



**TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS
STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS
Our Town. Our Choices.
A Road Map to the Future**

**Town Hall I: April 15-16, 2005
Small Group Discussion Notes**

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Participants

- Paul Butler
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- Stephanie Johns
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What do you like about Fountain Hills, and what would you change?

| <i>Like</i> | <i>Change</i> |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Small town environment | Keep good teaching |
| Desert surroundings | Gated communities |
| Variety of communities | Evenings/down town |
| Growth limits | Too much development |
| Open spaces | Unique downtown |
| Peace and security | More social meetings |
| Serenity, space, quiet | Upscale amenities |
| Affluency/youth | Arroyos...walkways |
| Schools/museum | Traffic too fast |
| Atmosphere | Taxes? Future |
| Family amenities | More small shops |
| Opportunities for involvement | Condos? Too much building |
| | Kids arcade |
| | 4 lane FH Boulevard |
| | Ingress/egress |
| | Preserve Fountain Avenue for small business |
| | Infill downtown |

Core Values

- Beauty (fountain)
- Uniqueness
- Isolation/island
- Peacefulness/serenity
- Good neighbors...external
- Safety/security...traffic
- Culture/amenities
- Convenience: in town amenities
- Safe for kids, seniors, family (traffic and locations)
- Quality education
- Property investment/quality
- Know neighbors

Vision

- Beauty...natural/fountain
 - Continue to have best urban parks in AZ
 - Preserve/maintain natural beauty
 - Complement natural environment in terms of quality and density
 - Safety/serene/secure peacefulness/uniqueness
 - Maintain current ingress/egress and town boundaries
 - Neighbors, communities, cul-de-sacs, post office
 - Maintain and improve on current unique standards and atmosphere
- Good relations with neighbors and external neighbors
 - Active, ongoing and improved sharing, communication, and respect for neighbors
 - Sharing
 - Communications and respect
 - Fort McDowell
 - Rio Verde
 - Scottsdale
 - Salt River Pima
 - Maricopa County Parks
- Sense of community
 - Have ample opportunities for people to come to know each other
 - To promote and instill an atmosphere of being neighborly
- Cultural amenities: continue strong cultural attractions, rewards, recognition and education (town support)
- Top level in town convenience and attractions
 - Have in town amenities such that FH is a good place to stay in and come to recreate. We draw others to us because there is so much to do and see..
- Safety and security
 - Safest community in the valley (traffic, crosswalk, police pool)

- Property Values
 - Economically viable town which protects property values from decreasing thus enabling appreciation
- Quality education
 - Continue to provide education system that is recognized and award winning

Vision Attainment Strategies

Environment

- Landscaping / native low-water vegetation (xeriscaping) guidelines
- Planning & Zoning Committee
- Eternal fountain
- Set aside % in new developments for open space and recreational usage
- Maintain density guidelines (possibly via charter government)...population limit to build out projections.
- Research charter government
- Look at available parcel in already developed areas
- Limit skyline heights

Preserve Small Town Character

- Maintain traditions:, e.g. holiday lights, green fountain on St. Patrick's Day
- Continue to control access, maintain current ingress/egress
- Involvement with MAG, DSL, MC, airport, etc. for transportation growth planning
- Encourage locally owned and operated businesses

Good Relations with External Neighbors

- Mutual aid agreements
- Joint participation for area planning
- Establish liaison relationships
- Investigate revenue sharing
- Research charter government!
- Mitigate competition between schools

Sense of community

- Town Hall meetings
- Free public events/downtown activities
- Public pool
- Commission on youth needs
- Skate park?
- Block parties
- Liaison among neighborhood organizations
- Revive holiday light competition

Cultural Amenities

- Government supported public arts program
- Complete Performing Arts building
- Small performing venues in medium of Avenue of the Fountains
- Special events coordinator

Entertainment and Night Life

- More live music
- Investigate restaurant/entertainment area with zoning and tax incentives
- Appropriate mixed use
 - % residential, %business, % restaurants, etc.
- Pedestrian friendly area (shaded, sitting areas, etc.)
- Complete downtown consensus team plan
 - See p. 8: *Where We Are Now* (Downtown, Economic Development)

Safety and Security

- Research police department and fire (and funding sources)
- Traffic lights at major intersections
- Enforce existing speed limits
- “Zero tolerance” education for pool drownings
- Review closed campus at high school
- Cross walk strengthening?

Maintain Property Values

- Maintain town infrastructure
- Charter government
- World class education
- Appropriate levels of property taxation
- Maintaining code enforcement

Education

- Investigate and set community college
- Competitive salaries for teachers
- More parent involvement