



## **Minutes City Council Education, Technology & Economic Development Committee April 1, 2008**

**Minutes of the Council Education, Technology and Economic Development Committee held on April 1, 2008, 2:00 p.m., at the Tempe Historical Museum, 809 E. Southern, Tempe, Arizona.**

**Council Committee Member Present:**

Councilmember Onnie Shekerjian, Chair  
Councilmember Barb Carter

**City Staff Present:**

Jennifer Adams, Dep Pub Wrks Mgr  
Kris Baxter, Marketing Specialist  
Tom Canasi, Comm Svcs Mgr  
Mary Helen Giustizia, Solid Waste Superintendent  
Don Hawkes, Water Utilities Mgr  
Shelley Hearn, Comm Rel Mgr  
Connie Krosschell, Dep City Clerk  
Lucy Morales, Public Works  
Sheri Partridge, Council Aide  
Sheri Wakefield-Saenz, Econ Dev Admin

**Guests Present:**

Rebecca Akins, Museum Consultant  
Steve Adolph, TUHSD Superintendent  
Nici Baca, ASU Student/Intern  
Rebecca Gau, Researcher  
Barbara Khalsa, Rio Salado Community College  
Sharon Doyle, TUHSD Foundation, TIE Foundation  
Sue Henderson, UPSI, ASU  
Zita Johnson, TUHSD Governing Board  
Amanda Krstec, ASU Student/Intern  
Jerrod Longoria, ASU – Student Government  
Patrick McKechnic, ASU Student  
Sandy Reinhardt, Director, Info Tech, Tempe Elementary School District  
Stephanie Salazar, ASU  
Dr. David Schauer, Kyrene Superintendent  
Greg Stanton, Phoenix Councilmember  
Elaine Stover, ASU, Career Services

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Dr. Arthur Tate, Tempe Elementary Superintendent

**Chair Shekerjian called the Technology portion of the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.**

**Technology**

**Agenda Item #1 – Public Appearances**

None.

**Agenda Item #4 – AMA Internship Fair Update**

Sheri Wakefield-Saenz summarized that staff met with Peter Hodgson with the American Marketing Association (AMA) at ASU several times during the past year. The concept was that staff would work with them to promote an internship fair this spring and bring the business community in to visit with the interns and help the potential interns develop a resume. Staff met with the AMA advisor and she said that Career Development at ASU had many programs for internships and that the majority of the students at the Business College were not interested in a six, eight or twelve week internship. They really wanted a full time or part time job while they were going to school and over 90% of the students were already engaged in a for-profit venture outside the classroom. Staff was advised not to waste the effort on a fair, because the companies wouldn't be pleased with the result, and the students wouldn't be looking for opportunities because they already have them. Mr. Hodgson agreed.

Elaine Stover added that Mr. Hodgson is graduating in May and he wanted to provide some value to the members. Even though the timing didn't work out for them to partner with the other events, she told him that prior to each of the career events before the end of the semester, she would send him a list of the employers to forward to his members and encourage them as students to attend the events. He is hoping to share their conversation with the next president so they can start earlier in the fall to partner with some of the events.

**Agenda Item #2 – IB Sponsorship Program Update**

Sheri Wakefield-Saenz summarized that staff has had two or three meetings with Tempe High to work out the best way to achieve some sponsorship for the IB and HOPE programs for Tempe High. Several of the marketing pieces have been reworked and they are ready to go. She provided a list of appointments scheduled. In addition, a meeting with Suncor has been agreed, but not scheduled at this time. They are still working on Intel, KPMG and Avenue.

Ms. Wakefield-Saenz also summarized the HOPE program, a healthcare education program run from Tempe High School. It is an opportunity for students to get to know about the healthcare field. With an on-site lab they learn about basic ways of taking tests and healthcare examinations and they have different speakers in healthcare fields that expose the students to all the opportunities that exist. In addition, the students go out into the healthcare profession to get one-on-one time with professionals. Medtronic is very interested in the HOPE program. Also, the Arizona Diamondbacks Charities, for example, has an education foundation section and the opportunity would be to ask them to look at these programs for future funding.

**Agenda Item #3 – Tempe WiFi Update**

Shelley Hearn stated that there was nothing new to report.

Councilmember Shekerjian asked that Dave Heck plan to attend each meeting and provide an update.

**Agenda Item #5 – Wet Lab Space Update**

Sheri Wakefield-Saenz summarized that there is currently 432,000 sq. ft. of wet lab space in Tempe. With about 8M sq. ft. of industrial space, it is a fairly large percentage relative to Arizona. The next largest wet lab space in the state is in Phoenix. In addition, the third phase of the bio-design building at ASU is planned for this coming year and that adds 240,000 sq. feet. The third piece is that SRP has committed to developing the 60 acres at Priest and Washington, the former stadium site, as a biotech park and it would be primarily wet lab space. The outlook is very encouraging. The only snag is Papago Gateway. It was having a tough time recruiting biotech companies that could afford lab space. They dropped their price to about \$24 to \$26 per sq. ft.

Councilmember Shekerjian asked if there was any way to help.

Ms. Wakefield-Saenz responded that one of the things they have talked about is whether the Science Foundation Arizona funds can be used for capital expenditures. Often, bio companies, unlike other industries, need money for scientists and equipment rather than for the lease because the lease can be rolled into their grant as part of the overhead. There are not enough companies in Arizona that have large enough research grants or contracts to roll it into their lease. This is at a critical mass point right now, and we will be there over the next five years.

Councilmember Carter noted that she had heard that ASU was going to move in there.

Ms. Wakefield-Saenz responded that they are still negotiating for about 40,000 sq. ft. The university's capital initiative has quite a bit of money in for the medical campus in downtown that would significantly increase their wet lab space, as well as a private proposal by Hornaday (who did the wet lab space at Mayo) to do some commercial lab space adjacent to the metro campus downtown.

**DIRECTION:** Councilmember Shekerjian stated that this should be kept on the work plan and have a couple of updates between now and the fall.

Ms. Wakefield-Saenz added that they have had the most success with the solar industry and with contract lab agencies (vivarium, animal testing and human testing environments) and we've had the most success over the last two years. The University has a large lab. The largest human testing environment was just opened on Baseline. The second largest in the state is Bostwick Labs which took the Express Scripts building in Papago Park. We have two of the largest human testing facilities in the country. That is critical in the chain of bio development. If a research facility can't test in an environment near their lab, it creates issues. They will choose to go closer to their lab. We have been careful about who we recruit as it is very sensitive.

Councilmember Shekerjian noted that she and the Mayor toured a facility in Phoenix because they are launching on a whole solar area. It was very interesting. They also have a facility in Tempe.

Barbara Khalsa added that Rio Salado College has completed a research study to do a national survey of potential careers that would relate to solar energy. At the moment, they are evaluating what an Associates' Degree would look like to support the solar energy industry.

**DIRECTION:** Councilmember Shekerjian asked that Barbara Khalsa bring back a report to the committee on the solar energy field.

**Agenda Item #6 – E-Resource Center Update**

Sheri Wakefield-Saenz summarized that she will show the website at the next meeting. The concept is a technology “one-stop shop.” A small or large business would be able to access the E-Resource Center and find all of the articles discussed with this committee as well as, check the Tempe Library small business resources, the Arizona Small Business Development Center, and Arizona Department of Commerce. In addition, Alex Smith added a study called “The Science and Technology Indicators of 2008” that shows the role of technology in the economy. This is just a beginning. The site is [www.tempe.gov/technologyresourcecenter](http://www.tempe.gov/technologyresourcecenter). She asked for everyone to email her with ideas of things to add to the website. About 4 months ago, calls for service increased ten-fold in terms of small business. They are developing a resource center that is specifically for general business questions.

**DIRECTION:** Demo the E-Resource Center at the next meeting.

**Agenda item #7 – “Smart Place To Be” Education Promotion**

Sheri Wakefield-Saenz summarized that “The Smart Place To Be” was kicked off five years ago.

Councilmember Carter added that the name came out of the Economic Development Office, not from any former councilmember.

Councilmember Shekerjian added that we got a trademark and it fits so well with what this committee does and we want to see it come to fruition.

Ms. Wakefield-Saenz added that Kris Baxter will provide an update of how it has been used in the past and where we are today. The resource guide was put together that year and it provided all the information for small businesses. At the request of Council, they did acquire a trademark, and that same year, they received an award, not only from the International Economic Council, but also an honorable mention from the PRSA Society.

Kris Baxter added that the environment is very competitive against every public relations firm in the State. It not only looks at deliverables, but also at research. They developed the business development slogan, and other parts of the City latched on and it has been used as a recruitment tool, both by the Police Department and TLC. The campaign has worked well, but things change.

Ms. Wakefield-Saenz added that not only does Tempe have a highly educated workforce, but one of the most highly educated in the state. The economy was moving toward the knowledge economy, which is now very cliché, but at the time, it wasn't something that was widely known. It is used in email campaigns, ads (both locally and nationally in San Diego), and audio-cast for development activity. IKEA used it as their reason for locating in Tempe. For the next step, staff is currently in a phase of developing a new marketing kit.

Ms. Baxter added that slogans must change. Staff has been testing the words “succeed” and “success” because when the economy is changing, what do people want more than anything else? The bottom line is success. They combined two slogans in San Diego with good feedback. They placed an ad in the *Arizona Commercial Real Estate* magazine, with the word “success” in a prominent location. They have some marketing dollars with US Airways and if a customer buys a ticket on-line from Phoenix to San Diego and a variety of other cities, their confirmation page will come back with an ad in the headliner. They are getting 412 hits per month on the website from US Airways. The new marketing kit will combine these expressions. Tempe is still the smart place to be, but this is also a place for success.

Ms. Baxter added that the new 32-page business development guide is in production and is about a week away. It has been taken from 80 pages down to 32 pages. This is the day of the internet and fast communication and no one wants to read. Much of the information has been condensed into quick bullets and websites. Everything is being re-tooled and everything will be consistent. The last piece will be the Small Business Guide. That is a very important piece. In the last five years, they have tried to treat Tempe like a Fortune 500 company.

Councilmember Shekerjian stated that the “Smart Place To Be” can be used to help promote positive things happening in the schools to move them forward so that people understand that when they are looking at business opportunities and a place to locate a business and have employees live there, the good things in the schools are very important. The superintendents have indicated that it is important to them to be able to have a place within the City where people could understand the good things that are happening at their schools.

Ms. Baxter added that it is up to them to allow people to use it.

Councilmember Shekerjian added that the committee wanted to find ways to get the word out through current channels to promote education entities that are housed within our boundaries and let businesses know this is the “Smart Place To Be” because of what Tempe offers educationally.

Ms. Baxter added that in the forthcoming Business Development Guide, there will be information about our schools and our community college and trade schools, as well as the University.

**DIRECTION:** Come back with an update on what is currently being done and maybe ideas about how else we can do that.

Ms. Wakefield-Saenz added that one of the things that could be done with the new format is adding a beefed-up education page to the website that might have an education forum element.

Councilmember Shekerjian added that during the summer the Education portion of the committee will shut down and the Technology portion will continue. The Committee could look at developing a variety of different ways to get that information out and maybe some tools to be used in-house as well as formats to be given to the schools. Staff might like to put together a subcommittee to help with the brainstorming. She asked the schools to let Sheri and Kris know of anyone who would be willing to serve on a focus group.

**DIRECTION:** Provide an update on the focus group at the October meeting.

**Agenda Item #8 – Summer Agenda**

Councilmember Shekerjian stated that the Education portion of the Committee will not be meeting during the summer, but Technology will continue unless there is an urgent education issue.

**Agenda Item #9 – Future Agenda items**

- Follow-up on the education element of the Business and Education Forum held this spring with the business community. A big piece that came out of that was the state of education and how the qualifications of the workforce fit with the business needs today. The meeting will be on October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m. and will focus on K-12/community college.
- Update on work plan items
- E-Resource Website

**The Technology Advancement portion of the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.**

**Chair Shekerjian called the Education portion of the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.**

**EDUCATION**

**Agenda Item #1 – Public Appearances**

None.

**Agenda Item #2 – Approval of Minutes for February and March meetings**

Motion by Councilmember Carter to accept the February and March Meeting Minutes. Second by Councilmember Shekerjian. Motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item #3 – National League of Cities Conference Update**

Councilmember Shekerjian summarized that she was appointed to the Human Development Steering Committee, as well as the Youth, Education and Families Council which does a lot of things that relate to what we do on this committee. She asked to resign from the Human Development Steering Committee and focus on the Youth, Education and Families Council. They have a lot of interesting information about after school programs and it is obvious our staff has done a great job with Tempe's after school programs. They also have ideas on how to partner with school districts.

Councilmember Carter stated that the JAG and the IB program were listed as part of their Congressional agenda. Neither Sen. McCain or Sen. Kyl's office was open to talking about anything that would be earmarked for any kind of money. They did leave literature with them. They had dinner with Representative Mitchell and talked about the Corona issue.

**Agenda Item #4 – Career/Education Fair Update**

Councilmember Shekerjian announced that the Career/Education Fair for the East Valley has been cancelled, although there was a great deal of interest by East Valley elementary and high school districts. It will be on the west side next year. There were 11,000 attendees for the previous fair.

**Agenda Item #10 – Recycling Program Subcommittee Update**

Councilmember Sherkerjian stated that staff has been meeting with Phoenix Councilmember Greg Stanton regarding a program he has spear-headed in Phoenix to recycle plastic grocery bags. They would like to institute an education program, specifically starting with the high schools.

Phoenix Councilmember Greg Stanton summarized that there has been discussion concerning partnership opportunities. Around the country, some cities are banning the plastic bags. The Phoenix Public Works Department had asked their Council to look at urging people to reduce the use of plastic bags. Consideration was given to banning the bags in the City of Phoenix. Food Marketing Association, which represents most of the major grocers, reacted strongly to that and stated that they would be good partners in working with a program to significantly reduce the number of plastic bags, and that is what has occurred. All the major retailers are on board. He outlined the plan:

- City of Phoenix has printed about 100K of the reusable bags.
- The grocery stores have a sign and bin that say “Bag Central Station” and customers can recycle their plastic bags there.
- The idea for partnership is to get the Tempe stores to do the same thing with a Bag Central Station in every grocery store.
- It is also a great idea for marketing for companies to print up the reusable bags.
- The next step is getting them into the schools.

He continued that they haven’t ruled out regulation in Phoenix. They are requiring that the grocery stores figure out the poundage of plastic bags being given out and then determine the poundage of those returned. The City will determine the number that will be required. Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, has been set as the day for Phoenix and Tempe to hand out the reusable bags. Hopefully, some of the City entities will have educational booths at the stores so when families come, they can get the bag plus important information. The desire is to also get them into the schools. He asked to have the committee help work with the schools to get these Bag Central Station bins at the schools. It would be a good learning tool and there is money to be made. The cities cannot recycle the bags, but there are private entities that will pay to get them.

Councilmember Shekerjian suggested getting the high school students to help with the event. Councilmember Ellis’ committee is working on the recycling aspect, and this committee is working on the educational piece. We would like to have the Bag Central Station at whatever schools are interested. If they are located at the high schools, then the ecology clubs could be in charge of getting the bags to the recycling center.

Dr. David Schauer added he has a group called “Student Superintendent Council” and they have been talking about recycling, so that would generate about 8 middle school students who could help.

Councilmember Shekerjian asked that any groups coordinate with Lucy Morales and MaryHelen Giustizia. For the event on April 26<sup>th</sup>, we have talked about having one in Ahwatukee and one in South Tempe.

Councilmember Stanton clarified that there are two parts to the program:

- Give out as many reusable bags as possible. Phoenix is giving them away.
- Recycling of current plastic bags.

Councilmember Shekerjian thanked Councilmember Stanton. He understands the fact that these things need to be regional. Our hope is that as we partner, maybe we can start to ask other cities to partner in these efforts. We are also exploring the idea of a regional subcommittee to look at other possible projects for sustainability and education for children.

MaryHelen Giustizia summarized that she and Lucy Morales have mapped out all the grocery stores in the border areas for potential event sites. There was a perfect match of different types of grocery stores. Staff has also been working with Phoenix staff and they have shared that the logo for Bag Central Station has not been copyrighted, so it will be open for any valley partners for use in a valley-wide effort. We are all members of the Valley Recycling Partnership and well as the Arizona Recycling Coalition. The group meets on a monthly basis. Staff has also been looking at the Phoenix resolution and having something similar in Tempe. We will be ordering bags locally and they will be printed with Phoenix and Tempe on each side. Initially, we were going to include the batteries and the Nike Shoe Program, but felt that might be too much and decided to get the grocery bag initiative off the ground first, and then we can start drawing it out more. We will get in contact with the superintendents regarding students who might be interested.

#### **Agenda Item #5 – Beat the Odds Program**

Councilmember Shekerjian stated that Rebecca Gau was the primary researcher on the “Beat the Odds” study done 2006. She agreed to share the main findings.

Rebecca Gau highlighted the “Beat the Odds” Program. She was on the principal research team and did all of the data analysis and most of the school interviews. Schools with 50% Latino populations were targeted, twelve were selected, and the next step was to look at performance measures to see which of those schools were doing great things with their students.

- Being a “Beat the Odds” school is having a certain attitude. Everyone in each school had the same philosophy.
- One measure was the “predicted score” based on a regression equation. Given the demographics, what was their predicted score should be. In all 12 schools, it was a systemic push toward high student achievement, no matter what language they spoke, or where they came from.
- The elements that all 12 schools had in common:
  - disciplined thought – focused action, a clear bottom line and ongoing assessment
  - disciplined people – strong, steady principal, focused collaborative solutions
  - disciplined action - stick with program, built to suit the individual needs

Ms. Gau continued that they are developing a research project to measure the effectiveness of those elements, to see which ones have the biggest effect. They are doing this through the Center for the Future of Arizona, [www.arizonafuture.org](http://www.arizonafuture.org), where school districts nominate schools to be part of these partnerships and they would be provided mentors. She has learned to appreciate networking. They have been creating opportunities and are developing a handbook for the principals to read.

Councilmember Shekerjian asked if she gives presentations to schools.

Ms. Gau responded that they do, and it can be a lecture or a workshop. The presentation can be tailored to their level of sophistication.

Councilmember Shekerjian asked how to partner.

Ms. Gau responded that it is necessary to have cohorts and think about the district-wide program with self-directed training and different modules. Superintendents and principals often have differing opinions on what the proper level of involvement is. They really need to figure out what each is expecting and determine how to work together. She continued that a “Beat the Odds” Institute director has been hired. The goal is to get more people to start thinking about disciplined thought, disciplined people and disciplined action and find ways to create an atmosphere or that prism that creates “Beat the Odds” principals for each student.

Councilmember Shekerjian asked about the school partners program and how our schools would get connected with that program.

Ms. Gau responded that the first cohorts are finished but there is a second cohort. They haven’t decided how to recruit participants. For the first cohort, superintendents nominated schools. This is a three-year process. The first year involves more self-reflection and getting on board and seeing what things the school has and what they don’t have. The second year is where everyone starts implementing whatever decisions they have made. They have also been thinking about a district-wide program that is less intensive where the superintendents select the mentors and work with us.

Councilmember Shekerjian asked when the handbook will be available.

Ms. Gau responded it will be in publication this summer. If anyone has any questions, they may email her at [rebecca@rebeccagau.com](mailto:rebecca@rebeccagau.com).

#### **Agenda Item #6 – Tempe Art Grant Update**

Tom Canasi summarized that this is a partnership with the Elementary and the High School Districts to foster the arts through a grant from Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community. Two projects are coming to fruition:

- Tempe Youth Wind Symphony will be performing April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Tempe Center for the Arts (TCA) in the main theater. This is a partnership between high school students mentoring middle school students in music. Tickets go on sale tomorrow morning at 10 a.m.

- “Music Under the Stars” is scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> at the Arts Park at 7 p.m. This is an outdoor music performance. Desert Vista High School, Corona del Sol High School, Arizona Wind Symphony, and Arizona Academy Drum and Bugle Corps will be presenting individual performances, culminating with a joint performance.

He thanked the SRPMIC, the school districts, and the non-profits for their participation.

Councilmember Shekerjian added that this is a way for people to see the TCA.

#### **Agenda Item #7 – Battery Recycling Program**

Don Hawkes summarized that he has received names from each district and a meeting will be held to explain the potential risk issue. He talked to Glen Lowry about the Rio Salado recycling program. Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) is the end-user. They supply boxes and the postage, but they only handle the exotic batteries. The Household Products Collection Center (HPCC) expects to receive about 80% alkaline batteries, which are not recyclable, and they will sort the batteries and incinerate the alkaline batteries. He recommended that the City work with the school districts and to resolve the risk management issue and then the City is ready to meet with everyone and roll out the program.

Councilmember Shekerjian asked about a roll-out on Earth Day.

Mr. Hawkes responded that it won't be ready.

Councilmember Shekerjian suggested rolling the program out right after the first month of school in the fall.

#### **Agenda Item #8 – JAG Program Update**

Councilmember Shekerjian summarized that staff has applied for a \$100K grant from JAG National. They have asked for more specific support in terms of how much money can be raised. We should get the grant, and hope to get the program back in Tempe. The JAG program is for high-risk students and hopes are to put it back at Marcos de Niza High School, as well as a program at Tempe High. The State JAG group is very interested in pursuing additional dollars for us, as well as for a middle school program if there is interest.

#### **Agenda Item #9 – Corona del Sol High School Update**

Steve Adoph distributed a question-and-answer sheet and asked that anyone contact him with additional questions. The primary concern is getting money to take care of the problems. They know what to do, but are short about \$11K and \$17M. This issue was brought to the School Facilities Board twice, once in 1999 when the initial inspection of the school was done. In 2006, it was tested again. Now they are saying that if they had tested it appropriately, they would have realized the air quality was inappropriate and in 1999 they would have fixed the problem. Now it must be declared an emergency and they have no emergency funding. On Thursday, the School Facilities Board will have a choice between whether they follow the recommendation of the hearing judge who ruled in their favor, or whether they will rule in the district's favor which is against the hearing judge and against what they wanted to have happen in the first place. He is not optimistic. A lawsuit has been filed. The lawsuit would be to fully fund building renewal for all the schools across the state.

He continued that except for replacing the HVAC system, which is the highest dollar, and removing classroom carpeting, they have done everything the independent industrial hygienist has asked them to do. They are, in addition, removing the carpet in the classrooms, but it may be that they will have to do that during the summer. They will also be installing a ventilation system which will help the CO2 levels, but when school starts in August, they will be pumping in new fresh air and trying to use the old air conditioning system to cool it which will replace high CO2 levels with lower CO2 levels and higher temperatures.

Councilmember Carter asked who is recommending going ahead with the ventilation system when you don't have a new chiller.

Mr. Adolph responded that it would have had to be done anyway, but if it were put in at the same time as the new chiller, it would bring in fresh air but a new chiller would cool down that air. He thanked Mayor and Council for their early support. The State legislators seem to be interested now.

Councilmember Carter added that the school was built partially with a federal grant and it was built to specific federal guidelines. That's why she brought the issue to Washington. There is some culpability on the federal level.

Mr. Adolph added that the citizens committee that is working on the override will be making a recommendation to the governing board in May recommending whether the district should go out for an M&O, a capital and a Class B bond. The Class B bond would be mostly to correct the Corona problem. That would provide funding to correct the problem, but that is November and it is contingent upon the voters' approval.

**DIRECTION:** Return with an update in May.

**Agenda Item #11 – Walk to School Promotion Subcommittee**

Councilmember Shekerjian summarized that there had been discussion about a Walk to School Program in conjunction with Councilmember Ellis' committee. We wanted to explore the ways in which we could provide some support for this program. We wanted to have representatives from the school districts come together with our transportation people to discuss what that might look like over the summer and then when Walk to School Day comes up in the fall, we could launch this program. The concept is that once a week, for example, you would walk to school to reduce the number of cars. She asked the superintendents for contacts of who would be the right persons to serve on a short subcommittee over the summer.

There was a suggestion to coordinate with Phoenix which already has a program.

**DIRECTION:** The superintendents were directed to give names to Shelley Hearn.

**Agenda Item #12 – Tempe Internship Partnership with EVIT**

Jennifer Adams provided information on the partnership with EVIT. Public Works has a recruitment outreach committee (ROC) and partners with Police and Fire.

- The committee developed a mission statement to “encourage, promote and provide networking and employment opportunities to increase diversity in the City of Tempe Public Works Department.”
- 21 employees represent every Public Works Division.
- Public Works has an intern, Nici Baca, who recruits other interns.
- Partnership with East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT) was recently started.
  - Environmental Services at EVIT partners with Custodial Services in Public Works.
  - Automotive at EVIT partners with Fleet in Public Works.
- Partnership with ASU
  - Coalition of Engineering Minorities and the Society of Women Engineers
  - Minority Student Organization partnerships – American Indian Science and Engineering Society, National Society of Black Engineers, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and Society of Women Engineers.

Nici Baca, Administrative Intern, summarized her background and her experience in Public Works. She highlighted five events that were held this year.

Amanda Krstec, Streets Intern, summarized her background and outlined her biggest projects.

Ms. Adams summarized the results of the program which include a recruitment from a more diverse pool of candidates, the new partnership with EVIT, and sponsorship of GEAR Day. Recruitment is being handled through several websites. Future partnerships with the school districts would be welcomed. She also summarized the accomplishments for 2007-2008.

Councilmember Carter added that she appreciates the program for steering girls into a wider field of careers.

Sharon Doyle added that several campuses have career days and she asked if they had been involved in those.

Ms. Adams responded that they were involved in one at Marcos de Niza, but they would be willing to get involved in those as well.

#### **Agenda Item #13 – Tempe 11 Opportunities**

Postponed to the next agenda.

#### **Agenda Item #14 – Work Plan Update**

Postponed to the next agenda.

#### **Agenda Item #15 - Announcements**

Councilmember Carter suggested that Councilmember Stanton attend future meetings when the override issue is on the agenda.

Councilmember Shekerjian announced that on October 8<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the TCA, there will be an education/business workforce development forum with the technology community. It will be focused on K-12 and community colleges. This will be a wonderful opportunity for networking.

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Councilmember Shekerjian added that they are looking for contacts at the school districts and the community college district, and ASU for the “Smart Place To Be” Task Force. Everyone agrees we need to get the word out about the good things that are happening in the schools, so we are looking for ways to promote Tempe as the “Smart Place To Be” with a focus of what we have to offer in terms of our educational opportunities. Please give names to Shelley Hearn.

MaryHelen Giustizia announced that Public Works has a new list of Blue Barrel recyclables. Also on April 19<sup>th</sup> there will be a “Shred-A-Thon” that is open to the community in conjunction with Premier Document Shredding. She distributed fliers.

**Agenda Item #16 – Future Agenda Items**

- Override Campaign Update (Dick Foreman)
- Tempe 11 Opportunities
- Work Plan Updates

**Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.**

Prepared by: Connie Krosschell  
Reviewed by: Shelley Hearn

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Jan Hort  
City Clerk