

Friends,

February 5, 2010

First, I'd like to post the dates and times on which Davis Monthan Air Force Base (DMAFB) will be hosting meetings to report on the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) related to the F-35 mission being proposed for Tucson International Airport (TIA).

Tucson International Airport AGS

1-Mar 2010

Sunnyside High School Foyer/Auditorium
1725 E. Bilby Road
Tucson, AZ 85706 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

2-Mar 2010

San Carlos High School Cafeteria
Milepost 270 Highway 70
San Carlos, AZ 85550 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

3-Mar 2010

Eastern Arizona College
Gila/Galiuro Room, Activities Center
1014 N. College Avenue
Thatcher, AZ 85552 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

4-Mar 2010

Bisbee High School Cafeteria
475 School Terrace Road
Bisbee, AZ 85603 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

5-Mar 2010

Roskrige Elementary School Auditorium
501 E. Sixth Street
Tucson, AZ 85705 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

For additional information on Davis Monthan's (DM) F-35 project please visit their link:

<http://www.162fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123187221>

For Operation Snowbird updates, you'll find this link helpful.

<http://www.dm.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123184369>

To file a noise complaint, please visit:

<http://www.dm.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-100104-036.pdf>

or you may call DM at: 520-228-5091

Since the first of the year we have begun serious discussions related to the budget and the need to not only cut spending, but find ways to grow the economic pie. Along those lines we have attempted to maintain our responsibility as a governing body to support core services. It has been noteworthy the new conversation taking place from the dais; that is, taking action to demonstrate that our community is serious about making Tucson a

welcoming community for small businesses, a realization that it is those enterprises and their customers who fuel the tax base that supports our entire budget.

Making the Promise of “Business Friendly” Real

To that end, I have presented to the Planning and Development Services Department a series of “quick fix” suggestions for easing the maze through which businesses have to wade when trying to get permits to operate. In addition I have requested that PDS review such items as relaxing some of the recently adopted ordinances related to infill incentive performance measures, at least for the balance of this year so we can look at whether or not what was originally adopted was working as planned. This week we will consider three key items that contain the seeds of longer-term impacts on our budget and the cost of doing business in Tucson. We will discuss the Planning and Development Services Department practices in the context of looking for ways to make them more user-friendly. We will consider a new Safe Harbor Ordinance, a measure I have proposed that would allow businesses in construction corridors to remain operating until construction makes their demolition imminent. And finally, we will discuss holding Mayor and Council accountable for an Administrative Directive that was passed in 1994 that set minimum guidelines that are to be considered when selling or leasing city-owned property (the now infamous \$1/year leases.) I am confident that each of these items will receive support from around the table and we can use this Tuesday as a focal point in our efforts to put meat on the bones of the "business friendly" resolution passed by the City Council last year.

Tucson Gem and Mineral Show

On Friday, January 29th we hosted a meeting at the Ward 6 office, the purpose of which was to listen to and discuss the concerns of several of the major players in the Tucson Gem and Mineral Shows. We invested over 2 hours in the conversation, and coming away from the evening have put the following items into action for this year's show:

- I have recommended to the Tucson Convention Center and the City Manager that we reduce the parking fees for the TCC to \$6/car. This was the level charged for the Mayor's State of the City event held last Friday - my sense is that to increase it to \$8 for the Gem and Mineral Shows is both bad public relations and an example of gouging those whose business we want to encourage.
- We are instituting a shuttle service from the TCC to various hotels and parking areas along the frontage road of I-10. These shuttles will be running from 2/11-14 and will service the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show / the flagship event of the "Gem Show" two-week stay in Tucson. This show is open to the general public. I encourage you to take advantage of either the shuttle, or the reduced parking fees and experience and support TGMS at the TCC.
- We have been working to develop ways to show our appreciation to the 40 + Gem and Mineral promoters who continue to make this a positive event for our community. A special thank you to Ray Flores, owner of El Charro Café, for offering to host an event at the Stillwell House for Gem and Mineral promoters. The entire Flores family deserves kudos for how they have stepped up to the plate since our meeting last Friday. Show your appreciation by taking your family to the nearest El Charro Café or Sir Vezas Taco Garage for a meal.

- And finally, thanks to the Downtown Tucson Partnership, which runs the Business Improvement District (referenced in our last newsletter), and Glenn Lyons for having tasked DTP's maintenance employees with doing some additional clean-up work in Downtown as a way to make it more attractive for our convention guests. Through the combination of the efforts of Ray, Rick, Glenn and my staff, we are hopeful that the promoters of the Gem and Mineral Shows will continue to recognize that we value their coming here, and are serious about keeping them as our guests in the years ahead.

Ward 6 Open House- You are invited to join us on Thursday, February 18 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at the Ward 6 Council Office 3202 East 1st Street. Please RSVP by leaving a message at 520-837-4239 no later than February 16th. Please stop by to meet the Ward 6 team and me as you enjoy a sampling of food provided by some fantastic Ward 6 restaurants.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has taken the time to voice your ideas about Tucson's future. Times are hard but the decisions that we make now will ensure that we make the most out of the economic recovery in our future.



Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
<http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/ward6>