



City of Scottsdale
Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission (SEAC)
SUMMARIZED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

5:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 20, 2025
Community Design Studio
7506 E. Indian School Road, Scottsdale 85251

Call to Order: 5:31 p.m.

PRESENT: Vice-Chair Alisa McMahan, Commissioners: Ute Brady, Alexandra Craig, Tara Iyengar (Virtually) Siobhan Ulreich-Power (Virtually), and Judah Waxelbaum

ABSENT: Chair Andrew Scheck

STAFF PRESENT: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager / Commission Liaison; Adam Yaron, Planning & Development Area Manager; Justin Suryanata, Environmental Programs Coordinator; Clayton Hults, Planning Technician

Public Comment: None

NOTE:

- Vice Chair McMahan conducted the Regular Meeting Agenda Items in the following order: Item 4, Item 2, Item 7, Item 6, Item 3, Item 1, Item 5, Item 8, Item 9.
- The First ten minutes of the meeting were not recorded, including attendance roll call and the entire "Goodwill of Central and Northern Arizona Monitored Donation Container Pilot" presentation (Agenda Item 4). The recording commences with presenter Alexia Bednarz answering commissioner questions following her presentation.

1) **Introduction of Adam Yaron, Planning and Development Area Manager**

Introduction of Adam Yaron and summary of his role in SEAC meetings beginning with this meeting.

Staff Contact: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov

No Action

2) **City of Scottsdale Capital Projects and Bond 2019 Solar Program Overview**

The Commission received a presentation from City staff and participated in a discussion regarding the progress and implementation planning for City of Scottsdale capital projects which include solar and Bond 2019 solar projects.

Presenter: Roger Berna, City of Scottsdale Principal Capital Projects Manager – Vertical Construction

Staff Contact: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov

No Action

3) **Approve Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2025, Regular Meeting**

Staff Contact: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov

ITEM 3 Motion and Vote

Commissioner Siobhan Ulreich-Power made a motion to replace the meeting minutes created by the City with the meeting minutes created by Vice Chair McMahon. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Ute Brady. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Commissioners McMahon, Brady, Craig, Iyengar, Ulreich-Power and Waxelbaum voted for APPROVAL.

4) **Goodwill of Central and Northern Arizona Monitored Donation Container Pilot**

Goodwill of Central and Northern Arizona (GCNA) presented the features and benefits of its new Monitored Donation Containers provided by GCNA to Arizona cities to decrease the municipal collection/disposal burden and reduce the landfilling of usable household goods and clothing. Commissioners considered a written recommendation to City Council regarding Scottsdale's participation in GCNA's Monitored Donation Container Pilot.

Presenter: Alexia Bednarz, Sustainability Director, GCNA

Staff Contact: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov

Note: Due to a possible conflict of interest with this agenda item, Commissioner Craig submitted a possible conflict of interest notification form, and recused herself from the meeting, locating to another room for the duration of this item.

ITEM 4 Motion and Vote

Commissioner Ute Brady made a motion to approve and transmit a letter of recommendation written by the commission to City Council. The Motion was seconded by Vice Chair McMahon. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0. Vice Chair McMahon, Commissioners Brady, Iyengar, Ulreich-Power, and Waxelbaum voted for APPROVAL.

5) Water Conservation Strategies

Discussion regarding water conservation strategies including a) separate metering and submetering, b) flow sensors and other irrigation strategies, c) strategies specific to medical and laboratory facilities and equipment, d) strategies for ornamental water features, and e) strategies for pools and spas.

Presenter: Vice Chair McMahon

Staff Contact: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov

No Action

6) Sustainable Scottsdale Awards City Council Presentation

The Commission received a presentation from Commissioner Craig on her Public Comment provided to City Council as a citizen on June 24, 2025 regarding the 2025 Sustainable Scottsdale Award presented to Echo Canyon School.

Presenter: Commissioner Craig

Staff Contact: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov

The recording of Commissioner Craig's June 24, 2025 public comment to City Council was played.

No Action

7) Sustainable Scottsdale Awards 2026 Program Initiation

Commissioner Craig opened a discussion regarding initiating, scheduling, and refining the 2026 Sustainable Scottsdale Award Program.

Presenter: Commissioner Craig

Staff Contact: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov

ITEM 7 Motion and Vote

Commissioner Alexandra Craig made a motion to proceed with the 2026 Sustainable Scottsdale Award Program with the timeline modified changing February 7 to February 6 and January 31 to January 30. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Brady. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0. Vice Chair McMahon, Commissioners Brady, Craig, Iyengar, Ulreich-Power, and Waxelbaum voted for APPROVAL.

8) Staff Updates (A.R.S. 38 - 431.02(K))

Staff presented updates pertaining to Scottsdale's environmental initiatives for Commission information only. Arizona State law prohibits the Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission from discussing or taking action on an item that is not properly noticed on the posted agenda.

Staff Contact: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov

No Action

9) Identification of Future Agenda Items

The Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission may suggest items they wish to be placed on a future agenda. Per Arizona State law, the Commission shall not discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item suggested as a future agenda item, unless the specific item is properly noticed for Commission discussion.

Staff Contact: Tim Conner, Environmental Policy Manager, tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov

The Commission identified the following new future agenda items:

- Water Conservation Strategies
- Superfund Sites in Scottsdale

No Action

Adjournment 7:10 p.m.



Persons with a disability may request reasonable accommodation by contacting the Office of Environmental Initiatives at 480-312-7833. Requests should be made 24 hours in advance, or as early as possible, to allow time to arrange the accommodation. For TTY users, the Arizona Relay Service (1-800-367-8939) others may contact the Office of Environmental Initiatives at 480-312-7833.

Agenda Item 2

City of Scottsdale Solar Energy Projects

Presentation to The Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission
August 20, 2025

Roger Berna, Principal Project Manager
Transportation and Infrastructure



Bond 2019 Funded Projects

Project 57 – North Corporation Solar

Install photovoltaic (PV) solar system of 80% of the existing covered parking and 30 % of the roofs at North Corporation Yard buildings...

Project 58 – City Hall Solar

Install a photovoltaic (PV) parasol system over the City Hall parking lot ...

Project 59 – Civic Center Solar

Install a photovoltaic (PV) solar systems on varying percentages of roofs on city Hall, Once Civic Center and the civic Center Library...

Project 41 – Eldorado Pool Solar

Install a ground mounted solar pool hot water heating system at Eldorado Pool to reduce energy costs for heating the pool during the shoulder seasons and winter months...

Project 60 – Appaloosa Library Solar

Double the Solar Power Generating Capacity at Appaloosa Library



Agenda Item 2

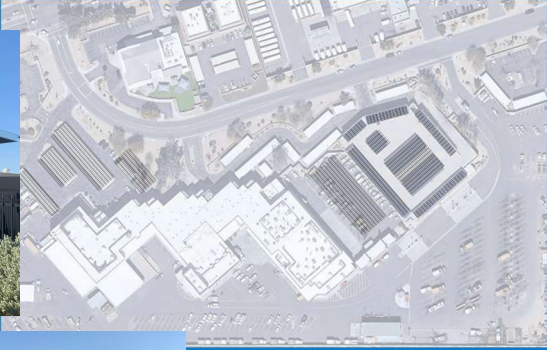
Completed Projects:

- Bond Project 57 – North Corporation Solar
- Completed and operational January of 2024
- Cost \$4.7 million
- Just under 1 megawatt of solar was installed at existing and new parking structures and on canopies at one surface lot.

Start Date	Date of Lifetime Recording	Days Online	Lifetime Production (kWh)	Daily Average Production (kWh)
1/9/2024	8/13/2025	582	802,075	1,378.14



North Corporation Solar Installation



Agenda Item 2

Active Projects:



City Hall Solar



Civic Center Solar



Eldorado Pool Solar



City Hall Solar Parasol

A canopy with 20 feet of clearance below is to be constructed with solar panel on top. This canopy will provide shaded parking and event space. Additional canopies with 14 feet of clearance will be constructed along the north perimeter parking. The solar system will be grid connected to APS through the City Hall service and will offset those loads.

Budget: \$4.6 million

System Size: 334 Kw

Construction: Fall 2025

Projected Completion: January 2026



Agenda Item 2

Civic Center Solar

This project scope has been redefined to be a single canopy over the parking lot north of the Stadium on 75th Street. This canopy will also provide 20 feet clear underneath for parking and potential event space. This single location was deemed more appropriate than the multiple rooftop installations originally proposed. The solar system will be grid connected to APS through the Justice Court and Jail service and will offset those loads

- Budget: \$2.7 million
- System Size: 381 kw
- Construction: Summer 2026 (est.)
- Projected Completion: Winter 2027 (est.)



CITY OF SCOTTSDALE

Eldorado Pool

This project has also been redefined to be a Photovoltaic (PV) installation in lieu of a water heating system. Parks and Maintenance had concerns with the maintenance requirements of the solar water heating system and the ground area required for the installation. A parking shade canopy with solar PV has been designed instead. The solar system will be grid connected to SRP through the service to the pool.

- Budget: \$560,000
- System Size: 71 kw
- Construction: Winter 2026
- Projected Completion: Spring 2026



CITY OF SCOTTSDALE

Agenda Item 2

Future Projects

- Appaloosa Library – This project is on hold as funding is not sufficient to allow the system to be expanded.
- Other capital projects – we continue to evaluate solar for inclusion in other projects as budget and payback allows.



Questions?



Goodwill of Central & Northern Arizona Monitored Donation Containers

Alexia Bednarz
Director, Sustainability



Transforming End Markets & Building A Circular Economy

The Triple Bottom Line



SOCIAL

- Creating Employment Opportunities
- Building Community Partnerships
- Funding Social Programs



ENVIRONMENTAL

- Generating Circular Solutions
- Diverting Global Landfill Waste
- Decreasing Carbon Footprint



ECONOMIC

- Maximizing Value Extraction
- Developing End Markets
- Local Community Reinvestment



Agenda Item 4

Monitored Donation Containers

Convenience & Simplicity:

- Maximizing resource efficiency and reducing landfill costs
- Supporting local economies through efficient material reuse
- Promoting reuse & recycling
- Provided and maintained by GCNA
- Collection data provided at no cost
- Convenient for communities



Specifications

Why it's Unique	Materials Accepted	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable design built with impact in mind • Messaging opportunity to educate donors • Portable and able to be moved on demand to maximize collections • Minimal operating costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clothing • Small electronics • Books • Bedding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shoes • Toys • Small household items

Features	Benefits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 160 ft² recycled shipping container (3 standard parking spaces) • 3 Collection chutes (ADA compliant and user friendly) • LED lights/cameras • Bin capacity sensors and reporting • Powered by rooftop solar panels • 24/7 monitoring • Routine cleaning, maintenance, and servicing • Engineered to prevent unauthorized access to the interior • QR codes for donation receipts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compact footprint • Temporary sites and easy relocation • Centrally monitored • Requires no electrical grid hookup • Minimal operating costs



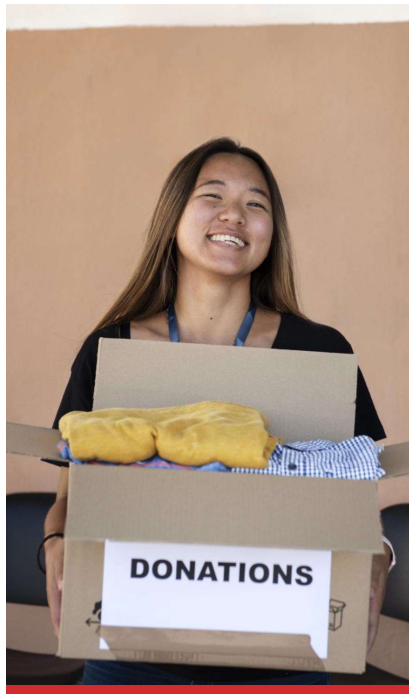
Agenda Item 4



Partnering for Success

- Data Transparency & Reporting
- Co-Branding Opportunities
- Support for Reuse & Recycling Goals
- No-Cost Pilot Implementation
- Reinvesting in the Community

GOODWILL 
of Central & Northern Arizona



Pilot Program

- City of Gilbert pilot
- Aim to deploy additional containers early next year (target Q1 2026)

Alexia Bednarz



Director, Sustainability

Alexia.Bednarz@goodwillaz.org

GOODWILL 
of Central & Northern Arizona



Agenda Item 4

Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission
Office of Environmental Initiatives
City of Scottsdale
7447 E Indian School Rd STE 125
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Staff Liaison: Tim Conner
Email tconner@scottsdaleaz.gov
PHONE 480-312-7833
FAX 480-312-7314
WEB www.ScottsdaleAZ.gov

To: Honorable Mayor Borowsky and Council Members
From: Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission
Date: August 20, 2025
Re: Monitored Donation Container Pilot Program

The Scottsdale community has historically embraced efforts to divert material from landfill disposal. By diverting unwanted materials to reuse and recycling, “waste” can become a valuable resource.

Scottsdale has a new opportunity to divert materials from the landfill without cost to the City or our residents. Goodwill of Central and Northern Arizona (GCNA) is piloting a no-cost Monitored Donation Container program in collaboration with Arizona municipalities and universities. A Monitored Donation Container is a self-sufficient donation station innovatively designed to receive clothing, small electronics, books, bedding, shoes, toys, and small household items – materials we do not put into our mauve curbside recycling bins. The container requires no time or maintenance investment by city staff. It is delivered fully manufactured, and is maintained, monitored, and serviced by GCNA. A container located in an accessible public space offers a convenient solution for residents seeking alternatives to landfill disposal. Scottsdale can become the second Valley municipality to join the pilot program. The Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission recommends City Council consider participation in the Monitored Donation Container pilot program with the placement of one or two containers in Scottsdale.

The Monitored Donation Container’s specifications are:

- **Compact Footprint:** Each unit is a 20-foot recycled shipping container, occupying approximately 160 square feet (the equivalent of three standard parking spaces).
- **Temporary Placement & Easy Relocation:** Containers are designed for flexibility and can be temporarily placed and easily relocated as needed. Additionally, containers are 100% solar-powered and require no electrical grid hookup, further enhancing versatile site placement.
- **Accessible Design:** Each container includes three chutes, one of which is ADA-compliant and fully accessible for individuals with disabilities.
- **Secure Construction:** Containers (chutes and service entrances) are engineered to prevent unauthorized access to the interior, ensuring public safety and that donations remain protected.
- **24/7 Remote Monitoring:** Containers are monitored around the clock by GCNA’s dedicated security center to deter and respond promptly to illegal dumping, loitering, vandalism, and other unwanted activity. In the event of any of these occurrences, GCNA’s response team will be dispatched in a timely manner.

Agenda Item 4

- **Responsive Service:** GCNA’s dispatch team is automatically notified by the bin capacity sensors when a container is full, ensuring timely pickups and uninterrupted service.
- **Routine Maintenance:** Regular inspections are conducted on chutes, doors, locks, and the container’s exterior, along with consistent cleaning to maintain a safe and welcoming appearance.
- **Convenient Donor Experience:** Donors can scan an on-site QR code to instantly receive a digital donation receipt for their records.
- **Clear Signage:** Container signage specifies what can and cannot be placed in the chutes.
- **Acceptable donation items:** Clothing, small electronics, books, bedding, shoes, toys, and small household items.

Direct benefits to the City of Scottsdale include:

- **No-Cost Pilot Implementation:** GCNA covers 100% of the minimal operational costs for the one-year pilot program.
- **Immediate Cost Savings:** As one example, textiles comprise 7.73% of all municipal solid waste landfilled.¹ That translates into 7.73% of transportation costs, labor costs, and landfill tipping fees. Textiles are also a significant contaminant in curbside recycling bins. There are real cost savings to be had when Scottsdale residents give their textiles (and other items) a “second life” through reuse and recycling channels.
- **Future Cost Savings by Extending Landfill Life:** Landfills have finite space. When they reach capacity, they close. The more material landfilled, the sooner they close. The more material diverted, the longer their life. The Salt River Landfill, with which the City currently contracts, is projected to reach capacity in 2032.² Available alternatives are two to four times farther away (in the far West Valley) – meaning that Scottsdale Solid Waste customers (including both residents and the City itself) will be paying significantly more for fuel, labor, additional vehicles, and vehicle wear and tear. Taking less volume to the Salt River Landfill extends its usable life, delaying these additional costs.
- **Data Transparency & Reporting:** GCNA tracks and reports collection data, enabling the City to benchmark progress toward waste diversion goals.
- **Co-Branding Opportunities:** Each container can feature the City’s logo, promoting public awareness and partnership visibility.

Community benefits include:

- When community members donate to Goodwill, their donations are processed for resale at a nearby Goodwill retail location, including those in Scottsdale.
- Proceeds from GCNA’s operations are reinvested directly into free career development, education, and job training programs to help Arizonans achieve stable employment.
- Donations that do not sell in a store are responsibly recycled through local partners.
- GCNA’s prioritization of reuse and recycling drives local economic development.

¹ www.epa.gov/facts-and-figures-about-materials-waste-and-recycling/national-overview-facts-and-figures-materials; accessed 8/14/25; percent by weight; textiles are items mostly made of natural or synthetic fabrics such as clothing, bed sheets, curtains, and towels

² www.saltriverlandfill.com/about; accessed 8/14/25

Agenda Item 4

Participation in this program would effectuate several General Plan 2035 policies:

- Deploying no-cost Monitored Donation Containers demonstrates Scottsdale’s commitment to innovation, fiscal responsibility and environmental stewardship as described in Public Services & Facilities policy PSF 1.1: “Seek new, cost-effective, and environmentally-friendly methods of solid waste collection, recycling, and disposal, including waste diversion ...”
- The materials collected in the containers become, through various GCNA pathways, “marketable commodities” as envisaged in Environmental Planning policy EP 4.7: “Identify, promote, and support opportunities to use solid waste and recycled materials as marketable commodities.”
- This collaboration with GCNA is the type of partnership conceived of by Conservation policy CONSV 1.1: “Promote local and regional public and private partnerships to reduce natural resource consumption.”
- The General Plan also speaks to joint partnerships with the non-profit sector for the purpose of improving public services. GCNA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

For more information and further engagement, please contact:

Nikki Smith | Director, Sustainability Projects
Goodwill of Central and Northern Arizona
Nicole.Smith1@goodwillaz.org | (619) 212-6473

In sum, GCNA offers a no-cost, convenient solution for Scottsdale residents to donate unwanted goods through the Monitored Donation Container pilot program. The Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission unanimously recommends City Council consider providing this opportunity to Scottsdale residents.



On behalf of the Commission,

Andrew Scheck

Andrew Scheck, Chair

Alisa McMahon

Dr. Alisa McMahon, Vice-Chair

Agenda Item 7

2025-2026 Timeline | Key Dates

2025

August 20 – SEAC

August 29 – Website changes due to city IT

September 2 – Awards program launched

September 17 – SEAC

October 15 – SEAC

October 31 – Phase 1 applications deadline for applicants

November 7 – Phase 1 applications shared with SEAC for scoring

November 19 – SEAC; **Commissioners to review applications during SEAC meeting**

December 10 – SEAC

December 12 – Phase 2 applicants notified/questions sent

2026

January 21 – SEAC (tentative)

January 31 – Phase 2 documents deadline for applicants

February 7 – Phase 2 documents shared with SEAC

February 18 – SEAC (tentative); **Initial SEAC review of Phase 2 documents**

March 18 – SEAC (tentative); **Final SEAC decision on awardees**

April 15 – SEAC (tentative)

April 19 – Earth Fest announcement of awardees(tentative)



