



COPP News

November 1, 2009

Scottsdale's General Plan Update Process is Underway

Scottsdale's General Plan is a statement of goals and policies that are intended to work as the primary tool for guiding the future development of the city.

Arizona State law requires that communities with more than 2,500 residents adopt a General Plan. The Growing Smarter Act requires Arizona cities to update their plan every 10 years. Scottsdale's current General Plan was adopted by the City Council on October 30, 2001 and ratified by Scottsdale voters in March, 2002.

The twelve "Elements" of the General Plan contain the city's policies on character and design, land use, open spaces and the natural environment, business and economics, community services, neighborhood vitality, housing, transportation, growth issues, human services, protection of desert and mountain lands, economic vitality, and the character of neighborhoods. It is important that citizens throughout the city participate in the update process, to make certain the wants and needs of the various areas of the city are incorporated into the final plan.

The process of updating Scottsdale General Plan began earlier this year and will include numerous opportunities for public input. One of those opportunities is a questionnaire which you will receive in your November water bill. You can return it with your utility bill payment, or you can access it on-line at www.scottsdaleaz.gov/generalplan/update. The questionnaire will be available until December 31, 2009.

In completing the questionnaire, please be sure to emphasize the importance of Open Space & Land Preservation, Public Open Space, Outdoor Recreation, Discouraging Commercial and higher density development in the ESLO areas of North Scottsdale, supporting the development of Passive Open space like the McDowell Sonoran Preserve and Respecting the Environment and Preserving the Desert.

The General Plan Update will be presented to the City Council for Adoption in October, 2011, and to Scottsdale voters for approval in August 2012.

Scottsdale Moves Forward with Preserve Land Acquisition

Scottsdale plans to purchase at auction from the State Land Department about 400 acres of land which is located within the boundaries of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. The land, part of the McDowell Mountains, is located between the alignments of Deer Valley Road and Pinnacle Peak Road on the north and south, and between the 104th and 112th street alignments on the west and east.

The Arizona State Parks Board has approved a \$3.25 million matching grant to Scottsdale to acquire the land. The grant will pay half the cost of purchasing the property which has an estimated value of about \$6.5 million. The auction will be held on December 15.

Message from the SPD

On Saturday, November 7, from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, the Scottsdale Police Department, Scottsdale Fire Department and Target Team Members will be partnering in a joint Safety Event. The event will be held in the Target Parking Lot at 15444 North Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd. (Frank Lloyd Wright and the 101 Freeway). Services include:

Free VIN Etching – the prevention tool that acid etches your vehicle’s VIN number on each window, making it harder for criminals to sell the parts should your vehicle be stolen, thereby discouraging the theft of your vehicle.

Free Drug Disposal – the destruction of prescription and over-the-counter medication in an environmentally safe way.

Free Paper Shredding – shredding your personal/financial documents reduces the likelihood that you will become a victim of identity theft, the fastest growing crime in the United States. The shredder will shred staples and paper clips but will not shred binders, plastic, office supplies, etc. Please limit shredding to four banker size boxes per person.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Crime Prevention Officer Jason Glenn at 480 312-8802 or jglenn@scottsdaleaz.gov.

Calendar of Events

- November 6 Friends of Pinnacle Peak Park is inviting park users to offer suggestions on how to improve the park. The group is seeking public input as it starts to develop a Master plan for the park, which could include expanding education facilities, boosting picnic and gathering spaces, adding more volunteer and staff training and other improvements that park users and neighbors might enjoy. From 4:30 to 6:30 pm at the Park.
- November 7 Public Safety Day – see above for details
- December 5 Scenic Drive Clean-up: Sign in at 8:00 am at the location that is most convenient for you. At the northern Scenic Drive entry sign (located on the west side of Scottsdale road just south of Carefree Highway, or the southern Scenic Drive monument sign area (located on the east side of Scottsdale Road, across from McDonald’s Ranch). Safety vests, pickup “sticks” and plastic trash bags will be provided. Complimentary coffee, donuts and water will be available. Gloves and long pants are recommended.
- December 12 Electronics Recycling Day: Discard your unwanted electronics in a safe and environmentally friendly way from 7:30 am to 2:30 pm at the city’s Corporation Yard, 9191 East San Salvador. For a list of acceptable/unacceptable items call 480 312-5600 or go to www.scottsdaleaz.gov/recycle.

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COPP's mission is to educate the public and hold government officials accountable to the public on any issue that poses a threat to neighborhoods, the environment, and fiscal responsibility.