



# Monthly Newsletter

PUBLIC WORKS

May 2025

**PARKS STAFF BENJAMIN MENDEZ AND MARCUS RAMOS CUTTING THE PAVEMENT TO INSTALL NEW IRRIGATION- MORE ON PAGE 3**

## Here's what has happened in the last month and what's to come!

Welcome to our Public Works newsletter! We are thrilled to share with you the latest developments in planning, projects, and our on-going commitment to serve our community.

In May, Public Works had a state audit to certify our CDL training facility. Malaina Spillman and Marcus Ramos joined Matt Patterson as certified instructor. Public Works staff finished paving work at the Police Department.

In other news, Madison Olsen, Engineering & GIS Technician, met with TRACKS president Steven Dobbs to redesign the White Mountains Trail Systems map. Madison will be updating the non-motorized and motorized trail systems to include the Buena Vista Secret trails, the new Los Caballos trails, the Blue Ridge reconstruction, and other trails. Printing and distribution of the map is scheduled for Q4 of 2025.

### In this newsletter you can expect:

Public Events

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Current Projects

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On-going Projects

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Funding & Policy Update

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Staff Profile Highlights

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Planning

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# PUBLIC WORKS STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

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## Special Projects

Special Projects staff worked on the handrails along the new ADA paved path at Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex in May. Special Projects staff also assisted with the civil work and remodel at the Police Department.



## Facilities

Facilities staff were busy with several burials at the Lakeside Cemetery in May. In addition to assisting other departments with the remodel at the Police Department the Facilities staff complete their routine rounds every morning before Town facilities are open to the public.



## Collection Center

The Collection Center diverted 45.94 tons from the landfill in May. Collection Center staff Cody Evans and Manager Damien Zachman hauled 105.86 tons of solid waste to the St. Johns Landfill in May as well.



## Streets

Street staff installed the new Summer Nights banner in May, pictured above. Also in May, Streets staff were busy cleaning out culverts, preparing to pave, installing the Memorial Day Flags, and assisting with the installation of the handrails along the new ADA path at Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex.



## Fleet

Park staff had their work cut out for them installing the new irrigation at Woodland Lake Park, pictured above is the broken trencher. Fleet staff are at the ready repairing heavy equipment and getting staff back on the job.

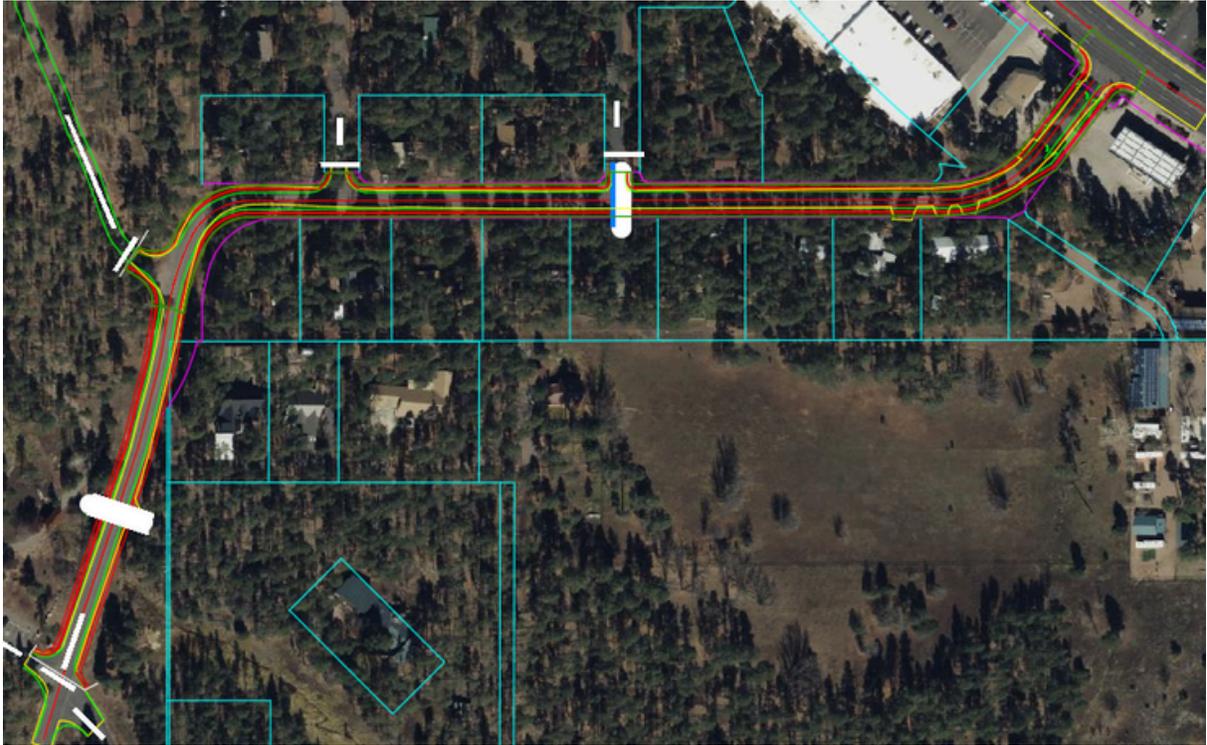


## Parks

Parks staff prepared fields for two big softball tournaments in May, the City of Show Low Softball Tournament, and the Phoenix Fire Bombers Softball Tournament. Staff also set fields for flag football games and installed new irrigation at Woodland Lake Park.

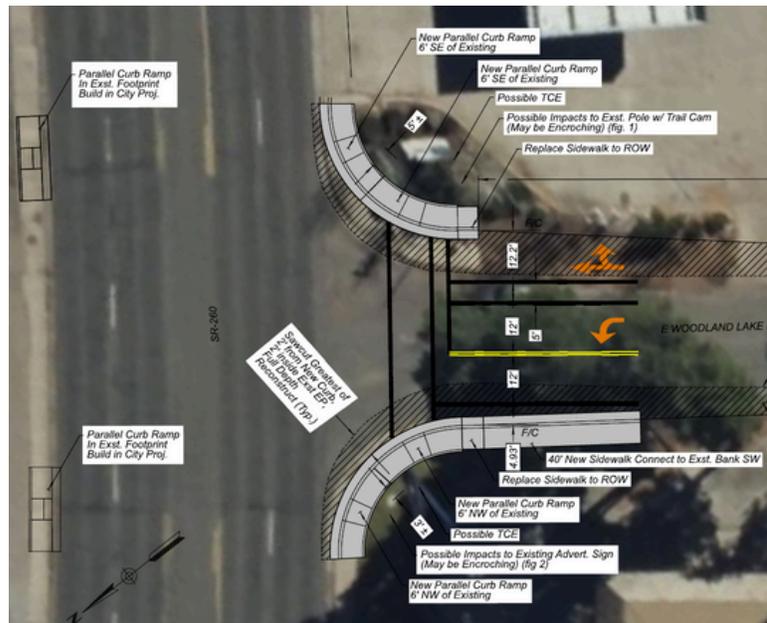
# PUBLIC WORKS PLANNING & EVENTS

“Plans are nothing; Planning is everything” Dwight D. Eisenhower



## Woodland Lake Road Intersection & Pedestrian Safety

The Pinetop-Lakeside Public Works staff are coordinating a project with ADOT to complete improvements at the intersection of Woodland Lake Road and State Route 260. The project would expand the intersection and allow for a designated turn lane to alleviate traffic.



In addition, the project would include pedestrian safety and connectivity features along Woodland Lake Road to the entrance of Woodland Lake Park. Pedestrian features include continuing the sidewalk from SR 260 along Woodland Lake Road to the entrance of Woodland Lake Park, as well as widening the road to include a bike lane. Funding for the project was approved and estimated at \$210,000 for the Design.

## Woodland Lake Park Shade Tree Project

In May, Parks staff installed 1,200 feet of irrigation at Woodland Lake Park. The new irrigation will establish 24 Northern Catalpa trees. The tree's name is also spelled catawba, which is how catalpa is pronounced. The Northern Catalpa is native to our region, fast growing, and provides a full canopy for shade. Some fishermen refer to the Catalpa as the "fish bait tree," because it is a host for a worm that is superb bait for bluegill and catfish. The tree is a larval host for the Catalpa sphinx moth, whose caterpillars are tough and juicy, making them ideal fish bait. Catalpas are deciduous trees that can grow 40-60 feet tall with white blooms in late summer early fall. Catalpas also tolerate many soil types, including compacted soil, and can grow near pavement.



### Meet the team!

Hollis Harvey has worked in Parks for the last 2 and half years. His favorite piece of equipment to operate is the CAT 299D3. Before Public Works Hollis worked and has experience as a mechanic. In his free time, Hollis liked to play video games, listen to music, walk with his dog Zona and hang out with his cat Cheese.



# Community Tree Planting Days

Public Works hosted a Community Tree Planting Day on Saturday May 17<sup>th</sup> at Woodland Lake Park. The planting day took place as a community outreach component for the Woodland Lake Park Shade Tree Project, funded by a Department of Forestry and Fire Management grant awarded in January 2025. We want to thank 19 volunteers and 6 Public Works staff for their help planting 24 Northern Catalpa trees along the southern section of the paved walking path around Woodland Lake.

Public Works will host three more Community Tree Planting Days in July for the Fruit Tree Path Project at Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex. Volunteers will help plant 100 fruit trees along the new paved walking path. Participants will learn about agroforestry, carbon sequestration, and green infrastructure through an interactive presentation at the Mountain Meadow Recreation Complex playground ramada, walk the new path to the planting site, prepare dirt and compost for planting, plant, and paint a tree stake to label the tree species. This project is also funded by a grant awarded in December 2024 by the Department of Forestry and Fire Management.

For more information or how to participate [click here](#).

<p><b>PUBLIC WORKS</b></p>		<p>928-368-8885</p>
<p><a href="#">Contact Public Works</a></p>		<p>958 S Woodland Rd. Lakeside, AZ 85929</p>