



WARD 2 COUNCIL OFFICE
PAUL CUNNINGHAM
COUNCILMAN

Fellow Tucsonans,

First, let's all lend a hand to our fellow Arizonans in Cochise County and across the State who are under threat of fire; thoughts and prayers out to them. There is a website at www.redcrossarizona.org where you can volunteer to lend a hand. You can also call them at 1-800-341-6943.

We have had some serious issues before the council in past weeks; here is a summary:

KOLB ROAD EXTENSION, THE RTA AND THE CITY OF TUCSON

As most of you are aware, Pima County and City of Tucson voters approved the Regional Transportation Plan five years ago. It has been an issue my office has been dealing with since I was appointed to the City Council, specifically, the issue of the Kolb Road Extension and how it impacts the neighbors who will be living next to it.

At the Ward 2 Office, the overwhelming majority of calls, e-mails, letters and meeting requests I have received have been vehemently opposed to the extension based on a variety of issues: drainage, environmental impact, the cost (which is almost 3 times what the voters approved) and what problems might arise when building on an existing landfill. I share many of their concerns.

It has been made very clear from the RTA, their intention is to build the road whether the Tucson City Council supports it or not. One piece of leverage the City Council had was in regard to WHERE the road will be built. The two choices are either through Udall Park or through the existing neighborhood. The other piece of leverage is that the city has the opportunity to retain management of the project.

Two weeks ago, I led the Mayor and Council to approve the alignment of the proposed extension through Udall Park utilizing a Bureau of Land Management approved park patent. The alternative would have been to construct the road through the neighborhood. My colleague on the Council who voted against it claimed that supporting the alignment (and the subsequent IGA) was akin to supporting the extension; I respectfully disagree. I believe we risked unacceptable consequences in not approving the Udall Park Master Plan and subsequent IGA. The votes held with regard to the Kolb Road Extension accomplished two things: First, the road, if built, will NEVER go through the neighborhood; and the threat of eminent domain no longer exists. Second, the City retains project management of the road and we have a seat at the table on whether this project comes to fruition or not. These were the issues at stake. The drainage concern with regard to Phase One will be addressed further in the administrative process.

NEIGHBORHOOD PROTECTION ZONE (NPZ) ON COUNCIL AGENDA

This past Tuesday, the Mayor and Council voted 6 to 0 to support the Neighborhood Protection Zone (NPZ) for Jefferson Park Neighborhood. For those of you following the conflict between mini-dorm developers and the

neighborhoods that are impacted by them, the NPZ was brought before Council Tuesday, after years in the making. Hopefully it will provide some relief to those residents who call Jefferson Park home.

I was not able to vote in Tuesday night's decision on the advice of our City Attorney.

In full disclosure, I informed him that my aunt owns a house in Jefferson Park Neighborhood. My first cousin, a sophomore at the University, lives in the home. The home burned down a few weeks ago, and my aunt is in the process of re-building. My parents stepped in to help her finance the construction. The City Attorney had advised me against participating in any manner on this subject "... in which a relative or I hold any financial interest..."

Now that the vote has been taken, I would like to thank everyone who came out to the meeting Tuesday night and participated in the civic process. I also feel it is appropriate to point out that I voted this past February to move the design manual forward.

ALL-STAR GAME MOVING TO HI CORBETT?

If any of you read the sports page in the Arizona Daily Star yesterday, you saw an article about the College Football All-Star Game looking at coming to Tucson. It's another opportunity to put Tucson on the map with sports tourism. I have been aggressively pursuing other sporting events to promote in Tucson since the loss of spring training baseball. We need to build on the success of the Tucson Desert Cup, our first major league soccer tournament. Like the Desert Cup, the All-Star game would provide a boost in our economy and raise Tucson's profile nationally as a City that welcomes different sporting events.

FIREWORKS IN TUCSON AND PIMA COUNTY

Our office has been receiving lots of calls regarding fireworks and if they are legal. The Arizona Legislature and Governor Brewer made the sales and use of some fireworks legal in the State of Arizona. Although the City could not prohibit vendors from selling fireworks, the Mayor and Council passed an ordinance November 23, 2010, banning their use inside the CITY limits. Pima County voted on Tuesday to place a temporary ban on fireworks in the County.

EASTSIDE FARMERS MARKET OPEN THROUGH THE SUMMER

Where can you buy locally raised beef, homegrown tomatoes, onions, peppers, fresh tamales, tortillas, handmade soaps, and mesquite honey? All of that and more every Friday morning from 8 am to 12 noon, at Jesse Owens Park on Sarnoff south of Broadway. Please come out and support your local farmers and get some healthy, yummy food at the same time!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Please be aware that a private citizen on behalf of his political campaign has requested via a Freedom of Information "...the email addresses from all the individual wards in the city to send out candidate information." Personally I feel it is inappropriate, since these emails are used to provide updates on City business only. Unfortunately, our City Attorney has advised us that we are required to release the list. If you are disappointed in this, please call the requestor at 520-971-4481.

HELP US HELP THE CHILDREN OF TUCSON!

“Did you know 19% (111,503) of the children in Tucson do not have a computer, a resource critical for success in school. Computers For Kids has identified this as a problem in our community and has been taking action to reverse the tide for almost three years. A monetary donation, or gently used equipment, is always appreciated, but our most urgent need is YOUR VOTE! Just two minutes of your time gives us an excellent chance of allowing our organization to give thousands of computers to schools and needy children right here in Tucson.”

Here's the deal.

Intuit (makers of Quicken and QuickBooks) has personally invited Computers For Kids to enter their business grant program. Here's where you come into the picture. Every time you cast a vote saying you like our business, we get closer to receiving a \$25,000 or \$50,000 grant to help more kids!!!

We're already in the top 10 places out of hundreds of other companies throughout the US, so your vote will really make the difference!!!

Please take these 3 easy steps.

After clicking HERE <<http://bit.ly/jnMgIs>>

1. Enter your username and email address
2. Enter your comments about "why" you think our business is good for helping Tucson's children! (Remember what you say is as important as the vote).
3. Go check your email to discover how you can share this on Facebook and with friends and family!
www.ComputersForKidsUSA.org

WE ARE A DROP OFF POINT FOR ITEMS FOR DONATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

- * THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK - Non-perishable foods
- * DIAPER BANK OF SOUTHERN ARIZONA - Infant/child/adult diapers
- * SAAF (Southern Arizona Aids Foundation) - Personal hygiene products and household cleaning products
- * TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network) - Personal care items for individuals and families in need
- * ICU - Eyeglass donations to a student-led organization that sends them to war-torn countries
- * CINDERELLA'S CLOSET - Prom dress donations so that all young ladies can have a beautiful gown for their prom. Please feel free to drop off prom dresses and accessories to any of the following sites:
 - Ward 2 Council Office (7575 E. Speedway)
 - State Farm Insurance Agency (6801 E. Camino Principal, Suite 103)
 - Sahuaro Girl Scout Council Office (4300 E. Broadway)
 - Bookman's (3733 W. Ina Road)
- * DANCING IN THE STREETS AZ www.ditsaz.org (<http://www.ditsaz.org/>) - The power of dance to transform lives, to enrich community! DITSAZ is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that uses the excitement and discipline of ballet to guide children in achieving life skills. Please feel free to drop off gently used or new ballet attire i.e. pink tights, pink ballet slippers and pink or black leotards, as well as, gently used ballet costumes.

Visit our Ward 2 website for more information <http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/ward2>

Respectfully,
Councilman Paul Cunningham