



# Alta Vista Neighborhood Block Watch Newsletter

This newsletter is funded by City of Phoenix Block Watch Grant Funds

## Tentative schedule of Upcoming meetings

**Wednesday,  
November 11, 2020**

February 10, 2021  
May 12, 2021  
September 8, 2021

### **\*\*MEETINGS HELD**

**Cortez High School  
MEDIA CENTER  
6:30 pm  
(Nov.11<sup>th</sup> meeting on Zoom)**

Would you like to see improvements in our  
neighborhood?  
Safer for our children, with a better quality of life  
for all who live here?

### **Attend a Block Watch meeting!**

**Meet your neighbors!**

**\*\*Our November 11<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a Zoom meeting.**

November 11, 2020 at 6:30pm

Meeting ID# **372 983 5023**

Passcode **CPCA2020**  
(*case sensitive*)

### **If you have never used Zoom, follow these simple instructions**

- From your browser, go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)
- From the top of the Zoom home page, select **Join a meeting**
- When prompted, enter the **meeting ID** and then select **Join**
- When prompted, open "URL: **Zoom Launcher** or select the **Launch Meeting** button.
- Enter the meeting **passcode**

### **If you *have* used Zoom, and have the program on your device already**

- From your program list, select **Zoom**
- Select **Join a Meeting** from the top of the home page
- Enter the **meeting ID**
- Enter the meeting **passcode**

Our speaker will be **Jeff Spellman**, President of the **27<sup>th</sup> Avenue VIP Coalition**. Jeff is also involved with the **Neighborhood Leaders in Support of the Phoenix PD**, and many other neighborhood groups. He has is involved with addressing neighborhood concerns, including the methadone clinic at 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and Northern, homeless issues, and redevelopment in our area (such as the old K-Mart property). He works tirelessly to help improve our safety and quality of life. Jeff will give us information on what is happening in our area, and he can answer any questions you have.

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**See back page for important phone numbers**

## Our BULK Trash Zone is number 11



Next collections will be

**Placement January 23, 2021 - Collection begins February 1, 2021**

**Please place items to be picked up out no sooner than January 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

If you have curbside collection, crews will only pick up piles placed close to the edge of your property, which must be at least 5 feet away from fixed objects. If you have alley collection, place pile along the alley wall. Avoid touching wall and blocking alley access.

For more specific information, visit [Phoenix.Gov/PublicWorks/BulkTrash](https://www.phoenix.gov/publicworks/bulktrash)

### Holiday Trash Collection Changes

- **Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 26, 2020** -- Thursday's collection moves to Friday, Nov. 27, and Friday's collection moves to Saturday, Nov. 28.
- **Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25, 2020** -- Friday collection moves to Saturday
- **New Year's Day, Friday, Jan. 1, 2021** -- Friday collection moves to Saturday

### ABOUT HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENTS

#### UPDATE:

To keep residents and employees physically distant from each other, HHW events have been temporarily suspended. However, our staff has been evaluating different HHW collection alternatives that are more convenient to residents. In December 2020, our management will be seeking approval from the City Council a new HHW Curbside Pilot Program where residents can call for a scheduled HHW pick-up. This will be in addition to this current drop-off alternative.

For now, these drop-off alternative locations will remain in effect until the end of **December 2020**.

#### Electronic Waste

- Make appointment with **eGreen IT Solutions**.
- Present a current City Services bill showing a solid waste collection fee to drop off electronics for free.
- \$25 drop-off fee for residents without City Services bill.
- Up to two CRTs will be accepted for every drop-off; each additional CRT will be \$30.

*egreenitsolutions.com* 602-944-4151 | 11034 N 23rd Dr. STE. #107 Phoenix **HOURS:** Tuesday - Friday | 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

#### Chemical Waste

- Make appointment with **ACT Enviro**.
- Present a current City Services bill showing solid waste collection fee to drop off acceptable HHW items including up to 20 gallons of non-latex or oil-based paint and up to 10 gallons of motor oil.

*actenviro.com* 602-842-9160 | Laveen, AZ (Call for directions) **HOURS:** Friday & Saturday | 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

#### Paint and Stain

- Make appointment with **GreenSheen Paint**.
- Present a current City Services bill showing solid waste collection fee to drop off up to 20 gallons of paint for free.
- \$0.22 per pound of latex paint/stain to be recycled for Phoenix residents.

*Greensheepaint.com* 602-278-6445 | 1626 S 51st Ave., Phoenix **HOURS:** Tuesday - Saturday | 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

# Operation Identification

## A Burglary Prevention Tool

### What Is Operation Identification?

Operation Identification (Operation ID) is a citizen's burglary prevention program for use in homes and businesses. The Operation ID program involves marking property with an identifying number as a means of discouraging burglary and theft. It also provides police with a way to identify property should it be stolen and recovered. In communities where it has been properly implemented, Operation ID has shown dramatic results in burglary reduction.

### Operation ID Has Two Basic Components

#### FIRST:

Engrave your valuables with your driver's license number (or any number that is of importance to you) so your property can be easily traced and identified as yours. Please note—if your driver's license number is your Social Security Number, we strongly recommend you **DO NOT USE YOUR SS#**:

a) Obtain a new license with a new number, or b) Obtain an Arizona State Identification Card, which has a generic number and does not expire. Engrave as follows:

AZ##### 09 (year of expiration)

Engrave in two locations: 1) one that can easily be seen, and 2) one that cannot easily be seen.

After marking your property, make a list of your valuables, and keep a copy of the list in a safe place. If you should become a burglary victim, you will be able to quickly describe the stolen property from the list. This will be of great help to police in their attempts to recover stolen possessions.

Once property has been marked and a list made, display the Block Watch and Operation Identification window sign in your front window. By advertising your participation in Operation Identification in this way, you are announcing that your valuable property has been marked and will be difficult for a burglar to sell. Often, the presence of the sign alone is enough to deter a burglar.

Photograph or video items and keep the photos/video in a fireproof safe or safety deposit box. Jewelry should be photographed with an ID card and ruler next to it to show ownership and size.

#### SECOND:

Display a sign that tells would-be burglars that your property has been marked. The **Block Watch window sign** includes the Operation Identification warning. These are available in English and Spanish from Alta Vista Block Watch.

**Note: Alta Vista Block Watch has electric engravers available to mark your valuables, and information record sheets to record your valuables. To borrow an engraver and obtain record sheets and Block Watch window signs, send an email to [AltaVistaNBW@gmail.com](mailto:AltaVistaNBW@gmail.com).**

## **DON'T GIVE TO INDIVIDUALS GIVE TO SHELTERS**

To end panhandling, we have to end directly giving to people panhandling. Phoenix is full of compassionate and charitable citizens. They want to help those in need. However, giving money to people panhandling doesn't fix problems. In order to truly help those in need, stop giving money to panhandlers and instead support organizations and services that provide long-lasting care.

– **Central Arizona Shelter Services – Andre House – Salvation Army – St. Joseph The Worker – UMOM New Day Centers – The Phoenix Rescue Mission – St. Mary's Food Bank**

For more organizations and information that can provide housing, or other services, please visit the Homeless Shelter Directory at: <https://www.homelesshelterdirectory.org/cgibin/id/city.cgi?city=Phoenix&state=AZ>  
[www.givesmartaz.org](http://www.givesmartaz.org)

## We Support Our Police

We have a special relationship with the police in our area because we have worked so closely with them for many years to make our area a better place to live and work. We have great respect for these officers, men and women of varied races, who are true public servants that go out each day trying to make Phoenix a safer place for neighborhoods and businesses. They run toward danger to protect us when we call during an emergency. They have one of the toughest jobs there is and work under extremely difficult conditions.



**Our Phoenix Police are some of the best trained and most selfless people we know  
They deserve our support!**

Some facts to consider:

- Phoenix is the fifth largest city and one of the fastest growing in the U.S., according to U.S. Census Bureau estimates.
- Phoenix Police Department is greatly understaffed based on our rapid increase in population--currently 1.66 million.
- Due to the cuts in funding following the recession in 2008, the number of officers serving in Phoenix has not kept up with the increasing population, and Phoenix has fewer officers than in smaller cities like Philadelphia.
- In 2018, the city budget funded 3,125 officers, but the department still has not reached this number. Right now, Phoenix has almost 3,000 current sworn officers, but we need around 4,500 because 50 officers retired this year and another 1,000+ more are **eligible to retire** from the police department **today**. Let's not forget, there is a "training curve" for new officers.
- With the deficit in the current number of officers, there is a risk for slower response times to calls for service, along with unmanageable case loads for detectives with limited staff and resources. (After all, detectives are the ones who work on solving the crimes!)
- For a city of our size, we are vastly understaffed to have an effective police department. If you want to have a well trained, professional police department, it costs money. In addition to recruiting and hiring **top candidates**, the department has to provide police with the best training, equipment and technology, along with competitive salary and benefits. With limited budgets, Phoenix still does a much better job of this than many other major cities.



**We thank our city council** for approving the requested police funding, and we **applaud our Councilwoman Thelda Williams** for being such an outspoken supporter of our police.

The officers of the Cactus Park Precinct work with our neighborhood residents to combat crime in our neighborhood, and by doing so help improve our property values and our quality of life. If you see a police officer, please thank them for what they have done and are continuing to do for you and your family, and all of our neighbors.



**Report any suspicious activity to the Police ASAP:  
Crime Stop (602) 262-6151.**

***Remember... If you see something, say something***

## Valley Metro Light Rail Expansion Update

The Northwest Extension Phase II (NWEII) project will extend light rail west on Dunlap Avenue from 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, then north on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue and across I-17 on Mountain View Road with a terminus on the west side of the freeway near Metrocenter Mall.

Northwest Extension Phase II light rail project construction is underway. The current work is exclusively third party utility construction. The project contractor (Kiewit-McCarthy, A Joint Venture) began their work on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

- **Dunlap Avenue between C Street and 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue (north side):** Salt River Project is converting overhead electrical lines to underground facilities on the north side of Dunlap Avenue between C Street and 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Westbound and eastbound Dunlap Avenue will have one lane restricted daily. Traffic restrictions will be in place 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. through late December.
- **Dunlap Avenue between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Avenues (north side):** Kiewit-McCarthy is performing underground utility relocation and roadway construction on the north side of Dunlap Avenue between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Avenues. Dunlap Avenue traffic will be restricted to one westbound and one eastbound lane daily. Traffic restrictions will be in place starting Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 a.m. through Friday, July 30, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
- **Dunlap Avenue between 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Avenues:** Kiewit-McCarthy is performing underground utility relocation and roadway construction on Dunlap Avenue between 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> Avenues during day and nighttime hours. Traffic lanes will be located on the south side of Dunlap Avenue and will be restricted to one east- and one westbound lane. Traffic restrictions will be in place 24/7 from Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. through Monday, May 31, 2021 at 5 a.m.
- **25<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Dunlap Avenue and Mountain View Road:** Kiewit-McCarthy is performing underground utility relocation and roadway construction on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Dunlap Avenue and Mountain View Road during day and nighttime hours. Traffic lanes will be located on the west side of 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue and will be restricted to one north- and one southbound lane. Traffic restrictions will be in place 24/7 from Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 a.m. through Friday, January 29, 2021 at 5 a.m.

Visit [valleymetro.org/northwest2](http://valleymetro.org/northwest2) to view the latest updates and learn more about the project.

### Other Area Projects

- The Arizona Department of Transportation is constructing improvements to the cross street drainage system along the I-17 frontage road between Greenway Road and Dunlap Avenue in Phoenix. The purpose of the project is to improve the drainage facilities that remove storm runoff from the Greenway, Thunderbird, Cactus and Peoria cross streets, helping to reduce the potential for flooding at the I-17 overpasses. This work will close portions of the I-17 south- or northbound frontage roads through 2020 and into 2021.

**New Years Eve - Please Celebrate Safely. Remember some fireworks are illegal**



It is a crime to fire a gun in the city limits.  
What goes up must come down and can **Kill**.



## PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF YOUR IDENTITY IS AS IMPORTANT AS EVER

As we take steps to protect our physical health during the pandemic, we should also take care to protect the health of our identity. Identity theft shows no signs of slowing down, so it's important to stay up on the latest schemes and prevent them from happening to us.

### HOW IT WORKS:

**Incoming mail** — and the mail we toss out — are gold mines for identity thieves. Mailboxes, recycling bins, garbage cans and dumpsters are fertile ground for picking up sensitive personal information that thieves can sell or use to commit identity fraud.

**Data breaches** seem to be here to stay, in which criminals hack into the systems of banks, retailers and other companies that stockpile sensitive consumer data.

**Phishing emails and texts** abound, in the hope someone will click on a link that installs credential-stealing malware on their devices.

**Impostor scams** — whether the scammers pose as the IRS, Social Security Administration or others — often focus on extracting sensitive personal information out of their targets for identity theft and fraud.

### WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW:

The number of people affected by identity fraud has gone down over the past several years, but the losses are trending upward, with \$17 billion lost in 2019. Just as there are low-tech and high-tech ways identity thieves steal information, we have low-tech and high-tech ways we can protect against it. If your identity is stolen, it doesn't mean it has been used fraudulently. You can take steps to prevent identity fraud from happening.

### WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

**Consider upgrading your mailbox** to one that locks and shred sensitive documents before recycling or trashing.

**Avoid providing personal information** to those who seek it through unsolicited calls and emails. Set up online access to your financial accounts. This way you can monitor transactions and quickly recognize fraudulent activity.

**Use different passwords** for each online account. Write them down and store them safely, or consider purchasing a password manager application.

**Set up "two-factor authentication"** on every online account that offers it. This requires you to enter a passcode that you will receive by phone, text or email, to verify it's you.

**Request your free credit report** from each of the three credit bureaus (Experian, Equifax and TransUnion) every 12 months at [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com). This will help you keep an eye out for suspicious activity.

**Consider placing a fraud alert** on your credit reports. This requires creditors to verify you are the one adding new or altering existing accounts. Contact any of the credit bureaus and the others will follow suit.

**Make sure you have the most up-to-date security and anti-virus software installed on your devices.**

If you find you are a victim of identity fraud, visit [identitytheft.gov](http://identitytheft.gov) for a personalized recovery plan.

*When it comes to fraud, vigilance is our number one weapon. You have the power to protect yourself and your loved ones from scams. Please share this alert with friends and family and visit the **Fraud Watch Network**.*

*To report a scam or for help if you or a loved one has fallen victim, contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network Helpline at 877-908-3360*

*Receive AARP Watchdog Mobile Alerts\* Text "FWN" to 50757 to sign up.*

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## YOU ARE NEEDED!!

Whether you have lived here a while or are new to the neighborhood, this is **YOUR neighborhood**.

**PLEASE consider being involved.**

\*\*\*Want to receive an email copy of the newsletter, and monthly information about what's happening? Join the email list. Send your email info to [AltaVistaNBW@gmail.com](mailto:AltaVistaNBW@gmail.com)

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**Also check out our Facebook page** for current information, and to keep up with what neighbors are doing to help each other and keep our neighborhood great. Join our group at: **Alta Vista Block Watch**

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## FREE FACE MASKS FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS: [www.AZDHS.gov/COVID19](http://www.AZDHS.gov/COVID19)

If you are 65 years or older, or if you have health conditions that would make you more vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus, you can order 5 free face masks. Your order will take 1 – 2 weeks to arrive, and only one order is available per household.

# KEEP YOUR PROPERTY WELL MAINTAINED – AVOID BLIGHT VIOLATIONS

*This includes:* stray trash, weeds, dead landscaping, property perimeters including sidewalks, side yards and alley ways.

The monsoon rains have the flowers, trees and shrubbery growing well and looking very healthy. Unfortunately this has also helped the weeds to flourish in our yards, gardens, sidewalks, street curbs, driveways and alleys.



Did you know you are responsible for the areas around your property?

*When the zoning enforcement folks* come through our neighborhood, the most reported violations are in the areas around our property where some may think the city is responsible or maybe they think it is their neighbor's responsibility.

**You are responsible to keep clean the half of the alley that borders your back property!  
Also the sidewalk and half of the street area that borders your front yard!**

(This means stray trash and grass that grows in the cracks of the sidewalk and curbs.)

The yards that are between our homes are a shared responsibility with your neighbors... You are responsible for the half surrounding your home on both sides.

Please remember to clean out the weeds from around your home and especially in the alleys. *Overgrown weeds covering the items placed in alleys for trash pick-up do not get removed.* The trash collectors have enough work already.

As the *weeds begin to dry out* from the heat they *become a fire hazard.* These little brush fires spread quickly and can consume homes before the Fire Department can respond.



As we are a neighborhood in constant transition we all have new neighbors in our area. Please be kind and neighborly and find a nice way to inform them of their responsibility to prevent blight. Please be safe and remind your friends and neighbors to do the same.

Zoning enforcement is through *City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department.* You may contact them at *General Information – 602-262-7344* or *Neighborhood Preservation – 602-262-7844* Private Property, Right-of-Way Widths and Lot Dimensions -

262-6878

Phoenix City Code Chapter 39, Sec. 39-7D

Property owners are responsible for keeping their properties, and the adjacent rights of way, free of dead or dried vegetation (weeds, tall grass, tumbleweeds, shrubs, trees, palm fronds, etc.). All dead or dried vegetation must be removed and disposed of properly. Property owners are also responsible for assuring that grass and weeds on their property and in the adjacent rights of way do not exceed six inches in height.



**Cortez High School  
and Principal Walt Sampson**  
for hosting our Neighborhood meetings.

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police -- Community Action Officers  
South of Butler – Eric Boardman  
North of Butler – Austin Diaz

602 534-6988  
602 534-1249

Emergency in progress  
Non-Emergency (Crime Stop)  
General Information  
Cactus Park Precinct  
Speeding Enforcement  
Abandoned Vehicles and  
Parking Complaints  
Loud Party Reporting

911  
602 262-6151  
602 262-7626  
602 495-5009  
602 534-7733  
602 262-6151  
602 262-6151

Neighborhood Narcotic Complaints  
Drug Enforcement Unit  
Prostitution Hot line  
Gang Hotline  
Silent Witness

602 262-6771  
602 275-5886  
602 426-1231  
602 262-4264  
602 948-6377

### Neighborhood services

General Information  
Zoning Enforcement  
Illegal Construction  
Zoning inspector

602 262-4444  
602 262-7844  
602 262-7844  
602 495-0143

### Streets

Repair, potholes, grading  
Lights, repair & maintenance  
Traffic signs, damage

602 262-6441  
602 495-5125  
602 262-4659

Solids Waste (Alleys)  
Illegal Dumping  
Residential Appliance Pickup  
Shopping Cart removal

602 262-7251  
602 262-7251  
602 262-7251  
1-800 842-2278

Graffiti IN Progress  
Graffiti Busters  
Graffiti Reward Hotline  
Animal Control/Rabies  
Barking Dogs  
City Bus Service  
Dial-A-Ride

911  
602 495-7014  
602 262-7327  
602 506-7387  
602 262-6466  
602 253-5000  
602 253-5300

City Council District 1, North of Butler  
City Council District 5, South of Butler

602 262-7444  
602 262-7446

Neighborhood Contact: Ginger

602-793-1354

Email: [AltaVistaNBW@gmail.com](mailto:AltaVistaNBW@gmail.com)

Facebook: Alta Vista Block Watch

For more phone numbers and information, visit:

[www.Phoenix.gov](http://www.Phoenix.gov), and select  
"Phoenix At Your Service"



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for many years of printing  
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