

June 8, 2026

TO: CITY COUNCILMEMBERS

FROM: MAYOR MARK FREEMAN

SUBJECT: Reappointments to Boards and Committees

The following are my recommendations for reappointments to the City of Mesa Advisory Boards and Committees:

**Building Board of Appeals – Nine-member board**

Charles (Charlie) Fruit, District 1. Mr. Fruit holds an active KB-2 Dual Residential and Small Commercial Arizona Registrar of Contractors license and has over 30 years of experience as a construction professional. He is the owner of Charles Wesley Homes in Phoenix and was previously a Project Manager and Superintendent for Morgan Taylor Homes. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the University of New Mexico. His partial term began 7/1/24 and expires 6/30/26. His first term will expire June 30, 2029.

Gary Golka, District 1. Mr. Golka is president of Golka Electric, Inc. He earned a bachelor's degree in music education from Northern Arizona University and a master's degree in business administration from Arizona State University. He holds both L-11 and C-11 electrical contracting licenses from the State of Arizona. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

**Design Review Board – Seven-member board**

Nicole Lynam, District 3. Ms. Lynam is a registered architect and owner of KE Design LLC. She holds an associate's degree in architectural design from Lansing Community College and a bachelor's degree in housing and urban development from Arizona State University. Her partial term began 4/30/26 and expires 6/30/26. Her first term will expire June 30, 2029.

Megan Neal, District 3. Ms. Neal is a land entitlement manager with Toll Brothers and former transit project manager with the City of Phoenix. She holds a bachelor's degree in urban planning and a master's degree in public administration from Arizona State University. Her partial term began 2/9/26 and expires 6/30/26. Her first term will expire June 30, 2029.

## **Economic Development Advisory Board – Nine-member board**

J. Steven Beck, District 1. Mr. Beck is the President and Associate Broker at COBE Real Estate. He holds a bachelor's degree in international business management from Utah Valley University and a master's of real estate development from Arizona State University. His partial term began 7/1/25 and expires 6/30/26. His first term will expire June 30, 2029.

Michelle Genereux, District 1. Ms. Genereux is a land rights management supervisor at Salt River Project and has over 20 years' experience in the public utility industry. She earned a bachelor's degree in management from Western International University and a master's degree in business administration from Ottawa University. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Andrew Schreiner, District 1. Mr. Schreiner is the president and general manager of Nammo Defense Systems. He earned a bachelor's degree in global business with a focus in finance from Arizona State University West and a master's degree in business administration from Grand Canyon University. His partial term began 7/1/25 and expires 6/30/26. His first term will expire June 30, 2029.

## **Education and Workforce Development Roundtable – Seventeen-member board**

Marcie Hutchinson. Ms. Hutchinson is a member of the Mesa Public Schools Governing Board. She holds a bachelor's degree in secondary education and a master's degree in history and has 31 years of public high school teaching experience. Her partial term began 2/24/25 and expires 6/30/26. Her first term will expire June 30, 2029.

Rich Nickel. Mr. Nickel is President and CEO of Education Forward Arizona, a non-profit focused on assisting all Arizona residents in gaining post-secondary credentials. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky in telecommunications. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Vince Yanez. Mr. Yanez is senior vice president of Arizona community engagement at Helios Education Foundation. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame in government and Spanish and a master's degree from Arizona State University in social work. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

## **Historic Preservation Board – Seven-member board**

Jason Ludwig, District 5. Mr. Ludwig serves as the Director of Content at the Council on Foundations. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication from Arizona State University. His partial term began 8/14/25 and expires 6/30/26. His first term will expire June 30, 2029.

## **Housing & Community Development Advisory Board – Eleven-member board**

Dr. Nicolle Karantinos, District 5. Dr. Karantinos is a realtor with Realty Executives and has extensive background in education. She earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish and communication from University of Northern Iowa, master's degree in secondary education from Northern Arizona University, and a Ph.D. in educational administration and supervision from Arizona State University. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Amanda Miller, District 4. Ms. Miller is director of sales operations for Elevation, a solar energy company. She earned an associate degree from Le Cordon Bleu College of Culinary Arts and studied history at Ashford University. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.

## **Human Relations Advisory Board – Eleven-member board**

Spencer Beck, District 3. Mr. Beck is employed with Rowan Solar Cleaning as a salesperson and is an active member in the Arizona Army National Guard serving as an infantryman. His partial term began 4/3/25 and expires 6/30/26. His first term will expire June 30, 2029.

Sabrina Dobson, District 3. Ms. Dobson is a clinical coordinator and trauma therapist at La Frontera EMPACT-SPC. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Arizona and a master's degree in social work from Arizona State University. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Abram Ellsworth, District 4. Mr. Ellsworth is COO at Rocket Lister, a talent acquisition, coaching and empowerment company. He earned a bachelor's degree in organizational management from Charter Oak State College and an MBA from the University of Arizona. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Perla Sandberg, District 4. Ms. Sandberg has a background in strategic planning, conflict resolution and collaboration, and she holds certifications in project management and diversity and inclusion in the workplace. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Arizona State University. Her partial term began 7/1/24 and expires 6/30/26. Her first term will expire June 30, 2029.

## **Library Advisory Board – Nine-member board**

Lonica Rowley, District 1. Ms. Rowley is currently a substitute teacher at Mesa Public Schools. She earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Arizona State University and a master's degree in library and information science from Kent State University. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.

## **Museum & Cultural Advisory Board – Eleven-member board**

Gregory DeSimone, District 2. Mr. DeSimone is a procurement manager at WillScot, Inc. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Valparaiso University, is a Certified Purchasing Manager, and a member of the Institute for Sully Management. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Todd Hanle, District 6. Mr. Hanle is Vice President of Marketing for Super Star Car Wash. He holds a bachelor's degree from the Watterson School of Design and has held various roles in marketing, brand management, and communications. His partial term began 7/1/24 and expires 6/30/26. His first term will expire June 30, 2029.

Bradley Peterson, District 6. Mr. Peterson is an educational technology trainer at Mesa Public Schools. He earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in educational technology from Arizona State University. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Karen Rolston, District 6. Ms. Rolston is a retired arts professional with a long career teaching at Mesa Public Schools, serving as Artistic Director at East Valley Children's Theatre and several roles in arts, music and theater. She earned a bachelor's degree in instrumental music and a master's degree in music history and literature from Arizona State University. Her partial term began 10/12/23 and expires 6/30/26. Her first term will expire June 30, 2029.

## **Parks & Recreation Board – Eleven-member board**

Benjamin Manning, District 5. Mr. Manning is a commercial appraiser trainer at the Maricopa County Assessor's Office. He earned a bachelor's degree in English from Radford University in Radford, VA. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Michelle Streeter, District 6. Ms. Streeter is the senior project manager for marketing and communication in the Town of Gilbert's Office of Economic Development. She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Arizona State University. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.

## **Planning & Zoning Board – Seven-member board**

Jayson Carpenter, District 3. Mr. Carpenter is a lead land management agent at Salt River Project. He earned a bachelor's degree in real estate from Arizona State University and a master's degree in business administration from Western International University. He is a Senior Right of Way Agent. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

### **Personnel Appeals Board – Five-member board**

Craig Freeman, District 1. Mr. Freeman is a retired management professional. He previously worked in the corporate financial office at Fillmore-Piru Citrus Association and served as Arizona District Manager for HD Supply Waterworks, Ltd. He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from Arizona State University. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Dr. Catherine Jiang, District 1. Dr. Jiang owns the Law Office of Catherine Jiang, PLLC. She has a juris doctorate from the University of Arizona's James E. Rogers College of Law and a bachelor's degree in economics from Seoul National University. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Dr. Christopher Nickerson, District 6. Dr. Nickerson is director of provider network development at Banner Health. He has a bachelor's degree in communication disorders and master's degree in audiology from the University of Northern Colorado and a doctoral degree in audiology from Florida State University. His second term will expire June 30, 2029.

### **Mesa Local Fire and Police Pension Board – Seven-member board**

Dee Ann Mickelsen, District 2. Ms. Mickelsen retired from the City of Mesa after 25 years, including serving as the City Clerk. She earned a bachelor's degree in history from Arizona State University. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.

### **Self-Insurance Board of Trustees – Five-member board**

Katherine Callaway, District 3. Ms. Callaway has extensive experience in the risk management and insurance professions and is currently a Risk Management Analyst and Risk Management & Insurance Administrator at Central Arizona Project. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Insurance from Arizona State University. Her partial term began 1/27/25 and expires 6/30/26. Her first term will expire June 30, 2029.

### **Transportation Advisory Board – Eleven-member board**

Lea Bertoni, District 1. Ms. Bertoni is an occupational therapist and driver rehabilitation specialist at Driving to Independence. She earned a bachelor's degree in health science and a master's degree in occupational therapy from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.

Melissa Leon, District 6. Ms. Leon is the owner of Two Sense Consulting, LLC, and is a business development consultant and QuickBooks ProAdvisor. She earned a master's in business administration from Aspen University, a Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Management from Northern Arizona University, and a Project Management Professional certification from Project Management Institute. Her partial term began 5/12/25 and expires 6/30/26. Her first term will expire June 30, 2029.

Michelle McCroskey, District 1. Ms. McCroskey worked in human resources at State Farm. She earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Arizona State University and has served on several local and regional transportation and trail projects. Her second term will expire June 30, 2029.