City of Sedona's Monthly Round Up for December 2021



Welcome to the City of Sedona's first monthly newsletter! This is part of a new initiative to keep residents more informed on City happenings. You can expect these to hit your inbox once a month! Read on for a round up of interesting news, events and announcements.

Straight Talk with Karen

Have questions you'd like the ask the City Manager? The City is kicking off a new series in which City Manager Karen Osburn will have open office hours generally the third Wednesday of every month from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., and the public can come talk with Karen on any topic. Schedule a time slot and learn more at www.sedonaaz.gov/straighttalk.

Did You Know?

Did you know that for more than two decades, the City has helped fund a variety of local community organizations that many residents use every day, through annual provider agreements?

Currently, the City funds over \$1 million a year in these agreements with the Humane Society of Sedona, Sedona Community Center, Sedona Public Library, Sedona Recycles and Verde Valley Caregivers.

These organizations in turn fund services the City does not provide but might otherwise offer in the absence of that community organization, and others are simply intended to provide additional public benefit.

A big thanks to these providers for all their great community-enhancing services!

City Council Recap

Here's a recap of November's City Council meetings and some decisions you might want to know about. City Council:

- awarded the construction contract for phase 2 of the SR179 Sewer Main Replacement Project. Construction will start in January with sewer work complete in February and paving complete in the Spring when temperatures allow.
- approved the permanent increase of an existing half-cent sales tax that was set to expire in 2028. This will be dedicated to transportation purposes, specifically the implementation of a transit system in Sedona.
- approved a five-year service agreement with MV Transportation Inc. to operate the Trailhead Shuttle and Microtransit services which will launch in 2022.
- approved the contract with Housing Solutions of Northern Arizona to administer a down-payment assistance program for local workforce. Read more.

Other News

Don't miss these other announcements:

- Before Dec. 30th, go vote for which art pieces to select for three roundabouts along SR179.
 Maquettes of the art pieces are on display at the Sedona Public Library for you to view and vote for your top three favorites using paper ballots and a ballot box. Read more.
- Andy Dickey was promoted as the City's Public Works Director/Assistant City Manager.
 Andy's promotion is the result of a reclassification of his current position with added responsibilities. He will now oversee not just the Public Works Department, as he has in his role as Public Works Director for over five years, but also the Parks and Recreation Department and transit program. Read more.

Watch for This

City Council set an impressive list of priorities for 2021. To get a refresh, watch <u>this video</u> and then keep an eye out for the upcoming State of the City video in January which will give a status update and a recap of other big accomplishments achieved over the last year.

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