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Hello District 3, and Happy Holidays!

In this newsletter you will find the latest news, announcements, and event details that I want to share with you.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with questions, comments, or concerns at (602) 262-7441 or [council.district.3@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.3@phoenix.gov).

Respectfully,

Councilwoman Debra Stark

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**City of Phoenix**

The Phoenix City Council will have a Formal meeting on **Wednesday, January 4th at 2:30 p.m.**

Members of the public can attend and speak in-person, by phone, or virtually via Webex. Pre-registration is required to speak on an agenda item or during the Public Comment period. To find the agenda and information on how to register to speak and how to submit an e-comment, visit [Phoenix City Council Meetings](#).

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## *District 3 Community Coffee Chat*

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Join us on January 19th at 8:30am at Sunnyslope  
Community Center: 802 E. Vogel Avenue

Assistant Director Marty Whitfield and Deputy  
Director Jarod Rogers will be our guest speakers  
to talk about the overnight park security pilot  
program and park ranger vacancies. We will  
also have District 3 and citywide updates.

COFFEE AND PASTRIES WILL BE PROVIDED.

Let us know you're coming. RSVP to  
[council.district.3@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.3@phoenix.gov) or 602.262.7441.



# **District 3 January Community Coffee Chat**

Join us **Wednesday, January 19th at 8:30 a.m.** for our District 3 Community Coffee Chat to be held at **Sunnyslope Community Center located at 802 E. Vogel Avenue.**

Assistant Director Marty Whitfield and Deputy Director Jarod Rogers will be our guest speakers to talk about the overnight private security pilot program and park ranger vacancies. We will also have District 3 and citywide updates.

Coffee and pastries will be provided. Let us know you're coming: RSVP to [council.district.3@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.3@phoenix.gov) or 602-262-7441. We hope to see you there!

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## **City Council Approves Proposed \$500 million General Obligation (GO) Bond Program**

The Phoenix City Council recently approved the proposed \$500 million 2023 GO Bond Program as presented by the GO Bond Executive Committee.

After three months of committee deliberation and extensive public input, the GO Bond Executive Committee recommended several projects and programs for City Council consideration. A summary of allocations per subcommittee as well as a list of recommended projects/programs to be completed is available on the [City's website](#).

Phoenix City Council approved the following allocations per program area totaling \$500 million:

- Arts & Culture - \$50,385,000
- Economic Development & Education - \$38,000,000
- Environment & Sustainability - \$26,000,000
- Housing, Human Services & Homelessness - \$63,000,000
- Neighborhoods & City Services - \$44,615,000
- Parks & Recreation - \$64,000,000
- Public Safety - \$132,500,000
- Streets & Storm Drainage - \$81,500,000

City staff will begin the next steps to prepare election materials for City Council approval and then voters will decide the outcome during a November 2023 Special Bond Election.

Read more about the proposed projects at [phoenix.gov/bond](https://phoenix.gov/bond).

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## **City of Phoenix, Phoenix Rescue Mission Helping People Experiencing Homelessness Rebuild Their Lives Through Work**

The City of Phoenix and Phoenix Rescue Mission are proud to announce Phoenix Works, a solutions-focused program to help individuals experiencing homelessness in Phoenix. Phoenix Works gives people in need the opportunity to earn a daily wage, access to two daily meals and life-saving support services to put them on a path to financial independence and housing.

Participants will earn \$65 for a five-hour shift participating in various beautification projects throughout the City of Phoenix. They'll also be provided breakfast and lunch during each shift. The program will empower participants, helping them

learn essential workforce skills and build their resumes to help them find permanent employment.

In March 2022, Mayor Gallego and the Phoenix City Council approved \$1.5 million of American Rescue Plan Act funds to support this partnership. Phoenix is the third city to partner with the Mission to bring this working program to those in need.

Participants will earn a cash payout for the day to help complete a wide variety of community projects. Additional neighborhood beautification projects, such as park revitalization and cleaning and maintaining public walkways and event venues, will provide a benefit for the larger community.

Participants don't just earn money; they are equipped with a support team that provides individualized case management and navigation services. At the end of each day, participants can meet one-on-one with case managers to connect them with resources to help them secure identification, employment and housing.

For more information about Phoenix Works visit [phxmission.org/willwork](https://phxmission.org/willwork).



# Phoenix Teens Can Now Apply to Earn Cash Awards For Outstanding Leadership

The City of Phoenix Youth and Education Office is now accepting applications for the 2023 [Outstanding Phoenix Youth Leader of the Year](#) awards.

The awards recognize and honor the outstanding achievements of young people, enhance the perception of youth and raise community awareness of their positive contributions.

The program is open to any students currently enrolled in high school in Phoenix or who live within Phoenix city limits. Here's how it works:

- Two students will be selected as winners from each City Council district and receive an award of \$500.
- In addition, each district-level winner will be eligible for an additional \$1,500 award if they are selected as the citywide winners.

Students interested in applying will need to write an essay and submit a recommendation letter and proof of legal residence in the United States. Finalists will be interviewed by members of the community. District award winners will be invited to a luncheon sponsored by Rotary 100 and Salt River Project (SRP) where the citywide award winners will be announced.

Eligible students can apply [online](#) before 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24.

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# Parks and Recreation Hiking and Heat Safety Program Survey

Parks and Recreation is seeking feedback from the Phoenix community regarding proposed changes to the Hiking and Heat Safety Program, which closes trails from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Camelback Mountain and Piestewa Peak on summer days that the National Weather Service issues a heat warning. This program was developed in partnership with the Phoenix Fire Department in order to protect both the public and first responders during extreme heat. It began as a pilot in the summer of 2021 and was officially adopted as policy at the October 2021 Parks and Recreation Board Meeting.

Based on Fire Department mountain rescue data, trail counter data, and National Weather Service Heat Warning data, staff is considering making two changes to the current Heat Safety Program:

1. The closure time would be moved two hours earlier, so that closures would be from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. rather than 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2. The program would be in effect all year round, rather than just in the summer months from May to October.

The survey will be open for responses until January 31. This survey can be accessed using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/g/sGS9JpxEQk>. Parks and Recreation staff will incorporate this community feedback into a final recommendation for Parks and Recreation Board consideration at their March 23, 2023 meeting.

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## **Parks and Recreation Facilities Holiday Hours**

Parks and Recreation facilities will have limited hours of operation on December 31 due to the holidays. Community and recreation centers will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and staff will close park restrooms at 6 p.m. on these dates.



## **2023 HUD required Annual Action Plan**

Your city, your voice! The City of Phoenix needs your input to help make

important investments in our community by taking the Annual Action Plan Survey. Each year, the City receives millions of dollars in federal funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and we want to hear from our residents and business owners about how you think that money should be spent.

When you take the survey, you help us identify needs in housing and homelessness, community and economic development, infrastructure and enhancement, and public services and facilities. These funds help make real change; they can be used for projects like improving parks and streetlights, creating programs for youth and seniors, providing services for people experiencing homelessness or living with HIV/AIDS, and helping families buy their first home.

Your voice is important! Tell us what matters most in your community. Take the Annual Action Plan Survey now at [www.phoenix.gov/yourvoice](http://www.phoenix.gov/yourvoice).

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## Phoenix Fire Technical Rescue Team Training

Phoenix Fire Department will be holding Technical Rescue Team Training at Royal Palm Park from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on January 3, 10, and 17 and on February 14, 21, and 28. These training exercises will model a tree trimmer rescue evolution, as the Fire Department receives several similar calls each year.

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## **Volunteers Needed for Income Tax Assistance**

Every year, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program prepares free tax returns for low-to-moderate-income individuals and families.

VITA volunteers receive free training and are certified by the IRS to prepare basic tax returns. Greeters, screeners, bilingual interpreters, and site coordinators are also needed.

Training is free and available online to complete at your own pace. You can become a volunteer with as little as 8 hours of training and get IRS certified with 24 hours of training.

Learn more and sign up at [Phoenix.gov/TaxHelp](https://phoenix.gov/TaxHelp).

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## **Healthy Giving**

**HEALTHY  
GIVING  
CAN  
CHANGE A  
LIFE**

[GiveSmartAZ.Org](https://www.GiveSmartAZ.Org)

