



COUNCILWOMAN  
**KESHA**  
**HODGE WASHINGTON**  
DISTRICT 8

**FIRST 100 DAYS**

energize eight

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## Message from Councilwoman Hodge Washington

July 26, 2023

Dear District 8,

First and foremost, I want to express my heartfelt thanks for placing your trust in me and electing me as the Phoenix City Councilmember to lead District 8. Your support and belief in my abilities have truly moved me and filled me with a renewed sense of duty and responsibility toward our beloved community. The District 8 staff and I approach every decision and task with integrity, transparency, and a deep commitment to serving the best interests of our city and its people. With this in mind, I humbly submit this report of our first 100 days in office.

Since taking my oath of office, I have hit the ground running. I am continuing to address your concerns, have engaged with you at community events and meetings, and am building relationships with community partners to ensure District 8 gets the attention and resources it requires and deserves. I am honored to be a member of the Community and Cultural Investment Subcommittee which focuses on sustainability/recycling, neighborhoods, parks, arts, libraries, education/head start, and the unhoused. I also serve on the City's Audit Committee, which reviews audit reports and oversees the Annual Financial Report audit.

As we continue our journey together, I encourage you to take an active role by participating in local events, voicing your concerns, and offering your ideas for improvement and/or future initiatives. Your input and engagement are essential. Collectively, I am confident that we can continue to improve the quality of life for all residents and make District 8 one of the best places in the City of Phoenix in which to live, work, and play. With your engagement, creative ideas, and advocacy, I look forward to keeping the momentum growing. Together, we will ENERGIZE EIGHT.

Sincerely,

Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington

# Meet the Team

To best serve you, I've assembled an experienced and diverse team to work for District 8, each with a unique set of skills suited to serve the community. My team not only brings years of experience in their fields, but a passion and drive to serve our diverse communities, and make a difference in the quality of life for all.



**Sina Matthes**  
Chief of Staff

As Chief of Staff, Sina is responsible for planning, organizing, managing, directing, and overseeing the day-to-day operations of the office.

## Fun Fact:

Sina enjoys spending time with her family and trying to teach her dog Frida new tricks.



**Kalea Moore**  
Constituent Services  
Manager

As Constituent Services Manager, Kalea works with city departments and external stakeholders to address constituent affairs issues impacting residents of District 8.

## Fun Fact:

Kalea lived in Ecuador for a year where she taught English and worked in a pediatric hospital.



*Yo Hablo Español*



**Israel Kiyogera**  
Policy Advisor

As Policy Advisor, Israel coordinates and carries out the policy priorities of the office by working with relevant city departments and stakeholders to advance reforms.

## Fun Fact:

Israel is a water sports fan! He enjoys paddle boarding, canoeing, and jet skiing in his free time.



## In 100 Days, We:



Addressed dozens of constituent requests:

- Opened 124 cases
- Closed 90 cases



Responded to every email and phone call received by our office.



Attended more than 20 different Block Watch and Village Planning Committee meetings



Published over 30 social media posts - Please follow me @PHXdistrict8



Participated in over 50 stakeholder & city department meetings and events



Voted for the \$11.6 billion 2023-2024 City of Phoenix Budget which will bring essential resources to District 8

# Constituent 'Wins'

On the campaign trail, I promised voters that my office would be responsive to every constituent request that was sent or presented to us. I am proud to say that I have kept that promise. My office has **opened 124 cases** and has **closed over 90** in my first 100 days. We have worked proactively with city departments and other external organizations to address key issues residents in District 8 have faced. When successfully addressing an issue in response to a resident's request, we call it a **constituent win**. Below is a list of **some** of the *constituent 'wins'* we've achieved in the past 100 days.

- Worked with the Streets Transportation Department (Streets) to repair a light pole outage on 20th St. and Baseline Rd that was inoperable for months.
- Assisted a Garfield Historic District resident to acquire a speed trailer on 700 E. Portland to address the ongoing speed and muffler noise in the area.
- Removed graffiti at 7th St. and South Mountain Ave., 10 E. Buckeye Rd, 4019 E. Carter Drive, 1523 E. McDowell Rd, 2048 E. McDowell Rd, and 1022 S. 1st St.
- Worked with Streets to fill a pothole near 28th St. and Thomas Rd.
- Coordinated with the Arizona Department of Transportation to remove debris/trash on the 7th St. I-17 median, which had been there for over a year.
- Elevated all homeless encampment issues to the appropriate City Departments to ensure unsheltered individuals are outreached and offered resources.
- Worked with the Water Services Department to start services for a resident who was denied service.
- Worked with the Housing Department to stop the eviction of a District 8 resident who lives in Section 8 Housing.
- Coordinated with CenturyLink and Planning & Development to fix a phone line.
- Worked with Streets to reestablish the quiet zone designation in downtown.

***YOUR SATISFACTION IS OUR GREATEST COMPLIMENT.***

"I am so incredibly grateful for your expedited help with the ongoing . . . situation in our neighborhood."

"Wow, just wow! I am super impressed with your speed of action. Thank you!"

"Thank you for your assistance - you have made my DAY. Great customer service - you have a wonderful day."

As a member of the Phoenix City Council, I am focused on moving the City and District 8 forward on critically important issues over the next four years. District 8 faces a wide variety of important issues that I will address during my time in office, but there were three concerns that residents frequently raised: **homelessness, housing attainability, and economic development**. On June 8, 2023, I held a Policy Summit with key stakeholders to assess the city's current approach and brainstorm additional ways to effectuate meaningful improvements in these areas.

Homelessness, housing attainability, and economic development issues have an outsized impact in District 8 and cut across multiple resident concerns like quality of life, public safety, and economic security. These three issues will serve as the foundation of my policy agenda. I will work with my staff to ensure residents and key stakeholders are involved in finding common-sense solutions to these critical priorities.



## Housing Attainability

Advocate for an increase in affordable housing opportunities, the expansion of housing vouchers, and diversification of inventory options.



## Homelessness

Support efforts by city departments and community partners to assist unhoused individuals and families in acquiring housing and also encourage and support new stakeholders to be of the solution.



## Economic Development

Promote District 8 as a key business corridor, expand growth in areas like employment, and facilitate growth in areas like employment and amenities that satisfy the communities needs.



# Moves in the Right Direction



## ***Homelessness***

- Added funding needed to continue emergency services for shelter operations throughout the city serving individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The City is developing a new shelter that will house up to 280 individuals per night.
- Increased funding to expand Behavioral Health Engagement Teams (BET) in Human Services. BET teams provide outreach to specific areas of the city that are experiencing high instances of substance abuse and behavioral health issues, which may contribute to experiencing homelessness.
- Supported funding to expand the department's PHX CARES Outreach Teams contract. The PHX CARES teams provide outreach from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days per week, with the goal of reducing people experiencing homelessness.



## ***Housing Attainability***

- Supported funds to go to Southwest Behavioral and Health Services and the Area Agency on Aging Region One, Inc. for the Housing Department's federally funded Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS Program.
- Met with stakeholders in the housing industry to discuss potential permitting process improvements.
- Supported funding for the HUD Consolidated Annual Action Plan to support Multi Family Rental Housing, Down Payment Assistance, Reconstruction/Rehabilitation of Owner Occupied Homes.
- Signed onto a letter to the Arizona Congressional Delegation requesting an increase in the allotted Section 8 Vouchers in the City of Phoenix



## ***Economic Development***

- Toured parts of District 8 alongside the Community and Economic Development Department to work on ways we can improve economic growth in District 8.
- Supported continued funding for the Entrepreneurship Assistance, Management Technical Assistance, and Neighborhood Commercial Rehabilitation Programs.
- Supported funding for business attraction and development services which will increase efforts to attract and grow quality businesses in District 8.

***This is just the beginning I look forward to continued strides toward these goals.***

# First 100 Days in Photos



**Arizona Horizon Interview with Ted Simon**



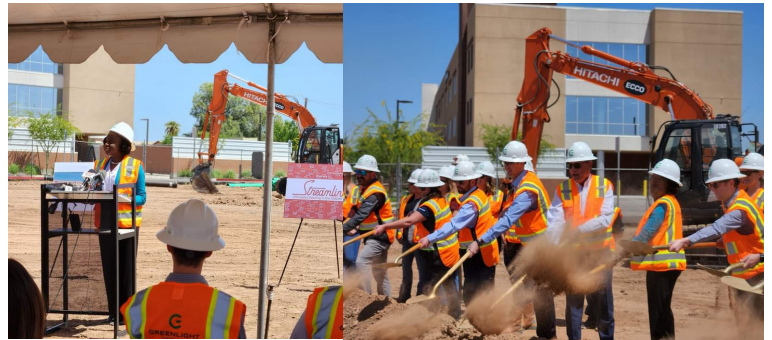
**Meeting with the Resident Leadership Council during their tour of City Hall**



**Arbor Day with Trees Matter at Bethune Elementary School**



**Booker T. Washington Child Development Center's Inaugural Spring Social**



**Greenlight Communities Groundbreaking Streamliner Affordable Housing**



**Meeting with Mexican Consul General Jorge Mendoza Yescas**



***New Leaders, New Perspectives Panel* hosted by Valley Partnership**



**Flag distribution to commemorate Memorial Day with American Legion Post 65 and Phoenix Fire**



# First 100 Days in Photos



**District 8 Redistricting Meeting, First Round**



**Lindo Park Block Watch Meeting**



**Valley of the Sun Juneteenth Event**



**Laveen Quarterly Meeting**



**Sunday Square Off Interview with Brahm Resnik**



**New Pathways for Youth Site Tour**



**Meet the Leaders Panel hosted by Greater Phoenix Urban League**



**Grant Park Annual Luncheon Event**



**Groundbreaking at St. Vincent de Paul Ozanam Manor House**



# First 100 Days in Photos



**First Community and Cultural Investment Subcommittee Meeting**



**Annual Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Awards Gala**



**Salt River Project Watershed Helicopter Tour**



**Future Engineers Event at South Mountain Community College**



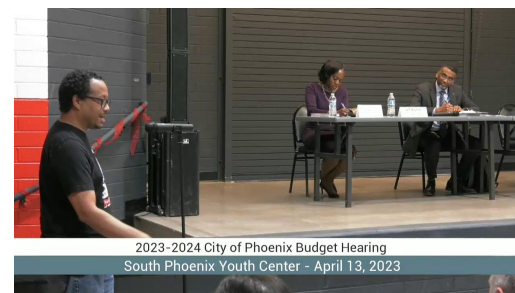
**Salt River Flats (upcoming Affordable Housing Project) Tour**



**Doughnut Summit**



**Observation of City's First Enhancement at the Zone**



2023-2024 City of Phoenix Budget Hearing  
South Phoenix Youth Center - April 13, 2023

**District 8 Budget Hearing**



# First 100 Days in Photos



**First City Council  
Formal Meeting**



**Laveen and Roosevelt School Districts Teacher  
Appreciation**



**Recorded Airport  
Greeting**



**Heart and Soul People's  
Garden**



**Phoenix Chapter of  
National Forum of Black  
Public Administrators  
Meeting**



**American Subcontractors  
Association Annual Gala**



**Hispanic Youth Entrepreneur Event**



# First 100 Days in Photos



Greeted the Graduating Class at T.G. Barr Academy for Global Studies



St. Josephine Bahkita's Mission Parish 1st Anniversary Founders Day Mass



First Policy Meeting



Transition Team Meeting



Laveen Sundown Ride, Run, Walk Electric Parade



Interview with Fox 10



1in9 Charities Inc. Health Screening



Evening of Goodwill



# First 100 Days in Photos



OneTen



American Cancer Society: Latinos Contra Cancer  
Community Resource Fair



ASU Residential Hall  
Renamed Gordon Commons



Governor Budget Signing  
Ceremony and Press Conference



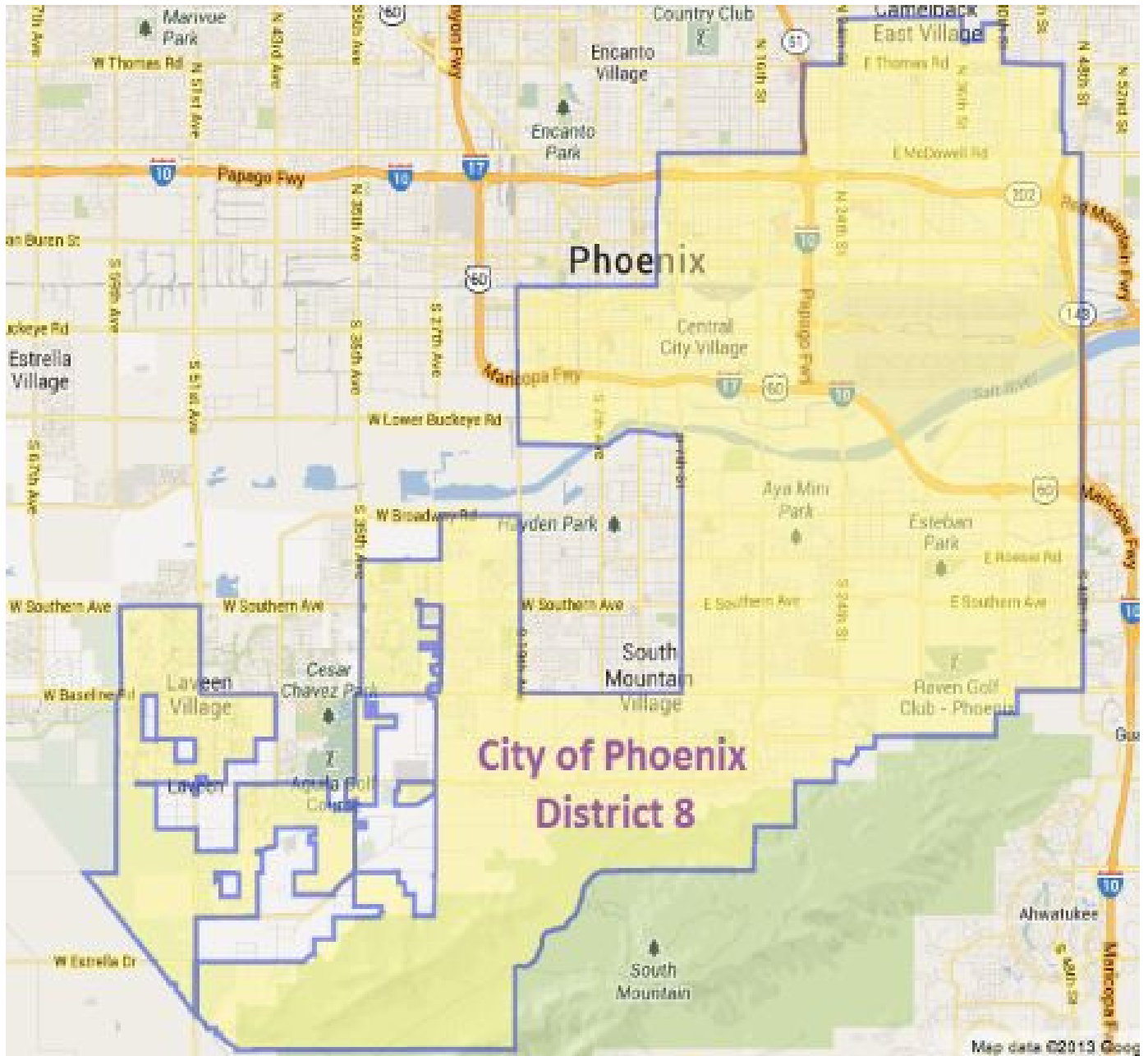
Asian American Hotel Owners  
Association Regional Conference

*Coming Soon*

## energize eight

I will be hosting community meetings around the District where I will be hearing from residents. Stay Tuned!

**MY STAFF AND I ARE HERE TO SERVE YOU.  
LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN BE OF SERVICE!**



**Councilwoman Kesha Hodge Washington  
Proudly Serving District 8!**

**For Questions, Contact the District 8 Team:**

 [council.district.8@phoenix.gov](mailto:council.district.8@phoenix.gov)  
 602-262-7493