

11 Tempe Today

January 2025

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State of the City Address

Tempe Mayor Corey Woods delivered the annual Tempe State of the City Address to an audience of about 700 people in December. The annual speech is a reflection of past accomplishments and a look to future projects. This year, Woods talked about Tempe's work to improve roads, public safety, new affordable housing that is underway and an agreement with the City of Phoenix regarding Tempe's largest parcel of vacant land. The overall message: working together to build a better tomorrow.

"We have work – transformational, important work – to do. It's work we will do together. That ability to think beyond self-interest is the essence of what makes this city strong, what makes us great," he said. He also provided a list of several opportunities to get involved with the community, ranging from helping nonprofits to serving on a board or commission. The annual event is hosted by the Tempe Chamber of Commerce. Watch the entire speech at tempe.gov/Woods.



Take a video tour of our Sue's Espacio shelter

Tempe's foresight three years ago to purchase its own bridge shelter has created a safe pathway to housing, employment, healthcare and other life-changing resources for individuals and families who are homeless. Tempe bought the shelter, formerly a Rodeway Inn, in September 2021 to add shelter capacity for people experiencing homelessness in our city. Recent upgrades, community partnerships and continued city investment have never been more vital as higher numbers of families seek shelter at Sue's. Tempe recently purchased a second shelter with 60 rooms opening in 2025, bringing the city's shelter capacity to approximately 100 rooms. Learn more at tempe.gov/EndingHomelessness.



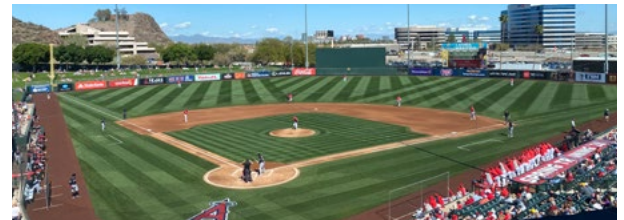
Take a video tour

Neighbor award nominations

Tempe is fortunate to have some amazing neighbors who deserve to be celebrated. Neighborhood award nominations are open through Feb. 12 at 5 p.m. Honorees will be celebrated at the 2025 Neighborhood Celebration on Saturday, April 5, at the Kiwanis Park Fiesta Ramadas, 5711 S. All-America Way. Neighborhood Award possibilities may include Neighbor of the Year; Neighborhood Event of the Year; Beautiful Space; the Chuck Malpede Award and more. Nominations are also being sought for significant contributions to Arts and Culture, Sustainability and Resilience and Historic Preservation. In addition, one or more students will be awarded the Dolores Huerta Advocacy and Social Justice Award. For neighborhood nomination forms, criteria, local vendor information, sponsorships and more, visit tempe.gov/NeighborhoodCelebration. For information about the Dolores Huerta Award, visit tempe.gov/DoloresHuerta.

Spring training is a home run

Cactus League spring training kicks off at Tempe Diablo Stadium on Saturday, Feb. 22, when the Los Angeles Angels take on the Seattle Mariners. Home games run through March 21. Experience spring baseball in the desert and enjoy an afternoon at the oldest stadium in the Cactus League. Tickets are on sale now at mlb.com/angels.



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Sign-up for Email News: tempe.gov/EmailNews

480-350-4311



New affordable housing planned in Apache Corridor

Tempe and its development partners broke ground on La Victoria Commons in December, bringing to life a vision almost 20 years in the making to add more affordable housing adjacent to light rail in the Apache Corridor. The development will transform vacant city-owned property into a dynamic new hub with benefits for both the surrounding neighborhood and entire city.

The project, on the northeast corner of Apache Boulevard and the Price Freeway, includes 104-unit affordable rentals serving low-income households, such as a four-person household with an income between \$31,200 and \$62,400, 19 townhomes for sale to income-qualified households, and health clinic open to the entire community, restaurant and gathering spaces. Learn more at tempe.gov/housing.

“Boundless Opportunity” awaits at EnVision Center

Stop by the Tempe EnVision Center to see a brand new, signature artwork by local artist Paige Reesor. This large-scale piece integrates the theme “Boundless Opportunity” by transforming the Mill Avenue Bridge and pathways into a metaphor for personal growth and exploration. The mural conveys that diverse paths to success are enriched by communal connections. While you’re there, check out all the great resources this new one-stop hub offers, including connections to employment, education, food programs, wellness and the latest tech and internet access at the Hive. Learn more at tempe.gov/TempeEnVision.



Help us develop the next city budget

The city is developing the operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2025-26, which begins July 1. The budget reflects community priorities, which is why we need your input to help allocate the funds. Here’s how to participate:

- Virtual budget forum: Tuesday, Feb. 4, at Noon, via Zoom
- In-person budget forum: Tuesday, Feb. 4, at 6 p.m., at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E Southern Ave, Community Room.
- Online survey at tempe.gov/forum, available Jan. 15 through Feb. 28

The city will also be out in the community with other engagement opportunities in the coming months. Learn more at tempe.gov/BudgetPlan.

Neighborhood Day at the State Capitol is Jan. 29

Policy changes at the state level can affect resources, activities and operations in Tempe so it’s important to stay informed. Take part in Neighborhood Day at the State Capitol from 8:30 -10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 29 at the Arizona State Senate, 1700 W. Washington St. in Phoenix. Meet City Councilmembers, learn about Tempe’s legislative program and more. RSVP to the Neighborhood Services Division by visiting tempe.gov/neighborhoods and clicking on “Neighborhood Day” in the left navigation or by calling 480-350-8234.

Stay updated on how policy changes affect your community

This past session, the Arizona State Legislature passed multiple laws impacting city funding and mandating the adoption of codes. This includes the adoption of city codes regarding accessory dwelling unit permitting, zoning to increase affordable housing, road and infrastructure development and other key issues impacting Tempe’s neighborhoods. Sign up to receive updates on these impacts at email.tempe.gov/news by selecting “Elections and Legislative Alerts.”

Breakfast with Berdetta

Join Councilmember Berdetta Hodge for Breakfast with Berdetta, with a focus on Sandy Hook Promise, a nonprofit working to protect kids from gun violence. The event is 10 a.m. – noon on Saturday, Jan. 11 at the Tempe History Museum, 809 E. Southern Ave. Find details at tempe.gov/Hodge.

Backstage Pass with Vice Mayor Garlid

Go behind the scenes of the Public Works Field Operations Division to see garbage trucks and gear used to make our city safe and look beautiful. Meet the mechanics who keep everything running and spend time with Vice Mayor Doreen Garlid. The event takes place at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25. For details, RSVP to parrish_spisz@tempe.gov.

EVENTS

JAN. 25

Tempe FanCon
Tempe Public Library
10 a.m.-3 p.m.
tempepubliclibrary.org/FanCon

JAN. 25-26

Tempe Blooms
Downtown Tempe
10 a.m.-5 p.m.
downtowntempe.com

**FEB. 21-22 & FEB. 28-
MARCH 1**

Innings Festival and Extra
Innings Festival
Tempe Beach Park
inningsfestival.com

FEB. 22

PlayDay
Kiwanis Park
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
tempe.gov/PlayDay

FEB. 22

Tempe Empty Bowls
Tempe Public Library
10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Full events calendar at tempe.gov/calendar

Honoring Black History Month

Celebrate Black History Month with several events hosted by the Tempe African American Advisory Committee. On Saturday, Feb. 1, head to the Tempe History Museum for a free Children's Activity Day featuring crafts, games and special exhibits. The annual Faith in Action Breakfast will be held Friday, Feb. 7, to unite faith and civic leaders in Tempe. Dallas Teat will be speaking about "Arizona's African American Barbers" during the Tempe History Society Lunch Talk on Wednesday, Feb. 12. Event information is available at tempe.gov/AAAC.

Middle housing in Tempe

Share your feedback on the development of a new city code that complies with Arizona HB2721, which requires cities with populations of 75,000 or more to allow "middle housing" by Jan. 1, 2026. As mandated, the municipality will allow the development of duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes and townhomes (middle housing) on all single-family zoned lots within one mile of the Central Business District. Such housing will also be allowed on at least 20% of any new development of more than 10 contiguous acres. Some special tax districts are excluded, and the new law prohibits certain practices, such as requiring owner occupancy. Learn more at tempe.gov/ProposedCodeChanges and share your input three ways:

- Virtual meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 19 at noon via Zoom. Register at tempe.gov/ProposedCodeChanges
- In-person meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 6 p.m. at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road, Desert Willow Room
- Online survey at tempe.gov/ProposedCodeChanges available Feb. 19 – March 5.

City Council subcommittees

Council subcommittees allow Tempe City Councilmembers to develop policies and share information that aligns with the city's strategic priorities. Current subcommittees are addressing critical issues to enhance quality of life for Tempe residents. More details are at tempe.gov/CouncilSubcommittees.

Nuisance Ordinance Council Subcommittee: aims to formalize the process of developing a nuisance ordinance to protect neighborhoods. Chaired by Vice Mayor Doreen Garlid and includes Mayor Corey Woods and Councilmember Arlene Chin.

Increased Advocacy for Tempe Youth with Disabilities Council Subcommittee: explores how the city can connect Tempe youth who have disabilities, as well as their families and caregivers, with available city and state resources. Chaired by Councilmember Berdetta Hodge and includes Mayor Corey Woods.

Recycle Styrofoam at the Household Products Collection Center

Tempe and Guadalupe residents can now recycle Styrofoam packaging from 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at the Household Products Collection Center (HPCC), 1320 E. University Drive. Styrofoam is also accepted at Zero Waste Day events. Acceptable Styrofoam items include blocks, chunks or coolers. Pieces should be firm and not bendable and should produce white pellets when torn. Plates, cups, trays, peanuts or spongy foam are not eligible for recycling. Styrofoam does not belong in your blue recycling bin and can contaminate the entire recycling load. See the full list of items accepted at the HPCC at tempe.gov/HPCC.

Prepare your home with discounted flood insurance

Property owners who purchase flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) receive a reduction on their flood insurance premiums as a result of Tempe staff's continued efforts to lessen flooding dangers. A 25% discount will be given to homes located in Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA), while a 10% discount will be given to those outside that area.

Tempe staff are available to visit your property and make suggestions or recommendations to reduce flooding risks, or explain permitting and regulatory requirements that apply to flood mitigation projects. For more information or to find out if your property is in or near a hazard area, visit tempe.gov/floodplain or call Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311. If you're interested in purchasing flood insurance, contact your personal insurance carrier for coverage and pricing.

FEB. 22-MARCH 9

Arizona Theatre Company
presents "Blues in the Night,"
Tempe Center for the Arts
atc.org

Love 'em, so leash 'em

We love our furry friends, and we want all humans and pups to enjoy our public spaces safely. Please keep all dogs on leashes and under your control whenever you're not in a designated dog park. This is to protect the safety of your own pup, because sometimes dangers can happen quickly and unexpectedly. Not only is it the safe thing to do, but it's the law. Citations for dogs off leash can lead to a \$2,500 fine and up to six months in jail. Remember, even good dogs need leashes too. Find complete park rules at tempe.gov/parks.



Tempe City Council



Corey Woods
Mayor

Doreen Garlid
Vice Mayor

Jennifer Adams
Councilmember

Nikki Amberg
Councilmember

Arlene Chin
Councilmember

Berdetta Hodge
Councilmember

Randy Keating
Councilmember

Rosa Inchausti
City Manager

To contact the Mayor and Council, call 480-350-8110.

Check tempe.gov/clerk for updated schedules of City Council meetings and agendas or call 480-350-4311. Meeting dates are subject to change.

Meetings are aired live on Tempe 11 and streamed live at tempe.gov/tempe11.

Questions or ideas?
Email the Tempe
Communication Office

CMR@tempe.gov or call
480-350-4311

Zero Waste Day is Jan. 25

This free, drive-thru recycling event offers a chance to clean house responsibly. Clean out your attics, closets and garages of unwanted items and dispose of them for reuse, recycling and repurposing at Tempe's next Zero Waste Day from 7 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 25 at Tempe Fire Training Center, 1340 E. University Drive. See accepted items and event details at tempe.gov/ZeroWaste.

Submit a nominee for Tempe Arts + Culture Awards

Tempe's vibrant and creative culture is grown from the work of our community. Help us recognize the outstanding arts and culture happening throughout the city by nominating a person or organization that has made a significant contribution and impact. Artists, educators, organizations, volunteers, advocates and leaders are all eligible nominees for a Tempe Arts + Culture Award. Nominations are open through Feb. 12. Find details at tempe.gov/arts. Awardees will be honored at the Neighborhood Celebration on April 5 at Kiwanis Park.

Become a reading tutor

Join our amazing tutors helping young school children become better readers through the city's AARP Foundation Experience Corps program. No special skills are needed, just your time and encouragement. Stop by an info session Feb. 21, from 9:30-10:30 a.m., at the Tempe Public Library, 3500 S. Rural Road. Other sessions are March 14, April 18 and May 2. You only need to attend one session; no registration required. Get details at tempe.gov/ExperienceCorps.

Paid summer opportunities

Is your business looking for extra help? Are you a high school student wanting to gain valuable work experience? The City of Tempe's Career Ready Tempe program matches high school students with local businesses for paid summer internships, supported by the City of Tempe and Tempe Chamber Foundation. The program is currently accepting business and student applications for summer 2024. Learn more and apply at tempe.gov/CareerReadyTempe.

Writers, submit work now

The 11th Annual Tempe Writing Contest is open through Feb. 20. Writers can submit original work in fiction, poetry or creative nonfiction. Phoenix-area residents and Tempe Public Library cardholders are invited to apply in one of three categories: high school student, college student or adult. Contest winners will be published in Tempe Writes: An Anthology v. 11 and receive a cash prize thanks to support from Tempe Public Library, ASU and Friends of the Tempe Public Library. Learn more at tempepubliclibrary.gov/WritingContest.

Help direct human services funding in Tempe

Join Tempe Community Council's citizen Agency Review panel and make a real impact in Tempe! We are seeking volunteers of all abilities and backgrounds to help read and score funding applications, attend site visits, and learn more about organizations doing incredible

work in our community. Volunteer orientation starts in late January. Get details at tempecommunitycouncil.org/agency-review.

Human Trafficking Prevention Month

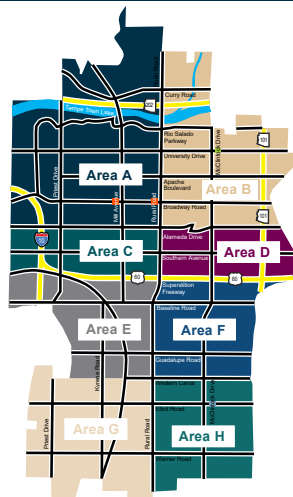
Human trafficking can affect anyone regardless of age, class, race or gender – an estimated 27 million people are exploited for labor, services and commercial sex. In January and beyond, advocates at the city's Family Advocacy Center are available to help victims access emergency shelter, navigate the criminal justice system and connect to city and community resources. For confidential help, call the city's CARE & HOPE Line at 480-350-8004 or the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888. Learn more at tempe.gov/FamilyAdvocacyCenter.

FEBRUARY 2025

Bulk/uncontained trash, green organics collection schedule

Items must be placed by 6 a.m. on Monday of your collection week, no earlier than 10 days prior. **Holidays will not affect the collection schedule**

FEBRUARY						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		



● Area H ▲ Area A ○ Area B □ Area C

tempe.gov/BulkTrash • 480-350-4311