

# Palo Verde Park Post

July 2022

## Gloves? Enthusiasm? (Maybe a wheelbarrow?) Mulch with Us!

Mulching landscapes matters.

And it matters even more over the extreme heat of the summer.

Not only does adding mulch help keep soil moist by slowing evaporation, but importantly, it improves the quality of the soil, adding key nutrients as it decomposes.

Tucson Clean and Beautiful will be providing free mulch to help support the trees in the water harvesting project around the perimeter of the park.

If you have a wheelbarrow, we'd love your help!

**We'll be spreading mulch on July 9 from 7 a.m. - 9 a.m.**

See you then!



# TPD Shares Crime Trends with Neighborhood Groups



The Tucson Police Department is employing new strategies as it deals with ongoing staffing shortages and an uptick in crime, as well as associated complex social issues such as increased homelessness and drug abuse.

The department's challenges were shared in two June meetings, the first hosted by the Ward 2 Council Office for East Side neighborhoods, as well as at a Palo Verde Park neighborhood meeting.

There are 66 police officers assigned to the East Division, which encompasses 150 square miles. That means officers have to triage and prioritize violent and dangerous crimes, and may have less capacity to respond to property crimes.

Sgt. Gary Parrish said that shouldn't discourage residents from calling 911. "I'm not clairvoyant. I can't tell where the crime is unless you tell me, and that's how we can look for hot spots when we're deploying resources."

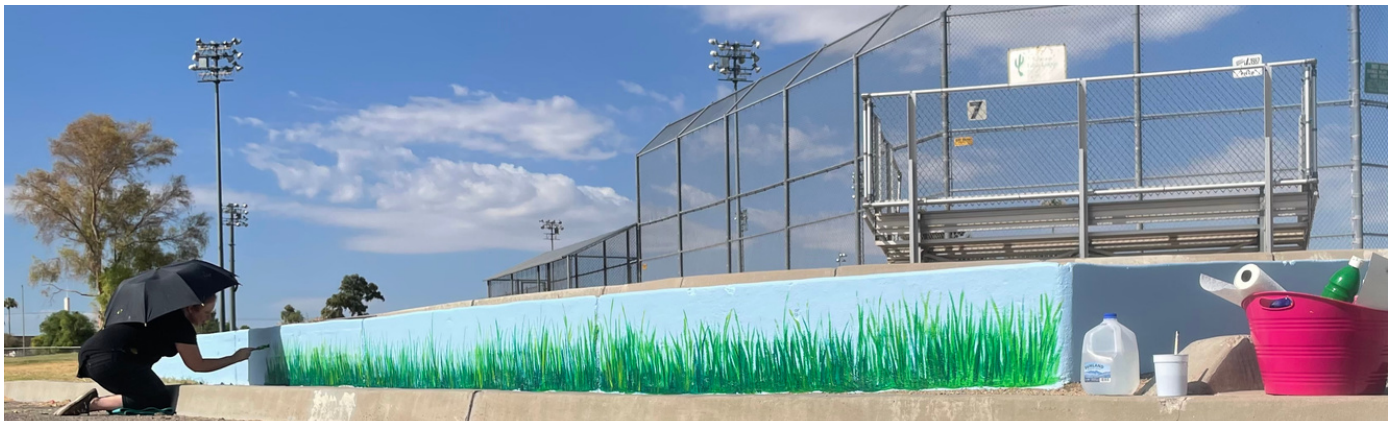
While there were 1,352 calls to police from the Palo Verde Park Neighborhood, the majority of those calls were associated with the major arterials bordering the neighborhood. After subtracting those, there were 81 calls during that time. "You're doing fine inside the square," he said.

Still, he said, make sure you know your neighbors, lock your doors and consider a Neighborhood Watch.

# Successful Bake Sale Makes Way for New Mural



Thank you to all the bakers and to all the nibblers who helped us reach our goal to fund our new mural. Neighborhood muralist and artist Angela Pittenger will be brightening up the northeast corner of the park by the softball fields with the approved design below. Cheer her on if you see her out there bringing more cheer to the park.





# Mark Your August Calendars for Meeting with Parks & Rec

Join representatives from the city's Parks and Recreation Department for an update on capital projects coming soon, including the basketball court expansion and cover, pickleball court conversion and field lighting.

The one-hour meeting will take place **Aug. 2 at 6 p.m.** at the Fountain of Life Church, 710 S. Kolb Road.

Bring your questions and observations!

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## City Establishes Phone Line for Homeless Resources



A new resource telephone line , staffed 24/7, will provide City residents information on available services and shelter.

The resource line is useful for those experiencing or at risk of homelessness to get connected to resources for medical, mental health, meals, outreach, and other resources offered in our community.

**520-791-2540**