



Tolleson Newsletter

February 2026

Tolleson Civic Center | 9055 W. Van Buren Street | Tolleson, AZ | 85353
623-936-7111 | www.tolleson.az.gov

Student Leaders Engage with Tolleson City Council

January 13, the City of Tolleson hosted a Student Leadership and Civic Engagement Session with student councils from Arizona Desert Elementary School, Porfirio H. Gonzales Elementary School and the Tolleson Teen Council, providing students with an opportunity to learn about local government, leadership and civic responsibility.



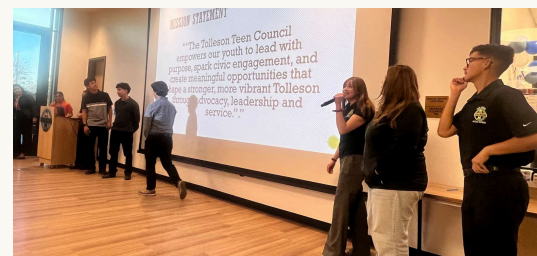
Mayor Juan F. Rodriguez, Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis and Council Members Christine Chavira and Adolfo Gamez met with students to discuss the importance of community involvement, public service and youth participation in local government. City leaders encouraged students to stay engaged in their schools and community and emphasized the role young leaders play in shaping Tolleson's future.



During the session, the City's Employee Resources Department delivered an interactive presentation outlining the department's role within the organization. Staff also shared practical life skills and career guidance, offering students insight into professional development, teamwork and potential careers in public service.



The session concluded with students attending the City Council meeting, where they were formally recognized for their participation and leadership. The recognition highlighted the students' commitment to civic engagement and the accomplishments achieved through their respective student councils and youth organizations.



Youth leadership development remains a priority for the City of Tolleson. City leadership is committed to providing opportunities that support student growth while recognizing the hard work, dedication and achievements of Tolleson's young leaders.



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tues. | February 10 & 24 | 6 PM
Civic Center
9055 W. Van Buren Street

COMMUNITY GATHERINGS

Tolleson Talks Thursday | February 26
3rd Friday | February 20

Cafecito Coffeehouse Opens with Congressional Recognition



The City of Tolleson proudly celebrated the ribbon cutting of Cafecito Coffeehouse, located at 9165 W. Van Buren St., on Jan. 13, marking the opening of a new locally owned business and the presentation of a special congressional honor.

During the ceremony, Cafecito Coffeehouse was awarded the inaugural Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition from Congresswoman Adelita Grijalva, recognizing the significance of the new business and its positive impact on the Tolleson community. The certificate was presented in celebration of the coffeehouse's opening and the owners' commitment to local entrepreneurship.

The event brought together city employees, community members and local leaders to support the new coffeehouse, owned by Tolleson natives and twin sisters Allie and Alexis Marquez. Their return to open a business in the city they call home reflects Tolleson's strong culture of supporting small, locally owned businesses.

The ribbon cutting was joined by Vice Mayor Jimmy Davis and Council Members Christine Chavira and Adolfo Gamez, along with Arizona State Sen. Eva Diaz and representatives from Congresswoman Adelita Grijalva, Rep. Ruben Gallego and Rep. Yassamin Ansari.

The City of Tolleson is excited to welcome Cafecito Coffeehouse and celebrate the success of two hometown entrepreneurs. Supporting local businesses remains a priority, as their growth plays an important role in strengthening Tolleson's economy and community.

City of Tolleson WE ARE HIRING



Full-Time Employee Compensation & Benefits

- Competitive Pay
- Comprehensive Benefits Package
- Health Insurance
- Wellness Incentives
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Paid Time Off
- Deferred Compensation
- Participation in Statewide Retirement Plans
- City pays 100% of employee benefits (medical, dental, vision and life insurance) and for an additional cost to the employee, family benefits are available

Current Job Listings:

- **Employee Resources Administrator**
- **Information Technology Administrator**
- **Information Technology Desktop Technician**
- **Police Officer-Recruit**
- **Public Safety Dispatcher**
- **Public Safety Dispatcher Lateral**
- **Skilled Trades Technician- Mechanic**
- **Utilities Operator I/Utilities Technician II**
- **Volunteer- All Departments**

The most up to date opportunities with the City of Tolleson are available online.

To view or sign up for job alerts, visit www.tolleson.az.gov/careers.

Your City, Your Voice: Information Now Available for 2026 City Council Candidates

The City of Tolleson encourages residents interested in public service to learn more about running for elected office in the 2026 Tolleson City Council Election. Information for potential candidates is available through the City Clerk's Office ahead of the official candidate filing period in spring 2026.

Residents considering a run for City Council should be aware of the following:

Candidate Information Available Upon Request

Individuals interested in running for office may contact the City Clerk's Office to:

- Ask questions about eligibility and candidate requirements
- Request a 2026 City Council Candidate Packet
- Requests for information and candidate packets are accepted by the City Clerk's Office as part of its ongoing public information process
- Statement of Interest Requirement
- A Statement of Interest must be filed with the City Clerk before collecting any nomination petition signatures
- Petition signatures collected prior to filing a Statement of Interest are invalid
- Official Nomination Filing Period

Candidates must file their nomination paperwork during the following window:

- Earliest filing date: Monday, March 9, 2026
- Latest filing date: Monday, April 6, 2026, by 5:00 PM
- Candidates who do not file by the deadline will not be eligible to appear on the ballot

2026 Election Details

- Primary Election Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2026
- Tolleson elections are nonpartisan
- City Council Members are elected at-large to serve four-year terms

The City Clerk's Office is committed to fairness and transparency. Any information requested by one potential candidate will be shared equally with all potential candidates.

Residents interested in serving the Tolleson community are encouraged to contact the City Clerk's Office, Tolleson.CityClerk@tolleson.az.gov, for additional information.

Update: Tolleson Union High School District Office to Remain in Tolleson

Following the City's resolution opposing relocation, the Tolleson Union High School District voted 3-2 to keep the District Office in Tolleson. While some District departments will move to a new location, the main District Office will remain in the City, preserving its long-standing presence and access for students and families. The City of Tolleson thanks community members for sharing their voices and remains committed to continued collaboration with the District in support of local students and families.

Estudiantes Líderes Participan con el Concejo Municipal

La Ciudad de Tolleson llevó a cabo una Sesión de Liderazgo Estudiantil y Participación Cívica con consejos estudiantiles de Arizona Desert Elementary, Porfirio H. Gonzales Elementary y el Consejo Juvenil de Tolleson. Estudiantes se reunieron con el alcalde Juan F. Rodriguez, el vicealcalde Jimmy Davis y concejales para aprender sobre gobierno local, liderazgo y participación comunitaria. La jornada concluyó con la asistencia a una junta del Concejo Municipal, donde los estudiantes fueron reconocidos por su liderazgo y compromiso cívico.

Cafecito Coffeehouse Recibe Reconocimiento del Congreso

Tolleson celebró el corte de listón de Cafecito Coffeehouse el 13 de enero en 9165 W. Van Buren St. Durante el evento, el negocio recibió el primer Certificado Especial de Reconocimiento del Congreso otorgado por la congresista Adelita Grijalva, en reconocimiento a su apertura y aportación a la comunidad.

Cafecito Coffeehouse es propiedad de las hermanas gemelas y originarias de Tolleson, Allie y Alexis Marquez, cuyo emprendimiento refleja el compromiso local. Al evento asistieron funcionarios municipales, líderes estatales y representantes federales.

La Ciudad de Tolleson dio la bienvenida al nuevo negocio, reafirmando su apoyo al emprendimiento local y al fortalecimiento de la economía comunitaria.

Actualización: La Oficina del Distrito Escolar Secundario Tolleson Union permanecerá en Tolleson

Tras la resolución de la Ciudad en oposición a la reubicación, el Distrito Escolar Secundario Tolleson Union votó 3-2 para mantener la Oficina del Distrito en Tolleson. Aunque algunos departamentos del Distrito se trasladarán a una nueva ubicación, la Oficina Principal del Distrito permanecerá en la Ciudad, preservando su presencia de larga trayectoria y el acceso para estudiantes y familias.

La Ciudad de Tolleson agradece a los miembros de la comunidad por compartir sus voces y reafirma su compromiso de continuar colaborando con el Distrito en apoyo a los estudiantes y familias locales.

Empleo y Beneficios de la Ciudad

Tolleson ofrece salario competitivo, seguro médico, tiempo libre pagado, incentivos de bienestar, planes de jubilación y más. Puestos disponibles desde mediados del mes pasado: *Ofertas de empleo actuales: Administrador(a) de Recursos para Empleados, Administrador de Tecnología de la Información; Técnico de Soporte de Tecnología de la Información; Oficial de Policía – Lateral – Bono de Contratación de \$8,000; Oficial de Policía – Recluta; Despachador de Seguridad Pública; Despachador de Seguridad Pública – Lateral; Técnico de Oficios Especializados – Mecánico; Operador de Servicios Públicos I / Técnico de Servicios Públicos II; Voluntario – Todos los Departamentos.*

Visite www.tolleson.az.gov/careers para postularse o recibir alertas de empleo.

<u>Mayor</u> Juan F. Rodriguez	<u>City Manager</u> Reyes Medrano Jr.	Fire Department (623) 936-8500	Police Department (623) 936-7186
		Municipal Court (623) 474-4975	Sanitation (623) 936-7141
<u>Vice Mayor</u> Jimmy Davis	<u>Departments</u> Building Department (623) 936-7111	Parks & Recreation Center (623) 474-4992	Senior Center (623) 936-2760
<u>Council Members</u> Clorinda Erives	Community Action Program (CAP)	Parks (623) 936-7141	Street Maintenance (623) 936-7141
Adolfo Gamez	*Residential Assistance	Permits (623) 936-7111	Tolleson Public Library (623) 936-2746
Linda Laborin	Programs*		Water/Waste Water (623) 936-3381
Cruzita Mendoza	(623) 936-2760		
Christine Chavira			

2026 COMMUNITY EVENT SERIES



3rd Fridays – Arts • Culture • Community

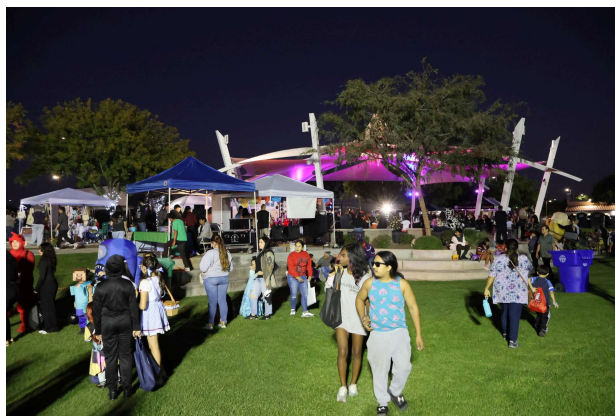
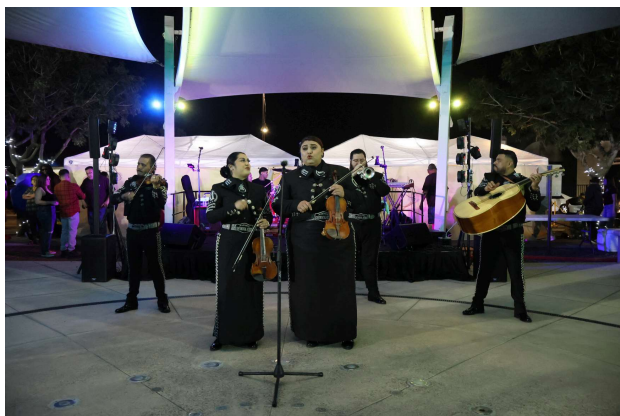
Location:

The P.L.A.C.E. (Paseo de Luces Arts Center of Entertainment)

9257 W. Van Buren St., Tolleson

Time: 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

When: 3rd Friday of each month



FEBRUARY 20, 2026

Celebrating Black History Month

An evening honoring history, culture, and creativity through art, food, and community connection.

MARCH 20, 2026

Spring into Art

Celebrate the season with local artists, creative expression, and a vibrant community atmosphere.

BECOME A 3RD FRIDAYS VENDOR

February 20 – Celebrating Black History Month - applications open February

March 20 – Spring into Art - Vendor applications open March

September, October & November 2026 - Applications COMING SOON

How to become vendor:

information is located on the reverse side of this flyer or visit

www.tolleson.az.gov/594/Notice-For-Vendors

3rd Fridays receives a high volume of applications. Only a limited number of vendors are selected per event to ensure quality, balance, and variety.

www.tolleson.az.gov

2026 SPECIAL EVENT VENDOR OPPORTUNITIES



Calling all food vendors, food trucks, artisans, crafters, and product vendors! Apply to participate in City of Tolleson special events throughout 2026. These well-attended community events attract thousands of visitors and offer outstanding visibility for local and regional businesses.

3rd Fridays

Downtown Tolleson the P.L.A.C.E.
9257 W. Van Buren St., Tolleson
Time: 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM
When: 3rd Friday of each month

Tolleson Community Resource Fair

October 31, 2026 | Tolleson Veterans Park
4th of July Celebration
Friday, July 3, 2026 | Tolleson Veterans Park

WHOOPEE DAZE FESTIVAL

April 10–12, 2026
Tolleson Veterans Park
8601 W. Van Buren St.

Luces de Navidad

December 12–13, 2026
Downtown Tolleson (91st–94th Ave. & Van Buren St.)

VENDOR FEES & REQUIREMENTS

Event Fees (Per Event)

3rd Fridays at the P.L.A.C.E.: \$25 per event

Other events (Whoopee Daze Festival, 4th of July Celebration, Luces de Navidad, Community Resource Fair):

Event-specific vendor fees apply and will be listed in each event's vendor application.

Payment of an event fee allows participation in that specific event only.

City of Tolleson Business License (Annual Requirement)

All vendors must have a valid City of Tolleson Business License.

License period: January–December (paid once per year).

Mobile Food Vendors (truck or trailer): \$120

Craft & Food Tent Vendors (temporary): \$60

HOW TO APPLY FOR A BUSINESS LICENSE & QUESTIONS

Apply Online:

www.tolleson.az.gov/553/Business-Licenses

Contact Development Services Department:

623-936-7111 ext. 1509

Tolleson.DevelopmentServices@tolleson.az.gov

For Vendor Questions and Information Email

events@tolleson.az.gov

www.tolleson.az.gov