



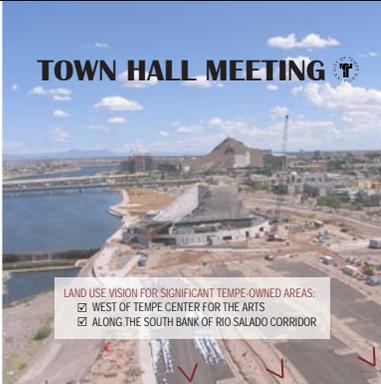
The Smart Place to Be.™

WEEKLY UPDATE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

FRIDAY
26 JAN
2007

Chris Salomone, Manager
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TOWN HALL MEETING A SUCCESS

Tempe City Council hosted a **Town Hall Meeting** on Saturday, January 20 to gather community input about the City-owned property located north of Rio Salado Parkway between the Tempe Center for the Arts [TCA] and the Hohokam Expressway. Nearly 100 people attended including members of the Arts Commission, Rio Salado Commission and the Development Review Committee.

Consensus was reached that the City should pursue sports and recreation uses on the property west of Priest Drive and arts-related uses between the Tempe Center for the Arts and Priest Drive. City staff will begin planning the relocation of the Priest Storage and Maintenance Yard. Additionally, staff will study the property west of Priest Drive to determine if any health impacts may exist by placing outdoor recreation facilities under a flight path.

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FARMER ARTS DISTRICT

The **Farmer Arts District** project continues to evolve with the affordable housing and library components taking center stage. The City Council was briefed at the Issue Review Session meeting last Thursday wherein they were shown concept plans which incorporated the library into the tax credit / affordable housing development. The library portion of the development was shown as a two-story component facing University Drive with the affordable housing component varying from seven stories adjacent to University Drive to four stories on the north end of the development running along Farmer Avenue.

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FEDERAL FUNDING CUTS TO SECTION 8 HOUSING

Tempe's Section 8 Housing Program is facing the largest cut to any low-income program the city has administered. For the past three years, Housing has battled proposed federal cuts to scale back assistance by 30 percent by 2009. Section 8 Housing provides Tempe's low-income families, as well as those throughout the country, with vouchers to help cover the cost of rental housing in the private market. Currently, Tempe has 1,950 Section 8 applications on file, representing nearly 5,000 people, including many senior citizens, children and physically challenged individuals. The program has suffered an 11 percent loss in the last three fiscal years, of which 5 percent of this reduced funding is anticipated for this year. As a result, Tempe may need to drop families from the program and charge higher rents to voucher holders who are already well below the poverty line. Staff will continue to seek Congressional support to protect the funding for Section 8 Housing from any cuts in the federal budget.

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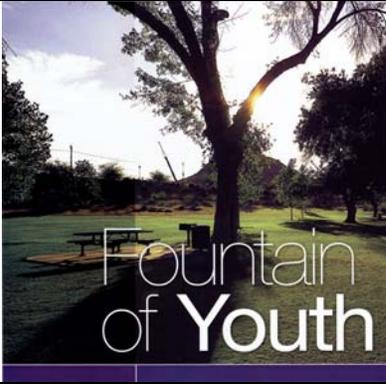
ABATEMENT @ JEN TILLY + LOMA VISTA

On a rainy Friday morning, city staff from Neighborhood Enhancement and the Police Department watched over the abatement of nuisance violations at a home located at the southwest corner of JenTilly and Loma Vista. A city contractor used a work crew and three, full-size roll off dumpsters to remove junk and debris from the back yard and alley. In an unusual twist, the homeowner had his own work crew and two moving vans and was removing items from the yard at the same time and placing those items in off-site storage. Neighborhood Enhancement staff will continue to monitor the condition of this residence and work with Police Department and Building Safety to address any future issues if they arise.

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“An entrepreneur plows the field and it weakens the idea that **change** isn't possible.”

— Bill Drayton, CEO, Ashoka



FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH

AZ *3sixty Magazine* named **Tempe Beach Park** one of the best places to take the kids in its January / February 2007 issue. Other mentioned attractions included the **Arizona Science Center**, **Wildlife World Zoo** and **Pueblo Grande Museum**. *AZ 3Sixty Magazine* is a source for readers who make travel and leisure in Arizona and the surrounding area a priority in their lives. It is available at newsstands and at mall concierge desks. Visit www.az3sixty.com for more details.

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PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

Arizona's first **Project Homeless Connect** successfully took place on Monday, January 22 at the **Tempe First United Methodist Church**. The goal of the Project Homeless Connect is to bring together service providers and community groups that can provide immediate services to the homeless. Food was provided by **Basha's**, **Pizzeria Uno** and **Santa Barbara Catering Company**. Special thanks to services provided by the **Social Security Administration**, the **AZ Department of Economic Security**, **La Mesita** [crisis shelter], **U.S. Vets**, the **Veteran's Administration**, **Tumbleweed**, **Salvation Army**, **Terros**, **Community Bridges** and **HomeBase**. **Karsten's** provided hair cuts and a massage therapist from **Southwest Institute of Healing Arts** provided chair massages. 35 Tempe residents volunteered throughout the day in which two homeless families were placed into shelter and a minimum of 70 individuals signed up for benefits they are eligible for and were not previously receiving through DES and Social Security. The planning committee is planning to repeat this event a minimum of twice a year.

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ICSC

The City of Tempe Economic Development team will look for new retailers at the **International Council of Shopping Centers** conference in Las Vegas this May. This is the nation's largest gathering of retailers, with more than 40,000 delegates attending the expo. Tempe will host an open house reception in the government pavillion. At this year's conference, highlighted developments will include the **Mill Avenue District**, **Tempe Marketplace** and **Emerald Center**. Tempe offers more than 5 million square feet of retail space. More info at www.icsc.org/.



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PHOENIX SAYS TEMPE IS THE SMART PLACE TO BE

The February 2007 issue of *Phoenix Magazine* recognized the federal servicemarking of our city's slogan, **Tempe, Arizona... The Smart Place To BeSM**. The short article reads that Tempe is making a name for itself by marketing itself as a global business might, through branding. It lauds the slogan as a good fit for the city's business mix, creative atmosphere and highly educated residents. **Tempe, Arizona... The Smart Place To BeSM** was developed in 2003 and first used publicly in January 2004 at a press conference announcing IKEA. The slogan has since been used on promotional items such as T-shirts and notepads, and in newscasts, news articles and in many speeches.

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COMMUNITY DESIGN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HISTORIC PRESERVATION HOUSING NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT REDEVELOPMENT SPECIAL PROJECTS TOWN LAKE

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