



Neighborhood and Family Services Commission Meeting
Commission Members will attend either in person or by telephone or video conference call

Wednesday, March 27, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
AZ Complete Health Avondale Resource Center, 995 E. Riley Drive
Aravaipa Conference Room
Avondale, AZ 85323

Physical Access to the Aravaipa Conference Room will be available 30 minutes prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

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| 1. Call to Order | Chairperson Oliver Morrison |
| 2. Review and Approval of the November 29, 2023, Meeting Minutes | Chairperson Oliver Morrison |
| This item is for discussion and possible action. | |
| 3. Draft 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan: Staff will present and discuss a draft of the City’s annual action plan for all funding activities as required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. | Regina Marette, Housing & Community Development Manager |
| This item is for public hearing, discussion, and possible action. The City Council will review these draft plans at their meeting on April 8, 2024; and requested to adopt the plans at their meeting on April 22, 2024. | |
| 4. Avondale Leading Edge Non-Profit Community Impact Award: Staff will provide an update on the review and selection of recipient to be awarded at the State of the City event in the spring of 2024. | Edith Baltierrez,
Neighborhood and Family Services Assistant Director |
| This item is for discussion. | |
| 5. Future Agenda Items: This item is for information only. | Commission and Staff |
| 6. Announcements: This item is for information only. | Commission and Staff |
| 7. Call to the Public: This item is for information only. | Chairperson Oliver Morrison |
| 8. Adjournment | Chairperson Oliver Morrison |

Individuals with special accessibility needs, including sight or hearing impaired, large print, or interpreter, should contact the City Clerk at 623-333-1200 or TDD 623-333-0010 at least two business days prior to the meeting.

Personas con necesidades especiales de accesibilidad, incluyendo personas con impedimentos de vista u oído, impresión grande o interprete, deben comunicarse con la Secretaria de la Ciudad at 623-333-1200 o TDD 623-333-0010 cuando menos dos días hábiles antes de la junta.



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MEETING MINUTES

Commission Members in Attendance: Fabian Prado, Hilary McKillip, Pearlette Ramos, Dawn Gerundo.

Commission Members Absent: Shari Weise (excused), Jerome Brownlee Jr. (excused), Michelle McMullen (excused), Oliver Morrison (excused).

City Staff and Guests in Attendance: Neighborhood & Family Services Assistant Director Edith Baltierrez, City of Avondale Economic Development Director Ken Chapa, City of Avondale Transit Manager Matthew Dudley, Administrative Assistant Alisa Chavez

1. Call to Order

The Neighborhood and Family Services Commission meeting was called to order by Fabian Prado at 6:06 p.m.

2. Review and Approval of the September 27, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Ms. Ramos made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Ms. Gerundo seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously with an Aye by Members present.

3. Economic Development Update:

Economic Development Director Ken Chapa presented an overview of the city' Economic Development and Tourism efforts.

Ms. Ramos wanted to know more specifically what 95% built out meant and how would the city grow if it was already built out. Mr. Chapa explained that the city's "built out" meant there was no more land mass to build large land projects. However, Mr. Chapa stated the city was focused on specific industries such as healthcare, industry, and specialty areas such as The BLVD and Old Town Avondale as part of their growth efforts.

Ms. Ramos asked whether the city partnered with credit unions. Mr. Chapa advised the city was not permitted to hold loans with credit unions.

Ms. McKillips asked about the logistics for roads and schools. Mr. Chapa explained that other city departments managed the logistics for schools and roads.

Ms. Ramos asked if Economic Development helped with the aesthetics of the building's businesses would occupy. Mr. Chapa said his department would help prepare businesses moving into the city, including advising on building expectations.

4. Avondale Transportation Update:

Transit Manager Matthew Dudley provided a presentation on WeRIDE, and the transportation services provided through this program. WeRIDE offers trips to and from fixed points within a 10-minute walk to Avondale residents, stopping at shopping centers, medical facilities, recreation, businesses, and community spaces.

Ms. Ramos inquired about the typical rider and the annual budget. Mr. Dudley explained the typical rider included Estrella Mountain Community College students (about 20%), general public (about 45% Avondale residents), then senior citizens and disabled residents made up the rest. The city's current budget for this program was \$1.75 million.

Ms. Garundo asked how Avondale residents got home from Goodyear locations. Mr. Dudley explained how the program worked, including booking a trip and pre-determining a fixed location for pick up and drop off. He indicated the pre-determined locations served as virtual stops. He also mentioned some of those virtual stops included Goodyear locations such as St. John Vianney Catholic Church because of the demand to be a pick-up and drop-off location.

Mr. Prado asked how this helped high school students. Mr. Dudley stated after school virtual bus stops could be an option if there was a demand for them.

5. Avondale Leading Edge Non-Profit Community Impact Award

Assistant Director Edith Baltierrez provided an overview of the Avondale Leading Edge Nonprofit Community Impact Award and shared the process for nominations, application review and selection of award recipient. She also extended an invitation for the Commission Members to serve on a sub-committee of up to three members to help with the review and selection of the award recipient for the nonprofit category at a future date. Ms. Baltierrez asked if any of the Commission Members were interested, they could email her directly.

6. Future Agenda Items

Ms. Baltierrez suggested the following topics:

- HUD Annual Action Plan
- Public Safety presentation on street safety and traffic mitigation
- Senior Services update on rebranding efforts

7. Announcements

Ms. Baltierrez provided information on the following projects and events:

- The city of Avondale hosted Winterfest on Saturday, December 2, 2023, from 5:00pm to 9:00pm at the Avondale Civic Center Complex at 11465 W. Civic Center Drive, Avondale. The event included holiday lights, refreshments and activities for families and friends.
- Neighborhood and Family Services hosted the Hometown Holidays event on Friday, December 15 from 10:00am to 12:00pm at the Arizona Complete Health Avondale Resource Center at 995 E Riley Dr., Avondale. The event included meeting with Santa, enjoying cookies, making crafts and receiving a free book. The event was also geared towards families and children ages 0-5.
- SONAR's Homeless Strategic Plan Survey was initiated, and Commission Members were asked to complete the survey and spread the word to their neighbors to participate as well.

8. Call to the Public

None

9. Adjournment

Ms. Gerundo made a motion to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Ms. Ramos. The motion passed unanimously with an Aye by Members present. The meeting adjourned at 7:49p.m.

Next meeting, 6:00 p.m. – AZ Complete Health Avondale Resource Center – March 27, 2024