

# DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



### A Message from Interim Director Brandy Kelso

Hello Streets Team!

As summer comes to an end, I want to thank everyone for your dedication and hard work during this long, hot summer. Your commitment and perseverance, despite the challenging conditions, have not gone unnoticed. Please continue to exercise heat safety and take all the necessary precautions to avoid heat injury.

Everyone is encouraged to continue to support and participate in this year's CSFD Campaign in a way that works for you, either by volunteering your time, or by supporting the many creative and engaging fundraising events throughout the campaign. The department goal is to raise \$2,400 and have 100% participation. For more information about the campaign, click here: <https://cityofphoenix.sharepoint.com/sites/csfd>

*Brandy*

### Remembering Sept. 11

September 11th marks the 23rd anniversary of the terrorist attacks that took place on the World Trade Center, Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

We honor the memories of those who died in the attack, and the extraordinary heroism on display that fateful day by ordinary Americans helping their fellow Americans.



Staff from Active Transportation have officially kicked off "Year 2" in Maryvale and Alhambra Villages and will be training Connectors (residents who will support in community outreach). Stay tuned for more!



Planning has started for the inaugural department picnic. If you are interested in volunteering to be part of the StreetsPHX employee picnic planning committee, please contact Rachana (Rachael) Sugden: [rachana.sugden@phoenix.gov](mailto:rachana.sugden@phoenix.gov) or 602-262-6136.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING



Street Transportation staff are participating in the review process for the Downtown Redevelopment Area (RDA) Project draft compiled by the Community and Economic Development Department. In October 2020, and in conformance with State law, the City of Phoenix updated the RDA boundaries. The RDA is defined by the area generally bounded by 23rd Avenue, 16th Street, Durango Street, and Moreland Street. The plan is prepared in conformance with A.R.S. §36-1479, outlines strategies and actions to guide development, redevelopment, conservation, and preservation within the Downtown RDA. Staff reviewed and provided comments on the chapters of the plan that contain detail and recommendations on roadway infrastructure, mobility, active transportation, and vulnerable road user safety.

Staff recently attended a peer exchange workshop sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Region 9 for cities, towns, counties, and states.



Staff from FHWA Region 9 headquarters, FHWA Arizona Division, and Arizona Department of Transportation provided information on upcoming grant opportunities for U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) funding, offered guidance, and shared resources. Street staff presented information on the department's successful efforts in writing federal grant submittals and receiving USDOT funding from programs including Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE), Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A), and Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI). The peer exchange workshop was a great opportunity to learn from other agencies and have insightful dialogue on federal grant opportunities, strategies, and best practices that all can benefit from sharing.



Our Streets team held a public meeting with members of the Maryvale community and the Camelback Community Neighborhood Association to kick off survey efforts on plans to modify the lane striping on Campbell Avenue between 59th Avenue and 51st Avenue.

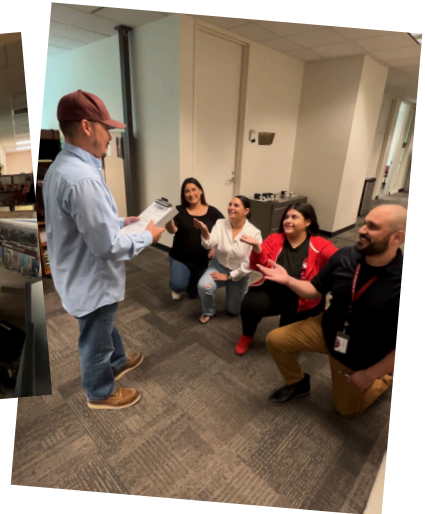
## Social Media

# 1,000 Followers! On Streets Instagram



A special “thanks” to our Traffic Signal crew who participated in a recently posted reel that has received more than 9,400 likes and has been viewed by almost 400,000 Instagram users! Not only has this been our most successful social media post yet, but it also put our Instagram followership OVER 1,000! (we are currently at **1,500!**)

In celebration of hitting **1,000** (a social media “milestone”) we posted a fun reel with some more amazing Streets staff. From “reviewing proposals,” to “wrapping up a call,” it was PUN-TASTIC!



### Follow us on StreetsPHX!



Find us and follow us: @StreetsPHX





## SUMMER SAFETY

Throughout the summer months, we've been reminding you to exercise heat readiness and take the appropriate steps to avoid heat injury or illness!

[Visit Phoenix.gov/Summer](http://Phoenix.gov/Summer)

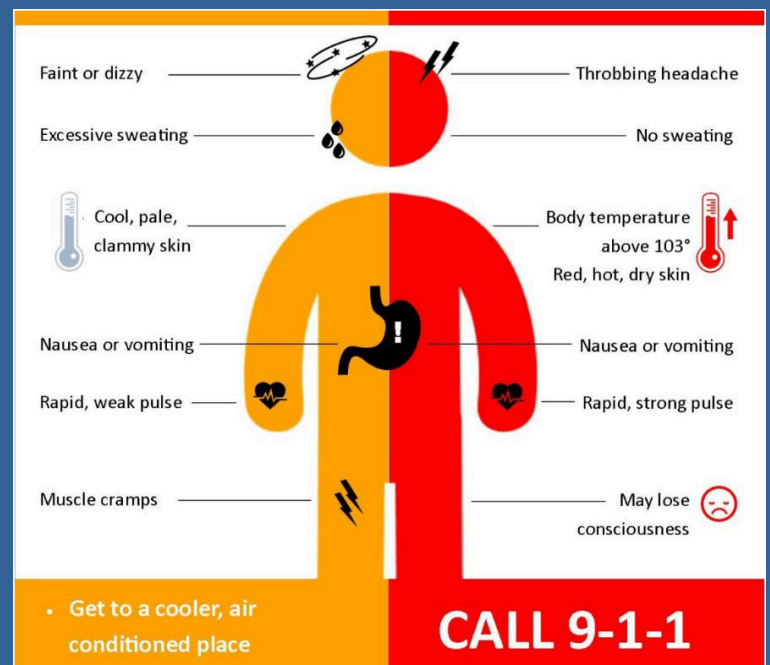


Monsoon Season is June 15 to Sept. 30. Always take the necessary precautions - on and off the clock - when it comes to monsoon weather and hazardous conditions.

The City of Phoenix has established the Heat Illness & Injury Prevention Program to minimize or eliminate employee exposure to heat related hazards that may lead to serious illnesses, injuries, or death. Our department will follow the components of this program from May 1 – September 30, or anytime a heat advisory or heat warning day has been issued by the National Weather Service.

### Safety Tips for Heat and Hydration

- Know the signs of Heat Exhaustion and Heat Stroke.
- Drink more water than usual:
  - Avoid sugary drinks, alcohol and caffeine
- Take frequent breaks and wear light-colored clothing and wide-brimmed hats.
- Look after your fellow employees for signs and symptoms of potential heat injury.
- Learn more at [Phoenix.gov/Heat](http://Phoenix.gov/Heat)



# CONTINUOUS INNOVATION

## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO:

The Continuous Innovation Program establishes a culture of sustainable change through creation and embedding continuous improvement methodologies to achieve enhanced customer service, increase productivity and decrease costs.

This program helps identify potential productivity issues and makes recommendations, and then provides continued support in monitoring project risks and ensuring successful, sustainable solutions.



## HAVE AN IDEA?

Contact Elizabeth Clark,  
Special Projects Administrator  
at [elizabeth.clark@phoenix.gov](mailto:elizabeth.clark@phoenix.gov)

Stay tuned for more updates and communications soon from the Streets CSFD team on ways to participate and donate. Save the date for the Hands & Hearts Street Fair on **Thursday, Oct. 3** at City Hall. More to come!

City of Phoenix employees can choose to donate money to support a variety of charities through the Valley of the Sun United Way as part of the Community Service Fund Drive (CSFD). These are direct contributions to local organizations that provide important social, charitable, and physical aid to meet our community's needs. Last year, the city raised \$688,000 with 7,983 employees participating. Organizations funded through the CSFD use those donations to help people in our own community!



Every Monday and Wednesday in September from Noon – 1:00 p.m. CSFD is hosting Virtual Community Showcases highlighting some community organizations supported by the Valley of the Sun United Way. Join us to learn more about the work they do.



## There's always something happening in Street Transportation!

Got an idea for social media, or ways to connect with the community? Do you have an event or program you'd like featured? Did you, someone on your team or another team member earn a special achievement or promotion?

Contact us at [streetsconnect@phoenix.gov](mailto:streetsconnect@phoenix.gov)

### WELCOME TO THE TEAM!



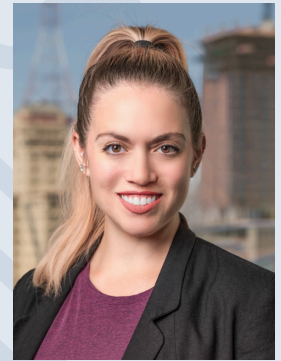
#### **Mohamad Al-kahlout, Traffic Engineer III, Office of City Engineer - Development Coordination**

Mo brings experience in Transportation Engineering, having worked at CivTech for 6 years. He is skilled in Traffic Impact Analysis, transportation planning, and is a licensed commercial drone pilot. With a passion for sustainability, particularly in the electrification of the transportation fleet, Mo is dedicated to advancing sustainable transportation and implementing innovative transportation solutions.

#### **Cara Nassar, Planner III Design and Construction Management**

As an Active Transportation Planner, Cara is working to create pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly infrastructure that promotes healthier, more vibrant communities.

Previously working at the Maricopa Association of Governments as a Transportation Planner, a point of pride was her involvement in the development of the MOMENTUM 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. She holds Master's degrees in Urban & Environmental Planning and Sustainability from Arizona State University.



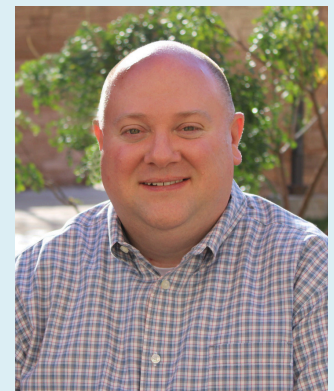
#### **Andrea Diaz, Senior Engineering Technician Utility Coordination**

Andrea started with the City of Phoenix six years ago with Parks & Recreation Department before moving over to the Planning and Development Department. She has been with Street Transportation, Utility Coordination, for the past two years as an Engineering Technician.

### FAREWELL!

#### **Gregg Bach, Marketing Program Manager Community & Economic Development Department**

Gregg has accepted a promotion to Marketing Program Manager in the Community & Economic Development Department! Gregg has been with the City of Phoenix since 2014, and during the past three years he was Senior Public Information Officer for the Street Transportation Department, and previous to that was PIO for the Parks and Recreation Department. Prior to working for the City, Gregg worked in marketing and communications in college athletics at San Diego State University and the University of Akron (in Ohio). He has a bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism from Northern Arizona University and a master's degree in education from the University of Akron. While the Communication and Public Engagement Team (CPET) is sad to see him go, we wish Gregg all the best in his new role!



## CONRATULATIONS!



**Nicholas Ramirez, Principal Engineering Technician  
Office of the City Engineer - Floodplain Management**

Nick has worked most of his City of Phoenix career so far working in the Street Maintenance Division for the last 17 years. He started as a Street Maintenance Worker I and worked almost every field position within Streets. He was also a supervisor for three years with Street Maintenance Division. Nick has now begun a new role as Principal Engineering Technician in the Office of the City Engineer.

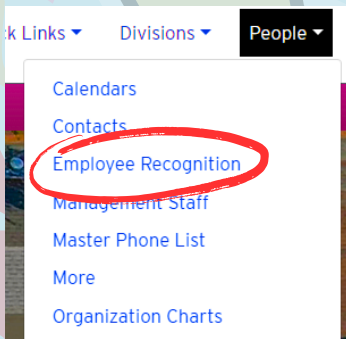
**Katrina Mendoza, Principal Engineering Technician  
Office of the City Engineer - Utility Coordination**

After more than 23 years with the City of Phoenix, starting off as a Communications Dispatcher, then Chief Engineering Technician, Katrina has now accepted a promotion to Principal Engineering Technician!



**Dominic Galaviz, Chief Construction Inspector,  
Streets Management Division - Pavement Management**

Dominic began his career with Street Maintenance in 2000 as a Street Maintenance Worker Trainee. Over the years, he has held the position of Street Maintenance Worker I and II, Street Maintenance Foreman I, and Foreman II in Public Transit Department. He later returned to Streets as a Senior Construction Inspector with DCM before transitioning to the Pavement Management section.



Please continue to use the Employee Appreciation and Recognition Program to acknowledge great work. The next kudos drawing will take place in January at one of the safety meetings.

A message will be sent out a couple weeks in advance of the cutoff date for cards to be submitted in order to be eligible for that drawing.

**Submission information can be found in SharePoint on the Streets page, navigate to "People" then "Employee Recognition"**

# HUMAN RESOURCES NEWS

## Years of Service

### 20 Years

Shannon Fenton  
Gilbert Moreno  
Jose Simental  
Ruben Somoza, Jr.

### 25 Years

William McGriff, Jr.  
Gretchen Naehrbass

### 30 Years

Rozanna Brown

**Keep updated  
on career  
opportunities!**

[Phoenix.gov/Jobs](https://phoenix.gov/jobs)



## Who to contact:

### Personnel and Payroll

#### Araceli Sigala-Cordova

City Engineer, DCM  
and Traffic Services  
602-261-8951

#### Nicole Medina

Management Services  
and Street Maintenance  
602-262-7950

### Employee Relations and Recruitment

#### Rita McClinton

DCM and Traffic Services  
602-495-7213

#### Viviana Madrigal

Director's Office, City Engineer,  
Management Services  
602-534-2917

### Safety

#### Miguel Vasquez

Environmental Quality  
602-319-3468