sup> gated alley that was recently installed in District 5. He encouraged residents to support more gated alleys.
12. Shirley Dieckman thanked Councilmember Guardado for crime reduction efforts in the 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor and in Cielito Park. She spoke in support of gated alleys and requested additional funding for the program.
13. Terry Lofius advocated for more resources for the Fire and Police Departments. He also requested additional resources for automated traffic enforcement to address red light running across the City.
14. Magdalena Marin spoke about heat related issues impacting Maryvale residents. She advocated for more trees, green spaces, shade structures, and parks to address the heat.
15. Amanda Kaminskis spoke about heat-related issues impacting the unhoused community. She requested a Maryvale-specific heat plan and additional resources including trees, shade structures, green spaces, shaded bus stops, and other items to mitigate heat.
16. David Portugal expressed gratitude for the prioritizing of environmental investments in the proposed budget. He advocated for more heat relief, air quality, and equitable mobility resources in South & West Phoenix.
17. Dafne Cortez spoke about heat-related issues impacting Maryvale residents. She requested a Maryvale-specific heat plan and additional resources including heat resilient public spaces, shaded walkways, cooler bus stops, and more walkable streets.
18. Rosina Uribe spoke about heat-related issues impacting Maryvale residents. She requested a Maryvale-specific heat plan and additional resources to gather the community, plant more trees, and make more green spaces.
19. Samaria Winans spoke about heat-related issues impacting Maryvale residents and requested additional resources including water fountains and shade structures.
20. Josefa Ramirez requested additional resources to improve the aesthetics of Maryvale.
21. Hernan Acosta expressed gratitude for the gated alley program and thanked residents for attending the budget hearing. He also spoke about

the importance of parks in the neighborhood and advocated for protecting these spaces.

22. Luis Avila spoke about the impact of climate change in Maryvale and strategies to mitigate heat. He asked to partner with the City to develop a Maryvale-specific heat plan.
23. Elsa Osorio requested support for undocumented immigrants in the community.
24. Linda Blackford spoke in support of the gated alley program.
25. Kathy Stillman asked why there were fewer Phoenix police officers in 2025 than in 2008 despite growth in the City.
26. Jesse Ortega requested a Maryvale-specific heat plan and additional resources including more shaded areas and green spaces.
27. Mary Blas spoke in support of block watch and expressed support for the gated alley program. She discussed the success of gated alleys in her neighborhood.
28. Elizabeth Aguilar expressed gratitude for gated alleys in her community. She also requested funding for bike-friendly infrastructure at businesses and other facilities along the Grand Canalscape.

Councilmember Guardado thanked residents for attending and adjourned the meeting at 7:44pm.

Respectfully submitted,

James Nguyen  
Senior Budget & Research Analyst