



City Council Work Session
City Hall - Work Session Room
1900 N. Civic Square
Goodyear, AZ 85395
Monday, March 6, 2023
5:00 PM

Mayor
Joe Pizzillo

Vice Mayor
Laura Kaino

Councilmember
Sheri Lauritano

Councilmember
Wally Campbell

Councilmember
Bill Stipp

Councilmember
Brannon Hampton

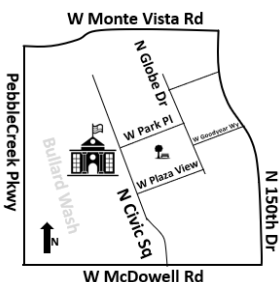
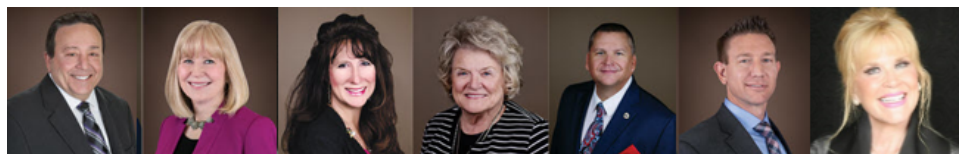
Councilmember
Vicki Gillis

PROCEDURES

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Goodyear City Council and to the general public that the Council of the city of Goodyear will hold a meeting open to the public. Public body members of the city of Goodyear will attend either in person or by telephone conference call and/or video communication. The Goodyear City Council may vote to go into Executive Session, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3), which will not be open to the public, to discuss certain matters. Meetings are conducted in accordance with the City Council Meetings Council Rules of Procedure adopted by Resolution No. 2018-1879.

THE CITY OF GOODYEAR ENDEAVORS TO MAKE ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS ACCESSIBLE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. With 48-hour advance notice, special assistance can be provided for sight and/or hearing-impaired persons at this meeting. Reasonable accommodations will be made upon request for persons with disabilities or non-English speaking residents. Please call the City Clerk (623) 882-7830 or Arizona Relay (TDD) 7-1-1 to request an accommodation to participate in this public meeting.

Si necesita asistencia o traducción en español, favor de llamar al menos 48 horas antes de la reunión al (623) 882-7830.



City Clerk's Office: 1900 N. Civic Square, Goodyear, AZ 85395 (623) 882-7830
www.goodyearaz.gov/cityclerk
City Council Meeting Live Broadcast: <https://www.facebook.com/goodyearazgov/videos>

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

AGENDA ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

ALL ITEMS LISTED ARE FOR DISCUSSION ONLY. NO ACTION CAN NOR WILL BE TAKEN.

1. RIO REIMAGINED PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Summary

Council will be provided with an overview and an update on the RIO Reimagined collaborative. (Christian M. Williams, Principal Planner; Cecilia Riviere, Assistant Director Arizona State University)

ADJOURNMENT

POSTING VERIFICATION

This agenda was posted on 03/01/2023 at 5:00 p.m. by PP.

ITEM #: 1.
DATE: 03/06/2023
AI #:1284



CITY COUNCIL ACTION REPORT

SUBJECT: RIO REIMAGINED PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

STAFF PRESENTER(S): Christian M. Williams, Principal Planner

OTHER PRESENTER(S):

Cecilia Riviere, Assistant Director Arizona State University

Summary

Council will be provided with an overview and an update on the RIO Reimagined collaborative. (Christian M. Williams, Principal Planner; Cecilia Riviere, Assistant Director Arizona State University)

FISCAL IMPACT

During the February 6, 2023 City Council Meeting, as a Business item, Council will be provided with the opportunity to approve or deny an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Rio Reimagined (RIO) coalition relating to the RIO Ambassador to the Urban Waters Federal Partnership (UWFP).

BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS ACTIONS

On March 26, 2018, the City of Goodyear City Council authorized the Mayor to execute the Statement of Intent for the Rio Salado Project. On March 30, 2018, the City of Buckeye, the City of Goodyear, the Gila River Indian Community, the City of Avondale, the City of Phoenix, the City of Tempe, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the City of Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona, and the Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement and Power District entered into a Statement of Intent ("SOI") for the Rio Salado Project, which is now known as Rio Reimagined. The SOI describes the purposes of RIO and the signing parties' commitments to pursuing specified goals and themes related to river revitalization for the Rio Salado.

On September 1, 2020, the U.S. Government designated RIO as an Urban Waters Federal Partnership location.

STAFF ANALYSIS

The Rio Reimagined collaborative and its stakeholders have identified the need for a full-time professional who can act as the regional representative for RIO and oversee RIO's collaborations with federal agencies and stakeholders in connection with RIO's UWFP designation. The Ambassador will have regional responsibility for relationships and funding related to UWFP, with direction from the Rio Advisory Board described in this IGA.

Attachments

Presentation



RIO

REIMAGINED

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GOODYEAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

ASU - UNIVERSITY CITY EXCHANGE

Cecilia Riviere
Director



RIO SCALE & STAKEHOLDERS



- **6 cities, 2 tribal nations, Maricopa County, SRP, MAG, Non-profits**
- **Study area: 55+ miles, 1- 2 miles N/S of river banks** (Granite Reef Diversion Dam to SR 85)
- Priority projects differ by stakeholder – existing and designed, with **key federal partners** (EPA, DOI, USDA)
- **Diverse conditions:** health, hydrology, infrastructure, public access, planning structure, cultural history
- Opportunity to elevate **regional strategy** | approach for leveraged resources + projects over long-term
- **Diverse land ownership-** significant by federal agencies and private sector legacy industry
- **Multi-sector leadership** & commitment required: public / private / non-profit / academic / community

PROJECT ASPIRATIONS (2017 -)

- **RECONNECT THE COMMUNITY TO THE RIVER**
 - Acknowledge industrial and agricultural legacy of river industries
 - Expand public access for recreation, etc.
 - Reinforce environmental/ecosystem value of open space
- **ESTABLISH A METROPOLITAN VISION**
 - Signal an exemplary regional collaboration for a metro region
 - Increase access to education, training, housing, employment & health services
- **CATALYZE ECONOMIC GROWTH & INCLUSION**
 - Recognize and empower the next generation of leaders
 - Acknowledge/address threats of gentrification
 - Create test bed for innovative financing and technology
- **DEMONSTRATE SUSTAINABLE PLANNING**
 - Identify opportunities for water storage, reuse, harvesting
 - Develop community-led solutions for climate change challenges



RIO PARTNERSHIP

RIO SIGNATORIES



FEDERAL



STATE



NGO'S PARTIAL



RIO FEDERAL ENGAGEMENT



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ON - GOING GRANTS + ASSISTANCE \$27M

- **USDA FOREST SERVICE | AZ DEPT. OF FORESTRY + FIRE MANAGEMENT**
West Mesa River Community Heat Action Grant - AZSA + ASU Spring 2020 – 2022
- **US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**
Brownfields Assessment Coalition Grant - Cities of Phoenix, Tempe + Avondale Spring 2020 - 2023
- **US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**
Revolving Loan Fund – City of Phoenix + LISC Spring 2020 - 2023
- **US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY | AZ WATER SCIENCE CENTER**
Water Quality Cooperative Matching Funds – Flood Control District of MC Summer 2020 – 2023
- **US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**
Environmental Justice Grant - RAIL CDC Urban Spring 2022 – 2023
- **USDA FOREST SERVICE | AZ DEPT. OF FORESTRY + FIRE MANAGEMENT**
Healthy Urban River Ecosystems Grant - Wildlife Habitat Council + ASU Spring 2022 – 2024
- **US DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION | RAISE GRANT**
3rd Street Corridor Pedestrian + Bike Bridge - City of Phoenix Spring 2022 – 2026

FEDERAL ADMINISTRATION INTEREST & SUPPORT

■ RIO VISITS FROM CABINET MEMBERS + SENIOR STAFF

- Sept 2021: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Administrator Reagan + AZ Delegation Briefing on Rio Reimagined with Stakeholders
- Feb 2022: Dept. of the Interior - Secretary Haaland, Asst. Secretary of Water Trujillo + AZ Delegation Briefing on Rio Reimagined with Stakeholders
- March 2022: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 9 Administrator Guzman and Asst. Director of Water Marincola hold RIO Roundtable with Stakeholders + River Tour
- August 2022: U.S. Department of Transportation | Secretary Buttigieg - Announcement of \$25M RAISE Grant to City of Phoenix for 3rd Street Pedestrian/Bike Bridge Across the Salt River



URBANWATERS

FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP

20th Location - FEDERAL DESIGNATION

Funding
Network Resources
Agency Access
Ambassador

Environmental Protection Agency | EPA Region 9



US Army Corps
of Engineers



FEMA



15 FEDERAL AGENCIES
28 NATIONAL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS
20 LOCATIONS – PEER to PEER NETWORK
DIRECT FUNDING TO RIO PARTNERS



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RIO EVENTS & PROJECTS



CURRENT ACTIVITY IN THE CORRIDOR

- **BROWNFIELDS COALITION – Phoenix / Tempe / Avondale**

- Inventory conducted of sites with environmental concerns for clean-up
- Formed Community Advisory Council- Diverse Members of Commercial + Community Development as well as Key Non-Profits + CBO's
- Hiring consultant to market \$funding\$ for assessment/clean-up



- **PROJECT PRIORITIES**

- City of Phoenix | Economic Development General Obligation Bond - \$23M
- City of Phoenix | Tres Rios Wetlands/Trailhead (91st Ave) Final Phases
- City of Phoenix | Rio Oeste Habitat Restoration (13 miles, Ave.)
- City of Phoenix | Bloomberg Associates - RIO Urban Planning + Alternative Transportation
- West Valley | El Rio Confluence Lake - Concept Plan for Water Management, Conservation + Eco-Tourism
- West Valley | State Forestry funded Restoration work
- City of Tempe | Unsheltered/Homeless Services, Vegetation Management
- Audubon Center | Revitalization

OPPORTUNITY - EL RIO CONFLUENCE LAKE



- ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION
- OPEN SPACE | RECREATION
- ECONOMIC TOURISM
- WATER CONSERVATION + MANAGEMENT

Confluence of the Gila River and the Agua Fria River
200 Acre Feet - Similar size as Tempe Town Lake



LOWER GILA RIVER COLLABORATIVE – Western Reach of the RIO

- **STATE GRANT FUNDING (\$10M available)**
 - Fuel Reduction + Invasive Species Removal
- **FEDERAL FUNDING**
 - Multi-modal Trail / Open Space Connectivity
 - City of Phoenix Tres Rios Phase 3 – US Army Corps of Engineers \$
 - USGS Water Quality Study – Habitat Restoration & Recreation
- **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**
 - State Route 30 – LGRC Integration
 - Arizona Rock Products Association / Wildlife Habitat Council
 - 2022 WORKSHOP SERIES August to November



LOWERGILARIVER.NET

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **NEW RIO DESIGNATION - URBAN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP**

- **Urban Conservation Treaty for Migratory Birds**

- Metro Phoenix program to conserve migratory birds through education, hazard reductions, community science, conservation actions, and conservation and habitat improvement strategies

- **Annual RIO Urban Wildlife Conservation Day - October 2023**

- **RIO CONSERVATION EVENTS + WORKSHOPS, 2022-24**

- Engage Community in Environmental Action along the River Corridor: Tree Planting / Invasive Species Removal

- **TRASH FREE WATERS**

- 2022 Stormwater Litter Collection Pilot Project to expand. River Network, Coke Foundation, Osprey Initiative, City of Phoenix
 - Bi-monthly and annual Salt & Gila River Cleanup Events





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RIO AMBASSADOR TO URBAN WATERS FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP



RIO AMBASSADOR POSITION

FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL serving regional needs

- **New FEDERAL/LOCAL CO-SHARE MODEL**

- Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) in draft, precedent for RIO Non-profit co-share
- Ambassador Advisory Council (Funders) – annual priorities / supervisory
- Federal Funding (EPA, U.S. Forest Service) \$50K for first two years, add to local funding

- **POSITION FOCUS**

- **LOCAL LIAISON** to US EPA's Urban Waters Federal Partnership, connecting local needs to federal resources and national learning network
- **STRATEGIC LEADER** to Resource and Manage Federal Development and Funding Priorities of Local Stakeholders
- **REGIONAL CONVENER & FACILITATOR** for Project Collaboration

RIO AMBASSADOR LOCAL FUNDING

RIO STAKEHOLDERS committed to supporting the RIO Ambassador - \$15K for four years:

- **MARICOPA COUNTY**
- **SRPMIC**
- **CITY OF PHOENIX**
- **CITY OF AVONDALE**
- **CITY OF GOODYEAR**
- **CITY OF BUCKEYE**
- **CITY OF TEMPE**
- **CITY OF MESA**
- **SALT RIVER PROJECT [SRP]**
- **ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY [ASU]**
- **MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS** – in-kind/fiscal agent, 'employer' of RIO Ambassador (independent contractor)
- **PENDING:** Gila River Indian Community



MOVING FORWARD

- **URBAN WATERS FEDERAL PARTNERSHIP AMBASSADOR**
 - Inter-governmental Agreement (IGA)
 - Federal Funding transfer to MAG
 - Goodyear representative on Advisory Council
 - **HIRING PROCESS Begins—Q2 2023**
- **ON-GOING GRANTS / FUNDING TO PUBLIC & NON-PROFIT PARTNERS**
- **PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT**
- **FORMATION - RIO REIMAGINED | 501 C3 – Greater Phoenix Leadership / Pulliam Trust**

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The Rio Salado project has the potential to transform the Salt River bottom and realize an untapped Valley treasure.

- U.S. Senator John McCain

THANK YOU