

**SUMMARY MINUTES  
COMMUNITY BUDGET HEARING  
IN-PERSON (SPANISH-LANGUAGE)  
MARYVALE COMMUNITY CENTER  
APRIL 16, 2025 at 6:00 PM**

Deputy City Manager Mario Paniagua opened the hearing at 6:10 p.m. and introduced interpreters Elsie Duarte and Caprice Moreno. Ms. Duarte provided instructions for residents requiring English-language interpretation during the hearing. Mr. Paniagua introduced Councilwoman Laura Paster, Councilwoman Betty Guardado, Councilman Carlos Galindo-Elvira, and Councilwoman-elect Anna Hernandez.

Councilwoman Guardado recognized the importance of budget hearings and stated she and her colleagues would be listening to the input from the hearing and making more informed decision making.

Councilwoman-elect Hernandez thanked her colleagues for including her in the budget hearings. She stated she will be listening to the concerns expressed during the hearing to ensure the budget aligns with community priorities.

A short video on the proposed Trial Budget was played. Mr. Paniagua opened the floor to public comment.

1. Scott Crowley expressed support for the Transaction Privilege Tax (TPT) increase noting it will provide necessary resources to the Fire Department.
2. Dafne Cortez stated the Maryvale community has the highest temperatures in the city during the summer months and advocated for more shade structures at bus stops and along walkways. Ms. Cortez asked for the development of a plan to ensure the hot temperatures are addressed.
3. Jorge Castaneda advocated for the implementation of speed radar enforcement.
4. April McCue expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
5. Maria Neri stated her son has a mental disability and was sentenced to 17 years in prison with few opportunities to thrive. She asked the City to help in whatever way they could.
6. Carrie Lorraine asked for an end to racial profiling and advocated for police accountability.
7. Italia Cuevas expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
8. Beatriz Rodriguez expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.

9. Sonia Almaraz expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
10. Amanda Everett expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
11. Josefa Ramirez stated she would like to see the Maryvale community have more shade and trees just like the cities of Tempe and Scottsdale.
12. Vanessa DiCarlo expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
13. Luis Avila stated the temperatures in Maryvale are 4-6 degrees higher than that of other communities in Phoenix. He advocated for the development of a plan to address this concern.
14. Laura Ramirez stated she is a veteran and after using a veteran crisis hotline had a negative experience with the Pheonix Police Department. As a result, she is asking not to increase the Police Department budget.
15. Angelina Maciel expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
16. Elsa Osorio expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
17. Ruth Kentigian advocated for a water safety program to address drowning.
18. David Marroquin expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
19. Laura Rodriguez expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
20. Berta Rita expressed support for the “Resolution for Thriving Communities” plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
21. Jason Smith expressed appreciation for the TPT increase noting it will provide the resources needed for the Fire Department to provide services to the community.
22. Dorian spoke in favor of supporting the Fire Department but does not want to increase the Police Department budget.
23. Tony Harris advocated for funding to support the Phoenix Fire Department to ensure there is assistance for unsheltered residents when they need it. He also advocated for the elimination of qualified immunity for police officers, to allow victims of police brutality to get justice.

Councilwoman-Elect Hernandez stated there are policymakers working towards repealing qualified immunity for police brutality.

24. John Paul Rwamboili asked for services dedicated to supporting immigrants to ensure they thrive in the United States.
25. Kakozi Bitukeandja expressed concern regarding homeless shelters that are at capacity and stated Police should consider a person's situation before issuing a ticket for public urination.
26. Sophia Carillo advocated funding public education programs.
27. Eddie Nunez asked for after-school transportation to community centers for students.
28. Elizabeth Venable asked for services to be communicated to residents in various languages to ensure those residents understand what is available.
29. Fidel Olguin thanked Councilwoman Guardado for addressing prostitution and drug sales near his home, making it safe for his children to play outside.
30. Patricia Nunez expressed support for the "Resolution for Thriving Communities" plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
31. Jacob Cortes submitted a comment in support of the Fire Department.
32. Hugo Lozada submitted a comment in opposition of deportation.
33. Alejandra Bucon submitted a comment in opposition to cutting the Library Department budget.
34. Relcha Noir submitted a comment in support for the "Resolution for Thriving Communities" plan proposed by the community organization Poder in Action.
35. Alicia Aquino Chavez submitted a comment in favor of increasing speedbumps, gated alleys, and services to address homelessness.
36. Rosa Menjivar submitted a comment in favor of street safety by using speed radar enforcement, increasing signage, and streetlights.

Councilwoman Guardado adjourned the hearing at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Destiny Dominguez  
Management Fellow