



# KEELING GECKO

March 2007

Newsletter of the Keeling Neighborhood Association

## Neighborhood Reinvestment: Looking at the Proposals

**What is the purpose and source of the funding?** In special elections held in 1997 and 2004, voters approved a bond measure for small-scale improvement projects within neighborhoods demonstrating need. In response, a grant program was established to distribute these funds. The purpose of funding is to promote stability and revitalize stressed communities; each proposal can be funded for up to \$500,000 (gross).



**What types of improvement are eligible?** Projects eligible for funding must be in the public right of-way or on publicly owned property. Examples include:

- **Street improvements:** traffic mitigation, including speed bumps, speed tables, traffic circles; traffic signs; and other improvements for more livable streets
- **Recreational facilities:** park improvements; playgrounds; or other similar facilities
- **Public safety enhancements:** sidewalks, streetlights, walking paths, bridges, etc.

**What is the county looking for?** Need and impact are the most important components. Communities must demonstrate current social and economic need, and it must be explicit how the project will alleviate or prevent stress. A proposal must show clear benefit to residents, effectively addressing how the quality of life will be improved. Consensus is also key for a successful proposal, and as the process becomes more competitive (and funds dwindle), innovation may add value to the proposal as the City and County look to pilot new concepts.

Keeling has been considering projects for this proposal for some time, with discussion in the Greenway, board and general meetings. Several options have been proposed, and a brief discussion of each is below. A vote will be taken in March on which proposal KNA should pursue as a *priority*: if you are unable to attend the meeting, please fill out the ballot in this newsletter and forward it to any board member or mail it to KNA's post office box by 3/6/07.

Again, the vote is only for **priority**: many ideas will be implemented over time, with funding from various sources—this is the first of many.

1. **Keeling Trail:** this proposal would create a ~2 mile multi-use path in the interior of Keeling, along Delano, Estrella, Alturas and Los Altos. The path would meander, allowing exercise equipment, art and trees to be placed along the route. Approximate cost: \$250,000
2. **TOUCAN light:** this light would be placed at Fontana and Glenn, better unifying the two halves of Keeling and supporting the city-designated bike path on Fontana. This type of light can be seen on University and Stone. Approximate cost: \$200,000
3. **Striping:** the idea behind this proposal is about testing the waters, cheaply. By using striping, KNA can designate 4 streets as concept pilots for various traffic mitigation strategies, parking, etc. After a year, KNA would vote on which of these streets—or which elements from each—were best liked and most effective. The great opportunity in this proposal is the ability to experiment with different concepts before spending loads of money on curb construction. A similar use of striping was recently done in Iron Horse (on 9th Street). Approximate cost: \$15,000
4. **Trees:** this proposal would allow volunteers to plant trees in the right of way, beautifying Keeling, creating shade and cooler temperatures, and doing our part to improve air quality. The limitation with this project is participation: every tree must have a caretaker to water it in the first few years, or it will likely die. The cost of this project could range from \$0 (presuming volunteer planters and donated 5-gallon trees) to \$15,000 (presuming all owner-occupied homes order two 15-gallon trees at \$12 each and a professional excavator is used to dig the holes).

Please, attend the March meeting to vote for your top choice or send in, by 3/6/07, the survey/ballot included in this newsletter. All feedback will be integrated into the process.





# Elections

Two board positions are available: Treasurer and Secretary.

The Treasurer position maintains KNA's account, works with other volunteers to create grants, brainstorms fundraisers, and works with the community to solicit donations.

The Secretary position helps with the internal communication of Keeling and is a great way to use your gift to meet neighbors and get the word out about all our exciting projects.

Experience is great, but not necessary: if you have an interest and are willing to learn, it's a great way to contribute to community and build transferable skills.

Any member can be nominated in advance or from the floor during the general meeting. An election to fill these two positions will be held March 6, during the regular general meeting.

## GET FIT!



Many of us make resolutions to increase our fitness for the New Year. Let your neighbors be your support and partners in this effort. Keeling Fitness Walks take place every M/W/F, starting at 6pm from the park (245 E Glenn). De-stress, get fit and meet your neighbors!

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All meetings listed below are held at Keeling Elementary School. Check upon arrival to see if the north conference room or staff lounge is the room being used.

**Back to Basics Planning Session**

March 14 :: 6:30 - 7:30pm

**Crime Prevention Committee**

March 20 :: 6:30 - 7:30pm

**Greenway Project Meeting**

March 21 :: 6:30 - 8:30pm

**Socials Planning Committee**

March 27 :: 6:30 - 8:30pm



## IN KEELING

As part of spring cleaning, KNA is sponsoring a neighborhood-wide yard sale! If you would like to participate, read on...

**What does it mean to participate?** Basically, it means that you have a yard sale on **March 10th (Saturday)**.

An ad will be run, telling buyers where to pick-up a yard sale map, and signs will be placed around the neighborhood on the 10th.

**What's the benefit?** The benefit, in addition to taking part in a community activity, is that "community yard sales" draw more volume—meaning more sales for you! People get excited when bargains are packed in a square mile!

To help off-set the advertising and map printing, \$3 is asked for sign-up. If you would like to be included on a map distributed to buyers, please contact Marlena at 791-3367, by March 1st.

## A Custom Chopper, Sort of...

Senior Wheels USA makes power wheelchairs available to senior citizens and permanently disabled at no cost, **if they qualify**. The power wheelchairs are provided to those who can no longer walk nor self-propel a manual wheelchair. No deposit is required. If the patient's need is for use in the home, call for more information about qualifications: (800) 246-6010.

## Bad Kitty

February is the peak of the feral cat breeding season; therefore, also the peak of complaints about male cat spraying/urine. Trap-Neuter-Release programs do not entirely solve the problem, since the animal is released back to its original location, and males with a well-established habit of marking territory will not stop. However, a neutered male creates a less intense smell and can no longer contribute to the growing feral population. Some programs to contact if interested:

Have Trap, Will Travel :: (520) 624-0362

Feline Up Rising :: (520) 884-9218

Animal Welfare Alliance of Southern Arizona ::  
[www.awasa.org/tnrinfo.html](http://www.awasa.org/tnrinfo.html)





# Spring Clean-Up

Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>

**Work Schedule:**

Morning	8 am - Noon
Lunch	Noon - 1 pm
Afternoon	1 pm - 5 pm

**Headquarters:**

Keeling Elementary, East Parking Lot

**Roll-off Locations:**

SE corner, Blacklidge and Fontana  
 SW corner, Estrella and Laguna  
 SE corner, Kelso and Estrella  
 SE corner, Alturas and Geronimo

Hand tools, gloves and bags provided. Please bring power tools if you wish to use them.

Roll-offs are available to use all weekend—if you can't make the official clean-up, feel free to work on your own property and right of way throughout the weekend, when you can.

# MARCH MEETING

February's scheduled meeting was unexpectedly cancelled, due to problems with the meeting space. As a result, all votes scheduled for that date will be rolled over to the March meeting. Please attend: important ballot **VOTES** will be taken on:

- Neighborhood Reinvestment grant proposal
- Keeling neighborhood sign design
- KNA officers—Treasurer and Secretary

This means that our agenda will be jam-packed with quality information, so come prepared! In March's meeting, the focus is on keeping your money safe and in your pocket.

TPD will present on fraud prevention/reporting, and VITA volunteers will offer tax information on earned income tax credit and other deductions frequently missed, meaning a bigger return for your family.

**March 6, 2007**

2447 N Los Altos (SAFI Bldg)  
7:00—8:45 pm

## BALLOT

Please return your ballot: to a board member, by mail, or at the March 2006 General Meeting .

1. Do you support KNA applying for Pima County Neighborhood Reinvestment funds?  Yes  No

2. If yes, please rank the project most important to you (1 = most important, 5 = least important)

_____ Keeling Trail	_____ TOUCAN light
_____ Concept Striping	_____ Trees
_____ Other: _____	

3. Given the constraints of the funding, should this project include other ideas or infrastructure?

Yes  No

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. If you answered "no" to Question 1, please share your reasons so that we can ensure future recommendations include your concerns: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_





## Keeling Contacts

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<b>President</b>	Marlena Hanlon Chair2@KeelingAZ.org
<b>Vice President</b>	Wolfgang Golser VP@KeelingAZ.org
<b>Treasurer Secretary</b>	<i>Recruiting Recruiting</i>
<b>Historian</b>	JJ Moates Historian@KeelingAZ.org
<b>Newsletter</b>	Marlena Hanlon news@KeelingAZ.org

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/KeelingNeighbors>

## City of Tucson Contacts

### **Tucson Police Dept** (non-emergency)

West Substation :: (520) 791-4467

**Online report filing:** [www.ci.tucson.az.us/police/On\\_Line\\_Reporting/on\\_line\\_reporting.html](http://www.ci.tucson.az.us/police/On_Line_Reporting/on_line_reporting.html)

**Graffiti Abatement** :: (520) 792-CITY  
graffiti@tucsonaz.gov

**Code Violations/Blight** :: (520) 791-5843

**Ward III Office** :: (520) 791-4711

Karin Uhlich, Councilwoman  
Karin.Uhlich@tucsonaz.gov

Miguel Ortega, Keeling Liaison  
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