



# CITY OF TOLLESON

9055 W. Van Buren St., Tolleson, AZ 85353 • (623) 936-7111 • TTY users, dial 711 for Relay • [www.tolleson.az.gov](http://www.tolleson.az.gov)

**TOLLESON CITY COUNCIL MEETING ACTION MINUTES  
TOLLESON CIVIC CENTER  
9055 WEST VAN BUREN STREET, TOLLESON, AZ 85353  
ZOOM WEBINAR ID: 840 6967 9194  
TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026  
6:00 PM**

Doors open to Council Chambers at 5:45 PM for public seating. The public may be asked to temporarily relocate if an executive session occurs. The public will be invited back into Council Chambers when the Council returns from executive session.

Members of the public may also participate in the meeting via [Zoom Webinar](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84069679194) (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84069679194>) with a computer or cell phone.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rodriguez called the Tolleson City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**B. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Invocation was delivered by City Manager Reyes Medrano, Jr., and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Mendoza.

**C. ROLL CALL**

City Council: Mayor Juan Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis, Council Member Christine Chavira, Council Member Clorinda Erives, Council Member Adolfo Gámez, Council Member Linda Laborin, and Council Member Cruzita Mendoza.

Department Directors: City Manager Reyes Medrano Jr., Deputy City Manager/Chief Government Affairs Officer Pilar Sinawi, Deputy City Manager/Employee Resources Director Wendy Jackson, Chief Financial Officer Kevin Artz, Chief of Social Impact George Good, Deputy City Clerk Citlaly Salas, Field Operations/Parks & Recreation Director Randy Babchuk, Library Director Mandy Carrico, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Rudy Mendoza, and Utilities Director Jamie McCracken.

City Representative: City Attorney Jon Paladini

**D. FINAL CALL TO SUBMIT SPEAKER REQUESTS**



All citizens and interested parties wishing to speak before the Council regarding non-agenda items or during a public hearing shall fully complete a Speaker Request Form and submit the form(s) to the City Clerk prior to the meeting being convened. Citizens must complete one form for each item they want to address. Speaker Request Forms are located at the entrance of the Council Chambers. For Zoom participants, click the chat button, and enter your name and the item you would like to address. Submissions should be made no later than the Mayor announcing the “Final Call to Submit Speaker Requests”. All speakers will be limited to 3 minutes unless otherwise noted by the Mayor. Speakers are not required to disclose their identities or personal information. You may also submit an online speaker request form at <https://www.tolleson.az.gov/speakerrequest> at least one hour prior to the meeting.

**E. CALL TO THE PUBLIC (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)**

This is the time for the public to comment on non-agenda items. Members of the Council may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Therefore, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01.H, action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to (1) responding to criticism; (2) directing staff to review the matter; or (3) asking that a matter be put on a future agenda.

**F. SCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES AND PROCLAMATIONS – FOR DISCUSSION**

1. Proclamation declaring June 23, 2026 as West Valley Day in the City of Tolleson, celebrating the unity symbolized by the 623 area code and recognizing the partnerships, achievements, and collaborative efforts that strengthen the West Valley region. Partners recognized include the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC), Greater Phoenix Equality Chamber of Commerce (GPECC), League of Arizona Cities and Towns, Luke West Valley Partners, Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), Tohono O’odham Nation, West Valley Arts Council, West Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce, and WestMarc. – Pilar Sinawi, Deputy City Manager

**Mayor Rodriguez proclaimed June 23, 2026 as West Valley Day in the City of Tolleson.**

**G. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ACTION ITEMS**

**H. CONSENT AGENDA – ACTION ITEMS**

Items on the Consent Agenda are of a routine nature and are intended to be acted upon in one motion. Council Members may pull items from Consent if they would like them considered separately.

1. Approve Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2026. (City Clerk Department)

2. Approve Claims and Bills Report for the period of June 3, 2026 to June 16, 2026. (Finance Department)
3. Adopt Resolution No. 2652 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, approving the FY 2027 Amendment to the Transit Services Agreement between the City of Tolleson and the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA), and authorizing the Mayor to execute the Amendment. The Amendment provides fixed-route bus services valued at \$642,968; ADA-mandated paratransit services valued at \$129,196 for an estimated 1,499 ADA-eligible trips; and RideChoice services valued at \$23,581 for an estimated 846 ADA-eligible trips and 227 non-ADA trips, at no direct cost to the City. (Development Services Department)
4. Adopt Resolution No. 2653 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, approving the Agreement between the City of Tolleson and the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) for regional economic development services for FY 2027, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the Agreement. The Agreement supports regional business attraction, job creation, and economic development initiatives throughout Greater Phoenix. The City shall pay GPEC \$4,255 for services provided under the Agreement. (Development Services Department)
5. Adopt Resolution No. 2655 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, approving a Private Roadway Access Easement for vehicular ingress and egress purposes across the private road known as Pima Street between the City of Tolleson and Martens Park 91 Land, LLC, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the Agreement. (Development Services Department)
6. Adopt Resolution No. 2654 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, designating the Chief Fiscal Officer for officially submitting the Fiscal Year 2027 Expenditure Limitation Report to the Arizona Auditor General. Mayor and Council desire to designate Chief Financial Officer Kevin Artz as the Chief Fiscal Officer. (Finance Department)
7. Adopt Resolution No. 2651 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, approving an Intergovernmental Agreement among the City of Tolleson, the Cities of Avondale, Buckeye, El Mirage, Glendale, Goodyear, Peoria, Surprise, and the Town of Wickenburg for participation in the West Valley Investigative Response Team, and authorizing the City Manager to execute the Agreement. The Agreement will remain in effect through July 1, 2031. (Police Department)
8. Approve the Second Amendment to the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement between the City of Tolleson and Ferguson Enterprises, LLC for facilities and building supplies, and authorize the City Manager to execute and deliver said Amendment. The Amendment increases the annual aggregate amount from \$200,000 to \$300,000 for the purchase of additional materials and supplies. The Agreement shall remain in full force and effect through December 31, 2026. (Utilities Department)

9. Approve the Second Amendment to the Cooperative Purchasing Agreement between the City of Tolleson and Sands Motor Company for the purchase of vehicles, and authorize the City Manager to execute and deliver said Amendment. The Amendment increases the annual aggregate amount from \$100,000 to \$200,000 for the purchase of additional vehicles. The Agreement shall remain in full force and effect through March 16, 2027. (Utilities Department)

**Council Member Gámez moved to approve Consent Agenda items 1. through 9.; the motion was seconded by Council Member Laborin. The motion carried 7 to 0.**

**Mayor Rodriguez – Aye**

**Vice Mayor Davis – Aye**

**Council Member Chavira – Aye**

**Council Member Erives – Aye**

**Council Member Gámez – Aye**

**Council Member Laborin – Aye**

**Council Member Mendoza – Aye**

**I. REGULAR AGENDA – ACTION ITEMS**

1. Adopt/Deny Resolution No. 2647 of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, levying upon the assessed valuation of property within the City of Tolleson, subject to taxation, a certain sum to provide funds for general municipal expenses, all for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027. The City estimates the primary property tax rate to be 1.5204 and the secondary tax rate to be 1.1556 per one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed value of all taxable property. (Finance Department)

**Council Member Chavira moved to adopt Resolution No. 2647; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Davis. The motion carried 7 to 0.**

**Mayor Rodriguez – Aye**

**Vice Mayor Davis – Aye**

**Council Member Chavira – Aye**

**Council Member Erives – Aye**

**Council Member Gámez – Aye**

**Council Member Laborin – Aye**

**Council Member Mendoza – Aye**

**J. WORK STUDY AND PRESENTATIONS – FOR DISCUSSION**

1. FY 2026 Third Quarter Update – Kevin Artz, Chief Financial Officer
2. Police Department Update – Rudy Mendoza, Public Safety Director/Police Chief

**K. MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER’S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS – FOR DISCUSSION**

1. Community Events Update – Randy Babchuk, Field Operations/Parks & Recreation Director

**L. CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Motion to go into executive session.

**Vice Mayor Davis moved to convene into executive session at 7:19 PM; the motion was seconded by Council Member Gámez. The motion carried 7 to 0.**

**Mayor Rodriguez – Aye**

**Vice Mayor Davis – Aye**

**Council Member Chavira – Aye**

**Council Member Erives – Aye**

**Council Member Gámez – Aye**

**Council Member Laborin – Aye**

**Council Member Mendoza – Aye**

2. Convene into an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3) and (A)(7) for discussion or consultation for legal advice with the City Attorney and for discussion or consultation with designated representatives of the City to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding the possible acquisition of real property from other government entities.

**M. RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC MEETING**

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.**

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01 and A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Tolleson City Council and to the general public that the Council of the City of Tolleson will hold a meeting open to the public. Council Members of the City of Tolleson will attend by telephone/video conference call.

Note: The City Council of the City of Tolleson, by a duly passed motion, may vote in public session to adjourn to executive session on any agenda item in conformation with A.R.S. § 38.431.03 for legal advice from the City Attorney.

Arizona law prohibits any City resource, including staff time, equipment, and anything of value to influence an election. This prohibition applies to Call to the Public at the Council Meeting. You may discuss a City issue but do not “advocate” for a specific candidate or ballot measure. Additionally, soliciting petition signatures or campaign contributions or distributing campaign materials is prohibited on City property. The City appreciates your efforts to help the City comply with state law and avoid using taxpayer monies to influence an election.

Zoom’s live transcription feature can provide automatic captioning by clicking on the Closed Caption (CC) button during the meeting.

THE CITY OF TOLLESON ENDEAVORS TO MAKE ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS ACCESSIBLE TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES. With at least two business days advance notice, accommodations can be provided at this meeting for individuals with vision, hearing and/or speech disabilities, including a transcriber, large print, an interpreter, an assistive listening device, etc. Please call the City Clerk at (623) 936-7111, or TTY users may dial 711 for Arizona Relay Service (AZRS), to request an accommodation to participate in this public meeting. The City will try its best to accommodate any last minute requests.

LA CIUDAD DE TOLLESON SE ESFUERZA PARA HACER TODAS LAS REUNIONES PÚBLICAS ACCESIBLE PARA INDIVIDUOS CON DISCAPACIDADES. Con al menos dos días laborables de previo aviso, se pueden proporcionar adaptaciones en esta reunión para personas con discapacidades visuales, auditivas o del habla, incluido un transcriptor, letra grande, un intérprete, un dispositivo de asistencia auditiva, etc. Llame a la Secretaría Municipal al (623) 936-7111, o los usuarios de TTY pueden marcar 711 para el Servicio de Retransmisión de Arizona (AZRS), para solicitar un alojamiento para participar en esta reunión pública. La Ciudad hará todo lo posible para satisfacer cualquier solicitud de último minuto.

**City of Tolleson****Checks Recorded****Check Dates: June 3, 2026 to June 16, 2026****PAYMENTS OVER \$10,000**

| <b>VENDOR NAME</b>                  | <b>AMOUNT</b> | <b>CHECK NUMBER</b> | <b>CHECK DATE</b> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| CITY OF PHOENIX                     | \$308,062.92  | 187846              | 6/10/2026         |
| KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES INC      | \$107,508.00  | 102665              | 6/11/2026         |
| TF CONTRACTING SERVICES LLC         | \$67,102.23   | 187865              | 6/10/2026         |
| SANDS MOTOR COMPANY, INC.           | \$66,706.98   | 187893              | 6/15/2026         |
| LYFT, INC.                          | \$45,059.10   | 102667              | 6/11/2026         |
| PEORIA FORD                         | \$37,286.15   | 187856              | 6/10/2026         |
| ASR CONSTRUCTION GROUP LLC          | \$31,993.54   | 187844              | 6/10/2026         |
| MARICOPA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE    | \$27,705.19   | 187800              | 6/4/2026          |
| CENTERLINE SUPPLY INC               | \$24,983.70   | 187789              | 6/4/2026          |
| CORE & MAIN LP                      | \$15,779.62   | 187848              | 6/10/2026         |
| ALEX AREVALO                        | \$15,000.00   | 187842              | 6/10/2026         |
| CARESCAPE INC                       | \$14,880.00   | 187822              | 6/8/2026          |
| GENERAL PACIFIC INC                 | \$12,920.90   | 187850              | 6/10/2026         |
| TOLLESON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DIST.#17 | \$12,850.00   | 187845              | 6/10/2026         |
| ARIZONA STATE TREASURERS OFFICE     | \$12,366.65   | 187897              | 6/15/2026         |
| WESTERN ENVIRONMENTAL EQUIPMENT CO  | \$12,255.59   | 187870              | 6/10/2026         |
| WESTERN ENVIRONMENTAL EQUIPMENT CO  | \$12,255.58   | 187870              | 6/10/2026         |
| FLYERS ENERGY LLC                   | \$12,149.24   | 102624              | 6/5/2026          |

Post-Production File

**City of Tolleson**  
**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**June 23, 2026**

Transcription Provided By:  
eScribers, LLC

\* \* \* \* \*

Transcription is provided in order to facilitate communication accessibility and may not  
be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings.

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MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Good evening, everyone. I'm Mayor Juan Rodriguez. Today is June 23rd and I would like to call the City Council meeting to order. We're going to begin with the invocation and pledge of allegiance. So I'm going to ask City Manager Medrano, will you please provide the invocation and council member Mendoza -- and this must be an old one. Mendoza, yes, to please lead us in the pledge . If you're able to. Please stand.

MEDRANO: Heavenly father, thank you for the gift of this day. We dedicate our thoughts, words, and actions to you, guide our steps, protect us from harm, and give us wisdom to handle whatever comes our way. Help us to reflect your love around us. In Jesus' name we pray

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Amen.

ALL: Pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: All right. Thank you both. City Clerk, please let the record reflect that all seven council members are present today. We're going to move on to D. Now is the final call to submit speaker request to the City Clerk. All speakers will be limited to three minutes for comments only. Actions taken as a result of public comments will be limited to 1, responding to criticism, 2, directing staff to review the matter, or 3, asking that the matter be put on a future agenda.

Madam City Clerk, do we have any submissions at this time?

SALAS: No Mayor.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Moving on to E, It is now call to the public. City Clerk do we have any submissions for call to the public?

SALAS: We don't, Mayor.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Moving on F, schedule public appearances and proclamations for discussion. Item number 1 is a proclamation declaring June 23rd, 2026 as West Valley Day and the City of Tolleson celebrating the unity symbolized by the 623 area code and recognizing the partnership, achievement and collaboration effort that strengthens the

West Valley region. Partners recognize include the Greater Phoenix Economic Council. Let's give them a -- I know they're here. Now I got to make sure I don't miss any. The Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce. The League of Arizona Cities and Towns. West Valley Partnership up front. Maricopa Association of Governments, also known as MAG. The Tohono O'odham Nation. The West Valley Art Council. And the West Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce and of course, Westmark. They're both here as well. All right, so this is going to be fun because we're going to take a really nice picture. Okay. So Deputy City Manager Sinawi will you say a few words regarding this proclamation? Any instructions?

MEDRANO: Thank you very much, Madam Deputy City Manager. Thank you, Mayor. Members of Council, welcome to our partners here today. I can look into all of your faces and recount countless efforts that we partnered on that have only made not only Tolleson, but the entire State of Arizona better. And I'm proud to have worked with you for so many years. I look at some of you, and I remember when we all started together, and even though I know I've aged significantly, none of you have. But it's been one of the greatest joys of my life to share my public service journey with each of you. You bring great joy to the City of Tolleson, and that's the greatest gift you can offer any partner.

So we honor you today for that effort, for investing yourself in our community and the entire West Valley. It's Maricopa. I can go on forever. State of Arizona. Right. So today's a special day for us. I did come prepared, if you didn't notice. Yes, I did pushups all day to make sure that. But I love 623 Day, West Valley Day. As a native of the West Valley myself, literally born at Saint Joe's, which is Third Ave, right west of Central. So I was born in the West Valley, as all of us were. I think my dad was born in the West Valley. I can go on forever. My grandmother was born at 107th Avenue and Thomas in 1925. And I'm just one family that could say that I lose track of how many families that have been here for so many years. And we're honored to share this day with you. Thank you for being here.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: All right. Do you want to give our West Valley partners or

proclamation and then instructions on how to take the photo today. Are we going to do it? I got an extra one. I got an extra one.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Indiscernible) And I couldn't -- I have to say, the shirt. Aaliyah is here in the back. And Esdra, blood, sweat and tears. It was like Melissa -- it was like Project Runway mission. So thank you very much.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Yeah. Come on up, folks. We're going to hold them like this, so I'm not. How are we doing Come on up, folks. How you doing? Hey, folks. How are we doing?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Nice to meet you. Hey.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Long time no see.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you. Sir. Thank you.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: There you go. Thank you very much. Thanks for being a part of this.

HOFFMAN: Mayor and council, I just wanted to say on behalf of the entire West Valley, we so appreciate you supporting 623 day and supporting the West Valley the way you do. And like Reyes said, we started off our careers when we had much less gray hair and knew each other very well. So it's been a pleasure working all these years with you. And it was so cool to walk in here and see all of the partners that we all continue to work with the League, the chamber, GPEC, everyone here today. So thank you all for having us and for celebrating 623 day.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: This finish off really quick. Anybody can is welcome to speak if they want to. But ultimately, you know, the West Valley is, as you all know the combination of a bunch of small cities. And we have one thing in common. In particular here in Tolleson is we're pinched between two very big cities. And so we have to have a big city bite, even though we have a small dog body to be able to compete when it comes to retention, when it comes to recruitment, when it comes to all the hours that are out there in public service, we have to be able to basically compete with the big boys. And so the necessity for partnerships and leaning on each other to find success is beyond critical. It's a requirement, another R.

So I'm personally thankful. I've seen it over the last eight years, actually over since 2005, since I've been on council, I'm not quite as old as Reyes. I'm starting down the road of gray. I don't have a freeway yet but I'm working on it. But I will say that it has been the work of our staff and the partnership they've been able to cultivate that has created some very good harvest in our city. And I would say that that I would be remiss if I would say that another West Valley City mayor wouldn't agree with that. It is really the partnerships that we have cultivated here that have created this buzz in the West Valley. I mean, everywhere you go, everybody wants to be in the West Valley. And that's a beautiful thing. So I want to personally thank all of you guys for everything you've done over the last however many decades.

Of course, I mean, long time partners, the City of Tolleson and everybody else. But with that now, therefore, I Mayor Juan Rodriguez, do hereby proclaim June 23rd, 2026 as the West Valley Day and the City of Tolleson be a proclaimed gold 623. And I will add that we put you guys first on the agenda because it's about dinner time. And here in Tolleson, we have a bunch of great restaurants that I would recommend you all go and eat spend some money. Have a great time. Yeah, I have some great cool beverages. We have some of those too. But yeah, gas up. Do everything you need to do here in Tolleson. We got some serious around here. Pick up a couple pounds of good stuff. But thank you all in in full sincerity. Yes, yes. But thank you all for being here and for everything you do for us. So thank you. Have a wonderful evening.

All right. I'm going to move on to business from the floor, not seeing any items. I'm going to go to consent agenda action items. I see items one through nine. Council, if you've had an opportunity to review and would like to indicate a motion

GAMEZ: A motion for approval, Mr. Mayor.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: We have a motion from council member Gamez. I have a second from council woman Laborin. All those in favor of approving the consent agenda items, please signify by saying aye.

ALL: Aye.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: All those opposed? Madam Clerk, motion passes unanimously.

All right. I might get home for dinner. Regular agenda action items. Adopt or deny resolution Number 2647 of the Mayor and City council of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, levying upon and the assessed valuation of property within the City of Tolleson, subject to taxation, a certain sum to provide funds for general municipal expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2027. The City estimates the primary property tax rate to be 1.5204. I would say one of the lowest in the West Valley in the State. And the secondary tax rate to be 1.1556 for \$100 of assessed value to all property taxes. I will turn it over now to Chief Financial Officer Artz. Sir, you have the floor.

ARTZ: Mayor and council. This is the final step of the budget process for this year. So it is adopting the property tax levy. As the mayor mentioned, it's resolution 2647. It's adopting the city's property tax rate, which is remaining consistent with the prior year. So no increase in the primary -- or no increase in the combined tax rate for the City. So staff has presented this on several occasions. We had a public hearing on it the last meeting. We have not received any feedback from any residents or anyone on the public hearing that we had. So with that, staff recommends council adopt the resolution.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. Well, I just want to state you guys have done an amazing job, as I have stated in the past. Getting here is not an accident. Getting here is a science the science of the numbers. And at the end of the day, you guys heard me say this 100 times when people say, this is what I want to do for our community, don't tell me what you want to do. Show me your checkbook, and I'll tell you what you prioritize. So if you spend all your money on stuff that has nothing to do with serving your community, that's a problem. We here in Tolleson take that very serious. And so every cent, every penny that we spend on behalf of our residents goes back to a program, a facility, or some kind of a benefit that makes their quality life better. And so here we are today again, not increasing property taxes. And every department is fully funded and we have a really good surplus.

So I want to thank my fellow council members for helping out with that initiative. It's not a mayor thing, it's a council thing. And then of course staff quarterbacks. It runs

with the football and scores at Tolleson. Touchdown. You like that Randy. You like that. Go Wolverines! So I will entertain a motion to adopt.

CHAVIRA: May I make a motion to adopt.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: I'm going to go to the edge. Okay I'm going to go with the council woman --

CHAVIRA: Chavira.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Chavira, yes, sorry. One of those moments. And then I'm going to go with Vice Mayor --

DAVIS: Davis

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Davis. We have a first, and we have a second. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

ALL: Aye.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: All those opposed? Awesome. Motion passes unanimously, and I look forward to another year of great finances in the City of Tolleson. Okay. What's our annual operating budget?

ARTZ: This year it's \$247 million.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: \$247 million. And how many square miles are we? Just wondering. Great job. Great job everybody. Okay. Work, study and presentations for discussions. We have two. We're going to start with number one fiscal year 2026 third quarter update. And sure enough, Chief Financial Officer, you continue to have the floor.

ARTZ: Thank you, Mayor and council. So this is a review of our current year budget. So we're looking at the third quarter, which is through March of this year. And the PowerPoint up here. So this is basically seventy-five percent of the way through the fiscal year. And just wanted to go over the revenues and the expenditures fairly quickly here.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Our police chief is going to present next. He's not in the process of arresting our chief financial officer, just to make sure everybody understands that.

ARTZ: I say the wrong thing. Now I'm getting nervous with him.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: A little bit of pressure. Yeah.

ARTZ: Wait till he sees that the finance department is over budget again.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Mr. Artz. That was the fastest presentation I've seen.

ARTZ: So as I mentioned, this is through March of 2026. We'll start by looking at the general fund some of our major revenue categories. Taxes. That's our sales tax and our property tax. We've collected eighty-five percent of our budget through March, so looking very strong there. Positive growth, positive trends there. Intergovernmental revenue is our state shared sales tax, the state income tax, the auto and Lou tax, all of the revenue that we get from the State. So we're actually above budget already. We're at one hundred and one percent there. Licenses and permits that is our, you know, business licenses, building permits. That has slowed down. We're only at about forty-one percent. We did make an adjustment for next year's budget to reduce our budget number there. So we're not relying on that, but it is a fairly small revenue line item in the grand scheme of things.

So the fact that we're only at forty percent isn't concerning to us at all. Charges for services. That's the dispatch fees that we charge our other partners to develop Mirage and Tio. So that's coming in at eighty percent eighty percent. Interest income or a \$2.3 million or eighty-one percent eighty-one percent interest income. That's a combination of, you know, interest rates staying high, us having sufficient funds to invest and then also extending the maturities out a little bit in investing in things that are a little bit longer term instead of short-term. So in total, we've collected \$43 million of our \$49 million budget. We're at 86 percent in the general fund. So very positive numbers there.

When we look at all funds public safety sales tax, that's our dedicated sales tax. We're at 72.1%. Herf is our highway user revenue fund. That's the gasoline sales tax, where it's seventy percent. Water is at 74 sanitation at 69. Wastewater is at 27 percent. That one, again, is a bit of an anomaly because we bill our partners for the capital projects that we do. So if we haven't spent the capital money, we don't bill them. So when we get to the expenditure side, you'll see the expenditures are approximately in that same

range of the seven to \$8 million. So that's not concerning at all, because we just haven't billed them for the capital projects, because we haven't constructed them yet. And then sewers at 66 percent. So again, all of the revenues are coming in real close to the 77 percent, or a little bit above that. This table breaks down our sales tax collections. So this is by for each month for the past five years. So you can see their fiscal year 26. We've collected \$36 million in our city sales tax. Comparing that back to 2025, it was at \$32 million. So we've collected almost \$4 million more in sales tax through the first nine months of this year

And then this graph, it just shows that, you know, in a different format. And what we really look at here is the columns on the far right for each of the months. And what we like to see is that that dark blue on the far right is higher than that green column. That's the one right next to it. So that's showing us that each month we're continuing to see positive revenue growth on a year over year basis. There was one month in October when it was negative, but the other eight months have all been positive. So this is something that we look at. It's just really easy to look at real quickly, to see that our revenues and our sales tax are continuing to grow and be positive.

Expenditures by department. So we've got a listing here of all of the expenditures. I won't go through them all. Majority of them are below 75 percent. Finance is at 80 percent. So we're over as of the third quarter, but we're confident that by year end, which is in a week here, we will still be under budget. Here's the rest of the departments again, everyone at or below the 75 percent here. The one department that we are going to go over budget on is transportation. We had a presentation, I believe, at the last council meeting and went into a little bit more detail on that and on why that's going over budget, but just that is one that we're going to have to come back and ask council to make a budget amendment once the year is closed out.

And then here these are the capital funds. So again no concern that you know, we're at 89 percent on the capital. It's just that's a function of making our capital purchases and no concern at all there. So in total expenditures in the general fund, a little over \$32 million, right? At about forty-nine percent of our budget. When we look at the other

funds again, everything is right in line with where we're expecting it. None of these other funds are over the 75 percent. So we believe that we'll be right where we need to be at year end for all of our funds. So with that, the key takeaways are just the fiscal year 26 revenues are projecting to come in over budget expenditures are projecting to be below budget. When we get to the end of the year, it will create some surplus -- some additional surplus that we hadn't planned on because revenues are coming in stronger and expenditures are below budget. So with that, staff is available. If you have any questions, there's a great problem to have.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Council questions. Comments? Yes.

DAVIS: Keep up the good work.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: I think you got across the board thumbs up. Are you and your team? I should say you guys have a tremendous team, and so please let them all know that we think very highly of them, and we appreciate all their hard work throughout the year to get us to the point where we're at today.

ARTZ: Thank you sir.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: As I promised, we are going to move on to item number two, which is police department update. Public Safety Director Mendoza, you have the floor, sir

MENDOZA: Perfect. Let me set this up. It's already messed up because the first rule. Anytime you ask a bunch of cops to come to any kind of meeting, you have to remove the back row. Make sure they all come sit in the front. It happens at every single training. So that's usually how you want to start off. Mayor and council, thank you for having us here. I have a lot to get to with the police department. Actually, it's very condensed. We do a lot of things throughout the year. It's kind of hard to pare it down to something I can show you in a meeting, but these are kind of the things that I wanted to get through to you as far as what we've been doing over the last year.

But before I get started, on July 4th, we'll be celebrating our 250th anniversary of the United States of America. We have badges that each officer will be wearing starting in July. They'll get to wear that badge for a year. It's a 250th anniversary badge. But we

would also like, before we get started, we'd like to present each one of you with a two hundred and fiftieth anniversary badge. And full disclosure, as we were going through the process of getting these badges, it was actually Chief Grow's idea to get them for you. So he's very thoughtful when it comes to that. And I appreciate it. Makes us all look very, very good.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: I'm not going to tell you how I'm going to use the badge. You have on to display or because that way, people.

MENDOZA: Absolutely. If you have a shadow box or you get any kind of frame or something, you want to put it up if you want to.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Pass it around. But I don't want --

MENDOZA: A picture of me to put next to you. I mean, whatever you want to do it.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. This is a really cool, cool gift.

MENDOZA: Don't cry. It could, I mean. Well, I wouldn't do that. All right. Well, Mayor and council, thank you. Again, I'm Chief Mendoza. I've been here for about 25 years, actually. Yeah, a little over 25 years now. I started as a dispatcher and you know, went out into patrol and then moved on to the ranks. And I think most of you guys know my story. You guys have been here long enough to see me kind of grow up in the police department. So one of the issues that we deal with throughout this year and something that we started kind of I'm almost actually programing for is homelessness.

So Tolleson Police Department has been coordinating its response to homelessness with the Maricopa County Hand in Hand program. So we were looking for a way to try to provide services first before we start with enforcement. And it is starting to be pretty successful. Lieutenant Mike Weeks and Sergeant John Fisher are the two points of contact for the Tolleson PD as it relates to homelessness issues. And I know Sergeant Fisher is here. And then I believe Lieutenant Weeks is -- Lieutenant Weeks is not here right now. He's on his way in. There was a fatal wreck on the 303 that he's kind of trapped behind right now. He's not involved in it.

So some of these numbers that I'm giving you, they're they've already gone up. Because by the time I wrote this and I was able to come and present to you, we've had other

pretty great outcomes. But we currently know of twelve successful referral connections to services. Our very first one was a homeless woman who had just had a baby. Hand in hand received the initial information from us. That's kind of how it was supposed to work. And then, hand in hand, was able to immediately shelter the woman and her child and begin to investigate longer term solution for housing. So that was kind of the first one that we, we saw working out. And then again, we've, we've also had twelve other successful referrals.

Chris Medaglia he's not on this slide. And you guys know Officer Medaglia, he's also pretty instrumental in helping to facilitate them being sent over for services. Emergency preparedness and school violence. The Tolleson Police Department sent Sergeant Jacoby, who's not here and Officer George Perez to become certified alert. That's advanced law enforcement rapid response training trainers in 2025. As certified trainers, they can train all of our officers in rapid response. Most of us would know it as active shooter training. In the spring -- over spring break in 2025, they conducted our first department wide training at Arizona Desert. They graciously let us borrow their campus, and they actually had the training there, and we got our entire department through.

The goal is to have every officer alert trained and then conduct annual refreshers. So this is something that's going to be ongoing. So it's not a one and done. It's something that every year we'll be doing these things, we'll be working with the schools to use the school campuses for training and provide that training for officers so that in the event of an emergency, hopefully that never happens, we'll be prepared for it. Sergeant and Officer Perez will continue to attend the alert advanced training to stay up on best practices, so I'm not sure, George. Oh, okay. So neither of those, neither of them are here, so.

Substance abuse. The Charleston Police Department handles the enforcement aspect of substance abuse issues within the City of Tolleson. The majority of our investigations are handled by the Community Action Team. The acronym is CAT So you'll hear us say our cat detectives or our CAT team is out doing, you know, whatever surveillance search

warrants. That's who we're speaking about. Yeah. So our CAT detectives have had the following successes. I mean, if you count the search warrant on Monday, it would say sixteen search warrants. So and I'm sure there's been some since I wrote this slide. But at the point when I was writing this, they had written fifteen search warrants on structures, 31 electronic GPS warrants made, 73 arrests seized, 15,000 fentanyl pills 1319 grams of methamphetamine, 252 grams of fentanyl powder.

And yes, there's more twenty pounds of marijuana, 35 grams of crack cocaine, three grams of heroin. Big one for me, twenty three firearms. I always like when the officers are getting guns off the streets. Two pieces of body armor. We took in over \$327,551 in seized currency. And we seized -- also seized three cars. So it's a very active team right now. We're down to one, detective. So it's slowed down a little bit. But as our numbers are getting beefed back up like, we have currently have five in training right now, but as they hit the street, we'll be able to put the second CAT team detective. And I'm sure these numbers are just going to jump. They do a really, really good job with that for us. They're very proactive. And they're not -- and this is just all the drug stuff because this is a substance abuse, but they've solved big burglary you know, smash and grab stuff. So they just do a really good job for us.

So the Tolleson Police Department will continue to conduct drug investigations with CAT detectives to further reduce the number of drugs that may be present within the City. And again, we just wrote a search warrant and executed it on Monday. This morning or not this morning, Monday morning. So the big one for me. We've talked about it multiple times, and I finally get to kind of showcase it because it's always been just kind of me speaking about it, but the 30 by 30 initiative. The 30 by 30 is an initiative to support and advance women in policing. The 30 by 30 goal is to have 30 percent representation by women in law enforcement by 2030. Research evidence indicates that the importance of achieving at least thirty percent representation to empower Group to influence an organization's culture. Through strong recruitment efforts, Tolleson PD now has eight police officers that are women and two more that are in the academy. When the two graduate from the academy will have ten. This represents the

most women police officers in the history of Tolleson PD. There's still work to do. As thirty percent of our agency would actually be 11.7 officers. So getting their number to 12 would help us cross that that thirty that 30 percent.

And so before I get to the next slide, I just want to introduce them because we, I talked to them and I don't want them to be just a number. I want you guys to see who they are. So when I call your name, if you're standing, if you'll wave, if you're sitting down, if you'll stand up. But let's start with Officer Kylie Arellano, Officer Foley, Detective Katie Hitz, Officer Hannah Jeter's, Officer Angela Palamara, Detective Brianna Rice, Officer Deanna Rivas, and Officer Sue Share, who's been with us, She's getting close to 20, she's wasn't able to be here, am I right? Yes, officer Sue Share.

Our two recruits who will be graduating on July 9th. I just talked to them as the meeting was started and they were excited they passed it. Was it the third? Yea, the third, third block test or whatever it's called. And I was like, well, that's good, we're moving on. So we'll see them after July 9th. But we have recruit Genevieve Estaglio, Recruit July Jimenez. So this started about three years ago, maybe a little bit longer. Sergeant Jakupi and I were actually at a IEP conference in San Diego, and we were walking by a booth in the expo, and it was the 30 by 30 booth. And they're like, hey, chief, we want to talk to you. You've heard of us? And I said, no, I've not heard of this 30 by 30. And so they started to talk to us and explain to it. And Sergeant Jacoby and I left, and as we're walking back to the hotel, we're like, we could do this. Like, we can we can make it happen.

So I wish he was here. He's watching Team Bosnia in the World Cup. And that's where he's where he's from. So how excited for him to be there. But he's truly been the architect behind what you see behind me. Literally little has to do with me other than maybe just kind of the start of the vision. So he really deserves a lot of credit. But again, we're not just chasing a number. Like, that's not the point of this. The point is to find people that can make a great impact on our community and that their high performing individuals and they meet our culture. And that's really what's important in our hiring process, is that we're finding people that can mesh into our culture and that

can have an impact on the community. So this is some of the impact that you'll see. So Detective Katie Hitz. She's a person's crime detective. We got her from Chicago PD. She's part of our peer support team. She's a PSPRS board member, and she has been acting sergeant, and she will be acting sergeant again as Sergeant Jacobi will be going to the National Academy. So she'll be in that role as acting sergeant for ten weeks.

We have Officer Deanna Rivas. She's a field training officer. And my philosophy on field training officers is you want to have them -- the People you select to be field training officers is because you want more of them. They're going to train people to be just like them. And so that's when I select people to be FTOs It's because I want more of them. They're just they're just great role model. So Deanna Rivas is a field training officer. She was also our SRO..

Officer Siaca Foley, she's a field training officer. She's also a drone operator. She's our flock admin. So for the entire police department, she's the kind of our go to person for when it comes to flock. She's part of the team. Detective Briana Rice, I think our tactical operations. I'm sorry about that. Yeah, a lot of acronyms, so yeah, ask away. So I think it was last week she was Officer Briana Rice, Now she's Detective Briana Rice. But she's also a field training officer. She was a cadet program advisor. She's our fleet coordinator, which is a thankless job. I'm sure at some point she's can't wait to get it handed off to someone else. She's also on TOE the team.

Officer Hannah Jeters again, old slide in the process for becoming a drone operator. But she passed the test, right? Yeah, she passed the test. And so she's good to go. But one thing that's about Officer Jeters that I want to let you guys know she was named exemplary recruit of her class.

And everybody here that's ever graduated from a police academy, that's the big one. That's the one you want to win. That is a an award that is done by a vote amongst your peers. So academy staff has no input on it. So her class voted her to be the exemplary recruit. And we're so very proud. Officer Kylie Arellano again, old slide. It says fourteen DUI arrests. I think if I went back and there might be two or three more now. But that's since August of 2025. So that's a that's a real stat. You know, we take DUI arrest very

seriously. It's hard to get police to do DUIs because of how much work has to go into there. It's very it's very technical. And so you'll see a lot of people shy away from it. So it's great to have someone that is just going to go and I guess track them down, make the arrest and you know, file the appropriate charges. So again, those numbers are when I wrote this slide. But I know they're big. They're much higher now.

We have two nonsworn leaders here. And the 30 by 30 initiative covers sworn. But I would feel bad if I left these next two out because they've been such a big change agent for our police department. And that's Amanda Howard and Lisa Gudino. Amanda Howard is our support services manager. She is in charge of our property and evidence our records. And she also has Lisa, who is our dispatch manager, reports to her. So she has she's our highest ranking civilian position.

She does a great job for us. I was, I think I was talking to Lieutenant Garrett back there, and there's just not a lot of things that Amanda is not involved in with our PD. But her and Lisa just did an absolute phenomenal job of turning around dispatch. It was -- the start was rough. You know, when you bring in somebody to make some changes, it wasn't always well received. But we're well, on our way. Word has gotten out that we're the, the type of organization that we are. And I think they had an interview with a lateral applicant who said the words out, like people want to come work at Tolleson and Tolleson dispatch. So that's a good thing. It used to not be like that. But those they were very, very instrumental in doing that.

So moving forward, TPD will continue building on success in hiring qualified women by placing a greater emphasis on creating advancement opportunities through mentoring, training and supervisory development experience. So again, we're not chasing a number like this is real. We really want to we want to not just hire women, but we want to make sure that they are promoting through our through our department. I know we have some sergeants that are coming on getting close to retirement. And there's, there's going to be some holes to fill. And I know that we'll have some that are ready to promote it in that moment. We haven't had a female police sergeant since 2011. That was my wife when she left to go to Peoria. So it's been a long time. So we really want

to make an effort to make that happen. It's super important to me. So this is a big one, also accreditation?

MEDRANO: Mayor council. I just want to make a special effort to acknowledge how big a damn deal the 30,30 is and how proud we are of all of you and the contributions you made to this organization. And I can I know I'm speaking on behalf of all of us that are the old guys. Now. This is a long day coming, and I'm very proud today, one of the best days of my life here. So congratulations to all of you.

MENDOZA: Thank you sir. The accreditation. Back in January, we signed into what's called the Arizona Law Enforcement Accreditation Program is actually on January 28th. There's good and bad to that. The good is we finally got in. The bad is we're now our two year clock started. So we have two years to become an accredited agency. We'll have to demonstrate that we are following best practices as established by at least 174 standards and 430 proofs of compliance. After becoming accredited, we'll have two years before we have to start the process over again. Reaccreditation. So what's a leap and what's accreditation? So accreditation, if I just can just say it's a way to have an outside organization come and take a look at us and make sure that we are operating under best practices.

A leap is Arizona specific. So you'll see like CALEA certification or accreditation, you'll see these other accreditations. These are outside agencies that are not specific to Arizona. They're more like national. And so ACOP, Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police, they decided that, hey, we needed to have our own accreditation here in Arizona. The numbers are growing. So we wanted to make sure that we're not left out. You know, we definitely did not want to -- we definitely didn't want to be the agency that the only agency in the West Valley or in the Valley at all that wasn't accredited. So we made the leap again. I'll go back to Amanda Howard. She's leading this effort as our accreditation manager. It's a lot of work. It's very, very tedious. As you can see, there's again, 174 standards and 430 proofs of compliance. So every standard, we have to show proof that we're meeting that standard. And that's taking a picture of a record, uploading a report, making sure that we're, you know, arrest procedures are correct. I

mean, everything has to be looked at. And then we'll have the outside agency actually come in and do an inspection. You guys will be part of that process. We'll let you know when that is happening. And then once we get accreditation, we'll be able to present it to you.

There are future accreditation opportunities. We want to get the big one out of the way, which is our which is our PD. But there's a communications and then there's also a property and evidence. There's also accredited chief executive. So and yeah, it's the Ace program. And there's also one for first line supervisors. So actually your position, you can get this accreditation for your position. You just have to meet some of there's some requirements that you have to go through and then fill out the application. And then you can you can be like, I can become an accredited chief. Chief Grow can be an accredited second in command. And then down the line.

I think this is the last slide. But I just wanted to let everybody, you know, know this is, you know, part of our mission statement is build strong relationships with the community. And it's always been something that the police department's been a part of since I've been here. There's always someone else driving it to have us do these things. But now we're starting to pick them back up. And I think we're doing, we're knocking it out of the park. The Tolleson Police Department toy drive. We had a goal of providing gifts for one hundred kids. We surpassed this goal by providing gifts for, 195, so almost doubled it. We tried. We tried to get it to 200, right? Yeah. We just weren't able to do it at the end.

Gifts that were distributed were received through the Steven Martin Toy Drive. That's no longer open. In fact, that was a big help. They were closing down and they said, hey, if you guys want, you can come pick up all of the toys. And we said, we'll be there. And actually, I think Detective Rice drove the truck down there, pulled the trailer and everything. Got it down there and picked up all the toys. We also did a shop with a cop program. TPD Christmas angel tree. It's a board that's actually in our hallway that has the kids names and what they're what they would like for December 25th. And then, you know, just our officers and our dispatchers, they all pitch in and they grab a name

off of there, and they. And they shop for them at out of their own pocket. And then we had substantial help from local Tolleson businesses. There's a number of them.

We also have our Special Olympics fundraising. So TPD hosted a tip cop event at Texas Roadhouse and collected over \$1,400 in donations. Again, we used to have a very, very strong special Olympic fundraising and torch run program. But fortunately, when my wife left in 2011, it kind of no one really, you know, no pun intended. Wanted to pick up the torch and run with it. But we were back in it, and I'm happy and our and our first one was very, very successful. And Texas Roadhouse was a great partner. In fact, they can't wait to do it again next year and be bigger and better.

And then city events. So I mean, everybody here goes to our city events. You'll always see us there. We're doing something, we're providing something. And it's important to us. And they and our and our officers come up like I, I think our traffic officers in Whoopee Daze, they wanted to do goggles that show you if you're intoxicated or not. Like, I know your limit. That was something they came to us like, hey, we would like to do, like a know your limit. And then we showed our drone program. And so you know, they're always coming up -- our officers are always coming up with things that that we can do in these events. And then I also wanted to introduce to you Lieutenant Lee Garrett. There's -- and back to homeless. There's Lieutenant Winks.

He's our outreach coordinator for -- he's at the lieutenant level. But Lieutenant Lee Garrett, he's very instrumental in the toy drive. And definitely he's the one that coordinates our city events for us. There's a lot of planning that takes place. He's going to those meetings that he's also working with officers to set up the booths. He's driving the command van and dropping it off in El Mirage for you know, for an event and then driving it back. So he does a lot of excellent work for us in that capacity. Mayor and council, so with that, I will stop talking and I'm open to any questions.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Council, is there any questions?

GAMEZ: Well done, you guys should be congratulated. Thank you so much. Thank you.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. Council member. Vice Mayor Davis?

DAVIS: Of course I have questions. So first of all, I just want to thank you all for the

work that you do in our community. It is amazing. You know, I, I grew up with my grandfather as a chief of police, and so I have the most respect for the badge because I literally. Literally, I was going to cry, literally almost cried when he handed me this a few minutes ago. So thank you very much for this very thoughtful gift. And I commend you and your leadership and pushing this this 30 by 30 initiative. It's amazing to see so many women working for our department. How many, how many sworn officers do we have in total?

MENDOZA: 39.

DAVIS: 39 Okay. And if we're at full capacity, what would that number be?

MENDOZA: It's 39. Yeah, 39 is our number. And currently we're at 38. So we have one vacancy right now.

DAVIS: Oh just one. Oh that's really --

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Includes the two young ladies going to the academy?

MENDOZA: Correct.

DAVIS: Okay. As so you know, the That the women initiative is great, and we want our police department to reflect the community that we represent. So what percentage of our police department would you say would identify as maybe as people of color?

MENDOZA: I don't know. I think. --

DAVIS: Sorry. That's a hard question.

MENDOZA: Yeah, yeah. You know what, I really haven't. Yeah, we can get back to you, but I mean. --

DAVIS: I think it's pretty high.

MENDOZA: I think it I think so too. Yeah, I honestly I do I, I think it is. Yeah.

DAVIS: Yeah I really do too, which is amazing. You know we want to actually right before I came here, I just spoke at a pride leadership event, you know, and it's really important for people to see themselves in, in the leadership around them. And that includes police and fire and on city council or whatever it may be when they come in the building. You know, I think it makes them at ease if they can see themselves and the People that are representing their community. So it's just it's something that I think it's

really important. I think it's something we do really well here in Tolleson, so I think it'd be something that's worth looking at and highlighting. Yeah. So that was that. The other question I had revolves around retention. So what efforts do we have underway to retain officers because it's pretty competitive out there. Right? We're a small agency. And if you know somebody wants to move up quicker or do something really specialized, they might want to move to a bigger agency. So what efforts do we have underway to try to keep people?

MENDOZA: So you know, I'm always working with the City management and specifically deputy city manager Jackson on these types of things and these types of issues. And so there's a variety of things I can tell you that we're not able -- or we don't typically, you know, back up the Brinks truck and throw cash at everybody. I know that's what everybody seems to be -- I think the way we've been retaining people is through our culture and how we treat people. It really is. I know we've brought people from other agencies in here and they will tell you if you ever, you know, have a chance to talk to some officers that have come from other agencies, they'll tell you they just get treated differently here. I think we're just kind of like a tight knit group of people culture that, you know, loves coming to work with each other and that usually keeps them here. As you know, formal things that we have like that are formal for retention purposes. Like, we just don't have them, like, we don't have a lot of opportunities for promotion. We are opening up different specialties, like starting up our, our, our tactical unit. And that's to also include fire with the tactical unit.

We're actually bringing medics on to the team. And so that helps with retention. So the more variety that we can give them. And that's I guess that's one of the directions that we're going is that we're trying to like just open up a like more variety and more jobs because that that's what officers, quite frankly, find exciting is to, you know, go help with search warrants. So yeah, other than that, we kind of work through retention and programs with city management.

DAVIS: Do we have?

MEDRANO: Can I augment that a bit if I could, because Chief Mendoza is too modest?

One of my favorite things I hear Rudy say, and I quote him often, you'll hear him say, I love cops. And that's a very concise statement, but no one embodies it like him and his leadership team. And frankly, all of them, you feel it when you go to that Department. They all care so much about each other, and they want each other to be successful. And it's easy to call it culture, but it all starts with you and council allowing, -- empowering us, empowering Rudy to show them how much we care about them. It's not just words. And we put our money where our mouth is in the form of our benefits. We had a firefighter that left a while back and called Chief Young and said, hey chief, I thought all benefits were the same for all firefighters because it's far more expensive where he went and in far less coverage.

So there are specific elements of our benefits package that will never diminish. And we've had providers ask us to diminish them and we say, no, it's only going to get richer and we take their overall well-being seriously. And Rudy lives that mantra. He loves cops, and I've seen him all his career since he was a dispatcher, and he's proven it time and again. But he'll never tell you that because he is who he is. But he lives that way, as does Jeff and everybody. I can name you guys all you know who I'm talking about. But that's important to reinforce that, to reinforce how much I value, how much they care about their people. We value how much they care about their people.

MENDOZA: But yeah. Just one second, Mayor and council just -- we can get better. I can get better. And finding different things to keep people here. You know, one of them was the take home vehicle program. Those things that you guys graciously approved unanimously. Those types of things. We're always looking for those chief Grow and I, you know, we do sit up there and we talk with Wendy, and we're trying to figure out ways that we can -- I tell people all the time, I wish I grew up in the Department now than the Department that I started in 2001. It's without a doubt. We just have a fantastic group of people that work here. I love coming to work every day, I really do. They're just -- it's unbelievable the work they the work that they do. I wish I could tie you into our ever telling you. You can just see what they do on a daily and a nightly basis. But yes, we do have some things that we're working on with city

management for retention. But yeah, it could get better for sure.

DAVIS: Do we have, like, a young, a young officer training program or something like, kind of similar to what fire does?

MENDOZA: Yeah. So that was the cadet. If you saw, like, the cadet Detective Rice's cadet advisor Lisa Gudino and Amanda Howard are also cadet advisors. So that's our cadet program. So that's our actual youth program. So they come in and they have, like, weekly trainings they do physical fitness, and then it's kind of trying to open up their eyes to law enforcement. So yes, we do have cadet program. They just had their -- when was your last? It was last month. So you know, they started back up in August and last month was their last meeting.

DAVIS: Just one more thing. Again, great job. You know, your entire department does an amazing job. I mean, I saw it firsthand when my dad was killed. And just the care that your department gave and how they handled that particular incident. You know, I will be eternally grateful to your department for that. So thank you for that. Publicly, I would like I'd like to -- I guess this is my first chance to do that. But on that note I will say, you know, being an officer is a thankless job in today's culture. Policing is usually you know -- there's a negative light that is shined on it very, so often I won't name the business, but I was in a local business this weekend, and they asked me how they should approach people who give them pushback about having the police, gosh, you know, the patches in their, in their establishment and you know, that some people just didn't feel comfortable with that.

And I said, invite them to talk to our officers, invite them to get to know our police department, because it is very different than anywhere else. And I'm not just saying that because it's Tolleson. It is very different. The culture, as you mentioned across our entire organization, is just so different than other places, right? This is not Phoenix. This is not the sheriff's department. This is Tolleson. And you're all proud of that. We're all proud of that. And I think it shows we take special care for our community. And we have that Tolleson love. Right. And it's I think in all of our officers and all of our departments. And it's just an amazing thing to see. And so again, I just want to thank

you all for the hard work that you do day in and day out. It's a thankless job. I know it's not pretty sometimes. Probably a lot of the time it's not pretty, but it's essential. It's essential to the safety and well-being of our community. So thank you, guys.

MENDOZA: Thank you.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Council member Erives?

ERIVES: Also, I just wanted to say thank you. When you say I can get better, that has that growth mindset that you're always trying to get better and that leadership filters down because we see what happens on a national level when the leadership is not thinking about. But your continuous growth, that mindset of trying to get better and your willingness to listen to every officer, every detective, every --so that what I heard three times were how you acknowledge different people for the different programs, for the different input, for their different ways that they bring their thoughts, their ideas. It sounds like if I was there, everyone's ideas are welcomed. Everyone, whether you're at the bottom or at the top, you're all trying to listen and how you can move your department forward. That's incredible.

So when you're saying retention, I think that type of work for me, especially as teachers who don't get a great salary. But we're part of that team that, you know, we feel heard, we feel our voice matters. We feel that our ideas are accepted. Oh my goodness. I'm so -- like you acknowledged everyone. Thank you, thank you. And then that teaches us about your programs and what we're offering our community and the diversity that we have. But I didn't hear anything about K-9.

MENDOZA: Mayor and council, so we retired our dog. I want to say, well, you we had it here when we retired him. So we're a young agency right now. And so that position requires a little bit of tenure because the decision making involved the high liability. It'll be back. It'll be back. I don't want to say it's going to be back this year. But you know, we have the youth movement that's behind me that you saw in there. There were a bunch of go getters. That's what we're looking for in that position. And so yeah, at some point we'll be bringing that program back.

ERIVES: Oh, excellent. What about your bicycle units?

MENDOZA: So our CAT team currently are who you'll typically see on bicycles. And so yeah we're putting those out in during events. They'll be using them for like, surveillance opportunities. Sergeant Coupe is one of our -- he's our sergeant in criminal investigations. And he also you'll see him from time to time being on a bike.

ERIVES: There to serve and protect our community. To me, that matters. So thank you. Thank you.

MENDOZA: And Mayor and council member Rodriguez I you know, I think I've learned a lot in leadership. But because I'm not the smart, I'm most definitely not the smartest person in this room. But thank God for audiobooks, right? They've kind of changed my life. But there is a book that had a significant impact on me. It's called It's Your Ship. If anybody in any leadership position should read that book first. And in there, it's your ship. It talked about how this the youngest person on this ship actually changed the entire Navy. And that's something that I tell people when they're walking in the door. And one of the first things they tell you is like, hey, just because you're here day one in uniform, that doesn't mean that you have to sit in the corner and be quiet and let everybody else make decisions. Like, everybody has an opportunity to make a difference here, make a change.

And it goes throughout our whole police department that has that feeling. So we're not bogged down by seniority. You'll see that in other agencies where they're like, hey, rookie, just sit in the corner and keep your mouth shut. Like, that's not how that's not what we do here. We want input from everybody. Everybody has something to contribute. And as far as all of those other jobs that you see that people are doing multiple jobs, they're doing multiple tasks. Mayor said earlier, we're pinched in between two big cities. Those are full service police departments. My vision of the police department is that if someone is crossing eighty-third Avenue from Phoenix into Tolleson, that they don't say, well, I'm in Tolleson. And so the services should be diminished because they're a small city. And so I'm expecting diminished services from them. No, I tell our people we're full service police department. The expectation doesn't change. We don't get any breaks. And so we, you know -- they, not me they do

the work. They fill these tasks, they make it all happen out there. And it really is like they're the most important. They definitely don't need a chief of police. I need patrol, right? I need them one hundred percent.

ERIVES: Thank you. Thank you again. And for the whole time, entire team. Thank you.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Absolutely. Chief, we got another one, a council -- woman, you have the floor.

CHAVIRA: Chief Mendoza, just thank you. You. You're a great leader, and you do a great job. And to all of your officers and staff. Thank you. I have the utmost respect for the work that you do. I've had always great interactions with all of you. And just thank you. And this is really a wonderful gift. And thank you for that, too.

MENDOZA: You're most welcome.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Chief. I'll keep it simple. A lot of times, you know, we talk about, from an organizational standpoint, you know, the mission of each department and what they're able to carry it out or not. And you talked a lot about culture, which I think is very important. You're growing your own and they're proud to be a part of that family. You know, and police in many ways are a very tight knit family. But from an outsider's perspective, I think a lot of times, you know, I put my finger in the air when it comes to reputation. And you know, I was on council at times where I would get phone calls and it's like it wasn't good. You know, let's be honest. I mean, Vice mayor alluded to it. When you guys get a phone call, eight times out of ten, it's not for the right reason. It's something's going on, and we need some assistance kind of deal.

And you know, I would I would get phone calls. Hey, man. The police officer this and that, and I would call you, say, hey, chief you know, so we have a complaint. Well, I'll go back and look at the video and then we'll make some decisions from there. If we need some more training, we'll do training. If my officer was in the right, then he was in. He or she was in the right. We'll talk about that as well. But I got to tell you most recently I've been out there, you know, again, trying to get a feel for where we're at. And the reputation of our Tolleson Police Department is one that is, I think is really embedded in professionalism and care. You know, I honestly think that some of the interactions that

our residents have had with police officers, they were very surprised of how much our police officers care. Ans almost to, to a level of, of love. You know, I mean, we have we have folks that work in schools, we have works that work in the community. And so the reputation is beyond positive. I mean, it is it is celebrated. You know, we have a really good PD and I got to tell you, stuff like that doesn't happen by accident. It happens by design with intention.

So thank you and the rest of our police department. Everybody here welcome. You guys do great work. And thank you for what you do day in and day out. It's not just because you're in front of us today, but it's about what you do the rest of the year when you're not in here. You know, that's really what matters. And so thank you on behalf of the council, behalf of staff. And we'll continue to do whatever we can to support you. But ultimately you guys got a great team, so develop it and continue to grow it. Yes. Deputy City Manager Jackson.

JACKSON: Mr. Mayor and vice mayor to answer your question we have 46 percent Hispanic or Latino, 41 percent white, 8 percent black, 3 percent Asian and 3 percent undisclosed. It sort of gives you a little idea of the of the diversity we have.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you Wendy. That was a quick a quick response. And I'm one hundred percent certified that you will be certified in the ALAPA shortly. If once you guys set a goal you guys are going to achieve it. So best of luck to you. Chief, anything else you'd like to add?

MENDOZA: No. Mayor, Council. Thank you. And thank you for giving me some time and again, I hope to be back here next year and showcasing a different side of the police department and maybe, you know, areas that we grow from what I showed you in the current slides, you know, if something is just really, really improving, I'll bring that forward to you. I do want to mention that you guys get our monthly report now in your packet. I hope you find that information useful. I hope you're able to use those things to answer questions. I know we get a lot of questions like, how come nobody's doing traffic enforcement on 91st Avenue? You know, I know you guys have to fill those for me, and I appreciate that. But you guys actually can use those numbers at any point to

like, you know, let people know what we're doing. So and again, Chief Grow I asked him to do this. He and he just absolutely knocks it out of the park every month. I'm just blown away by what he puts in that packet. And if there's something else that you guys want to see in there statistic wise, just let me know. And if we can make it happen, we'll get it added in. So but that with that, that's it.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Chief, I love the numbers. The numbers tell the story, and that's amazing. I mean, obviously the stories that you shared with us tell, tell the story of the People, but the accomplishments with those numbers are amazing. So please keep that up. Thank you very much.

MENDOZA: Thank you.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: All right. We're going to move on to K. K is going to be mayor and city manager report of current events for discussion. I have number one I do have something to add, but I'm going to turn it over to Parks and Rec Director Randy Babchuk for community and event updates.

BABCHUK: Thank you, Mayor and members of the council. I'm proud to announce our Independence Day celebration Friday, July 3rd. We'll be at Veterans Park. We'll have Back Door funk performing at the celebration. Our fireworks will start at approximately 9 p.m. and will be shot off from the pit. We'll be giving out free water, Gatorade and watermelon. We are looking for some volunteers, so if you guys are interested, we'll be having two separate stations for that, just to alleviate some of that congestion on that west side of the park. So also working on our backpack drive for the end of July for back to school, as well as our third Fridays will start coming up in September. And then loses will follow that. So we started working on that as well.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: So wonderful news. A lot of great stuff to come for our community. So I look forward to that. And again it's for the community. Some events actually are more regional in nature. People come from other cities to come celebrate, for example, the July 4th with us. And we're glad to have them. Everybody gets a slice of nice cold watermelon, and I get a stomach ache because I just I can't ignore them all. Some of them are just too good. So I cut a piece off, and then I eat it, I don't eat it and

then give it to somebody. Just to clarify, but it's really good. I did have something to add, though, and this is kind of it goes back to a meeting that we had a couple of weeks ago. And I promise I'm not going to get too much off subject.

Here in Tolleson, we kind of moved away back in the day. We used to have marshals for our parades, and we moved away from that. And I think we have a young lady in our community that deserves recognition. The young lady, her name is Viviana Martinez. She played softball. She went to Tolleson High school. She played softball. She was a starting shortstop back in 2001/2002 those years. And the girl is -- to say she's awesome is an understatement, she's so good she got a scholarship offer, unofficially, this is being recorded as a seventh grader to the University of Oregon. Okay. And then that coach moved to the University of Texas in Austin and told her, hey, if you're interested, we'd like to have you in Texas.

And she goes, sure. So she actually went to the University of Texas, where she played, last year she was hurt so she didn't take the field that much. She started, I think, in the beginning of the season she got hurt. But through her physical therapy and all that the University of Texas Longhorns actually won the NCAA national championship. And then this year, she was better for it. Her injury got fixed up, and she was able to take the field. And again, they repeated their national championship for the second time.

Viviana being the starting shortstop for the University of Texas Longhorns. And you know, Reyes, reminded me when you're looking at the game and they're playing at the national level, and now up to bat number -- I think her number is twenty three. Viviana Martinez, in the bottom, it says from Tolleson Arizona.

You know, and her mom, Sabrina grew up down the street from me. I live on 95th and Pierce. And they're right around the corner there next to a -- if you guys know where Nikki Farr, Kathie Farr across the street from their house. Yeah. You guys know Casey Jones?

ALL: Yeah.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Okay. That that's her uncle. So here's my thought, and I should tell you, I'm wrapping it up into the young lady that we had here that came and talked

to us about young women's high school sports not being recognized and celebrated as much. I thought, what a good opportunity for us to recognize Viviana for her accomplishments by dedicating a day in Tolleson as Viviana Martinez Celebration Day. And of course, we would invite the young ladies that came to present to ask us to acknowledge more of the female athletes in our community. It would basically be a, I don't want to call it a two for one, because I think they're both -- they're both important independently.

But it would be a good way for us to show that we, in fact, are celebrating it and inviting her here with their family and recognizing her as a community for doing great things in her life and moving on. And you know, whatever her next chapter is. I mean, this chapter is really, really big. There's not too many women that can say that they're national champions at the NCAA level. She's done it twice and she's from here in our hometown. And I just -- before we move forward with this, I wanted to ask council if that would be something that you all would be okay with or interested in?

ERIVES: Great.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

DAVIS: You know, it's kind of funny because today is the anniversary of Title Nine. So kind of goes with that. So that's kind of cool. I think that'd be amazing to be able to honor somebody who's a result of that.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Yeah. Thank you. That's awesome. Anybody else? Yes?

ERIVES: That would be fantastic because not everyone knows the stories. And I think back when I, I think of the stories of Tolleson and the stories of people. I have no idea when you're talking about bass or softball. Right. So I don't know that when you say she won this. I don't know what that means, but teach me about it, right? Show me about this. And so if we highlight her story that teaches others that might not know about this, or inspire younger or younger generations, that, hey, I want to play like that, that sounds cool. How can I do that? I think that's fantastic. A fantastic way to marry those two we had -- we had those young ladies come in who requested. And then we had this way of marrying the two together and learning each other's stories. I think, oh,

I love it.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: And to bring in their family and they are going, I think this is what you're raising your hand for. But she did volunteer to do a I think it's a defensive camp for here in Tolleson. So the little girls can sign up and actually be a part of her camp, and they get to go out there and learn how to be a good shortstop or infielder from a starting shortstop at national level. So the fact that she's volunteering, I would just love the room to be filled with softball players, her parents, the young ladies that came to us, that one, that one evening and in a sense celebrate women's sports in Tolleson.

CHAVIRA: So the bigger picture, as we're moving towards our hundredth anniversary, we've talked about how important it is to tell our own story, and this is part of that. I think, that we should take the time to showcase, however, if it's quarterly or whatever, but to showcase someone in our community that's doing an outstanding job in some way in sports or other things, and that we tell our own story, I think it's important.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, maybe we'll get some media out of it. Yeah. And Reyes -- sorry.

ERIVES: I don't know. And it wasn't like something with Locha Parker.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Yeah.

ERIVES: So there's some history in, like, a great story to go there.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Yeah, but we have to celebrate. We have stories to -- so that we have future stories, and we got to talk about it.

ERIVES: Yes.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Yes. Randy, you had your hand up. Sorry.

BABCHUK: Thank you. Mayor and members of the council. We did follow up with those two individuals a couple weeks ago. One of them, we gave the information to get on with the parade and everything else for their homecoming. And then the other one's getting us information about the women's sports, and another event that they wanted to do. So we are working with them closely right now. We're just waiting for a couple emails from the school and them, so. And we can work that into that as well.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: Yes. So I think it's a great initiative. I'm glad to hear you guys are

in support of it. I did get Pilar and Reyes, her mom's cell number so that they can coordinate what they would be best agendize it and all that other fun stuff. But before we went there, I wanted to get a feel for the waters, to see if it's something you guys were interested in. And also an invitation. I mean, Viviana has done an amazing job, but that doesn't mean that they're not other Viviana's out there, that maybe through academics or through other sports or you fill in the blank, we can also motor down the road. So it's an opportunity, I mean, for us to celebrate by way of dedicating a day after very, very high performing people in our community. So does that make sense? Okay. Randy, do you have anything else to add?

BABCHUK: That's it, Mayor. Thank you.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: All right. Well, we're going to move on to the fun part of the evening. Now is the time for council to convene into executive session. We are asking members of the public and those that are not involved in this executive session to please exit the meeting at this time. The only action item that's going to happen after the executive session will be to adjourn the public meeting. So do we have a motion to go into executive session? We have a motion by vice mayor. We had a second by council member Gamez. All those in favor, please signify by saying aye.

ALL: Aye.

MAYOR RODRIGUEZ: All right. All those opposed? None. We are now in executive session.

APPROVED:

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JUAN F. RODRIGUEZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CITLALY SALAS, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

CERTIFICATION

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING MINUTES ARE A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOLLESON, ARIZONA, HELD ON JUNE 23, 2026. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE MEETING WAS DULY CALLED AND HELD, AND THAT A QUORUM WAS PRESENT.

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CITLALY SALAS, DEPUTY CITY CLERK