Our Arizona hosts have arranged a nearly all-day field trip for Council members and guests. Please meet in the lobby of the Wild Horse Pass, and be ready to board the bus at 10:30 a.m. The tour will include the following sites. First, we’ll visit the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Riparian Restoration & Underground Storage Project, and tour the Olberg Dam Underground Storage Facility, including the diversion and measurement structure, the delivery control works and selected vantage points to the flow in the natural channels of the Gila River and associated riparian growth.

Next, we’ll travel to the Tempe Environmental Sampling Campus. Tempe was on the verge of losing hundreds of years of institutional knowledge held by employees eligible for retirement, so they created the Campus to train newer employees and transfer this knowledge to them. The Campus consists of four training sites: a flow lab, a drinking water well, a groundwater monitoring well, and a surface water impoundment.

Additionally, we’ll stop at the Pueblo Grande Museum and walk through the 2/3 mile trail that highlights archeological structures of the prehistoric Hohokam people, who developed some of the largest and most advanced canal systems in pre-Columbian North America. They were the first to practice irrigated agriculture in the region. The Hohokam canals are directly related to the settlement of Phoenix.

Further, we’ll visit the Rio Salado Habitat Restoration area. The development was created to restore native wetland and riparian habitats along the historic Salt River, which once flowed year-round. The area stretches five miles and encompasses nearly 600 acres.

**Please note**: Participants will be walking over unpaved and uneven paths, so close-toed footwear would be appropriate. Weather in Phoenix may be warm, and you may wish to bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, and a water bottle.

We expect to return to the hotel by 6:00 pm.