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CALL TO ORDER

[Time: 00:00:02]

Mayor Borowsky: I would like to call the August 25, 2026 City Council Meeting, Special Meeting, excuse me, to order. City Clerk Ben Lane, may I please have a roll call.

City Clerk Ben Lane: Thank you, Mayor. Mayor Lisa Borowsky.

Mayor Borowsky: Present.

Ben Lane: Vice Mayor Maryann McAllen.

Vice Mayor McAllen: Present.

Ben Lane: Councilmembers Jan Dubauskas.

Councilwoman Dubauskas: Here.

Ben Lane: Barry Graham.

Councilman Graham: Here.

Ben Lane: Councilmember Adam Kwasman.

Councilman Kwasman: Yo.

Ben Lane: Kathy Littlefield.

Councilwoman Littlefield: Here.

Ben Lane: And Solange Whitehead.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Here.

Ben Lane: City Manager Greg Caton.

City Manager Greg Caton: Here.

Ben Lane: City Attorney Luis Santaella.

City Attorney Luis Santaella: Present.

Ben Lane: City Treasurer Sonia Andrews.

City Treasurer Sonia Andrews: Here.

Ben Lane: And the Clerk is present. Thank you, Mayor.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. This afternoon we have the delightful opportunity to hear from several of our boards and commissions from the 2025 annual reports which will include presentations, discussion, possible direction, regarding key accomplishments, major actions taken, upcoming opportunities, and/or outcomes. I will ask the City Clerk Ben Lane for a brief introduction.

ITEM 1

[Time: 00:00:59]

Ben Lane: Thank you, Mayor Borowsky. Honorable member and City Council, last year the Council had most of our boards and commissions present their annual reports to the Council. This process was well received and provided boards and commissions with an opportunity to have more direct interaction

with the Council. These presentations did take place over several Council meetings. Based on Council feedback provided at an April 2026 Work Study Session, we made several changes to this process, including scheduling these presentations in special meetings and having the boards present during two special meetings rather than multiple City Council meetings. The Industrial Development Authority was also added to the list of presenters.

We will not be including boards that deal with personnel issues such as the Judicial Appointments Advisory Board and Public Safety Personnel Advisory Board or bodies somewhat independent of the city. Additionally, the Budget Review Commission presents at a separate Council meeting to coincide with the budget development process. Today we have eight boards and commissions presenting. The remaining boards will present at a Special Meeting scheduled for October 6th.

After the presentations are completed, the annual report for all boards and commissions will be added as a consent agenda item for Council consideration and possible acceptance. As this process is fairly new, any comments would be appreciated for future planning purposes. I would like to thank the Mayor, the Council and the board and commission members for the feedback on this process. I would also like to thank City Manager Greg Caton and their team for their partnership on this process and Deputy City Clerk Shannon Beck for her efforts with the boards and commission members and staff liaisons, to prepare for these meetings. And finally being I'm appreciative of the board members and staff liaisons who worked on these presentations today. Thank you, Mayor.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you very much. I'm going to run through the order, so you are prepared. First we have the Building Advisory Board of Appeals, followed by the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee, Historic Preservation Commission, Human Services Advisory Commission and Scottsdale Housing Agency Governing Board, those two combined, and Industrial Development Authority, Loss Trust Fund Board, Parks and Recreation Commission, and Veterans Advisory Commission will round us out.

BUILDING ADVISORY BOARD OF APPEALS

So, starting with the Building Advisory Board of Appeals, I would like to invite you up. I note that staff representative Michael Clack, who I see walking up to the podium here and Chair Michael Kravitz will join us and address us. Welcome.

Staff Representative Michael Clack: This we go. Good afternoon, Mayor and City Council, my name is Michael Clack, I'm the building official that is the liaison to the Building Advisory Board of Appeals. With me today is the Chair of the Building Advisory Board of Appeals, Michael Kravitz and I would like to give him a brief moment if he has any words or anything he'd like to say.

[Time: 00:04:21]

Chair Michael Kravitz: Good afternoon, Madam Mayor and members of the Council. My name is Michael Kravitz, I am Chairman currently of the Building Advisory Board of Appeals and my first term, I was

appointed or voted as Vice Chair. It's been an honor and pleasure to serve. We take our duties and responsibilities very seriously and we look forward to considering continuing with that in the next year or so.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you.

Michael Clack: Okay. Thank you. So, the first slide here is the purpose and the makeup of the board, and basically the purpose of the board is to hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions, or determinations made by the building official relative to the application and the interpretation of city-applied building construction codes. The board also makes recommendations regarding the adoption and amendment of the construction codes to City Council. The Building Advisory Board of Appeals consists of seven public members appointed at large by the City Council. The members are qualified to serve based on experience and training, pertaining to building constructions and as an example of that, our Chair is a registered architect and so he's well qualified to serve on the board.

Major accomplishments and actions taken this past year, we had discussion regarding Senate Bill 1182, which was signed into law regarding construction start time and possible amendments to Section 117, which is titled construction activity of the 2021 International Building Code and to change it as follows: The summer hours in Scottsdale are from April 1st to October 31st, and currently or before this bill was signed into law, no work could begin before 6:00 a.m. The state legislature changed that to 5:00 a.m., and also they allow construction to start at least an hour earlier for construction pours at that time. This would be and the work is supposed to stop at 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, or and they and it could continue a little bit after 7:00 p.m. on Saturdays. And the state law prohibits counties and municipalities from enforcing or enacting any noise construction ordinance or regulation that prohibits general activity from May 1st to October 15th. So, what we did was our current ordinance falls within that parameter but we're a little bit more liberal because we start April 1st. So, the only thing we had to do was change the start time. A vote was taken and unanimously approved to conform to state law. This will be an amendment that we will be proposing to the City Council a little bit later on as part of our adoption of the 2024 building codes, which is the next slide.

[Time: 00:07:51]

It's a segue into the next slide on current and future opportunities, challenges or outcomes. So, one the things that we want to do is consider adoption of the 2024 codes. Currently we are under the 2021 code. And it's this is an industry standard codes. They are typically updated on a three-year cycle. The last update was adopted on September 20, 2022, by the City Council with an effective date of January 1, 2023. We anticipate bringing future code adoption package forward to the city for consideration by the end of 2027. So basically, we have to do what we have to do is we have to work on our amendments, take a look at what's new in the 2024 code for us, amend that, see what amendments are still applicable and what other amendments need to go into place. We bring that to the board in a public meeting, and we invite the public to come in and comment on that. It's a pretty robust meeting with people coming into from the industry. They give comments and at the end of the day, the board makes the recommendation to the City Council for the adoption of those codes along the with the

amendments and then we bring that to you for final action. With that that concludes our presentation this afternoon. Are there any questions or comments or any feedback, we're all ears.

[Time: 00:09:31]

Mayor Borowsky: Can you go back to slide one? The second one. So, I have a question. This is this is staff, when it goes through staff an applicant doesn't like the decision, they can appeal to your board.

Michael Clack: Yes, ma'am.

Mayor Borowsky: So, what percentage, so how does that process work? If they appeal to you and you find that it should be overturned, I'm going to use court terms I'm familiar with. Do you remand it back then to staff or do you make a corrective decision?

Michael Clack: The way it works is if somebody disagrees with my application or interpretation of the code, we have a discussion about that. If we cannot come to a consensus, they have the right to appeal to the Building Advisory Board of Appeals. We'll go to them and we'll present what we feel like the interpretation of the code is. They make their presentation. The one thing that we caution the board on is to that they cannot waive a code requirement, only the City Council could do that. So, it's mainly an interpretation or the application of the code. If the board rules in favor of the applicant, then we turn around and we say, okay, this is how this is to be interpreted. And we pass that on to staff and we move on. In the board decides that staff is correct, then the applicant has the right to appeal to the City Council and then we would go, based on whatever the City Council decides at that point.

Mayor Borowsky: So, it boils down to interpretation. I guess this is a better question for the Chair this is not the right term, do you see a lot of repeat offenses. In terms of interpretation? And, if you do, what do you do with those? If you see something that comes up maybe frequently or has come up several times, what, as a board, do you do? Do you take that up with staff? Do you issue a memo? What's the next step.

Michael Kravitz: So, Madam Mayor, we really do not see very much at all. We have a building administrator here, a building official who is quite good at interpreting the code and working with the people in the construction industry and homeowners and whomever else so that those issues are resolved prior to coming before the board. And I will just say in my 45 years of practice, coming before a board of appeals many, many times and serving on other boards, it's very rare that a board will overturn a building official or fire official, unless their decision or interpretation is unbridled. But to answer your question, we have not seen any of that happen.

Mayor Borowsky: Okay. And I can't recall seeing an appeal come to the Council in the last 18 months. So, you must be doing a heck of a job!

Michael Clack: We try. I've been here 22 years, and we have not had a challenge to any of our interpretations that had to go to the Building Advisory Board of Appeals. Staff works very hard in talking

with the engineers, architects, whomever and we show them what the code says and what the intent of the code. And if there is room to make some adjustments, we will. And it's based on, for example, they want to use a product that's not called out in the code, but it's equivalent to what the code requires. And when they establish that, then we pretty much go with what they what they're proposing.

Mayor Borowsky: Okay. And then my last question, how do you, as, you know, lead staff member, top staff member in the department, how do you navigate the role as objective board, the appellate board for your division. How do you navigate that? That's a big question but maybe there's some protocol that you have.

Michael Clack: When it comes down to the the agenda, I try to talk with the Chair as to what should go open the agenda, what they are interested in looking at what they you know, if they have some questions. And so, we will put that on the agenda. We will bring it before the board and have discussion on that. Sometimes they have had some modifications to the code or amendments to the code that they want us to consider. They would, we would convene. We would give our interpretation of the code and basically talk about what the pros and cons are. And in many cases, it's just we try to be neutral on that, unless we see that this is a problem that the code is trying to address. And so that's how we handle that.

Mayor Borowsky: I'm sure it helps to be surrounded by a board full of professionals with different disciplines that can push back in needed. Okay, or if appropriate. I know that was a lot of questions thank you very much. Vice Mayor McAllen.

[Time: 00:15:07]

Vice Mayor McAllen: Thank you, Mayor, thank you both. Thank you serving, Chair. And for Mr. Clack, you said there is an exception on occasion to the 5:00 a.m. rule. Would that be something that someone would request, like a cement pour, somebody that may need to be at a cooler period of time, say, even 3:00 a.m., how often does that happen?

Michael Clack: That happens pretty often, even before the state law went into effect, and even now, the state law only allows 4:00 a.m. pours. In fact, we just considered a concrete pour for a project where they wanted to start at 1:00 a.m. in the morning. So, what we do is we check to see what residential occupancies are within 750 feet of the construction area. And that's the first thing we do. The next thing we ask is, have you had discussions with that neighborhood and have you passed out flyers to let them know that this is happening, when it's happening and how long? And so, we successfully had a concrete pour at about 2:00 a.m. in the morning for the new fire station where they are making some additions. They wanted to have the concrete pour starting about 1:00 a.m. in the morning or 2:00 a.m. in the morning, simply because it's cooler and the concrete sets up and reacts much better. So, we made sure that they let the neighborhood know and then we make sure that all of the lights are away from the neighborhood. All of the equipment that's there, the when you back up, cannot be any backup beepers. They either have to have flagmen to direct or flashers to keep the noise down and we didn't receive any complaints on that at all.

Vice Mayor McAllen: Thank you, I asked, I knew the answer and I wanted to make sure because people ask. That's one the permit things that people may be unaware of, and that really has to do with the chemical makeup of, obviously, the cement. But the fact where they notify the neighbors, I appreciate you explaining that. So, thank you both for your service.

Mayor Borowsky: Councilwoman Whitehead.

[Time: 00:17:34]

Councilwoman Whitehead: Similar topic, but more on the human end. HOAs are not required to maintain those hours, the state law does not apply to HOAs; is that correct?

Michael Clack: As I understand it, the HOAs may have something more stringent than what the state law may have. They may not want anybody to start until 5:00 a.m., but I think the state law would supersede that if I understand it correctly, but if they wanted to have it say, for example, if they wanted to pour at 3:00 a.m., the HOA could agree to that and tell them, yes, they could do that.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Okay. I did get a complaint. So, I will follow up with that person. We thought that the answer we got was that the HOA was exempt. I will follow up with you on that one. Great thank you so much.

Michael Clack: Not to my knowledge.

Councilwoman Whitehead: That's a good answer, thank you so much.

Mayor Borowsky: I don't see any more questions or comments. Thank you, gentlemen. Really appreciate your service. Michael, really appreciate your service as well, Michael.

CITIZENS' BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

All right, next, we have the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee. And I see let's see, staff representative Erin Walsh and Vice Chair David Kamesu. Well, welcome.

[Time: 00:18:52]

Staff Representative Erin Walsh: Good afternoon, Mayor and Council, my name is Erin Walsh, I am the staff liaison for the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee, and this is our Vice Chair Darryl Kamesu, and I will let you introduce himself.

Vice Chair Darryl Kamesu: I'm the Vice Chair for the Bond Oversight Committee and this is my first term and I'm here today to just provide an overview of what we've done over the last year.

Mayor Borowsky: Terrific, thank you.

Erin Walsh: All right. We go to the next slide. All right; the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee was actually formed after the 2015 Bond election. We had a group of citizens called the citizens bond task force that helped to develop that bond program, and once it passed the City Council made them a quasi-permanent committee, as long as we had a bond issue opened, which is why we are a committee and not a board or a commission. In 2020, after the 2019 Bond election, the duties of this group expanded, and they oversee any bond issuance and the monies associated with that. There are seven members and they are appointed to a two-year term.

So really, the charge of this group is to oversee the dollars. Not as much the project but the dollars attached to them. They receive reports on the city's progress of the implementation program, and that implementation schedule was developed and voted on by City Council. They review any proposed changes to the program, any cancellation of projects any modifications of scope and anything that we promise the voters we are going to do, if there's a change to it, it goes through this group and it comes to you.

The final charge is to provide in I comments to the City Council with respect to the bond program as they deem appropriate. So, with that, I will pass it over to our Vice Chair to tell you what we accomplished this year.

[Time: 00:21:03]

Darryl Kamesu: Okay, so in terms of the key accomplishments that our committee covered this year, one the first one is transferring funds from completed projects, shifting them over to other projects that might need the money. And it has to be within the same question of the bonds.

The second one is we will listen to and allocate bond interest, if it's earned to projects and distribute the money if needed and the third one is essentially monitoring the status of these projects that were called out in the 2019 election as they move through design and construction as Alison Tymkiw provides to us. Next slide.

During the past year, our major actions we approved transfer of \$153,000 from question 2 which was installing solar systems to question North Corporation Campus to question two project 59, the solar systems at the civic center campus. And question two is part of the community, spaces and infrastructure category. We also recommended to the Council to eliminate the project that was going to install solar heating system for Eldorado pool. It seemed like it didn't meet the needs. Okay? Next slide.

In terms of major actions taken, we talked about for question one, which is the category parks, recreation and senior services, allocating a little over half a million dollars for the Thompson Peak Dog Park which is about to open or I guess it has opened. Question two, that's community spaces and infrastructure. We allocated \$341,000 to build a 200-space parking lot off of 75th to serve the city court and Scottsdale Stadium. And then the other project in the same question was to repair the lakes and the irrigations at Vista Del Camino Park, Indian Bend Wash and that was under \$200,000. So, for

question three, there was \$1.8 million divided between these three projects. And question three focuses on public safety and technology. The first one is to renovate the Via Linda police station to increase efficiency. And the second one is renovate and expand the Civic Center Jail to meet demand, \$300,000 and of the third one modernize and expand the police fire training facility. Just under \$300,000 also. Next slide.

In terms of upcoming opportunities, challenges or outcomes once the projects are completed, if they haven't used all the money that was divvy up for them, we might move it to another project, as long as it stays within the same question group. If there's any changes to the project scope that we presented, we will evaluate if we think it's following a the idea of the original plan. And if there's not enough bond funds to complete a project, our committee will be asked to make a recommendation on how we should proceed. All right any questions?

Mayor Borowsky: I don't have any at this time. Councilman Graham.

[Time: 00:24:43]

Councilman Graham: Thank you, Mayor. Good presentation. I wish we maybe I don't know how we do, this but it would be good to get more reports or something from the Bond Oversight Committee because it would be good to see you know, we watch these projects a lot, the 2019 Bond election, we just opened the dog parks. The Thompson Peak Dog Park. You know, where are we from funding standpoint, how much bond authorization is there left to sell. How much of the projects of the 58 or 59 projects, where are we in that?

And we do a lot of that with the Budget Review Commission and they play a role, but I think there's a little more opportunity to interface with the City Council. Like, we were we were at the ribbon cutting for the Thompson Peak Dog Park. And I was like, why are the Bond Oversight Committee members not here? Everything has its place but I do think that there is an opportunity to have a little more discourse. So, thank you for your time and for serving.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. And I do have question. It seemed like based on your overview of what the board's decisions are focused on it seems almost more financial than kind of subjective.

Darryl Kamesu: That's correct.

Mayor Borowsky: Is that by definition in your charter? Yes.

Erin Walsh: Yes, absolutely, this committee meets quarterly. One of my standard lines are the construction moves slowly between the design and the construction and the process. So, they do oversee we are done with the 2015, the 2019 projects and they do meet on a quarterly basis. Any recommendation they make comes to you. So, every action that we just outlined comes to you during your regular meetings. So, we absolutely hear that we could put out some biannual updates on where we are with the program. And then anything you see out of the quarterly meetings come to the City

Council.

Mayor Borowsky: But almost exclusively fiscal.

Erin Walsh: Exclusively fiscal.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you very much. Great presentation, we appreciate your service.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Next, the Historic Preservation Commission. We will hear from Adam Yaron and Chair Mark Estes. Welcome, gentlemen.

[Time: 00:27:15]

Staff Representative Adam Yaron: I'm the commission liaison to the Historic Preservation Commission. Thank you. Joining me this afternoon is Mark Estes, Chair of the commission who has served since May of 2024. Together, we're pleased to present the highlights from the commission's 2025 annual report which was approved earlier this year.

The Historic Preservation Commission has seven members appointed by City Council. It's to help and preserve the historic and archaeological resources. The commission's responsibilities include maintaining the Scottsdale historic register, reviewing proposed changes to historic properties and making recommendations on historic property rezoning to both planning commission and City Council. The commission also oversees incentive programs that support the rehabilitation and continued use of historic properties and advises City Council on broader preservation matters and other assigned topics. The commission members brings experience in architecture, construction, history, archaeology, planning, real estate and historic preservation law. This range of expertise supports the commission's review of both individual properties and broader preservation initiatives.

Chair Mark Estes: Thank you, Adam. In 2025, the commission continued its core preservation responsibilities while also responding to the emergency the emerging policy issues and expanding public access to Scottsdale's historic resources. The commission reviewed and acted on several certificates of appropriateness requests involving properties within locally designated historic districts. These reviews helped to ensure that proposed changes remained consistent with the applicable preservation standards and the character of each district.

The commission also considered recent changes in state law related to accessory dwelling units and discussed their potential implications with properties designated districts and properties. In addition, the commission reviewed the middle housing text amendment, developed in response to in House Bill 2721 and considered how the proposed changes could affect Scottsdale's historic preservation interests. Finally, the commission advanced public facing preservation resources through the development and posting of the early town building story map. The story map provides an interactive way for residents

and visitors to learn about buildings and places associated with Scottsdale's early development. Next slide, thank you.

The commission remains focused on Scottsdale's heritage and to identifying, recognizing and protecting the historic and cultural resources that reflect the city's past.

Looking ahead, the commission's work will continue to focus on three areas. First, program administration. This includes reviewing certificates of appropriateness and historic residential exterior rehabilitation requests. Evaluating relevant preservation regulations. Maintaining the Scottsdale historic register and considering opportunities to improve program processes. Second advocacy and coordination. We will work with local, state and regional preservation partners to support policies, incentives, funding opportunities and other tools that advance historic preservation. Third, public outreach. The commission will continue expanding public-facing resources and communications to help residents, property owners and community groups better understand Scottsdale's historic resources and the value of preserving them. Through these efforts, the commission will continue supporting the preservation and enhancement of the buildings, structures, Districts and places that best represent Scottsdale's history.

In closing, thank you for the opportunity to present this evening and we thank you for your time. We will continue our work to protect and celebrate Scottsdale's heritage.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you, I see Vice Mayor McAllen has something to say.

[Time: 00:32:34]

Vice Mayor McAllen: Thank you, Mayor. Thank you, gentlemen, for your service. I do have a question, are there, how many historic neighborhoods are this in Scottsdale and are there any that are on the verge of becoming, if that makes sense? And what is that definition?

Adam Yaron: Vice Mayor McAllen, Mayor Borowsky and City Council, we have approximately 28 districts that have the H.P. overlay. Of that, there are residential subdivisions that I want to say make up about four or five of those districts. Our general rule of thumb within a zoning ordinance is that a property needs to be at least 50 years of age in order to be considered for an H.P. district designation. We do have a growing number of interests from residents seeking potential H.P. designation, mostly in and around the Old Town area. I would say maybe some smaller multifamily kind of garden apartment type developments that are seeking either the possibility to leverage HRER funding and/or seek some other tax advantage that may be available to them. Also, in those types of circumstances, there are not a lot of regulatory controls for how a property might look. And so that's another benefit that those residents are looking for by getting the H.P. designation.

Vice Mayor McAllen: Thank you. I know the city of Phoenix had quite an ordeal with their historic neighborhoods after the A.D.U. law. It could have decimated their historic neighborhood. So, I know they fought very hard. So please, if anything comes up that you need assistance, please let us know.

Thank you for your service.

Mayor Borowsky: Councilwoman Whitehead.

[Time: 00:34:31]

Councilwoman Whitehead: Thank you, Mayor, thank you, guys. Those laws I know they were lobbying hard for some laws to protect those historic neighborhoods. Did any of those pass or get signed into law?

Adam Yaron: Thank you, Councilwoman Whitehead and Mayor and members of City Council. The A.D.U. bill has gotten passed into law and we incorporated into the zoning ordinance...

Councilwoman Whitehead: Sorry, I meant the follow-up laws to protect historic neighborhoods.

Adam Yaron: Yes, we had the middle housing bill that got passed. There was a growing interest from the legislature to hopefully revisit that, and that did not occur. So so in that regard, you are correct. I

Councilwoman Whitehead: I had a different question, and I will follow up with you on this. Do you know and I think this is an Adam question, the designated triangle building on Indian School is that moving forward?

Adam Yaron: Councilwoman Whitehead, members of City Council, that's the Kimsey building and that project is moving forward. I know staff internally have processed a review of their design guidelines, and they will be rehabilitating that building in accordance with what the City Council approves.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Super exciting.

Mayor Borowsky: I don't see any other questions. How much do you interface with Joan Fudala, ever?

Adam Yaron: Mayor Borowsky, members of Council, occasionally we do. I know Joan has a huge presence with Scottsdale Historical Society in terms of making sure that the stories of Scottsdale continue. But we certainly enjoy interacting when we do have those opportunities, as well as kind of well-known historians like Doug Signor and others but, again, that's our experience.

Mayor Borowsky: She would probably make a great guest visitor if you gave her ten minutes.

Adam Yaron: If I'm not mistaken, I think she was actually on the original Historic Preservation Committee at the start of this whole effort.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you both. We appreciate it. Thank you for your service.

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION

Next, we have Human Services Advisory Commission, Scottsdale Housing Agency Governing Board. And we'll hear from staff representative Mary Witkofski and Chair Roger Laurie. Welcome.

[Time: 00:36:59]

Staff Representative Mary Witkofski: Good evening, Mayor, members of the Council, I'm Mary Witkofski and I'm currently serving in the role as an Interim Human Services Director and Housing and Community Assistance Manager and staff representative for both the Human Services Advisory Commission and the Scottsdale Housing Agency Governing Board. To the right of me is Roger Laurie, he's our current Chair of the Human Services Commission and he is ending his second term as the Chair based on our bylaws. He's happy to be here to present with us.

We will talk about the Human Services Commission; the purpose is to provide advisory recommendation to staff and City Council on human services priority programs. There's Scottsdale Cares and host investment partnerships and human services emergency and general funds. It consists of seven members appointed by City Council.

Then when we look at the makeup of the Scottsdale housing governing board, they oversee the city of Scottsdale's Housing Choice Voucher Program. The Scottsdale Housing Agency Governing Board consists of eight members. The seven sitting members of the Human Services Advisory Commission, appointed by City Council and one Scottsdale voucher program, the Scottsdale housing board participant member shall be appointed annually and serve a one-year term. We have had an HVC participant sit on the panel previously and currently we are seeking one. I will turn it over to Chair Laurie to talk about our accomplishments.

Chair Roger Lurie: Good afternoon, Mayor Borowsky and members of the Council. So, we're going to separate Human Services Commission from Housing Agency Governing Board, specifically with the housing or excuse me, the human services commission. One of the accomplishments was the increase of Scottsdale Cares program. That has existed for 30 years and at \$1 per month and raising \$2 per month, it allows us to do significantly more in terms of supporting vulnerable residents in our community.

In 2025, under the leadership of the Human Services Department, there was a strategic plan passed with input from many, many residents of the community and we completed one year of that plan, and I think with great success and look forward to the second year and beyond. And then evaluation of the annual funding process. That's proposals for Community Development Block Grant, Scottsdale Cares and home and the general funds, endowment funds and so forth and all the commission reads roughly about 2,000 pages of proposals. It's a pretty intense period for our commission. In the January, February, and March time frame. Next slide.

Key accomplishments for the Housing Governing Board, which is oversight of the Section 8 public housing. I want to applaud the Human Services staff under Mary Witkofski's leadership, they attained a

high performer I know this is a mouthful, high performer on Section 8 Management Assessment Program. That means that there is really intense complex reporting they need to do to the federal government and they have really excelled at that and really deserve a lot of credit in that. In addition, passing a public housing agency annual plan and then housing agency administrative plan for 2026. Next slide.

Current and future opportunities and challenges as it pertains to the housing or excuse me, the Human Services Commission, continuing strategic analysis of federal and state funding of. And we have seen a significant decrement that's available for the emergency support, particularly from the federal government, and looking for more community collaboration, opportunities for us as a commission, for you all as Mayor and City Council to be and for that funding to ensure that our vulnerable seniors, families, families with small children and veterans remain housed, and remain with their utilities enabled.

I have recently done outreach, for example, to the McKinney Vento Rep from the Scottsdale Unified School District and there's roughly about 250 children in Scottsdale schools without permanent housing. And making sure that we're able to support those people. So, I think that really leads to this last bullet strengthening efforts to support vulnerable residents, the elderly, the disabled, veterans and low income. I think it's incumbent upon us to look for collaboration with nonprofit agencies and faith-based organizations to support that. And next slide.

As it pertains to the Housing Agency Governing Board, continued cost saving measures to stay within our 2026 funding and then maintaining housing for families that are currently receiving housing choice vouchers through Section 8. I think with that, we are concluded and we'll take questions.

Mayor Borowsky: All right, Councilwoman Whitehead.

[Time: 00:43:57]

Councilwoman Whitehead: Thank you, Mayor and thanks, both of you. On Section 8, are we seeing an increase, or decrease in vouchers and also properties that in Scottsdale that one could use for the vouchers? How are we doing on that?

Mary Witkowski: Mayor Borowsky, members of the commission, that is a great question. We have 542 families that are currently leased here in the city of Scottsdale. We have 780 vouchers that we may lease up, however, we are constrained to stay within our current budgetary authority granted by H.U.D. and so 542 is right about where we sit. The average per unit cost that we have to pay for rental subsidy is about \$1,300 a month per HCV participant depending on family, size and composition. The HCV participants are required to pay 30 and 40%, above and beyond the per unit cost we are paying. I forgot your second question. Do we have enough landlords? We maintain a current property listing and I'm happy to say that we have over 250 landlords participating with the Housing Choice Voucher Program and plenty of places currently for them to go, however, they are affordable to those that have a voucher but not necessarily to those who do not.

Councilwoman Whitehead: So, I'm not an expert in this. We have enough landlords. We have enough vouchers. We have a budget problem?

Mary Witkofski: Mayor, members of the Council, we don't have a budget problem because we have implemented cost-saving measures to ensure that all families remained housed. So, the budget authority, I will tell you that HUD has across the nation has a billion dollars shortfall for housing choice voucher program but that does not mean that the city of Scottsdale has a budget problem per se, it means we are operating within the budget that we currently have.

Councilwoman Whitehead: Sorry, I will be obtuse here. We have enough landlords. We have enough vouchers but we're not filling all the properties we have with families that need housing. What is missing ingredient?

Mary Witkofski: Mayor, members of Council, the HUD funding it for more money.

Councilwoman Whitehead: So, the federal government.

Mary Witkofski: The federal government. The city of Scottsdale is maintaining its funding as it's required to and not going over so we don't end up in shortfall, but HUD doesn't have enough funding. We have been directed by the administration, the federal administration to implement cost-saving measures across the board which includes no issues with housing vouchers.

Councilwoman Whitehead: I won't get into this here because this is a long afternoon. At some point, because this is a long afternoon. If there are some metrics but I'm hearing that Arizona has the most severe cuts to food assistance. So maybe it would be good to know what those implications under Scottsdale, and if a family comes to one of our centers, are we able to help them, kind of some guidelines on where we are in terms of being able to help those in need here in our community and if what funding changes so we can have some funding to fill that gap. Thank you so much.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. Vice Mayor McAllen.

[Time: 00:47:28]

Vice Mayor McAllen: Thank you, Mr. Laurie, for your service, and thank you, Mary, for your presentation. I have two questions. About how much money do you anticipate receiving now that the donation for Cares is \$2 and then my second is more of a comment. I wanted to congratulate your food bank in getting your new refrigerated truck and I know how hard they worked to do that. So, congratulations and if you could explain the food truck and what that is, after the Cares money.

Mary Witkofski: Mayor, members of the Council, our Scottsdale Cares, the annual revenue to date last year for fiscal year '25/26 was about \$143,000. The increase took effect July 1st. And so, I don't have those numbers directly in front of me, but we hope to have that doubled. And then with regards to the food truck, you want to know what we do with the food truck.

Vice Mayor McAllen: Just explain to the public the food truck.

Mary Witkofski: Scottsdale Community Partners is our nonprofit that we work directly with in the Human Services Department and oversees and the connection through St. Mary's Food Bank. The food truck and the retrofit was definitely a community collaboration and if I forget a partner, my apologies, it was Scottsdale Community Partners, Honor Health and the Blue Zone and the Firefighters Association, as well as the Elks Lodge that came forward to help us retrofit that for refrigeration and to wrap it. I hope you have seen the amazing photo of the food wrap that represents our food bank that is driving around. We have about 15 grocers, including Amazon, is one of our pickups on a daily basis that run occurs around 6:00 a.m. every morning. Two or three of the staff members go out and bring the first produce and bring the fresh meat and milk back and then we actually distribute it that same day and it goes through a sorting process. We are excited to serve about 120 people per week at the food bank. That doesn't include healthy packs which is about 480 Scottsdale Unified students and then we have the brown bags, in addition to the emergency food boxes and the special food plus program for our seniors.

Mayor Borowsky: All right. I don't see any other comments or questions. Thank you very much. Thank you for your service. Roger, appreciate you. Oh, hi. hi, welcome.

Deputy City Manager Kira Peters: Sorry to jump in, but I wanted to add a little bit to what Mary was mentioning about the food truck and how excited we were about the food truck and she was recognizing some of our partners and I really did want to take an opportunity to recognize Councilwoman Dubauskas for really getting the ball rolling with that. So, I know that Mary is up here and wanted to make sure we just recognizes everybody who was instrumental. So just wanted to take an opportunity and recognize that work as well because it really got us started. So, thank you. Thank you, Mayor.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. Thank you for the presentation. Keep up the good work.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Next, we have the Scottsdale IDA, the Industrial Development Authority. And we have the staff representative Josh Utterback Josh Utterback and Ida President Edgar Alvarado. Welcome.

[Time: 00:50:45]

Staff Representative Josh Utterback: Thank you Mayor Borowsky and members of the Council. My is Josh Utterback with the Economic Development Department Program Manager, and I'm the staff liaison for the Scottsdale Industrial Development Authority also known as the Scottsdale IDA. Pleased to introduce you to Edgar Alvarado. He was elected president in December of 2025 and take it away.

President Edgar Alvarado: Thank you, Josh. And thank you, Mayor and City Council, for giving us the opportunity to present Scottsdale IDA. So, let's go to the first slide. So here we go. Is this it? I think we have to back up. Is that the first slide?

So, the purpose of the Scottsdale IDA is to essentially issue our taxable and tax-exempt financing and what that provides is comparable financing from banks, but what's important is that we're able to be very competitive because some of these financing vehicles can be tax exempt from federal tax and state tax. So that allows us to provide financing to local businesses at 200 to 300 percentage points below what a typical bank financing or other types of financing could cost. And for a small business in Scottsdale, small to medium sized business in Scottsdale over a period of time, that could be substantial savings.

The Scottsdale IDA, there's a couple of points that I wanted to point out with the Scottsdale IDA. One is this body appoints the members of the board and number two, any transactions that we review and approve ultimately have to be approved by this body. So, the Mayor and the City Council have final approval of any transactions.

So, what are some of the key accomplishments and we will get to some of the challenges but related challenges, the Scottsdale IDA has not issued a Bond in 16 years, 2010 was the last time a bond issuance took place. So essentially, the challenges, people don't know that we are here or didn't know because we are making headway there. And the good thing is, you know, that was the challenge, but the good thing is people didn't know we were here, right? So, it gave us an opportunity to basically rebrand the Scottsdale IDA and go out and reach to the to our constituency and be able to tell our story and what are some of the benefits that we can bring to them as a business in Scottsdale.

So, we have reengaged multiple parties. So, when you issue a bond, there's many parties involved, not just the City Council, not just us, but there's Bond Council, and obviously there's the business that's bringing the project to us for financing. And they engage Bond Council as well. There's underwriters that are involved, there's a bond trustee that's involved which typically gets back. There's a lot of parties involved in a typical transaction.

[Time: 00:54:37]

So, part of the challenge is how do we start bringing some of those bodies to the table and start being able to assist us in restarting the application process, the review process, the approval process, et cetera. So, while we're still in the early stages of doing that, we feel we have made significant headway in the last six months.

We have increased our market awareness. We did join the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce. We have attended a number of their events. We conducted a seminar back in June, which was very well received. We talked to a number of potential businesses that are kicking the tires so to speak in terms of using us as alternative financing. So even though it's still early, we see traction in the marketplace. And to the extent any of you have any referrals, you know, that would be also very helpful.

We did pass a balanced budget this past June for our fiscal year. Prior to that, we were in the red, but we were able to pass a balanced budget. Part of our mandate is we have to be self-sustaining, all right? So, the city doesn't provide any sort of financial support. We are supposed to be self-sustaining by

issuing these bonds and where we get a fee for doing so.

So, what are some of these opportunities? It's a multipronged approach, right? So, because we the Scottsdale IDA has been dormant for a period of time, we have to do market outreach. We have to do market education. We have to let people know we're here. We have to involve all the related parties, as I had mentioned before, there's quite a few of them. So, getting the application process, the review process, the approval process is going to be part of that opportunity to provide education and let people know that we're here and we're open for business.

The last two, one is generate operating revenue. As I mentioned we're self-funding. If we don't issue out bonds, we don't earn a fee. And if we don't earn a fee, we have no revenue and if we have no revenue, obviously we can't cover our expenses. So that is something that we're keenly aware of. And so, we take that fiduciary responsibility very seriously.

And here's the challenges, right? And at the end of the day, it's a couple of things. One, we establish our brand to the marketplace. Let people marketplace, let people know we're open for business. Continue to oversee our financial conditions in such a way that it's responsible oversight we have. Ultimately, to one goal, and that is to do a transaction. Because the Scottsdale IDA hasn't done a transaction in 16 years. We want to change that. We want to change that sooner rather than later but we understand there's still some work to be done but that's the ultimate goal.

And obviously, part of that is to show what are the economic benefits for what question do we do. If we do our job properly, which I think we're in really good shape in providing that direction, it's a win-win for everybody. We provide below market financing for small to medium-sized businesses in Scottsdale. They get to use the cost savings for their businesses, obviously. It provides the ability to retain jobs, improve economic infrastructure, attract new businesses, because we can provide below market financing and it does generate fee revenue for us. So that we can then use that fee revenue over and beyond our cost to give grants and we can give grants to other not-for-profits. Any questions, comments? Feedback?

Mayor Borowsky: Councilman Graham.

[Time: 00:59:12]

Councilman Graham: Mayor, thank you. Thank you for the presentation. I feel like your biggest challenge is awareness. And so, after you after you sort of source the I guess the transaction, what do you do you sell the transaction, do you finance it? Where does the capital come from? And do you carry it and serve it or do you transfer and sell it?

Edgar Alvarado: So, we serve as the conduit. And what we do is we match the needs, the financial needs of a project to investor appetite. And so, by issuing bonds, investors buy these bonds and these are you know, federally exempt. They can be state exempt, state tax, income tax exempt as well and there can be multiple benefits. And so the investors then buy these bonds which typically can be ten-year bonds,

15-year bonds and 20-year bonds. They get tax-free income. The businesses benefit by us passing through those savings so that they get below market financing. So, a typical bank today for a ten-year business loan might charge 8 to 10% interest.

Councilman Graham: Yeah.

Edgar Alvarado: We can provide financing at 6 to 8%. It could have a substantial impact to a small business.

Councilman Graham: Who finances the loan. What do I make my debt payments out to?

Edgar Alvarado: That is a bank trustee. They would receive the funds from the issuance of the bonds and then they would upon iter the development of the project as it you know, as it gets constructed and developed and they release the funds as needed and they collect the principal interest payments and then forward to the investors.

[Time: 01:01:12]

Councilman Graham: As conduit, do you guarantee through full faith or credit, do you have the ability to lower the interest?

Edgar Alvarado: No, we do not. At the end of the day, we don't have any liability to any of these transactions. This is an important consideration to highlight. Call it the full liability of providing the principal and interest falls on the borrower, which is a typical arrangement.

Councilman Graham: The do you have to be a Scottsdale-based business, or can you just have a location here?

Edgar Alvarado: Well, actually, my understanding is that we have no geographic limits. We can go anywhere in the U.S. and its territories. So, I'm trying to set up, maybe we should look at a project in Puerto Rico, right?

Councilman Graham: Do you have business contacts there?

Edgar Alvarado: That would be interesting. No, my focus has been, because the Scottsdale IDA has been dormant for such a long time, our focus has been that our first few transactions should being Scottsdale-based. So, in other words, we should focus on our backyard and ensure that our efforts are focused on benefiting businesses in Scottsdale. Can we go outside of Scottsdale after that? Yeah. We can. We can go to other municipalities.

Councilman Graham: But there's no requirement to have any footprint from a business in Scottsdale to qualify for the for the benefits of the IDA?

Edgar Alvarado: No.

Councilman Graham: Is this any type of limitation as far as the entity you can be. Can it be a nonprofit or public or private company?

Edgar Alvarado: It could be a not for profit, a school, healthcare facilities. It could be a community center, a private business. So, our mandate is pretty broad in nature.

Councilman Graham: I would imagine that you have nonprofits or something that or churches or something like that, I don't know if those ever.

Edgar Alvarado: I haven't seen churches, but we could have a not-for-profit healthcare facility and those are things that we would be able to look at. As long as they qualify and, you know, when I say qualify, there's a lot of hurdles that need to be met. Essentially I.R.S. hurdles. Then, yeah, we would be able to look at it.

Councilman Graham: Well, thank you for coming today Mr. Alvarado, and Mr. Utterback.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. Councilwoman Whitehead.

[Time: 01:03:51]

Councilwoman Whitehead: Thank you, Mayor, just a quick question. It has to have a public benefit?

Edgar Alvarado: Yes, it does. We have to show that a potential project has an economic positive impact to the community and when I say community, I'm saying Scottsdale. Yeah.

Mayor Borowsky: All right. Thank you for the presentation. Appreciate it.

LOSS TRUST FUND

Next, the Loss Trust Fund Board and we'll see Staff Representative George Woods and Chair Jacob Seltzer, who are approaching the table. Welcome. It looks like we have a bunch of others too. Well, they are leaving. At least one other.

Staff Representative George Woods: Hi, good afternoon.

Mayor Borowsky: Would you like to introduce yourself? You're with the city.

Denise Plug: I'm Denise.

Mayor Borowsky: It wasn't on here.

Staff Representative George Woods: This is Denise. You guys don't know Denise?

Mayor Borowsky: I know Denise. George is listed as the staff rep, listed on my program tonight.

George Woods: Good afternoon, Mayor, Councilmembers, this is our Chairman, Jacob Seltzer, he will be assisting me during many presentation here. I'm George Woods, the Director of the Safety and Loss excuse me, Safety and Risk Management Division, we will be presenting on the Loss Trust Fund Board today. Jacob?

Chair Jacob Seltzer: So, the city of Scottsdale set up a trust to hold the funds responsible for paying for your risk management, your insurance projects, your liability, safety, all of those things that separates these funds and allocates them directly to those programs. You have decided to have citizens involved in overseeing that board. So, there's five of us in total, including on top of that Mr. Woods who we support, and Chief Deputy Attorney, Lori Davis, who also assisted with us. Through this program, we are overseeing not only your risk management which is partially self-funded. Your health benefits fall under this as well. These are all benefits that are going towards your employees. So, this is kind of a big job for Mr. Woods and his department to to impact your employees. And for those of us who are involved in it, we all have to have some sort of understanding of what it is that we're getting into. So, I have an insurance background. We have three others that have a finance background. The City Council has done a great job of selected members to be a part of this board. And I think when you hear what Mr. Woods says about the success, it will reflect that as well.

[Time: 01:06:52]

George Woods: Thank you, Chairman Seltzer. The Loss Trust Fund Board under Luis Santaella. They provide comprehensive workplace safety, loss prevention, insurance and contractual risk management. And they are responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining a best practice safety and residential management for the city, through product active planning and data-driven decision making, the decision division works to evaluate and mitigate potential risks. These efforts focus on protecting the people as Chairman Seltzer referred to, city assets and public resource as well, effectively managing the total cost of risk through the continuous improve through loss prevention, insurance and claims programs.

Some of the key accomplishments of the Loss Trust Fund Board include the presentation of the 2025 annual report related to the safety and risk management division. And some of the notable accomplishments within that report are the city received the 2026 Industrial Commission of Arizona Public Entity Partnership program, Large City of the Year Award. We were accompanied by the city attorney, as well as the city manager, to go down and accept that award. It was a joyous occasion.

We also improved the city, which is directly related to the injury experience as it pertains to the city. That's now sitting at .93, which is below the industrials commission standard of 1.10, this represents a 26.77% reduction over the previous year and represents the city's lowest injury rate in over a decade. The presentation of the actuarial report as compared by Oliver Wyman is also an acknowledgement of

our board.

Jacob Seltzer: If I could jump in. He's being a little humble. This is the Woods era of this program. You have done an incredible job. Your staff has done an incredible job. The leaders, the supervisors and the managers have taken to heart the programs that were implemented. The board itself is a very low instance of issues. I don't see Councilman Kwasman tripping over Chairs as he's going through the lieu the board here. So, this is a very, very important accomplishment that the city has made over the last few years.

George Woods: Thank you, Chairman. Upcoming opportunities include discussion on the appropriate funding confidence level in light of loss development, this this kind of affects the risk rates that we charge other departments throughout the city or the premium, if you will. We are also are going to endeavor on discovery and consultation in migrating towards a captive insurance model and controlling how much we spend on insurance or excess insurance per fiscal year. With that, that concludes our presentation. Any questions or comments?

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. I see Councilwoman Whitehead.

Councilwoman Whitehead: I was thinking here saying that was understated and I have been here long enough to see dramatic improvements. So, thanks, all of you.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. Well done. Appreciate for your service.

Vice Mayor McAllen: Congratulations on your award.

Mayor Borowsky: Oh, yeah. Absolutely. That's big.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Next, we have the Parks and Recreation Commission, Kevin McKee is the staff representative, and Chair Michael Vreeland will join us.

[Time: 01:10:42]

Staff Representative Kevin McKee: Good evening, Mayor Borowsky, Councilmembers. Thank you for having us out this afternoon, evening, I guess we're in between. My name is Kevin McKee. I'm a Deputy Director for our Parks and Recreation Department. I do, before we just get started, want to make a quick note of how much we appreciate our commission, the leadership by Chair Vreeland who is to my right. I'm a lifelong Scottsdale resident. I love this city and to work alongside these volunteers that aren't getting paid to be here that care as much as I do about this awesome city is incredible. So, thank you, Chair Vreeland.

We will start things off with an overview on the commission makeup and purpose. We have seven

members on our commission that are appointed at large by the City Council, and they advise you all on a few different things. First being the acquisition of lands and facilities for use as parks or recreation centers. Second, the operation use, care and maintenance of these parks and recreation areas. And third is a new purpose that came alongside the voter-approved parks and preserve sales tax. They are now acting as the citizens oversight committee for the implementation of that .15 tax as it relates to the use of revenues for all park improvements, capital projects and master plans. So, all of our large-scale capital projects, they are responsible for helping shape that budget.

One other note in 2025, this commission did celebrate 65 years as a body in Scottsdale which I think is pretty incredible. And I think the most awesome part to that is the fact that this commission continues to stay relevant and just as impactful today as they were 65 years ago, really helping shape the future with this new funding source we have. With that, I will toss things over to Chair Michael Vreeland to speak about on accomplishments.

[Time: 01:13:28]

Chair Michael Vreeland: Thank you, Kevin, Mayor, members of Council. It's been an exciting year to be part of the Parks and Rec Commission. There are several new items we were able to see and meeting the needs of our residents. I want to highlight a few of them here.

The first one, as Kevin mentioned, is the beginning of our oversight of the parks and preserves sales tax. So early last year we gave our first recommended approval of our portion of that sales tax, which we know has different areas that it works with. We there are extensive conversations about this. We want to create rhythms and rules for us and for future commissions. It's a 30-year tax that's being started here. And so, this is a you know, a citizen-approved opportunity that we want to make sure we're we're looking at the perspective correctly as we get into it.

So, we get monthly updates on the budget and implementation of the parks and preserve sales tax and that's something we look forward to each month, it's generated a lot of discussion monthly about where things are and how we're moving forward.

Another item, hearing back from residents, we worked with city staff a lot to retool the youth sports field allocation. We approved new rules and one the things that came out of that was strengthening Scottsdale resident priority. As you can imagine the demand for our sports fields far exceeds the inventory that we have available and so being able to make sure that we're prioritizing our residents for all the different sports is important.

It's been a particular joy to see the railroad park Roundhouse open in time for the 50th anniversary with that park late last year. We worked with the staff late last year. So, looking ahead, if you can go to the next slide.

Our main priority is going to be continuing what I mentioned before, which is oversight of the parks and preserve sales tax. We take this really seriously, this new initiative that's been put before us, but we're

also very excited because the parks and preserves sales tax will help to transform Scottsdale's parks over the last few decades. Some are 50 and 60 years old and old older. So, to that end, Aqua Linda, and Paiute Parks are the first to be slated to be redesigned. We are hoping and planning to be well into the design phase by Aqua Linda by the end of the year.

Also front and center for us is the Cactus pool feasibility study this will be an interesting and dynamic conversation of what to do with that facility, because we're looking at several different kinds of shareholders too. There's residents and pool users and people who use the park for other reasons. It will be an interesting experience. And mostly, with this next point about attending events and celebrations, I want to commend the hard work and the creativity of the parks and rec staff. There's so many great events throughout our park system and we will evaluate them. It's a joy to serve and attend at these and I know many of you on Council also take opportunities to go attend whether it's outside this building or the railroad park, or many other places along the park system.

And then this last challenge, the first thing we want moving forward is balancing the parks and reserve sales tax with other capital projects. It's pay as you go and it generates revenue. You under the things that it's given purview, but other projects like Cactus, like Indian School Park, two large projects will need significant capital investment from other sources. And so it's balancing what is the sales tax able to accomplish? What do we need to look elsewhere for? Just because the scale of those two things is different. So we're constantly having conversations about that as we're looking at we have some conceptual stuff and as we move forward in the design, there would need to have more conversations about how we will fund that. And with that, any questions or thoughts?

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you very much. Councilwoman Whitehead.

[Time: 01:18:09]

Councilwoman Whitehead: So, thanks guys, you know how excited I am and I want to echo about your staff. Your creativity and everything that you put out when there is an event, it's just amazing. I mean resort-level marketing here and resort-level parks and amenities. The Cactus is a bond project. I can't remember. I know there's some problems. Hopefully there's enough money in the bond for that. Was Indian School part of the bond? I don't think it was.

Kevin McKee: Councilwoman Whitehead, Mayor Borowsky, Councilmembers, the Indian School Park project has not there's not been any identified funding for that. About two years ago, we went through a master planning process to reimagine what the future could look like. Knowing that a funding source hadn't been identified, you know our rough run costs for that project, if it were to be as it was spelled out in the master plan is 140 million dollars. We don't have an identified source for that.

Councilwoman Whitehead: I just want to mention, the Prop 490 takes away from this maintenance and other stuff so we can move forward with our budgets our parks budget. So, I hope we get there. I don't want to forget the, we're waiting on the drainage but the pickleball courts at the Pima Park. I'm keeping an eye on that. Thank you, guys.

Mayor Borowsky: Vice Mayor McAllen.

Vice Mayor McAllen: Thank you, Mayor, gentlemen. Thank you, Mr. Vreeland and Mr. McKee. I was trying not to laugh when the former Commissioner George Woods was up here, because that used to be your father's job when he worked for the city back in the day. Talk about being lifelong loving the city, every staff member, whether they have been here lifelong or not gives that impression in parks and rec. Obviously, it's where I started in the city back in 1984, but long before, that wanting to be a recruiter because of Bill Exom and Bob Frost were in my neighborhood at our neighborhood grade school. I want to make sure and continue that sort of involvement with the school district. I know you already do that, but anyway that we can support the neighborhood school, the neighborhood charter schools, the Y that's at Tonalea and all of those things that we continue to work together with those groups gives us that all Scottsdale feel.

And I know you didn't even say half the accomplishments that you guys the awards you received at APRA. I know there are many. Thank you for all of your work and to the Director Molinari and to Chris back there. Thank you all very much.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. And Councilman Graham.

[Time: 01:21:24]

Councilman Graham: Mayor, thank you. It's good to see both at the dog park opening on Friday. Did you enjoy yourselves? Was it cool enough?

Kevin McKee: We were sweating bullets up this but we had lots of smiling faces and happy dogs up there. So that's what it's all about.

Councilman Graham: I would like to see a few more social media videos out of you.

Kevin McKee: It's fair to say you can expect that in the very near future.

Councilman Graham: Let's see it. Cactus Pool, I think I think you can work with the Bond Oversight Committee. They will have a say in that. I know the issue I think the issue with that is the authorization in the Bond is just substantially lower than what the price tag is. I think there should be some coordination with them on that. And I don't know what that looks like exactly, but I think when those projects are kind of there's a sort of Venn diagram for some of those projects, I think you can get some benefits from some collaboration. Councilmember Dubauskas mentioned Budget Review Commission is also going to look at that. Not to tie you down in too much bureaucracy. We have multiple commissions looking at one thing but we're taking different approaches and different purposes. What do you do? Like, are they gonna reach out to you or are you going to reach out to them? You know, I don't have the answer for you right now. I hope there can be some connection, some nexus and really any of these projects. I'm really excited about especially, you know south Scottsdale moving north, what we will do

for some of these aging parks that we have already seen big improvements at the Vista Del Camino and some of our other parks. Excited to see what goes on there. So, thank you. Thank you, Mayor.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. Councilman Kwasman.

Councilman Kwasman: Thank you, Madam Mayor. I just want to say thank you for all the hard work you are doing. I want to make sure that going forward we have a very fiscally astute understanding of where of the costs of these parks and where we're gonna land before we start spending money. I mean, I just I see the costs and the overruns and everything and I understand some are voter approved and the money has to be spent but I just want to remind members the Council that we are also fiscal stewards and that there are needs and there are wants and I know Scottsdale is a prosperous city. We need to make sure that we are looking at our police and our roads first and making sure that the needs are met and then we can move on to all the other parts that make Scottsdale beautiful and incredible. But with that, thank you for all you do.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. I don't see any other questions. Great job. It looks like you're having all the fun. So that's great. Good choice on the commission. He gets free rides on the merry-go-round.

VETERANS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Last but not least, we have the Veterans Advisory Commission. And staff representatives Chris Coffey and Virginia Bermudez and Chairperson Justin Layman. Welcome.

[Time: 01:25:01]

Chair Justin Layman: Good evening, Madam Mayor and Council.

Mayor Borowsky: Welcome. Please proceed.

Chair Justin Layman: Good afternoon, Madam Mayor, Vice Mayor, members of Council. My name is Justin Layman, I serve as the Chair of the Veterans Advisory Commission. I'm going to hope I have control over this command thing here.

Let me first explain some changes to our staff because might be wondering why I have Commander Coffey and the Interim Director of Strategic Solutions at the Scottsdale Police Department. So last spring, late last spring, the city went through some reorganization, and our commission is now staffed by Assistant Chief Chris Watson. He unfortunately is having a lot of fun at the national training center in Quantico. So he couldn't be here today so he asked me and Virginia to step in and because of this transition over the summer between our staff happened over the summer and our commission takes a break, we felt it would be easier if I did the lion's share of today's discussion. And Commander Coffey is notoriously shy. He didn't like to speak.

So, the commission's purpose and makeup, as you can see, there are seven of us. Five of us have to be

veterans or serving in a veteran service organization. So, we have one member, who serves as the president of the American Legion Auxiliary which is what spouses are, when their spouses are members of the American Legion. Our Vice Chair is actually currently Donna Tu who is the Director of the Military Partnership at HonorHealth.

The information that we will cover today is from the annual report which was issued in January. I think in the clerk, if Ben wants us to shift our calendar from the fiscal year to oh, from the calendar year to the fiscal year, that's something we can look at for next year. But this kind of covers 2025. Yes. Okay. Very good. And our purpose and makeup. We advise you on veteran policies and procedures and designed to improve the quality of life and we serve as a connection for the veterans and where they live. That's a short version of what we do on the commission.

At a glance so again, like I said, we don't meet in July or August, these are just the dates. We like using graphics. Go Army. Key accomplishments and major expectations. You heard a brief reference to the Madam Mayor, you mentioned Joan Fudala and the National POW/MIA Day, over the summer last year, Joan reached out to create a special event for National POA/MIA Day. We hosted that at the Community Design Studio. It was well received it was a nice highlight. Scottsdale Salutes, that's our ongoing program where we honor and recognize veterans from the community for the first two weeks in November with giant banners throughout the Old Town area. There's 48 banners. Councilman Dubauskas, last summer, you had asked us about being a Purple Heart City. We are a Purple Heart City. Mayor Jim Lane in May of 2015 I also speak at Pace. That's an Army thing. If I'm going too fast, watch the rerun. Mayor Jim Lane offered us created a proclamation designated the city as a Purple Heart City and the Councilwoman Dubauskas, you reached out and seed what can we do. Unfortunately, purple heart day is pretty toasty what we do is we set aside a single banner as part of the Scottsdale Salutes. We can get that awareness out. And then also with the Purple Heart stuff and when we do the National POW/MIA Day, we had two veterans speak and both or wounded in combat.

And we will continue to be at Canal Convergence this year. Last year, we partnered with Scottsdale Arts to host that reception as part of Canal Convergence. It was well received. Ordinarily, it's limited to the individual honorees or those veterans we're recognizing and their families. So usually about 80 folks in attendance. Last year was over 200. It was a pretty powerful moment for the city when the National Anthem started for everyone to stop. This year, Scottsdale Arts has convinced, I suppose, or the United States Jazz Band to play. We are working on something special for the interim.

[Time: 01:30:27]

The Bentley Polo Army match. I think PART OF YOUR Consent Agenda yesterday, you may have approved some funding for that. The Army and Navy have Polo teams. The Mayor, you may remember this last year, you rode out with the American flag as part of that but we had two veterans from Vietnam who dropped the ball to kick off that game. This year we plan to have two police officers who are both veterans and drop the ball to kick off the Army/Navy. So, one Army veteran and one Navy veteran and think community program at the Community Design Center.

Oh, we have more. We have a presentation on Thunderbird II AT Scottsdale Airpark where many pilots were trained in World War II, a local resident in and one of our former commissioner, Steve Zimek raised money and brought it back to the Scottsdale Airpark where it hangs today.

We have looked at some legislative recommendations. That was one of the things we looked at last year to try to track concerns through state legislature. You all know how important it is to be mindful of what's going on at the state house because they seem to enjoy coming down to the local level to spelunk. And then the Memorial for the Fallen, this is an ongoing process. I know Councilman Graham you are aware of this. The city staff are trying to work hard to get the two additional names. We are working to get it. Isn't quite as easy as getting a hammer and chisel out there. We're hopeful to try to get this don't for May of next year.

And the ongoing Veterans AZ Outreach. That's where we have veterans, it's through the Scottsdale Video Network. They produce that with the communications team. You can see why they made me do this, right? So, some photos. Something that else that we started this a couple of years ago, the Parada Del Sol. We invite all of those veterans who participate in the Scottsdale Salutes to walk in the Parada and we organize a float for them.

[Time: 01:32:52]

All right. So, some stuff for this upcoming year. I guess I can announce that we are moving Veterans Day back to McCormick-Stillman Railroad Park. We're excited about that. I know Nick and his staff have been helpful. We met several times over the summer to plan what that looks like. Everything is on track. It will be different. But so far, I do think it will be a wonderful opportunity. It allows veterans locally to attend the larger Phoenix parade and have enough time to come home to Scottsdale and enjoy our celebration. So, we're hopeful that will be exciting.

You heard from human services earlier tonight, fantastic. I met with the Human Services Commission. We piloted this program, Adopt a Veteran. I know Councilwoman Littlefield, it's human services and the Adopt a Senior and Adopt a Family program. Those two programs, the funding for them come through Scottsdale community partners but the city administers them. The city acts as the qualifying staff to make sure that they are needs based. We have moved forward with that. So, the pilot was pretty successful, we ironed out some stuff but really what we tried to do, we tried to take any veteran residents who are on a VASH, the Veterans Housing Voucher into Adopt a Veteran or Adopt a Senior and separately provide additional resources for veterans may exceed the federal limit. So maybe not qualify for the current program guidelines and then we can still provide the similar program. So, it will be the Thanksgiving and Christmas kind of program if you are familiar with Adopt a Family or Adopt a Senior. Very excited that that program is in full speed and I'm looking forward to see what human services, as far as the head count.

And then the community series is going to be back this October. So, for Thursdays in October, we will present a series of workshops at Granite Reef Community Center. It's very exciting. You can see I think they have got posters done and that's in partnership with human services and, again, partly with the

veteran population in south Scottsdale, in particular, they tend to skew older and we want to be mindful. We are trying to give them tools and connection points both to the city and the broader community.

Veterans AZ, so these are some of the challenges. I think this is an important program. This is a decision for staff. So, you know, we will keep you abreast. That broadcasts on the local access challenge. The legislation tracking, that's something that is of particular concern for the veterans in the community. These issues, as a city we don't necessarily have a lot of authority or jurisdiction to take particular action. That's really at the federal level or at the state level. So being mindful, you can bend an ear if you have that type of power. And one the biggest accomplishments is with the human services and the staff. We get a better idea of veteran population, as far as in the human services environment. All right. That was 2025. Any questions, Madam Mayor?

Mayor Borowsky: Excellent. Thank you, Justin. Appreciate it. Very good presentation. Councilman Kwasman.

[Time: 01:36:37]

Councilman Kwasman: Thank you Madam Mayor. Thank you guys for all that you do. I want to work with you all on the following things moving forward if that's possible. I know you are doing your workshops that you just talked about at the community center. But I want to make sure that Scottsdale joins other cities to be an Arizona at Work partner and work with Maricopa County providing entrepreneurial young entrepreneurial veterans the ability to have that on-the-job training and the there's training benefits. There's grants, there's so many things that that Maricopa County itself provides that I want to make sure that you guys take the lead and are there and we can do we can do workshops at libraries. We can do so much. You know, almost a career accelerator for veterans. I think that's something that this Council would very much be interested in.

Benefits, perhaps we need a liaison from you all to do a benefits navigator, you know, to facilitate local grants, something somebody would just doesn't know where to begin. Something that our city website can have that moving forward, as well as like you said before, the counseling that's there, but I want to make sure that in a world of growing prices and affordability issues that our veterans are not left behind. And so economically, I think that that's something not just a focus on veterans or senior citizens, but veterans coming back from from service right now that are that are young. So, something I'm happy to take, to take a lead on that with you all and I will offer my services whenever I can.

Justin Layman: Thank you, Councilman Kwasman and Madam Mayor and members of Council, I was smiling because we actually do have a program. So, it isn't technically well, I guess I haven't presented this to the commission yet. So, which is in September 3rd, next Wednesday. No, it's just we take a break and so but together the Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce, we have put together a five-week veterans accelerator. So, I spoke with our previous Economic Development Director and she kind of signed off. It's structured around what we would consider a residency requirement. So, it would be a Scottsdale resident, be a veteran or a good faith belief that you will start your business in Scottsdale. Is

that right? And so that program is gonna kick off in, it's Saturdays in October, so it's five Saturdays in October and then we will finish up on Veterans Day. The state does operate what is called be connected which is through the Arizona Coalition of Military Families. We have all of those items on our website.

The real challenge and I think this is what you were getting to is when you have a veteran suffering from any kind of mental distress. So, PTSD, or whatever that looks like, substance abuse, it's very, very difficult to try to address that. There are separate silos or pathways for veterans. One the biggest challenges is what is defined as a veteran, there's structural issue there. You're a veteran if you served overseas. If you serve in the National Guard you don't qualify as a veteran, and you are ineligible. That means the city cannot help you. There's nothing to be done. All of the veterans within human services presently are referred to the city, through the VA. Problem there, though, is that only about half of even the eligible veterans are within the VA system. So, unless you were given VA healthcare or knew that you were eligible for VA healthcare at some point, you would have no idea.

But the city has taken steps, for example, with the police department, we have a separate criminal justice process for veterans and so the justice court actually I think our city judge was instrumental in getting the program created many years ago, and so that's one thing that maybe not necessarily our resident veterans but some of our visitors would have a little too much fun in Old Town and are veterans we might be a little bit more helpful to make their stay a little less unpleasant for getting out of hand while being in Old Town. I think I addressed everything that you had mentioned but if not. Absolutely. Especially on the training side. Yeah.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you. And I see Barry excuse me, Councilman Graham would like to say something.

[Time: 01:41:26]

Councilman Graham: You mentioned the Memorial of the Fallen. Yeah, I think that's a great memorial and that was like a volunteer effort put together over years. I think my only, I think it can be improved a little bit if we the criteria about names inclusion was maybe I mean, I get it. Like there's only so much what they accomplished we should probably focus on that, but this could be a few more names that belong there and so...

Justin Layman: Sure. Councilman Graham, Madam Mayor, members of Council, the challenge is not with our requirements, it's really getting signoff from the family members.

Councilman Graham: That's the other aspect.

Justin Layman: You have to be mindful.

Councilman Graham: You have to respect their participation and what they're interested in and so yeah.

Justin Layman: But I think we're both speaking about the same particular case, my understanding is that

the family has now signed off on that and that is one of the names we would add.

Councilman Graham: Okay.

Justin Layman: To it. It's just the challenge I was speaking to is really finding a vendor willing to make the improvements or corrections, to put the new names on, it's tough because if they damage it yeah.

Councilman Graham: I know. There's a lot to consider. So...

Mayor Borowsky: All right. Vice Mayor McAllen.

Vice Mayor McAllen: Thank you, Mayor. I'm excited that your commission is now housed in the police department. There are so many officers that are former military, I think it's a natural fit. I can't imagine that you could possibly do more as a commission, but if it's possible, they will help you. Thank you for all of your work and all of your commissioners who work nonstop. Thank you.

Justin Layman: You thank you, Madam Vice Mayor.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you very much. Welcome, I guess, to the commission and great job, Justin. I know how passionate you are and we appreciate you and your passion. Thank you.

Justin Layman: Thank you, Mayor. You guys have a good afternoon.

Mayor Borowsky: Thank you all. That concludes our boards and commissions and committee reports and our business for the Special Meeting. And we will see you back here probably a little bit after 5:00, maybe take a 20-minute break? Everyone good with that. Anybody? All right. Thank you. Adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

[Time: 01:43:50]