



Spring 2021 Newsletter

Published for the 2400+ members of the Miramonte Neighborhood Association

## ANNUAL MEETING!

**Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1 - 3 pm**

**St Mark's Presbyterian Church located at 3809 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St – Outdoor Courtyard\***

\*Masks required on St Mark's property

Special guests include a speaker from the City of Tucson Police, a representative from the Benedictine Project & Ward 6's Steve Kozachik - bring your concerns and questions!  
Election of NEW Board Members – Call to the audience

Do you have concerns or curiosities about neighborhood projects or activities such as: Benedictine Monastery Project, Traffic Circles, Palo Verde/Miramonte Bike Blvd, 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> St Improvements, Used Glass, Crime or Neighborhood Businesses?

Do you want to get involved to help make positive changes happen in your neighborhood?

*Now is the time!*

Come and meet up with your neighbors or introduce yourself to your new neighbors and get in touch with the goings on in Miramonte Neighborhood.

### **Stay connected – Join Miramonte Neighborhood's email group MNA-Email!**

***\*Note the NEW Group Address\****

*MNA switched from Yahoo to Google Groups. If you have not made the change, please email to the address below to subscribe.*

MNA-Email is an electronic line of communication for the Miramonte Neighborhood Association. It is 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:

**Miramonte-neighborhood-association+subscribe@googlegroups.com**

Website: <http://miramontena.org/>

Miramonte Neighborhood Assoc. PO Box 40602 - Tucson, AZ 85717

### **2021 MNA Board of Directors**

**President**-Joanna Dinan, **Vice-President**-Caroline Rondeau,

**Treasurer**-Sam Behrend, **Secretary**-Marilyn Russell

**Board Members**-Anne Marie Laurian, Eduardo Guerrero, Sandee Reynolds  
Terry Borg, Linda Dobbyn, Ellen Wheeler, Jan Howard & Adam Lucia

### **TPD Activities in Miramonte Neighborhood**

You can check up to 100 of the most recent incidents in our neighborhood that involved the TPD online at:  
**<http://nsn.soaz.info/incidents/zmiramonte.html>**

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello fellow Miramonte Neighbors,

2020 was a strange year in many ways for the Miramonte Neighborhood Association (MNA). With the pandemic, we had to change to electronic meetings. That April, we had to cancel the Annual Meeting, a Rummage Sale, and in Autumn, the Halloween party. The Spring newsletter was also canceled, but Peter Howell Neighbor, Don Ijams, helped us to get one together last June. MNA Neighbor, Alan Fullmer, volunteered to be our Web Master, and gave our Website a major reboot. During the fall, President Chuck Bayless resigned, and I was elected President. In December we added several energetic new board members: Adam Lucia, Jan Howard, Linda Dobbyn and Ellen Wheeler.

Meanwhile, your neighborhood changed. The bike shop closed. Hobby Town was torn down and a Dutch Brothers coffee shop sprouted in its place. And Fronimo's, which has been the site of many MNA gatherings over the years, closed its doors. A proposal has been sent to the City about installing artwork at the 3rd & Camino Miramonte Traffic Circle. Neighbors recently joined Tucson Clean and Beautiful to add plants to the redesigned intersection. The apartments being built around the Benedictine Chapel are on schedule for completion this fall.

Please consider donating time and/or money to MNA, which is a volunteer organization... *with no dues*.

Joanna Dinan, MNA President



### Concept:

1. Rain: Express the importance of rain in the desert
2. Mountains: Prominent view of the Catalina Mts, as reflected in the street name, Camino Miramonte (1940's), and the choice of Association name, Miramonte (1992)
3. Water: Original placement of Camino Miramonte to follow the path and function of Christmas Wash, still the major rainwater collector in the area.

Constructed of metal with colors, blue and brown, used in MN street signage and logo


*Proposed* public art - "Rain & Ridges" - 3<sup>rd</sup> St & Cmo Miramonte Traffic Circle  
The Public Art is being paid for by private donations.

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 donate***, 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.



*Neighborhood bulletin board located at Whole Foods*

## Thank you!

Volunteer Robin Ponvert has retired from maintaining the neighborhood bulletin board located at Whole Foods. Thanks Robin! 

Jan Howard has volunteered to take over the task to keep the neighborhood engaged with important events and notices.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> & Camino Miramonte Traffic Circle – Curb’s update by Adam Lucia

After initially designing and constructing curbs that were intended to square the intersection of 3rd St and Camino Miramonte but did little more than put pedestrians into the harm's way of traffic, make it difficult for vehicles to take a right hand turn onto 3rd St, flood with standing water anytime it rained, and aesthetically offend the neighborhood, Tucson Department of Traffic & Mobility worked with a group of neighbors to re-design the intersection. With great thanks to all those involved on the neighborhood committee (Kim Fernandez, Dena McDuffie, Sam Behrend, and a special thank you to Rich Lovato for his professional design work) and those from the city (Diana Alarcon, Blake Olofson, and Blake Richardson from the city and Jon Choi from Tucson Clean and Beautiful) that listened to our concerns and got it done.

The traffic circle curbs have been redesigned to remedy the previous challenges: softening the curb corners, adding concrete sidewalks that keep pedestrians safe, and planting drought-tolerant vegetation to help absorb the standing water and beautify the intersection. Thank you to everyone from the neighborhood that weighed in on the challenges and helped us improve our wonderful Miramonte Neighborhood.

### Your input is needed on 2 projects:

#### **Palo Verde/Miramonte Bike Blvd & 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> St Improvements:**

1) The City is planning changes to area streets that will require public input starting in 2021. Up first will be improvements to 5th Street/6th Street, with public input in summer or fall 2021, including:

- Walkability improvements, Campbell to Alvernon, funded by Proposition 407 (2018), detailed here: [https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/pdfs/5th6thStPedestrianSafetyWalkability\\_Revised.pdf](https://www.tucsonaz.gov/files/pdfs/5th6thStPedestrianSafetyWalkability_Revised.pdf)
- Pavement reconstruction from Country Club to Wilmot, funded by Proposition 101 (2017), coinciding with a Tucson Water line replacement.
- Possible changes to striping, Campbell to Wilmot, to improve safety for all roadway users.

2) Miramonte Boulevard between Speedway and 5th Street is part of a proposed 5.5-mile Palo Verde/Miramonte Bicycle Boulevard from the Rillito River on the north to Aviation Parkway on the south. The project would include traffic calming measures and enhanced bike crossings at major streets.

Neighborhood input will be sought during the design phase in 2022-23, with construction starting in 2024. The UA College of Architecture produced a design vision for the Bike Boulevard, found online at: [https://issuu.com/universityofarizonaschoolofarchitec/docs/area\\_4\\_studio\\_crosson](https://issuu.com/universityofarizonaschoolofarchitec/docs/area_4_studio_crosson)



**YOUR USED GLASS IS VALUABLE!!!**

The City adopted a city-wide policy of recycling glass SEPARATELY after a successful pilot project study initiated by Councilman Steve Kozachik of Ward 6. Miramonte Neighbors can recycle their used glass in the PURPLE DUMPSTER located in the Ward 6 parking lot at 3202 E. 1st St.

The ground glass now replaces the more expensive sand in the City's construction projects.

\*Please rinse and remove the lids/tops!

**Benedictine Oleanders REMOVED without notice!**

It was an engineering error that caused 150' of 20-ft tall oleanders bordering 3rd St. to be removed. In fact, it was written in the PAD (Planned Area Development) that the oleanders would remain post-construction. A civil engineer found a conflict with the building foundations necessitating the oleander border be pushed farther away from the foundation.

Soon 15-gallon plants will replace the old ones. Councilman Kozachik spoke with the property owner and advised against such surprise moves in the future.



Miramonte  
Neighborhood  
Newsletter

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