



City Council Weekly Information Packet

Friday, December 3, 2021

Includes the following documents/information:

- 1) Farm Express Serves Tempe Residents
- 2) Community Services Department Holiday Closures
- 3) Zero Waste Day - November 2021
- 4) Drought Resiliency and Preparedness Update, Colorado River Shortage Awareness, 500+ Plan

FARM EXPRESS SERVES TEMPE RESIDENTS



A Shift to 100% Focus on Food Access

Beginning in 2019, Activate Food Arizona (formerly Discovery Triangle Development Corporation, DTDC) launched its mission to focus entirely on addressing a key economic and community development challenge in the urban core: healthy food access and connecting to and expand solutions to food system challenges. Building on the foundational work of the DTDC, Activate Food Arizona solely focuses on developing unique, creative solutions to this key urban issue – like Farm Express – with the goal of improving regional economic outcomes over time as a result.

Farm Express in Tempe

Farm Express is a fleet of mobile produce markets that provides healthy, affordable produce to residents with little to no access to healthy food in Tempe and nearby communities. Utilizing renovated high capacity passenger vehicles, brightly wrapped to attract community attention, the service was built on the belief that everyone deserves access to high quality fruits and vegetables wherever they live, work, learn, and play. Service schedules are pre-arranged with on-site contacts at each of the Farm Express locations in Tempe:

- Mountain Park Health Center, 1840 East Broadway Road
- Tempe Public Library, 3500 South Rural Road
- Escalante Community Center, 2150 East Orange Street
- Encore on Farmer, 601 South Farmer Avenue

Increasing the Buying Power for Tempe Residents – Double Up Food Bucks

One of the many unique elements of Farm Express service is the ability for SNAP recipients in Tempe to “double their money” on produce. Farm Express is part of the Double Up Arizona program. That means that when Tempeans using SNAP shop with Farm Express, they receive tokens for free produce – doubling what they have invested their SNAP benefits in and encouraging them to continue to access fresh fruits and vegetables on a regular basis.



Tempe Sales Stats: The average transaction for a Tempe Farm Express customer is \$10.64. What can \$10.64 get you? For that price, a Tempe resident can take home 4 bananas, 2 red peppers, 3 locally grown potatoes, 10 jalapenos, 1 head of lettuce, 3 locally grown apples, 2 avocados, 3 tomatoes, 1 onion, and locally grown kale. And customers paying with SNAP can get double that amount for the same price through the Double Up Arizona program.

Responding in a Crisis: A Pivot to Protect Customers

As scientific evidence confirmed an escalating corona virus threat throughout 2020 and into 2021, Farm Express pivoted its traditional on-vehicle shopping model to one that provides a “personal shopper” experience to customers. Pivoting from an on-board shopping experience to one that allows for greater social distancing opportunities, upon Farm Express arrival on site, options and pricing are available for viewing. Customers give their orders Farm Express employees on site and the Farm Express team swiftly fills the orders.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

THROUGH: Keith Burke, Community Services Director, x5819
Steven Methvin, Deputy City Manager, x8811

FROM: Craig Hayton, Deputy Community Services Director, x5234
Katie O'Connor, Interim Community Services Deputy Director, x5557
Brendan Ross, Deputy Community Services Director, x5655
Shawn Wagner, Deputy Community Services Director, x5299

DATE: December 3, 2021

SUBJECT: Community Services Department Holiday Closures



PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memo is to update Mayor and Council on holiday facility closures within the Community Services Department.

CITY COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITY:



3.16: Achieve ratings of “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied” with the “Quality of City recreation, arts and cultural centers” greater than or equal to the national benchmark cities as measured in the Community Survey.

3.17: Achieve ratings of “Very Satisfied” or “Satisfied” with the “Quality of Community Services programs” greater than or equal to the top 10% of the national benchmark cities as measured in the Community Survey.

BACKGROUND:

The Community Services Department will be adjusting facility, multi-generational and recreation center hours during the winter holiday season, December 20, 2021 through January 2, 2022. A community messaging campaign will be created with the Community and Media Relations Office to ensure our patrons and visitors are informed. Messaging strategies include the utilization of public information channels such as City of Tempe (City) websites, email listservs, social media sites, etc. In addition to these efforts, messaging will be placed throughout the facilities and centers.

Since the upcoming Christmas and New Year’s Day holidays occur on Saturdays, the following adjustments will be made to operational schedules. In anticipation of traditionally low holiday attendance numbers, these changes are consistent with previous years when the holidays occur on weekend days. Changes do not adversely impact any existing City or community partner activities, programs, or rentals. Please note that all splash play areas and outdoor pools are closed for the season.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT: HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Arts and Culture Division

Edna Vihel Arts Center

- December 24-25: Closed
- December 31-January 2: Closed

Tempe Center for the Arts

- December 24-25: Closed
- December 31-January 2: Closed

Tempe History Museum

- December 24-25: Closed
- December 31-January 2: Closed

Library Services Division

Tempe Public Library

- December 24-26: Closed
- December 31-January 2: Closed

Parks and Recreation Division

Multi-Generational & Recreation Centers

- December 20-23
 - Escalante, North Tempe, and Westside Multi-Generational Centers will close at 8 p.m.
 - Kiwanis Recreation Center will close at 9 p.m.
 - Pyle Adult Recreation Center will close at 5 p.m.
- December 24-26
 - All Parks and Recreation Multi-Generational and Recreation Centers will be closed
 - Kiwanis Tennis Courts will remain open for drop-in public play
- December 27-30
 - Escalante, North Tempe, and Westside Multi-Generational Centers will close at 8 p.m.
 - Kiwanis Recreation Center will close at 9 p.m.
 - Pyle Adult Recreation Center will close at 5 p.m.
- December 31-January 2:
 - All Parks and Recreation Multi-Generational and Recreation Centers will be closed
 - Kiwanis Tennis Courts will remain open for drop-in public play

Ken McDonald and Rolling Hills Golf Courses

- December 24: Final tee time is at noon
- December 25: Closed

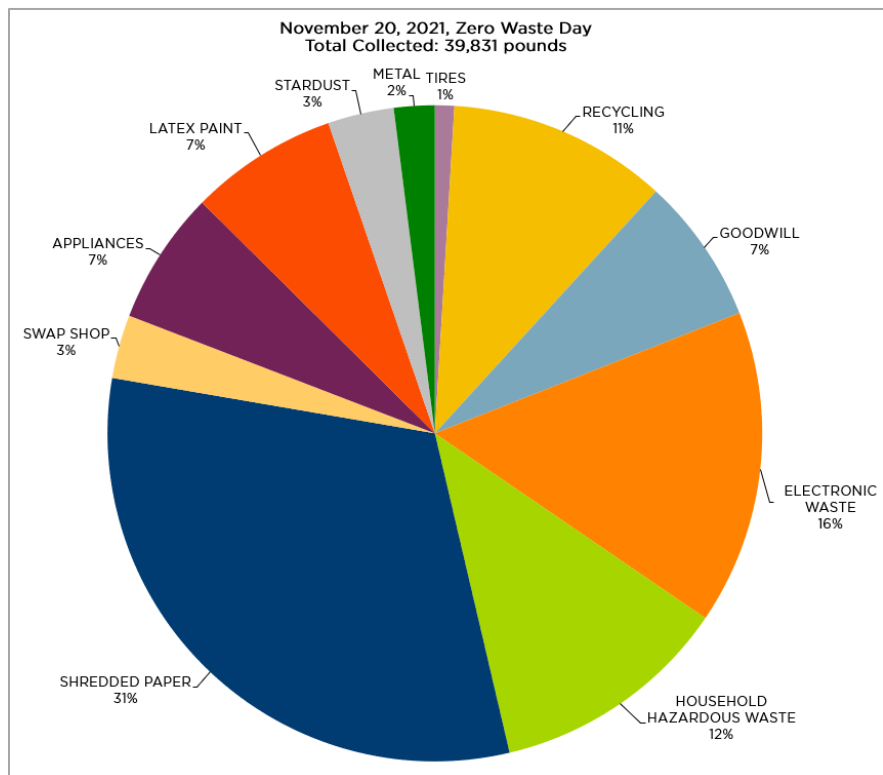


Zero Waste Day – November 2021

Terry Piekarz, Municipal Utilities Director, 480-350-2660, terrance_piekarz@tempe.gov

Tempe’s Municipal Utilities Department hosted the 42nd Zero Waste Day on November 20, 2021. This event provided residents a means by which to donate usable items to local organizations for reuse, recycle items not accepted in the recycling container and properly dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW).

A total of 493 residents from Tempe and Guadalupe participated in the event, collecting over 39,000 pounds of material for reuse, recycling or proper disposal. With the help of a number of local partners, materials collected include paper for secure shredding, electronic waste, household hazardous waste and more. The graph depicts a breakdown of material collected by type.



The next Zero Waste Day is scheduled for January 22, 2022, from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

at the Tempe Fire Training Center, located at 1340 E. University Drive. For more information on the January event, including a list of items that will be accepted, please visit www.tempe.gov/ZeroWaste.

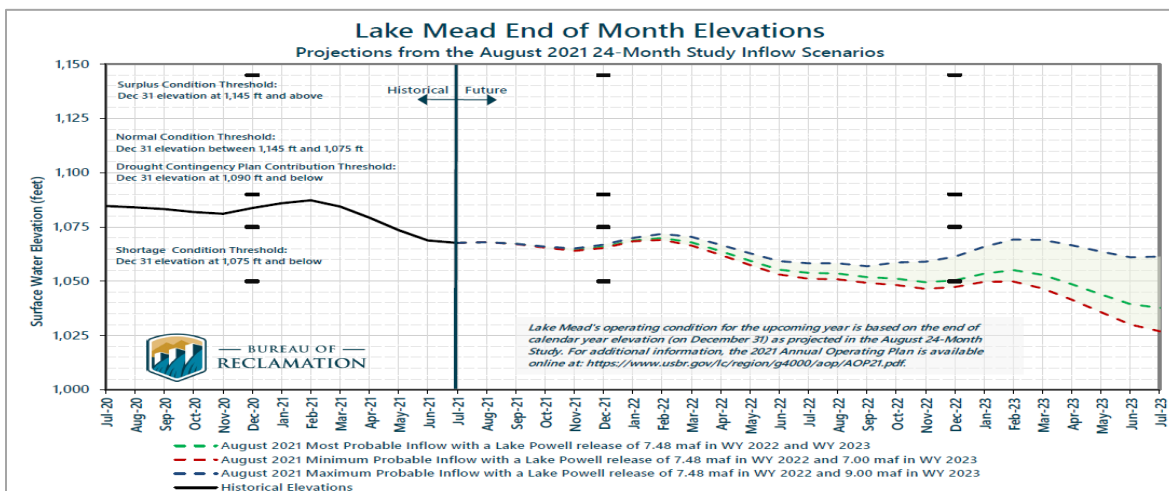


Drought Resiliency and Preparedness Update Colorado River Shortage Awareness, 500+ Plan

Terry Piekarz, Municipal Utilities Director, 480-350-2660, terrance_piekarz@tempe.gov

Municipal Utilities provides drought resiliency and preparedness updates in the form of City Council Weekly Information Updates and graphical information fact sheets. These updates contain information pertaining to ongoing drought conditions in the Southwestern United States, impacts of drought on water supplies and Tempe’s response to these conditions. Information regarding ongoing drought and shortage on the Colorado River is available in previous updates and fact sheets at www.tempe.gov/water. This update focuses on proposed actions associated with the Lake Mead 1,030 Feet Trigger Consultation and Tempe’s participation in creating voluntary, compensated conservation storage in Lake Mead.

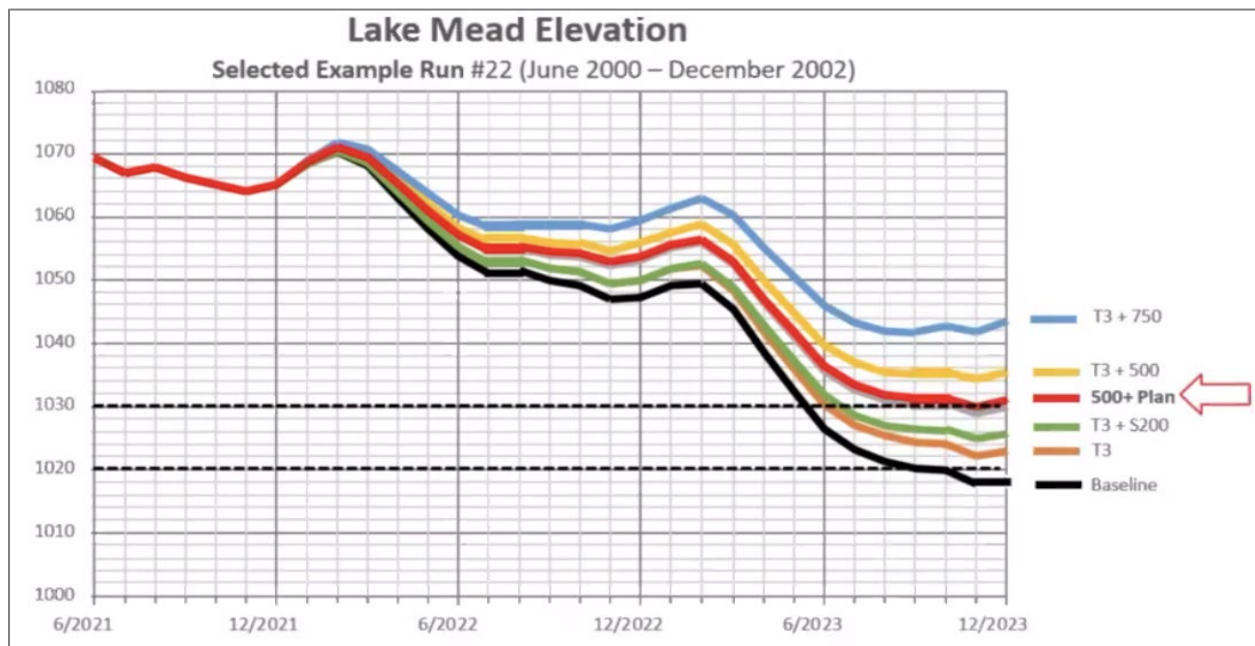
The United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR) conducts monthly data modeling to forecast the surface elevation level of Lakes Mead and Powell for the next two years. The results of this modeling are called the “Monthly 24-Month Studies” and are used by the USBOR to indicate a future shortage and guide the operation of the Colorado River. The results of the August 2021, Lake Mead 24-Month Study projected that the surface elevation level of Lake Mead will fall below the Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) Tier 1 level of 1,075 feet in January 2022, at which time a Tier 1 Shortage on the Colorado River will be declared.



This shortage results in a 30 percent reduction to Arizona’s Central Arizona Project (CAP) supply. The DCP Implementation Plan for Arizona provides resources to allow for CAP users, such as Tempe, to receive their full allocation of water in 2022, which will result in no reduction to Tempe’s water supply.

While the potential reduction of available CAP water is concerning, there are larger regional concerns with the continued decline of water levels at Lakes Mead and Powell. Specifically, to levels below the point of the lakes’ critical surface elevation, which could impact the ability to generate power and deliver water from dams to downstream users. To prevent Lake Mead from reaching its critical surface elevation of 1,020 feet, DCP agreements require stakeholders in lower Colorado River Basin states (Arizona, Nevada and California) to discuss potential actions, in addition to those prescribed in the DCP, when the Monthly 24-Month Study projects the level of Lake Mead at or below 1,030 feet. In the August 2021, 24-Month Study, Lake Mead is projected to reach this level in 2023, thus initiating a process called the 1,030 Feet Trigger Consultation.

Since August 2021, the Lower Basin States, CAP and the USBOR have been conducting modeling to develop a plan to maintain Lake Mead above 1,030 feet, through at least 2026. In November 2021, the 1,030 Feet Trigger Consultation Team announced a voluntary, compensated conservation plan in an effort to address this challenge.



Modeling predicts that if 500,000 acre-feet (af) of new conservation is created in Lake Mead each year, i.e., water is left in the lake, this will prevent the lake from reaching the critical level of 1,020 feet in 2022 and 2023 and, if sustained each year, will maintain the lake elevation above this level throughout the five-year period extending to 2026. This, combined with an effort to raise \$100,000,000 each year to support conservation efforts, has been titled the “500+ Plan”.

Arizona’s portion of the proposed 500,000 af of conservation in Lake Mead will be 223,000 af, of which 193,000 af will be coming from CAP. The 2022 proposed conservation will be created from many sources in central Arizona, including Native

American Tribes and Salt River Project, but 93,000 af will come directly from CAP users, including the City of Tempe. In Arizona, there are more than 80 individual contract holders who utilize Arizona's total allotment of Colorado River water. Therefore, creating the required conservation cannot be borne by a single contract holder but rather must be an effort shared by many CAP customers. Even though Tempe's CAP contract is smaller than many other municipal water providers, this effort will require as much participation as possible, from all users, to be successful. Tempe is fortunate to have numerous water supply sources available to meet the demands of the water service area. Some of these sources can be utilized interchangeably to temporarily make up for water that will be conserved in Lake Mead.

While participation in the 500+ Plan will have associated costs and involve additional agreements, the effort is necessary to mitigate near-term shortage conditions on the Colorado River. It may also forestall future shortage conditions, which would result in more drastic costs and challenges if action is not taken now. Based on these factors, Tempe intends to participate in the 500+ Plan by potentially forgoing a portion of its annual CAP allotment in 2022, and potentially contributing more in 2023.

Although reduction in the water supply associated with participation in the 500+ Plan is voluntary, this situation presents an opportunity to raise awareness of drought conditions and encourages additional voluntary conservation by other water users. Municipal Utilities maintains a [Drought Preparedness Plan](#) (DPP) to ensure that strategies are in place to predict, prepare for and react to shortages, and continue to meet the demands of Tempe's water service area now and into the future. While Tempe is not currently in a position where protocols of the DPP need to be enacted, staff is continuously evaluating criteria that may necessitate implementing Stage 0 - Watch. Demand management strategies described in the DPP range from heightened awareness and communication of drought conditions to enacting specific measures to decrease demand. Responses described in the DPP are designed as a suite of strategies that can be implemented to meet the needs of each unique situation, and applied across many customer types, to ensure Tempe maintains the ability to provide water for as much demand as possible, regardless of the magnitude of a shortage or future supply challenges.