

2014

ANNUAL REPORT

Avondale

*Means Business*

Aspiring. Achieving. Accelerating.

## Avondale is **Aspiring. Achieving. Accelerating.**

AVONDALE, ARIZONA IS A COMMUNITY WHERE PEOPLE SHARE A DEEP SENSE OF PRIDE IN WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED AND HOW FAR WE HAVE COME. IN AVONDALE, THERE IS STRONG BELIEF THAT THE BLENDING OF A BROAD SPECTRUM OF CULTURES COMES FROM A TRUE SENSE OF HARMONY THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY. HERE, PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES ARE WELCOMED WITH OPEN ARMS AND SUPPORTED IN A WAY THAT EXEMPLIFIES A DYNAMIC, INTELLIGENT AND DRIVEN CITY, READY TO TAKE ON THE FUTURE.

## 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

THIS DOCUMENT SERVES AS A STATEMENT OF FULFILLMENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL'S GOALS, HIGHLIGHTING MANY OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND SUCCESSES OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR, AND REFLECTS THE CITY OF AVONDALE'S COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING SUPERIOR SERVICES TO OUR RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, AND VISITORS.

Avondale City Hall, 11465 W. Civic Center Dr. Avondale, AZ 85323  
(623) 333-1000 | [www.avondale.org](http://www.avondale.org)



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### VISIONARIES

## 2015 AVONDALE CITY COUNCIL

#### **Council Members:**

*David Iwanski  
Bryan Kilgore  
Lorenzo Sierra  
Jim McDonald  
Sandi Nielson*

*Mayor Kenn Weise  
Vice Mayor Stephanie Karlin*



# AVONDALE MEANS BUSINESS

One year ago, Avondale launched its new brand, with the tagline *Aspiring, Achieving, Accelerating*. Those three words appropriately capture the spirit of this community – from our residents who seek better opportunities for their families, and our Kids at Hope students who are hard at work achieving their dreams of success, to our businesses who are helping to accelerate growth and prosperity in Avondale.

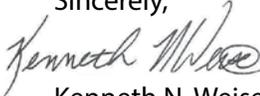
The city had a busy year in 2014, with projects and activities that largely set the foundation for the successes we expect to see in 2015. As an organization, we've emerged from a recession much stronger, more flexible and even more resourceful to take on the opportunities ahead.

Last year saw the opening of a new Park & Ride transit center; the undertaking of numerous streets, sewer and waterline improvements; the launch of a Citizens' Police Academy, and a Council approved plan for an infill program to stimulate development in our Historic neighborhoods. Numerous new businesses opened in the city, with more poised to break ground or open in 2015. By working cooperatively with those in the development community who share a strong vision for the future, the city helped pave the way for significant new developments which will take shape in 2015.

Resident engagement was at an all-time high. Ninety percent of the more than 900 residents who participated in the 2014 Resident Satisfaction Survey ranked Avondale as a good or excellent place to live. Fifteen people graduated from the 8th Citizens' Leadership Academy and the volunteers on the city's 16 boards, commissions and committees continued doing great work on behalf of the residents of Avondale.

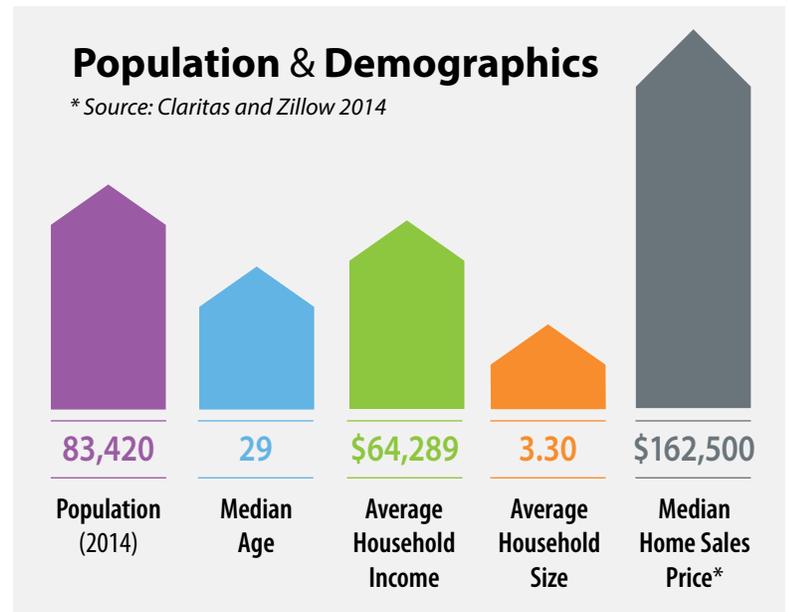
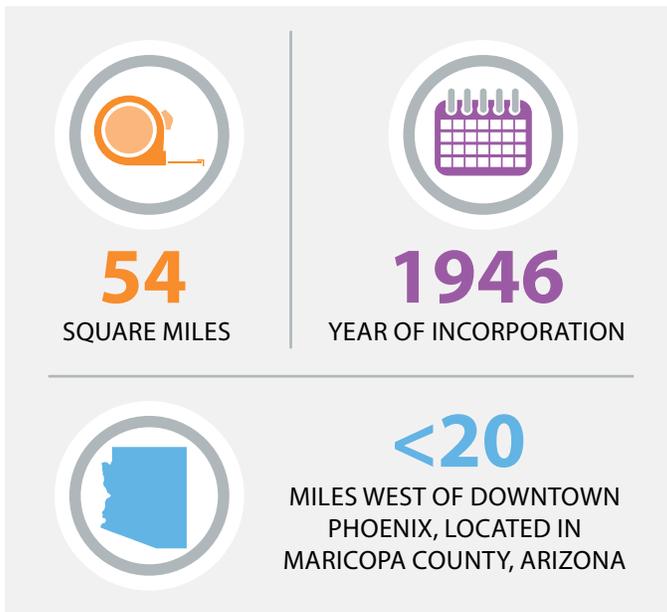
Avondale Means Business. We strive to build an environment that is business friendly, customer focused and purpose driven. Beyond our excellent location – Avondale is situated along two major freeways – our organization is financially strong (AA-plus rating), politically stable, and technologically innovative (Avondale was ranked #1 in the Nation in the Digital Cities Survey two years in a row). We achieve all of this on a lean, fiscally responsible budget, coupled with strong revenue forecasting. As a City Council, we share a vision that is forward-looking. We are supported by City of Avondale employees who have a commitment to professionalism and a deep sense of pride in serving the public.

This Annual Report demonstrates our commitment to excellence, our dedication to customer service and our aspirations for an even stronger fiscal year ahead. Together, we are *Aspiring, Achieving, Accelerating*.

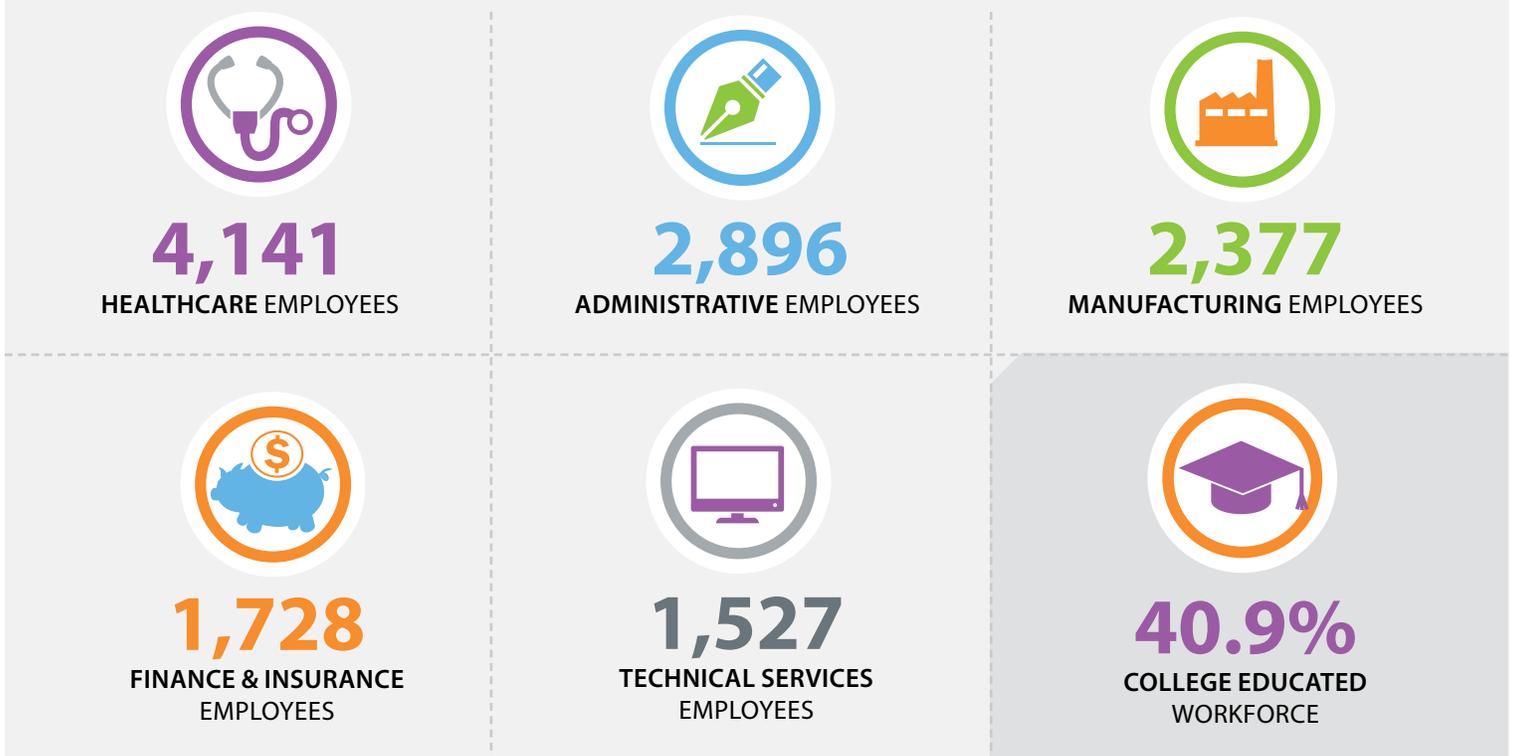
Sincerely,  
  
Kenneth N. Weise  
Mayor

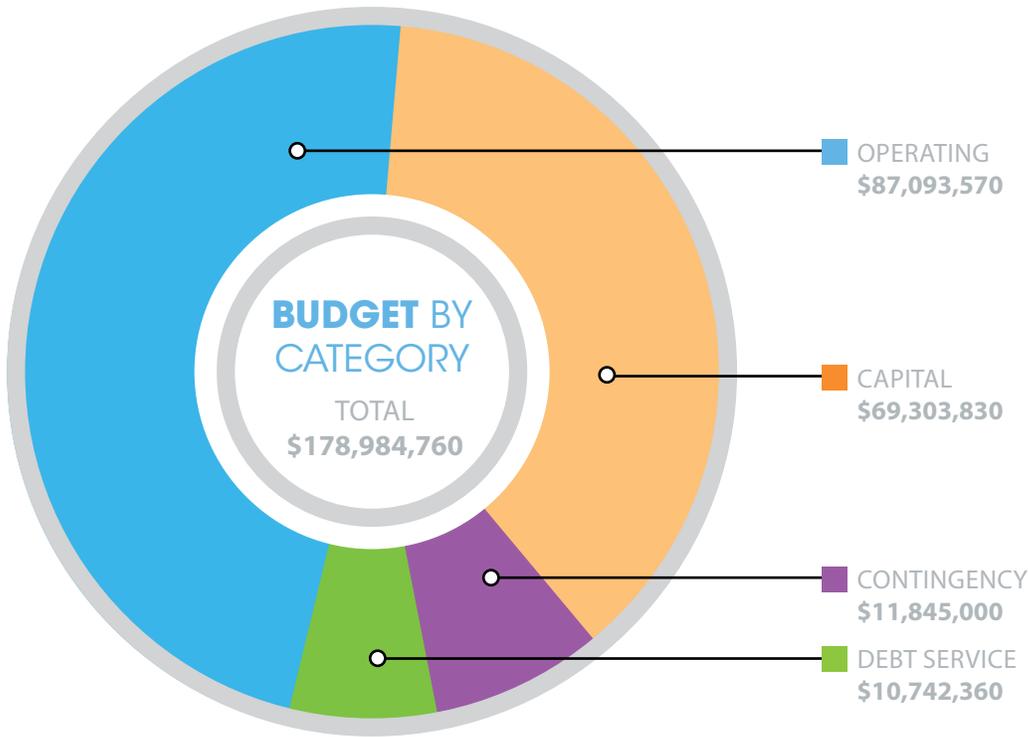
# GENERAL FACTS & FIGURES

AVONDALE, ARIZONA IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE PHOENIX METROPOLITAN AREA. THE COMMUNITY BOASTS A YOUNG POPULATION WITH THE MEDIAN AGE OF 29 YEARS, HOMES IN VIRTUALLY EVERY PRICE RANGE AND A LOCAL GOVERNMENT THAT ACTIVELY STAYS IN CONTACT WITH ITS RESIDENTS WHILE STRONGLY SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING BUSINESS.



## Emerging Industries in Avondale



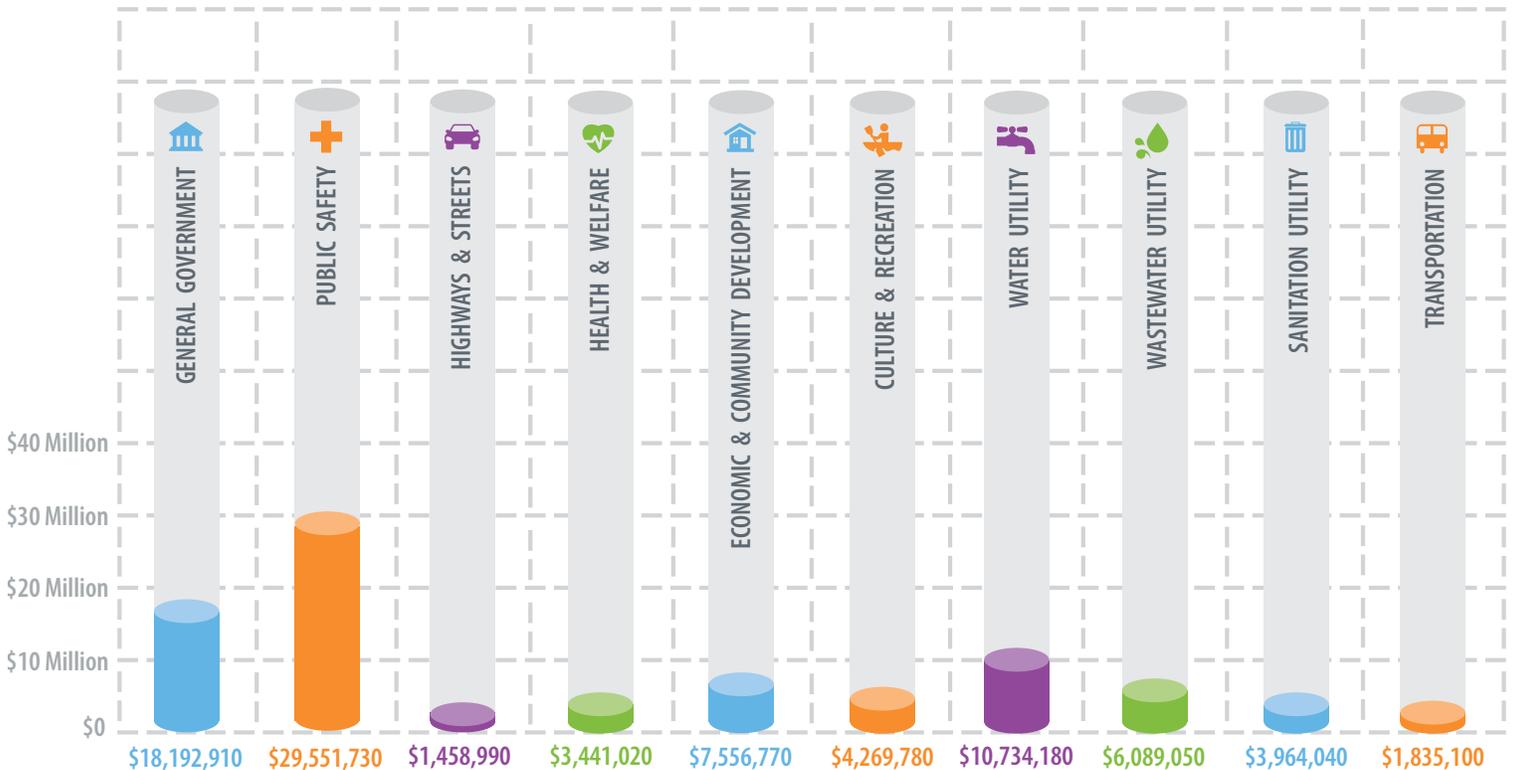


The City of Avondale's annual budget for fiscal year 2014 - 2015 totals \$178,984,760 which is a 2.7% increase above prior year.

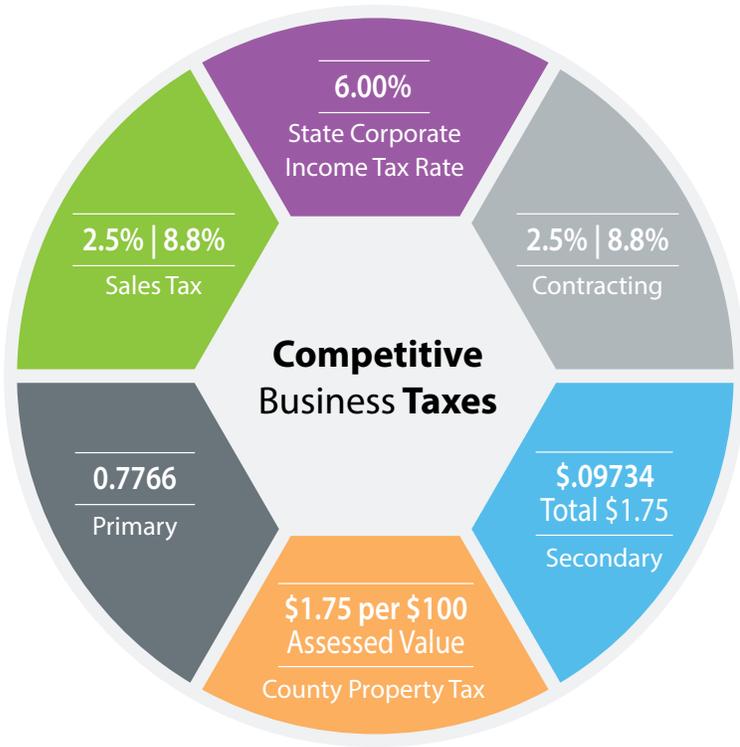
The budget continues to balance stable, recurring revenue sources with ongoing operations. Avondale has continued to remain conservative in budgets while still providing the citizens the level of services they expect.

## 2014 - 2015 OPERATING BUDGET BY FUNCTION

TOTAL \$87,093,570



# BUSINESS INTERESTS



## Private Sector Investments

### TRAMMEL CROW COLDWATER DEPOT III



**187,000**  
SF

**\$22 M**  
Capital Investment

Manufacturing & Distribution Space

### COPPER SPRINGS HOSPITAL



**52,500**  
SF

**\$15 M**  
Capital Investment

**150** Jobs

### MAIN EVENT ENTERTAINMENT FACILITY



**58,000**  
SF

**\$8 M**  
Capital Investment

**125** Jobs



Citizens' Academy Class of 2014

## AVONDALE INVESTS

**11.59M**  
INVESTMENTS IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

**982**  
RESIDENTS PARTICIPATED IN ANNUAL SATISFACTION SURVEY

**586**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH TRAINED IN "HANDS ONLY CPR"

**127**  
TEENS PARTICIPATED IN VOICE OF YOUTH TEEN SUMMIT

**100**  
PEOPLE ATTENDED THE 2ND HOSTED EDUCATION SUMMIT

**16**  
GRADUATES FROM THE 2014 AVONDALE CITIZENS' LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

**12**  
GRADUATES FROM TALLWAVE ENTREPRENEUR PROGRAM

**11**  
GRADUATES FROM THE 1ST INAUGURAL CITIZENS' POLICE ACADEMY

**18,730**  
KIDS AT HOPE IN AVONDALE





Volunteers at Work

# AVONDALE GIVES BACK



**\$92,473**

RAISED BY EMPLOYEES FOR VALLEY OF THE SUN UNITED WAY

**250**

YOUTH RECEIVED BACKPACKS AS PART OF THE ANNUAL BACKPACK DRIVE



**60,114**

PEOPLE SERVED AT CARE1ST AVONDALE RESOURCE CENTER THAT PROVIDES SERVICES THROUGH 20 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

**215**

VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATED IN TRES RIOS CLEAN UP EVENT

**9,360**

MILES DRIVEN TO PROVIDE MEALS TO HOMEBOUND SENIORS

**\$86,667**

ALLOCATED TO 18 NONPROFIT AGENCIES SERVING AVONDALE

**8,816**

HOURS OF SERVICE BY VOLUNTEERS IN POLICE SERVICES



**\$60,000**

IN SPONSORSHIPS RAISED TO ENHANCE CITY EVENTS



**14,774**

POUNDS OF FOOD COLLECTED AT 6TH ANNUAL SCHOOL SPIRIT HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

**17,113**

MEALS SERVED AT THE SENIOR CENTER



**201**

OLD COMPUTERS DONATED TO SCHOOLS



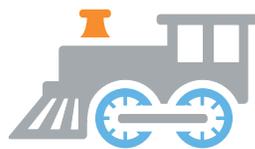
**136**

VOLUNTEERS RALLIED TO PAINT HOMES ON MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY



**40**

FAMILIES IN NEED RECEIVED HOLIDAY GIFTS THROUGH NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY SERVICES



**3,600**

TOYS AND

**\$4,500**

COLLECTED BY AVONDALE FIRE & MEDICAL FOR ANNUAL HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE



**17**

KIDS BENEFITED FROM SHOP WITH A COP HOLIDAY PROGRAM



**395**

KIDS SERVED AT ANNUAL POLICE DEPARTMENT CASHION CHRISTMAS EVENT

**\$21,253**

RAISED BY HOSTING THE ANNUAL MAYOR'S GOLF CHALLENGE TO BENEFIT THE TRI-CITY BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB





Phoenix International Raceway

# AVONDALE CELEBRATES



**650**  
ATTENDED  
BRAND LAUNCH  
EVENT, MAY 2014

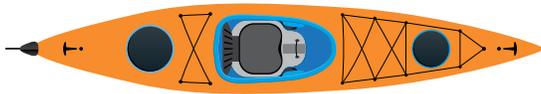


**80**  
ENTRIES IN  
THE 3RD  
ANNUAL  
TALE OF  
TWO CITIES  
PARADE



**200,000+**  
RACE FANS WELCOMED TO AVONDALE  
DURING 2 NASCAR WEEKENDS AT PIR,  
THAT CELEBRATED ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**5,750** ATTENDEES AT THE TRES RIOS FESTIVAL

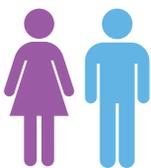


**6**  
LARGE-SCALE FAMILY FRIENDLY  
COMMUNITY EVENTS,  
INCLUDING A PARADE AND  
MULTI-DAY NATURE FESTIVAL

**5,000**  
ATTENDEES AT  
ANNUAL RESIDENT  
APPRECIATION NIGHT/  
GAIN EVENT



Public Works Heroes featured in the 2014 Water Quality Report



**503**  
CITY EMPLOYEES; ONE OF THE LOWEST PER  
CAPITA EMPLOYEE-TO-CITIZEN RATIOS IN  
THE REGION AT 6.1 EMPLOYEES PER 1,000  
RESIDENTS

**20**  
TEENS HIRED BY AVONDALE FOR  
SUMMER EMPLOYMENT



# PROUDLY SERVING THE COMMUNITY

**5** AMERICORP VISTA & **9** NCCC  
VOLUNTEERS RECRUITED TO  
PROVIDE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES



**16**  
EMPLOYEES  
GRADUATED FROM  
AGTS SUPERVISOR  
ACADEMY

**4**  
EMPLOYEES GRADUATED  
FROM ARIZONA  
STATE UNIVERSITY  
AS CERTIFIED PUBLIC  
MANAGERS

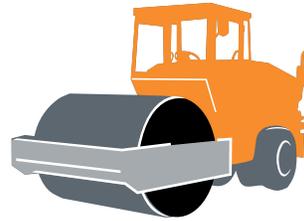
**65**  
RESIDENTS SERVED ON THE CITY'S  
16 BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND  
COMMITTEES



# BEHIND THE SCENES



Avondale Police Serving with Honor



**238,702**

SQUARE YARDS OF ROADWAY RESURFACED, EQUIVALENT TO 37 FOOTBALL FIELDS

**5,354**

ILLEGAL SIGNS MOVED FROM THE RIGHT OF WAY

**32,687**

CODE INSPECTIONS

**270,743**

ITEMS CIRCULATED BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

**\$1,346,151**

IN REVENUE GENERATED AT THE CITY COURT



**3,856**

TONS OF MATERIAL RECYCLED

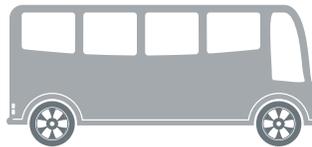


**3.25**

TONS OF CHRISTMAS TREES RECYCLED

**300,000**

SQUARE FEET OF FACILITY SPACE MAINTAINED



**209,000**

RIDERS RODE THE ZOOM

**182**

POUNDS OF PLASTIC BAGS DIVERTED FROM THE WASTE STREAM THROUGH CITY RECYCLING STATIONS



**240**

PEOPLE ATTENDED LANDSCAPE WATER CONSERVATION CLASSES

**26,313**

RECYCLE CANS INSPECTED



**500,000**

VISITORS TO THE 200 ACRES OF PARKS



**7,055** FACEBOOK FANS

**1,889** FACEBOOK POSTS



**1,493** TWITTER FOLLOWERS

**802** TWEETS

**2,784** HYDRANTS

**24,657** WATER METERS

**7,135** WATER VALVES

MAINTAINED BY PUBLIC WORKS STAFF



# (MORE) BEHIND THE SCENES



**5,583** + **1,763** = **\$162,102**

PASSPORT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED + PHOTOS TAKEN = TOTAL GENERATED FROM PASSPORTS

**\$1 MILLION**

MARK REACHED FOR PASSPORT PROCESSING FEES



**4,385**

MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS

**845**

FELONY ARRESTS



**5,165**

TRAFFIC CITATIONS

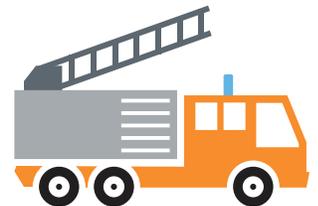
**9,481**

CASES FILED IN AVONDALE CITY COURT



**9,296**

FIRE & MEDICAL RESPONSES FOR SERVICE



## 2014 EVENT SPONSORS

### *Thank You Sponsors*

for supporting the vision and work of the City of Avondale



2014 Resident Appreciation Night

- A to Z Rentals
- AMEC
- Anderson School of Music
- APS
- Arizona Lottery
- Cabela's
- Camping World RV Sales
- Chick-fil-A
- Cox Communications
- Credit Union West

- Dunkin Donuts
- Estrella Mountain Community College
- First Things First
- Food City
- Grand Canyon University
- Green Living Magazine
- Hilton Garden Inn
- Home Depot
- Homewood Suites

- Liberty Utilities
- Republic Services Phoenix
- Sam's Club
- Sonoran Audubon Society
- SRP
- Thunderbolt Recycling, Luke AFB
- Total Transit, Discount Cab
- Valley of the Sun United Way
- West Valley Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics

# THANK YOU

## 2014 Advisory Board, Commission and Committee Members

*As a resident of Avondale, you make a real difference in helping to shape the future of our community.*

### AVONDALE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION

- ★ Christian Colbert
- ★ Kristopher Cunningham
- ★ Caitlin Gilmore
- ★ Kiersten Harwood
- ★ Joe Benjamin Mauricio
- ★ Pamela Mercado-Soto
- ★ Alondra Perez
- ★ Roman Sierra
- ★ Joseph Simeri
- ★ Ashley Small
- ★ Brooke Vega

### BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

- ★ Arnold Knack
- ★ Joseph Mosca
- ★ Lorenzo Sierra
- ★ Joseph Sindle
- ★ David Sours

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN CITIZENS' COMMITTEE

- ★ Lisa Amos
- ★ Richard Childress
- ★ Angela Cotera
- ★ Jason Earp
- ★ Tamy Harmon
- ★ Bryan Kilgore
- ★ Sean Scibienski
- ★ Lorenzo Sierra
- ★ Roy Taniguchi

### CITIZEN CORPS COUNCIL

- ★ Jennifer Metcalf
- ★ Randy Clawson
- ★ Yvonne Hopper
- ★ James Lewis
- ★ Brandon Newman
- ★ Jeffrey Stachmus
- ★ Roy Taniguchi
- ★ Ron Deadman
- ★ Debbie Ray
- ★ Robert Wooten

### CORRECTION OFFICERS RETIREMENT PENSION BOARD

- ★ Kevin Artz (S)
- ★ Michael Long
- ★ James Plymesser
- ★ Alvin Ramirez
- ★ Chad Smith

*S = Staff; C = Councilmember*

### ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

- ★ Lisa Amos
- ★ Jonathan Beretta
- ★ Arnaud Irakoze
- ★ Robert McElfresh
- ★ Joseph Mosca
- ★ Lorenzo Sierra
- ★ Chad Smith
- ★ Russell Van Leuven

### FIRE PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT PENSION BOARD

- ★ Kevin Artz (S)
- ★ Nate Franco (S)
- ★ David Iwanski
- ★ Kathryn McKinney
- ★ Kathy Reyes (S)
- ★ Josh Wilson (S)

### INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

- ★ Betty Lynch

### JUDICIAL ADVISORY BOARD

- ★ Hon. Elizabeth Finn
- ★ Hon. Joseph Kreamer
- ★ Betty Lynch
- ★ Edward Maldonado
- ★ Kathryn McKinney
- ★ Nonnie Shivers
- ★ Allan Switalski
- ★ Andi Welsh

### PARKS, RECREATION AND LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD

- ★ Ronald Butts
- ★ Angela Cardone
- ★ Jason Earp
- ★ David Iwanski
- ★ Nancy Gaspar
- ★ Tamy Harmon
- ★ Yvette Long
- ★ Sharron O'Bannon
- ★ Pearlette Ramos
- ★ David Scanlon
- ★ Chad Smith
- ★ Tammy Wallace

### MUNICIPAL ART COMMITTEE

- ★ Angela Cardone
- ★ Michael Demlong
- ★ Robert McElfresh
- ★ Bernadette Mills
- ★ Lesa Schuur
- ★ Shannon Smith
- ★ Jean Stahl
- ★ Carin Vierhout

### MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

- ★ Raymond Bedoya
- ★ William Luque
- ★ Betty Lynch

### NEIGHBORHOOD AND FAMILY SERVICES COMMISSION

- ★ Louise Battaglia
- ★ John Campbell
- ★ Yvonne Hopper
- ★ Nancy Motini-Robinson
- ★ Olivia Pineda
- ★ Ametrice Robinson
- ★ Joseph Sindle
- ★ Sean Scibienski
- ★ Shannon Smith
- ★ Jean Stahl

### PLANNING COMMISSION

- ★ Lisa Amos
- ★ Grace Carrillo
- ★ Michael Demlong
- ★ Kevin Kugler
- ★ Michael Long
- ★ Olivia Pineda
- ★ Sean Scibienski
- ★ Gary Smith

### POLICE PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREMENT PENSION BOARD

- ★ Kevin Artz (S)
- ★ David Iwanski
- ★ Jonathon Martin (S)
- ★ Kathryn McKinney
- ★ Matthew O'Halloran (S)
- ★ Kathy Reyes (S)

### RISK MANAGEMENT TRUST FUND BOARD

- ★ Caroline Assmann
- ★ Kevin Artz (S)
- ★ Richard Childress
- ★ Betty Lynch
- ★ Jim McDonald (C)

*Thank you for your leadership on the Avondale City Council and years of public service to the Residents of Avondale.*

★ Marie Lopez Rogers, 2000 - 2014

★ Frank Scott, 2005 - 2014

★ Jim Buster, 2005 - 2014

★ Charles Vierhout, 2010 - 2014

# Avondale is...

Aspiring. Achieving. Accelerating.



▶ **#1 Digital City in the Nation**  
*Center for Digital Government*

▶ **Municipality of the Year**  
*Arizona Chapter of the Solid Waste  
Association of North America*

▶ **Best General Plan Award**  
*Arizona Planning Association*

▶ **#1 Ranked Gold Medal Community, "Let's Move!"**  
*National League of Cities*

▶ **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**  
*Government Finance Officers Association*

▶ **Premier EMS Agency**  
*Arizona Department of Health Services*

▶ **Tale of Two Cities Parade and Festival,  
National Cultural Diversity Award**  
*National League of Cities*

▶ **Nationally recognized for Outstanding  
Volunteer Police program**  
*Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS)*

**Our Employees are  
Aspiring. Achieving. Accelerating.**

▶ **#1 City in the Valley for Employee  
Charitable Contribution Participation**  
*Valley of the Sun United Way*

▶ **Chief Paul Adams, 2014 Hall of Fame Recipient**  
*Arizona Fire Service*

▶ **Pier Simeri, 2014 Communicator of the Year**  
*City-County Communications and Marketing Association*

▶ **Les Miller, 2014 Solid Waste Recycling  
Professional of the Year**  
*Arizona Chapter of the Solid Waste  
Association of North America*