



***Town Manager's  
Report***

**June 2023**



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## New Employees Spotlight

**NEW EMPLOYEE**



Marco Guerrero  
Police Officer  
Started June 13, 2023

## Employee 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> & 20+ Service Milestones Recognitions



**10th Year Anniversary**  
Cosme Saenz  
Senior Maintenance Worker  
Hire Date June 17, 2013



**15th Year Anniversary**  
Anna Casadei  
Planning & Building Director  
Hire Date June 2, 2008



## Employee Recognition



**EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT:** Beth Abramovitz, Assistant Town Manager



The **Arizona Chapter of APWA** has awarded Beth Abramovitz as this year’s recipient of the **2023 Professional Manager of the Year-ROW Management Award**. Beth will be recognized at the APWA Annual Statewide Conference in Oro Valley on July 27, 2023. Beth’s nomination has also been forwarded to the APWA National for the National Award. Congratulations Beth!



## Department Highlights

### Police Department

On May 9, 2023, several SPD officers and the Green Valley Fire Department performed a drive-by in honor of longtime **Volunteer in Police Service (VIPS)** member Norma Jordan. In October 2006, Norma joined the SPD VIPS and has since become an integral part of the SPD. Norma has performed a variety of tasks, including shredding, phone answering, front desk receptionist work, and document entry, to name a few. In total, Norma has volunteered over 15,000 hours in total!





The next signature event coming up is **Sahuarita Stars & Stripes** on July 4th, 2023. The Town's biggest event is almost ready to begin, and the final touches are being added now. On Tuesday, July 4th, from 5pm to 9pm, the event will take place at Town Hall. The Parks Department is currently finalizing agreements with FMI and fireworks suppliers in order to use Parcel 30 as a launch site. Registration for the Rolling Thunder Parade & Car Show is still open, but the food truck and vendor lists are currently full with a waiting list.

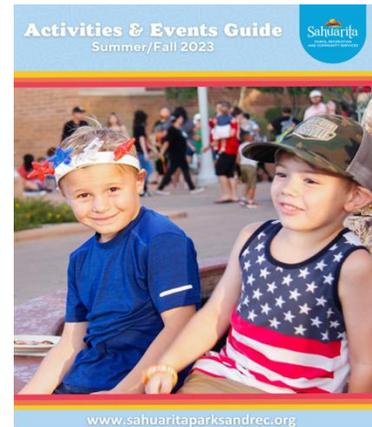
Planning has begun for five new events we are adding in FY24: Puppy Yoga, a fishing derby in partnership with Arizona Game and Fish, a build-your-own-boat obstacle course at Sahuarita Lake Park, a Veteran's Day event at Quail Creek Veteran's Municipal Park, and a Turkey Trot! We are excited to bring new community events to the Town!

# UPCOMING EVENTS



**Camp Sahuarita** at Anamax is from 8am to 4pm, Monday through Friday, June 5th through July 28th. Week One was a successful start to the summer with field trips to the movie theater and the pool.

Our team has been hard at work preparing our **Summer Program Guide**, which is out now. To view a digital copy, visit the homepage of our website: [SahuaritaParksandRec.org](http://SahuaritaParksandRec.org)



In a new venture together, PRCS and KGVY will

ensure that each Community Quarterly Production includes a spotlight piece on PRCS. The first of these pieces will be released in a month's time.

In addition to collaborating on the Dog Park PSA video collection and the unveiling of the Quail Creek Veterans Municipal Park art installation, PRCS is also helping out with



Economic Development on a number of other projects.



We're crossing our fingers that the new Parks Maintenance Modular Office Building will be finished this month and get approved by the State ADOA.

The Anamax Splash Pad project, overseen by Psomas, is expected to have a finalized site plan and a tentative groundbreaking date in FY24.



The Twin Buttes site plan proposal from Psomas is also expected to be finished this month. As we move forward with building the new trails park, we will have a plan to follow as well as some potential design and pricing options to consider.

PRCS is currently advertising to hire two Part-Time Recreation Generalist positions. The Parks Division conducted interviews on June 2nd for two Parks Maintenance Workers. One position will be to backfill an internal loss, and the other will be tentatively hired for a July 1 start date.

### Public Works Department



The Arizona Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) has selected the **Quail Crossing Boulevard Extension** as the recipient of the **2023 Project of the Year: Small Cities/Rural Communities-Transportation**. The project was voted on by members of APWA. congratulations!

### Planning & Building Department



Planning & Building wishes Sahuarita a safe and happy 4th of July! As you prepare for your celebrations, please consider the following fireworks safety tips:

- When choosing a site to light fireworks, choose a site that is clear of debris, hard, flat, and fireproof.
- Do not use fireworks near buildings, gas tanks (including your grill propane tank), powerlines, or areas where fireworks are prohibited.
- Create distance between your arm and the fuse by using a utility lighter instead of a small lighter or match.
- Supervise children around fireworks. Sparklers can reach temperatures of 2,000 degrees and are responsible for 25% of emergency room fireworks injuries. Children under 5 years old makeup half of this number.
- Keep your pets safely away from fireworks. Pets may be burnt or may be scared and get lost.



The Building Safety Division issued 26 single-family residential permits in May, bringing the total for the fiscal year to 272.

## Economic Development & Public Affairs Department

# TIP STRATEGIES

The ED team with **TIP Strategies** conducted small group discussions and 1:1 meetings with industry representatives, business, and Town Council leadership. Over 12 meetings with 25 individuals participated in providing input to the Town’s **Economic Development Master Plan** process. This plan will provide a blueprint to guide Sahuarita’s leadership in continuing to build a vital economy for our community. The ED Master Plan will be completed at the end of 2023.

The ED team along with Mayor Murphy and Shane Dille visited the **San Xavier Underground Mining Laboratory**. Located 9 miles west of the Town, the Henry G. “Hank” Grundstedt San Xavier Mining Laboratory has one of the nation’s most sophisticated research hoisting systems, two declines for access of rubber-tired vehicles and legacy rail haulage access. The mine features four



levels of underground workings to a depth of 250 feet. This unique site has attracted projects critical to national defense, geosciences, mine safety and miner rescue. This underground lab is central to the university’s multidisciplinary Mine Health and Safety program.



the program, why the Town of Sahuarita supports local businesses, and the program’s success to date. The webinar can be accessed [HERE](#). SCORE is a national network of retired executives that provides mentoring and training to small businesses. SCORE is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The **Grow In Sahuarita** program was featured by SCORE in the month of June. The SCORE webinar provided an opportunity to staff to highlight

**GROW IN SAHUARITA**

We serve entrepreneurs like yourself in the following business stages:

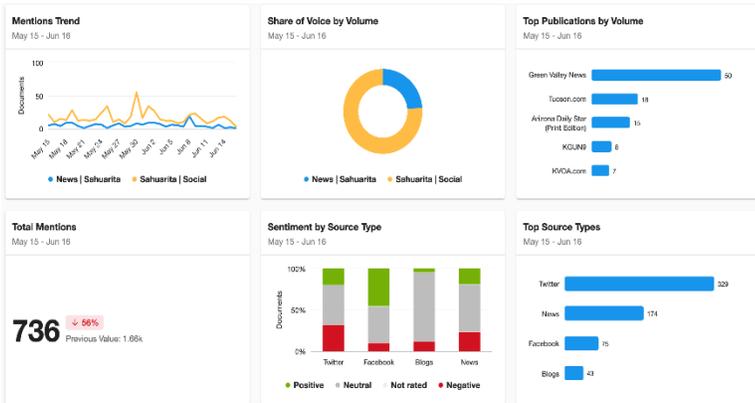
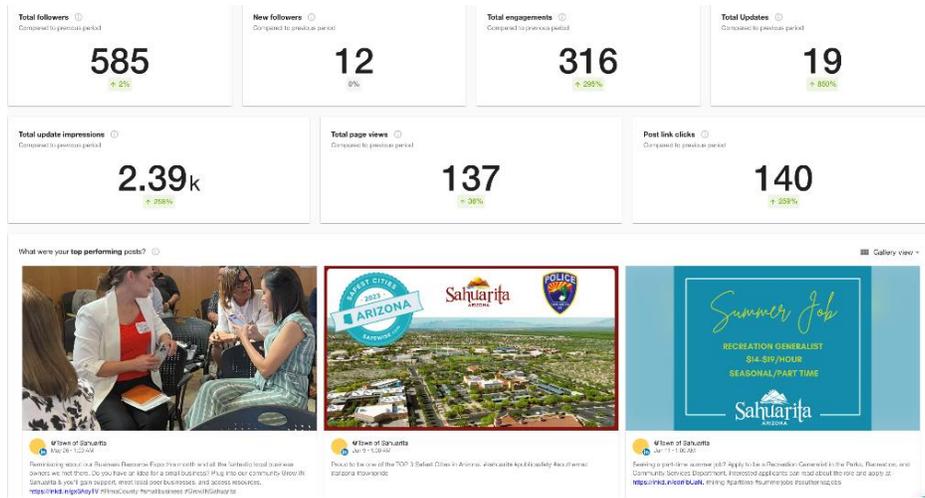
- Ideation**  
An individual has an idea for a business but needs help to determine if the idea can become a sustainable business.
- Incubation**  
The individual feels confident enough to take the "idea" and turn it into an early phase start-up business.
- Acceleration**  
The business has survived beyond start-up and wants to take the necessary steps to position itself for long-term sustainable growth.
- Transition**  
The business has matured to the point where the owner needs to plan how to successfully exit the business to keep the business, or legacy, alive.

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Since Public Affairs took over the management of the TOS LinkedIn page in April, we have seen a 295% increase in engagements (views, clicks,

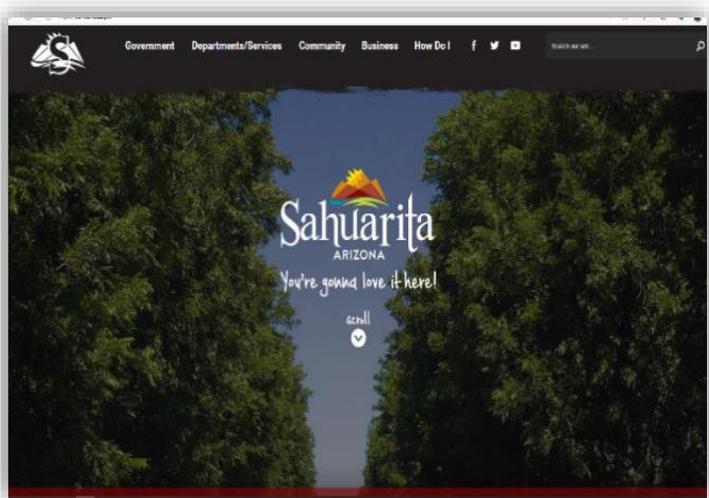


likes, and shares). Last month, our posts garnered 2.39k impressions. The top posts pictured below contain a business expo recap, AZ safest cities kudos, and a part-time summer employment opportunity.



Media monitoring criteria contains mentions of “Sahuarita,” written/spoken in the English language, and published within 200 miles of Town Hall. Channels eligible for monitoring are all web-based news and information platforms including public social media pages (private pages are hidden).

Public Affairs is leading a website revisions project with a task force of 10 department representatives who will collaborate to redefine and reorganize the town's website to better meet the needs of the public. This month, departments were tasked with reviewing their existing documents and pages to flag content needs and eliminate old information. PA also led a discovery session with **Gordley Group** partners to determine target audiences and department priorities, as well as plan for a visual campaign that will complement the existing town branding and revise visual graphics for use on the website.



## Capital Improvement Projects

### Public Works Projects

The interactive Construction Updates page on the Public Works webpage has been updated. This page is typically updated quarterly to provide information on all active construction projects in the Town (CIP and developer projects). The Construction Update can be [found online here](#).

#### ***Quail Crossing Blvd Extension and Traffic Signal Activation***

The seal coating for Phase 1, from Nogales Highway to the Trailhead Parking Lot, was successfully completed on June 22, 2023, requiring a temporary road closure from 6 am to 6 pm. Advanced notice was provided through the installation of message boards one week in advance. The road reopened around 3:00 pm on the same day. Ashton Construction will soon install temporary pavement markers along the road edges to enhance visibility, particularly during nighttime travel. The final striping is scheduled for July 5, 2023, to be carried out by Ashton's subcontractor. The project is now approximately 97% complete.



Coordination efforts are ongoing with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), Psomas, and the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) to obtain necessary approvals for the planned railroad crossing improvements. A signed Construction & Maintenance Agreement was received from UPRR on May 17, 2023, indicating their commitment to designing and procuring the required parts. UPRR expects to complete its work within approximately 8 months. A hearing before the ACC is scheduled for August 7, 2023.

#### ***Sahuarita Water Reclamation Facility (SWRF) Re-rating Project***

Permits for the SWRF Re-Rating Project have been received from Building Safety, marking an important milestone in the project's progress. PCL Construction has provided the 60% cost model, and together with Carollo Engineering, they are actively working on refining the cost estimates at the 90% stage. The objective is to identify potential cost savings and explore value engineering opportunities to ensure the project's cost-effectiveness. Carollo Engineering is coordinating with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to process the amendment to the Aquifer Protection Permit (APP) for the SWRF. This amendment will accurately reflect the planned improvements and ensure compliance with environmental regulations. Construction on the plant is anticipated to commence later this summer, and the team has been diligently finalizing the project's design.



**Land Use and Zoning:**

- **Quail Creek Unit 27 Tentative Plat:** A tentative plat for 132 lots located at the northeast corner of Quail Range Loop and Robson Ranch Boulevard was approved on June 21, 2023. The next step in the process will be a final plat, which is the document that legally subdivides the property (creates the lots).

- **Vulcan Materials Conditional Use Permit:** Staff is reviewing a Type 3 Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a hot mix asphalt plant at the existing Vulcan sand and gravel site on Old Nogales Highway. On June 16, 2023, Vulcan responded to staff comments with a second submittal of their CUP application. The second submittal is currently under review by staff.

A Type 3 CUP requires public hearings before the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Town Council. More project information can be found online at <https://sahuaritaaz.gov/799/Planning-Projects>. Click on "Other."

- Did you know that **Planning & Zoning project information** can be found [online](#)? Click on the link to go directly to the information page.



# Capital Improvement & Development Projects

Please visit our [interactive map to view town projects progress.](#)

