

# Rep. Pastor: Carver Museum would get funding under House bill



George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center.



**P r i n c e s s Crump, director of the George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, said Carver's portrait is one of the pieces on exhibit at the museum.**



**Rep. Ed Pastor met with Mrs. Georgie Goode at an event at the museum in 2004 to discuss George Washington Carver's significance in American history. Carver was an inventor and one of the nation's greatest agricultural researchers.**

## Center dedicated to preserving African-American culture in Phoenix

A museum and cultural center that would be housed in the historic former Carver High School in Phoenix would receive a \$200,000 boost in funding under legislation approved recently by the U.S. House of Representatives, announced Rep. Ed Pastor.

The funding was approved in the 2008 Interior-Environment Appropriations Bill. The bill has now moved to the Senate for its approval.

The former Carver High School at 415 E. Grant St., in Phoenix is undergoing restoration as the new George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center. Carver High School was built exclusively for African-Americans during the period of enforced segregation. Community leaders are working to restore the building and to preserve the African-American culture in Phoenix.

Besides a museum, the restoration project includes an art gallery and multi-purpose spaces, Pastor said.

"The Carver High School restoration is enhancing opportunities for Valley residents and all Arizonans to learn, experience and share in the diverse cultural heritage of Africans and African-Americans," Pastor said.

## Rep. Pastor recognized for work in Congress for equality, leadership

Congressman Ed Pastor was recently recognized by the Arizona Human Rights Fund and Foundation for his work in Congress and leadership in the movement for equality in Arizona.

The organization presented him with the Barry Goldwater Human Rights Individual Award.

Pastor also recently was recognized by the American Council of Young Political Leaders in Washington for his work in Congress that exemplifies the qualities to which our rising young American political leaders and their counterparts around the world aspire.

U.S. Reps. Harry Mitchell and Gabrielle Giffords helped recognize Rep. Pastor for his work in Congress for equality for all.



### How to contact Congressman Pastor

Congressman Ed Pastor's office is in your city to serve your needs.

Please keep this information handy to contact his offices for assistance.

Web Page (use site for electronic mail): <http://www.house.gov/pastor>

#### Washington Office

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Washington, D.C. 20515-0302  
Phone: (202) 225-4065

#### Phoenix District Office

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Phone: (602) 256-0551

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August 2007  
Focus on district projects

**Ed Pastor**  
Congressman

Congressman Ed Pastor  
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CONGRESSMAN

# Ed Pastor

*WASHINGTON REPORT*

*Focus on district projects*

## INSIDE

- ▶ Funds would help local projects
- ▶ Nursing shortage bill

Fourth Congressional District - Arizona

August 2007

## Congress addressing district needs

Dear Fellow Arizonans,

As your Congressman, I am fortunate to work with many Arizona leaders to bring attention to the local needs of our district.

Whether it's neighborhood revitalization, educational, healthcare or public transit needs, I work in collaboration with many public, nonprofit and private agencies to help provide funding, information and other federal assistance to programs with the hope they will improve our quality of life in Arizona.

In addition to addressing local needs, we

continue to work in Congress to deliver to the American people our commitment to put working families first and make our nation more secure. Both the House and Senate have passed the bipartisan 9/11 Commission recommendations and tough ethics and lobbying reform, while also raising the minimum wage and moving towards a balanced budget and fiscal responsibility.

Democrats are bringing a new direction to Congress. We want to defend our country, grow our economy, care for our children and families, protect our planet and restore accountability. We want to honor the will of the American people and continue working towards our joint progress.

I hope you will read this update on my work in Washington and activities in the Congressional District. Please do not hesitate to contact my local office with any of your concerns or questions.

Sincerely,

Ed Pastor  
Member of Congress



## Rep. Pastor meets anti-graffiti crew

Rep. Ed Pastor recently met with the Smiley Crew to discuss his work in Congress to help revitalize local neighborhoods. The Smiley Crew is a group of young volunteers in Phoenix's Maryvale area who volunteer to help combat graffiti.

# House approves funds for district projects

## **\$90 million for light rail**

Construction of the Valley's light rail would continue to move forward under a measure recently approved by the U.S. House of Representatives.

The light rail project is a 20-mile line that will link activity centers in central Phoenix, downtown Tempe and Mesa.

Additional funds would go towards bus acquisition and bus maintenance facilities.



LIGHT RAIL

## **\$12.8 million for Tres Rios, Salt River restoration projects**

Almost \$13 million in funding would go towards Salt River restoration projects under a bill approved by the House of Representatives.

\$11 million would go towards the continued construction of the Tres Rios Project.

\$1.8 million would help complete the construction of the Rio Salado Project in the Phoenix/Tempe area.

## **\$300,000 for college bilingual nursing program**

The House of Representatives approved \$300,000 to continue funding the Bilingual Nursing Fellowship Program at South Mountain and Gateway community colleges. This program addresses the critical shortage of bilingual nurses.

Students will complete an AAS in nursing and obtain a nursing license within three years after acceptance into the program.

## **\$100,000 for Laveen Community Center**

Laveen once was a rural area at the edge of Phoenix, but now it finds itself undergoing rapid change as the number of residents are expected to triple within the next six years.

The House of Representatives approved \$100,000 for a Laveen Community Center that would provide a healthy environment with recreational and social interaction activities for all ages.

## **\$100,000 for Maryvale revitalization**

The Maryvale Revitalization Corporation would receive \$100,000 under funding approved by the House of Representatives.

This organization in west Phoenix is working with city planners to invest in residential and commercial improvements to help transform blighted neighborhoods to a thriving, safe community.



Rep. Ed Pastor has been instrumental in securing House support for these projects.



## **Service members remembered**

Rep. Ed Pastor participated in the Memorial Day event at American Legion Post 41 in Phoenix where he spoke about the sacrifices of men and women who have answered the call to defend and protect our democracy. He also spoke about supporting troops and their families, and Congress' work to increase the veterans' health care budget.

# Rep. Pastor proposes legislation to ease nursing shortage in fast-growing states

U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor recently introduced legislation that healthcare community leaders believe would help stem the tide of the nursing shortage in fast-growing states like Arizona.

“I was glad to introduce this legislation because, while we urgently need more nurses, many nursing education programs are full and qualified students must wait to get into them,” Pastor said. “This legislation will use federal and state funds to expand the capacity of nursing education programs and help us get ahead of the nursing shortage.”

The America’s Partnership for Nursing Education Act of 2007, H.R. 2794, would allow colleges and universities to hire additional nursing program faculty in order to graduate more registered nurses.

This legislation proposes a

\$20 million annual appropriation for fiscal years 2008 - 2012 and grants qualifying states a minimum of \$2 million per year to increase the



capacity of their nursing education programs.

States that qualify for the America’s Partnership for Nursing Education grants must demonstrate they are:

- experiencing explosive population growth, with the U.S. Census Bureau projecting their total population to increase by more than 50 percent from 1990 to 2025;
- anticipating substantial future shortages, specifically fewer than 555 employed registered nurses per 100,000 population by 2020, as mea-

sured by the Health Resources and Services Administration;

- sponsoring a state-based program to increase nursing education program faculty; and
- investing a minimum of \$2 million a year from 2008 to 2012 in a state-sponsored program to increase the number of college and university nursing faculty.

In Arizona, state Sen. Carolyn Allen unveiled a plan on Jan. 31, 2005, to expand the capacity of the college and university nursing education programs by investing \$20 million during five years.

Arizona faces a dire shortage of healthcare professionals. Hospitals and other providers struggle to fill registered nurse positions while nursing students who are qualified and accepted into programs must wait to begin their education because the programs are filled to capacity.

## More local projects receive House’s okay

The U.S. House of Representatives recently voted to fund these projects in the Fourth Congressional District, announced Rep. Ed Pastor:

- \$500,000 for laboratory equipment at the **Translational Genomics Research Institute** in Phoenix.
- \$250,000 for **Phoenix Children’s Hospital** electronic medical record system.
- \$100,000 for the “virtual” **Heard Museum** project, which would allow its collection to be viewed online, and
- \$75,000 for the **Arizona Eye Care Collaborative**, which works towards the prevention of glaucoma and other eye diseases.



## Library legislation

Rep. Ed Pastor recently discussed public library services legislation with a group from Arizona. The meeting included Angie Creel-Erb, Rosemary Ybarra, Ann Ewbank, GladysAnn Wells, Brenda Brown and Patricia Dorsey.

# Ground breaks for new pedestrian bridge for safety of Isaac Middle School pupils

## Rep. Pastor helped secure federal funding, speed up timeline

Ground was recently broken for construction of the new Isaac Pedestrian Bridge, which will be built over McDowell Road, east of 35th Avenue, in Phoenix.

Rep. Ed Pastor, who was instrumental in securing federal funding for the bridge, participated in the event. Pastor also was instrumental in working with the Federal Highway Administration and the Arizona Department of Transportation to speed up the timeline for construction of the bridge.

Pastor said his focus was on safety.

“We wanted to ensure that the community, especially the children walking to Isaac Middle School, had a safe route to school and I am pleased that city, state and federal officials came together to make it happen.”

The bridge will provide a safe connection for students

and other pedestrians crossing McDowell Road at Isaac Middle School.

The bridge, designed by Jacobs Civil Inc., will be approximately 87 feet long. It will be supported at both ends by concrete piers and steel columns. It also will feature two major public art projects: the

bridge itself and streetscape design enhancements and landscaping.

Streetscape improvements will include new bus shelters and redesigned sidewalks. The bridge is expected to be completed in the spring of 2008.



**U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor joined others on June 30 to help break ground for construction of the Isaac Pedestrian Bridge. Participants in the groundbreaking were Phoenix Councilman Tom Simplot, Isaac School District Governing Board Member Evelyn Shapiro, State Rep. Ben Miranda, Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon, Rep. Pastor, Isaac Governing Board Member Jose Villela, Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President Harry Garewal, State Sen. Debbie McCune Davis, Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Bill Brotherton and former state Sen. Linda Aguirre.**



**Mexican Sen. Ricardo Francisco Garcia Cervantes and U.S. Rep. Ed Pastor were among the lawmakers from Mexico and the United States who met to discuss issues at the 46th United States-Mexico Interparliamentary Group.**

## Rep. Pastor led U.S. House delegation to discuss issues with Mexican lawmakers

Rep. Ed Pastor recently led a delegation of 10 U.S. congressmembers who met with their Mexican counterparts to discuss common issues. Speaker Nancy Pelosi chose Pastor to lead the delegation.

The meeting, held in Austin, Texas, in June, included conversations about immigration, economic and security issues, Pastor said.

Pastor said discussions were frank and designed to bring lawmakers together on ways to combat mutual problems. U.S. lawmakers believe the meetings have been helpful to both countries.