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Hello District 5 Residents and Friends,

February was a very productive month, and we're excited to share some highlights in this edition of Neighborhood News. We're now working with hundreds of residents who are actively participating to improve their community, especially along the 27th Avenue Corridor. Also, the new city budget community engagement process has begun, so please tell us what your priorities are. Finally, meet our new City Manager, as we honor Black History Month.

27th Avenue Corridor Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan Passed by the City Council



Lupe, 27th Ave. resident, and Petra, a small business owner, organized a meeting of about 70 neighbors, where we discussed safety concerns on their streets and how it was affecting their community. We shared the Community Safety Plan and discussed how we can work together for a more secure neighborhood.

On February 16th, the 27th Avenue Corridor Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan was approved by a vote at the Formal City Council meeting.

Many groups contributed to this victory, and during the weeks leading up to the meeting, our office engaged hundreds of residents, many of whom called in and submitted comments to support the plan.

A special thanks to our neighborhood leaders, especially from the Violence Impact Project (VIP) Coalition and Stand for Children. In addition, we thank our education partners, Alhambra Elementary and Washington Elementary School Districts and Grand Canyon University. Our priority is to ensure the success of this plan which includes \$5 million of additional resources to support the multi-department collaborative efforts to keep our families safe.

[Click here to see a recent news story by 12News about the vote on the 27th Ave. plan](#)

Community Celebration Highlights New Trees and Walking Path at Homestead Park



The Tree Planting and WalkPHX Path Unveiling was a fun family event and huge success. It was a gorgeous winter morning with wonderful people excited to help plant 48 trees and recognize a new WalkPHX site at Homestead Park on 27th Ave. and Glendale Ave.

Thank you to the VIP Coalition, Glen Canyon Vista Neighborhood Association, Keep Phoenix Beautiful, the Parks & Recreation Department, the Maricopa County Health Department, ParkRx instructors, coordinators, and members with their families, and the Lemon Grove Community residents. They helped finish planting the trees and enjoyed the live music by Ray, a District 5 resident, and the "251 band".



Demolition of the "Old" Village Inn and update on Innovation 27, the "Old" Kmart



On February 15th, as workers demolished the "old" Village Inn restaurant on Northern Ave. and the I-17, we celebrated with the Neighborhood Services Department along with neighbors of the VIP Coalition, and the North Glen Square and Alta Vista neighborhood associations. This vacant property had been attracting blight and crime for over ten years. Now, we can turn our attention to Innovation 27 in the adjacent "old" Kmart.

On March 23rd, the City Council will vote to approve the final purchase amount for the "old" Kmart with ARPA funds. Innovation 27, a collaboration of multiple entities will provide much-needed community education, workforce training, and job creation.

The New City Budget Community Engagement Begins



FundPHX

The **Dollars** and **Sense**
in Phoenix's Budget

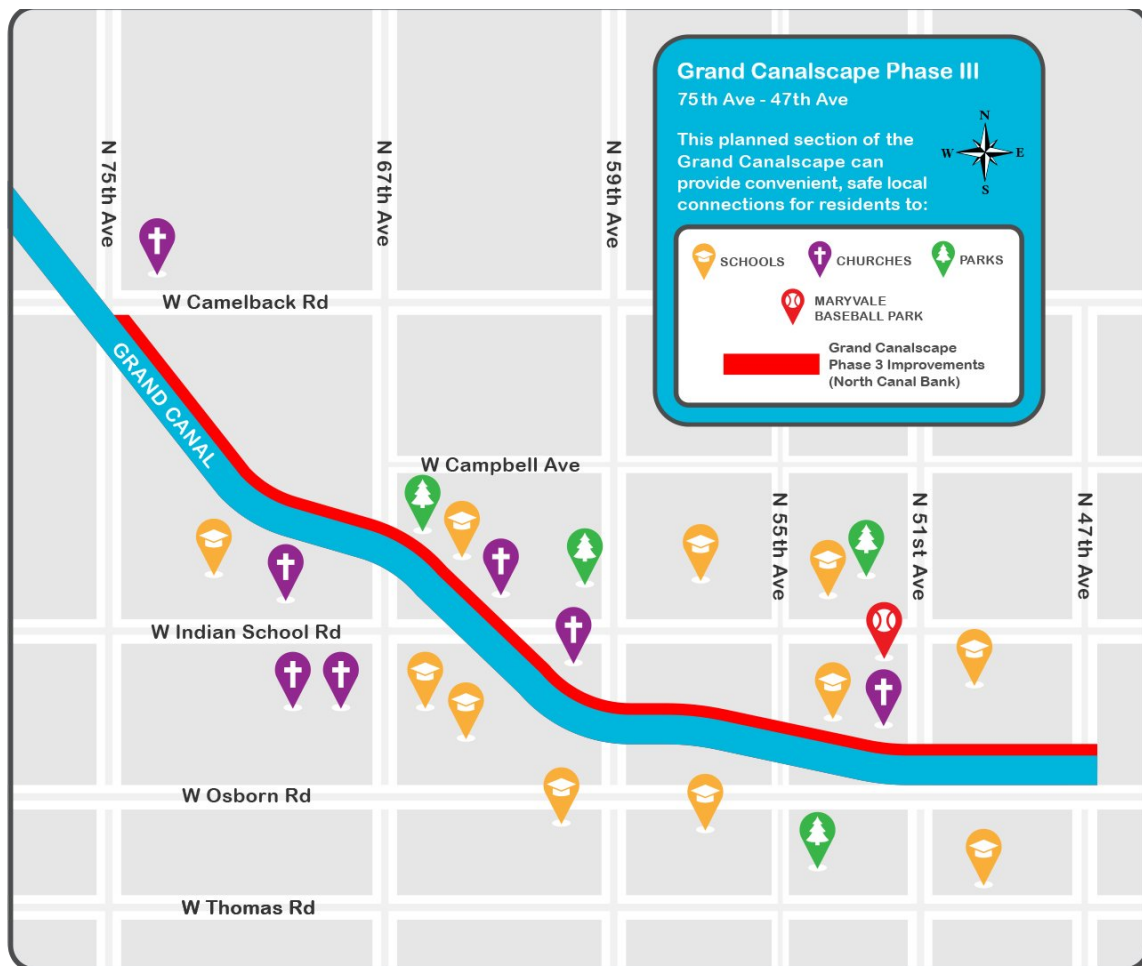
[Phoenix.gov/FundPHX](https://phoenix.gov/FundPHX)

What's most important to you in our City? We want your ideas on how to best spend the Phoenix city budget. Use this year's budget to give us ideas on how to create next year's plan. FundPHX is an online tool that was designed to educate and engage you in the City's annual budget process. The tool is available with the 2021-22 adopted budget in both English and Spanish and gives residents an opportunity to try their hand at balancing the City's \$1.6 billion General Fund operating budget. Information collected in the tool from residents will be shared regularly with City Council, so it can help guide development of the 2022-23 operating budget. [Click here to give it a spin.](#)

The City will be hosting multiple budget hearings open to the public in April. Please [click here](#) to mark your calendars and join a date and time that works for you.

Finally, Our District 5 Office needs your input for what our community needs. Please respond to our short survey below (will also be available in Spanish). We're specifically asking District 5 residents to participate, so we can review your answers and advocate for your needs to be considered in the next budget. Use and share the following link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/D5BudgetSurvey

Grand Canalscape Phase 3 - Public Meeting on March 30th



The City of Phoenix Street Transportation Department is continuing enhancements to the Grand Canal. Phase 3 of the project will transform the dirt path between 75th Avenue and 47th Avenue to an improved canal trail with:

- Concrete pedestrian and bicycle pathway along the north bank of the canal
- Signalized crosswalks where the path crosses existing streets
- Lighting
- Landscaping where possible

Other amenities may include trash receptacles, fitness stations or other infrastructure. Please join us for the next public meeting on Wednesday, March 30th. Contact our office and visit the following page for more information: phoenix.gov/streets/grandcanal3

Villa De Paz Community Event this Friday, March 4th

For all the far West Phoenix residents, we hope you'll join us for the annual G.A.I.N. event at the Pendergast Community Center near 105th Ave. and Camelback Rd.

It will be a family friendly event with food trucks, live dance performances, DJ, and children activities and giveaways, including a fire truck and



G.A.I.N. Event

Sponsored by your Neighborhood Block Watch

March 4, 2022

5:30 pm. - 8:00 p.m.

Pendergast Community Center

10550 W Mariposa Street

(623) 772-2319

Family Fun, Food Vendors, Games, Information, and Community Resources

popsicles from a police van. Community resources and school information will also be available. We're honored to host this event in partnership with the Villa De Paz block watch and the Pendergast Elementary School District. Please the flyer for more details.

JOIN US!

G.A.I.N. (Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods) is a day for Arizona to join forces and promote awareness, safety, and neighborhood unity. The G.A.I.N event invites neighborhoods to come together and make their community a safer, better place to live.



In Honor of Black History Month, Meet a History Maker - Newly Appointed City Manager, Jeff Barton



During Black History Month, we introduced the City of Phoenix's first African-American City Manager, Jeff Barton. He took on the role in October 2021, after serving as Assistant City Manager since February 2021. Prior to that he served as Deputy City Manager since March 2020 and served as the director of the city's Budget and Research Department since July 2015.

Barton's 21-year career with the City of Phoenix started in 1999, as an internal auditor in the City Auditor Department. In the years that followed, he held a variety of roles that focused on the city's sound financial stewardship, including multiple auditing positions, management assistant, and deputy Budget and Research Director. [Click here to watch his inspirational story in a short video.](#)

Thank you for reading and sharing the February 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 daily updates, follow us on our social media accounts by clicking on the icons below.



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

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