



Department of Neighborhood Resources
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Mountain/1st

Neighborhood Association

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Neighborhood Association
www.mtn1st.org

Next Meetings:

Thursday, May 18th, 2006
7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Ward III Community Room
1510 East Grant Road

Following month: Jun. 15th, 2006

2006 Officers:

Co-Chairs

Celine Hayden 740-0426
Ron Proctor 629-9788

Secretary

Elizabeth Lawrence 903-0391

Treasurer

Elva Davis 624-1126

Sergeant at arms

Rose Marie Shelley 622-5117

Newsletter

Elizabeth Lawrence 903-0391

Park Cleanup **Phil Alderink** 622-2767

Important Phone Numbers:

Tucson Police Dept. Emergencies 911
Non-emergencies 791-4444
Beat Cop 791-4253
Ward 3 Council Office 791-4711
Citizen Comment Line 791-4700
Independent Police Auditor 791-5176
Department of Neighborhood Resources 792-2489

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May 2006
VOTE MAY 16TH! COUNTY ELECTION
Do unto others as you would have them do unto you!

Report on Last Meeting!

**Minutes of Mountain/1st Neighborhood Meeting
Apr 20th, 2006 at the Ward 3 Office
17 Neighbors present
Visitors: 10**

1. The meeting began with Celine reading a city notice reminding neighbors to clean up after our pets. The notice said that "animal waste contains bacteria that can pollute stormwater and be transported to our fragile desert washes. It can harm the environment and may pose a risk to children, pets and wildlife. Don't leave pet waste in your yard. [It] does not just 'go away' and it doesn't turn into fertilizer."
Bag your pet's waste and dispose of it in the garbage. Don't forget to bring a bag with you when you walk your dog, or use the dog cleanup station in the park!
2. Celine also mentioned some grants the Hedrick Acres Neighborhood Association has applied for in conjunction with Mountain/1st. One is a **fact-finding Community Development Block Grant** for an inventory and analysis of housing, income, and other related issues in our neighborhoods. The other is a **Pro Neighborhoods Service Award** for pro-bono planning of improvements to Park Ave.
3. Next, Celine thanked **Rose Marie Shelley and Elva Davis for their efforts in cleaning up the alley** next to 1st Ave. She mentioned a meeting several Mountain/1st board members attended recently with representatives from the city, the Tucson Police Department, other neighbors and the manager of Labor Ready on 1st Ave. regarding problems in the alley. Problems have included trash, people hanging out and sleeping in the alley, and using it as an outdoor restroom. The Association, the city, TPD and the business manager came up with a plan to begin to address the problems, including **turning the alley into a no trespassing "enforcement zone."** This strategy has worked well on Speedway. There is another meeting next month to discuss our progress.
4. Ron kicked off the **RTA forum** portion of the meeting by reading from the sample ballot pamphlet about Questions 1 and 2. He presented graphs showing how money is to be allocated for different projects in the plan. The portion of the plan that most directly affects our neighborhood is the **plan to widen Grant Rd. and 1st Ave.** to 6 lanes.
5. After finishing the introduction of the RTA plan, Ron introduced our two guest speakers. **Steve Farley**, a proponent of the plan, is a public artist who has been working in transportation for 6 years. He fought the road-heavy transportation plan on the 2002 ballot and was a co-author of the light rail initiative on the ballot in 2003. He was on the RTA Citizens' Advisory Committee, which helped draft the current plan. **Ken O'Day**, who opposes the plan, is the president of the Campbell/Grant Neighborhood Association and is a former member of the Tucson-Pima County Bicycle Advisory Committee. He was involved with fighting the grade-separated interchange plan for Grant Rd. a few years ago, and led the effort to get rid of the suicide lane on Grant. He is currently working with businesses on Campbell Ave. to improve the street and "pedestrianize" it.

Agenda For Next Meeting!

**Thursday, May 18th, 2006
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

<i>Announcements</i>	7:00-7:05
<i>Discussion of bylaw changes</i>	7:05-7:15
<i>Report on alley cleanup project</i>	7:15-7:30
<i>Tucson Clean & Beautiful</i>	7:30-8:15
<i>Open input from neighbors</i>	8:15-8:30

6. In timed statements, **Steve and Ken presented their arguments for and against the RTA plan**, respectively.
 - Steve touted the benefits of the plan, including expanded bus service and widened roads, which he said would decrease congestion and increase safety. He also pointed out the support the plan has received from various groups. For more information and details, he referred us to www.yes1and2.org.
 - Ken felt that the plan has several flaws, including the lack of funding for road maintenance and the implementation of a sales tax increase. He would like to see funding come from impact fees on new development. He also suggested that intersection improvements to existing roadways could achieve 70% of the traffic congestion relief that widening roads would provide, more quickly and at a reduced cost. For more information, go to www.tucsonrealplan.com.
 - Finally, Ken and Steve answered several questions posed by the neighbors and guests in attendance. The association showed our appreciation for the speakers by presenting them with gift certificates to Raging Sage coffeehouse.
 - Please be sure to **vote on May 16** on this important issue. It directly affects our neighborhood, the city of Tucson and the county at large. Read the Regional Transportation Authority Sample Ballot and Publicity Pamphlet that should have been mailed to all registered voters, or download it online at www.pima.gov.
7. Next month, Tucson Clean & Beautiful (Trees for Tucson – see the enclosed application for details), more proposed bylaw changes, and details on grant proposals.

Ambassador Program

A wonderful complement of services has been added to the Mountain /1st Neighborhood Association – the Pima Council On Aging "Ambassador ". If you could use some referral assistance, call Ali Recker at 623-9805. She has recently been trained to provide referral assistance to seniors in our neighborhood, in areas including: caregiving issues, personal care, fraud and scams, and home adaptations. Please refer to the attached flyer for further information. We welcome this referral assistance for our senior neighbors as a fine addition to our new Lend A Hand service. Ali looks forward to assisting you with any questions.

