



PAYSONAZ.GOV



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

MARCH 22, 2023

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MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER



This document is developed and provided to help inform residents about what is happening with Town operations, services and programs; to answer frequently asked questions; and to encourage citizen participation in our local government. We aim to provide high quality programs and services to our residents in an effort to create a high quality of life. We welcome public comment and participation in the governance of our town. Residents are encouraged to join a council appointed board, commission or committee, speak at a council meeting during the public comment period, or fill out an online comment form. Town staff and I are honored to serve the residents of our town; we are committed to excellence and welcome you all to join us in the spirit of service.

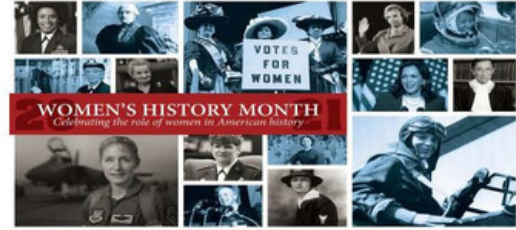
-Troy Smith, Town Manager

PAYSON LIBRARY

Payson Public Library

328 N McLane Rd, Payson, AZ 85541; 928-474-9260
www.paysonaz.gov/departments/library

March 2023



Sun day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am 	2 Line Dancing at the Library! 1:30 – 3:30 pm	3 Discover Women's History! Let's Celebrate Women Achievements! 1:00 pm Learn to Crochet Entire Family Welcome! Sign-up 1:30 pm 	4 Solar Science – Build Solar Oven to Cook S'Mores & EAT! 12:00 Noon
5		6	7	8	9	10
	Sit & Stitch 1:30 pm	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am 	Line Dancing at the Library! 1:30 – 3:30 pm	Make Rex Lace/Boondoggle Key chain- Appreciate Mom or the Woman in your life! 1:00 Learn to Crochet 1:30 pm 	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Sit & Stitch 2:30 pm 	 Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am	Rim Country Readers Book Club 10:00 am Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am	Line Dancing at the Library! 1:30 – 3:30 pm	St. Patrick's Day - make Green Jello Parfait for Dessert! 1:00 pm Sign-up Required Learn to Crochet 1:30 pm 	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Library Friends of Payson Meeting- Local Community risk Reduction Program 10:00 am Sit & Stitch 1:30 pm	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am	Line Dancing at the Library! 1:30 – 3:30 pm	Learn Origami 1:00 pm Sign-up Required Learn to Crochet 1:30 pm 	
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	Sit & Stitch 1:30 pm	Storytime with Toddlers 10:30 am	Storytime with Babies 10:30 am Practice Spanish 11:30 am	Line Dancing at the Library! 1:30 – 3:30 pm	Reader's Theater! Let's Make Reading an Adventure! 1:00 Learn to Crochet 1:30 pm 	

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

On March 9th, 2023, the Town of Payson and the National Forest Service jointly hosted a public meeting for the purposes of gaining public comment on the Boulders Trail and the Payson Area Trails System. The meeting was held as an open house, with approximately 150 people in attendance. The meeting was a great success, residents and trail users provided a lot of comments that will help shape the renewed effort to make improvements.



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Parks and Recreation held training for Sports Officials at Rumsey Park. Eleven staff members attended the training in preparation for the upcoming 2023 Spring Soccer season. The first day of games will be Saturday, March 25th at Rumsey Park. The league received a total of 397 participants and there will be 25 teams spanning from PreK-6th grade.



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



NIRA COLLEGE RODEO

FRIDAY, MARCH 31ST @ 6PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 1ST

SLACK @ 10 AM
PERFORMANCE @ 6PM

\$15 PER PERSON | 5 AND UNDER ARE FREE

@ Payson Event Center



THANK YOU TO OUR TITLE SPONSOR FOR
SUPPORTING OUR EVENT.

WWW.PAYSONRIMCOUNTRY.COM/NIRA

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Parks and Recreation is gearing up to host the upcoming 2023 NIRA College Rodeo at the Payson Multi-Event Center on March 31st and April 1st. We would like to thank Payson Concrete for being our Title Sponsor!

Enjoy bareback riding, barrel racing, breakaway roping, bull riding, goat tying, saddle bronc riding, steer wrestling, team roping, and tie down roping. Come join us for a weekend of excitement watching these college athletes compete for their chance to win. Food and ware vendors will be onsite.

Event is open to the public and tickets can be purchased online or onsite. Will call will be available for pre-purchased tickets.

Admission: \$15 per adult, \$5 ages 3-12, 2 and under free. Gates will open at 5:30pm.

<https://paysonrimcountry.com/nira/>

WATER DEPARTMENT

The Town of Payson Water Department is preparing for the upcoming running season for the C.C. Cragin Reservoir. We have just completed the first installation of 3 new Automatic Flushing Valves (AFV), which will enable the Water Department to automatically flush watermains within large sections of Town during the middle of the night. This is beneficial because it will allow for system flushing while customer demands are low and will minimize the effect on customers. In essence, the flushing will be done while we sleep, and we will wake up to fresh clean water in the morning. The picture below shows the newly constructed valve and dispersion tower in action.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Community News:

The Citizen's Academy has just started in conjunction with the Gila County Sheriff's Office. Our Volunteers in Policing have also begun their yearly training with Traffic Control. The first training was conducted in the intersection of Forest and Beeline, just as the rain began. Our volunteers continued even through the light rain, showing their dedication.

Dispatch and Patrol will be attending a Career Fair on March 15, 2023, at the Community College. Speaking of recruits, our two police officer recruits are doing well in the academy and are currently over halfway through the academy.

The Bicycle Safety Event is scheduled for April 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Julia Randall Elementary School. During this event, we will kick off our new bike registration program complete with bicycle registration sticker. It is important to register a bike because if it gets stolen or found somewhere it is easier for the Police Department to find the owner. Each year the Police Department recovers a lot of bicycles and have no way of locating the owner. By registering the bike we can return it quickly to its owner.



PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

Upcoming Development

New development includes two hotels and twelve subdivisions. The subdivisions are in different phases of development. Subdivisions have to go through a pre-plat inspection, final plat, rezoning and General Plan amendment. There is a potential for around 1100 lots. The majority of homes are single-family and attached (two-unit) homes. One subdivision has proposed multi-family apartment type housing.

CONCEPTUAL BUILD-TO-RENT ELEVATIONS - PARCELS B & C



PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

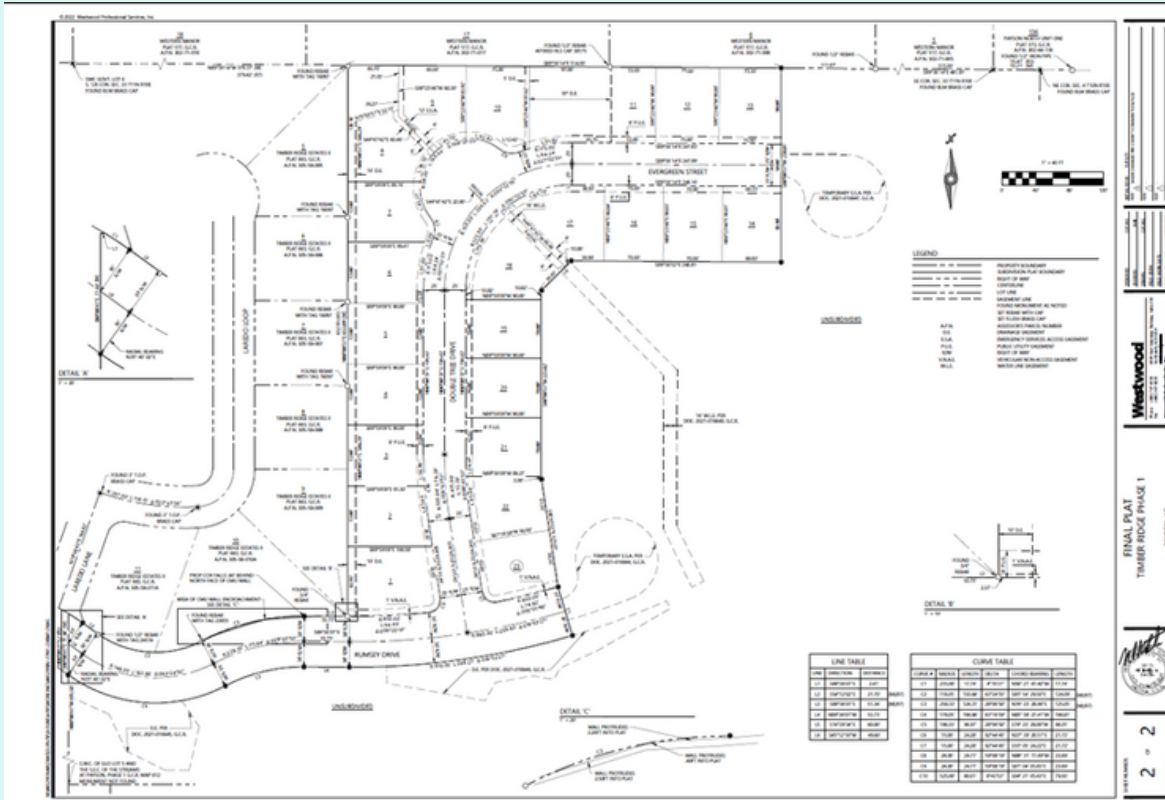


Bison Cove Condos

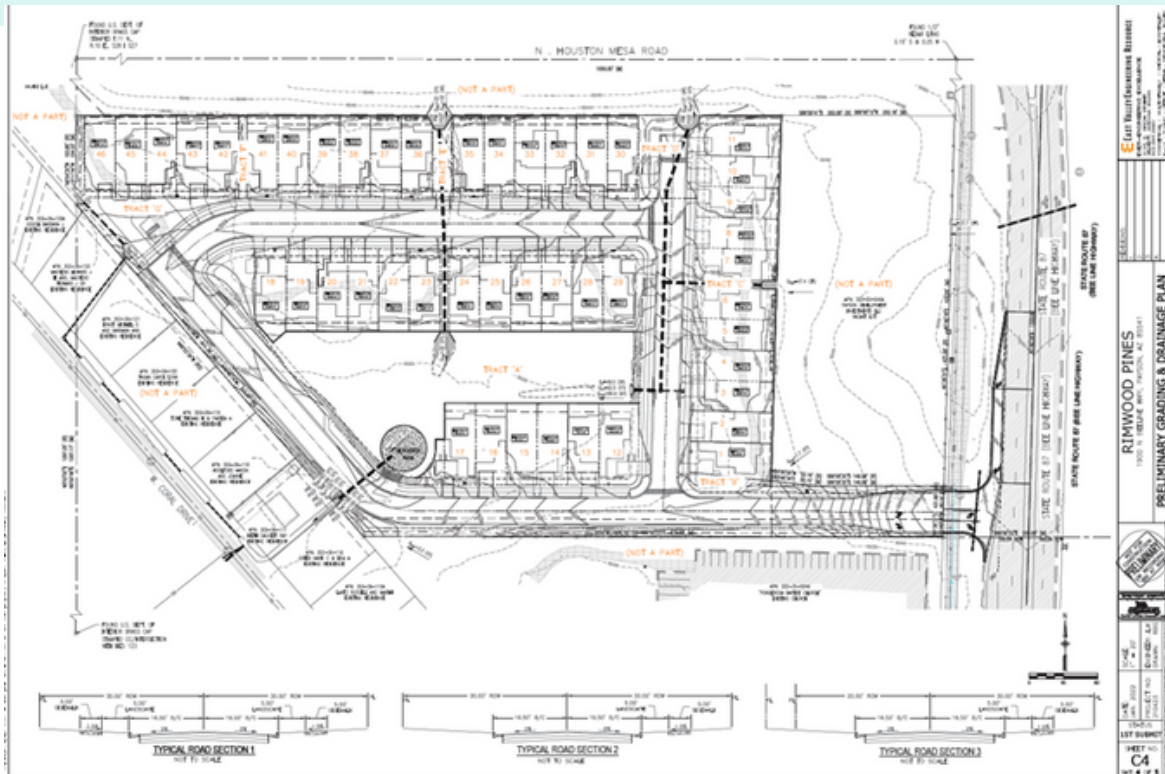


Green Valley Vista

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT



Timber Ridge



Rimwood Pines

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

Upcoming Items

Other upcoming items include the General plan update. The Town's plan is required to be updated every ten years. It will go to the voters in 2024.

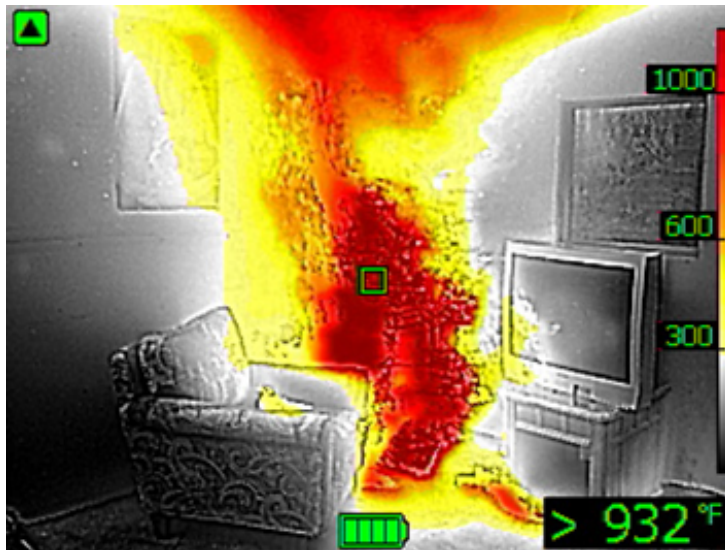
The Unified Development Code (UDC) is getting an update to the existing development code to satisfy the current needs of the community. It includes the goals of the General Plan and reflects 21st Century planning trends. The UDC was adopted by the Town in 1996.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

\$45,000 AFG Grant

Payson Fire Department is the proud recipient of \$45,000 from the FEMA funded Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). This Nation-wide competitive grant process helps fire departments across the Country with staffing and equipment. For Payson Fire Department, the grant will fund new thermal imaging cameras (TIC). TIC's are an amazing advancement in firefighting technology. Although they have been around for several years, the AFG funding will allow us to upgrade to the newest generation of camera technology. Inside a burning structure the visibility is almost zero – sometimes it is zero. TIC's allow the firefighters to see heat images which could be the seat of the fire, another firefighter or even a victim.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Rumsey Park Fuel Mitigation Project

Bids have been accepted for the Rumsey Park fuel mitigation project. The winning bid is \$31,235 from Total Maintenance Erosion Control. Approximately 7 acres of Town property between the “new ball fields” and homes off of North Heritage Lane and West Country Lane will be thinned to provide safety from wildfire and promote a healthier, more resilient landscape in the park. A 60-foot wide “shaded fuel break” will also be created along the west and north property lines of the park.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Critical calls for service

A March 14th structure fire was quickly extinguished and confined to one room thanks to the efficient response of the three Payson Fire Department engines and the assistance of Hellsgate Fire District. Payson Police were able to assist the mobility challenged resident to safety where the resident was assessed for injuries.



Engine 11 B shift also responded to a vehicle accident approximately the 240 mile mark on highway 87. The challenging rescue involved extricating a seriously injured patient from the vehicle which was penetrated by the guard rail. The patient was extricated successfully, and Banner 2 (helicopter) flew the patient to a trauma center in the valley.

STREET DEPARTMENT

Mogollon Rim Driving Conditions

Motorists who are traveling throughout the major roadways of the Mogollon Rim and the higher elevations of Gila County may notice more challenging road conditions in some areas throughout the region. In addition to the amount of moisture we've received in the last few months, this is due to a higher frequency of freeze thaw patterns for the 22'-23' winter season and a side effect of standard road clearing and snow removal operations conducted by State, County, and local Towns. These weather patterns also disrupted routine maintenance that is expected to resume in the coming weeks and months. As a reminder, Beeline (HWY 87) and HWY 260 are the responsibility of the State of Arizona. Your patience, caution and safe driving are appreciated by all agencies as we all work to keep roads safe and drivable throughout Rim Country.

ADOT Home | ADOT (azdot.gov)

Gila County Welcome to Gila County Arizona (gilacountyaz.gov)

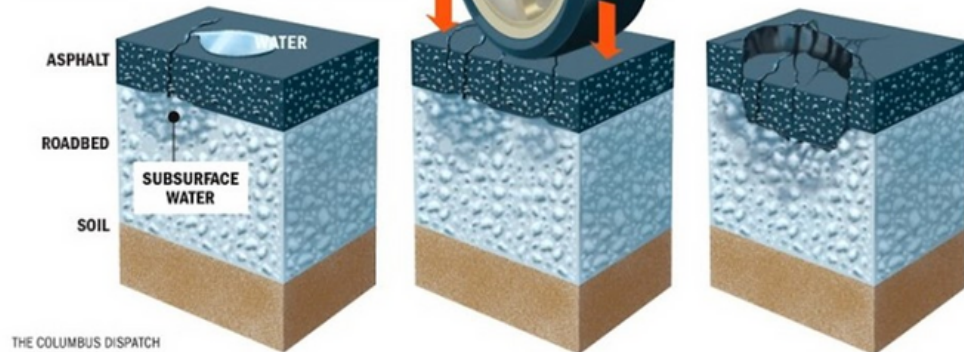
Town of Payson E-Gov Services Town of Payson (egovlink.com)

How potholes form

1 Rainwater seeps into cracks caused by heavy traffic. Low temperatures make the water freeze, expanding and deepening the cracks, and creating more fissures. The water also seeps into the rock, gravel and sand that make up the roadbed, softening it.

2 Passing vehicles create more cracks. Rain and melted snow continue to seep into the cracks. When it freezes and expands, the subsurface water lifts and weakens the road; when it melts and contracts, it leaves a cavity.

3 The roadbed continues to soften and erode, weakening the base support. Small chunks of the road break off, and more small cracks appear. Eventually, with the continued passage of vehicles, the surface breaks apart and is pushed down into the soft roadbed. The pothole is formed.



THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

End of Report
Next Report: April 12, 2023

