



Sahuaro

Weekly Update

*The Sahuaro District:
Celebrating Recreation, Education and Cooperation*

Councilmember Gary Sherwood - Glendale, Arizona

February 27, 2015

Greetings Sahuaro Residents,

I want to thank those that attended my district meeting Wednesday night and for Simon Kottoor of Sunshine Residential Homes for hosting and providing the refreshments. I do apologize for the amount of material that was covered taking us way past our scheduled ending time.

I will plan more frequent meetings in the future as we seem to have no less issues, plans, and activities that occur in our city. For those that couldn't make this meeting, items covered included an update on economic development activities, recent bond refinancing, Westside Resort & Casino update, mega events legislation, Metro Light Rail and Glendale's involvement, Thunderbird Grad School merger with ASU and if there are going to be effects to either campus, Camelback Ranch and any possible relief, trust land at NW corner of Bell and 51st Ave just being auctioned, and a refresh on our Boards & Commissions. Feel free to contact me anytime on any of these subjects, plus if there is anything in particular that you would like to hear about, either to be covered at our next district meeting in June or something that I can cover here in the newsletter.

Here's another sampling of the Arizona Republic's "sound-off" which has been running in Saturday's Glendale community section where they invite West Valley elected officials to weigh in on that week's question. This one ran back just three weeks ago:

Question: Even as the Super Bowl came and went just this week, some already are talking about seeking to bring the game back in 2020. Given the effects of such a major event on your city, should Arizona seek to host another Super Bowl and how soon?

The State of Arizona should absolutely pursue the rights to host the Super Bowl in 2020. Hosting the Super Bowl was a tremendous success in many ways including exposure to our beautiful state, local businesses, public transportation, and infrastructure; plus it went off flawlessly. Glendale will be hosting the NCAA Championship Football game next January and in 2017 the NCAA Final Four Basketball Championship. This region is made to host these mega events. We need to continue to work with our legislators to come up with a funding mechanism to not only cover public costs but all the other nuances including the bid proposal's just to compete with the other regions around the country that already have them in place. With all of the cooperation from various governments within the State of Arizona, I am confident that the National Football League would entertain the idea of returning to Glendale.

Sincerely,

Councilmember Gary Sherwood

City Commissions Make Formal Recommendations with Public Vote on Library Relocation Proposal. Glendale's Library Advisory Board, Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission and Arts Commission individually met this week and voted to make a formal recommendation about a proposed concept regarding the potential sale and relocation of the Foothills Branch Library to the Foothills Recreation and Aquatics Center. The boards or commissions each voted unanimously to oppose this proposal.

In early February, the City Council requested public meetings be held with each of the groups to provide the public with a presentation of the relocation concept while answering questions and providing an opportunity for public comment. The Council also asked each of the groups to vote on the proposal.

The results of these votes, along with the public commentary received on this concept, will be presented to the City Council at a workshop on March 17th. The City Council will then take the information and provide further direction regarding the concept.

The Library Services Division continues to seek public input to share with the City Council. An online public comment form and phone hotline has been established and responses will be shared with the Council. To access the online or phone comment opportunities or to learn more about this proposal, please visit <http://www.glendaleaz.com/Library/PotentialFoothillsRelocation.cfm>

Glendale Council Appointed to National Committees. Glendale Mayor Jerry Weiers and five members of the Glendale City Council received appointments to the National League of Cities (NLC) 2015 Policy Committees. The appointments were announced by NLC President Ralph E. Becker, Mayor, Salt Lake City, Utah. These committees have the lead responsibility for developing NLC federal policy positions that connect federal action with local economic efforts to help cities move forward with programs and resources that empower people and businesses to make investments and see innovation explode in cities.

Members of the Glendale City Council were appointed to the following NLC Committees for 2015:

- Mayor Jerry Weiers - Public Safety and Crime Prevention Steering Committee
- Councilmember Jamie Aldama - Human Development Policy and Advocacy Committee
- Councilmember Sammy Chavira - Public Safety and Crime Prevention Steering Committee
- Councilmember Lauren Tolmachoff - Community and Economic Development Policy and Advocacy Committee
- Councilmember Bart Turner - Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations Policy/Advocacy Committee
- Councilmember Gary Sherwood - Transportation and Infrastructure Services Steering Committee

In addition to the committee appointments, two members of the Council were appointed to officer positions on NLC member networking councils with Mayor Jerry Weiers selected as Vice-Chair of the Military Communities Council and Councilmember Gary Sherwood selected as Vice-Chair of the First-Tier Suburbs Council.

The National League of Cities (NLC) is dedicated to helping city leaders build better communities. NLC is a resource and advocate for 19,000 cities, towns and villages, representing more than 218 million Americans.

For more information on NLC's other committees and councils, visit <http://www.nlc.org/influence-federal-policy/policy-committees>.

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