

Notes from the President

Hello FQ Story! It's been an interesting summer as far as weather has been concerned. Storms have uprooted some great trees that I hope will be replaced. Our canopy covered sidewalks are what make our walks just a bit cooler for us and our neighbors. Also, if you'd like, you can always provide a tax-deductible donation to the Story Preservation Association to help with all our many ongoing programs (Feral Cat TNR, Phx Fair Skies Legal Fund, and the Franklin School Scholarship Fund to name a few). Visit FQStory.org.

Block Watch – Our Community Action Officer attended our last meeting and shared an update on many of the car battery thefts going on in, and around, our neighborhood. With some good tips and reporting of incidents, one individual was caught and provided surprising info on how these crimes occurred. Many were crimes of opportunity, which is the preferred method. Cars were left unlocked, which made easy access under the hood. We learned there is a channel for these batteries to be sold to recycling businesses for the lead inside. So, make sure your cars are locked when you're in for the night and report suspicious activity.

Seventh Ave Landscaping Update – Our Vice President, Steven Methvin, was again hard at work in getting the latest news on the City's efforts to replace much of the dying, dead or missing plants and trees along 7th Avenue. Erik Wilson, the newest Streets Transportation Horticulturist, spoke about the upcoming first phase in the City's plan for our historic district. All trees on the ADOT/CoP plan that are diseased or missing from Roosevelt to Lynwood are to be replaced. Palo Blanco's will be placed in the median and Elms on the westside of 7th. This will be happening soon.

Low-Income Historic Housing Rehabilitation Program – The Low Income Historic Housing Rehabilitation Program was created to encourage the repair and rehabilitation of historic residential properties providing housing opportunities for persons and families with low-incomes. The program funds critical building maintenance; structural stabilization work; repair and rehabilitation of historic exterior features such as roofs, walls, windows and doors. All projects are required to meet city historic preservation guidelines, as well as the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The city pays 80 percent for eligible exterior rehabilitation work on projects where individual grant recipients do not receive funding assistance from a non-profit organization, another agency or assistance program to cover the remaining costs. The minimum request the city will consider is \$3,000 and the maximum funding amount is \$30,000. In exchange for receiving funding assistance, owners convey a conservation easement to the city for a period of 15 to 20 years depending on the funding amount. Contact the CoP Historic Preservation Office for more info.

CoP Solid Waste Department – Michele Lyons provided some information and reminders for FQ Story residents. When filling the alley waste cans, please place only approved items in the can. She showed us photos of sofas eight feet in the air. One, sofas in the can are not allowed. Two, waste must be able to be contained in the can, not piled or sticking out of it excessively. If you don't have a way to transport your large items to the dump, there are some inexpensive alternatives on Craigslist that will do it for you. Michele also reminded us that trucks require 18 to 44 feet of clearance to travel and turn in alleyways, so please ensure your area is not a hindrance to access by trimming trees and vegetation back. She also stated that with recent events in the news, there are no plans to move FQ Story alley trash pickup to curbside.

As always, please contact me if there's anything I can help with.
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