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City Council Appoints Jeff Barton as New City Manager

We would like to take this moment to introduce new city of Phoenix City Manager, Jeff Barton! The Phoenix City Council voted in Jeff Barton as the new city manager during its formal meeting Wednesday, September 8.

Barton will lead the country's largest council-manager form of local government upon the planned retirement of City Manager Ed Zuercher, overseeing day-to-day operations including responsibility for nearly 15,000 employees who serve 1.7 million residents.

"It is wonderful to have an internal candidate who not only has the skills, but also has the passion for the important work we've undertaken as the nation's fifth largest and fastest growing city," said Mayor Kate Gallego. "Jeff has spent years learning the city from the inside out. He has been a critical factor in decisions regarding the budget and community investment, and in developing strategy for deploying federal Covid relief dollars during the pandemic and beyond. Like his predecessor, Ed Zuercher, Jeff and I share the drive to innovate and find creative, new ways to deliver a powerful experience for everyone who chooses to call Phoenix home. I look forward to working with him."

A Pennsylvania native, Barton moved to Arizona in 1999 where he became an auditor, ensuring operational efficiency of city departments and programs. That experience propelled his more than two-decade long career with the city, including roles as Budget & Research Director, Deputy City Manager and most recently Assistant City Manager.

Barton helped lead the city through the economic downturn resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and served as staff director of the city's \$293 million Coronavirus Relief Fund Strategic Plan that provided residents and local businesses with vital resources needed to navigate the pandemic.

As Budget & Research Director he was responsible for planning, forecasting, and managing the city's \$4.4 billion operating budget and \$7 billion five-year capital improvement program. During Barton's tenure, the department implemented a new five-year forecasting and modeling of expenses and revenues process to better plan for future funding needs, while providing early forecasts of potential budgetary challenges.

As part of the city's executive leadership team, he has overseen a wide variety of city departments including Police, Fire, Community and Economic Development, as well as the Phoenix Public Library and the Youth & Education Office.

"I want to thank the Mayor and Council for their confidence in providing me this opportunity to serve the people of Phoenix," said Barton. "I consider it an honor and privilege to contribute to making Phoenix an even stronger, safer, better place to live, work and play for all residents, business owners and visitors."

Barton holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Morehouse College and a Master of Public Administration from Shippensburg University.

He will move into the new role when current city manager Ed Zuercher retires on October 8.



October Class Schedule Feature: Organizing a Community Clean-up

While there are aspects of event planning and executing that can be shared across all types of events, organizing a community clean-up can be challenging! Whether it's your first event or your hundredth, this class can help you manage the moving parts. In this session we will give you some helpful tips to ensure that nothing slips through the cracks in planning your next event.

Click the website below for Neighborhood College Courses: https://www.phoenix.gov/nsd/neighborhoodcollege



2021 G.A.I.N. KICK-OFF

WHEN Sat., 10/2/21 from 10am-Noon

WHERE Christown Spectrum Mall 1703 W. Bethany Home Rd. Phoenix, AZ 85015

Event questions: justin.martin@phoenix.gov

Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods (G.A.I.N.) is coming up this Month! The official Kick Off is Oct 2nd with the designated GAIN day on Oct 23rd. Across the city of Phoenix, neighborhood leaders, participants and volunteers look forward to hosting or participating in a GAIN event. www.phoenix.gov/police/gain-online-registration.

For more than 24 years, the Amigos Block Watch (BW) near 51st Avenue and Thomas, has gone the extra mile to thank the community for participating in neighborhood patrols, attending meetings, completing graffiti cleanups, youth education, and being a good neighbor. Their planning

takes almost a year, which is needed when you're planning professional entertainers, food, carnival rides, and lots of raffles—all for FREE! Neighborhood leader Dolores Rios isn't a one woman team. She relies on her members to help solicit donations, get organizations to host information booths, and plan the event. Food and entertainment is a staple of this event, with volunteers making traditional dishes from different regions of Mexico...that go fast! But don't worry, there's plenty of pizza, nachos, and homemade desserts. Neighbors, families, friends, and volunteers attend the event, reaching more than 200 attendees annually. Amongst the crowd, you might spot the Mayor or a Councilmember, the Police Chief or a State Representative enjoying the festive atmosphere.

Giving back to the community is a big part of their planning. At the 2019 event, they raffled off a CAR! The car raffle was for the National Kidney Foundation of Arizona to assist patients with the cost of dialysis.



The 9th annual Paint Phoenix Purple Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign begins October 1 and runs for the entire month of October. One of the events being held to raise awareness is the Youth Writing Contest.

The purpose of the writing contest is

to involve youth, schools and the community to raise awareness about domestic violence. If you have a youth in your life between the ages of 13 to 18, we encourage getting them involved and submit a written expression on what a healthy relationship looks like and what he/she/they can do to help bring awareness to domestic violence at their school or in their community.

The contest submissions can include essays, lyrics, poems or plays and cash prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners!

Click the image for more info! For questions, email the City's Strategic Initiatives team at copstrategicinitiatives@phoenix.gov



2021 PAINT PHOENIX PURPLE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS Youth Writing Contest

Writing Prompt:

In your own words, what does a healthy relationship look like? What can you do to help bring awareness to domestic violence at your school or in your community?

Contest submissions can include essays, lyrics, poems or plays.

- 1st Place - \$200
2nd Place - \$100
3rd Place - \$50

Awards sponsored by Phoenix LGBTQ Employee Alliance

