



District 5 Residents and Friends, Thank You and Happy Holidays



I am honored to have been re-elected as your representative on the Phoenix City Council for District 5 to serve a second term. Thank you for your trust in me to serve you and your families. We will continue to prioritize neighborhoods, city services, good jobs and economic development.

We wish you and your families a **happy holiday and New Year!** Let's keep working together in 2025 to make our district a more safe, clean, and fun place to live. Read on to learn about the new District 5 team members, the annual holiday

celebration, Sprouts grand opening, park tree planting, water service incentives, transportation survey and more.

District 5 Office Team Transitions



My Chief of Staff, Miguel Medrano, and I want to thank our team for serving District 5, our community with hard work and dedication, especially Melina (pictured above far left), as Constituent Services Specialist, and Deborah (pictured above far right) as Community Outreach Coordinator. On Dec. 7th, they did a great job with our float in the Electric Light Parade, but now they are transitioning to other city departments. Emmanuel will be on a 12-week parental

leave starting next week through early March 2025. Finally, I'll introduce our newest team members.



Maico Olivares, Constituent Services Specialist, is a first generation American raised in Arizona, and his family is from Sonora, MX. He has been involved in community organizing in West Phoenix for over six years looking to positively impact the district.



Ana Diaz, Community Outreach Specialist, is a food and beverage worker from Los Angeles, CA, and has been working in Phoenix for the last five years supporting local campaigns. She is excited to support our community.

Very Merry Maryvale Holiday Celebration

Betty Guardado
COUNCILWOMAN | DISTRICT 5

OUR FIFTH ANNUAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Very Merry Maryvale

SATURDAY 14TH DEC
Doors open at 4 p.m.

MARYVALE COMMUNITY CENTER
4420 N 51ST AVE.
PHOENIX AZ 85031

SPECIAL GUEST
JP SCEARCE

SPECIAL GUEST
GO THE GORILLA

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FREE FOOD* PHOTOS WITH SANTA

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ALHAMBRA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
TALLESON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Join us this Saturday, December 14th at 4:00 PM until 9:00 PM for our 5th Annual Very Merry Maryvale Holiday Celebration! My office, in partnership with

United Phoenix Firefighters Charities, is excited to host this annual tradition to bring holiday cheer and community spirit! Everyone is welcome to enjoy the live music, entertainment, food, and fun. Pictures with Santa Claus and gifts are for registered children only. Online registration is closed, but school aged children who are present will be added to the wait list on a first-come-first-serve basis while supplies last.

Sprouts Farmers Market Groundbreaking



I was invited to the grand opening of the Sprouts Farmers Market in District 5 at the northeast corner of 99th Ave. and McDowell Rd. Ensuring access to

healthy food options has been a top priority for me, and I'm thrilled this is finally open for our residents to enjoy.

Congratulations to Nick Konat, President and Chief Operating Officer, and the fantastic team at Sprouts on the long-awaited grand opening, and thank you to our City of Phoenix Community and Economic Development and Planning & Development Departments for their support and planning for this project. We're thankful for Sprout's contribution to our community's health and wellness, and we're hopeful for more healthy options in the future.

El Oso Park Tree Planting



We're making Phoenix Cooler - one tree at a time! In late October, Resilient Phoenix: Cooling our Neighborhoods initiative at El Oso Park. Together with Arizona Community Foundation, Arizona Sustainability Alliance, Rumbo, SRP, Estrella Super Moms Block Watch, and our community volunteers, we planted 67 trees to beautify and cool our neighborhood.

As your District 5 Councilwoman, I'm proud to have directed over \$1.5 million in improvements to this park, including the splash pad and the baseball field improvements by the Arizona Diamondbacks. Let's keep making our community greener and our future brighter!



New Residential Grass Removal Incentive to Promote Water Conservation



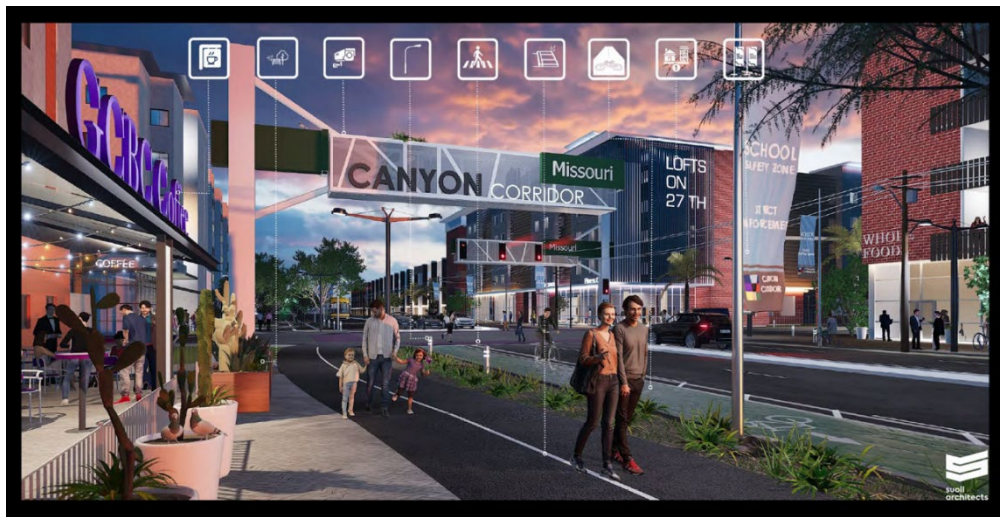
Phoenix Water Services has launched a new program offering financial assistance to homeowners who replace their lawns with water-efficient, desert-

adapted landscapes. The initiative encourages residents to reduce outdoor water use by receiving \$2 per square foot for removing grass. This effort not only conserves water but could also help residents save money on their water bills. It's part of the City's broader commitment to sustainable urban living in a desert climate. Learn more by clicking here. phoenix.gov/SaveWaterIncentives

Some key highlights are:

- Receive \$2 per square foot for removing at least 250 square feet of grass.
- Grass must be alive and healthy at a minimum of 75% density of the area to be removed.
- Access to educational workshops for landscape design assistance.
- Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Connected Active Neighborhoods Surveys



Alhambra and Maryvale Village, The Street Transportation Phoenix Connected Active Neighborhoods (PhxCAN) needs your voice. Help shape the future of walking, biking, and rolling in your community by participating in the PhxCAN Program survey. Your feedback is crucial in enhancing bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure across the city. The survey is quick and easy to do. Hurry! It will close on Dec. 22nd! [Click here to do the survey.](#)

Christmas Tree and Wreath Composting



Every year, the Public Works Department offers Phoenix residents several drop-off locations for their live Christmas trees and wreaths to be composted. Trees or wreaths may be dropped off at any of the participating Phoenix parks

(during park business hours) anytime between Thurs., Dec. 26, 2024 and Tues., Jan. 7, 2025. Only live trees and wreaths are accepted, not plastic trees and wreaths. Trees and wreaths will be composted at the City of Phoenix Compost Facility. Contact Phoenix customer service at 602-262-6251 or email solid.waste@phoenix.gov for more information or [click here for more details.](#)

Below is a list of composting locations in West Phoenix:

- Marivue Park - 59th Ave. and Osborn Rd.
- Washington Park - 23rd Ave. and Maryland Ave.
- Desert West Park - 67th Ave. and Encanto Blvd.

Thank you for reading and sharing the December Neighborhood News with family, friends, and neighbors. As always, please contact our office for your comments, questions, and concerns, at [\(602\) 262-7446](tel:6022627446) or council.district.5@phoenix.gov. For regular updates, follow us on our social media accounts by clicking on the icons below.



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