

Venture Café x City of Phoenix Office of Innovation Innovate PHX Challenge | RECAP

December 12, 2024 at Venture Café Phoenix

Addressing urban challenges through innovative solutions.

Event Overview

The Office of Innovation collaborates with Venture Café Phoenix to organize biannual Innovate PHX Challenge hackathons where participants from diverse backgrounds work in teams to address top City priorities. The teams then pitch their innovative solutions to a panel of judges for a chance to win a cash prize and potentially partner with the City to prototype ideas.

CHALLENGE

This hackathon challenge focused on improving air quality. Participants were challenged to come up with innovative solutions to reduce air pollution caused by particulate matter, specifically PM10 (dust) and PM2.5 (smoke, soot, and finer dust). This event included participation from the Office of Environmental Programs.

PITCHES

Teams of residents, community leaders, researchers, technologists, and others collaborated for 6 hours to present innovative solutions for improving air quality. The finalized pitches included recommendations for, among others, mitigating the effects of air pollutants through green spaces, leveraging data and community spirit to inspire action, and using electrostatic filtration to remove harmful particles from the air.

Event Turnout



116
Attendees



24
Participants



5
Teams

Topics Covered



Improving
Infrastructure



Advancing
Technology



Leveraging
Data



Inspiring
Action

WINNERS

1

Team Four

\$ \$575 per person

Drive air quality improvements by installing sensors at high schools, creating a competitive leaderboard, and encouraging action through student challenges.

2

Team Five

\$ \$250 per person

Apply Electrostatic Precipitator (ESP) paint to acoustic barriers on highways, leveraging existing infrastructure to reduce harmful pollutants in high-traffic areas.

