

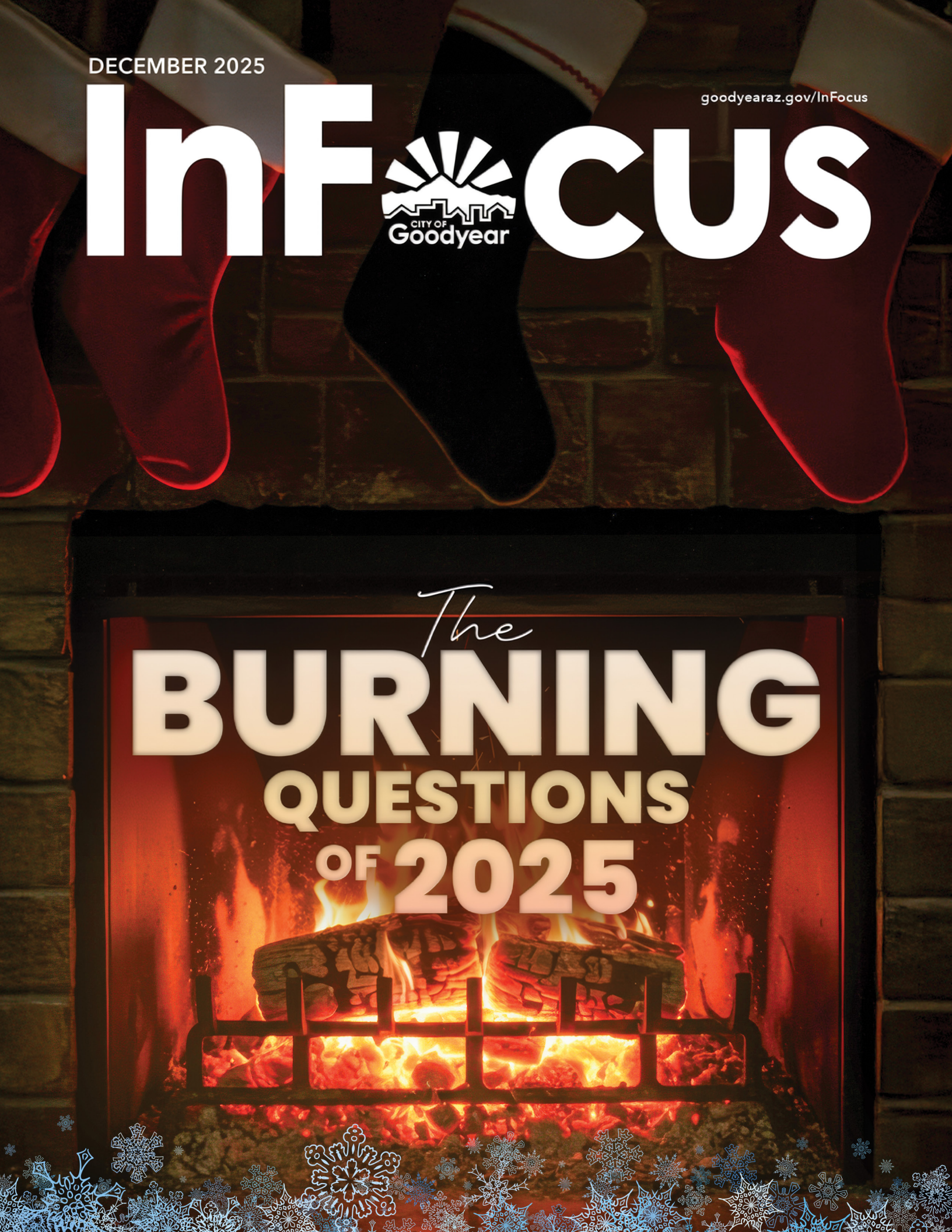
DECEMBER 2025

goodyearaz.gov/InFocus

InFocus



The **BURNING QUESTIONS OF 2025**



AT A GLANCE

Every day, we get messages, calls and comments on social media from residents, and we love it! You're curious, engaged and passionate about our

community. In this issue, we're diving into the most-asked questions of the year, from the big ones to the fun ones. See if your question is on the list!



(front row; l to r): Vice Mayor Wally Campbell, Mayor Joe Pizzillo, Laura Kaino.
(back row; l to r): Trey Terry, Vicki Gillis, Benita Beckles, Brannon Hampton.

Season's Greetings

FROM THE GOODYEAR CITY COUNCIL

Thank you for helping make Goodyear a remarkable place to call home. Wishing you a season full of comfort and joy, and a new year filled with growth, success and cherished memories.

GOODYEAR CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR

December 8	5 p.m.	Work Session & Council Meeting
December 15	5 p.m.	Council Meeting
January 5	5 p.m.	Council Meeting
January 12	5 p.m.	Work Session & Council Meeting

Meeting dates are subject to change. For the latest meeting information, visit goodyearaz.gov. Council meetings and work sessions are held at Goodyear City Hall at GSQ, Council Chambers, 1900 N. Civic Square.

Catch all of the council meetings streaming live on the city's Facebook and X pages and YouTube channel.



InFocus Magazine • Goodyear Digital Communications
Questions or comments, email: communications@goodyearaz.gov

FROM THE MAYOR

There are a few questions that I hear often from residents, and one that I especially enjoy answering is why I decided to run for council years ago. I always appreciate the question because it allows me to share what has guided my commitment to serving others and hopefully encourage others to do the same. In 2009, after a long career in public service, I ran for city council. My decision was rooted in a genuine desire to help people and to give back to the community I care so deeply about, especially the city of Goodyear, where I retired as a budget manager.

To me, public service has always been about more than policies and projects; it's about people. Every decision made and every initiative undertaken should reflect a commitment to improving the quality of life for our residents and ensuring that Goodyear is a place where everyone feels valued, supported and connected.

Throughout my time in office, I've had the privilege of meeting countless individuals who inspire me, people who volunteer their time, lift up their neighbors and give back without expecting anything in return. Their

example is a daily reminder that leadership begins with service and that small acts of kindness can create a meaningful and lasting impact.

If you, too, want to be more involved in the city, one of the many ways to make a difference is to join a city board, commission or committee. They are made up of resident volunteers who play an important role in shaping city policies, programs and projects. From planning and zoning to arts and culture and public safety, these groups provide input and recommendations that help guide city council decisions. It's a meaningful way to stay involved, share your perspectives and help build the future of Goodyear together. You can learn more at goodyearaz.gov/boardsrecruit.

As we enter the holiday season, I encourage everyone in our community to embrace the spirit of service at a level that works for them. The holidays are a time for reflection, gratitude and giving. Whether it's donating food or toys, volunteering with a local nonprofit or simply reaching out to someone who may be spending the season alone, each act helps strengthen our community.



**Mayor
Joe Pizzillo**

Together, we can make this season one of hope, compassion and connection. Serving others, in whatever way we can, reminds us that we are all part of something larger than ourselves. That spirit of caring for one another is at the heart of true public service.

COUNCIL CORNER

It is well known that local government is closest to the people. Instead of being one of 535 members in Congress or 90 in the state legislature, we are an elected body of seven tasked with casting a vision and making policy and budget decisions for Goodyear. We live, shop, dine and participate fully in the community. We are accessible, we welcome resident interaction, and we want to ensure all information provided is timely and accurate.

Social media has taken a forward role in information sharing and as a forum for engagement. City staff excel at putting out news and content on various platforms. The level of online response is amazing and robust, and although staff may read and respond, it seldom reaches city council directly. The best way to reach your city

council is to send an email to gyccouncil@goodyearaz.gov. Every councilmember will receive it, and all emails are answered.

You can also use Goodyear311 to report concerns and request city services at goodyearaz.gov/311. Your request will be acknowledged, and you'll be informed of the outcome. Just don't forget, Goodyear311 does not replace 911 for emergencies.

Residents can also call the Goodyear Police Department's non-emergency number, 623-932-1220, to report something that's not at the level of a 911 emergency call. The call is answered by one of our trained dispatchers, 24/7/365.

The city's website also has a lot of information for residents. All council and planning and zoning meetings are recorded and available for viewing by going to the city website, clicking on Agenda, Minutes & Video under the Government tab. You can also find agendas and meeting minutes for all boards, commissions and committee meetings. All meetings are open to the public, and there is always an agenda item for public comment where you may speak for three minutes. The



**Councilmember
Laura Kaino**

website also provides a link to make a public records request.

There are a variety of ways to directly and effectively communicate with us. We are here for you, Goodyear!

Scan the QR code to watch Laura Kaino and other councilmembers share updates in our Council Corner video series.





Burning Question

**I SEE MORE
APARTMENTS NOW
COMPARED TO WHEN
I MOVED HERE, WHY?**

If you've lived in Goodyear for a while, you might be curious about the growth in housing developments. Goodyear is one of the fastest growing cities in the nation, and with more than 14,000 new jobs created in the past five years, it's no surprise that more people are choosing to live here. As job opportunities increase, so does the need for a diverse blend of quality housing. That's where multifamily homes come in.



BALANCING GROWTH, BY DESIGN

Having different housing options, like apartments, plays an important role in any city's housing market. They provide options for people at all stages of life: young professionals getting started, families in between homes, people who aren't able to purchase a home and residents who simply prefer the convenience of a low-maintenance lifestyle.

Multifamily housing makes up about 18% of all homes in Goodyear and there's strong demand. Nearly every available apartment unit is full in Goodyear. People want to live here and having options helps keep Goodyear welcoming and vibrant.

Every development in the city must also meet the city's General Plan and zoning standards, which are designed to ensure Goodyear grows in a smart,

well-balanced way. Well-located, market-rate apartments with quality design and landscaping can boost nearby single-family home values. They help build a strong residential base of both homeowners and renters, and that balance adds energy and economic vitality to the community. Multifamily housing also makes the city more attractive to the restaurants, shops, and entertainment options residents want. Many popular retailers and eateries look for areas with higher population density, because more people means more customers.

18% of all homes in
Goodyear are
multifamily



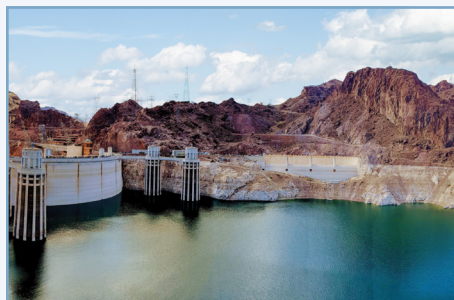
Goodyear's growth continues with 14,000 new jobs created in the last five years, attracting more residents each year.

The Rainbow Valley Water Reclamation Facility is being expanded to support the continued growth in the southern area of the city. The expansion project is expected to be completed in 2026.

Burning Question

DO WE HAVE ENOUGH WATER TO KEEP GROWING?

Goodyear's water strategy isn't just about providing water today, it's about planning, partnering, conserving and investing to support a vibrant, growing city. So, as the community continues to grow, you can feel confident that the city is ready to meet the challenge responsibly and sustainably.



The Hoover Dam stores Colorado River water in Lake Mead, a major source of surface water for Goodyear.

PLANNING FOR THE LONG HAUL

Goodyear has a 100-year assured water supply; a carefully planned mix of sources that ensures residents, businesses and future neighborhoods have reliable water. Every new parcel of land developed is assigned a water allocation, so the city can manage growth responsibly and make sure everyone has what they need.

For businesses, Goodyear works directly with them to determine their specific

water needs, making sure operations can expand without stressing the system. That thoughtful approach keeps our economy moving while keeping our resources sustainable.

A reliable water supply also takes thoughtfully planned infrastructure. Goodyear is investing in water systems, pipelines and storage facilities to ensure our growing water needs are met for decades to come.

LEADING THE WAY

Goodyear is proud to lead by example. From citywide conservation programs to public education campaigns, the city helps residents and businesses use water wisely. Smart landscaping, efficient irrigation and innovative technology are just a few ways the city and residents are rethinking their water use.

Learn more at
goodyearaz.gov/water



**DID YOU
KNOW**



Goodyear is actively involved in drought planning conversations across the Valley, partnering with Valley cities, utilities and state agencies. By working together, the region can adapt to changing conditions and ensure long-term resilience.



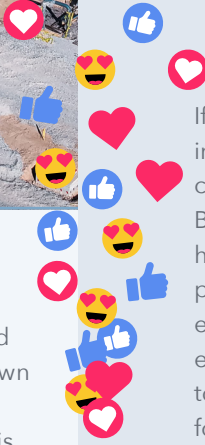
Burning Question

SO ... WHEN IS BUC-EE'S OPENING?

If you've driven past I-10 and Bullard Avenue lately, you've probably noticed a big building sprouting up south of the freeway. Buc-ee's is coming to Goodyear, and everyone's asking, "When does it open?"

While there's no official opening date just yet, construction on Arizona's first-ever Buc-ee's is moving full speed ahead. The massive travel center, known for its spotless bathrooms, endless snacks and that giant smiling beaver, is expected to open in summer 2026.

BUC-EE'S SOCIAL BUZZ



If social media is any indication, Goodyear residents can hardly wait. Posts about Buc-ee's regularly rack up hundreds of comments with people sharing their Buc-ee's experience, their favorite Buc-ee's items and their excitement to finally step foot in a Buc-ee's for the first time when it opens.



Burning Question

HOW DO I GET A JOB WITH THE CITY?

If you've spent any time on Goodyear's social media pages, you might have noticed something: our employees do some pretty amazing and fun work. From Parks & Recreation staff leading big community events to behind-the-scenes glimpses of Public Works keeping the city running smoothly, it's no wonder residents and job seekers alike are curious about joining the team and making a real difference in the community.

#WeAreGoodyear

APPLY & STAY IN THE LOOP

- ▶ Visit goodyearaz.gov/jobs to see all current openings.
- ▶ Sign up for job alerts to be notified when positions that match your skills or interests become available.
- ▶ Follow the city on social media for behind-the-scenes videos, employee spotlights and a firsthand look at what it's like to be part of Team Goodyear.





Burning Question

WHEN'S MY TRASH DAY?

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

There will be **NO TRASH**, recycle or bulk pickup on the upcoming holidays. Pickup moves to the following day.



Christmas Day



New Year's Day

Never throw lithium-ion or rechargeable batteries into the trash. Drop them off at Best Buy, Home Depot or Lowe's. Using the safety disposal locations keeps the batteries out of the trash which can cause a fire.



KNOW YOUR SCHEDULE

Goodyear offers a simple online tool to check your trash pickup schedule. Just enter your address into the search feature at goodyearaz.gov/trash, and the system tells you exactly which day your garbage, recycling and bulk trash are collected. You can even get email, phone or text reminders and add it to your digital calendar or print it out!

PRO TIP: [Goodyearaz.gov/trash](https://goodyearaz.gov/trash) is also where you can find out what you can and can't recycle by using the **Recycle Right Wizard** tool. Type in any item to find out which bin it needs to be tossed into!



Burning Question

WHAT CAN I BRING TO A CITY EVENT?

The city hosts exciting, family-friendly events all year long - from concerts and movie nights to big celebrations like Holidays on the Square, Star Spangled Fourth and Fall Festival. Before you pack up and head out, here are a few things to remember!

WHAT CAN I BRING?

Water bottles – Stay hydrated! Many events have refill stations.

Your ID if you are over 21 – Required if you plan to purchase alcohol.

Your good vibes – Say hi to your neighbors, grab some food truck eats and snap a photo to remember the night!

WHAT TO LEAVE AT HOME

Outside alcohol or glass containers – Vendors have you covered!

Pop-up tents or large umbrellas – They block views for others and pose safety concerns.

Unapproved vendors or giveaways – All vendors must apply; more information can be found at goodyearaz.gov/events.

Unleashed pets – Dogs are welcome at many outdoor events if leashed, friendly and cleaned up after. (Note: No pets at Goodyear Ballpark - service animals only.)

Tobacco, vaping, weapons or illegal substances – Not permitted at any city event.

HOW DO I BECOME A VENDOR?

All vendors must be pre-approved through the city's vendor process. Our official partners manage food and artisan opportunities; information is online at goodyearaz.gov/events.



HELPFUL TIPS

- ▶ Check the website for all policies specific to the event and updates at goodyearaz.gov/events.
- ▶ Plan for parking. Arrive early or carpool for larger events.
- ▶ Weather can change quickly, and safety comes first. If a storm moves in while you're at a city event, please follow the instructions from event staff to help keep everyone safe.

Burning Question

HOW DO I START A NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH PROGRAM?

The Neighborhood Block Watch is about reporting suspicious activity and building a connected, supportive neighborhood. Residents team up with the Goodyear Police Department to look out for one another, share information and create a safer environment.

To start one in your neighborhood, visit goodyearaz.gov/BlockWatch.



Goodyear also has a Virtual Block Watch program! If you have exterior security cameras, you can voluntarily register them with the police department. This doesn't give anyone access to your footage - only you can view your recordings. But if a crime happens nearby, investigators can quickly see where cameras are located and reach out to you directly to ask if you're willing to check your footage.

Visit goodyearaz.gov/VirtualBlockWatch to register your camera or learn more about how it works. For questions, email blockwatch@goodyearaz.gov.

Burning Question

HOW DO I REPORT A BROKEN STREET LIGHT?

Goodyear 311

Residents can quickly and easily report issues like potholes or streetlight outages, graffiti or litter concerns, park maintenance needs, traffic signs or signals that need attention online. Instead of wondering who to call or waiting in line, 311 is your direct line to the city 24/7. It's faster, easier and ensures your concern quickly reaches the right department.



goodyearaz.gov/311

2026 PROPOSED UTILITY RATE PLAN

FACT SHEET FOR DEC. 15 PUBLIC HEARING

PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

The city develops multi-year utility rate plans to create a more predictable funding outlook, which helps plan, manage infrastructure responsibly and avoid sudden, steep increases later on, which some utilities have experienced recently in the Valley.

- ▶ A multi-year plan minimizes the impact on residents and customers, by phasing the rate increases in overtime.

The city is seeking to adopt a new multi-year utility rate plan.

- ▶ Tax dollars don't fund Goodyear's water, wastewater or solid waste programs. These utilities are funded entirely by user fees, which are the monthly charges seen on your utility bill. Those fees cover the cost to operate, maintain and improve each service, as well as to pay back loans (similar to a mortgage) used for large infrastructure projects.
- ▶ The last utility rate plan, which included an increase, took effect in 2021. At that time, the average Goodyear resident saw their monthly utility bill go up by about 2.7% each year, or roughly \$3.41 per month.

COLLABORATIVE PUBLIC PROCESS

The city doesn't make these decisions alone. Each rate plan decision is developed through a utility rate study, in partnership with the Citizens Water Advisory Committee (a group made up of Goodyear residents), city staff and an independent consulting firm that routinely performs such assessments of utilities nationwide. This process, which includes a public hearing, helps make sure rates are fair, transparent and reflect both community input and the true cost of providing safe, reliable utility services.

PROPOSED FOUR-YEAR UTILITY RATE PLAN

The proposed utility rate plan, which includes increases, ensures the city can continue providing safe, reliable and high-quality utility services while planning responsibly for the future. Like many cities across the Valley, Goodyear is facing rising costs due to inflation, market pressures and higher prices for electricity, construction, equipment, treatment materials and disposal services.

Under the proposed plan, the average Goodyear residential customer would see about a 5.8-5.9% increase per year for the next four years. That's about \$8.50 more per month on average. It may be more or less based on your residential

monthly water consumption. Here is how that \$8.50 breaks down:

- ▶ **Water:** \$2.71 more per month
City of Goodyear water customers, which includes residential, business and industrial customers.
- ▶ **Wastewater:** \$3.97 more per month
City of Goodyear water customers, which includes residential, business and industrial customers.
- ▶ **Solid Waste:** \$1.82 more per month
Citywide residential customers only.

The proposed rate plan is scheduled for a public hearing on Dec. 15 at 5 p.m. in the city council chambers, 1900 N. Civic Square. The council will then vote on it,

and if approved, the new rates will take effect in early 2026.



* Based on average residential household use of 7.5k gallons of water and 6k gallons of wastewater per month.

The Goodyear City Council has opted NOT to approve a stormwater fee increase as originally proposed to reduce the financial impact to residents.

WATER PROVIDERS

There are multiple water providers in Goodyear. The proposed water and wastewater rates are for city of Goodyear water customers only. Where you live determines who provides water to your home. The city of Goodyear water service area is south of I-10.

The solid waste service area is citywide and serves residents only.

EXPECTED TIMELINE

DEC. 15	EARLY 2026	FEB. 2026
		
Public hearing & city council vote	New utility rates take effect	First bills reflect new rates

GIVE THE GIFT OF CLEANER AIR

The holidays are a time to celebrate, gather and enjoy our beautiful weather. With a few small choices, we can also help keep our air clean. **Here are simple ways to make a positive impact this season:**



Choose cleaner cozy moments. Use fireplaces and outdoor firepits sparingly and check local "No Burn Day" alerts before lighting up.



Skip the fireworks. Consider festive lights or glow sticks that bring the sparkle without the smoke.



Drive less. Carpool and combine errands when you can.



Turn off the engine. Avoid idling while parked.



Add some green. Planting trees and shrubs boosts oxygen and naturally filters pollution.



Dispose responsibly. Keep trash and yard waste out of the fire to prevent harmful particles from entering the air.



Go electric. Electric heaters, grills and kitchen appliances offer warm, delicious holiday moments without added pollution.

KEEP YOUR ALARM INFO UPDATED FOR A SAFER SEASON



A few quick updates to your home alarm system can help reduce false alarms and make sure help gets to you when you truly need it. As heaters get switched on for the first time, dust burn-off can sometimes trigger smoke alarms, so keeping your contact information current is an easy way to prevent unnecessary callouts.

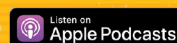
SIMPLE STEPS TO STAY READY:

- **Update your contact list.** Confirm your primary number, backup number and verbal passcode with your alarm company. Add at least one local alternate contact.
- **Save the caller ID.** Store your monitoring company's phone number so you know to pick up if they call.
- **Check rentals and vacation homes.** Make sure both the occupant and the owner/manager have up-to-date information, especially after move-ins or move-outs.
- **Prep for heater season.** The first time you turn on your heater, open a window and stay nearby while dust burns off. Never disable alarms.
- **Test and maintain.** Press the TEST button on smoke alarms monthly and replace units every 10 years, and give vents a light vacuum. Do the same for carbon monoxide alarms if you have gas appliances.



INSIDE GOODYEAR PODCAST

CHECK IT OUT ON THESE PLATFORMS





1900 N. Civic Square
Goodyear AZ 85395
goodyearaz.gov
623-932-3910

ECRWSS
Postal Customer

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*Open December 5-28
Friday- Sunday from 5-9 p.m.*

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