

TEMPE TODAY

a community newsletter



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WWW.TEMPE.GOV

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Tempe shows you the money

The City of Tempe invites community members to participate in planning the city's operating and capital budgets for the 2018-19 fiscal year. You can offer input via an online survey and at public meetings.

The Mayor and City Council would like public input on daily operations and city assets and infrastructure, such as streets, community centers, pools, lighting, parks and more. The city's operating budget covers everyday expenses, while capital projects include equipment replacements and street improvements. The two categories of expenses are budgeted separately.

A public budget forum will be held Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 6 p.m., at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave.

For details on the formulation of budgets for the 2018-19 fiscal year, as well as projected dates for City Council discussions, visit www.tempe.gov/budgetplan. Also on the webpage is a link to an online survey to gather residents' budget feedback. The survey is active through March 31.

Tempe makes waves with superior service and wants to keep improving

Tempe leads the nation in satisfying the needs of residents and businesses, according to the city's 2017 Community Survey and its first-ever Business Survey.

Hundreds of respondents completed the surveys last fall and offered meaningful feedback about what's going well in Tempe and what they'd like to see improved. Kansas-based ETC Institute conducted the surveys and compared Tempe to the results of other surveys nationwide.

The Tempe City Council discussed the survey results at its Dec. 7 Work Study Session.

Want to see what your fellow community members said? Dig into the results of both surveys at www.tempe.gov/survey.

Community survey

Through the 2017 Community Survey, residents weighed in about the services, programs and facilities provided in their community.

The statistically valid sample of 882 households can be extrapolated to generally reflect the feelings of all residents. Respondents weighed in on questions related to water service, parks, trash collection, public safety and more. Their ratings give the City of Tempe important information about how well it is providing services.

The 2017 survey shows areas with high satisfaction ratings as well as areas that could be improved. Residents voiced feelings that, in the coming year, it is most important for the city to focus on police services and neighborhoods.

Among the results:

- 82 percent of residents said they are very satisfied or satisfied with city services, which is 33 percent above the national average.
- Ratings increased five percent each in the percentage of residents who said they are very satisfied or satisfied with the quality of the Tempe Center for the Arts, city recreation programs and services, and quality of city swimming pools.
- Residents were least satisfied with city enforcement of alley maintenance codes (38 percent said very satisfied or satisfied).

Each year, the survey serves as a tool to assist the City Council and city staff in setting priorities, dedicating resources and establishing goals to improve service.

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Business survey

Results of the city's first Tempe Business Survey show that 40 percent of respondents plan to invest in their business through expansion, renovations or relocation to another Tempe location in the next 12 months.

The business survey is part of a City of Tempe effort to measure and improve performance. A dashboard showing progress toward city goals is available at www.tempe.gov/opendata.

More than 400 Tempe businesses employing more than 17,000 people were surveyed this fall. About nine of 10 businesses surveyed replied that Tempe is a very business-friendly community. Tempe's overall image ranked in the top three reasons that businesses stay in Tempe. Tempe businesses were not only satisfied with their Tempe business location, about 84 percent would recommend Tempe as a business location to a friend. Those surveyed also suggested that Tempe should consider traffic, economic development, street improvements and police services top priorities for the next year.

Tempe creates \$500,000 fund to invest in ideas

Want to change Tempe for the better? The city is inviting anyone with an innovative concept for the community good to apply for a share of a \$500,000 innovation fund.

In 2017, the City Council established a one-time innovation fund of \$500,000 from a finite pool of revenues that they had reserved from past leases and sales of city land. The funds do not come from sales or property taxes. Though the fund is not intended to be renewed after it is expended, the Council hopes that the benefits it brings to the community will be long lasting and transformative.

Any Tempe employee, community member, business or elected official is eligible to apply. Visit www.tempe.gov/innovationfund for more information and application criteria. Applications should be sent to innovation@tempe.gov.

March 2018 Primary/Special Election



Seven certified City Council candidates will be on the March 13 election ballot for three open City Council seats. As of the filing deadline of Dec. 13, 2017, certified candidates for City Council are: Jennifer Adams; Robin Arredondo-Savage; Sarah Kader; Lauren Kubly; Patrick Morales; Justin Stewart; and Genevieve Vega.* Elected candidates will be sworn in to four-year terms in July.

The Primary/Special Election is March 13 and the General Election is May 15.

Propositions

Three ballot propositions will be decided by Tempe voters at the Primary/Special Election. On Nov. 9, the City Council approved three propositions for the March 13 ballot:

- Proposition 402 – Proposed Charter amendment for Papago Preserve
- Proposition 403 – Proposed Charter amendment for Contribution Source Disclosure in city elections
- Proposition 404 – Proposed permanent base adjustment

A publicity pamphlet with additional election and proposition information will be mailed to all households containing a registered voter in February 2018.

Ballot by Mail

This is the first time that Tempe elections will be Ballot by Mail, which means that every registered voter will automatically get a ballot. Voters can drop off their voted ballots or get replacement ballots at either of the two ballot centers in Tempe or at the Maricopa County Recorder's Office.

Register to vote by Feb. 12 for the March election and by April 16 for the May election. Ballots will be mailed Feb. 14 for the March election and April 18 for the May election.

Information about the elections, including about ballot centers, can be found at www.tempe.gov/election. Voters also can call Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311 or email clerk@tempe.gov.

Background information about Ballot by Mail is at www.tempe.gov/BallotbyMail.

**Prospective candidates were required to submit nomination paperwork and petitions containing between 763 and 1,524 valid signatures by the Dec. 13, 2017, deadline. Nomination petitions and paperwork are subject to legal challenge. The deadline to file a challenge was Dec. 28; as of press time for the January issue of Tempe Today in mid-December, no challenges had been filed.*

2018 solid waste and recycling collection schedules now available

www.tempe.gov/SMART, type in your address at the top of the map and all schedules will be displayed.

Java with Joel location change

Please note a location change for Councilmember Joel Navarro's regular Java with Joel conversation event. It will take place Saturday, Jan. 27, at 10 a.m., at the Tempe Public Market Café, 8749 S. Rural Road. The topic will be to discuss ideas for the development of a vacant parcel at Rural and Warner roads.

Make 2018 a hole in one

Golf season is in full swing. Golf Tempe offers two beautiful, newly remodeled courses for your golfing pleasure. It's affordable fun for the whole family. Whether you're the family who golfs together or you're looking for a new weekend brunch venue, Ken McDonald Golf Course and Rolling Hills Golf Course offer gorgeous venues for making your 2018 family memories more enjoyable! Visit www.tempe.gov/GolfTempe to see news and monthly specials.

Know a great neighbor?



Nominations are being accepted for the city's annual Neighborhood Awards. Every neighborhood has people and places deserving of recognition – please help call out the residents, properties and

businesses that make the experience of living in your neighborhood better. This is the opportunity for you to publicly celebrate and thank them for their activities, actions, property maintenance and more.

For all award categories, criteria, nomination forms and more event information, visit www.tempe.gov/StateoftheNeighborhoods. The nomination deadline is Feb. 20. All nominees will be recognized by the Mayor and City Council at the 2018 State of the Neighborhoods Awards and Workshops on Saturday, April 21, at Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave.

Immediately following this year's State of the Neighborhoods Address from Mayor Mark Mitchell and the awards ceremony, there will be a Care Fair connecting those who need help with resources and providers. Community members also will be able to learn more about human services needs in Tempe for those interested in giving their time or resources.

College Connect workshops return

Tempe's College Connect program is designed to connect students and parents to the resources they need to fulfill their dreams of a post-secondary education. Participants can take part in free workshops, group sessions and one-on-one meetings with college experts. Topics include applying for college, the FAFSA process, paying for college, available scholarships, career choice, picking the right high school classes, and many more.

- Feb. 3: Financial Aid and FAFSA assistance, scholarship opportunities
- March 3: Career Exploration and Career Fair
- April 7: Summer Job & Volunteer Fair, End of Year Celebration and Recognition.

For a full calendar and to schedule a one-on-one appointment, visit www.CollegeConnectTempe.org.

Play like a kid again at Tempe's annual PlayDay

On Saturday, Feb. 24, kids of all ages can have fun and stay active at the city's 9th Annual PlayDay. The free community event happens from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Kiwanis Park, at Mill Avenue and All-America Way. Games and events will include kayaking, the Kid Zone Experience, inflatable games, sports drills more. The Just for Kids Fishing Festival is back and will begin at 8 a.m. on the west side of Kiwanis Lake. For information, visit www.tempe.gov/FamilyFun or call 480-350-5200.

Also enjoy the city's popular Touch-a-Truck event – it's happening on-site at PlayDay again! Kids will go nuts exploring all the city trucks on display. These are the types of vehicles that keep a city like Tempe moving: fire trucks, street sweepers, police cars, trash and recycling trucks, backhoes, mowers and more. Touch-a-Truck happens rain or shine.

New residential water, sewer and solid waste rates

Beginning Jan. 1, Tempe residents will see a change in their monthly utility bills for water, sewer and solid waste services. The maximum increase per month a single family residential customer – with the same amount of usage – would experience with the new rates is \$3.88.

The new rates were approved for the 2018 calendar year by the City Council after a Nov. 30 public hearing and months of informational outreach and input from residents. To further address the needs of large lot owners, Council requested that staff come back to the April 19 Council Work Study Session with recommendations on working with residents who are on septic systems and large lots.

Council also approved a new solid waste service called "SMART" – Save Money and Recycle Tempe. SMART gives residents with curbside service the option to select a smaller trash container at a lower cost, thereby lowering their monthly bill. This service will begin implementation July 1.

Water, sewer and solid waste services are an enterprise fund and are fully funded by ratepayers. Since city sales and property taxes do not fund water, sewer or solid waste services, those costs must be recovered through residents' monthly fees. The 2018 rate adjustments are based on a detailed cost of service analysis to ensure that each utility customer class pays its proportionate share of the cost to provide those services.

Residents with questions about the rate adjustments and water volume tier structure can contact Customer Service at 480-350-8361, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., or visit www.tempe.gov/utilityrates.

Four Zero Waste Days annually

Tempe is helping you recycle more in 2018 with the addition of two more Zero Waste days. Zero Waste events will now happen in January, April, August and November. The first is Saturday, Jan. 20, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Kiwanis Park, 6111 S. All-America Way, across from the Batting Cages. For specifics, visit www.tempe.gov/SMART.

Calendar

This is the tentative January/February schedule for Tempe City Council meetings.

Check www.tempe.gov/clerk for updated schedules.

January 11, 2018

4 p.m., Work Study Session

January 18, 2018

4 p.m., Executive Session
5:30 p.m., Housing Authority Meeting
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

February 1, 2018

4 p.m., Work Study Session

February 8, 2018

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

February 15, 2018

4 p.m., Work Study Session

February 22, 2018

4 p.m., Executive Session
6 p.m., Regular Council Meeting

Agendas as posted a minimum of 24 hours before each meeting outside of the City Council Chambers and on-line at www.tempe.gov/clerk. Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Confirm meeting dates and times online or by contacting the City Clerk's office at (480) 350-4311.

Meetings are aired live on Tempe 11 and www.tempe.gov/tempe11.

Tempe City Council

Mark W. Mitchell
Mayor

Robin Arredondo-Savage
Vice Mayor

Kolby Granville
Councilmember

Randy Keating
Councilmember

Lauren Kuby
Councilmember

Joel Navarro
Councilmember

David Schapira
Councilmember

Andrew Ching
City Manager

To contact the Mayor and Council, call 480-350-8110.

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News you can use

Spring Training tickets on sale

The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim return to their spring training home in Tempe for the home opener against the Milwaukee Brewers on Saturday, Feb. 24. Tickets are on sale now and the season will run through March 24. Diablo Stadium is located at 2200 W. Alameda Drive. Tickets can be purchased at www.ticketmaster.com or at the stadium box office beginning in February. Visit www.tempe.gov/diablo for information on games, tickets, stadium hours, directions and parking.

Kajikawa Classic showcases best of softball

Enjoy a national softball tradition, as the Kajikawa Classic takes place Feb. 8-11. Teams from all over the country will be here for the weekend to claim victories as they start their seasons. The games take place at the Tempe Sports Complex, 8403 S. Hardy Drive, and ASU's Farrington Stadium, 510 S. Athletes Place, Tempe. For more information, visit <http://ow.ly/8TTz30ha32v>.

Free tax prep for qualified residents

Tempe Community Council offers a free tax preparation service for taxpayers earning \$54,000 or less in 2017. Seniors and those with disabilities also qualify for the free service. IRS-certified volunteer tax preparers will also help determine if you are eligible for Earned Income Tax Credits to maximize your refund or reduce taxes owed. Tempe's tax site will be open each Saturday, Wednesday and Thursday from Feb. 3 to April 14, and is closed March 3-10. It will be at Gracie's Village Community Room, 1540 E. Apache Blvd., in Tempe. For more details, times and what to bring, visit www.tempecommunitycouncil.org or call 480-858-2300.

Register for spring classes and activities in February

The Spring 2018 Tempe Opportunities brochure features hundreds of programs for every interest, age and ability, including health and fitness, art, dance, special interest, sports, aquatics and boating offerings. The brochure will be available online and can be found at City of Tempe facilities beginning Feb. 15. Registration for residents will begin Feb. 20 and Feb. 26 for non-residents. Most classes begin the week of March 19. Visit www.tempe.gov/brochure or call the Recreation Administration Office at 480-350-5200 for more information.

Annual writing contest

Aspiring writers are invited to participate in the fourth annual Tempe Community Writing Contest. Submissions in poetry, fiction and creative non-fiction will be accepted. The winning entries will be featured in The Tempe Writer's Forum V. 4, to be published this spring. The writings of high school students, college students and adults will be represented. A contest to design the cover is also underway. Submissions for both contests will be accepted between Jan. 8 and Feb. 19.

Collection Week	Collection Type
Area A	FEB 5-9
Area B	FEB 12-16
Area C	FEB 19-23
Area D	FEB 26-MAR 2

Items may be placed for collection no earlier than 10 days prior to Monday of your collection week and no later than 6 a.m. on Monday of your collection week.

Streets: PRIEST DR, RURAL RD, MCCLINTOCK DR, MCKELLIPS RD, CURRY RD, RIO SALADO PKWY, UNIVERSITY DR, APACHE BLVD, BROADWAY RD, ALAMEDA DR, SOUTHERN AVE, SUPERSTITION FWY

www.tempe.gov/slashthetrash • 480-350-4311