



RBNA Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, May 21st, 2022



Welcome!

The neighborhood with a NATURAL RESOURCE PARK!

Meeting Agenda – Saturday May 21st, 2022

1-3pm

- President's welcome/introductions – Lindy Brigham
- Treasurer's Report - Terry DeCarolis
- Committee Reports
 - Rio Vista Master Planning has begun – Mary Bird and Linda Turner
 - Prince Road – Larry Bird
 - Storm water FEMA grant – Matthew Vasquez
 - Neighborhood Enhancement projects – Estelle Stern-Eilers
 - History Project – John Kovacik and Leslie Eldenburg
 - Misc COT project updates – Lindy Brigham
 - Social Committee – Sue DeArmond and Terry DeCarolis
 - Communications – Mary Bird
- Project Funding - Lindy
- Closing Remarks / Next Meetings
 - August 20, 2022 – Quarterly Meeting
 - November 19, 2022 – Annual Meeting





Current Board Members & Advisors

President:

Lindy Brigham - *Communications*

Vice-President:

Mary Bird – *Communications, RNAG*

Treasurer:

Terry DeCarolis - *Social*

Secretary:

Catlow Shipek – *Special Projects*

Members:

John Kovacik - *Streets & Traffic Safety, History*

Estelle Stern-Eilers – *Enhancements & Maintenance*

John O’Hare - *Neighborhood Security*

Cassandra Peel – *NextDoor*

Vicky Strome

Rich Young

Advisors:

Larry Bird – *Prince Road*

Stephen Brigham – *Project Review*

Murray DeArmond – *Nominating and Project Review*

Sue DeArmond – *Nominating and Social*

Matthew Vasquez – *Allen Road*

Linda Turner – *RNAG*

Leslie Eldenburg - *History*



Treasurer's Report

Terry DeCarolis - Treasurer



Selling our notecards, drive-by style.
Though Covid has hampered our social activities, we have managed to promote our notecards nonetheless!

Balance: \$2583.24

Expenses:

Projected income*

- Remainder of Mural Cards
- Social event

**Note that RBNA does not have Neighborhood Membership dues.*

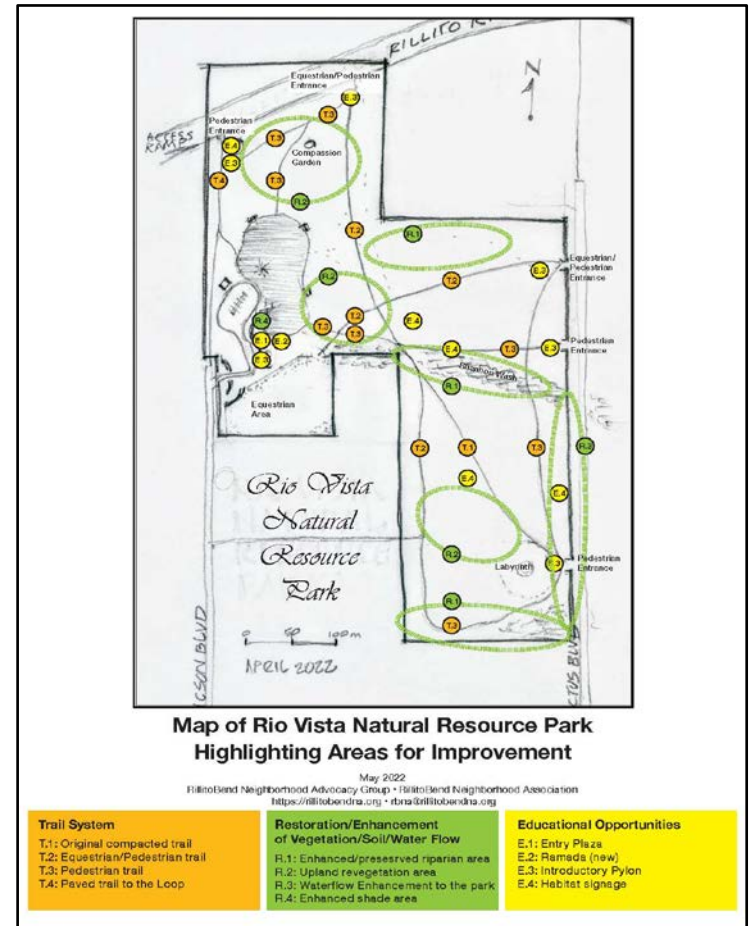
Rio Vista Natural Resource Park: Master Planning Update

Neighborhood
Project Leaders:
Linda Turner / Mary Bird



Linda and Mary of RillitoBend Neighborhood Advocacy Group (RNAG) have been working to develop guidelines and a trail system.

They have begun to partner with Parks and Rec to provide expertise on the water management, ecology, hydrology, vegetation.



Prince Road – Update

Neighborhood
Project Leader: Larry Bird



The UA School of Landscape Architecture (SoLA) accepted the RillitoBend Neighborhood Association's goals and criteria for the East Prince Road improvements and conducted a Landscape Architecture Studio to develop design proposals for Prince Road from Campbell to Country Club.

Adjunct Professor Travis Mueller's LAR Studio IV class began January 8th. Four teams comprised of three students each presented their proposals on March 4th.

The school recognized the benefit to the community by having the students engage in a design competition, with a cash prize to the winner. An anonymous neighbor donor posted the prize money of \$1,000. The prize is known as the RillitoBend Prize.

A pdf file of the presentations may be seen [HERE](#). Several envision a "Green Spine" along Christmas Wash linking Prince Road and the Loop with a riparian walk skirting the eastern edge of Campus Farm. The winning proposal is entitled, "RillitoBend Urban Agricultural District."



In December of 2021 COT flood plain management approached the RilltoBend neighborhood regarding an on-going feasibility study they're working on for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant to reduce severe flooding issues uphill of our neighborhood in Winterhaven, Specifically, the areas they're focusing on for the FEMA grant are where Christmas Wash flows through the intersections of Ft. Lowell/Country Club; Ft. Lowell/Christmas Avenue along Christmas Avenue and Klendale Road within Winterhaven and at flooding at the intersection of Tucson Blvd/Kleindale Rd.

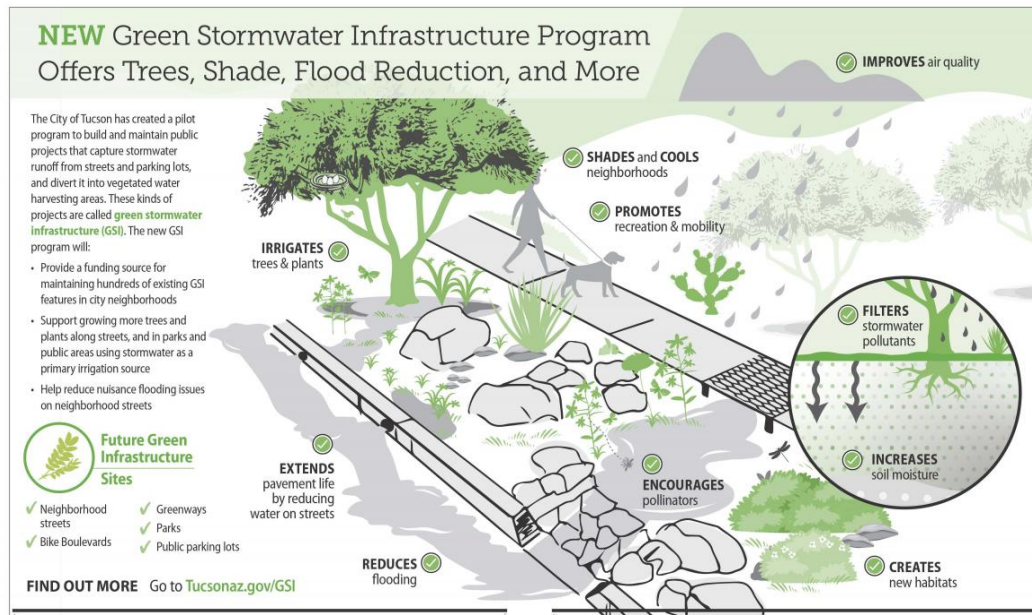
The study has been on-going for the past year and the conclusion of the study is wrapping up currently in the Spring, 2022.

Spring 2021 - Spring 2022	— FEMA Feasibility Study
Fall, 2022	— FEMA Grant Writing & Application
Summer, 2023	— FEMA Proposed Grant To Be Awarded
2023-2026 (3 Years)	— If Selected, Construction Phase Begins



Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI)

As a lesser part of the grant to reduce serious flooding, the city is required to implement Green Stormwater Infrastructure (GSI) in the nearby neighborhood area and is offering Rillito Bend neighborhood the possibility of implementing a limited amount of GSI in our neighborhood. GSI as defined by the City of Tucson are interventions that use natural or engineered systems to capture, clean and infiltrate stormwater; shade and cool surfaces and buildings; reduce flooding; create wildlife habitat; and provide environmental and community quality of life. In practical terms GSI takes the form of landscaped areas that capture stormwater runoff from the streets, parking lots, and buildings; allowing the water spread out and sink into the soil. In Tucson this is also known as “passive rainwater harvesting.”



RBNA Discussions with COT

In a number of meetings with City of Tucson Flood plain manager, Elizabeth Leibold and neighborhood representatives the past 3-4 months and focus group meetings of concerned RillitoBend neighbors and RBNA leadership it has been decided to focus potential GSI work associated with the FEMA grant in the following areas: **Christmas Wash; Prince Road; Cactus Blvd and Allen Road.**

The document with details of these project proposals can be downloaded [HERE](#)

GSI Educational Meetings for private homeowners

Additionally, if there is enough interest - Elizabeth has offered to host a series of free educational meetings for residents of RillitoBend who live in low-lying areas, where rain & stormwater flows may be causing issues on their properties.

All private property homeowners or HOA's are required to pay for and facilitate the implementation of any ideas that result from consultation meetings with Elizabeth and other GSI consultants. These informational sessions are not part of the FEMA grant study or forthcoming proposal but will be offered by Elizabeth and other GSI experts sometime in the future to address issues raised by residents that may not have been included in the selected areas.



Neighborhood Enhancement Projects:

Neighborhood Project Leader:
Estelle Stern-Eilers



Watering Help Needed!
Please contact Estelle

estellestern@gmail.com



RBNA History Project:

Neighborhood Project Leaders:
John Kovacik /Leslie Eldenburg

We have a rich history in the 'hood.

Many of you have been here for a long time and some of you have just come.

- For those of you with long memories – please help with the compilation of histories that we will put on the website to preserve them for posterity and to refresh our own memories when needed!
- For those of you who are middling or new. What would you like to know?

Please send your information/suggestions/questions to
history@rillitobendna.org

Thanks!
John Kovacik
Leslie Eldenburg



Treat Ave to Cactus Blvd HAWK crossing

As of May 2022

- Bike project should start construction around May 23rd for the Treat Bikeway starting at the southern end of the route.
- It is anticipated that the work on Prince/Cactus/Treat will begin around the 1st of October
- We will keep you updated



HAWK* crossing signal proposed for Treat Ave Bike Blvd extension to Cactus Blvd in RillitoBend

*High Intensity Activated Crossing



TEP Kino to DeMoss-Petrie 138 Kilovolt Transmission Line

TEP is seeking to amend the Gateway and Scenic Routes code of the City of Tucson so as to allow the construction of tall overhead transmission lines in places along those routes, which are now prohibited. A group called the Tucson Underground Coalition is seeking an alternative to the above-ground plan.

Several public meetings with the City of Tucson Planning Commission have been held. RBNA is posting information on those meetings when they are announced.



Information on the Underground Coalition and updates on the issues can be found at <http://www.jeffersonpark.info/tep-138-kv-poles.html>

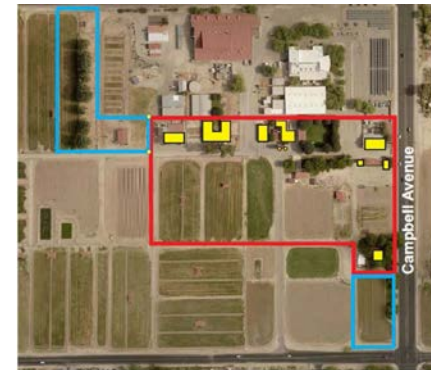
Information on the City Planning Commission and recordings of the past meetings are at: <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/planning-commission>

Information on the TEP website regarding the proposal are at: <https://www.tep.com/kino-to-demoss-Petrie/>



UA Historic Designation (Campus Farm NA)

Our neighborhood neighbor, Campus Farm, has initiated a process to have a significant portion of the University of Arizona Campus Agricultural Center (CAC) designated a historic landmark.



Red outline—proposal from University of Arizona
Blue outline—additional area proposed by State Historic Preservation Office

https://tucson.com/news/advocates-seek-historic-landmark-status-for-university-of-arizonas-farm/article_5efec742-e0de-11eb-906f-fbba1c1a6069.html

https://tucson.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/against-ua-s-wishes-tucson-will-consider-historic-designation-for-campus-farm/article_97995e84-fba8-11eb-b730-0fe533f94473.html



Meeting with Ward 3

- First face-to-face meeting with new council member Kevin Dahl in Ward 3 to present RBNA issues and projects
- Brief overview of the Neighborhood – our ‘visions’
- Projects – as reported at this meeting
- Issues –



Social Committee Report

Neighborhood
Project Leaders: Sue
DeArmond & Terry DeCarolis



April 2019 RBNA Art Fair Social Event

During the pandemic, the social activities have been curbed. The last gathering was March 8, 2020: the celebration of Sue Ann Breems' Neighborhood Mural. What a lovely time it was, and we look forward to meeting and socializing again!

We will keep you posted of our plans.



How We Communicate

Neighborhood
Project Leader: Mary Bird,
Vice President

As a designated Tucson neighborhood association, we need to communicate with you and with the City. The main avenues of communication are:

- **RBNA Neighborhood Mailing List** – make sure you are signed up!
- **RBNA Website:** <https://rillitobendna.org>
- **Annual Newsletter** – the City mails once/year to every resident
- **Nextdoor**
- **Email:** rbna@rillitobendna.org
- **City of Tucson Neighborhood Resources:**
<https://www.tucsonaz.gov/pdsd/neighborhood-resources>

How to Reach Us

- **RBNA Website:** <https://rillitobendna.org> - Questions & Comments, HOME page
- **Email:** rbna@rillitobendna.org
- **In person**



Project Funding

Lindy Brigham

- Currently we have no income stream to fund projects
- In the past we have solicited contributions (money and labor) for specific projects such as the Mural and Labyrinth
- We have petty cash thanks to the work Mary has done creating and selling cards. This is used for
 - Website expenses
 - ZOOM
 - Misc Social functions
- Do we want to consider a more targeted approach?
 - Pros – can implement our visions in a timely manner and not have to wait or beg for benefactors
 - Cons – Very time consuming – will need volunteers with time and dedication



Questions

???



- Please provide feedback via our website comment section
- What would you like to see discussed in future meetings?
- Quarterly meetings – third Saturday from 1–3 p.m.:
 - August 20, 2022 – Quarterly Meeting
 - November 19, 2022 – Annual Meeting
 - *Agenda includes election of new Board members*



Thanks Everyone!





RillitoBend Neighborhood Quarterly Meeting

21 May 2022 || 1pm - 2pm

Attendance:

- Lindy Brigham (President)
- Mary Bird (Vice President)
- Terry DeCarolis (Treasurer)
- Catlow Shipek (Secretary)
- Sue and Murray DeArmond (Advisor)
- Estelle Stern-Eilers
- Stephen Brigham
- Matthew Vasquez
- Rachel Hopkins
- SueAnn Breems
- John Kovacik
- Linda Turner
- Becky Good
- Jennifer Shopland
- K Yaffe
- Kathleen Miller
- Vicky Stroomee

Meeting Notes:

- 1) President's report – Lindy Brigham, Board President
 - See presentation slides
- 2) Treasurer's Report – Terry DeCarolis
 - Income: Additional mural card sales & social event
 - Expense: \$21.73 (website fees)
 - Ending Balance: \$2,541.97
- 3) Committee Reports
 - Rio Vista Master Planning (Mary Bird and Linda Turner)
 - April 20 - Kick off public meeting for Master Planning for the Park held at Rio Vista Natural Resource Park
 - May 20 - Neighbors met with Tom Fisher, Tucson Parks & Recreation and walked through the park to review natural resource enhancement opportunities
 - Prince Road (Larry Bird)
 - UA School of Landscape Architecture conducted a design studio to develop design proposals for Prince Rd from Campbell to Country Club
 - Ideas included how to link Christmas Wash from Prince and the Loop
 - Design proposals can be viewed via RBNA's website
 - Stormwater FEMA Grant (Matthew Vasquez)
 - The City of Tucson study for Christmas Wash is concluding this spring.
 - City will apply for the FEMA grant this fall. If awarded, construction will occur 2024-2027.
 - City will host educational meetings on green stormwater infrastructure for private homeowners who live in low-lying areas
 - Neighborhood Enhancement Projects (Estelle Stern-Eilers)
 - Watering help is needed to benefit the rain garden along Cactus

- Water access is being provided from the NE corner property of Cactus and Allen Rds.
 - Owlets! Mike with HawkWatch banded the owls in the Rio Vista Park nesting box.
 - History Project (John Kovacik/Leslie Eldenburg)
 - Asking long-time neighbors to help compile history of neighborhood projects/issues/events
 - Please send information/suggestions/questions to history@rillitobendna.org
 - Misc City of Tucson Project Updates (Lindy Brigham)
 - Treat Ave to Cactus Blvd HAWK crossing
 - Construction starts May 23rd starting at the southern end and working north
 - Anticipate work in our area around Oct 1 2022
 - TEP Kino to DeMoss-Petrie 138 Kilovolt Transmission Line
 - Updated provided - see presentation slides
 - UA Historical Designation (Campus Farm NA) - they have initiated a process with the City of Tucson
 - RBNA to meet with Ward 3 Councilmember Kevin Dahl soon to review priorities
 - Social Committee (Sue DeArmond and Terry DeCarolis)
 - Tentative November timeframe for an ice-cream social
 - Communications (Mary Bird) – a summary of communication updates is included with the agenda for how to reach RBNA and vice versa

5) Other Items Announced

- Project Funding - how do we want to raise funds and for what projects/costs?
 - Zocolo rain garden SE corner of Cactus/Allen and extending south along Cactus
 - Others?
- Questions
 - August Quarterly Meeting: virtual/event/other?
 - November Annual Meeting: combo with social event?
 - Tucson/Prince Sewer Line Update: diversion work expected to be in place until August;
 - need to address stormwater flows along Tucson Blvd in July
 - Will be shifting bike path access along route
 - Concerns or issues with sewer work, folks should call: 520-622-2527
 - Stephen Brigham - Special thanks to all of the neighborhood leaders and collaborators

6) Closing