
Sylvia Berman, President & Founder

What a year! A new, full board was elected and started meeting monthly for the first time in many years. With any reinvention, it takes time and effort to function well. Since procedures, priorities and plans have not been set in a long time, they became the first matter.

New members have been learning about the City's various processes. Harold Hallikainen resurrected our long, neglected website. In addition, we brought board members from Sewell and Thunderbird to our table and met with Mayor Romero's aide, Eryck Garcia. Duffy & Hyland Vista officers have been invited to visit. We hope to have Councilman Kozachik and/or his aide join us soon.

Mitman NA is still not done with the Lawful Protest against issuance of the permanent liquor license for Love Cabaret, formerly known as TD's Showclubs. It is three years and counting since we began our Protest. In June of 2022, after Love Cabaret got a reprieve from the State Liquor Board, Councilman Kozachik and City Attorney Shilpa Hunter Patel had a meeting at Ward 6 with the community and the club owner.

A "settlement agreement" was developed and the owner was given a set of requirements to qualify for the permanent liquor license. Suffice to say that what has followed has not been satisfactory. We don't know where everything stands, and this topic will be brought up at the annual meeting.

When we began the 2022-2023 years, the board was beginning to consider applying for historic status in the City of Tucson, which is a federal program. Among the benefits ... there is a 35-40% residential property tax reduction. Also, there are tax benefits for the businesses in Mitman Neighborhood. The board will continue to explore the work and cost involved in preparing a National Register of Historic Places Nomination.

Finally, I have been advised by Ward 6 that the utility line work for the 6th/5th Street Road Diet is supposed to be done around early spring 2024. The paving will follow in late 2024 or early 2025, which is when the striping for the "diet" from 4 lanes to 3 lanes with a center lane for left turns will be undertaken. Ask Councilman Kozachik for more details at the annual meeting.

Ali Bickford, Chief Information Officer

This past year several improvements occurred in the Mitman Neighborhood.

Bike HAWKs were installed on Rosewood/Craycroft and Rosewood/Wilmot to extend the Third Street Bike Blvd. This connected Mitman to the UofA Campus and Murphy -Wilmot Library. I hope you have been able to enjoy the Bike Blvd.

Tucson Clean and Beautiful (TCB) worked with Mitman Residents and planted 110 trees in our neighborhood. It was TCB's biggest planting event in 2022.

[SeeClickFix.com](https://www.clickfix.com/), is an app that you can use to report issues such as water waste, abandoned buildings, illegal dumping, etc.) in the City of Tucson.

Exciting future improvements include:

The Bike Blvd Master Plan has Sahuara becoming a Bike Boulevard.

Prop 407 has allocated funds to make Alamo Wash a Greenway.

Thank you to everyone who worked on the Tree Planting Event and submitted ideas for GSI. It has been rewarding to work with the city to get these projects done and improve our neighborhood. As more funding becomes available, we will continue to submit for GSI projects and other city-wide initiatives.

Emily Endreson, Treasurer

As Treasurer-Elect for 2023, I inherited a tidy bookkeeping system from our former President & Treasurer, Mary Martin. Dues collected – throughout 2022 and at the annual Mitman Neighborhood Association's Meeting held last October -- and deposited gave MNA a balance of \$2,216.32 with which to begin 2023.

In our monthly board meetings, we have discussed neighborhood priorities and possible future expenditures. Significant interest has been expressed in installing road humps throughout the neighborhood and erect a permanent sculpture on the Rosewood bike route at the McKinley traffic circle. Our expenditures in 2022 have been limited to photocopying flyers for the December tree planting event and getting our website up and running. At present, our coffers have \$2,144.44.

Speaking of Value: Unlike new housing developments, Mitman homeowners enjoy relative freedom, i.e., we do not have a homeowners' association with covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs) and monthly fees that are used for the maintenance of shared/common space. Subsequently, you'll notice the uneven condition of houses, now 60 to 75 years old, in our neighborhood, some in need of serious maintenance.

This was especially true for a house left vacant for years that attracted squatters. Years of neighbors filing formal complaints with the City Code Enforcement finally culminated in four appearances, by myself, Sylvia, and the homeowner to Pima County Court. Although yet to meet the goal of becoming habitable, the house is looking better, less of a magnet for blight. Progress!

Jennifer Beard, Mitman NA Advisor

As your Advisor to the northern boundary of our neighborhood, my neighbors and I have been working on the activities happening in the 1st Street area between Craycroft and McKinley as well as Speedway. Often businesses don't realize the significant impact they cause in our neighborhood.

We dealt with the homeless camps in the parking lot behind the old Riteway building. It took quite a bit of effort, but with help from Code Enforcement, TPD and Homeless Protocol, the camps were removed (several times), messes were cleaned up and metal gates were erected.

In addition, Code Enforcement took the property manager to court to deal with weeds and debris. The block wall they previously put up was not done with a permit, either. This is an ongoing case.

Another issue was the property at 5750 E. 1st Street. Tenants were evicted and became squatters. Several calls were made to TPD, the owner and Code Enforcement. Their belongings were removed and deposited in the front yard. The squatters kept coming back and managed to hide in the attic. The property has been sold. The new owners are working with us to keep the squatters out and the property secured. A win win!

There have been other challenges such as activities at Love Cabaret, Bookstore Southwest, Circle K, additional homeless camps and vandalism. However, residents on 1st Street have become a cohesive and helping-hand community.

Ben Philippi, Advisor

My wife and I moved to Mitman in 2021. We bought the first house we saw. There were no bars in the windows, no fences around neighboring properties with aggressive barking dogs, and lots of trees. We took all of these things, and others, as good omens. We have not been disappointed.

The house we purchased was a solid 1952 structure. It seems as though houses were built better back then. After two years living here, we feel as though we got lucky. It is a quiet, safe, and peaceful neighborhood.

We're now friends with many of our neighbors and we're proud to call Mitman home. In 2022, I joined the Mitman Neighborhood Association in order to help make the neighborhood even better than how we found it.

Harold Hallikainen, Advisor

Escape the Walled Garden!

One of the great things about the internet is that everyone can reach every web site. Unless, of course, that web site restricts access to members who are required to pay for access, have their private information sold, or be subjected to advertising.

Mitman.org makes neighborhood information available to all. There is a provision to subscribe to the web site so you will be notified when there is new information, but a subscription is not required to access the site.

Former board member, David Nevins, kept the dormant mitman.org site alive for several years and helped bring it back to life. The site now includes the latest neighborhood updates along with useful neighborhood and city information.

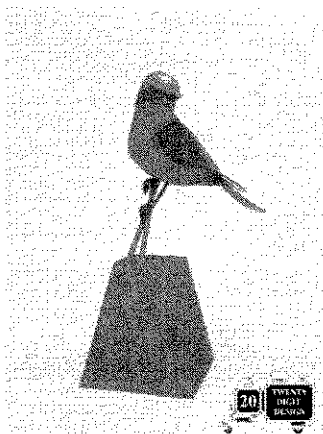
We are looking for neighbors to help administer and edit the web site which is: mitman.org. If you are interested, please email admin@mitman.org or bermansylvia@hotmail.com.

Mitman NA 2023-2024

The City Department of Transportation & Mobility (DTM) is studying the possible addition of speed humps to the traffic circle at McKinley & Rosewood. There is an unrealistic expectation of safety because this intersection is part of the Bicycle Blvd. Bollards have been struck and residents have complained about oncoming traffic. Some drivers cut across the traffic circle instead of going around it.

This topic should open the larger subject of speeding traffic on Jefferson, Van Buren and McKinley. Numerous residents are angry about this. Please complain to Councilman Kozachik in person!

In the interest of public safety, Mitman NA will circulate a petition to request speed humps from the Department of Transportation at our annual meeting. The City requires us to pay \$500 a hump. It is important that people are safe while out walking their pets in the evenings and when they pass by bicycle.



One of the projects under consideration is an art object to be placed upon the base in the traffic circle at McKinley and Rosewood. Daniel Hornung, who grew up in our area and has worked on similar projects for the City, has proposed a Vermilion Flycatcher.

The art object would be 4'6" x 3'6" x 6'6" and cost \$6,375.00. Of course, we would apply for a grant to pay for this and then ask for donations or find a way to cover whatever gap is left. Mitman NA is open to additional ideas and artists. There is no rush, and we are happy to have conversations.

Our intention is to create an interesting space that can develop into an art corridor reaching the traffic circle at 2nd Street. We want to add a bulletin board, little library, street art and murals.

Mitman NA intends to launch a semi-annual meeting in March 2024. We will distribute details about this second meeting either by using one of the quarterly mailings that Councilmember Kozachik has offered Ward 6 Neighborhood Associations in addition to the once per year City-funded mailing or by delivering a flier to each door.

And ... perhaps we can turn our March meeting into a block party!



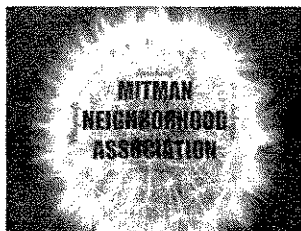
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Mitman NA Annual Meeting:
October 14, 2023, 10-noon, LIVE!



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Mitman Neighborhood Association (NA) Annual Meeting

ANNUAL MEETING: Saturday, October 14, 2023, from 10am-noon.

This year's annual meeting will be **LIVE & OUTSIDE**. We will take this opportunity to connect in person once again. Harold Hallikainen, at **5701 E. Hawthorne**, has graciously offered his driveway as rendezvous point. A portion of the street will also be blocked off.

Meet & Greet: Councilman Steve Kozachik and TPD have been invited. Rather than give a speech, Steve will give short comments and answer questions ... we would like to offer the opportunity to meet, mingle and chat personally. Bring your questions and complaints!

Current officers: Sylvia Berman, President; Ali Bickford, Chief Information Officer; Emily Endreson, Treasurer. Advisors: Jennifer Beard, Harold Hallikainen, Ben Phillipi, Sabina Ahmadpost.

Officer Elections: Nominations will be taken at the meeting and accepted by email. If you would like to volunteer for a board position, please email bermansylvia@hotmail.com.

Membership in Mitman NA: A member is a household or business within the boundaries, which extend from Craycroft to Sahuara Avenue & 5th Street to Speedway. Each household or business is entitled to one vote. Dues are required to be an active member, which is \$5.00 per household or business per year. You can pay dues at our Meet & Greet or email bermansylvia@hotmail.com for other options.

Please feel free to make additional donations!

We are raising money to provide speed humps and commission original art for our traffic circles.

There is a lot going on at Mitman Neighborhood Association! You won't want to miss out on our progress ... so make sure you are on our "**Neighborhood Update**" [email list](#) (always sent out as a bcc) or join our website (mitman.org). Feel free to contact me anytime ... bermansylvia@hotmail.com.