



P.O. Box 42825 Tucson, AZ 85733

# WUNA Newsletter January 2023

[www.westuniversityneighborhood.org](http://www.westuniversityneighborhood.org)

## Message from the President, Judy Rose Sensibar



Dear Neighbors:

New Traffic Circle! ✓

New Bathroom at Anza Park! ✓

These are the kinds of projects that are years in the making and finally came to fruition in 2022.

Did you know that to get a traffic circle approved by the city, you need 60% of the surrounding neighbors to sign off in favor of the project? And can you believe that the cost of a circle is upwards of \$30,000! It's no surprise, then, that we started gathering the signatures in 2019 and were only able to find a contractor to complete the circle in April of this year. We then waited until September for cooler, rainier weather to complete the landscaping.

With an additional \$1000 Street Improvement Grant from the Historic Fourth Avenue Coalition, we were able to buy ample plantings as well as boulders to delineate the perimeter.



Some of our other circles have been decorated for the holidays. The one at 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. and 1<sup>st</sup> St. is festooned with shiny balls and tinsel and the large circle at 7<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 4<sup>th</sup> St. has a solar light installation that flickers each evening.

We have two large projects in the works: the first is a virtual walking tour designed by a computer science class at the UA. Students have built a website platform that can sort historically significant structures by address, architect, and date. We have started with 12 sites along University Blvd and 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. and look forward to sharing the project with you soon.

We are also spending some of the traffic mitigation funds that the city holds for us. This money has accumulated from a percentage the neighborhood gets from the permitted parking program; please take advantage of the reserved residential parking available to you in front of your home if you haven't already!





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Plans for sidewalk ramps on the south side of University Blvd - all the way from Stone to Main Gate - are in the approval process. We have also asked that the four corners around Catalina Park be improved with sidewalk ramps for ease of strollers and wheelchairs. The historic stamps in some of the sidewalk panels will be cut out and preserved in the new concrete.

Another project long in coming is a water retention plan designed to control some of the flooding from the runoff from the student towers east of Euclid. Dubbed "The Black Lagoon" by some of our neighbors on 1<sup>st</sup> Street, the black water that runs down 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets is not just rainwater, but a byproduct of sanctioned fire suppression tests and other non-sanctioned violations such as irrigation leaks, pool drainage and power washing. The city has finally acknowledged the problem and is in the process of getting bids for retention basins to help keep the black, sludgy water from crossing Euclid.



Please come to our annual neighborhood party January 15 to enjoy BBQ and cake, and to chat with your neighborhood leaders. Learn more about how you can participate in projects that interest you!



6<sup>th</sup> and University got an annual scrubbing and our neighborhood green thumbs show their stuff.

### New President for 2023, New Vice President Needed!



After five years of hard work serving as WUNA President, I am stepping down, but will still be active on the board in the role of Historian. Very capable Vice President Betsy Larson has agreed to be President. She has served for two years as VP and has spoken eloquently on behalf of our neighborhood at Mayor & Council meetings twice already this year. We are actively looking for a VP for 2023. Please consider volunteering for this position! Jim

Glock will continue as Treasurer and as the fabulous leader and organizer of the Street Fair Beer Booth.



Dave Zippo will serve as Secretary for another year. You can always read his meeting minutes posted on our website. Although many of our board members are returning, there are several board positions open! Thank you to all the wonderful people I have worked with these last several years to strengthen and beautify WU. However, we do need a new crop of curious people committed to improving our streets and parks and wanting to BE the change - please email [wunatucson@gmail.com](mailto:wunatucson@gmail.com) to place yourself on the ballot and attend our picnic January 15 at 1pm for the election! See you there.



### Connect with us!



[www.westuniversityneighborhood.org](http://www.westuniversityneighborhood.org)



[wunatucson@gmail.com](mailto:wunatucson@gmail.com)



[facebook.com/westuniversitytucson](https://facebook.com/westuniversitytucson)



[@westuniversitytucson](https://www.instagram.com/westuniversitytucson)  
[#westuniversitytucson](https://www.instagram.com/westuniversitytucson)

### ***Some Useful Contact Information***

#### **Trash Pick Up & Environmental Services**

(520) 791-3171

#### **Park Tucson (Parking Enforcement)**

(520) 791-5071

#### **Graffiti Removal**

(520) 792-CITY (2489)

#### **TPD Red Tag Unit**

(520) 837-7318

#### **TPD Non-Emergency**

(520) 791-4444

#### **Roadway, Signage, and Street Lighting Maintenance Issues**

(520) 791-3154

[TDOTConcerns@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:TDOTConcerns@tucsonaz.gov)

#### **Code Enforcement**

(520) 791-5843

### Know the Code?

In addition to the extra regulatory steps when making any modification to the exterior of your home, property owners also need to take steps to conform to the Tucson City Code (TCC). A couple of key requirements may be surprising:

#### **TRIM WEEDS, GRASS & ENCROACHING PLANTS**

Tall weeds and grass at your property can trigger allergies and respiratory problems plus harbor rodents and other pests. Trim weeds or grass below 6 inches high. You're also responsible for maintaining the height of weeds, grass, and plants in areas next to your property: sidewalks, street easements, and one half of the width of the alley. A 5' wide by 7' tall walking area adjacent to your property must be maintained, whether there is a sidewalk in place or not.

You can plant vegetation in the right-of-way, but there are setbacks from above and below ground utilities that must be maintained. For more information, please go to:

<https://www.tucsonaz.gov/tdot/residential-property-landscaping>

#### **LIMIT OR SCREEN OUTSIDE STORAGE**

Keep your property looking tidy by complying with these outside storage guidelines:

- No front yard storage – store items only in the back or side yards
- Limit storage of a maximum of 25% of your total lot size
- Screen storage items in an enclosed structure or with a solid, nontransparent wall or fence that's a minimum of 5 feet high.

#### **STOP ILLEGAL DUMPING**

It's illegal to dispose of junk, litter, debris, or trash in unauthorized places on public property and even private property such as a yard, streets, alley, easements, or washes.

#### **CLEAN UP WITH BRUSH & BULKY**

Twice a year Environmental and General Services offers residential customers Brush & Bulky (B&B) collection. B&B includes landscape, cacti, and tree debris, furniture, carpet & doors, mattresses, appliances, lumber & PVC, and scrap metal.

**West University is scheduled for B&B pickup during the weeks February 27 and August 28 for 2023.**

Call (520) 791-3171 for special B&B pick-up for a fee.

#### **CODE INSPECTORS ARE IN THE FIELD**

From illegal dumping to abandoned buildings and yards overgrown with weeds, the team at the City of Tucson's Code Enforcement Division is focused on protecting the health, safety, and welfare of Tucsonans

Report a Complaint

Online: [bit.ly/3hAevg0](https://bit.ly/3hAevg0)

Phone: (520) 791-5843 Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### **SIDWALK MAINTENANCE**

It is the obligation of adjacent property owners to maintain adjacent sidewalks. sidewalk areas must be passable and not pose a trip hazard.



### West University Neighborhood Association Memberships for 2023

It's time to send in your \$10 WUNA membership dues. All memberships run from January through December. Dues help pay for the website fees and maintenance, the post office box, and insurance. All members will receive via email our Recommended Vendors List. The vendors have been submitted by your fellow members of West University Neighborhood Association. You can save the \$10 dues many times over by hiring the right person the first time.

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: West University Neighborhood Association

Three ways to join:

- 1) Fill out this form and mail it with your check for \$10 to: WUNA, P.O. Box 42825, Tucson, AZ 85733
- 2) Pay at the annual meeting
- 3) Go to [www.westuniversityneighborhood.org](http://www.westuniversityneighborhood.org) and fill out the form and pay by PayPal/credit card

Thank you for your support!

Name(s)						
Address		City		State		Zip Code
Mailing Address (if different)						
Email Address						
Phone Number		New Member		Returning Member		

**West University  
Neighborhood**

**Dated Material**



Planning and Development Services Dept.  
P.O. Box 27210  
Tucson, AZ 85726-7210

*"The City of Tucson, its officers and employees, its Planning and Development Services Department and all other offices neither agrees nor disagrees with the views expressed or implied in this communication or any referenced websites and are not therefore responsible. The distribution requester is solely responsible."*

**WUNA Annual Meeting  
BBQ and Potluck  
Sunday, January 15th  
1:00 PM  
Catalina Park**