

**Neighborhood Quality of Life and Revitalization
Council Committee**

**Tuesday, May 22, 2012
3:00 PM**

Harry E. Mitchell Government Center
Third Floor Conference Room
31 East Fifth Street
Tempe, AZ 85281

AGENDA

Chair: Vice Mayor Joel Navarro

Call to Order

1. Public Appearances – The committee welcomes public comment. According to the Arizona Open Meeting Law, the Committee may only discuss matters listed on the agenda. Matters brought up by the public under public appearances that are not listed on the agenda cannot be discussed by the Committee. A 3-minute limit per person will be in effect.
2. Review of Minutes: February 28, 2012 Neighborhood Quality of Life and Revitalization Committee
3. Hardy Drive Update – Robert Yabes, Community Development
4. Right of Way Prioritization Update – Lisa Collins, Community Development
5. Park Renovation Project Potential Options – Bob Pohlit, Community Services
6. Update on Coyote Issue – Amber Wakeman, Community Relations and Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services
7. Future Agenda Items
8. Future Meeting Date – June 26, 2012 (Fourth Tuesday of the month) at 3:00 p.m.
9. Announcements

The City of Tempe endeavors to make all public meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. With 72 hours advance notice, special assistance can also be provided for sight and/or hearing impaired persons at public meetings. Please call 350-2905 (voice) or 350-2750 (TDD) to request an accommodation to participate in this meeting.



Minutes
Neighborhood Quality of Life and Revitalization
Council Committee
February 28, 2012

Minutes of the Neighborhood Quality of Life and Revitalization Council Committee meeting held on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at 3:00 p.m., in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Committee Member Present:

Vice Mayor Joel Navarro, Chair

City Staff Present:

Brigitta Kuiper, City Clerk
Amber Wakeman, Assistant to the City Council
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Manager
Bob Pohlit, Senior Recreation Coordinator
Angel Carbajal, Assistant Police Chief
Lisa Collins, Deputy Community Dev. Director – Planning

Jeff Tamulevich, Code Enforcement Manager
John Osgood, Deputy Public Works Dir. – Field Ops
Larry Schmalz, Principal Planner
Robert Yabes, Principal Planner
David Humble, Police Commander

Guests Present:

Stephanie Salazar, Arizona State University (ASU)
David Felix, Tempe Cares
Nicholas Aiello, ASU
Ashleigh Kosses, ASU
Wesley Honstein, ASU

Greg Chavez, ASU
Ashlynn Banuet, ASU
Jennifer Gunther, ASU
Rui Wen, ASU
Kezhen Wang, ASU

Vice Mayor Navarro called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None.

Agenda Item 2 – Tempe Cares

Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Services Manager, and David Felix, Tempe Cares Committee Chairman, provided an overview of the Tempe Cares Program. Presentation and discussion highlights include:

- Next event will be held Saturday, March 3, 2012.
- Founded in 1991, Tempe Cares is an annual event held on the first Saturday in March; managed by Tempe Leadership through the Tempe Chamber of Commerce.
- Mission: To organize community volunteers to reduce blight and improve the appearance of Tempe's neighborhoods, schools and community spaces.
- Past projects include painting the exterior of houses, arranging for minor exterior repairs, landscaping maintenance, tree and shrub pruning and removal, and City parks clean up.
- The Mayor and Council will be in attendance on March 3. There will be a presentation by the Mayor and Council announcing groups and work locations; participants will receive a t-shirt, breakfast and lunch will be provided, tools and equipment will also be provided.
- Anticipate approximately 350 volunteers this year.

Agenda Item 2.

- Planning Committee: 10-15 volunteers; mostly Tempe Leadership Alumni; Committee meets from October through March to brainstorm project ideas and coordinate logistics. Sub-Committees include: site/project selection, fundraising, tools and supplies, volunteer management, sustenance, partner coordination, and publicity.
- Project ideas: large blocks of owner occupied homes, parks, arterial walls, and parks and schools in Tempe.
- Project is primarily funded through corporate sponsorships and donations.
- Tempe Cares 2012 Project
 - Wood and Getz Elementary Schools – painting modular buildings, painting curbs and railings, approximately 200 volunteers; Phoenix Suns donated basketballs.
 - Clark Park – painting interior and exterior of the community building, painting basketball poles, painting park benches throughout the park, painting public restrooms; approximately 35 volunteers.
 - Svoab Park – painting the perimeter walls, painting concrete benches and tables; approximately 20 volunteers.
 - Celaya Park – painting the perimeter walls; approximately 25 volunteers.
- There are approximately 340 volunteers; Tempe Care representatives are reaching out to schools for additional projects.
- To get involved, contact David Felix 602-481-2592, david.felix@srpnet.com, Tanya Chavez 480-250-5181, Tanya_Chavez@tempe.gov, or Mel Kessler 480-227-1621, Mel.Kessler@cox.net
- Volunteers that participate: Tempe Kiwanis Club, Key Clubs from high schools and volunteers from the network of sponsors.
- It is good to focus on parks.
- Tempe Cares was commended for their work.

Agenda Item 3 – Alley Ordinance Update

John Osgood, Deputy Public Works Director – Field Operations, provided an Alley Ordinance update. Presentation and discussion highlights include:

- Purpose of the ordinance: a tool to facilitate more control in alleys. Primary areas of concern are people in alleys and illegal dumping.
- Police Department supports this ordinance; benefits to crime prevention for illegal dumping, graffiti, drug use and burglaries.
- Collecting metal from alleys could be an issue. Once something has been placed in a garbage can it is technically City property; inspectors could take action. Large items disposed of in the alley may be of use to another person and will be evaluated on a case by case basis.
- Next step: present ordinance to City Council at a Formal Council Meeting.

Agenda Item 4 – Loud Party Ordinance Update

David Humble, Police Commander, provided an update on the Loud Party Ordinance. Presentation and discussion highlights include:

- Loud party ordinance has been successful; it is a tool for neighborhoods to address loud parties.
- Ordinance provides for enforcement and education; most complaints are regarding students and rental properties north of Broadway Road. There were 37 calls for service last weekend resulting in 15 criminal citations. There were 16 loud party notices issued the prior weekend with 9 criminal citations; 21 loud party notices issued this past weekend.
- The ordinance was amended to add unlawful gathering/social host components; the education of adults serving alcohol to minors was instituted. Staff worked with social services on the education component of the ordinance; alcohol education classes are offered.
- The ordinance name has been changed from the Loud Party Ordinance to the Nuisance Ordinance.
- Police Department will respond to a loud party. If it is disruptive, there is garbage in the street, illegal parking, people drinking in the front yard, or urinating in public, arrests can be made.
- Unlawful nuisance party warnings may be issued; however, if there is a second disruptive party that occurs within 90 days at the same address, a police service fee will be assessed which ranges from \$250 – \$500. The responsible party for the residence and/or the landlord can be assessed the fee. The following morning a

Crime Prevention Officer contacts the residents and notifies the owner/landlord of the property that they may be held responsible.

- The Police Department partners with Arizona State University (ASU) to conduct a back-to-school education awareness blitz during the fall semester. Many students are not from Tempe and do not know the laws.
- Community Relations gets information out through off campus housing, Greek Life events, and the Fall/Spring Housing Fair. Social media should be used more. ASU utilizes Facebook, Twitter and the State Press as communication tools.

Agenda Item 5 – Neighborhood Revitalization Program

Lisa Collins, Deputy Community Development Director – Planning, and Larry Schmalz, Principal Planner, provided an update on the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. Presentation and discussion highlights include:

- Program is a focused approach to using monetary resources; creating a larger impact on neighborhoods.
- Target areas are Victory Acres and the Escalante neighborhoods. The City owns vacant lots in these neighborhoods.
- Request for Proposals (RFPs) have been issued to develop affordable housing. The City has received a response from Habitat for Humanity to develop either a single family home or duplex on Stratton Lane, depending upon the model size, and two single family homes on Randall Drive.
- March 8, 2012 Formal Council Meeting – request will be made to reprogram HOME and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding; HOME funding will be reprogrammed from rehabilitation to acquisition and rehabilitation. Staff is looking for a non-profit organization for program implementation assistance, and to reprogram funding to support the Storefront Improvement Program.
- Victory Acres residents have concerns with large numbers of affordable/Section 8 housing units in the area.
- Habitat for Humanity will be screening residents based on area median income; will offer additional services for neighbors.

Agenda Item 6 – Code Enforcement Update

Lisa Collins, Deputy Community Development Director – Planning, and Jeff Tamulevich, Code Enforcement Manager, provided a Code Enforcement update. Presentation and discussion highlights include:

- Commercial Code Compliance and Residential Code Compliance merged in July, 2009. At that time there were 19 inspectors to enforce the 40 square miles of property in Tempe. Currently, the Code Compliance inspection team consists of 8 inspectors.
- The City has been divided into five residential zones. Five inspectors are dedicated to residential inspections; each inspector is responsible for approximately 6,700 single family residential properties.
- One inspector is accountable for commercial, industrial, and multi-family properties in Tempe - about 18,000 properties. Two inspectors are responsible for sign permitting and sign inspections.
- In 2008, 84,000 residential cases were opened; in 2011, 42,000 residential cases were opened.
- Between 2008 and 2011 foreclosures increased from 75 to 437; abatements increased from 32 to 49.
- Staff resources are limited; the goal is to get the community more involved and to educate/inform residents about what they can do to improve their properties and help their neighbors to improve their property.
- Water bills can be used to communicate with residents.
- Staff has developed a checklist for commercial business owners to identify potential violations on their property.
- Staff has received positive feedback on the communication component of the program.
- Postcards are mailed to residents reminding them to pull their weeds.
- After a violation notice has been issued, it takes approximately 37 days to close a case.
- After a complaint is received, the goal is to inspect the location within two days. Many cases require issuance of two violation notices before a citation is issued.
- A violation may go to court; if improvement has not been made, the case will go before the Hearing Officer. The City then asks for the ability to abate that property, a 30-day period, followed by an appeal period.
- Code Enforcement activity is not proactive; the approach is to follow up on complaints received.
- If a property owner has shrubs or trees in the back yard that need to be trimmed, it would not be a violation unless they are impeding into a neighbor's yard.

Agenda Item 2.

Agenda Item 7 – Broadway Road Project Update

Lisa Collins, Deputy Community Development Director – Planning, and Robert Yabes, Principal Planner, provided an update on the Broadway Road Project. Presentation and discussion highlights include:

- The Broadway Road streetscape project between Mill Avenue and Rural Road is a predominantly residential area.
- Project includes: center medians, 8 foot wall on the north side of the street, bike lanes, sidewalk expansion.
- Need to acquire easements and right-of-way, spanning from two feet to ten feet. Thirty letters have been mailed with 9 letters returned; 8 favorable, 1 not favorable. Follow up phone calls to residents are being done.
- Staff has secured a \$1.6 million grant to purchase property, if necessary.
- Staff does not have a complete assessment of residents that are willing to sell a portion of their property at this time; this feedback should be received within the next few weeks.
- The access road on the north side of Broadway Road will be eliminated; additional roadway will be needed for turn lanes.
- Project timeline: 1999 – 2003 – Comprehensive Transportation Plan; 2000 – Broadway Road Project identified; 2008 – secured funding.
- Staff is working on getting property owners to agree on increasing the easement size; final design to follow. If the property can be acquired before June 2012, construction should begin by December 2012.
- Staff has been meeting with property owners and a neighborhood meeting will also be held.
- There is approximately \$4.1 million in federal grants for the streetscape project; funding must be obligated in October 2012.
- Staff will provide an update at the next Committee meeting.

Agenda Item 8 – Right of Way Prioritization Update

Lisa Collins, Deputy Community Development Director – Planning, provided a Right-of-Way Prioritization update. Presentation and discussion highlights include:

- Three independent staff work groups are working on this process.
- Public Works and Community Development are working on transportation realignment.
- Meetings have been held to talk about the grant process, in general.
- Groups are revisiting the Transportation Comprehensive Plan and the General Plan, and also the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) processes, subcommittees and various groups.
- Staff would like to bring this item back to the Committee and then present to the City Council at an Issue Review Session. This will be a discussion regarding capital improvement projects, projects that are funded by grants and prioritization. City Council can evaluate and make decisions regarding priority of projects.

Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda Items

- Broadway Road Project update

Agenda Item 10 – Future Meeting Date

The next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 11 – Announcements

None.

The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Reviewed by Amber Wakeman, Assistant to City Council



Community Development

DATE: May 18, 2012

TO: Councilman Joel Navarro, Chair
Neighborhood Quality of Life and Revitalization Council Committee

FROM: Robert Yabes, Principal Planner (350-2734)

THROUGH: Lisa Collins, Interim Community Development Director (350-8989)

SUBJECT: Hardy Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Project

The City of Tempe is holding an open house to talk with residents and businesses about a project to improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities and enhance the streetscape on Hardy Drive between University Drive and Broadway Road. This project is funded with \$1.2 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality federal grant money. The project will likely include bicycle and pedestrian enhancements, ADA improvements, bus stop enhancements, and landscaping. The project will make Hardy Drive a more user-friendly and sustainable multi-modal street.

The project will be coordinated with the on-going design effort for University Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement project. The first phase of the project is to complete the design and the required environmental analysis. The first public meeting for the project will be held on Wednesday, May 23 from 6:00- 7:30 p.m. at the Dennis J. Cahill Senior Center in the Westside Multi-Gen Center, 715 W. 5th St., Tempe.

Discussion at the meeting will include:

- gathering input from residents, businesses and organizations along the Hardy Drive corridor on potential design elements and
- updating the public about the project process and timeline.

The City has created a website for the project at <http://www.tempe.gov/index.aspx?page=2350>. All materials that will be provided at the open house will be posted on-line. Residents that are not able to attend the meeting may comment online. For questions or clarifications, I can be reached at (480) 350-2734 or at Robert_yabes@tempe.gov.



Community Development

DATE: May 18, 2012

TO: Councilman Joel Navarro, Chair
Neighborhood Quality of Life and Revitalization Council Committee

FROM: Eric Iwersen, Senior Planner (350-8810)

THROUGH: Lisa Collins, Interim Community Development Director (350-8989)

SUBJECT: University Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement Project

The City of Tempe held an open house in January to talk with residents and businesses about a project to improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities and enhance the streetscape on University Drive between Priest Drive and the Union Pacific Railroad. Approximately 60 attendees at the meeting engaged in a discussion about the project and what improvements would be preferred. This project is funded with \$1.6 million in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality federal grant money. The project will include bicycle and pedestrian enhancements, ADA improvements, bus stop enhancements, and landscaping. The project will make University Drive a more user-friendly and sustainable multi-modal street.

The project will be coordinated with the on-going design effort for Hardy Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvement project. Currently staff and the design team are working with the comments received at the public meeting and online to develop a draft concept to take back out the public in August.

Some comments from the public received thus far include:

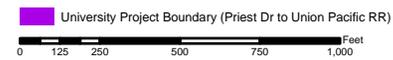
- Provide north/south crossing opportunities (Farmer, Roosevelt)
- Provide shade, landscaping and public art
- Provide better bike lanes & ADA improvements
- Build a median & explore pavement alternatives (pavers, concrete)
- Integrate water harvesting practices

The City has created a website for the project at <http://www.tempe.gov/index.aspx?page=493>. All background project materials, historical data, and comments received to date are available at the website. For questions or clarifications, I can be reached at (480) 350-8810 or at eric_iwersen@tempe.gov.

UNIVERSITY DRIVE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



Source: City of Tempe Community Development
Revised: May 16, 2012



Memorandum

Public Works Department



To: Neighborhood Quality of Life and Revitalization Council Committee

From: Bob Pohlit, Parks Projects Coordinator (X5255)
John Osgood, Deputy Public Works Director, Field Operations (X8949)

Date: May 15, 2012

Subject: Aging Parks Prioritization Discussion

At the April 24, 2012 meeting of the committee, during the Future Agenda Items segment, staff was requested to initiate discussion of a parks prioritization plan, which would include the development of options and recommendations for addressing park renovations and improvements going forward. Specifically, staff will work with the committee, the Mayor and City Council, and the community to develop a comprehensive five-year Capital Improvement Plan for consideration beginning in fiscal year 2013-14. In order to initiate and frame the discussion for the May 22nd meeting and beyond, staff provides the following brief status update, assumptions, and next steps for committee consideration.

Status

Following the November 2008 bond election, a major parks master planning effort was in full swing, as planned and approved in the city’s Park Renovation & Restoration CIP project. The renovation of Hudson Park was completed in 2009. Both the city and community members representing an additional eight neighborhoods, invested significant time and financial resources in developing and completing master plans and construction designs for their neighborhood parks. The CIP project has been on hold since the Spring of 2010.

Master Plan & Construction Design Completed	Master Plans Completed
Daley Park	Clark Park & Swimming Pool
Goodwin Park	Meyer Park
Hallman Park	Selleh Park
Scudder Park	Svob Park

Assumptions

- Funding for park renovations and improvements is limited in the foreseeable future.
- Mayor and City Council have established an expectation that the annual CIP will be developed around sound, system-based asset management principles, using the following prioritization criteria:
 1. Public Health and Safety
 2. Asset Preservation
 3. Customer Enhancements
 4. System Expansion
- Some neighborhoods have devoted significant time and resources to the master planning effort of their neighborhood park; however, elements of current plans and designs may or may not be feasible at this time or in the future.
- Neighborhood meetings will be required to establish and in some cases revisit neighborhood-specific park elements, amenities and expectations.

Agenda Item 5.

- Certain park elements including but not limited to ADA accessibility, adequate lighting, and safe equipment and conditions must be addressed on a system-wide basis and as part of any renovation.

Next Steps

As directed by Mayor and Council, staff has been working to restructure the city's overall strategy for addressing the important needs of our aging park system. As we move forward in preparing next year's park improvements capital program, at a high level our goal would be to develop a five year plan that:

- Utilizes current system-based condition assessment data for determining public health and safety and asset management infrastructure priorities.
- Recognizes the significant amount of time and energy our residents have invested in their neighborhood park planning efforts over the years.
- Identifies funding, to the greatest extent possible for the five year planning period, that addresses both public health, safety and asset management (priority level 1-2 above) and customer enhancement and system expansion (priority level 3-4 above) improvements.

Staff will be present at the May 22nd meeting to obtain input and direction from the committee, and to discuss in more detail potential funding options that consider park size, existing master plans, and system-specific needs. For the purpose of facilitating committee discussion, see example of potential approach below. If you have questions prior to the meeting, please contact Bob Pohlit at (480) 350-5255.

Potential CIP Budget Preparation Approach

Staff could take a two-step approach as outlined above in submitting next year's CIP requests:

Step 1 – Continue to submit requests for individual infrastructure elements (Athletic Field Lighting, Park Restrooms & Ramadas, Aquatic Facilities, Park Lighting & Electrical, etc.) utilizing much of the public health, safety and asset management prioritization information already contained in the Council approved Park Renovation Priority list.

Step 2 – Using the existing Council approved Park Renovation Priority list, submit a new Park Renovation Project significantly reduced in scope and cost by:

- a. Designating a set amount to be used for renovations at an individual park regardless of size;
or
- b. Designating an amount to be used for renovations at each park based on the park size, i.e. 1-4 acres - \$x, 4-9 acres - \$xx, 10-14 acres \$xxx and 15+ acres - \$xxxx; or
- c. Other criteria identified through the CIP preparation/neighborhood outreach processes.

This two-step approach recommends that major facilities such as restrooms, parking lots, and ball fields remain in their existing locations, in order to avoid a situation where, for example, it's operationally necessary to upgrade ball field lighting in a park whose master plan indicates the ball fields are to be moved. As suggested in the assumptions above, affected neighborhoods will be able to re-prioritize the specific improvements they want in their parks.

There have been recent sightings of coyotes reported in your Tempe neighborhood. The following information is provided to you (taken from AZ Game and Fish website) as helpful tips should you encounter a coyote.

Coyotes are common in rural and urban areas throughout Arizona. Coyotes tend to travel and hunt alone or in pairs, but they can form groups where food is abundant.

What Attracts Them?

Coyotes may visit a home if they find food, water or shelter there. Food can include unattended pets, birds or rodents attracted to bird feeders, pet food, garbage, or fallen fruit. Water sources can include a pet's water bowl or a swimming pool. Shelter can include a storm drain or any cave-like area beneath a shed or unused building.

To discourage a coyote from getting closer, immediately:

- Make loud noises.
- Wave your hands or objects like sticks & brooms.
- Throw small stones or cans.
- Spray the coyote with a hose.
- Only if necessary, use a commercial repellent like Mace, on bold animals that refuse to leave.

To prevent further problems:

- Remove outside attractions for coyotes and other critters – garbage, pet food, water sources and bird feeders.
- Never feed coyotes.
- Feed your pets inside, and never leave them unattended, especially at dusk and dawn when coyotes are most active.
- Keep poultry, rabbits, and rodents in secure enclosures.
- Trim and remove any ground-level shrubs and branches that provide hiding places or den sites for coyotes or their prey.
- Secure garbage containers and eliminate odors by cleaning trashcans with a 10 percent chlorine bleach solution.

For more information, visit http://www.azgfd.gov/w_c/urban_coyote.shtml or call the AZ Game and Fish Department at 480-981-9400. After hours and weekends, a radio dispatcher is available at (623) 236-7201.

