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## **District 5 Residents and Friends,**

This August has been packed with community outreach and preparation for a busy event season. Read on to learn about the El Grito Celebration, Grand Canalscape Phase 3 groundbreaking, Redistricting round 2 meetings, vacant property registry, park activation grants, library bookmobile survey, and highlights of the new city budget.

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## El Grito Celebration in Downtown Phoenix



The poster for the El Grito Celebration 2023 features a vibrant design with fireworks in the background. At the top, it says "FREE! Fun for the entire family!" and "¡GRATIS! Diversión para toda la familia". The central text reads "EL GRITO Celebration PHOENIX ARIZONA 2023 Presented by Councilwoman Betty Guardado". Below this, the event details are listed: "FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH • 4-11 PM DOWNTOWN PHOENIX • 3rd AVENUE & ADAMS STREET". A section titled "Live Entertainment!" shows photos of various performers, including a cowboy, a mariachi band, and a dance troupe. The bottom of the poster is filled with logos of sponsors and partners, including Greenlight Communities, Hensley Beverage Company, City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department, Phoenix Sister Cities, RED, aps, Southwest Gas, TeleMundo, Betty Guardado, arts+culture, La Causa, Phoenix Fire Department, Phoenix Police Department, and various credit cards like Visa and Mastercard. The website "www.elgritophoenix.com" is listed at the very bottom.

You're invited to downtown Phoenix for the \*FREE\* *El Grito* Celebration on Friday, September 15th. The second annual event will commemorate Mexican Independence Day and kick-off Hispanic Heritage Month! Enjoy live music, dancing, arts & crafts, *baile folklórico*, food, and more! Invite the whole family, and we'll see you there. [Click here for more details.](http://www.elgritophoenix.com)

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## Grand Canalscape Phase 3 Groundbreaking



Yesterday, we were excited to celebrate the beginning of construction for this long-awaited improvement project. I was joined by community members and students, as well as representatives from the Street Transportation and Fire departments, Salt River Project (SRP) and Hunter Contracting Co., for a ceremonial groundbreaking celebration for Phase 3 of the city's Grand Canalscape project. This project will transform the dirt path between 75th Avenue to 47th Avenue to an improved canal trail with:

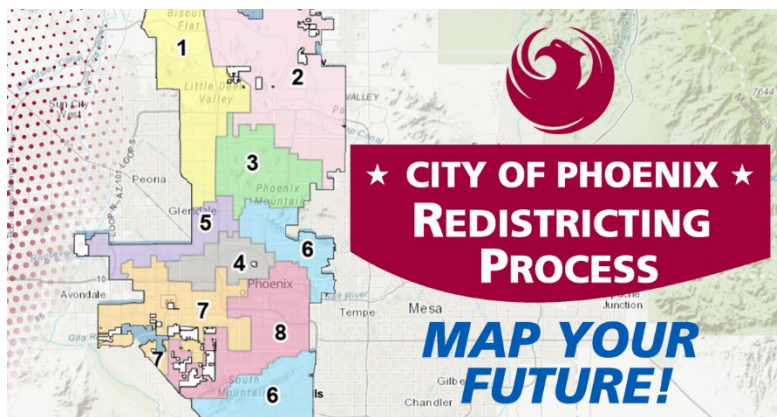
- Concrete pedestrian and bicycle pathway along the north bank of the canal
- Signalized crosswalks at street intersections and improved lighting
- Landscaping, beautification, and neighborhood connectivity

- Trash receptacles, seating areas, fitness stations, and a new pedestrian bridge

Special thanks to the Western School of Science and Technology, Holiday Park Elementary School and the Cartwright Elementary School District, as well as the residents of the neighborhoods along the canal for their support of the project. [Click here to learn more about this amazing project.](#)

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## Redistricting Round 2 Meetings



The City of Phoenix is continuing its redistricting process to revise the City Council District Boundaries. The once-in-a-decade project equalizes population based on the latest Census data. Your voice is very important in this process.

Submit an online comment today and, if you are able, join the District 5 in-person meeting on Tuesday, September 5th at 10 AM at the Washington Activity Center, 2240 W. Citrus Way. To learn more and provide input visit [PhoenixRedistricting.com](http://PhoenixRedistricting.com).

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## Vacant Property Registry



The City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department (NSD) is seeking input on a proposed change to the Phoenix City Code to implement a Vacant Property Registry requirement. The registry is designed to identify properties that are vacant, obtain contact information for code enforcement and emergency

situations, and to protect neighborhoods from becoming blighted by working in partnership with owners to ensure property maintenance standards are met.

The input and feedback we receive from the community meetings will be used by staff to develop a final proposal for Phoenix City Council.

Learn more and register for the next meeting on September 7th at

[Phoenix.gov/NSD/VacantPropertyRegistry](http://Phoenix.gov/NSD/VacantPropertyRegistry).

## Park Activation Grant Application is Open



**Grant Awards up to \$10,000**

**Betty Guardado** COUNCILWOMAN | DISTRICT 5  
**PHX PLAYS** Phoenix Parks & Recreation

**ACTIVATE YOUR PARK!**

Exciting Opportunities Await  
Unlock Your Vision with the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department Grants! We're thrilled to extend our support to Phoenix neighborhood groups and nonprofits, empowering them to bring their creative programming, vibrant events, and engaging activities to life within our beloved Phoenix Parks.

Park Activation Activities May Include:  
Movies in the Park, Concerts in the Park, Food Truck Festivals, Youth Sports Programming, Neighborhood Farmers Markets, Neighborhood Resource Fairs and much more

Funding is provided by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).  
Park locations must serve qualified census tracts and neighborhood groups must be listed with the Neighborhood Services Department.

For ARPA application grant requirements please visit [www.phoenix.gov/parks/arpa](http://www.phoenix.gov/parks/arpa)  
For questions contact Tannia Ruiz [tannia.ruiz@phoenix.gov](mailto:tannia.ruiz@phoenix.gov)

Call For Registration  
**602-262-4994**

Calling all Phoenix neighborhood groups and nonprofits! Unlock your vision with the new park activation grants! We're excited to offer grant awards of up to \$10,000 to support your creative programming, vibrant events, and engaging activities in our beloved Phoenix parks.

Let's bring life and excitement to our parks with activities like: movies in the park, concerts in the park, food truck festivals, youth sports programming, neighborhood farmers markets, neighborhood resource fairs, and so much more! Funding for these incredible opportunities is made possible by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), enabling us to enhance the quality of life in our communities.

To qualify, park locations must serve designated census tracts, and neighborhood groups must be listed with the Neighborhood Services Department. Apply today and let your creative visions come to life! The Park Activation Grant Program application is now open and will close on Friday, September 29. To learn more and apply, visit [phoenix.gov/parks/arpa](https://phoenix.gov/parks/arpa).

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## Library Bookmobile Service Survey



Phoenix Public Library is planning to launch a library bookmobile service for individuals and families in west Phoenix by early 2024, and we would like to hear from you! For example, would you like youth programming and books delivered to your local park? Please help the Phoenix Public Library plan the bookmobile with your feedback by Friday, September 1, 2023. Thank you for your input! [Click here to take the five-minute.](#)



# City Council Meetings Resume with New Budget



The City Council resumed meetings this week with the new city budget. Thank you again to the more than 1,000 residents who responded to our community engagement budget survey. The current fiscal year 23-24 budget has a \$134 Million General Fund and some of the highlighted investments are:

- \$114 million in employee compensation increases to help recruit and retain staff.
- \$7.6 million in services for our vulnerable populations
  - Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program

- Victims of Crime Act programs
- Expanding our Behavioral Health Engagement Teams including PHX C.A.R.E.S. to support unsheltered individuals
- \$3.8 million investment in public safety responsiveness and criminal justice support
  - New civilian investigators and police assistants, as well as crime scene specialists, police research analysis, criminal intelligence analysts, and civilian law enforcement training specialists
- \$3.5 million to the phoenix fire department to add 31 new sworn positions and to fully staff a new fire station #74
- \$3.6 million investment in Health Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment
  - This includes \$571,000 to the Gated Alley Program, for 77 gated alley segments each fiscal year and 2 neighborhood inspectors for implementation
  - It also includes \$2 million to hire 14 Park Rangers and one Park Manager to create an overnight shift for Park Rangers to provide 24/7 service at parks.

To learn more about the current city budget and the process, [please click here](#).

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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](mailto: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](#)**

This email was sent by Office of Phoenix District 5 Councilwoman Betty Guardado at 200 W. Washington St. 11th floor, Phoenix, AZ 85003.

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