



District 5 Residents and Friends

Phoenix City Council is officially back in session and busier than ever. Our busy event season has started, so check out this August edition for:

- El Grito Celebration in downtown Phoenix on Sept. 12th
- West Phoenix light rail extensions open houses
- Parks Master Plan meetings in September
- Summer lifeguard training classes and much more...

Celebrate Annual El Grito - Downtown PHX

EL GRITO
Celebration

PHOENIX ARIZONA

2026

FIREWORKS DISPLAY
Presented by Councilwoman Betty Guardado & United Phoenix Firefighters Association

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH • 4-11 PM
DOWNTOWN PHOENIX • 4TH AVENUE & WASHINGTON ST

LA ORIGINAL BANDA Maguey
El Puro Villa Coronado

BOMBEROS VOLUNTARIOS

Banda MACH
FIESTA MEXICANA DANCE COMPANY - DEFAP

DJ LA PACHANGA

Mariachi Continental Asteca

FOOD * BEER & MARGARITAS * ARTS & CRAFTS
*** BALLET FOLKLÓRICO * MARIACHI * LUCHA * FIREWORKS**

CONSIGUE TUS ENTRADAS

GET YOUR TICKETS

www.elgritophoenix.com

Get ready for El Grito Phoenix 2026! Celebrate El Grito Phoenix with Banda Maguey, Banda Mach, mariachi, food, lucha libre and family fun! Celebrate Mexican

Independence Day in the heart of Downtown Phoenix at El Grito Phoenix 2026, presented by Councilwoman Betty Guardado!

Join us for an unforgettable evening celebrating Mexican culture, music, and community. Enjoy live performances by La Original Banda Maguey, Banda Mach, and Mariachi Continental Azteca, along with ballet folklórico, mariachi, lucha libre, authentic food, arts and crafts, beer, margaritas, and entertainment for the entire family.

- Saturday, September 12, 2026
- 4:00–11:00 PM
- Downtown Phoenix – 4th Avenue & Washington Street

Gather your family and friends and experience an evening filled with music, tradition, and Mexican pride. Purchase your tickets today and celebrate with us! Children 12 and under are free. Alcoholic beverages are available only to guests ages 21 and older with a valid photo ID. [Click here for tickets and for more details.](#)



In case you missed last year's festival, Mayor Kate Gallego, Vice Mayor Hodge-Washington, and Mexican officials joined us to celebrate. Don't miss it this year!

West Phoenix Light Rail Open Houses



Join Valley Metro and the City of Phoenix at one of the two upcoming open houses to learn more about the proposed West Phoenix Extension project, ask questions and share your feedback. What to expect:

- Learn more about the proposed project
- Talk one-on-one with project staff
- Share your feedback
- Stop by anytime during the two-hour open house

Check out the details of dates, times, and locations below:

- **Saturday, Sept. 19 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. |**
 - Maryvale Community Center (4420 N. 51st Ave.)
- **Wednesday, Oct. 14 from 6–8 p.m.**
 - Steele Indian School Park Memorial Hall (300 E. Indian School Rd.)

Can't attend in person? Visit valleymetro.org/westphoenix to learn more about the proposed project, provide feedback online and sign up for project updates.

Parks Master Plan Meetings in September



**LEARN ABOUT THE KEY FINDINGS
FOUND IN THE PARKS MASTER PLAN!**

WHAT TO EXPECT

- ✓ **Survey Overview:** Learn key findings from surveys, assessments, and community feedback on parks.
- ✓ **Discuss Key Findings:** Improved lighting, more shade, upgraded play areas, improved park infrastructure, well-maintained spaces, and more inclusive features. Join us to discuss these priorities and the next steps towards adopting the plan.
- ✓ **Open Discussion:** Join the live Q&A to share questions with the consultant.

KEY FINDINGS MEETINGS

TUES. SEPT. 15	WED. SEPT. 16	THURS. SEPT. 17	SAT. SEPT. 19
6:00 P.M.	6:00 P.M.	6:00 P.M.	12:00 P.M.
PARADISE VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM	GOELET A BEUF COMMUNITY CENTER	STEELE INDIAN SCHOOL PARK MEMORIAL HALL	MARYVALE COMMUNITY CENTER AUDITORIUM
17402 N 40TH ST PHOENIX, AZ 85032	3435 W PINNACLE PEAK RD, PHOENIX, AZ 85027	300 E INDIAN SCHOOL RD, PHOENIX, AZ 85012	4420 N 51ST AVE PHOENIX, AZ 85031

The Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department is developing a Master Plan to define the community's vision and guide the department's direction for the next ten years and beyond. With the substantial growth and change in the community over the years, an updated Master Plan is essential for the future of Phoenix and its 1.7 million residents.

The Parks Master Plan is driven by access, equity and community. With focus areas like water conservation, crime prevention, safety, neighborhood

demographics, and recreation trends, you can help us think outside the park. There are many ways to share your experiences and ideas. Join our next meetings in September, especially at the **Maryvale Community Center on Sept. 19th.** [Click here to learn more.](#)

Summer Lifeguard Training - Sept. 12th

Make a splash earn some cash!

LIFEGUARD CLASSES

Register Now!



Location:
Perry Pool

3131 E. Windsor Ave.

Class Dates:

SEPT.12 | SATURDAY | 9AM-10:30AM
SEPT.16 | WEDNESDAY | 5:30-8:30PM
SEPT.18 | FRIDAY | 5:30-8:30PM
SEPT.19 | SATURDAY | 9AM-4PM
SEPT.20 | SUNDAY | 9AM-4PM
SEPT.21 | MONDAY | 5:30-8:30PM

Get certified
today! Class is only
\$40

All class dates are mandatory!

Questions? Call 602-534-6587

You know a teenager looking to make some cash with a cool summer job next year? Perry Pool is offering Lifeguard Certification Classes this September! Learn essential water safety, rescue techniques, CPR, and basic first aid from experienced instructors. [Click here to register today](#) and take your first step toward becoming a Phoenix lifeguard!

Colorado River Water Shortages Details



Phoenix is prepared for Colorado River shortages, urges everyone to be Water Smart. The City of Phoenix is preparing for major Colorado River cuts as new federal guidelines arrive for 2027. Decades of drought and the river's overallocation have led to this new reality for the southwest. **While Phoenix is well prepared, and residents and businesses will not experience any service interruptions,** the City is calling on everyone to be PHX Water Smart by saving water and reducing use.

Phoenix has invested heavily in drought infrastructure, water storage, and a diversified water supply to manage shortages, while continuing to build long-term,

sustainable water solutions. Learn more about Phoenix's drought management plan: [Phoenix.gov/WaterFuture](https://phoenix.gov/WaterFuture).

Reading Tutor Volunteers Needed



Do you want to make a difference that lasts a lifetime? The City of Phoenix and AARP Foundation Experience Corps Phoenix are seeking volunteers aged 50+ to tutor young readers. Your time, experience, and encouragement can help students reach critical reading milestones. Sign up at [Phoenix.gov/Education](https://phoenix.gov/Education).

In the 2025-26 school year, 81 volunteers served in 15 local Phoenix schools. Since the start of the program, more than 90 percent of students who receive one-on-one literacy coaching with Experience Corps have shown gains in critical literacy skills.

Thank you for reading and sharing the August Neighborhood News with family, friends, and neighbors. As always, please contact our office for your comments, questions, and concerns, at (602) 262-7446 or council.district.5@phoenix.gov. For regular updates, follow us on our social media accounts by clicking on the icons below.



[Visit the City of Phoenix City Council District 5 Website](#)

[Forward to a friend](#)