



**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**

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- Fred Bedell
- Arthur Eisenhower
- Linda Femiano
- Barry Halla
- Grace Jakubs
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- Phil Jones
- Ronald Lockie
- John McNeill
- Evelyn Munn
- Kay Parch
- Bob Romeo
- Clark Summerfield
- Maureen Thiering
- Terri Zimmerman

***What do you like about Fountain Hills, and what would you change?***

<b><i>Like</i></b>	<b><i>Change</i></b>
Quiet No light pollution (dark sky policy) Less view obstruction Family oriented events Sanctuary Less dense Architectural diversity Safety/security/crime/comfort Access to hiking and walking Size of school (not too big) Preserve the environment Lack of traffic signals Sense of community traditions Spirit of volunteerism preserving...would like to increase participation	Overdeveloped Less access to hiking/walking Too many traffic controls Too much traffic congestion No longer affordable housing Unable to sustain a good school system Build out has consequences Local job opportunities (self sustainability) Downtown development and state land development: fit the land use standard and culture of the community Community theater Add to community facilities/amenities

## **Vision**

- Sense of Community
- Family oriented events
  - Survey and gain public comment on needs and interest, improving public interaction process, shared central resources for town and school
  - Parades, Halloween, etc., diverse events for everyone, expand menu, parks and recreation, little league, clubs
- Spirit of volunteerism
- Safety: more police patrols
- Architectural diversity
- Facilities/amenities: recreational sites for kids and all ages and improved communication..per capita list for services
- Economic development
- Create more local jobs
  - Non threatening industry re: Art College
  - Aesthetic appeal
  - Encourages sanctuary feel
  - Helps local merchants
  - Non polluting (air and noise)
- Monitor development
  - Balanced housing
  - Density (lower and higher)
  - Building height
  - Parking
  - Fair: how are local events affected and adjusted
  - Fireworks on 4<sup>th</sup> of July
  - Development fit in the area, architectural and traditions
- Population density
- Limited town size (build out)
- Preservation of Environment
  - Sanctuary (Fountain Hills is a sanctuary)
  - Quiet, dark, light, views
  - Hiking and walking
  - Maintain open space, wash, hillsides,
  - Balance preservation by balancing affluence with affordable housing
  - Stricter controls on selling town property
- Growth
  - Traffic: monitor key intersections, lights for safety
  - Communicate program, reports, issues
  - Develop transportation strategies that are safe and effective
  - Encourage generating revenue as a consequence
- Schools
  - Consider joint project for schools to help its sustainability
- State land

- Ties to traffic
- Take proactive position; control
- Ensure issues are addressed up front
- Address political issues
- Assess how residents can participate

### **Vision Attainment Strategies**

*Question:* Is there lack of services for seniors, was this discussed?

### ***Growth re: Bridging gap between Native American Community and Town of FH***

#### ***Growth: Re: Native American Community: using Indian Lands***

- Strong communication link exists
- Link with tourism bureau
- Use land for town fair: park RVs there
- Yavapai contribute money to town for tourism and schools
- What can they do for us (one sided)
- Foster working together
- Look at duplicated services (combine and everyone wins) fire, school, medical
- Maintain community values
- Continue communication
- Partnering (expand)
- Partner with Indians for space for community pool
- Town/school partnership for community pool
- Assess the impact of their growth/traffic, its affect on the FH quality of life

#### ***Non Threatening Industry/Affordable Housing***

- Small college
- Premier school/community college
- Affordable housing
- Develop a “student” market for a school or college
- Specialized school to keep it small, “niche”
- Partner with schools to share facilities
- Address “remote” obstacle
- Evaluate competition
- Build town support
- Address employee college housing and transportation
- Evaluate site considerations (current stock)
- Assess zoning issues
- Partnerships with Mayo Clinic (R and D)

### ***Economic Development***

- Consider regional approach
- Leverage proximity to other communities (vs. isolationism)
- FH regional/economic context
- Build up development along Shea Corridor, Palisades, Saguaro, Avenue of the Fountains, etc.
- Look to Payson for customers
- Do away with the NIMBY attitude
- Reevaluate tax structure
- Get residents to shop in FH...not go to other nearby towns
- Community theater: communicate its impacts on local revenues
- Goldfield Ranch
- Develop incentives for new businesses
- Remove economic development hindrances
- Make FH easy to do business with
- Citizen support, survey
- Quality roads, schools, maintenance

### ***Bedroom Community (are we?)***

- Commute to jobs
- Deal with reality (not creating jobs)
- Let high priced housing continue vs.
- Provide a variety of housing with wide price range
- Reevaluate low end housing for teachers and workers
- Affordable housing is being bought up quickly
- Aspen, Breckenridge, Tempe as models

### ***Notes:***

- Growth re: Indian Community
- Strong communication link exists