



## **City Council Weekly Information Packet**

Friday, January 5, 2024

Includes the following documents/information:

- 1) City Council Events Schedule
- 2) Equitable Sharing Report – Quarterly Expenditure Report
- 3) Human Trafficking Prevention Month (2024)
- 4) Tempe Municipal Court State of the Court Executive Summary
- 5) Coordination of Water Transport and Rio Salado Implementation



# City Council Events Schedule

January 5, 2024 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	Jan 5	7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Women’s Basketball Pride Game  Location: Arizona State University Sun Devil Athletics 600 E. Veteran’s Way Tempe, AZ
Sat	Jan 6	10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Quintanilla Wall Signing Ceremony  Location: Habitat for Humanity Central Arizona 1967 E. Don Carlos Avenue Tempe, AZ
Sat	Jan 6	5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Parkview Gardens NA Block Party  Location: E Vaughn Drive College and Forest Avenue Tempe, AZ
Mon	Jan 8	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	MLK Diversity Awards Breakfast  Location: Doubletree by Hilton Hotel 2100 S. Priest Drive Tempe, AZ
Tues	Jan 9	7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Dance Tempe  Location: Tempe Center for the Arts 700 W. Rio Salado parkway Tempe, AZ
Tues	Jan 9	11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	2024 Law Enforcement Appreciation Day  Location: Tempe Police Headquarters 120 E. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street Tempe, AZ
Sat	Jan 13	8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Alameda Meadows, McClintock, Palmcroft Manor, & Santo Tomas Neighborhood Associations Alley Cleanup with Keep Tempe Beautiful  Location: Selleh Park 2499 S. Los Feliz Drive Tempe, AZ

Sat	Jan 13	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Breakfast with Berdetta: ADUs  Location: Tempe History Museum 809 E. Southern Avenue Tempe, AZ
Sun	Jan 14	11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Dedication of The One Stop Life Center  Location: One Stop Life center, Inc. 2219 S. 48 <sup>th</sup> Street Tempe, AZ
Tues	Jan 16	10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Early Bird Vegan Ribbon Cutting  Location: Early Bird Vegan 2152 E. Broadway Road 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
Fri	Jan 19	4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Pre-Plunge Party – Silent Auction & Raffle Supporting Adaptive Recreation  Location: Spokes on Southern 1470 E. Southern Avenue Tempe, AZ
Fri	Jan 19	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	VIP & Media Preview of Taqueria Factory & Fruitilandia  Location: Taqueria Factory & Fruitilandia Arizona Mills 5025 S. Arizona Mills Circle Tempe, AZ
Sat	Jan 20	8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Polar Bear Plunge at The Lakes of Tempe 2024- 12 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary  Location: Team Asa 1502 E. Northshore Drive Tempe, AZ
Sat	Jan 20	9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Escalante Neighborhood Association Meeting  Location: Escalante Community Garden 2150 E. Orange Street Tempe, AZ
Sat	Jan 20	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	EnVision Center Community Outreach Event  Location: EnVision Center 1310 E. Apache Boulevard 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
Mon	Jan 22	12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Mill Avenue – University Drive to Rio Salado Parkway Streetscape Virtual Public Meeting  Location: Zoom <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91173448000">https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91173448000</a>  3:30 p.m. – Tempe Transportation Center 6:00 p.m. – Tempe Public Library
Wed	Jan 24	12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Character Area 6 Kickoff Virtual Meeting  Location: Zoom <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91173448000">https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91173448000</a>
Wed	Jan 24	6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Character Area 6 Kickoff In-Person Meeting  Location: Wood School 727 W. Cornell 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
Sat	Jan 27	4:30 p.m.	Regional Unity Walk  Location: Tempe Beach Park 80 W. Rio Salado Parkway 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
Thur	Feb 27	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Art Tempe High School Student Exhibition  Location: Tempe center for the Arts 700 W. Rio Salado Parkway Tempe, AZ
Sat	Mar 2	7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Tempe Cares 2024  Location: Tempe Leadership 1438 W. Broadway Road #213 Tempe, AZ
Sun	Mar 3	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Clark Park Community Center and Pool Grand Opening  Location: Clark Park Community Center 1730 S. Roosevelt Street Tempe, AZ
Fri	Mar 22	8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	First Robotics Competition Arizona East Regional  Location: AZTech Robotics – Corona del Sol 1001 E. Knox Road Tempe, AZ

Wed	Mar 27	4:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Geeks Night Out 2024 – Tempe’s Annual STEAM Festival  Location: Tempe Public Library 3500 S. Rural Road Tempe, AZ
Sat	Apr 6	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Neighborhood Celebration  Location: Kiwanis Park Fiesta Ramadas 5711 S. All America Way Tempe, AZ
Sat	Apr 20	9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.	AZ Alpha Delta Kappa State Convention  Location: Double Tree Hilton 2100 S. Priest Drive Tempe, AZ

01/05/2024 JR

# MEMORANDUM



**TO:** Mayor and City Council  
**THROUGH:** Rosa Inchausti, City Manager  
**FROM:** Kenneth McCoy, Chief of Police  
**DATE:** January 4, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Equitable Sharing Report – Quarterly Expenditure Report

---

Per the revised A.R.S. 13-2314.03, effective July 3, 2015, the Tempe Police Department is required to submit a copy of the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, Forfeiture Monies Report to the City Council for review on a quarterly basis. Below is a summary of the information contained in the attached report.

**Equitable Sharing**  
**Budget and Expenditure Report**  
**FY 2023-24**  
**2nd Quarter (October - December 2023)**

**Budget**

Operating Budget **\$ 1,500,000.00**

**Expenditures**

	<u>1st Quarter</u>	<u>2nd Quarter</u>	<u>YTD Expenditures</u>
Personnel Services			
Salary, Wages & OT	\$ 88,966.07	\$ 52,057.97	\$ 141,024.04
Fringe Benefits	\$ 25,804.57	\$ 17,593.03	\$ 43,397.60
Material & Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fees & Services	\$ 3,100.00	\$ -	\$ 3,100.00
Travel & Training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Outlay	\$ -	\$ 7,211.29	\$ 7,211.29
Computer Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 117,870.64</b>	<b>\$ 76,862.29</b>	<b>\$ 194,732.93</b>

# MEMORANDUM



TO: Mayor and Council  
FROM: Tempe Family Justice Commission  
THRU: Tim Burch, Community Health and Human Services Director  
DATE: January 5, 2024  
SUBJECT: Human Trafficking Prevention Month (2024)

---

## PURPOSE

January is designated nationally as Human Trafficking Prevention Month. To recognize the prevalence and severity of this wrongdoing in Tempe, and in support of the City Council's Safe and Secure Communities policy, the Tempe Family Justice Commission presents the following information based on its research and makes these recommendations for action.

## CONTEXT

In 2022, President Biden issued a proclamation announcing January as Human Trafficking Prevention Month and expanded the budget of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to fight sex trafficking, including identification and support to victims, coordination with other agencies, and educating the public.

Sex trafficking is defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 as "the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of an adult for the purpose of a commercial sex act." However, any commercial sexual activity with a minor, even without force, fraud, or coercion, is considered trafficking.

There are victims, traffickers, and buyers in all walks of life, but some groups have increased vulnerability, and some circumstances leave children and adults susceptible to the strategies traffickers employ. Children make up at least 25% of victims. Homelessness, immigration status, drug abuse, and mental health issues contribute to the tactics traffickers use to manipulate and coerce children and adults into sex work (Deliverfund, 2023).

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, these are some indicators of human trafficking:

- Does the person appear disconnected from family, friends, community organizations, or houses of worship?
- Has a child stopped attending school?
- Has the person had a sudden or dramatic change in behavior?
- Is a juvenile engaged in inappropriate sexual behavior?
- Is the person disoriented or confused, or showing signs of mental or physical abuse?
- Does the person have bruises in various stages of healing?
- Is the person fearful, timid, or submissive?
- Does the person show signs of having been denied food, water, sleep, or medical care?
- Is the person often in the company of someone to whom he or she defers? Or someone who seems to be in control of the situation, e.g., where they go or who they talk to?
- Does the person appear to be coached on what to say?
- Is the person living in unsuitable conditions?
- Does the person lack personal possessions and appear not to have a stable living situation?



- Does the person have freedom of movement? Can the person freely leave where they live? Are there unreasonable security measures?

Preventing human trafficking requires cooperation and education of all citizens and our institutions, as all types of human trafficking are hidden and largely underreported. This memo seeks to support and advise city council of the pervasive nature of this crime and to encourage people to report any signs of human trafficking. This problem exists everywhere, and must continue to be addressed in Tempe, to improve the safety and lives of our citizens.

### **BEST PRACTICES FOR FIGHTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

1. Provide training for law enforcement and others to identify victims of human trafficking
2. Provide training for law enforcement in the skills needed to interview victims, so that cases can be prosecuted successfully
3. Insist on accurate data in all discussions of trafficking
4. Encourage healthy behaviors in relationships
5. Foster safe homes and neighborhoods
6. Identify and address vulnerabilities during mental health visits
7. Reduce demand for commercial sex through proactive enforcement actions
8. End business profits from trafficking-related transactions

### **CURRENT CITY OF TEMPE PRACTICES**

The City of Tempe incorporates the above best practices through the actions of the Police Department, Community Health and Human Services Department, and Care 7. Mayor and Council have been instrumental in bringing this issue to light, including Cease training for city employees and participation in Night of Hope, a charity/educational event to prevent human trafficking.

In addition, our Tempe Police Department is an active member in regional law enforcement activities, such as Operation Cross County. This coordinated effort with Valley police departments and the FBI resulted in the recovery of child victims and the arrest of 31 traffickers.

The City of Tempe provides wrap-around services at the Family Advocacy Center, which was recently opened at the request of and with the support of the Tempe Family Justice Commission.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Family Justice Commission is committed to furthering these initiatives with the following recommendations.

Mayor and Council can support anti-trafficking efforts in the following ways:

1. Run human trafficking prevention videos on Channel 11, in support of best practices
2. Support the use of the City of Tempe's social media accounts to highlight this issue
3. Support the work of the police department and Community Health and Human Services in combating trafficking while assisting victims
4. Consider having targeted employees complete the ASU certification on Prevention of Human Trafficking
5. Discuss these issues both officially and in casual conversation

6. Issue a city proclamation acknowledging January as Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month
7. Display a blue light in January on city hall in honor of these events

## **RESOURCES**

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/sexualviolence/trafficking.html>

<https://www.dea.gov/human-trafficking-prevention>

<https://www.arizonafoothillsmagazine.com/component/eventlist/details/21296-5th-annual-night-of-hope-at-gammage-auditorium-a-night-to-end-human-trafficking.html>

<https://careercatalyst.asu.edu/programs/cpe-human-trafficking/>

<https://deliverfund.org/the-human-trafficking-problem-in-america/>

# MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers  
FROM: Kevin Kane, Presiding Judge, Tempe Municipal Court  
DATE: January 5, 2024  
SUBJECT: Tempe Municipal Court State of the Court Executive Summary



---

Attached is the annual State of the Court Executive Summary. It highlights Tempe Municipal Court's accomplishments and operational efficiencies, as well as partnerships and efforts that support the community, learning and public access. The second page includes information on case volumes, customer service, and finances. Also, attached is the Court's 2020 – 2024 Strategic Agenda, which list projects, goals, and initiatives that support our Mission and Strategic Focus Areas.

We look forward to continuing to provide the highest standards of public service in the coming year.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions. Thank you for your attention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Kane', with a large, stylized initial 'K'.

Kevin Kane, Presiding Judge  
Tempe Municipal Court

# Tempe Municipal Court

## 2024 State of the Court Executive Summary



### Mission

Tempe Municipal Court is committed to providing the community with an independent judiciary that serves the public by the fair and impartial administration of justice resulting in the enhancement of public trust and confidence in the court system.

As we begin year 2024, the Tempe Municipal Court continues to be a state-wide leader in the limited jurisdiction court community. I am focused on the Court's 2020 - 2024 Strategic Agenda to ensure we meet our goals and chart a course going forward. Despite the challenges we have all faced these last several years, I am proud to report we are still on course to accomplish our five-year goals. This year we will be hyper focused on implementation of electronic document management, which will reduce manual paper processing, data entry challenges, and ultimately provide the highest possible level of customer service and efficiencies for all court participants.

Kevin Kane, Presiding Judge  
Tempe Municipal Court

### » 2023 Operational Efficiencies & Accomplishments «

- Collaborated with Tempe Community Development Department — Community Enhancement and the Administrative Office of the Courts to implement use of the Digital Evidence Portal. The portal provides an efficient and digital solution to share exhibits among judges, attorneys, and litigants during virtual or in-person court hearings.
- Evaluated electronic document management system to facilitate development and implementation of active case imaging, paper-on-demand environment and Court automation.
- Collaborated with the Tempe Police Department to install hardware and evaluated business needs to move towards remote in-custody proceedings.
- Implemented the Fines/Fees and Restitution Enforcement (FARE) Program. FARE is an Arizona Judicial branch initiative that assist AZ courts with compliance of monetary court orders.
- Implemented Legislative and AZ Supreme Court Rules mandates.

### » 2023 Improving Public Access and Fostering Education «

- Hosted a delegation of Kenyan Parliamentarians and discussed judicial responsibilities, justice system, and court processes as a cultural exchange.
- Administered an Access and Fairness Public Survey.
- Partnered with Tempe Kid Zone, History Museum and schools to present annual Law Day program, art contest, and awards with approximately 900 students participating.
- Continued ASU Law School Summer Externship Program.
- Collaborated with ASU School of Social Transformation to research opportunities related to restorative justice initiatives.

### » 2023 Community Collaboration «

- Partnered with six courts, the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Tempe Human Services, Gilbert Youth & Adult Resources, Scottsdale Youth & Family Services and others, to lead the East Valley Regional Veterans Court and served 347 veterans, including 119 with Tempe cases.
- Collaborated with Community Health and Human Services and the United Way to offer services to individuals experiencing or nearing homelessness during a Project Connect event.
- Partnered with AHCCCS Complete Care Groups and Tempe Community Health and Human Services to provide Mental Health Court services to 359 participants.
- Partnered with 49 courts in Maricopa County Regional Homeless Court, to help individuals address court obligations while also addressing their homelessness to gain self-sufficiency.
- Participated in local, regional and statewide community and court improvement efforts, including:
  - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Data Standards Steering Committee
  - ◊ AZ Criminal Rules Workgroup
  - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Limited Jurisdiction Courts Committee
  - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Interpreter Program Advisory Committee
  - ◊ AZ Supreme Court Inmate Release Court Program

### » Looking Forward «

- Develop and implement additional court automation: active case imaging, paper-on-demand environment and Court automation.
- Expand acceptance of E-complaint types filed with the Court: Arizona Traffic Ticket and Complaints, Parking, and Zoning/Neighborhood violations.
- Continue collaboration with Tempe Police Department to implement remote in-custody proceedings.

**FAST FACTS:**

- ⇒ Tempe Municipal Court is one of 167 limited jurisdiction courts in Arizona.
- ⇒ The Court conducts business seven days per week, 365 days per year.
- ⇒ The Court has 3 Judges, 2 Commissioners, 13 Judges Pro Tempore and 35 staff positions.

**Charges and Petitions Filed - FY 22/23, FY 21/22 and FY 20/21**

Charge Types	FY 22/23 Charges	% of Total	FY 21/22 Charges	% of Total	FY 20/21 Charges	% of Total
Criminal Traffic and Misdemeanors	15,809	36%	15,096	37%	13,327	35%
Civil Traffic	13,691	30%	10,903*	27%	10,634	28%
Parking	13,141	30%	13,253	33%	12,612	33%
Local Ordinances	896	2%	319	1%	1,072	3%
Total Protective Order Petitions Filed	912	2%	944	2%	802	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,449</b>		<b>40,515*</b>		<b>38,447</b>	

\*Statistical data correction made to numbers published in the 2023 annual report.

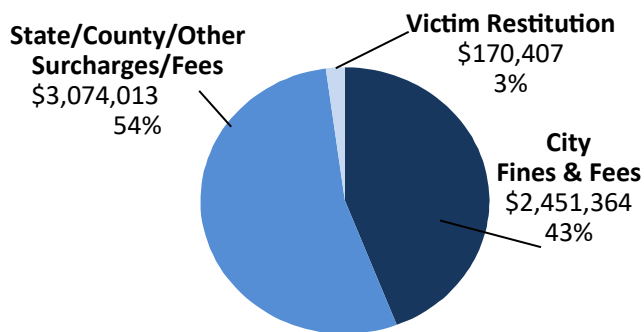
**Customer Service - FY 22/23, FY 21/22 and FY 20/21**

Measurement	FY 22/23	FY 21/22	FY 20/21
Court Visitors Screened through Security	66,713	54,481	30,135
Individuals Served at Public Window	17,004	14,115	1,129
Individuals Served over the Phone	43,503	41,530	60,121
Payments by Phone (IVR)	5,978	6,855	6,788
Payments by Website (IWR)	27,008	23,151	25,230
Payments made off-site (PayNearMe)**	19	N/A	N/A
Mail Payments Processed	3,025	2,704	3,200
Correspondence Received/Filings Processed	30,135	27,330	24,817

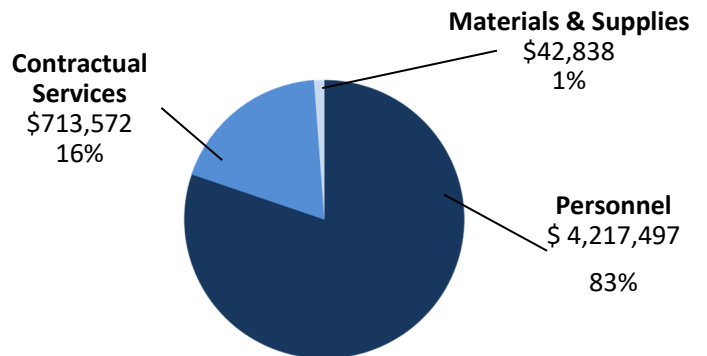
\*\*New payment option

**FY 22/23 Financial Information**

Total monies collected by the Court in Fiscal Year 22/23 was \$5,695,784. Tempe Municipal Court operating budget from City general fund for Fiscal Year 22/23 was \$4,973,907 (excludes City Internal Services budget).



**Receivables: What the Court Collects**



**Expenditures: What the City Budgets for Court Operations**

Sources: Administrative Office of the Courts' Case Activity Report FY2022/23; Administrative Office of the Courts' Revenue Survey FY2022/23; Tempe Municipal Court Monthly Workload Indicators from Case Management System; PeopleSoft Financials.

# Tempe Municipal Court Strategic Agenda 2020 through 2024

## **Mission:**

Tempe Municipal Court is committed to providing the community with an independent judiciary that serves the public by the fair and impartial administration of justice resulting in the enhancement of public trust and confidence in the court system.

## **Strategic Focus Areas:**

- Ensure Equal Access to Justice
- Enhance Infrastructure: Technology, Facilities and Security
- Improve Operations & Administration
- Engage in Community Outreach & Collaboration

## **Strategy and Action Items:**

The Tempe Municipal Court is dedicated to aligning our daily tasks to support the purposes of the court while enhancing work conditions to create and maintain an environment that demonstrates courtesy, dignity and respect for our employees and the community we serve. We plan to accomplish this by communicating with our internal and external partners and ensure accountability for our actions and transparency in our operations. The below projects, goals and initiatives are identified as ways to support our Mission and Strategic Focus Areas:

1. Implement Fair Justice Initiatives
  - Enhance online payment system, interactive voice response system, email, and text notifications of court events.
  - Ensure bench books & other judicial aids are consistent with adopted Fair Justice Initiatives.
  - Evaluate conditions of release options: develop process to facilitate increased use of unsecured bonds.
2. Support & Expand Restorative Justice Options
  - Work with criminal justice partners and other community resources, such as ASU, to evaluate existing diversion programs, restorative justice programs, local needs and opportunities and encourage early case resolution.
  - Consider ways to screen & address defendant treatment & service needs relating to homelessness & mental health.
3. Electronic Case Management Enhancements
  - Expand acceptance of E-complaint types filed in the Court's Case Management System (CMS): Arizona Traffic Ticket and Complaint & Zoning/Neighborhood violations.
  - Evaluate electronic document management system to facilitate development and implementation of active case imaging, paper-on-demand environment and Bench automation for criminal, civil and civil traffic case types. ®
  - Evaluate CMS statistical data to include dashboard capability to increase data-driven decisions.
  - Create a treatment court database for the East Valley Regional Veterans Court.
4. Enhance Professionalism, Succession Planning and Employee Appreciation
  - Continue cross-training plans for staff, leadership and judicial officers.
  - Continue to conduct Employee Satisfaction Survey to help:
    - Organizational development and operational improvements.
    - Evaluate teamwork and management styles.
    - Enhance job satisfaction.
  - Participate in City development and implementation of performance evaluation system and tracking.
  - Develop & review policies, procedures & forms to support Court operations.
  - Continue Employee Recognition Program.
  - Continue Alternative Work Schedule.

# MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Craig Hayton, Community Services Director  
**THROUGH:** Keith Burke, Deputy City Manager  
**DATE:** January 5, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Coordination of Water Transport and Rio Salado Implementation



---

## **PURPOSE:**

This memorandum provides an update of the Rio Salado Master Plan implementation process and more specifically the coordination of water transport (eg, “taxis”) with the phased implementation, as mentioned and requested at the November 20 Council Work Study Session.

## **BACKGROUND:**

The Rio Salado Master Plan guides future development and improvement of Tempe’s Rio Salado parks. The plan is a comprehensive and inclusive roadmap for public and private development surrounding the Tempe Town Lake (TTL) for the next 20-30 years, fulfilling Tempe’s vision for the Rio Salado as a grand public amenity, desirable destination, and point of pride for the community. Staff is focused on implementing the master plan through a series of inter-connected steps, as communicated in the September 22 City Council Weekly Information Packet memo.

## **Currently in progress:**

In 2020 a Request for Information (RFI) was issued seeking ideas for recreational activities from the business community under a Public Private Partnership structure, in order to broaden recreation while reducing the financial impact on the City. The 2020 RFI elicited 18 responses for active and passive recreational amenities in four broad categories: land, aerial, water and support amenities. In alignment with the “water” category, in October 2023, staff issued an RFP for passive, concession-based recreation on the TTL for new and unique experiences including concepts such as brew boats, cycle boats, and tour boats. Proposals for this first phase of Public Private Partnership are expected in January, and could include proposals for water taxis.

## **WATER TRANSPORT SERVICES:**

There is some history to the concept of offering on-water transportation services at TTL. In 2018 a contract was awarded to Boat Rentals of America for Recreational Boating Equipment Rental Concessionaire. In the Best and Final stage of the 2018 RFP, this vendor had proposed a water taxi service with the following details:

- Scheduled service utilizing existing concrete landings
- Priced on a per ride basis and showed a fare comparison to an Uber ride from Rural/101 to Mill Avenue
- Alternative transportation to special events in Tempe Beach Park to ease congestion on the south side of TTL
- Proposed route of 7 stops including both sides of TTL

The final contract allowed for a contract modification to offer the service in the future. In late 2019, Boat Rentals of America requested to operate a water taxi around the lake, ending at the marina. Shortly after, due to the COVID pandemic hit, Boat Rentals of America decided to cease the water taxi business. It still remains an option under the contract.

In 2020, the RFI seeking ideas for recreational activities elicited 1 response for water transport and 1 combined response for water transport and tour boat. Both responses proposed to connect the north and south banks of the TTL and mentioned the reduction of vehicular traffic on Rio Salado, Mill Avenue and Rural Road as benefits. However, the subsequent public outreach and survey that was conducted indicated that transport was of lower importance when compared to other support amenities at Rio Salado.

Of the over 700 survey responses, the percent that rated as Important and Very Important to their experience when visiting TTL and Rio Salado Parks:

- Restrooms – 80.1%
- Parking – 68.3%
- Food and Beverage – 53.9%
- Transport – 33.6%

Staff recommends continuing to pursue the Master Plan implementation process and simultaneously pursuing the integration of support amenities at the appropriate phase. The next steps in the implementation process are shown below.

- 2023 (in progress) – Request for Proposal (RFP) for on-water, passive recreation at Tempe Town Lake; If a water transport proposal is not submitted, staff could re-engage the current boating concessionaire to determine viability of offering a water taxi service.
- 2024 (upcoming) – Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for development of conceptual plans for 3 north side activity zones [Restrooms, Parking].
- 2025 (future) – RFP for land, aerial and water-based recreation [Food and Beverage].
- TBD (future) – RFP for water transport, once north side activity zone improvements are constructed, if current vendor is not interested in providing the service.