

» News and information about the Town of Paradise Valley, Arizona



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town reporter[®]



Stay Current with Alert Paradise Valley

We are pleased to announce the launch of “Alert Paradise Valley.” This new system is an enhancement to our Smart911 system allowing you to receive emergency public safety notices as well as construction updates, general town news, and Town Council and Planning Commission agendas via text message, email or voice message.

Find more information on page 4.

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ALERT
PARADISE
VALLEY

mayor's corner

Town Council

The Town Council meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month except in November and December when meetings are on the first and third Thursdays. Meeting agendas and corresponding reports are posted on the website approximately one week before the meeting. Agendas are subject to change so please verify meeting start times and the order of items prior to the meeting date on our website: paradisevalleyaz.gov.



Recently, I spoke in front of a special committee at the Arizona Legislature examining the impacts of so-called short-term rentals. These rental properties have become a significant problem for Paradise Valley and other communities, as they have irregular occupancy, their occupants can often exhibit behavior that affects nearby property owners, and they can transform neighborhoods through the intensity of their use and commercial nature. This issue is important to me, our Council, and our Town because the current State law fundamentally undercuts our long-established residential zoning by mandating that we allow an unlimited number of these largely unregulated commercial rental operations throughout the Town's residential neighborhoods.

To provide some background, Senate Bill 1350 was signed into law in 2016 to prevent municipalities from passing zoning ordinances or enforcing local laws prohibiting or limiting short-term rentals, with the intent to protect the individual rights of property owners who chose to rent out a room in their home. Unfortunately, the bill that protected the desires of some individuals has inadvertently impeded the rights of those who live next door.

Short-term rental properties — like other commercial activities — should be governed by effective noise, trash, and nuisance ordinances. To try to counter these issues, the Town recently adopted an Unruly Gathering Ordinance in response to our police officers having to make repeated calls to unruly parties or gatherings. In a community like Paradise Valley where we have limited government (and limited resources), it is important to make sure our resources are directed where they are most effective throughout the Town, rather than continually responding to just a few “party houses” in the community.

Every community has experienced different impacts from short-term rentals and, consequently, we should be able to address those unique impacts as directly as possible. The State has passed legislation that allows for property owners to rent homes by the night. We believe that it is now time to return control to each community to refine what that looks like, and we are asking the Legislature to consider legislation that would walk back the unintended consequences of Senate Bill 1350 and restore important local control.

There has been some recent progress on this issue at the state level, with efforts to contain the SB 1350 genie (although not to put it back in the bottle) by modifying the original bill. Allowing municipalities to better regulate short-term rentals will make a difference in preserving the property values and protecting the peace, quiet, and top-notch residential character of our neighborhoods. We appreciate the work that has been done to refine the original law prohibiting the Town from enforcing its zoning, including by our LD 28 elected officials, but there is much more work to do. We will continue to seek ways to work with Governor Ducey and the State Legislature, and other impacted communities, to authorize local municipalities to minimize short-term rental impacts to neighbors, ensure all visitors remain safe and ensure our resorts stay financially healthy.

If you have any questions or concerns about short-term rentals, or any other issue facing our community, please contact me directly at jbienwillner@paradisevalleyaz.gov.

Cordially,

Jerry Bien-Willner
Mayor of Paradise Valley

police department

PVPD Welcomes New Facility Dog – Pepper

Facility dogs are a growing trend in law enforcement agencies across the country, and they are already in use in Chandler, Mesa and Gilbert. Police departments often have personnel who experience high stress on a daily basis, and having a happy face and wagging tail to comfort or distract them after particularly stressful calls or days can work wonders for the psychological well-being of public safety personnel.

Research shows that having a dog in the office helps reduce stress caused not only by work responsibilities, but also from outside occurrences that might be difficult for employees to leave at the door. Dogs in the office help lower cortisol levels (stress-causing hormone) and blood pressure while increasing oxytocin (stress-reducing hormone), happiness, and job satisfaction. There is also a clear link between adding dogs to the office and reducing absenteeism.

The Paradise Valley Police Department is excited to introduce our new

facility dog, Pepper. A donation from Colorado's Rocky Mountain Bernadoodles, she has undergone facility dog training at K9 Games in Peoria. Under the instruction of Kristi Smith and the rest of the team at K9 Games, Pepper has learned basic obedience and is moving on to learning manners, public access, and behavior interruption training, the last of which involves deep pressure therapy instruction.

In deep pressure therapy, a dog uses his or her weight and body heat to help calm an individual experiencing stress or anxiety, offering benefits similar to those experienced when using a weighted blanket. This training will allow Pepper to assist stressed or anxious department members, even if they do not realize they are exhibiting related symptoms.

Pepper should complete her training this month, at which point she'll join the rest of the Paradise Valley Police Department for her swearing-in ceremony on February 5th during



Coffee with a Cop. Stop by and say hi to the newest team member starting in 2020!

We will announce Pepper's first day of work through the Alert Paradise Valley notification system

paradisevalleyaz.gov/AlertPV

Sign up today!

Training to Prevent Elder Abuse

The Paradise Valley Police Department hosted 75 sworn police officers from around the state for training on identifying, intervening, and resolving instances of elder abuse within the community. One of the fastest-growing crimes in the United States, elder abuse can be emotional, financial, physical, or sexual in nature, and instances of neglect may, too, constitute this type of behavior. Often, the people who hold caregiver roles, or the people who otherwise hold positions of trust over older adults, commit elder abuse, and in many instances, the behavior goes unreported or unnoticed.

Conducted by the University of Southern California's Keck School of Medicine, this first-of-its-kind training was made possible thanks to funding assistance from the U.S. Department of Justice. The training welcomed educators, attorneys, expert witnesses and specialized officers as presenters.

According to the National Center on Aging, elder abuse affects about one out of every 10 adults ages 60 and over. Current estimates suggest, however, that authorities only hear about one out of every 14 instances of abuse. If you think you might be a victim of elder abuse, or if you believe someone you know or love is a victim, please contact the Paradise Valley Police Department.



ALERT
PARADISE
VALLEY

SIGN UP TODAY!



Photo Credit: Maria Lanigan

Alert Paradise Valley Provides Great New Services

“Alert Paradise Valley” is our branding for the Smart911 app. Alert Paradise Valley enables Town residents to update notification settings through the Alert Paradise Valley portal at ParadiseValleyAZ.Gov/AlertPV. With just one sign-up process, you can:

- » Receive timely Town-related alerts
- » Provide profile information to make you, your household, and your visitors safer if you need to make a 911 call
- » Enhance security for Paradise Valley resident while out-of-town

Once you create an account, the Smart911 app will allow you to receive timely emergency alerts via email, text or voice message. You choose when and how you receive alerts before, during, and after emergencies. You can also modify your notification settings to get messages about Town meetings, capital projects, storm water issues, or general Town information.

“Individuals will receive notifications that will improve safety in our town and help inform residents of potentially life-saving actions they may need to take in an emergency,” said Chief of Police Peter Wingert. “The information in Smart911 Safety Profiles and the emergency notifications allow both residents

Alert Paradise Valley = Smart911

and first responders to be better informed in an emergency situation.”

Smart911 is a free service that allows individuals to improve their personal safety by receiving alerts and creating a Safety Profile for their households that can include any information they want 911 call takers and first responders to have in the event of an emergency. When dialing 911, a user’s Safety Profile will immediately display on the operator’s screen, saving critical seconds and even minutes in response to the emergency. This resource is helpful for vulnerable persons, children, or pets.

“Smart911 saves critical time in an emergency when seconds count,” said Steven McGhee, community resource officer. “The key information provided in a Smart911 Safety Profile enables us to know exactly where we are going and who we are looking for. If a child goes missing or there is a house fire, those details can help us respond faster and more efficiently. Sending notifications through Smart911 allows us to keep the public informed of emergencies and how to be prepared and stay safe.”

With Alert Paradise Valley, the enhanced Smart911, the community is more informed and better prepared in the event of an emergency. The Town encourages all Paradise Valley residents to improve their personal safety by signing up at ParadiseValleyAZ.Gov/AlertPV or texting “AlertPV” to 78015.

For the latest information on what’s happening in Paradise Valley, follow us on:

FACEBOOK

facebook.com/paradisevalley.az
facebook.com/PVPolice

TWITTER

twitter.com/ParadiseVallAZ
twitter.com/PVPolice

WEBSITE

paradisevalleyaz.gov
ParadiseValleyPD.com

JOIN NEIGHBORS APP
Text [PVPD to 555888](tel:555888)

JOIN ALERT PARADISE VALLEY
Text [AlertPV to 78015](tel:78015)

Town Hall Remodel

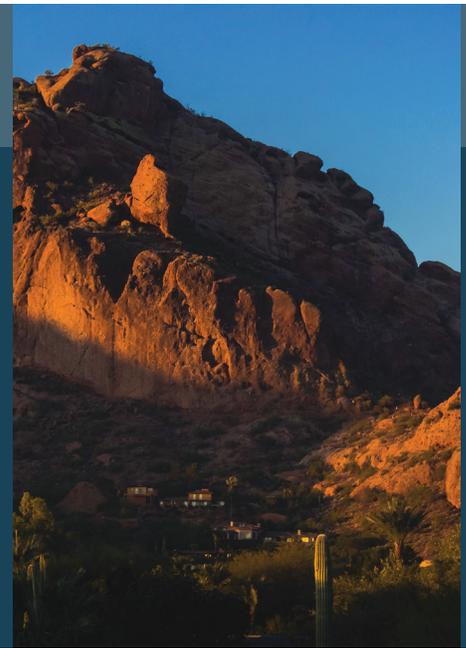
We are creating better access to our main entrance and Post Office as well as new workstations for our IT Department and a more open, bright community room. The outside entry area is also the future home of a commemorative sculpture honoring donors to the Paradise Valley Mountain Preserve Trust.

The Community Room is available for use free-of-charge to Town residents for nonprofit events and meetings on a first come, first serve basis. Contact the Town Manager's office at 480-348-3690 for more information.



strategic initiatives

- » Diligently preserve the special character of Paradise Valley by enforcing the land use policies identified in the Town's General Plan, Town Code and Special Use Permit (SUP) agreements.
- » Continuously provide high quality public safety services for Town residents and visitors.
- » Regularly invest in public facility and infrastructure projects.
- » Conscientiously manage the Town's financial resources.
- » Consistently identify opportunities to create and promote a more sustainable community.



Smoke Tree Resort Seeks Amendment For Special Use Permit



The owners of the Smoke Tree Resort, located at 7101 East Lincoln Drive, have applied for a major Amendment to their existing Special Use Permit. The existing Smoke Tree Resort opened in 1966, and while it has

continually operated since, it has never received a comprehensive renovation or expansion. The applicant requests to completely demolish all of the existing structures on the site ahead of redeveloping the property.

The proposed redevelopment includes a hotel building with 102 resort suites, 20 resort villas, a pool and other resort amenities. Additionally, the plan includes restaurant and market space as well as indoor and outdoor event space. Site improvements,

including a sidewalk and landscaping along Lincoln Drive, are also part of the plan. The applicant will discuss the proposal with the Paradise Valley Town Council in the coming months.

Please contact the Town's Community Development Department at 480-348-3693 with any questions regarding the amendment.

Property Drainage Maintenance

The Town of Paradise Valley had a relatively mild "monsoon season" in 2019, however, the storm event on September 23rd deposited up to 1.5 inches of rain in various parts of town. The Town's Engineering and Public Works Departments responded to numerous calls from residents related to drainage impacts on their properties and standing water or debris on roadways, with many of the calls resulting from obstructed storm drains, wall openings and so on. A majority of these issues could have been avoided with proper cleaning and maintenance.

The Town would like to remind residents to inspect drainage facilities

and washes on their properties prior to and after rain events. Residents should inspect storm drains, pipes, trash racks, trench drains and wall openings to make sure they are free from debris and able to properly convey storm water. Residents should also monitor drainage swales and retention basins to ensure they are free of sediment; retention basins should drain within 36 hours.

Prior to each "monsoon season," the Town mails brochures on residential storm drainage facilities maintenance and wash maintenance to all residential properties in Paradise Valley to remind residents to properly maintain these facilities.



Drainage brochures are available on the Town's Engineering Department website at www.paradisevalleyaz.gov/604/Stormwater-Management

Town of Paradise Valley Approves “Construction Manager at Risk” Contract to Advance Infrastructure Surrounding Five Star Development Project

In a unanimous vote on October 24, 2019, the Paradise Valley Town Council approved the execution of a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) contract to improve public roads and infrastructure around the Five Star Development project at Lincoln Drive and Mockingbird Lane. The Town Council has also started the process to bond for the construction costs since the development agreement requires all upfront costs to be borne by the Town.

This project, which is valued at approximately \$13.2 million, is required by a development agreement between the Town of Paradise Valley and Five Star Development that was approved by a prior Town Council in votes in late 2015 and early 2016. Five Star Development is responsible for reimbursing the Town of Paradise Valley for the bulk of the amount of the CMAR contract.

The CMAR contract allows work to move forward in an expedited manner on road and infrastructure improvements for Lincoln Drive, Mockingbird Lane and Indian Bend Road, to serve both the project and the community at large.

“The Town has made significant progress over the past few years and has been working proactively to ensure we provide the developer with everything required under the parties’ agreement to help bring the project to fruition,” said Town Manager Jill Keimach. “The Town of Paradise Valley is dedicated to honoring the commitments it made when the project was passed in 2016. The Town’s leadership understands and agrees that timely completion of the development is in the best interest of Paradise Valley residents.”

The Five Star development agreement with the Town stipulates that the work be done in an 18-month timeframe from approval of construction plans by all parties involved.

The CMAR contract is one of several steps the Town has taken as part of its commitments outlined in the development agreement between the Town and Five Star passed by the Town Council in 2016. Other measures include:

- » Working with Five Star and the City of Scottsdale on the routing and improvements for Indian Bend Drive and its access point to the Five Star project. Designs have been created for the road that would allow for easy access to the Five Star property with minimal disruption for through traffic. The Town is awaiting approval from Five Star to allow construction drawings to be developed for the road improvement.



- » Although the Town has reserve cash to cover construction of the public perimeter roads that must be reimbursed by Five Star, if Five Star is slow or refuses to reimburse the Town any of their costs, we would exceed our annual expenditure limitation. Bond payments, however, are not restricted by the State’s annual expenditure limitation. By bonding, the Town can comfortably pay for Five Star’s portion of the construction costs upfront as required by the development agreement. (See *Town’s Finances* article on page 9).
- » The Town is doing everything in its power to meet the time schedule and be thorough in its review of plans and inspections. To help expedite the construction process, the Town has contracted with outside inspectors that have the appropriate skill set and manpower to safely and efficiently inspect roadway improvements throughout construction.

The proposal by Five Star Development will build a new project on approximately 100 acres on the northeast corner of Lincoln Drive and Mockingbird Lane. The project includes plans for a Ritz Carlton resort and a variety of different housing products. Since the project’s passage, staff from the Town have been working diligently to fulfill all of the Town’s obligations under the agreement in a timely, responsible, and economic manner.

Lincoln Drive Improvements

Lincoln Drive Utilities

Significant utility improvements were under construction for most of 2019 along Lincoln Drive throughout Paradise Valley. EPCOR completed installation of approximately two miles of 24-inch water transmission main from 36th Street to Desert Fairways Drive. The project will boost water capacity by nearly 3 million gallons of water per day and provide for a second water source for a portion of EPCOR's water district. This will help ensure long-term reliability of EPCOR's water system for residents and resorts. APS also completed infrastructure improvements related to the main power for the Five Star Resort development. These improvements along Lincoln Drive were from the APS substation located at the northeast corner of Lincoln Drive and White Wing Road to the resort's main entrance at Lincoln Drive and Quail Run Road.

Median Upgrades

The Lincoln Drive median improvements project is identified in the Town's Capital Improvement Plan and proposes to generally replace and landscape the existing raised median islands along Lincoln Drive, between 32nd Street and Mockingbird Lane, and add or modify a few median islands for improved safety, traffic operations and landscaping. The project is currently in the preliminary design stages and was presented to the Town Council for review and comments at the November 21, 2019 study session.

Additional components of the project include:

- » Installing new intelligent transportation system fiber infrastructure along the project limits

- » Realigning the northwest corner of Lincoln Drive and Invergordon Road
- » Installing new irrigation and adding landscaping within the new and existing median islands
- » Enhancing crosswalk concepts for the intersection of Lincoln Drive and Tatum Boulevard
- » Resurfacing of Lincoln Drive with rubberized asphalt in Spring 2021 under a separate project

The project is currently moving into the design stage and is anticipated to be brought back to the Town Council in late January or early February for additional review and public comment.

For more information please visit the project website at paradisevalleyaz.gov/697/Lincoln-Drive-Median-Island-Project.



The original Lincoln Drive median improvement plans included changes to several of the median islands which affected current traffic flow. After receiving citizen feedback in the form of letters, calls, and in-person meetings with Town engineers and planners, we were able to modify the plans to incorporate existing turn lanes while improving the safety, traffic operations, and landscaping aspects of the project.

We Appreciate Citizen Involvement!

Town's Finances are Very Well-Managed

The Paradise Valley Town Council continued to plan for our future by approving two strategic expenditures for Fiscal Year 2020: first, to pay down an additional \$6 million of the Town's pension liability for public safety personnel, and second, to set aside another \$6 million for capital improvements. Outside of these two items, the net increase to the general fund for Fiscal Year 2020 is only half of one percent, or \$149,915.

Paradise Valley has a long history of its Town Council establishing and protecting a limited government model and being able to maintain an operating reserve fund balance above 90% of the upcoming year's expenditures. All of this accomplished with no local property tax.

The Council's consistent conservative financial management has positioned the Town well to address challenges as they occur. For example, in 2016, the State Legislature amended state law to correct the structural issues in the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS), which would have generated future increases to the unfunded pension liability. Because the Town's total PSPRS pension liability has been growing by over 7 percent per year, unfunded pension liability balances deepened. By expediting payment of the unfunded liability with an additional \$6 million contribution, the Town's assets in PSPRS have the opportunity to appreciate in value and keep pace with the total pension growth.

The FY 2020 budget also includes \$6 million in contingency budget authority for non-operating expenditures. This contingency, which would only be used with Town Council approval, provides the legal authority to pay unanticipated non-recurring expenditures, such as capital improvements.



Photo Credit: Maria Lanigan

Additionally, the Council sets aside one-time funds for one-time expenditures. By policy, all construction sales tax revenue over \$500,000 is transferred to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP), providing a dedicated funding source for infrastructure and ensuring that we don't rely on nonrecurring revenues for ongoing operations. For FY 2020, the Town anticipates \$4.8 million in construction sales tax, of which \$4.3 million will be transferred to the CIP.

Based on our long-standing values of conservative fiscal management, past and current budgets not only fully fund necessary public services without the addition of a property tax, they also position the Town for financial security well into the future.

Current Financial Reports are available at paradisevalleyaz.gov/262/Budgets-Financial-Reports.

census 2020

What it Means for Paradise Valley

- » **FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDS**
The Census determines the percentage of funds Paradise Valley will receive. These funds are used to provide the municipal services you rely on.
- » **CRITICAL DATA**
Census data is used to shape the Town's general plan which outlines what services are needed in the future.
- » **EDUCATION**
Federal funds for schools are allocated based on Census data.
- » **LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION**
Seats in the U.S. House of Representatives are determined by data collected in the Census. An accurate count is needed to insure that Arizona and Paradise Valley are represented.

CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the United States once, only once, and in the right place.



It's about fair representation.

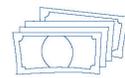
Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.



It's in the Constitution.

The U.S. Constitution mandates that everyone in the country be counted every 10 years. The first census was in 1790.

It's about \$675 billion.



The distribution of more than \$675 billion in federal funds, grants, and support to states, counties, and communities are based on census data.



It's about redistricting.

After each decade's census, state officials redraw the boundaries of the congressional and state legislative districts in their states to account for population shifts.

Taking part is your civic duty.

Completing the census is mandatory: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



Census data are being used all around you.

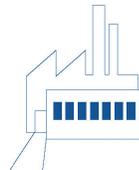


Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life, and consumer advocacy.



Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices, and stores, which create jobs.

Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.



Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.



Your privacy is protected.

It's against the law for the Census Bureau to publicly release your responses in any way that could identify you or your household.

By law, your responses cannot be used against you and can only be used to produce statistics.

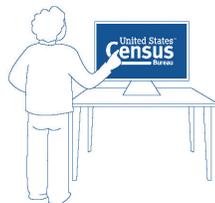


2020 will be easier than ever.

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.

You can help.

You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.



FIND OUT HOW TO HELP AT
2020CENSUS.GOV/PARTNERS



What You Can Do

- » **RESPOND**
In March 2020, you will receive an invitation to respond to the Census online, by mail, or by phone. Census workers will contact you in person if you haven't responded by the end of April.
- » **REPORT ACCURATELY**
Census 2020 will ask you to report everyone who lives in your home as of April 1st.
- » **UNDERSTAND YOUR DATA IS PROTECTED**
Census workers take an oath to protect your data for life. You can have complete confidence that the information you provide will be secure.

Questions about Census 2020?

Visit the Census 2020 Website at
2020Census.gov

winter reminders

- » Holiday lights should be removed by January 15th.
- » During the months of October through April:
 - Operation of Yard/Landscape Maintenance Devices (e.g., leaf blowers, chain saws, lawn mowers) and outdoor construction equipment are allowable between 7:00 am to 5:00 pm on Monday through Friday, between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays, and on legal holidays.
 - Operation of Heavy Equipment (e.g., loader, backhoe) in any construction, demolition, land clearing, excavation or similar outside construction activity is allowable between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm on Monday through Friday and unlawful at all times on Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.
 - Delivery of construction equipment or materials is allowable between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm on Monday through Saturday and unlawful on Sundays and legal holidays, unless otherwise approved by the Town.
 - Refer to Section 8-10-2 of the Town Code for more information.



Winter Calendar of Events

JANUARY

- 9 Town Council Meeting
- 16 Mayor and Town Council Candidate Orientation
- 20 MLK Holiday – Town Hall Closed
- 20 MLK Luncheon
- 23 Town Council Meeting

FEBRUARY

- 5 Coffee with a Cop – Police Auditorium
- 13 Town Council Meeting
- 17 Presidents Day Holiday – Town Hall Closed
- 27 Town Council Meeting

MARCH

- 4 Coffee with a Cop – Police Auditorium
- 12 Town Council Meeting
- 26 Town Council Meeting

ONGOING: Town Hall Artist in Residence – Lynn Bellino
On display in the Paradise Valley Town Hall during regular hours

For up-to-date information including times and locations, please visit the Town of Paradise Valley Meetings & Events webpage:

paradisevalleyaz.gov/196/Meetings-Events



TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY
6401 E Lincoln Drive
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

PRSRST STD
ECRWSS
US POSTAGE
PAID
PHOENIX AZ
PERMIT 1662



public works department

The Town of Paradise Valley Public Works provides many of the services that affect the daily lives of those who live and work in the town. Primarily, the department is responsible for all the things we take for granted on a daily basis: the administration, planning, maintenance, and construction management of the Town's infrastructure. This includes:

- » Design, construction and maintenance of the Town's public streets, recreation paths, and drainage facilities
- » Traffic signal installation and maintenance
- » Creation, installation and maintenance of roadway and street signs
- » Landscaping on Town rights of way, median islands, the Town Hall Complex, Court Complex, two fire stations, Kiva Field Municipal Sports Complex and Goldwater Memorial Park
- » Facilities maintenance and physical enhancements of all public buildings and grounds within the Town Hall Complex, the Town's two fire stations, Goldwater Memorial Park and the Kiva Municipal Sports Complex
- » Janitorial services for Town facilities and fleet maintenance services
- » Repairs for police and heavy maintenance vehicles, including installation of all high tech equipment and customization of vehicles

To report an infrastructure problem, please contact Public Works at 480-348-3695.