

ARCADIA CENTRAL

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ACMNA Newsletter

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56th Street Redesign Project

Safer driving, walking, biking... And more!

One neighbor joked to another, “Do they know 56 is the street number, not the speed limit?” Some people deal with discomfort through humor and others through change. It took two years and the strength of two neighborhood associations, five schools and host of impassioned citizens to arrive where we are today with 56th Street. The SAVES and Connects 56th St Group is pleased to announce the unveiling of the proposed project plans that will be presented to the City of Phoenix. These plans will be unveiled in a public forum on Wednesday, September 26th at 7:00 pm at Great Hearts Veritas (*see box, below.*)

How did we arrive at this point and who drafted these plans? Through a series of live neighborhood outreach events and on-line feedback mechanisms, your community members raised key issues and gave preference to the solutions. From your feedback and desires, Harrington Planning and Design went to work crafting plans that would allow for improved traffic flow, safer bike lanes, consistent sidewalks, greenery, improved drainage, and a more aesthetic and enjoyable environment for all. But wait, there’s more! The proposed plans include pathway lighting, seating and safety buffers between pedestrians and motorists, too.

This all sounds great but you may have noticed the consistent use of the word “proposed”. It’s important to note that a lot can still change from these initial plans. Factors that can influence such changes are city budgets, civil engineering conflicts with existing utilities, city regulations regarding use of materials, and even maintenance costs. Ultimately what will be unveiled is a high-level plan for the corridor from Thomas to Camelback Road. It will represent a collaborative vision that’s feasible and starts the process for more in-depth and final planning with the city.

So when does the work begin? Well, it’s fair to say that we won’t see any construction crews for about three years. Grant writers with the city will need to procure funds and then budget for their use. This will then lead to the finalizing of plans and ultimately the bidding and scheduling of construction. Rest assured, the SAVES and Connects 56th St Group will see this project through to completion. But for now, we’re excited to share with you these plans and hope to see you at September’s meeting.

ACMNA BOARD MEETINGS

The Association Board of Directors meet at 5:30pm on the first Thursday of the month (Except July and August) at Prince of Peace Room 14.

These meetings are open to the public and Arcadia residents are encouraged to attend. Agendas are posted 5 days prior to meetings at:

www.acmna.org/agendas



ARCADIA

Camelback Mountain Neighborhood Association
INCORPORATED 1988

56th St.

5600 E

Final Planning Meeting

Wed, September 26, 7pm

Great Hearts Veritas

Lund Center Auditorium
3102 N. 56th Street

Come see the final draft proposal
and give suggestions for
fine-tuning the project.

Signs: They are A-Changin'



Phoenix may be the 6th biggest city in the U.S., but if for those of us lucky enough to live in Arcadia, it can sometimes feel like a small town. The City of Phoenix recognizes the importance of neighborhood identities. One of the ways they encourage this is through the Neighborhood Sign Topper program.

If you've been driving around Arcadia for a few years, you may be familiar with these signs, showing Camelback Mountain on a sky-blue background, and mounted above the street signs at key intersections (*see photo below.*) In the past year or so, the City has been upgrading street signs to meet federal regulations for font size and readability. Many of the existing Arcadia toppers were removed during this project, and some have been stolen. The City has also issued new guidelines on sign topper installation (ironically they must now be below the street name.) It was high time for Arcadia to put up some new signs.

ACMNA board members Craig Steblay and Tom Thomas headed up the project to replace the signs. Using grant monies, we were able to produce 36 new signs with secure mounting brackets. Nineteen of the signs were installed by SpeedPro; Craig and Tom will be installing the remainder to save on labor costs.



The new signs, shaped like Camelback Mountain, also feature the iconic green citrus trees that are a part of our ACMNA logo (*photo above.*) Look for them at key intersections. They serve as a reminder both to neighbors and to those just passing through that Arcadia is a special place to live.

Winter Construction Hours Start October 1st

7:00 AM—7:00 PM, weekdays ONLY

Per City of Phoenix code, contractors are required to have an extended hours construction permit for **any** weekend or holiday work. Report violations to the After-Hours Construction Noise Complaint Program.

Call/Text: 602-320-1071

Email: constructionnoisecomplaints@phoenix.gov

Attach a photo if possible.

For more information visit www.phoenix.gov.

Please note that inspectors will only investigate projects requiring a permit, not minor residential repairs.

Barking Dog Keeping You Awake?

The Phoenix Barking Dog Ordinance makes it a Class 1 Misdemeanor to keep a dog that is in the habit of barking or howling, or disturbs the peace and quiet of another person.

For more info, visit the Barking Dog Information Center www.phoenix.gov/law/prosecutor/barking-dogs

Please note that mediation is required before requesting a criminal complaint.

FURRY FRIENDS

FINE ARTS FESTIVAL



"With Hats and a Balancing Act...These Three Were Ready for Hollywood" - by Jules Gissler

Shemer Art Center

Saturday, September 15 | 8am–2pm

This animal-themed arts festival is "purr-fect" for the ENTIRE family!

Admission is \$5

Visit www.shemercenter.org for more information.

HALLOWEEN

The moon is full, the wind is chill...
This Halloween will be quite a thrill!

**The Mountain View Precinct will be your host
for some spooky shenanigans
at our 7th Annual Halloween Festival
Thursday, October 25, 2018—5:30 to 8:30
2075 E. Maryland Ave, Phoenix**

This is a great kids and family event!

Camel Square Update

Neighborhood Groups Unite

In our June issue, we reported on the potential redevelopment of the Camel Square property, at the northwest corner of Camelback Road and 44th Street. Though the developer, RED Development, has not yet submitted plans, zoning changes that were made in December 2010 could allow for substantially increased height and density on the property.

Development at this location will impact many nearby neighborhoods. On Monday July 11, representatives of our local associations--including Marvin Borsand of ACMNA, Judge Bellamack of Marion Estates and Short Hills, Steve Sanchez of Park Paradise 1 & 2, Shannon Johnson of Arcadia Villas, and Paul Barnes--met with City Councilman Sal DiCiccio and District 6 Chief of Staff Sam Stone to discuss the potential redevelopment of Camel Square.

The purpose was to discuss what we, as the surrounding neighborhoods, wish to accept and include to preserve our beautiful Camelback Mountain community and lifestyles.

Based on that discussion and previous conversations with other neighborhood leaders including ACMNA President Craig Steblay, Sal committed to support the neighborhoods' request to:

1. Maintain the current height restriction of 56 feet, which was approved in 2011
2. Absolutely oppose additional multi-family housing on this location
3. Ask for additional stipulations on future development of the property if there is a request to upgrade the site to commercial (C-2) zoning
4. Request that any current buildings on the site be re-faced and updated if they remain

Sal also said he opposes the use of PUD zoning on this property, preferring that it stick to traditional zoning standards and requirements. Additionally, he sent a letter some months ago to local developers and their attorneys saying he will oppose any additional apartments being built on Camelback, at this site, or any other.



We will continue to monitor this potential development as it comes along and keep you informed, but we have received Sal's assurances that he will continue to work with our neighborhoods to make sure that we will be able to offer our input during the process.

If you have additional questions or want more information, Sal is asking everyone to contact Sam Stone who will be spearheading the project for his office. You can reach Sam via email (Sam.Stone@Phoenix.gov), on the office line (602-262-7491) or via his cell (405-795-6145).

Back-to-School Safety Tips

School is back in session, which means increased foot, bike and motor traffic in the neighborhood. The following are reminders from the Phoenix Police Department that will help you responsibly share the road with your neighbors, fellow parents & students.

- ◆ Walkers should use crosswalks and stay on sidewalks where available
- ◆ Bikers should always wear a helmet and use bike lanes where available
- ◆ Bikers should walk their bike in the crosswalk
- ◆ Walk or bike with a friend or family member if possible
- ◆ Walkers, bikers and drivers should make eye contact with each other on the road to ensure that there is awareness of each other
- ◆ No one should be texting while they walk, bike or drive
- ◆ Everyone should respect the crossing guards' instructions
- ◆ Everyone should follow roadway signs and signals

ARCADIA CENTRAL

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Preserving our neighborhood starts with you

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Hamburgers/hot dogs

Sodas

Games (kids and adults)

Bounce house

Live music

Activity tents

And more!

FREE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Our G.A.I.N. Picnic is an annual event designed to encourage neighbors from all over Arcadia to meet, greet and get to know what our neighborhood is about. This event will showcase the importance of police-community partnerships and citizen involvement. Your neighborhood association will provide everything. Come and see first responder demonstrations and other fun activities (yes, the kids can get inside a fire truck and police car!). This is a family event, it's neighborly, it's fun, and **everything is free!**

Bring the kids, bring your best friend, bring relatives, even bring your pets, or come alone to enjoy meeting City officials, your local police and fire fighters and local neighbors. October is Crime Prevention month. G.A.I.N. is a day of celebration for the successes of crime prevention through community involvement. Get involved, it's easy to do. Please come out, we look forward to meeting you!