

TOWN OF GILA BEND

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

June 2010



Town of Gila Bend - 644 West Pima Street - Gila Bend, AZ 85337 - www.gilabendaz.org

Waterline and Fire Hydrant Replacement

May 14, 2010



After nearly 2 years of working with multiple funding agencies, the Town of Gila Bend finally received its notice to proceed for the Waterline and Fire Hydrant Replacement Project.

The project, which is estimated at \$3.1 million, has several funding sources including USDA Rural Development, Community Development Block Grant, and Arizona's Water Infrastructure Financing Authority (WIFA).

Approximately \$518,000 is a loan, while roughly \$2.5 million are Grants from the Federal Government. Sellers and Sons has been awarded the contract and will begin mobilization efforts on May 17, 2010. A project schedule will be posted on the Town website and at Town Hall when it becomes available.

Pedestrian Bridge Efforts

May 14, 2010

The Town of Gila Bend's Planning and Economic Development Department has recently applied for a \$1M grant from the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to construct a Pedestrian Bridge at Martin Street and Pima Street.



If awarded, the pedestrian bridge would be integrated into the pedestrian and landscape improvements along both Pima Street and Martin Street.

We are now in the process of grant review by multiple agencies and ADOT. We will report and post updates as we receive them.

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Census 2010

May 14, 2010

Beginning the week of May 11, 2010 Gila Bend residents will begin to see Census Workers coming to your homes. Census forms must go to a residence and because Gila Bend uses post office boxes, all the forms



were returned to the Census Department. As a result, Census workers will be coming to your home. ***Please take a few minutes to fill out your Census. Count everyone who lives in your home.***

The 2010 Census **will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year** for things like, hospitals, job training centers, schools, senior centers, bridges, tunnels and other-public works projects, emergency services, etc.

Shared Revenues from the State of Arizona are also based on population. For every person counted, Gila Bend receives **about \$267 per person every year** to be used in the community.

June 2010 Community Calendar

May 20, 2010



- 6/1/10 – Parks and Recreation – T-Ball/Iddy Biddy Opening Ceremony
- 6/2/10 – Parks and Recreation – Majors Opening Ceremony
- 6/3/10 - Planning & Zoning Commission (7:00 pm)
- 6/8/10 – Council Meeting – Work Session (5:00 pm)
- 6/22/10 – Council Meeting- Regular Meeting (6:00 pm)
- 6/22/10 – Truth in Taxation Hearing
- 6/24/10 – Public Open House: Anza Trail (6:00 pm)

SR85 Update

May 20, 2010

The SR85 Road Realignment is tentatively scheduled to begin in September. The work will involve realignment of SR85, Butterfield Trail (which includes bridge demolition), and SR 238 (Maricopa Road). To ease the impact on local businesses, the Town Council voted to have a bypass route along SR85/Pima instead of shutting down Butterfield trail and create a bypass down Main Street. This increased the amount of time to complete the work from approximately 15 months to 22 months.



The project work is being done by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) with coordination with the Town of Gila Bend.

The Town also recently secured an additional \$1.25 million for pedestrian and landscape improvements that will be installed in conjunction with this roadwork.

Anza National Historic Trail Update

May 20, 2010

A Public Open House meeting is set for Thursday, June 24, 2010 at the School Cafeteria from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. A presentation on Parks, Open Spaces and Trails, part of the Gila Bend Master Plan, will be shown along with information on the Anza Trail. Public input is encouraged on the proposed trail system. Representatives from BLM and the National Park Service will be available for questions.

Multigenerational Facility

May 20, 2010

The Parks and Recreation Department is moving to the Social Services Building (a.k.a. “CAP office) in June, creating a multigenerational facility. Social Services Director Diane Dempsey and Parks and Recreation Director Sonny Hoffman believe this move will better serve the community and assist in providing more programs for both seniors and youth.



Abengoa Solar Update

May 20, 2010

ABENGOA

“Full Steam Ahead” continues to be the message from Abengoa on the construction of Solana, the world’s largest solar plant. Abengoa continues to state that they are expecting to break ground on the project in mid to late summer.

Abengoa is completing its “NEPA process” which is an environmental clearance requirement by the Federal Government. NEPA stands for National Environmental Protection Act, and the process typically takes 6-12 months. According to Abengoa, once the NEPA process is complete, the Federal Government will sign off on their loan guarantee and they will be ready to break ground. If you are interested in job opportunities, you may check in with Abengoa or with the Town’s Social Services Center. The Town will continue to provide information on its website (www.gilabendaz.org) and as we receive it.

ARRA Projects Updates

May 20, 2010

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) projects include a transit (park/ride) facility at the airport, pedestrian and landscape improvements along Pima Street and Martin Street, and Monument Signage. The projects have been bid and awarded and are being project managed by ADOT. We expect the transit facility to break ground in June and the Pima Street and Monument Signage to break ground in July. Approximately \$840,000 of work is being done, with funding coming from ARRA and ADOT.