

# City Manager's Report

November 7, 2024

Council and Colleagues, greetings. These reports are intended to be informational, covering miscellaneous events and topics involving the city organization. This report is inclusive of the most recent updates from PROSE and Human Resources.

## Community Development

On October 3, members of the Building Safety & Code Compliance team spent several hours removing graffiti from a number of public locations. Neighborhoods that benefited from the "Graffiti Busting" included Sunnyside, Pine Knoll and Crestview. To learn more about the Graffiti Busters program, to volunteer or request assistance removing graffiti from your property go here: [Graffiti Busters Volunteer Program | City of Flagstaff Official Website \(az.gov\)](#)

To report a graffiti problem fill out the [online report](#).



## Water Services

- Ed Schenk presented along with County Staff to the Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) Chief, Terry Cosby, and his team to express the City's appreciation for their support on impactful flood mitigation projects and request their continued support and partnership in upcoming needs.



- The City's Water Conservation team was recognized with the 2024 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) WaterSense Partner of the Year award for their creative outreach and educational programs. Way to go team!



### Fire Department

- Fire Fighter Levi Daulton was recognized as the Exchange Club Fire Fighter of the Year who while on vacation was able to help the victims of an 11-person pontoon boat where he saved a child's life and his efforts with Camp Courage where young burn survivors come to heal and build confidence. Thank you, Levi, for your unwavering commitment to the Department and community! Photos below.



- Congratulations to the most recent academy graduates – Seth Krumwied, Max Robinson, Christopher Gipson, Brayden Brandt, and Cesar Samaniego – welcome to Team Flagstaff! Photos of the entire graduating class below.



- Did you know we have a Greater Flagstaff Region Fire Hockey Team? Check out their schedule here <https://www.teamsideline.com/sites/flagstaff/schedule/573606/ADULT-B-HOCKEY-LEAGUE> and come cheer them on.



- Way to go Captain Paramedic Mike Felts for being nominated for Flagstaff Heroes by NAU Director of Community Relations, Ali Applin! This was in recognition of Captain Felts making the public feel more safe and secure in their community. You can read more about it here [https://azdailysun.com/mike-felts-fire-captain-at-the-flagstaff-fire-department/article\\_f3bdec26-5d88-11ef-8292-af7cec33b8bb.html](https://azdailysun.com/mike-felts-fire-captain-at-the-flagstaff-fire-department/article_f3bdec26-5d88-11ef-8292-af7cec33b8bb.html).

### **Police Department**

- Officer Natalie Holgate was recognized as the Flagstaff Exchange Club Officer of the Year for serving as an exemplary role model within the community and Department. Her commitment to fostering a trusting relationship with community members, participating in numerous community initiatives, unwavering positive outlook and her genuine enjoyment of each event demonstrates her dedication. Congratulations Officer Holgate!



- A spirited time at the Bushmaster Park for trunk and treat brought close to 1,000 individuals out to mingle with the great men and women of the Flagstaff Police Department! Enjoy the photos of new recruits from the Police Academy having some fun with potential future recruit. Animal Control Officers Breslin and Granger dressed in costumes to welcome attendees to the event.



- Arizona Women's Initiative Network (AZWIN) was founded to develop best practice recommendations to Arizona agencies to recruit, retain and promote qualified women in the law enforcement profession. Appreciation to the eleven Flagstaff Police Department employees who attended the AZWIN Conference.



**Public Works**

- The Parks building metal siding and roof replacement has been completed. It looks fantastic!



- Congratulations to Richard Hearne on his move to the Landfill Public Works Manager position after serving in Public Works management for the past 25 plus years!



### **NAU Economic Outlook Conference**

The event took place on November 7<sup>th</sup> and was well attended. Highlights included a discussion about the rural/urban definition dilemma which affects efforts to address affordable housing in Northern Arizona; a thorough update on the short-term rental (STR) status in Flagstaff, Sedona, and Scottsdale/Phoenix by Joe Little; an intriguing presentation by Bob Worsley on ZenniHome; and a keynote address by Shane Phillips regarding housing shortages throughout the country.

#### **Notables:**

- Flagstaff ranks #8 in most expensive small metros in the nation for renters with median rent of \$2,153 (per 2024 data);
- There are approximately 900 STRs in the City of Flagstaff; about 2,200 in greater Flagstaff area as of 2024;
- Vacancy rates with rental units have dropped from 9% in 2022 to 4.8% in 2023 (indicating a very tight market);
- Over 51% of mortgages in Flagstaff, during the year of 2021, were for secondary residences.



### **May Hicks House**

We are meeting regularly to discuss and implement a move of the structure from its current site, in effort to save the building and its historical significance. There is some progress. Expect a more detailed update soon.



That's all for now, Council. Thanks!