



Mesa Walking Tour Sessions

Day 1- Tuesday, January 28th between 10:30am -12:30pm

Option #1

Session Topic: ¡Abre Puertas y Conecta!: The Impact of Spanish Media in Government Management

Description: In this session, we'll explore how storytelling, coupled with data, can revolutionize government management through Spanish media channels. Discover the art of weaving narratives that resonate with diverse audiences while leveraging data-driven insights to inform policy decisions and enhance community engagement. Learn from real-world examples and practical strategies on harnessing the combined power of storytelling and data analysis to drive impactful governance practices. Join us as we uncover the potential of this dynamic approach in shaping a more inclusive and responsive government.

Format: Walking Tour/ Seated Discussion

Capacity: 50

Location: The Post

MHN Host: Grecia Cervantes & Lucy Hambright

Moderator: Forrest Smith

Speakers: Ana Periera, Mesa Communications Director; Mariano Reyes, Mesa Digital Engagement Manager; Athena Sanchez, City of Phoenix Community and Economic Development Communications Manager

Option #2

Session Topic: Transforming Downtown Mesa: Uniquely Local

Description: Downtown Mesa, the heart of the third largest city in Arizona, is driving new development while working to maintain its historical character and support a diverse mix of local businesses that set Downtown Mesa apart! Explore downtown Mesa's Main Street area, including the home of the future restaurant incubator – focused on equitable success for local entrepreneurs. Learn about downtown's growing locally-owned retail and nationally recognized eateries, microbreweries, and cider house. Find out what tools the City of Mesa is using to drive this growth.

This session will be primarily walking and outdoors, please wear comfortable shoes.

Format: Walking Tour/ Mostly Walking

Capacity: 50

Location: Downtown Mesa

Moderator/ MHN Host: Angelica Guevara & Erica Navarro

Speaker: Jeff McVey, Mesa Downtown Transformation Manager



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Option #3

Session Topic: The Art of Storytelling

Description: Everyone has a story and if YOU don't tell that story someone else may get it WRONG. Furthermore, the closest distance between two people is a story. The power of storytelling is infinite but the act of telling your story isn't that easy. It takes courage to make a part of yourself available for the world to witness.

In this interactive workshop, we will learn and practice the art of storytelling. We will experience the power and individuality of all voices by listening and effectively connecting with each other. These skills will make you a better communicator whether it is for your next staff meeting, department presentation or job interview!

Format: Walking Tour/ Seated Discussion

Location: Mesa Art Center

Capacity: 50

Moderator/ MHN Host: Lucy Lopez & David Peña

Speaker: Tomas Stanton, Mesa Art Center Education Supervisor

Option #4

Session Topic: Taking Flight in Mesa!

Description: Take a flight onto an original WW II hangar! Join us at Falcon Field Airport and learn about its rich history of training the British Royal Air Force and American pilots during World War II. Falcon Field is a general aviation (GA) reliever airport that serves as an alternative for civilian and military aviation use (such as business, recreation, fixed-wing and helicopter training) so that Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and Phoenix Mesa-Gateway can focus on international and commercial airline services. Falcon Field is the home of more than 130 businesses providing more than 1300 jobs with a payroll of more than \$104 million dollars.

Format: Walking/Bus Tour- Mostly Walking

Capacity: 50

Location: Falcon Field Airport (Transportation will be provided for this location)

Moderator/ MHN Host: Zenia Cornejo & Diana Aguero

Speaker: Wings of Flight Foundation



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Option #5

Session Topic: Investing in Our People-Prioritizing Mental Health in the Workplace

Description: In today's dynamic work environments, mental health has emerged as a crucial component of employee and family well-being, as well as organizational success. This session emphasizes the importance of prioritizing mental health in the workplace and explores practical systems for fostering a supportive culture. Our panel will showcase Mesa's innovative program that destigmatizes mental health needs and implements robust internal strategies that work to create a mentally healthy and thriving workplace.

Format: Seated Panel Discussion

Location: The Mesa Business Builder

Capacity: 100

Moderator: MARRISA RAMIREZ-RAMOS & ANDREA ALICOATE

Speaker: Captain Bryan Sockrider, Mesa Fire & Medical Department

DAY 2 - Wednesday, January 29th between 10:30am -12:30pm

Option #1

Session Topic: Discovering Mesa's Asian District

Description: In 2019, the City of Mesa's Economic Development team launched a dynamic branding initiative for the Asian District, in collaboration with local business stakeholders. Once a hidden gem, the district has since flourished, drawing attention to its vibrant array of ethnic shops and restaurants, and revitalizing the community by highlighting its unique cultural attributes.

Join us for an exclusive tour that delves into the Asian District as it stands today, proudly featuring its distinctive logo inspired by the tangram, a seven-piece Chinese geometric puzzle dating back 2,000 years. This tour will immerse you in a rich tapestry of culinary delights and cultural experiences, showcasing over 70 Asian-themed restaurants, grocery stores, and diverse retail businesses along a lively two-mile stretch. You will also have the opportunity to admire stunning cultural murals that add to the district's charm. Discover the essence of the Asian District and witness firsthand the thriving community and its vibrant contributions to Mesa's cultural landscape.

Format: Walking/Bus Tour

Location: Asian District (Transportation will be provided for this location)

Capacity: 25

Moderator/ MHN Host: Cynthia Ezcurra & Diana Aguero

Speaker: Yvette Armendariz, Economic Development Project Manager



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Option #2

Session Topic: Enhancing Public Safety with Technology and Innovation

Description: Supporting public safety efforts is a vital goal for the City of Mesa. This session covers the efforts of the Mesa Police Department's Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) and the City of Mesa Prosecutor's Office to prevent and reduce crime. The Real Time Crime Center is a state-of-the-art operations center that serves as the Department's information hub, working to provide real time information sharing, quick identification/apprehension of criminals, and situational awareness for first responders. Additionally, the Mesa Prosecutor's Office handles misdemeanor cases in the city, utilizing specialty courts such as Domestic Violence Court, Veteran's Court, Community Court, and Mental Health Court. These specialty courts are designed to manage and serve those defendants coming into the criminal justice system with homeless, mental health or drug/alcohol issues, while also focusing on accountability. Together, they are nationally recognized agencies for their efforts to enhance public safety service.

Format: Walking Tour/ Seated Discussion

Location: Mesa Municipal Court

Capacity: 50

Moderator/ MHN Host: Lucy Lopez & Tara Acuna

Speaker: Mesa Police Department, Mesa Prosecutor's Office

Option #3

Session Topic: Cultivating Leadership Potential: The My 2.0 Apprenticeship Program

Description: Join us to learn how the City of Mesa is setting a new standard for employee development and leadership training through the My 2.0 Apprenticeship Program. The "My 2.0: A Leader Apprenticeship Program" is a pioneering initiative designed to enhance the professional development of field, entry-level, and public-facing staff. This program focuses on developing soft skills and leadership abilities, providing a pathway for employees to grow and excel in their careers. This session will inspire and equip you with the knowledge to implement similar initiatives in your own organizations.

Format: Walking Tour/ Seated Discussion

Location: The Post

Capacity: 50

Moderator/ MHN Host: Vanessa Gonzalez & Scarlett Wright

Speaker: Isaias Garcia Romero, Solid Waste Business and Programs Administrator; Margaret Keith, Employee Development Specialist II; David Peña, Environmental Management & Sustainability Safety Technician; Rebecca Martinez, Information Technology Analyst III



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Option #4

Session Topic: Empowering Leadership: Navigating Challenges with Courage and Inclusion

Description: In today's dynamic organizational landscape, leaders are called upon to navigate a myriad of challenges, from ethical dilemmas to fostering and sustaining a healthy team culture. This engaging panel session brings together a diverse group of leaders who will share their personal stories of resilience, courage, and the transformative power of inclusive leadership. Panelists will explore pivotal leadership moments, tools to overcome imposter syndrome and strategies for becoming a reliable "clutch player" in their organizations. They will also discuss creating safe spaces, overcoming adversity, and building strong, resilient teams. Attendees will leave inspired to stay true to their values, advocate for underrepresented voices, and lead with authenticity.

Format: Seated Panel Discussion

Location: Mesa City Council Chambers

Capacity: 100

MHN Host: Lucy Hambright & Grecia Cervantes

Moderator: Chioma Nwabeke, Information Technology Project Manager

Speakers: Nana Appiah, Development Services Director; Forrest Smith, Assistant Fire Chief; Carnell Martin, Energy Resources Marketing/Communications Specialist II; Dominique Sterling, Mesa Police Commander