

**SUMMARY MINUTES  
COMMUNITY BUDGET HEARING  
COUNCIL DISTRICT 8  
SOUTH MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY LIBRARY  
APRIL 7, 2025, 6:00 P.M.**

City Manager Jeff Barton opened the meeting at 6:06 p.m. and introduced Spanish-language interpreters Mario Barajas, Elsie Duarte and Caprice Moreno. Mr. Barajas provided instructions for residents requiring Spanish-language interpretation during the hearing.

Mr. Barton introduced Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington. Councilwoman Hodge Washington thanked residents for attending the hearing and expressed appreciation for residents' time and input on the budget.

Mr. Barton noted the importance of City budget hearings, how to provide comments, where to find additional information on the proposed FY 2025-26 Trial Budget, additional ways to provide budget feedback, and next steps in the budget process.

Mr. Barton requested that the budget video presentation be played. He opened the floor for public comments.

1. Christine Skowronek spoke in favor of parks, green infrastructure, heat resiliency, public transit, and transportation programs that promote cleaner air and pedestrian safety, especially in south and west Phoenix. She also expressed gratitude for the proposed Trial Budget.
2. Ginnie Ann Sumner expressed support for efforts to address red light running and speeding. She also commented in support of Graffiti Busters and its volunteers. She recommended more publicity for the Blight Busters volunteer and Graffiti Busters monthly report online and recommended a webpage that provides information about nonprofit organizations focused on homeless solutions.
3. Carlos A. Andrade commented in favor of funding for additional basketball courts, horse-shoe pits, youth programs, restrooms, and water fountains at Hayden Park to assist the youth in the area.
4. Tim Gammage spoke in favor of funding for additional Fire Department resources, fire stations and ambulances in District 8 to reduce response times. He thanked Councilwoman Hodge Washington for her support of the sales tax and bond program and the City Manager for the proposed Trial Budget.
5. Kedrick Ellison commented in support of fully funding the Library with no reduction.

6. Jess Bristow spoke in favor of capital improvement projects to improve parks, public transit, and street infrastructure in south and west Phoenix. She also expressed support for funding environmental programs, sustainable transportation, cool corridors, trees, heat relief for transit riders, shade at bus stops and light rail stations, electric buses, and pedestrian safety.
7. Jewel Clark submitted a card to support funding for water, sustainability and shade, climate, affordable housing as opposed to market rate housing and social justice.
8. Matt Shaughnessy submitted a card in favor of Fire crisis services.
9. Edward Joseph Wendler submitted a card in favor of additional dedicated public parking spaces at the South Mountain Park Mormon Trailhead and parking at 32<sup>nd</sup> Street at South Mountain Devastator Trailhead to address insufficient parking in the area.

Mr. Barton thanked residents for participating in the hearing. He announced upcoming Council meetings on the budget and adjourned the hearing at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Genevieve Siri  
Budget and Research Analyst