

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello again, neighbors!

My first year as President of MNA has been busy and extremely fulfilling, and I hope to continue on the Board in some capacity. I want to thank those who have been so helpful to me:

- Members of the 2019-2020 Board
- Council Member Steve Kozachik and his Ward 6 staff
- City of Tucson Neighborhood Engagement Specialist, Rebecca Ruopp and Becky Flores.

And a special shout-out to those who provided service beyond expectation:

- Caroline Rondeau, representing Saint Mark's Presbyterian Church in coordinating neighborhood events
- Marilyn Russell, who un-retired from the Board to put together the newsletters
- Don Ijams, a Peter Howell neighbor, who has acted as Miramonte's webmaster

We will be soliciting your help to move forward in the coming months as the pandemic allows. For the Association to continue to prosper, it needs BOARD MEMBERS and a WEBMASTER.

I encourage anyone (renter, landlord, property or business owner) who wants to be more involved with the issues affecting our community to seriously consider being a part of the MNA Board. The Board will have 8 openings. In the past, we have had 10 meetings per year (No July or December) on the second Wednesday of each month at the Ward 6 Office. You'll meet neighbors; hear from City officials regarding future projects affecting our neighborhood; address neighborhood issues, such as weed control, environmental services, traffic and development issues.

MNA only needs one webmaster—someone with computer skills who will keep the web-site and MNAAction list serve current and format the newsletter.

If you're as concerned as I am in keeping our neighborhood safe, maintaining a quality environment, and having a voice in issues which impact us all, please consider volunteering to become an active Miramonte neighbor.

Chuck Bayles, MNA President

### Stay connected – Join MNAAction!

MNAAction is an electronic line of communication for the Miramonte Neighborhood Association. It's the best way to stay informed about what is happening in Miramonte and learning how you can be involved! To subscribe, simply send an e-mail to: [MNAAction-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MNAAction-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) with your name and address/cross-streets.

Website: <http://miramontena.org>  
E-mail: [MiramonteNA@gmail.com](mailto:MiramonteNA@gmail.com)  
Miramonte Neighborhood Assoc.  
PO Box 40602 - Tucson, AZ 85717

### TPD Activities in Miramonte Neighborhood

You can check up to 100 of the most recent incidents in our neighborhood that involved the Tucson Police Department online at:

<http://nsn.soaz.info/incident/s/zmiramonte.html>

## Benedictine Monastery Development Enters Construction Phase

Following a March 2 pre-construction meeting, activity on the new development at 800 N. Country Club is taking off. Our Councilman, Steve Kozachik, has worked with the project manager Sundt has on this job during several UA construction jobs. “She will do a great job being sensitive to the project schedule, budget and the concerns of the surrounding neighbors.”

The construction is planned to take about twenty months. There has been no decision made at this point on what the new uses inside the sanctuary will be. Count on something commercial, but until investors see that zoning entitlements are locked in, they’re reluctant to commit to any given project.

The work has begun to build 294 apartments, parking and business spaces at the Benedictine Monastery and will continue for about 18 months.

These seedlings are from the Benedictine site and are now growing in the Mission Gardens green house for preservation.



Johnny Campbell, the on-site superintendent on the project for Sundt Corporation wants neighbors to contact him directly with any concerns or issues that they notice during the build. For example there is to be no parking or driving by contractors or sub-contractors on our neighborhood streets.

During the summer there may be as many as 40 concrete pours overnight but trucks will not have their back-up signals sounding. Attention will be paid to dust, and noise control. Work hours will be from sunrise until 8pm, Monday through Saturday. Lights will not be allowed to spill into homes. If you are affected by any problems during construction, contact Mr. Campbell at 520-433-2983. Also tell him if you’d like to be on the Sundt email neighbor update listserv. His email address is: [jccampbell@sundt.com](mailto:jccampbell@sundt.com).

### SOME SANCTUARY TREES WILL HAVE A NEW HOME

You may wonder...What will happen to the lovely old trees on the Benedictine Sanctuary’s grounds when apartments and parking structures crowd them out? Many years ago the Benedictine Sisters sold their oranges, avocados, and dates to help pay for the bills. After the Sanctuary was sold the newspapers reported that the exotic trees would be dug up, transplanted and moved elsewhere. Then horticultural experts from the University, the Sonoran Desert Museum and many private nurseries got together and made a more practical plan. First of all the SHOCK of transplanting the huge trees might just kill them! Plus it would be very costly. So they created a simpler and less deadly plan. They would take cuttings, seeds, and grafts of the fruit-bearing trees to the Mission Gardens’ green house. There they would be nurtured and cared for to maturity. The Mission Gardens located at 946 W. Mission Lane, are an agricultural museum of Sonoran Desert-adapted trees and crops. So...you can drop into the Gardens and visit them sometime! It’s a lovely new home for them.

### The April 2020 MNA Annual Meeting was Postponed

Due to the current pandemic situation, all Miramonte Neighborhood Association in-person meetings and activities, including the Annual Meeting, have been postponed until further notice. We hope to reschedule by September.

Watch for email updates on our MNAAction mailing list and on our MNA Bulletin Board at Whole Foods Market. Even if you are a NextDoor subscriber, you are missing important information about our neighborhood that is NOT on NextDoor. And there is no annoying advertising!

**MNAAction subscription is FREE and EASY. Here’s how: just send your subscription request including your name and email address to [MNAAction-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:MNAAction-subscribe@yahoo.com)**

Take a minute now to connect to the Miramonte Neighborhood Association for first-hand information!

Stay safe! ‘Til Autumn!

The MNA Board of Directors

### 2019-2020 MNA Board of Directors

Chuck Bayles, President  
 [Open], Vice-President  
 Sandee Reynolds, Treasurer  
 [Open], Secretary  
 Sam Behrend  
 Joanna Dinan  
 Anne Marie Laurian  
 Eduardo Guerrero  
 Caroline Rondeau  
 Marilyn Russell  
 Terry Borg

Want to help the neighborhood by strengthening the Association? Join the Board. We’re always looking for new members; just come to our next meeting, most often held on the second Wednesday of each month, except in July and December. Meetings are suspended during the pandemic until further notice.

## PLANNING FOR MAJOR STREET PROJECTS IN Miramonte Neighborhood is Underway

### 1. Traffic Circle at Camino Miramonte/Third Street: A Work in Progress

In early 2019, Miramonte neighbors approved a traffic circle at this location as part of the City's efforts to improve safety for those using the Third Street Bike Route. A Miramonte Design Committee formed in August 2019 to work with the City to design a circle unique to Miramonte Neighborhood. As a result, there is the concrete base for a privately funded art project at the site. The Committee just approved the conceptual design (See p. 4).

Planning is now underway to submit for City and Arts Foundation approval a design which is intended to be a long-term asset to the neighborhood. That approval process can take up to three months, so any construction will likely be late 2020/early 2021. Thanks to the unknown neighbors who have added whimsy to the vacant space in the meantime.

An additional feature of this intersection is the squaring of the turn lanes with new curbing, described as an engineering necessity to make traffic circulate properly. Asphalt has been removed from the newly enclosed areas so that rainwater will soak into the soil to support plantings which the City will provide. The City has also promised the restoration of a safe crosswalk on the northwest corner.

### 2. Traffic Circle at Richey/Third Street: An Up-coming Project

In late 2019, the City identified location of a second traffic circle on the Third Street Bike Route, this one at Richey. At a neighborhood meeting on Feb. 27, 2020, Diana Alarcon, head of Tucson Department of Transportation and Mobility, promised that the second circle will have the same base and circumference features as those at Camino Miramonte. The neighborhood will be responsible for the design and finance of the interior public art. A survey monument and a manhole cover will affect the space and design of that circle interior. The Design Committee, members Mike Anglin, Ruth Beeker, Sam Behrend, Kim Fernandez, Eduardo Guerrero and Adam Lucia, will work to ensure that there is aesthetic compatibility of the two Third Street projects.

Neighbors requested that the City provide marked crosswalks at that intersection. On May 27, Ryan Fagan, director of the Bike Project, sent an email stating the City will do a study to see if the amount of car traffic and pedestrian activity warrants their inclusion there.

Construction of the entire Bike Project is due to begin this fall, so Miramonte Neighborhood Association needs to raise funds for the Richey public art now. (See p. 4). In addition to encouraging you to send checks, the MNA Board has made it possible to donate online. Visit [GoFundMe.com](https://www.gofundme.com), click on Search and enter Miramonte Neighborhood. Thank you for your support.

### Transportation and Mobility

On February 5, 2020, the Tucson Department of Transportation and Mobility kicked off Move Tucson Delivering Mobility Choices, a 20+ year mobility master plan for the City of Tucson.

At the end of the Move Tucson effort, the city will have a vision for our transportation needs with an actionable list of projects and other transportation improvements. This vision and list will provide a clear roadmap for how we want our transportation system to function.

To find out more about Move Tucson and participate in the effort, visit: <https://movetucson.org/>



Do you have a transportation related concern that needs to be addressed in your area? You find it, we fix it. Provide us with detailed location information regarding potholes or asphalt concerns, damaged or worn out signs that need to be replaced, or overgrown trees that need to be trimmed due to obstruction of view.

Help your transportation team work for you, call us at: 520-791-3154 or email us at: [TDOTConcerns@tucsonaz.gov](mailto:TDOTConcerns@tucsonaz.gov)

**HELP COMPLETE THE RICHEY TRAFFIC CIRCLE  
MAKE A DONATION — HAVE IT MATCHED**

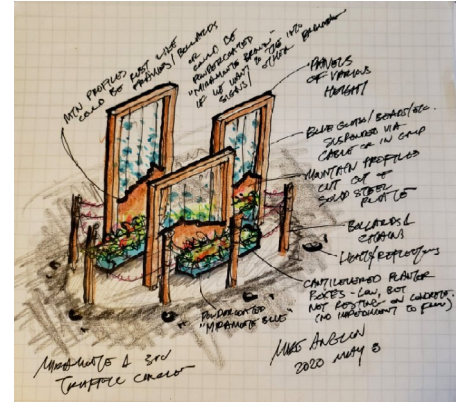
The City of Tucson will put in the base at the intersection of Richey and Third Street just like the one now at Camino Miramonte (see details, p. 3) It is the responsibility of Miramonte Neighborhood Association (MNA) to pay for the interior public art.

Neighbor Mike Anglin will provide MNA a concept design, compatible with that at Camino Miramonte (see bottom right). Carrying it out involves professionals designing, getting approvals, fabricating and installing—a costly endeavor.

A Miramonte neighbor will match each contribution made, until a total of \$10,000 is raised.

Be part of this Miramonte Neighborhood Improvement Project. Thank you.

Please send a donation to: Miramonte Neighborhood Assoc. - PO Box 40602, Tucson, AZ 85717 or contribute online. Visit [GoFundMe.com](http://GoFundMe.com), click on Search and enter Miramonte Neighborhood.



**Thanks for your support** - As a neighborhood association, we are fortunate to have so many individuals and businesses that support our efforts throughout the year with monetary contributions. We sincerely appreciate these contributions that allow us to cover business expenses as well as unanticipated expenses and ongoing projects. If you would like to make a donation, please send your check to our mailing address P.O.Box 40602, Tucson, Arizona 85717 or bring it with you to a neighborhood event or meeting.

Miramonte  
Neighborhood  
Newsletter