

# TOWN MANAGER'S

# EXECUTIVE REPORT

Town of Oro Valley | January 2022

TO COUNCIL

## TOWN MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! I hope you and your families enjoyed a wonderful holiday break. My team and I look forward to working with you in 2022 to make this year another positive, productive one for the Town of Oro Valley. As we've all been reading, COVID cases are on a steep rise in Arizona and across the country. Operationally, we have stepped up our cleaning and sanitizing, temporarily broadened remote work options, encouraged the use of Teams for meetings where possible, and continued to require strict mask wearing in common areas and where 6 feet of social distance cannot be maintained. We do anticipate, and have already seen some evidence of, an uptick in employee illness and quarantines in the next few weeks and are prepared to continue to provide services to the community without interruption.

CFO Dave Gephart and his team completed the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR – the new acronym for what was previously the CAFR) following a clean audit. The report will be posted to the Town's website and the Town will develop its "summary version" via the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) in the coming weeks. The Town's new auditor will present its findings to Council at an upcoming regular meeting. I'm very proud of the stellar Finance team as the auditor noted that "this was the best client ACFR I have reviewed all year."

Per Town Council's direction, the Town issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on November 1, 2021, to competitively solicit proposals for an operating lease at the Pusch Ridge Golf Course. The Town received one proposal from HGM Golf. The proposal was evaluated by Town staff relative to the requirements of the RFP and the specified evaluation criteria. At its conclusion, the proposal was deemed to insufficiently demonstrate that HGM is capable of successfully leasing and operating the Pusch Ridge Golf Course, and as a result, the Town will not proceed with further contract award actions with this firm. The Pusch course continues to perform well and is ahead of revenue projections for the season.

The Town is finalizing its evaluation of proposals for the planned employee classification and compensation study. The City of Tucson, Town of Sahuarita and Town of Marana have all conducted similar studies recently that have led to some adjustments in their respective employee pay structures, either planned or implemented. The Town will be following the same process. Being the final municipality in the region to do this puts us in an advantageous position regarding salary comparisons. We expect to have the study completed by this summer and I plan to include funding in my FY22/23 Recommended Budget for implementation once finalized and approved by Council. Based on our counterparts' changes or planned changes to pay structures, we do anticipate our own pay plan adjustments will be necessary to keep pace and remain competitive.

Finally, I want to thank Mayor Winfield for assisting with the annual Employee Service Awards held in December. This annual recognition honors employees for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and occasionally 35 years of service to the Town. Last year we were unable to hold the event in person, so we took the opportunity to recognize by name those honored for their years of service in 2020 as well as 2021. In 2020, there were 54 employees honored with a total of 635 years of service combined. And in 2021, there were 51 employees honored with 695 total years of service. Special recognition goes to several employees who were honored with 30 years of service: in 2020 – Tobin Sidles, Legal Services Director and Mary Rallis, Water Utility Administrator; and in 2021, Lorinda Navarro, Crime Analyst. We congratulate and thank all our valued employees for their dedication to this organization and the entire Oro Valley community. See photos on last page.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2022!

Mary Jacobs, Town Manager



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# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## CASES, INCIDENTS AND STATS

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### Runaway Juveniles

School Resource Officers (SROs) received an anonymous tip that a 14-year-old female student was planning to run away after school. The SROs started an investigation but found she had already left campus of her own volition. Additional details learned by members of the Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU) found she ran away with another female. Social media and press releases were used to publicly disseminate information. Patrol received over 60 calls that had potential information about the girls' possible location, all of which were followed upon. Using advanced investigative techniques, CIU found the females in the company of a 33-year-old male in the Tucson area. A warrant was obtained for his residence and the two girls were recovered safely with the help of Social Services.

### Burglary

A resident reported two trucks were parked near a closed fenced commercial yard and male subjects were loading property from within the yard into the trucks. Patrol responded and took two of the three subjects into custody. Officers learned that the third jumped a wall and ran off. The subjects in custody claimed they had been hired to clean up the commercial yard. Through a detailed investigation, officers learned that they were unlawfully in the yard and had loaded approximately \$2000 worth of property prior to police arrival. The two in custody were charged; the third was identified and is outstanding but will face burglary-related charges.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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### Cops and Kids

Officers shopped with families in need during the Cops and Kids event. Special thanks to community members who generously donated.

### Ballistic Vest Donations

Realtor Lisa Bayless provided a generous donation that will help officers in offsetting the cost of upgrade options when receiving their ballistic vest. The donation will benefit the officers who will be due for a new ballistic vest over the next four years.

### Tree Lighting

Members of the Community Resources Unit (CRU), in collaboration with the Town and the Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance provided a festive and safe holiday tree lighting event. In addition, members of the Oro Valley Color Guard joined members of the Golder Ranch Fire District to present the Colors at the tree lighting.

### The Polar Express

Chief Riley and Golder Ranch Fire Chief Karrer teamed up to read *The Polar Express* to families of the community.

### Shred-A-Thon

Members of CRU assisted the Town's Constituent Services with a community Shred-A-Thon.

## REGIONAL SUPPORT

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The Oro Valley Traffic Unit assisted with the escorts of two fallen officers who paid the ultimate sacrifice, giving their lives in the service of others.

## RECOGNITIONS

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Chief Kara M. Riley was recognized by the University of Arizona's Eller Undergraduate Program as the recipient of the "Ordinary Women Doing Extraordinary Things" award in the Government category.

Ofc. Ryan Capotosti graduated from the police academy. His training will shift to an "on the job" status as he begins the OVPD field training program.

Senior Office Specialist Courtney Nicholson was recognized as a "Champion of Worksite Wellness" by the Wellness Council of Arizona.



# COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

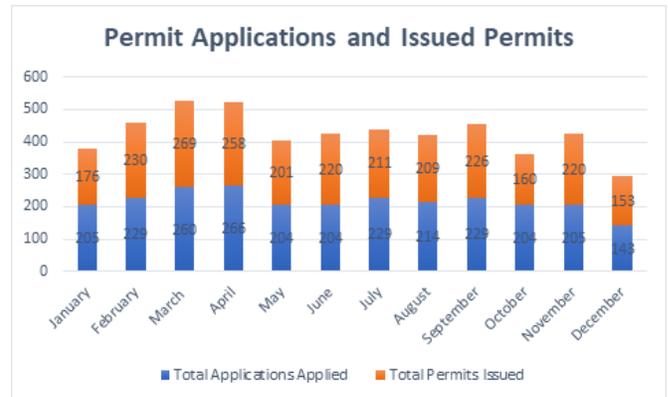
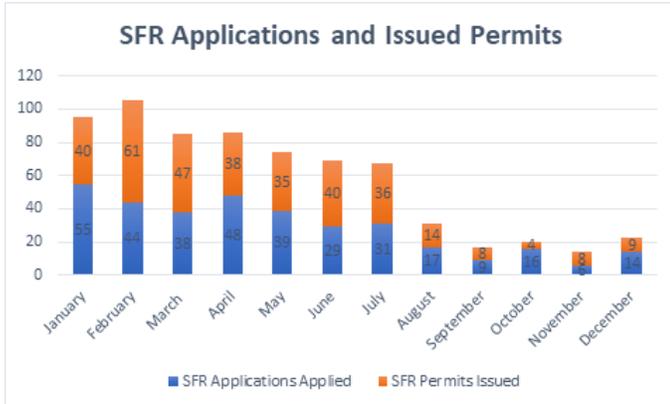
## TRENDS

### Single Family Residential Activity

Nine new Single Family Residential Permits (SFR) were issued during the month of December compared to eight SFR permits issued in November. A total of 340 SFR permits were issued during the 2021 calendar year compared to 384 issued during 2020.

### Permitting Activity

153 total permits were issued during the month of December compared to 220 permits issued in November. A total of 2,533 permits were issued during the 2021 calendar year compared to 2,497 issued during 2020.



## MEETINGS AND OTHER NEWS

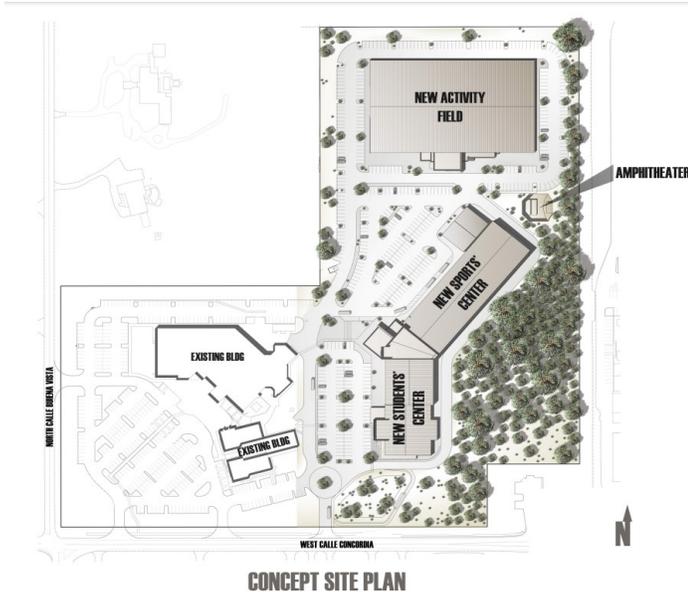
### Oro Valley Marketplace

The Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing on January 6 and recommended conditional approval of the proposed redevelopment of the Oro Valley Marketplace. The primary new development includes a proposed central gathering area known as the Entertainment District, two apartment buildings, three hotels and drive-thru use. The next public hearing will be on February 16 before the Town Council.

### Town Council

Town Council voted to amend to the Town’s Zoning Code regarding off-street parking and loading during the January 5 Town Council Meeting. The amendment will update outdated standards, enhance safety, environmental and landscape design standards and support Oro Valley businesses.

## PLANNING PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



The fourth submittal of the **Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene rezoning** to Planned Area Development is under staff review. The applicant is proposing an approximately 76,000 square foot activity building and an outdoor athletic field to be constructed in two phases. The application includes a traffic impact analysis and a noise study. A second neighborhood meeting is required prior to Planning and Zoning Commission and Town Council consideration.

More information about these projects can be found on [OVprojects.com](http://OVprojects.com)

## NEW DEVELOPMENT

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Town staff reviewed and approved an **expansion for Golder Ranch Fire District's Fire Station 374** at 1130 N. Rancho Vistoso Boulevard. The approximate 550 square foot expansion includes improved space for decontamination and firefighter turnout gear. Improvements in environmental systems and site parking areas will be provided as well.

## BUSINESS RETENTION/EXPANSION AND ATTRACTION/MARKETING

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### New Businesses

Four store front, four home-based and three businesses using an intelligent office or shared space were licensed in November. Intelligent offices are physical locations that a business owner can use for package and mail delivery, meetings and other business-related functions.

### Completed Projects (Certificate of Occupancy Issued)

- *Fuwa* — 10645 N. Oracle Road #101 (new owner)
- *KFC* — 7901 N. Oracle Road (interior remodel)
- *Signal Power Group* — 10861 N. Mavinee Drive #163
- *ThinkSpace Executive Suites* — 10371 N. Oracle Road #201

### Business Closures

- *Salted Pig American Barbecue* — 1835 N. Oracle Road #101
- *The Bagel Joint* — 7315 N. Oracle Road #105

### Ribbon Cuttings

- *Crumbl Cookies* — 7805 N. Oracle Road #151
- *TMC One* — 10390 N. La Cañada Drive



*Crumbl Cookies*



*TMC One*

## PERMITTING MAJOR ACTIVITY

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### New Businesses

- *The UPS Store at Escondido Plaza* – 7966 N. Oracle Road (Building TI Permit Issued)

### Other Permits

- *Golder Ranch Fire Station #374* – 1130 E. Rancho Vistoso Boulevard (Building TI and Grading Permits Issued)
- *QuikTrip at Steam Pump Village* – 11045 N. Oracle Road (Building TI Permit issued)

# PUBLIC WORKS

## BOND PROJECTS

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### **Naranja Park Expansion Project**

A Construction Manager at Risk contractor (CMAR) has been selected and a preconstruction services proposal was received. Haydon Building Corp. is now under contract and development of the site plan between the Town, McGann & Associate and Haydon will begin on schedule in January. A full report of the geotechnical investigation will be ready in the near future. Project plans have been received for the initial improvement at the park to include the walkway and landscaping between the two existing fields. The waterline installation for the new drinking fountains will be completed in-house in January to provide potable water in multiple locations along the corridor. Preliminary planning and meetings are occurring for traffic analysis, hydrology considerations and waterline installations that will be required.

### **Golf Course Irrigation Replacement**

The contractor, Wadsworth Golf, has been securing material sources and providing submittals to confirm that the selected materials meet design specifications. The submittals were found in conformance and approved.

### **Tennis Court Reconstruction & Expansion**

The Town is in the process of marking all the existing utilities under the courts and finishing the survey field work to begin drilling the geotechnical testing cores. The design is expected to be completed in January, with construction starting in April.

## PROJECT UPDATES

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### **Steam Pump Ranch Garage Building Renovation**

The state of the project remains on-hold until the revised emergency repair plans are submitted, reviewed and approved. The architect will submit the structural plans soon. Then, the contractor will submit a change order to begin the repairs.

### **Library Courtyard**

The Oro Valley Library Courtyard project was declared substantially complete and the closeout documents have been received from the contractor, Sellers and Sons. Sellers is working on the final details, including installation of the last two handrails and paint touchups.

### **Town Campus Sidewalk-ADA Improvements**

The Town has received 30% drawings for the improvements from the design consultant, Psomas Engineering, which are now under review. The plan is to complete the design and bid the drawings to the new group of Job Order Contractors (JOC's) recently selected by the Town. Construction is scheduled to begin in April.



*Courtyard at Oro Valley Library*

### **Pavement Preservation Project**

Pavement Preservation Phases I, II and III are completed which represents 87% of the pavement preservation budget for FY 2021/22. The remaining 13% funds (or Phase IV), will consist of FOG seals which will be completed this spring.

### **Traffic Signals**

Traffic signal staff replaced the battery backup system at the intersection of Westward Look and Ina Road and completed the replacement and upgrade to LED lights in the tunnels under Tangerine Road.

## STORMWATER AND STREET OPERATIONS

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### **Pima County Regional Flood Control District Advisory Committee**

John Spiker, Stormwater Division Manager, has been appointed the Chair to the Flood Control District Advisory Committee (FCDAC) starting in January. The FCDAC was established with the intent of obtaining broader public participation into the decision-making process at the Flood Control District. The Committee makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on a variety of flood control and floodplain management issues.

## ENGINEERING

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### Adopt-A-Road Renewals

15 certified letters were sent to those whose Adopt-A-Road sponsorship expired prior to the new application going live. These sponsors were sent an email but did not respond to a request asking for confirmation they were still interested in the Adopt-A-Road program. The goal is to get all sponsorships familiar with the new system.

### SR 77 Wildlife Fence and Gates

This project is for the two northernmost subdivisions along Oracle Road. To complete the wildlife linkages project that created both the under and over passes over Oracle Road, wildlife must be managed and directed to the safe crossings. Right now, this “direction” is incomplete, and animals can wander out onto Oracle Road through these two neighborhoods. The goal of the project is to button-up the fencing gaps and install gates across the affected subdivisions’ street access to Oracle Road. Staff is working with TEP to install meters to provide power to the gates in the near future.



## FLEET AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

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### Town Hall Security Screens

Installation is expected to begin on January 17, which is a Town holiday. To minimize disruption, the contractor will use the holiday to install screens on the building entrances.

### OVPD Interior painting and flooring

Floor polishing in the north lobby and booking has been completed. The contractor will return on January 22 to install the cove base. Interior painting will be completed in the near future.

### 680 Maintenance Bay

Work is expected to begin January 18.

### Fleet

A new Toyota Camry is expected to be delivered from the dealership this month. Once outfitted, it will be assigned to CED.

## TRANSIT

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### Letter of Commendation

Transit Driver EJ Junker was recently awarded a Letter of Commendation by Town Manager Mary Jacobs for his service assisting a customer during a medical emergency. On November 28, 2021, Mr. Junker was assigned to pick up a passenger at her home and transport her to the Oro Valley Church of the Nazarene. When he greeted her at her house, he noticed she had slurred speech and that one eye was drooping down. She mentioned that she may have taken too much medication and that she was not feeling well.

Mr. Junker immediately took action that likely saved her from serious medical complications. He recruited some neighbors who happened to be outside to watch over her while he called 911. Due to EJ’s actions, another neighbor, a former police officer, was alerted to the situation and provided additional assistance.

Golder Ranch EMS and Oro Valley police transported her to Oro Valley Hospital where medical staff confirmed she suffered a stroke. The passenger is recovering.



# PARKS & RECREATION

## RECREATION AND CULTURE

The Eastern Pima County region, including the Town of Oro Valley, was recently awarded the Gold Level designation for **Bicycle Friendly Communities** by the League of American Bicyclists. Regions are evaluated every four years; the Gold Level has been achieved by the Oro Valley region since 2006.

## GOLF

### Golf play

Golf Rounds for December show 6,950 total rounds at the 36-hole facility and 1,690 rounds at Pusch Ridge.

		ROUNDS - 36 HOLE				
Month	Member Rounds	Non-Mem Rounds	Comp Rounds	Outing Rounds	Total Rounds	
7/31/2021	1780	2781	213	294	5068	
8/31/2021	1922	3008	303	345	5578	
9/30/2021	2235	2525	292	232	5284	
10/31/2021	2630	2163	231	283	5307	
11/30/2021	2874	3745	354	756	7729	
12/31/2021	3484	2829	308	329	6950	

		2020 Rounds				
Month	Member Rounds	Non-Mem Rounds	Comp Rounds	Outing Rounds	Total Rounds	
7/31/2020	1554	4070	179	139	5942	
8/31/2020	1967	3641	328	91	6027	
9/30/2020	2039	3285	301	304	5929	
10/31/2020	2335	2325	192	275	5127	
11/30/2020	2921	3891	354	379	7545	
12/31/2020	2807	3688	227	287	7009	

		PUSCH RIDGE ROUNDS				
Month	Member Rounds	Non-Mem Rounds	Comp Rounds	League/ Outing Rounds	Total Rounds	
7/31/2021					0	
8/31/2021					0	
9/30/2021					0	
10/31/2021					0	
11/30/2021	139	1687	78	364	2268	
12/31/2021	124	1208	83	275	1690	

### Membership

January's marketing focus will be on membership promotion for both the 36-hole and Pusch Ridge course, event and general course emails for both properties and 30-60-90 Day Membership options.

### Maintenance

January projects include fertilization of rye grass and greens on the Cañada Course, bunker edging, tree trimming, desert clean up, silt relocation along the wash on Cañada #12, top dressing of greens and sodding of the west side practice facility putting green. At the Pusch Ridge course, January maintenance includes a pre-emergent weed application in the roughs, additional seeding on greens to fill in thin areas and irrigation maintenance.

## PARK MAINTENANCE

The **softball fields at Riverfront Park** will be closed for field repair and light replacement. The north field will be closed January 3-14. The south field will be closed January 17-28.

The **tennis court at Riverfront Park** will be closed January 20-21 to paint pickleball court lines. The tennis net will remain in place and portable pickleball nets will be available onsite. This change will allow for more pickleball courts as well as maintaining tennis play.

## AQUATICS

On December 8-17, the Oro Valley Aquatic Center (OVAC) closed the Olympic pool to complete budgeted pump room infrastructure improvements that will enhance water quality. The upgrades improve the sanitization process and make the facility more efficient in its chemical consumption. The improvements included installation of an oxygen system, an ozone generator, and CO2 injectors.

Jen Inboden, OVAC Assistant Manager, successfully achieved her master's degree in Business Administration from Washington State University. Jen has been working on this degree over the last five years while working for the Town full time.



## COMMUNITY AND RECREATION CENTER (CRC)

To accommodate the **increase in pickleball use** at the Community and Recreation Center, effective January 10, staff will be taping four pickleball courts on tennis court #12 to allow for additional play. CRC staff has reviewed tennis and pickleball usage data and found that making this change would allow the facility to continue to meet the existing demand for tennis while accommodating additional pickleball play.

In response to the **Pima County indoor mask mandate** the Board of Supervisors passed December 21, the Community and Recreation Center will continue to strongly encourage mask wearing while indoors and require masks when social distancing cannot be observed.

The CRC and Pusch Ridge Tennis Facility hosted the **USTA Winter Nationals** December 28-January 3. The event featured top level players aged 12 and 14 years old.

Daniel Crider, a CRC employee was recently presented a **Letter of Commendation** by Town Manager Mary Jacobs after helping an Oro Valley resident with a medical crisis. During his shift, Daniel received a phone call from a woman in distress. The woman was trying to contact her friend who was at the facility. With minimal information, Daniel was able to find the friend, and the woman in distress received immediate medical attention that ultimately saved her life.



# WATER UTILITY

## COLORADO RIVER WATER SHORTAGE

### **New Water Plan Invests \$200 Million in Lake Mead Conservation Efforts**

The Utility's leadership team attended the 2021 Colorado River Water Users Association conference in Las Vegas in December. Water agencies from Arizona, California, Nevada and the Department of the Interior signed an agreement to invest up to \$200 million in projects over the next two years to keep Lake Mead from dropping to critically low levels.



The agreement is known as the 500+ Plan. The goal of this plan is to add 500,000 acre-feet of water to Lake Mead in calendar years 2022 and 2023. The \$200 million will provide Colorado River users compensation for not taking part or all of their Colorado River water allocation in calendar years 2022 and 2023. Adding 500,000 acre-feet of water to Lake Mead would add about 16 feet to the water surface elevation of the lake.

This is good news for community water service providers that rely on Central Arizona Project (CAP) water to meet their consumption demands since it reduces the near-term risk of a CAP Tier 3 shortage declaration that could reduce CAP deliveries to community water service providers.

## CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

### **Allied Signal Reservoir replacement – Solar Panel Construction**

Construction of the new 500,000 gallon Allied Signal Reservoir located in the La Reserve neighborhood is 100% complete. This reservoir replaces the previous 40-year-old reservoir that reached the end of its service life. The project was extended into fiscal year 2021/22 to accommodate the installation of a solar panel array that allows for the entire facility to be powered by the sun. The cost of this solar powered system was less than the cost of the required electrical upgrades to the TEP supplied powered system. A video link of the completed project is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-2DAiH4CI>



*Approximately \$975,000 of the Utility's \$6 million 2018 bond proceeds funded the replacement of the Allied Signal Reservoir*

# ADMINISTRATION

## PUBLIC RECORDS REQUESTS

Time Period	Number of Requests	Staff Time To Process (Hours)
December 2020	30	45
December 2021	36	7

## INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

### Ask OV Inquiries



### Youth Advisory Council (YAC)

Human Resources Director Judy Boros spoke with YAC on best practices for interviews and resume building. Additionally, YAC collected donations for a family with six children sponsored through Interfaith Community Services.



### Tourism

Major League soccer team Charlotte FC traveled to Oro Valley in early November to meet with parks staff, as well as the El Conquistador, a Hilton Resort to determine the feasibility of training at Naranja Park. Unfortunately, Charlotte FC has decided not to train in Oro Valley in 2022.

### OV Peak Performance

Community and Economic Development Director Paul Melcher obtained his Lean Six Sigma Green Belt Certification.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### December Communications Productions

- Podcast: [Golder Ranch Fire District](#)
- Publication: [January Vista Newsletter](#)
- Press release: [Candidate Handbooks now available for 2022 OV Town Council elections](#)
- Press release: [Oro Valley welcomes next-gen tech company Leonardo Electronics US Inc.](#)
- Press release: [Free shredding event, Christmas tree recycling dates announced](#)
- Video: [Avilla Rancho Vistoso West Neighborhood Meeting 12/2/21](#)
- Print and digital ads:
  - \* SnOV: Explorer digital ads
  - \* OV marketing AZ Daily Star map/guide print ad
  - \* This is OV: Murals Tohono Chul Holiday Nights digital ad
  - \* Holiday Events OV Voice ad
  - \* Holiday Events Bear Essentials ad
  - \* Holiday Events Explorer print ad



# EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS



2020—5 year employees



2020—15 year employees



2020—20 year employees



2021 Group