

COUNCIL MINUTES

February 9, 2023

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower-level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on February 9, 2023, at 7:30 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles
Francisco Heredia
Jennifer Duff
Mark Freeman
Alicia Goforth
Scott Somers
Julie Spilsbury

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Holly Moseley
Jim Smith

Mayor Giles conducted a roll call.

1. Review and discuss items on the agenda for the February 13, 2023 Regular Council meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff and the following was noted:

Conflict of interest: None.

Items removed from the consent agenda: 3-a, 8-a and 8-b.

Library Director Polly Bonnett displayed a PowerPoint presentation related to Item 6-c, **(Approving and authorizing the City Manager to enter an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Mesa Unified School District to establish an opt-in library card sign up for students through the school enrollment process. (Citywide))**, on the Regular Council meeting agenda. **(See Attachment 1)**

Ms. Bonnett reviewed the history of the City's relationship with Mesa Public Schools (MPS) regarding library card campaigns. She commented in 2015, data showed that kindergarteners that had access to public libraries achieved higher scores in math, science, and reading during their third-grade year. She highlighted in 2022, staff met with MPS to discuss more effective ways to streamline the library card registration process for all school ages. She discussed the goals of the library card initiative and pilot project. (See Page 2 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Bonnett presented a map showing Mesa's Public Library locations and 82 of the MPS locations that the City is collaborating with, as well as 57 elementary schools. She noted the map

does not include charter schools or schools in Mesa with different school districts. She commented the map is broken up into three service districts with only one public library servicing each district. She stated as a result of limited public libraries, the automated library card registration process was developed. (See Page 3 of Attachment 1)

Ms. Bonnett described the advantages of the automated program and the new process. She mentioned the previous campaigns only allowed students to register once a year; however, the new process is available year-round. She shared the vision of the program of all students having access to a library card. (See Pages 4 through 6 of Attachment 1)

Councilmember Spilsbury shared that the Education Workforce and Development Roundtable Committee is working on a new community literacy initiative, which will help families access resources.

In response to multiple questions from Councilmember Spilsbury, Ms. Bonnett explained currently there is a kindergarten pilot program in a charter school, and adjustments will be made once the program has been evaluated before its implementation throughout all grades and other schools outside of MPS.

In response to multiple questions posed by Councilmember Somers, Ms. Bonnett explained the cities of Tempe, Chandler, and Scottsdale have their own municipal library systems, which are funded independently from Maricopa County; and the towns of Gilbert and Queen Creek are part of the Maricopa County Library District. She noted that the goal is to provide a library card to every student and promote that messaging when the two new libraries open in District 6.

In response to a question posed by Vice Mayor Heredia, Ms. Bonnett reported that the library visits schools and conducts registrations for library cards for all ages, and promotes digital resources. She mentioned the library released a new e-card program this week for digital access and other resources.

In response to a question from Councilmember Goforth, Ms. Bonnett explained that an online option on the MPS website will be available soon for parents to register their children for a library card.

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Spilsbury regarding Item 7-a, **(ZON22-00916 “Boomerang Headquarters” (District 2) Within the 2500 to 2600 blocks of East Southern Avenue (north side). Located west of Lindsay Road on the north side of Southern Avenue (1± acre). Rezone from Single Residence-43 (RS-43) to Office Commercial with a Bonus Intensity Zone Overlay (OC-BIZ) and Site Plan Review. This request will allow for an office development. Dane Astle, EDIFICE Architecture, applicant; Boomerang Southern, LLC, Boomerang Capital Partners, owner)**, on the Regular Council meeting agenda, Planning Director Mary Kopaskie-Brown responded a banquet facility would be a permitted use by right within the Office Commercial District. She suggested adding a condition of approval that requires the project to be reviewed by Council if the use changes from what is being proposed.

City Attorney Jim Smith suggested a discussion for consideration of a Development Agreement after the meeting.

Councilmember Spilsbury expressed her concern of an event center in close proximity to residential homes.

2-a. Hear a presentation and discuss an overview of the Planning Division including the Division's three teams, goals, 2021-2022 accomplishments, and 2022-2023 projects and priorities.

Planning Director Mary Kopaskie-Brown displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 2)**

Ms. Kopaskie-Brown provided an overview of the goals, responsibilities, and strategic planning necessary for the City's 2023 work plan. She reviewed the three planning teams working on the application process and projects. (See Pages 2 through 4 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Kopaskie-Brown illustrated the number of customers served by the City in 2021 and 2022, as well as the total planning applications received in both years. (See Pages 5 and 6 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Kopaskie-Brown highlighted the short-term planning projects and team accomplishments for four sites. She summarized the long range team accomplishments and noted that the City was awarded approximately \$1 million for the Transit Oriented Development Study. (See Pages 7 through 12 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Kopaskie-Brown discussed the key projects for long-range and historic preservation work for 2023. (See Pages 13 and 14 of Attachment 2)

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Duff, Ms. Kopaskie-Brown referred to Slide 6 of the presentation and stated that pre-applications slowed in the 4th quarter of 2022 and currently there is not sufficient data to forecast where the City will proceed.

Development Services Department Director Nana Appiah commented on the decrease of pre-applications and Board of Adjustment cases and stated last year, staff realized a duplication of reviews so the process was adjusted to combine those.

In response to multiple questions from Councilmember Goforth, Ms. Kopaskie-Brown stated that the Planning & Zoning (P&Z) department is collaborating with the City Attorney's office to finalize amendments. She mentioned at this time, she is unable to provide feedback on the subdivision ordinance and will have the Assistant Planning Director Rachel Nettles provide more information in the future. She noted the Assessor Dwelling Units (ADUs) are being reviewed for any barriers and their impact on historic neighborhoods or other neighborhoods. She remarked that if regulations are updated, the City needs to ensure there are no unforeseen impacts within the neighborhoods.

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

2-b. Hear a presentation, discuss, and provide direction on funding for United Food Bank utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

Deputy City Manager Marc Heirshberg displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 3)**

Mr. Heirshberg summarized United Food Bank's (UFB) history of providing services to those experiencing food insecurity. He shared the City of Mesa's (COM) partnership with UFB enabled the City in 2020 to establish a Feeding Mesa program, in which Mesa converted their Convention Center into a warehouse and food distribution center during the pandemic. He discussed the growing and ongoing need for UFB to serve individuals and families with food insecurity. (See Pages 2 through 4 of Attachment 3)

Mr. Heirshberg reviewed the proposed funding assistance needed to continue supporting UFB and identified the next steps. (See Pages 5 and 6 of Attachment 3)

In response to a question from Councilmember Duff, Mr. Heirshberg confirmed that the proposed funding will allow UFB to continue to serve the community, which enables them to use their General Fund dollars to expand their facility.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Goforth, Mr. Heirshberg advised that during COVID, the COM provided funding to UFB, as well as other non-profit organizations in the community through the CARES program. He explained now that the pandemic has ended and CARES funding has ceased, the COM only provides rent free space for UFB's annual distribution.

In response to multiple questions from Councilmember Somers, Mike Suriano, Treasurer and Boardmember of UFB, explained that the funds provided by the COM will be used by UFB for the expansion of services offered to the local community and the entire service area in the state of Arizona. He stated the intention of the new facility is to partner closely with other human service agencies that have experience in workforce development and to address many of the root causes of food insecurity. He emphasized, as a result of the new facility, UFB will be able to expand its services, become more efficient in delivering services to the community, consolidate volunteer center activities, and perhaps resume regular in-person food distribution in many different ways. He indicated he is aware that the funding is a one-time offer; and if the expansion continues, he will seek other resources to secure on an ongoing basis. He explained he is confident and plans to conduct a formal campaign within the community.

Mr. Heirshberg added the benefit to the community is the partnership with other human services organizations and addressing the root issues of food insecurities and ways to prevent it.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Heredia, Mr. Suriano responded that the lease for the Javelina Service Center runs until the end of 2024. He mentioned that current operations will continue during the construction and redevelopment of the new facility until those activities are consolidated into the new facility.

Mayor Giles thanked staff for the presentation.

3. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

- 3-a. General Plan Advisory Committee meeting held on November 28, 2022
- 3-b. Transportation Advisory Board meeting held on November 15, 2022.
- 3-c. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting held on November 9th, 2022.

3-d. Human Relations Advisory Board Meeting held on November 30, 2022.

It was moved by Councilmember Duff, seconded by Vice Mayor Heredia, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles–Heredia–Duff–Freeman–Goforth–Somers–Spilsbury

NAYS – None

Carried Unanimously.

4. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

Vice Mayor Heredia –	Mesa Marathon
Councilmember Duff –	Mesa Main Library – Valentine Cards for Seniors NFL 360 Jimmy Raye screening – ASU MIX Center Virtual Reality/Augmented Reality Association for Phoenix - The Studios Cider Corps - 22 Jumps fundraiser for veterans The Residence Guide to Water – virtual workshop
Councilmember Freeman –	AMUWA water meeting with Senator Sinema Mesa Historical Museum book fair Mesa Landlord seminar

All Councilmembers attended the 2023 State of the City, hosted by Mayor Giles, during which Mesa's accomplishments, leaders, and upcoming projects were highlighted.

Councilmembers Duff, Freeman, Goforth, and Vice Mayor Heredia attended the Mesa Fire Ops 101 training.

Councilmember Spilsbury announced on February 25 an Alex Boyé suicide prevention concert will be held from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Mesa Convention Center in partnership with Copa Health. She invited anyone who struggles with mental health to attend. She shared that I Love Mesa Day will also be held on February 25 in Downtown Mesa.

Mayor Giles mentioned that First Lady Dr. Jill Biden will be in Arizona during the Superbowl and will visit the City of Mesa.

5. Scheduling of meetings.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Monday, February 13, 2023, 5:15 p.m. – Study Session

Monday, February 13, 2023, 5:45 p.m. – Regular meeting

6. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

ATTEST:



HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK





JOHN GILES, MAYOR

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 9th day of February 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.



HOLLY MOSELEY, CITY CLERK

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(Attachments – 3)



LIBRARY CARD INITIATIVE

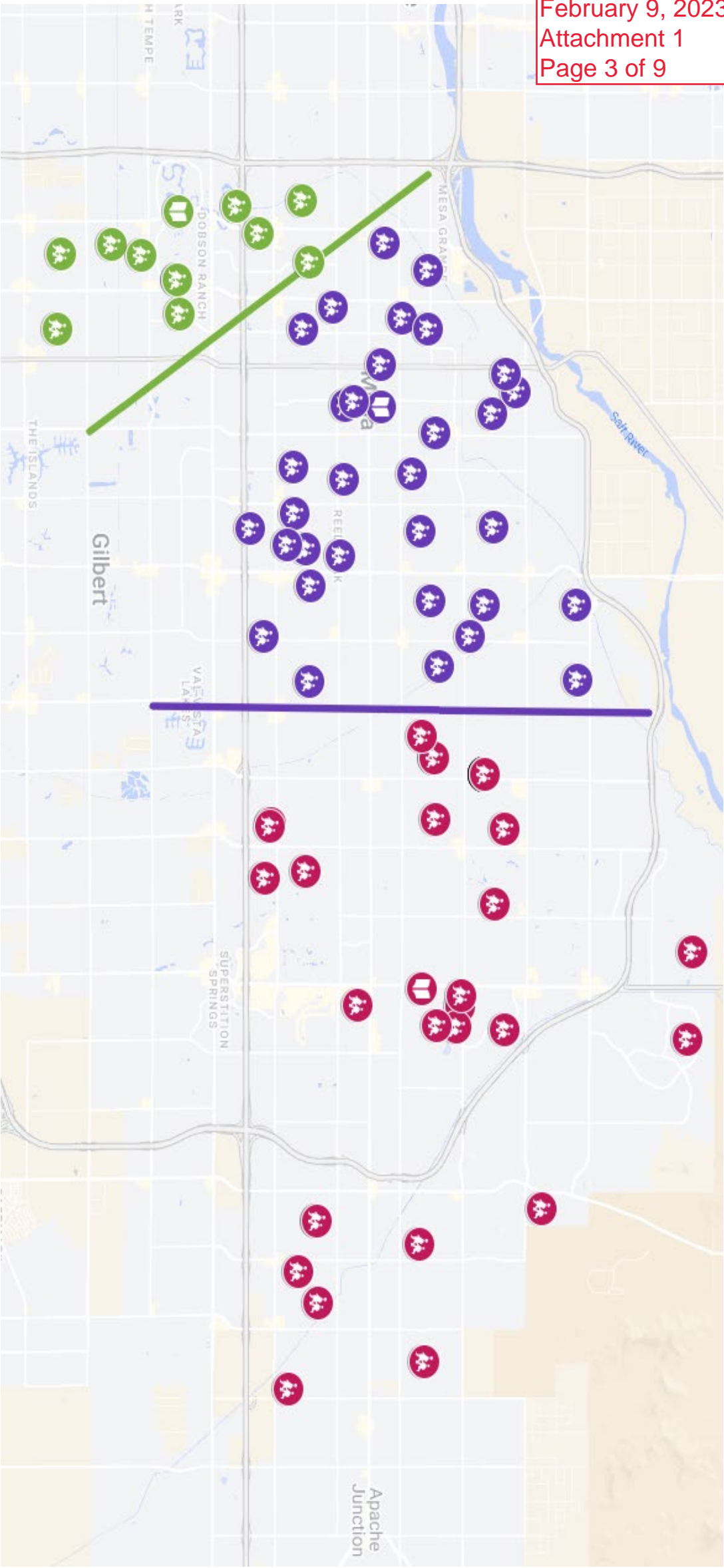
Polly Bonnett, Library Director





Initiative Goals

- Streamlined approach for Library card registration process
- Reach more schools and students
- Expand support and access to resources
- Provide opportunity for all students in Mesa



Mesa Public Library Locations



Mesa Public School Locations

MPL & MPS IGA

What does it do?

- Automates the Library card registration process
- Gives permission to share data between entities
- Strengthens collaboration and partnership between MPL and MPS
- Increases opportunity and awareness



MPL & MPS IGA

What is the process?

- Guardians can opt-in during school registration
- Student's info is sent securely from MPS to MPL for Library card registration
- MPL sends cards directly to student's address
- Student has access to MPL resources and collections





Dreaming starts here.

Thank You

Mesa Public Library Card: [REDACTED]

Mesa Public Schools has partnered with Mesa Public Library to issue library cards to students. If you would like your child to be issued a Mesa Public Library card, please select yes in the box below.

I understand that by selecting yes, I agree to allow Mesa Public Schools to share the following information with the Mesa Public Library: my name and email address, mailing address and phone number, and my child's name and date of birth.

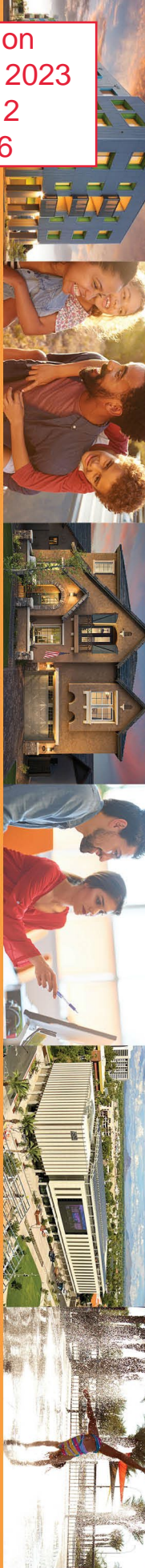
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Planning Division Workplan 2023

Mary Kopaskie-Brown, Planning Director
Rachel Nettles, Assistant Planning Director

February 9, 2023



Outline

- Goals for the Division
- Overview – Three Teams
- Recent Team Accomplishments
- 2023 Work Plan – and Moving Forward





Goals of the Division

- Prepare and Maintain Long Range Planning and Regulatory Documents
 - General Plan
 - Sub-Area Plans
 - Corridor Plans
 - Revitalization Plan
 - Zoning and Design Guidelines
- Make policy recommendations
 - City Council
 - Land use related Boards (Board of Adjustments, Design Review Board, Planning & Zoning Board, Historic Preservation Board)
- Review Planning Cases and Help Applicants Through the Process
 - Identify ways to Streamline the Review Process
 - Provide Path Forward
 - Negotiate and compromise to get to “yes”
- Provide Excellent Customer Service
 - Provide Timely Feedback (24-hour response time - acknowledgement) to internal and external stakeholders
 - Assist with problem-solving on telephone, email and in-person queries

Planning Overview – Three Teams

- **Current Planning**

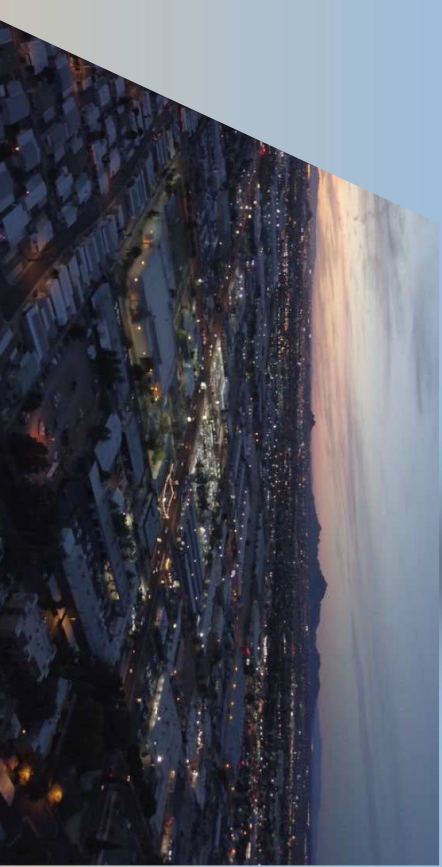
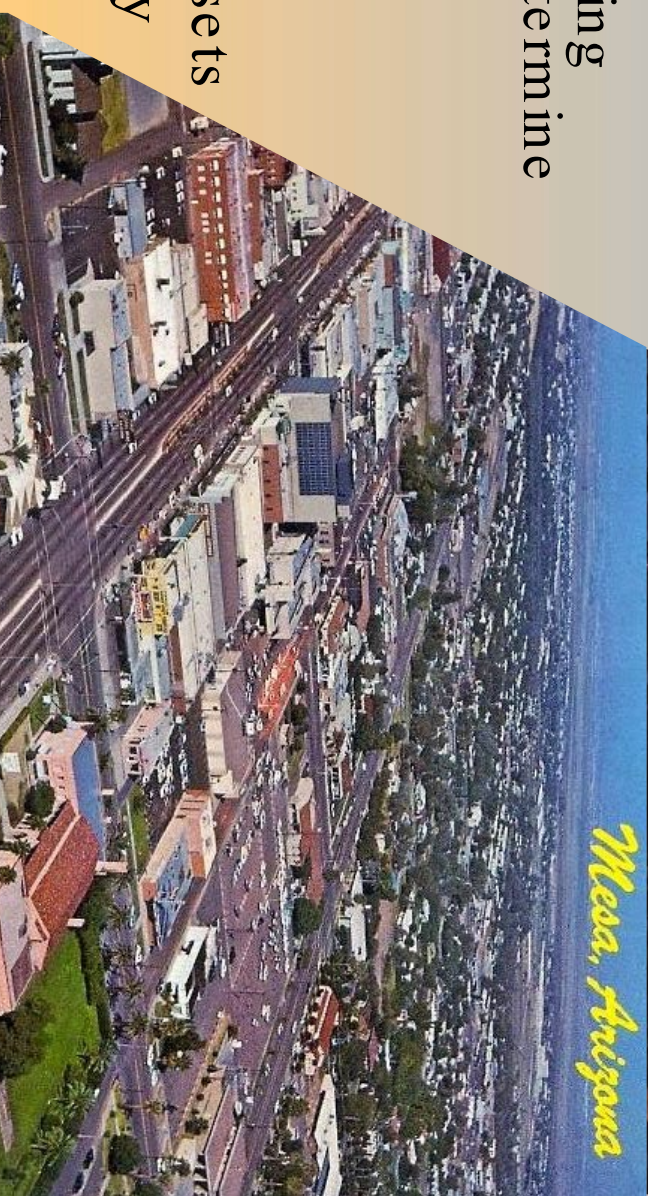
- Review applications to align with City Vision
- Ensure compliance with City's General Plan and City regulations
- Coordinate land use strategies with other Departments

- **Long Range**

- Regularly evaluate the City's General Plan, zoning ordinance, and related land use policies to determine needed updates
- Work closely with City Attorney's Office on amendments for City Council's consideration

- **Historic Preservation**

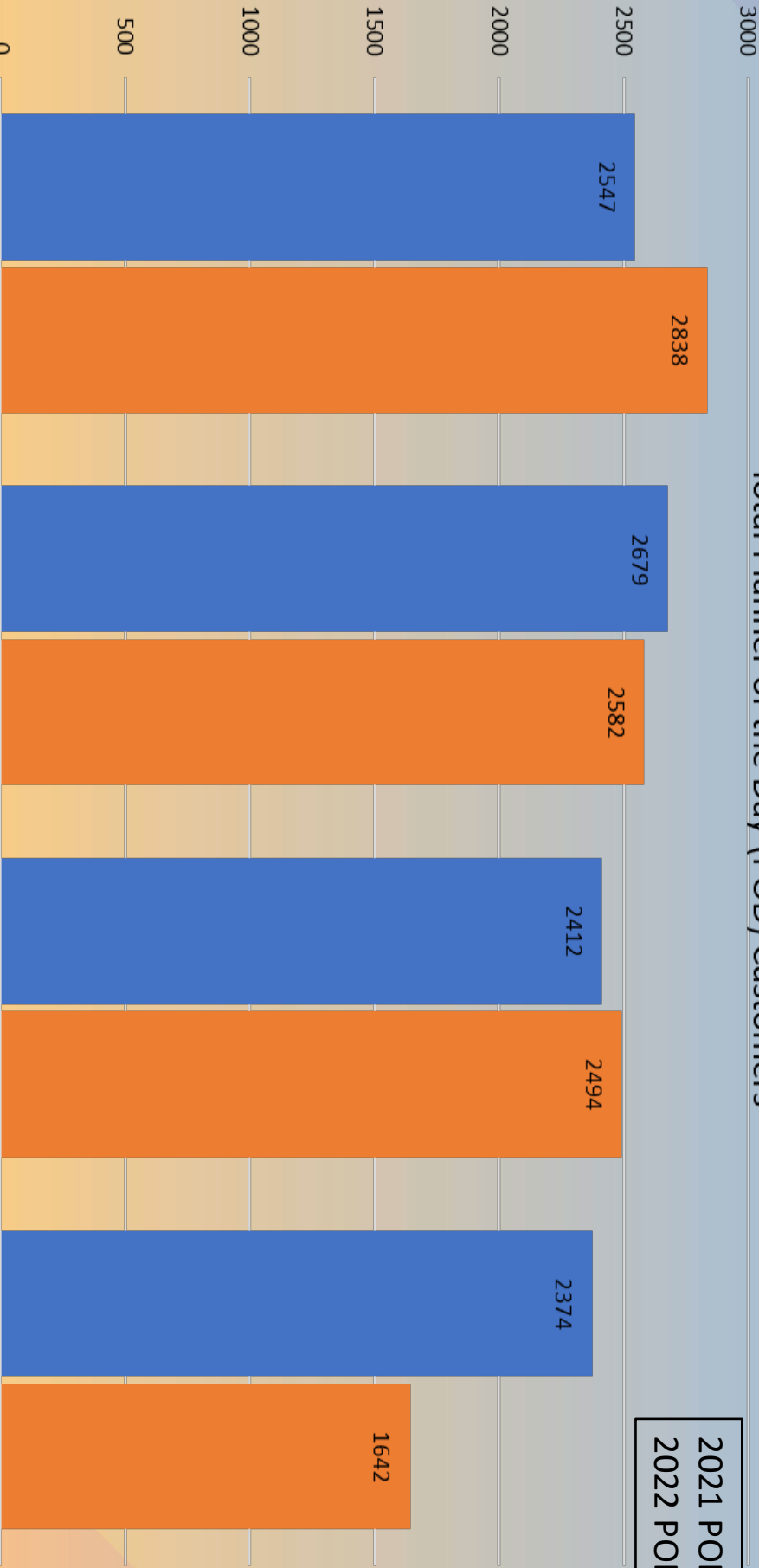
- Protect and preserve historic and cultural assets
- Provide support/education to the community on importance of historic preservation





Customers Served

Total Planner of the Day (POD) Customers

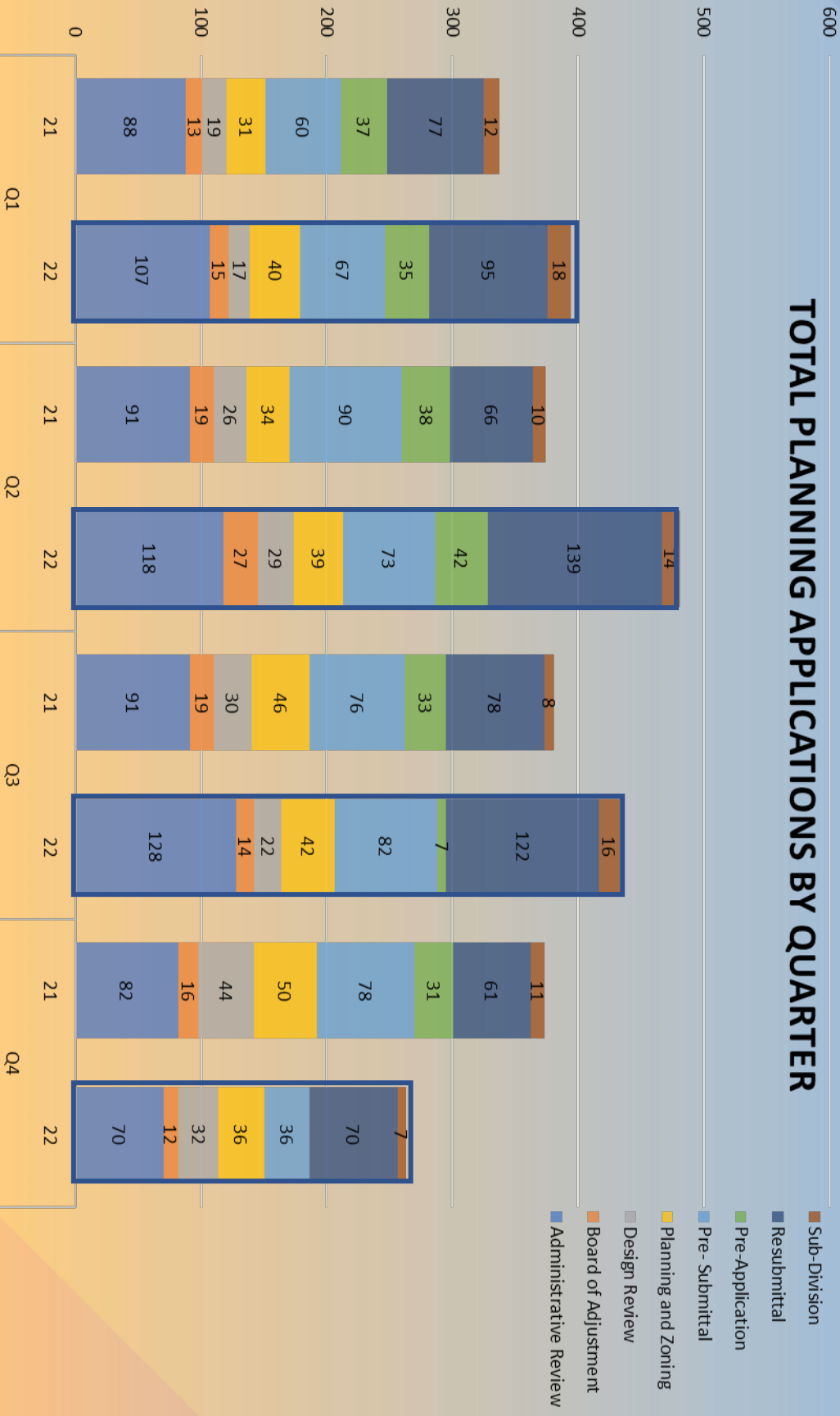


2021 POD Totals 10,012
2022 POD Totals 9,556



2021-2022 Applications

TOTAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS BY QUARTER



Q1	731
21	337
22	394
Q2	855
21	374
22	481
Q3	814
21	381
22	433
Q4	636
21	373
22	263



Team Accomplishments –

Current Planning

- Pioneer Crossing
 - Rezone to allow for a mixed-use development
 - 87.8± acres
 - Variety of housing types
 - Enhanced open space and trail network
 - Agritainment area

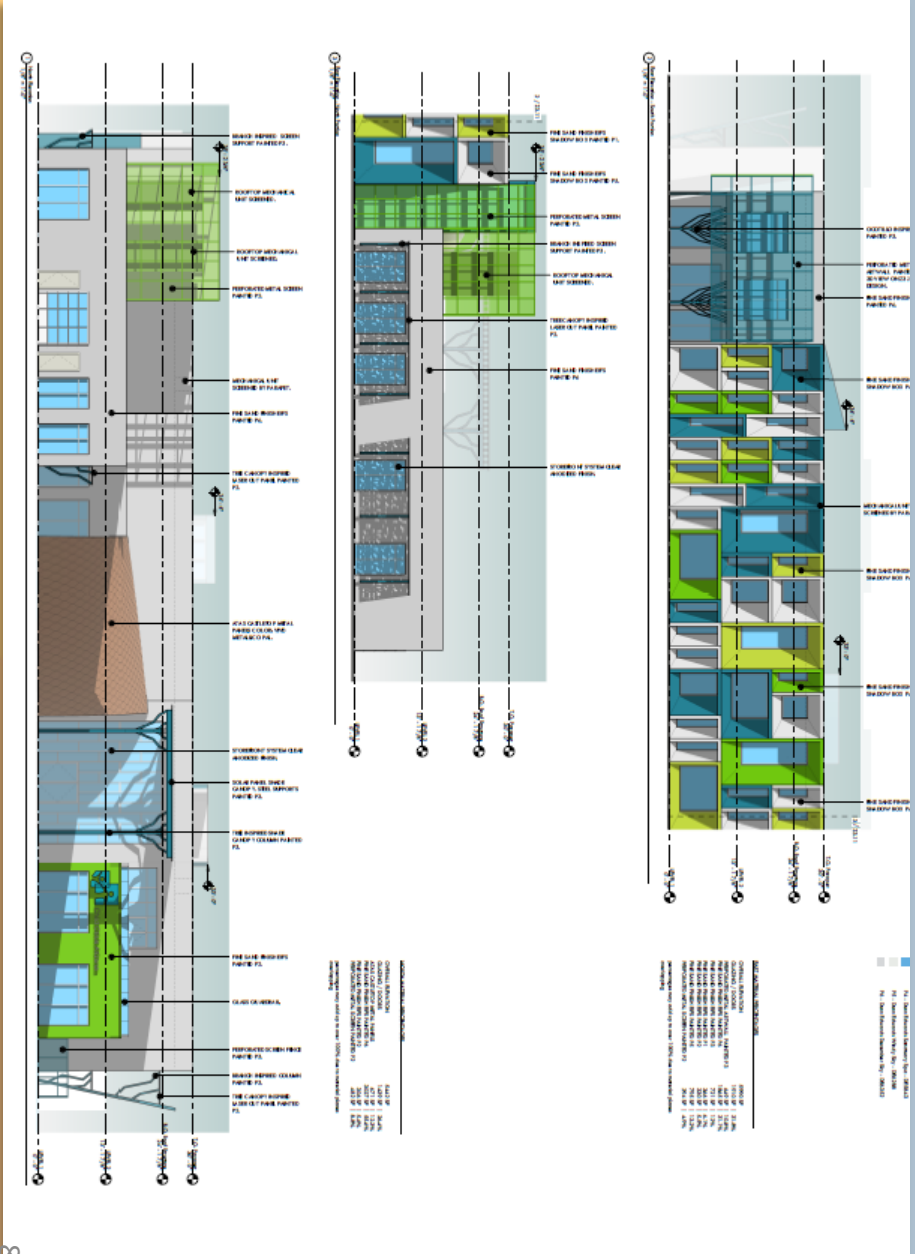




Team Accomplishments —

Current Planning

- Child Crisis Center AZ
 - Rezone to allow for the development of a new headquarter building for CCCAZ
 - 37,958 square feet
 - Unique architecture and materials





Team Accomplishments – Current Planning

- Facebook Phase 2
 - Site Plan Review
 - Two additional data center buildings and administration buildings
 - 1,539,314 square feet
 - 395± acre site





Team Accomplishments – Current Planning

- Indicap Mesa
 - Site Plan Review
 - 10 industrial buildings
 - 1,641,352 square feet

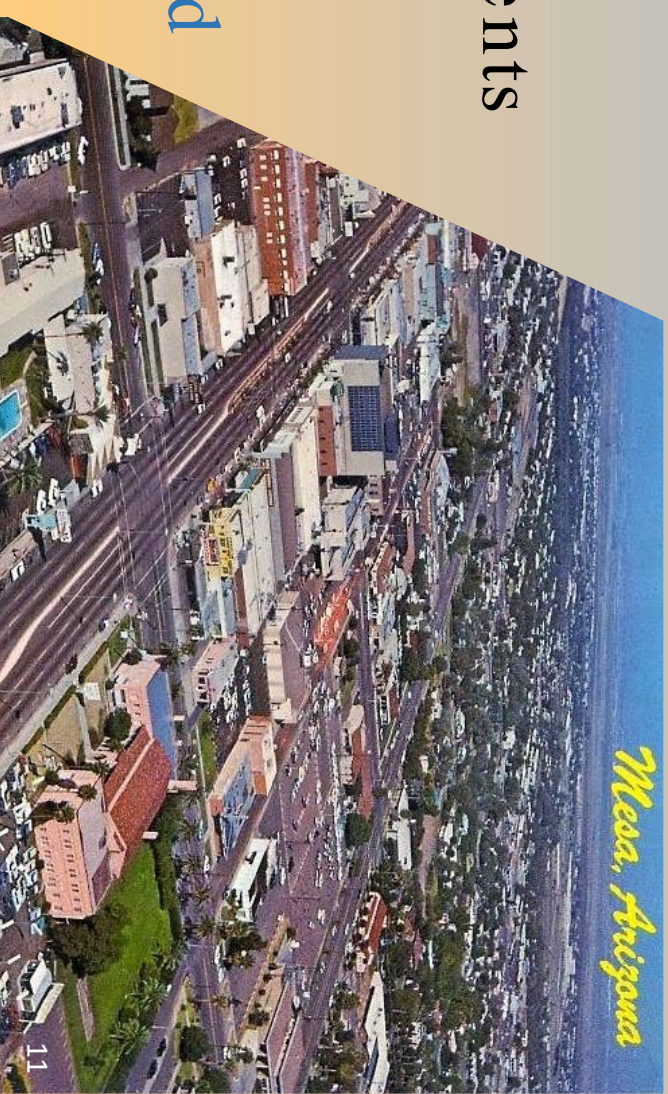
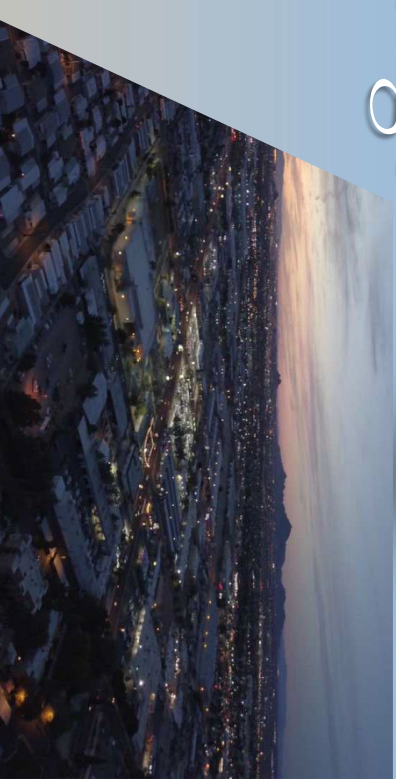


INDICAP MESA INDUSTRIAL CENTER



Our Accomplishments – Long Range

- Process Improvements
 - Public Participation and Public Notice Process
 - Streamlining/Simplifying review process
- Zoning Code Amendment
 - Outdoor Eating Area Text Amendments
 - Temporary Use Permit Text Amendments
- Transit Oriented Development Award
- General Plan Update Initiated





Team Accomplishments – Historic Preservation

- 9 Certificate of Appropriateness
- Historic Preservation Board Retreat
- Historical Fiction Essay/Video Contest Awards ceremony





Long Range Planning Work Plan

- General Plan Update
- Transit Oriented Development Grant
- Accessory Dwelling Units
- Infill/Small Lot Resource Guide and Text Amendments
- Subdivision Ordinance and Text Amendments
- Urban Design/Placemaking Opportunities



Historic Preservation Work Plan

- Historic Preservation Month (May) – Essay Contest
- Section 106 Programmatic Agreement
- City-Wide Historic Preservation Design Guidelines
- Lehi Heritage Designation
- Future
 - Historic District Designations
 - Heritage Designations
 - Landmark Designations



Questions

Thank you!

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United Food Bank ARPA Funding

February 9, 2023

Marc Heirshberg, Deputy City Manager



United Food Bank History of Service



- Since 1983 has been a staple of the community to help those that are experiencing food insecurity
- Today they serve an area of 19,608 square miles stretching from the East Valley to Southern Apache and Navajo Counties
- Collaborates with over 150 partner agencies and programs helping feed families, children and seniors
- 49,000 meals distributed daily in calendar year 2022

United Food Bank and City of Mesa



- Feeding Mesa was a proven success from March 2020 through December 2020
- More than 4.25 million pounds of food were served to over 66,000 households.
 - 1.2 pounds = 1 meal
- Thanksgiving and Christmas Distributions still continue annually.



The Need Continues

- 1 in 6 people in Arizona suffer from food insecurity
- 269,610 Hungry Children in the UFB service area every day
- Thanksgiving Distribution served 1,847 households and 8,467 individuals
- Christmas Distribution served 1,603 households and 6,802 individuals
- Maricopa County service center expansion has required UFB to look for additional space to serve the community
- Limited resources by the organization to provide both, core services to the community while reimagining and improving operations to better serve the community

Proposed Funding Assistance

- Utilize ARPA funds to support the general operations of the United Food Bank
- \$5M to be distributed over a 36-month period
 - \$1=5 meals City contribution will help provide 25 million meals
- Supporting the general operations of UFB will allow them to redevelop additional real estate to serve the community with new and improved programming and offerings
- Funding will continue to ensure that the needs of those in our community facing food insecurity are addressed

Next Steps

- Council approval
- Contractual agreement between the City and UFB
- Successful utilization of the ARPA funding will be measured through:
 - Total number of emergency food bags distributed
 - Total inventory on hand and available to help families and individuals in need
 - Total pounds of food served (1.2 pounds = 1 meal)

Questions?

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