



City Council Weekly Information Packet

Friday, December 1, 2023

Includes the following documents/information:

- 1) City Council Events Schedule
- 2) Engineering & Transportation Department Update
- 3) Community Services Department Update



City Council Events Schedule

December 1, 2023 thru April 20, 2024

The Mayor and City Council have been invited to attend various community meetings and public and private events at which a quorum of the City Council may be present. The Council will not be conducting city business, nor will any legal action be taken. This is an event only and not a public meeting. A list of the community meetings and public and private events along with the schedules, dates, times, and locations is attached. Organizers may require a rsvp or fee.

Fri	Dec 1	5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Reopening Event for Grass Clippings Rolling Hills Location: Rolling Hills Golf Course 1415 N. Mill Avenue Tempe, AZ
Sat	Dec 2	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Join Jennifer for Breakfast with Berdetta Location: Tempe History Museum 809 E. Southern Avenue Tempe, AZ
Mon	Dec 4	6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Country Club Way Bike and Pedestrian Improvements Construction Virtual Meeting Location: Zoom https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrdeqvpjgvE9XGnDZ1mhxpP0BJoD-snBWS
Thur	Dec 7	5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Downtown Tempe Menorah Lighting Location: Ragsdale MLK Park 24 E. 6 th Street Tempe, AZ
Thur	Dec 7	6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Meyer Park, Hughes Acres and Rural Geneva NAs Neighborhood Meeting Location: Meyer Montessori 2615 S. Dorsey Lane Tempe, AZ
Fri	Dec 8	7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	State of the City Location: Omni 7 E. University Drive Tempe, AZ
Sat	Dec 9	11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Tempe Veteran’s Chili Championship Location: El Jefe Tacos and Sushi 2155 E. University Drive Tempe, AZ

Sat	Dec 9	4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade Location: Tempe Town Lake Beach Park 80 W. Rio Salado Parkway Tempe, AZ
Mon	Dec 11	10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Alla Herbs Ribbon Cutting Location: Alla Herbs 910 W. Carver Road Tempe, AZ
Tues	Dec 12	6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Victory Acres NA Meeting Location: Escalante Community Center 2150 E. Orange Street Tempe, AZ
Wed	Dec 13	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley Ladmo Branch's Holiday Party Location: Boys & Girls Club 715 W. 5 th Street Tempe, AZ
Thur	Dec 14	10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Geneva Epps Mosley Middle School Ribbon Cutting Location: Geneva Epps Mosley Middle School 1025 S. Beck Avenue Tempe, AZ
Sat	Dec 16	9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Escalante Neighborhood Association Meeting Location: Escalante Community Garden 2150 E. Orange Street Tempe, AZ
Sat	Dec 16	2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Brentwood Cavalier Neighborhood Association Meeting and 10 th Annual Holiday Tea Open House Location: 539 E. Fairmont Drive SW corner of Fairmont and La Rosa
Sat	Dec 16	6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	NAACP State Conference Fundraiser Gala Location: Hyatt Regency 122 N. Second Street Tempe, AZ
Tues	Jan 16	11:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Tempe Tourism Office Annual Luncheon Location: Tempe Tourism Office 222 S. Mill Avenue, Suite 120 Tempe, AZ

Sat	Jan 20	11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Arts in the Parks Block Party: Indian Bend Location: Indian Bend Park 1250 E. Marigold Lane Tempe, AZ
Sun	Jan 21	11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Arts in the Parks Block Party: Corbell Park Location: Corbell Park 7300 S. Lakeshore Drive Tempe, AZ
Sat	Jan 27	10:00 am. – 3:00 p.m.	Fan Con Location: Tempe Public Library 3500 S. Rural road Tempe, AZ
Sat	Jan 27	11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Arts in the Parks Block Party: Mary & Moses Green Park Location: Mary & Moses Green Park 35 W. Warner Ranch Drive Tempe, AZ
Sun	Jan 28	11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Arts in the Parks Block Party: Optimist Park Location: Optimist Park 2000 E. Sesame Street Tempe, AZ
Thur	Feb 1	4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Fairfield Inn & TownePlace Suites Ribbon Cutting Location: Fairfield Inn & Towneplace Suites 1929 E. Rio Salado Parkway Tempe, AZ
Sat	Feb 3	11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Arts in the Park Block Party: Scudder Park Location: Scudder Park 5805 S. Lakeshore Drive Tempe, AZ
Sun	Feb 4	11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Arts in the Parks Block Party: Meyer Park Location: Meyer Park 2727 S. Dorsey Lane Tempe, AZ
Sat	Feb 24	10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	PlayDay 2024 – Tempe’s Annual Day of Play Location: Kiwanis Park – Fiesta Playground All-American Way & Mill Avenue Tempe, AZ

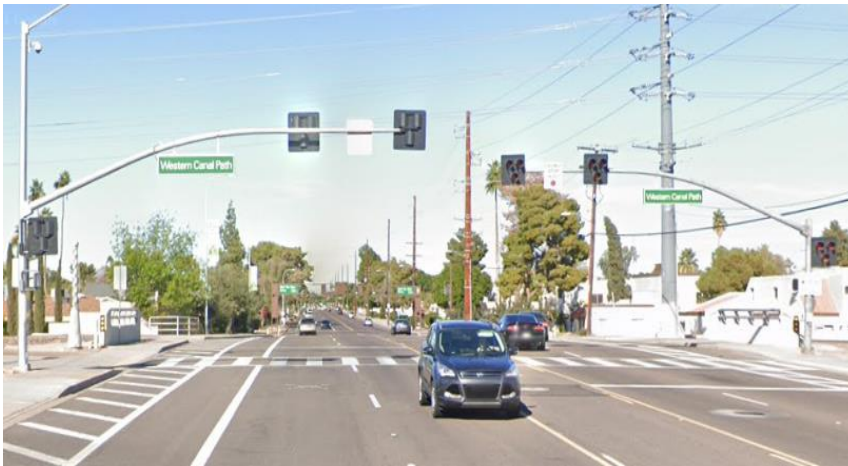
Sat	Mar 2	7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<p>Tempe Cares 2024</p> <p>Location: Tempe Leadership 1438 W. Broadway Road #213 Tempe, AZ</p>
Fri	Mar 22	8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	<p>First Robotics Competition Arizona East Regional</p> <p>Location: AZTech Robotics – Corona del Sol 1001 E. Knox Road Tempe, AZ</p>
Wed	Mar 27	4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	<p>Geeks Night Out 2024 – Tempe’s Annual STEAM Festival</p> <p>Location: Tempe Public Library 3500 S. Rural Road Tempe, AZ</p>
Sat	Apr 20	9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.	<p>AZ Alpha Delta Kappa State Convention</p> <p>Location: Double Tree Hilton 2100 S. Priest Drive Tempe, AZ</p>

12/1/2023 JR

Pedestrian Signals in Tempe

Staff received a question about the design of two new pedestrian signals. Why are the signal being designed as standard pedestrian signals instead of hybrid pedestrian beacons?

There are 21 pedestrian traffic signals in Tempe. Three are pedestrian hybrid beacons and 18 are standard pedestrian signals. Both are signalized crossings that improve pedestrian safety as compared to an unsignalized crossing. However, using a standard pedestrian signal is consistent with the majority of pedestrian crossings in Tempe. Staff feels that the standard pedestrian signal is universally understood by a greater cross section of drivers. Additional details are provided below.



A standard pedestrian signal has red-yellow-green signal indications. The green is lit for vehicle traffic on the main street until a pedestrian or bicyclist pushes the button. The constant illumination of the signal leads to an awareness of the location from the drivers, whereas a pedestrian hybrid beacon remains dark until activated.

For the most part, the signals operate with the same responsiveness. The

majority of the pedestrian signals run “free”, which means they are not in coordination with the adjacent signals. This means that the signal does not have to wait for a certain point in the cycle to change. Rather it begins to change immediately when the button is pushed, as long as the vehicle traffic has reached its minimum green time. For those pedestrian intersections that are coordinated, the cycle lengths are often much shorter than the adjacent signals to facilitate shorter wait times for pedestrians.

With the standard pedestrian signal, there is a clear understanding by drivers of stop on red and proceed on green. With the HAWK, the drivers stop on red and wait. At this point, the vehicular signal heads change to display an alternating flashing red. Vehicles must yield to any pedestrians still in the crosswalk. If the crosswalk is clear they may proceed after coming to a full stop. Every driver is required to stop at the stop bar before proceeding. There is some concern that all drivers do not stop during



the flashing red operation. It has been observed that as the queue dissipates, drivers behind the lead vehicle continue through the crossing without stopping.

Also with a standard pedestrian signal, the user right of way is clearly defined and separated by movement. With the HAWK, the vehicles can proceed during the flashing red and the pedestrians can proceed at the same time during the WALK countdown. While this hasn't resulted in a crash trend, this can create confusion and unintended conflicts.

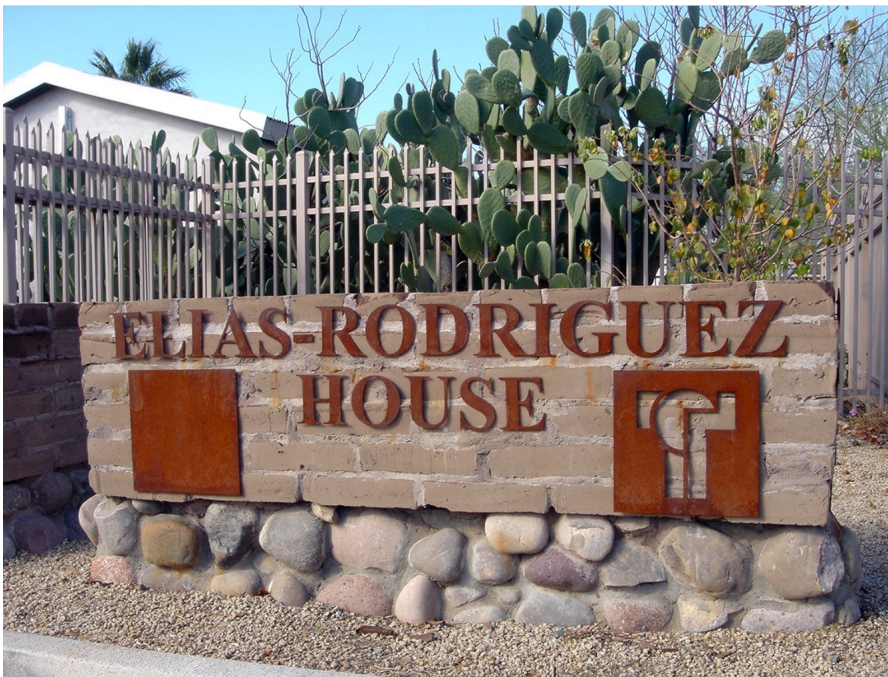
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COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

December 1, 2023

Open House at Historic Elias-Rodriguez House

On Saturday, November 18, excited community members experienced something special: free access to historic **Elias-Rodriguez House** and its surprisingly lush surroundings. Visits to this evocative adobe home will now be part of the museum's regular slate of historic house events. Elias-Rodriguez House is tucked away in one of the most historically rich areas of the city, just east of Rural Road on Old Eighth Street. This house reveals Tempe's vibrant Mexican heritage and highlights the independent, entrepreneurial women on whom the community depended.



Fifty people stopped by the open house to learn about this significant property. Several people remembered playing in Elias-Rodriguez House as children. Many had stories about nearby businesses, like the Sun Club bar and the Creamery Complex. Some guests stayed for two hours, chatting with museum volunteers and staff, reminiscing with each other, and wandering among the new generation of fruit trees and grapevines adorning the yard. Everyone enjoyed the sense of community that historic houses so beautifully support.

COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

December 1, 2023

Elias-Rodriguez House (con't)

Sotelo Addition—later known as the La Neighborhood—was carved out of Manuela Sotelo's homestead. Vicente Elias bought a lot around 1890 and built a one-room structure to house himself, his wife Inez, and their first three children. The house grew along with the family: soon there were four sturdy rooms and eight siblings. Inez took advantage of her busy surroundings with a variety of ventures to support her family and neighbors. She cooked food for workers while they installed a railroad across the street, started a roadside business as Eighth Street became a state highway, and avidly cultivated plants on her property for food, medicine, and the simple beauty of their flowers. Her daughter Irene Rodriguez followed Inez's example as she raised her own children in the family home.

Right: Rodriguez family at 8th Street house, 1968
(Pictured: Ray, Irene, Michelle, Monica and Marcie)



Bottom Left: Elias Rodriguez House, c. 1970

Bottom Right: Five generations of Elias-Rodriguez women, c. 1950



More opportunities for the public to tour Tempe's historic houses will continue in December and keep rolling out through 2024.

COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE

December 1, 2023

Special Events Update: December 1—17

The Special Events Task Force Committee works with event producers up to 18 months in advance to ensure the administrative and operational logistics are addressed before the event receives final approval.



Date	Event	Location	Notation
11/15-12/31	World of Illumination	Diablo Stadium	Holiday Light Show
12/1-12/3	Festival of the Arts	Mill Avenue	Arts Festival
12/2	Sharing Down Syndrome Christmas Party	Kiwanis Park	Holiday Celebration
12/2	Donor Dash	Kiwanis Park	Charity Walk/Run
12/2	FABRIC Fever	FABRIC	Charity Fundraiser
12/3	Show Me Love	AZ Historical Society	Charity Fundraiser
12/7	Downtown Menorah Lighting	Ragsdale-MLK Park	Community Event
12/9	Fantasy of Lights Boat Parade	Tempe Town Lake	Boat Parade
12/9	Here Comes Santa 5k	Kiwanis Park	Community 5k
12/10	DTA 2 nd Sunday	Mill Ave	Community Event
12/10	Bee Happy 4 Odin	Kiwanis Park	Charity 5k
12/11	Nando's Holiday Party	Four Peaks	Private Event
12/16	Caribbean Christmas 5K	Tempe Beach Park	Community 5k

For additional information on activities, events, and things to do in and around Tempe, visit:

Tempe Arts and Culture ([Tempe.gov/arts](https://tempe.gov/arts)),

Downtown Tempe Authority ([Downtowntempe.com/explore](https://downtowntempe.com/explore)),

Tempe Tourism ([Tempetourism.com](https://tempetourism.com)), and

Tempe Public Library ([Tempepubliclibrary.org](https://tempepubliclibrary.org)).

