



## UPCOMING EVENTS

The **TOP FIVE** coolest things happening this winter:



### Hope for a Cooler Future

In December, Mayor Greg Stanton, along with over 50 other mayors, [signed the Chicago Climate Charter](#), an agreement that aligns with the commitments of the Paris Climate Accord. [Phoenix's first action on climate since signing the charter](#)--adopting a new goal on January 9, 2018 to reduce greenhouse gases 30% by 2025!

### Night of the Open Door

Jan 26, 2018, - ASU's

Polytechnic Campus

Feb 2, 2018, -

ASU's Downtown Campus

Feb 24, 2018 - ASU's Tempe Campus

"Sustainability Central"

location with musical entertainment, food trucks and partner booths featuring their work with ASU to achieve sustainability goals.

<https://opendoor.asu.edu/>

### Global Reporting Initiative North American User Conference

February 5, 2018, 8am - 6pm, Beus Center for Law and Society ASU Downtown



Phoenix Campus  
<http://globalreporting.org/5th-gri-global-conference/Pages/default.aspx>

**2018 Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit**  
February 4-6, 2018,  
Doubletree, Tempe  
[www.secondnature.org](http://www.secondnature.org)

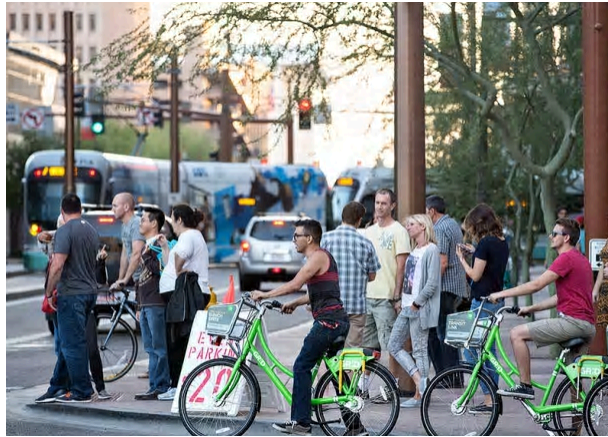
**GreenBiz 18**  
February 6-8, 2018, JW  
Marriott Desert Ridge  
[www.greenbiz.com](http://www.greenbiz.com)

**Sustainability Solutions Celebration**  
February 7, 2018, 6 - 10 p.m.  
- El Chorro  
[www.greenbiz.com](http://www.greenbiz.com)



### What's too hot

2017 was a scorcher with 25 days over 110 and 14 record breaking high temperatures between March and November. It's no surprise that 2017 [was the hottest year on record for Phoenix.](#)



## What's Amazing

**We are a LEEDer**  
Phoenix is one of the first cities to achieve [LEED for Cities Platinum certification](#) in Leadership in Environmental Energy and Design. This recognizes the city's commitment in creating a sustainable and resilient built environment, which includes reducing greenhouse gas emissions, supporting clean energy innovation, and focusing on inclusive prosperity and livability.



**As Temperatures Rise Credit Ratings Fall**  
States and cities in the United States might be in for a double whammy if they choose not to prepare for the effects of climate change. [Moody's Investor Services, Inc. announced](#) that if local governments do not take the threat of climate related disasters seriously and prepare for them, then their credit rating may be downgraded.



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### Making Phoenix Cool

Trees not only produce oxygen, sequester carbon dioxide, run on 100% solar energy, and provide habitats, they also make Phoenix cooler. Which is why Phoenix has a [Tree and Shade Master Plan](#) to double the number of trees in Phoenix and provide shade that, among other benefits, is making the city more walkable in those hot summer months. Phoenix is ramping up efforts for increased plantings in streets and parks.

Did you know?

### What's Donut Economics?

Interested in exploring the concept of economic development beyond growth alone? [Kate Haworth's model of Doughnut Economics](#) represents the world's economy using a doughnut shape to define the social and planetary boundaries to ponder in the pursuit of a safe and just space for humanity.

### PHOENIX'S ENCANTO AREA



### SOUTH PHOENIX



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago; the next best time is now."*

Chinese Proverb



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### Extreme Cold Vs Extreme Heat

As Phoenixians enjoy their salt on margarita glasses versus on the streets, they also enjoy lower energy usage as it takes way more energy to heat a house than cool it. Buildings in Phoenix use less energy annually than most other cold climate US cities. [So 120 vs -30?](#) We'll take the 120 any day.



## WHAT A GREAT CITY WE HAVE!

**Reason to Celebrate:** Thanks in part to community feedback and support, the **Phoenix City Council unanimously approved an ambitious new goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions [by 30 percent below 2012 levels by 2025!](#)**

In 2016, the Phoenix City Council adopted the goal to be a carbon-neutral city by 2060 and directed staff to complete a 2016 community greenhouse gas inventory. Earlier this year, Council reviewed the City's first-ever Community Greenhouse Gas Inventory (baseline from 2012) showing Phoenix to have a lower community-wide carbon intensity than many other leading U.S. Cities! This inventory helped to inform the mid-term 2025 greenhouse gas reduction target.

A component of the Council directive included community and stakeholder engagement, which included a public outreach campaign with staff presenting a wide range of potentially viable actions to the community, including City Boards and Commissions, Village Planning committees and various other stakeholders. This tool was used to identify support for a mix of potential voluntary and regulatory actions that could be considered in the future. Additional outreach efforts incorporated an extensive social media campaign on Facebook, Twitter, and NextDoor using the weblink <http://www.coolerphoenix.com>, provided in both English and Spanish.

Highlights from just over 1,700 comments included:

- Overwhelming demonstration of public and stakeholder willingness to make personal commitments to achieve these goals
- Most respondents indicated a willingness to participate in a variety of suggested activities that could reduce greenhouse gas emission over the long term

### **Support for Trees:**

- 91% agree: A strategy to double the number of trees in Phoenix over time is a good idea.
- 50% agree: I would consider donating to a citywide tree campaign in my city.

### **Support on Buildings:**

- 83% agree: I think the City should require a green rating (called a HERS score) on all new homes, so that a house's efficiency is displayed clearly for potential buyers.
- 81% agree: I think the City adopting an energy efficient building code is a good idea (even if the new home costs slightly more).
- 71% agree: I would pay \$300 more for a home with **Electric Vehicle Charging**.

As we roll up our sleeves and dig into 2018, let's focus on the great things ahead: our sustainable future and the goals achieved along the way. What a great city we have!

All the best,

City of Phoenix Green Team



Did you enjoy this newsletter? Let us know!

Got a question?  
Ask one of our experts at

[sustainability@phoenix.gov](mailto:sustainability@phoenix.gov)

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