Subject: Paul Cunningham's Weekly Update
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Paul CUNNINGHAM
WARD 2

CITY OF TUCSON Newsletter
WARD 2

Paul Cunningham's Weekly Update

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The early voting site at Ward 2 is open this weekend and Monday.

Paul's Note

October 30, 2026

I will be missing the regular session of Wednesday's council meeting (put off by a day due to the election) because I will be attending a special meeting of the E.L. G.H.E.K.O. neighborhood association.

One of the schools that is on the list for possible closure is Hudlow, smack dab in the middle of that neighborhood. I was asked to attend to hear the concerns of those that have grown to see the school as a community asset. Full disclosure: it is also my neighborhood.

No process for the potential closure of schools is going to be perfect. However, Superintendent Trujillo and his team put together a reconfiguration committee that had good representation from many corners of our community, and staff members of many local elected officials, including someone from my office.That committee has volunteered many hours over the last several months looking through pages of data and trends on all sorts of subjects to help TUSD administration formulate different scenarios.

I appreciate the realities around TUSD's proposals: continuing funding cuts from the state, demographic changes in many neighborhoods and the availability of other options for parents of school age children. As someone that has to deal with city budgets, I know how hard these decisions are. The survival of the district depends on making the numbers and metrics work, and the current board and leadership are trying to unwind problems that have been present for decades. Still, I am frustrated that so many of the schools on the list are on the east side.

I will be in attendance for the study session, where we will be discussing our city attorney along with an update on the domestic violence court.

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Our parks department will be closing the basketball courts at Palo Verde Park on Tuesday, Nov. 3, and Wednesday, Nov. 4.

As many of you know, the court is dedicated to one of our late community leaders, Judith Blair. During the closure, crews will be painting her name on the court surface. The court will need to stay closed for both days so the work can be completed and the paint can cure.

Although the basketball court will be closed to public use on November 3 and 4, the rest of Palo Verde Park will remain open. Park users will see signs at the court ahead of the closure.

of the closure.

We expect the court to reopen on Thursday, Nov. 5, and we'll let you know right away if anything changes, such as a weather delay.

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An important reminder for those of you that don’t have your ballot in: the early voting site here at my office (7820 E Broadway) is open Saturday from 9 am - 3 pm, Monday from 9 am - 5 pm, but, since we are an early and emergency voting site, not Tuesday.

Remember to follow the signs around to enter the building from the west side. Personnel from the county recorder’s office will be there to help you vote. My staff can direct you to the voting location, but can’t answer questions about your ballot.

If you are waiting until Tuesday to vote, please visit recorder.pima.gov for information on election day voting sites.

Adoptable friends like Mia can be found at EPAC

EPAC Pet of the Week

Eastside PACC Adoption Center 7225 E Broadway Blvd, Suite #140

Located At: Pima Animal Care Center - Eastside

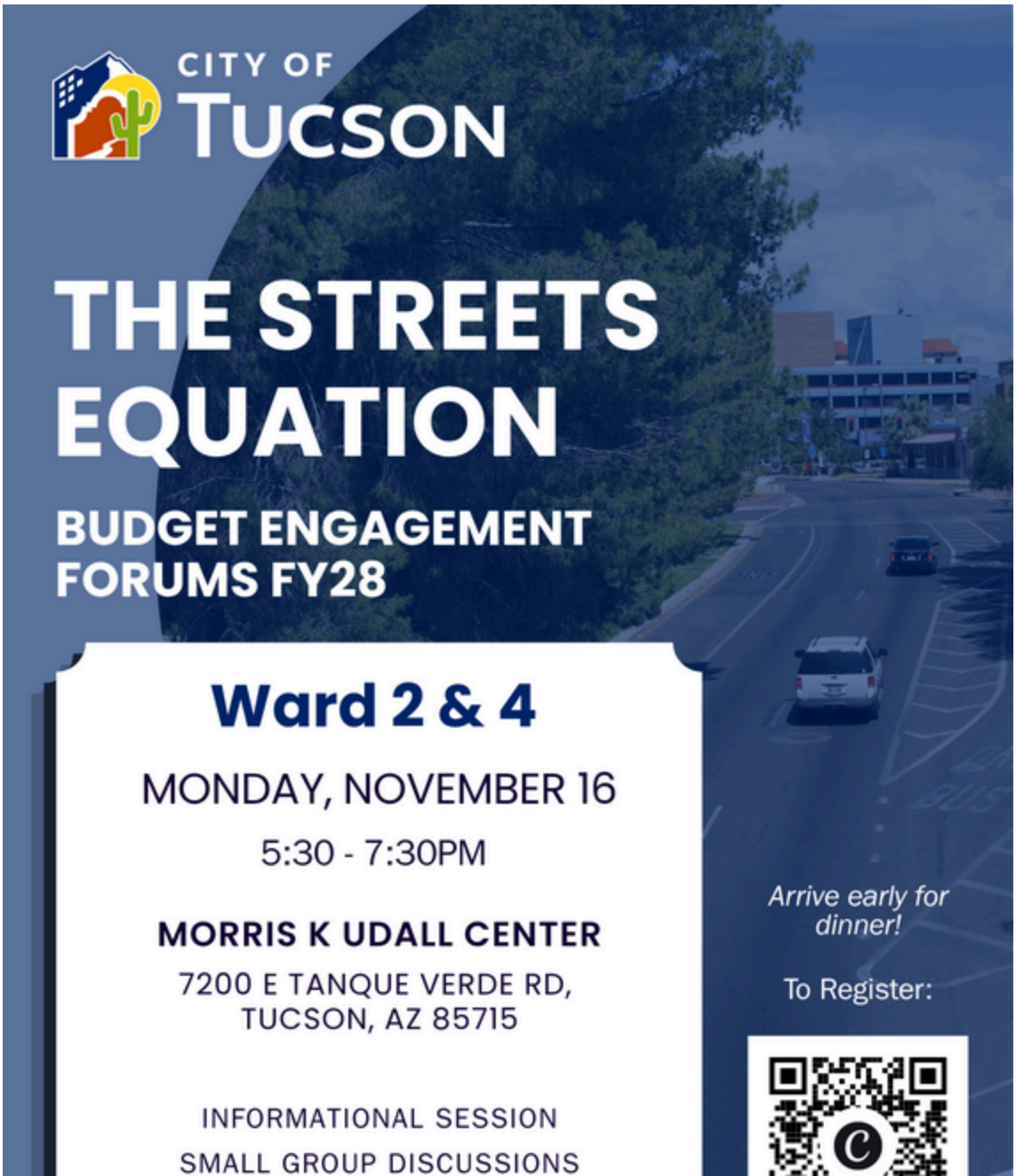
Description: My name is Mia.
I am a spayed female, black and white Chinese Sharpei and Labrador Retriever.

Age: The shelter staff think I am about 2 years and 3 months old.
Mia is a sweet young pup who spent more than six months in a foster home – here's what learned:

- She loves other dogs and will thrive with a furry friend or two in her future home
- She liked to sleep near her foster person at night
- She is house trained
- She loves to play and considers anything to be a toy- even toilet paper rolls!

Mia's foster described her as a silly, playful, loving, cuddly Velcro pup. She's very food motivated and extremely smart; if you have a treat she wants, she is eager to learn a new trick!

Mia shares her kennel with another PACC pup and has been social when meeting other dogs in playgroup. Ask to meet Mia today.



FEEDBACK OPPORTUNITIES

Community News

Mayor and Council: To accommodate election day, the next mayor and council meeting is **Wednesday, November 4** rather than the regular Tuesday. There is an afternoon study session and the regular meeting starts at 5:30. Meetings are held at City Hall, 255 W Alameda and can be watched live or archived at https://www.youtube.com/@cityoftucson/live.

Houghton Road Open House: Join the Regional Transportation Authority and City of Tucson to learn more about voter-approved improvements to Houghton Road from Broadway Blvd. to Tanque Verde Road on **Thursday, November 12** from 4:30 to 6 pm at the Ward 2 office (7820 E Broadway). For more information, visit RTAmobility.com/projects.

Alamo Wash Greenway: The Alamo Wash Greenway Project team is having a pop-up event for the public to provide input on the 30% draft design. There are two in-person opportunities for members of the public to learn about the design progress, ask questions, and provide feedback on things like additional landscaping along the greenway and improved crossings at major streets.

> **Thursday, November 5th**. 5 - 6:30 pm, Vista Del Prado Park (3250 S. Jessica Ave.: there will be free tacos!
>
> **Saturday, November 7th**, 9 - 10:30 am, Claire Weeks - Terra del Sol Park (2001 S. Avenida del Sol): Free coffee and pastries will be provided.

Autistic Artistry: The Autism Society of Southern Arizona(ASSA) invites the community to join them for Autistic Artistry on November 14th.

ASSA is dedicated to connecting, empowering, and supporting autistic individuals and their families throughout Southern Arizona. We strive to be a place where our community can find resources, build connections, and feel a sense of belonging.

Autistic Artistry celebrates the creativity, talents, and unique perspectives of autistic artists in our community. We would love to invite the communityto join us and learn more about the amazing individuals we serve.

The event is November 14th and will be held at Abbie School which is located at 6000 E 14th St and will run from 10AM – 2PM. To find out more, you can visit the website.

Violence Reduction Summit: Join neighbors for a day of community, connection, and collective healing as they come together to address street violence and intimate partner violence, and explore pathways toward violence prevention. Youth will have the opportunity to share their ideas, perspectives, and solutions directly with Mayor Regina Romero, who will be present to listen to their vision for safer, stronger communities. Through honoring those we've lost, building meaningful connections,

we create space for healing, resilience, and youth-led change toward a future where our communities can thrive in safety, dignity, and peace. This event will be on **November 14**, 9 am - 2 pm at the Dunbar Pavillion (325 W 2nd St.). To register, please fill out the form online.

Streets Equation: The City of Tucson is seeking feedback from residents regarding the budget for fiscal year 2028. The City will host a series of 1 virtual and 3 in-person forums in November called "The Streets Equation." This series serves as a bridge between government and the community, offering a transparent space for City leadership to connect, share, and collaborate withTucson residents on the topics of street maintenance and construction, transportation, and road safety. The schedule is below. For more information and to register, please visit the Streets Equation website.

Citywide: **Monday, Nov. 9**, 12 – 2 p.m. on Zoom (Link provided upon registration)

Ward 1 & 5: **Wednesday, Nov. 18**, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., El Pueblo Senior Center; 101 W Irvington Rd Bldg 13

Ward 2 & 4: **Monday, Nov. 16**, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Morris K Udall Center; 7200 E Tanque Verde Rd

Ward 3 & 6: **Tuesday, Nov. 10**, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., El Rio Neighborhood Center; 1390 W Speedway Blvd

Dancing in the Streets Nutcracker: Husband-and-wife Founders/Directors Joseph Rodgers and Soleste Lupu are celebrating 19 years of bringing The Nutcracker Ballet and the art of classical ballet to the Tucson community through their nonprofit ballet school, Dancing In The Streets AZ (DITSAZ). This Thanksgiving weekend, DITSAZ proudly presents its full-length production of The Nutcracker on **Saturday, November 28 and Sunday, November 29, 2026**, at 2:00 p.m. at the Leo Rich Theater at the Tucson Convention Center.

This production and the programs that make opportunities like this possible are supported by an Opportunity Grant from Angel Charity for Children, along with grant support from the Arizona Commission on the Arts, Community Foundation for Southern Arizona, City of Tucson Ward 2 and Council Member Paul Cunningham, City of South Tucson, and the Eliot Spalding Foundation.

Ready Steady Open: Tucson's Mayor and Council recently approved a one-year pilot program to provide financial and technical support to small local businesses affected by City capital construction projects. This program will provide three types of one-time grants to eligible businesses along select construction corridors, helping them prepare for, remain operational during, and recover from construction-related impacts. The pilot will also provide enhanced communication and outreach through dedicated City staff. The deadline to apply is Sunday, Nov. 1, at 11:59 p.m. Visit the website and apply .

'The Streets Equation' Budget Forums Coming Soon - Join "The Streets Equation," a series of in-person and virtual forums where residents can share feedback on street maintenance and construction, transportation, and road safety, as the City plans its fiscal year 2028 budget. Forums will include budget education, informational presentations, small-group discussions, and opportunities for resident feedback. The first (virtual) forum is scheduled for **Monday, Nov. 9**, from noon-2 p.m.

on Zoom. You may select any of the events, regardless of the ward in which you live. Follow this link for dates, times, locations, and registration links: The Streets Equation

Attracting Beneficial Insects: The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension service is hosting a presentation by Dr. Wilfrid Calvin at the Highland Vista Garden (5300 E 7th St.) on **November 15**, 10 - 11:30 am. Learn proven ways to attract beneficial insects to your garden, enjoy a tour and ask all of your garden questions.

Bus Rapid Transit: Tucson's first Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) is coming to Stone Avenue. This new high-capacity transit service will connect people and places between the Tohono Tadai Transit Center/Tucson Mall and the downtown Ronstadt Transit Center.

You're invited to an open house on **Monday, November 9** to view early draft plans for Stone Ave BRT and submit your feedback. If you cannot attend, you can visit the website anytime between November 9, 2026, and December 9, 2026, to experience an online open house. Partial Funding for this project is included in the RTA Next Plan.

Step Up to Justice: Step Up to Justice has volunteer attorneys who hold free know-your-rights presentations for those who want to come. They offer several ongoing sessions, including The RENT Project (Renter Education for Neighborhoods and Tenants), The MAPP Project (Mobile Home Asset and Property Protection) and WORK (Workers' Outreach, Rights, and Knowledge). You can find out when the sessions are held and how to sign up at https://www.stepuptojustice.org/.

Team Up to Clean Up: The City of Tucson, along with community partners, is organizing a citywide clean-up effort. Residents, families, students, community groups, and businesses are invited to join forces to clean and enhance our neighborhood. For more details, visit: Team Up To Clean Up.

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