

STAY CONNECTED

Providing citizens with updates, information, schedule of events, and reports are key elements in our strategic planning process. Sign up for e-mail updates, register for the Town Hall meetings, find detailed information, download reports, and provide feedback at:

www.fh.az.gov/ourtownourchoices.

The Strategic Plan Update Line (480) 816-5295 is available to provide general information about upcoming events, receive inquiries, and accept registrations for Town Hall meetings.

The *Our Town. Our Choices*. Speakers' Bureau is available to any group, club, or organization that would like a presentation on the strategic planning process. To schedule a speaker, call the Strategic Plan Update Line at (480) 816-5295.

Volunteers are contributing hundreds of hours a month to this effort, and we are grateful for the skills and enthusiasm they bring to the process. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Strategic Plan Update Line at (480) 816-5295.

Committee

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC):

Janice Abramson, Market Research Subcommittee Chair

Curt Dunham, Town Hall Subcommittee Chair

Peggy Fiandaca, Youth Visioning Institute Subcommittee Co-chair

Jim Hamblin, Speakers' Bureau Subcommittee Co-chair

Edwin Kehe, Town Council representative

Henry Leger, Youth Visioning Institute Subcommittee Co-chair

Kathy Nicola, Town Council representative

Roger Riggert, Fountain Hills Civic Association

Mike Tyler, Communications Subcommittee Chair

Bob Yordy, Speakers' Bureau Subcommittee Co-chair, Fountain Hills Civic Association

Tim Pickering, Town Manager
Shaunna Williams, Town Staff, Support Services

Project Manager:

Phillip Blackerby, Blackerby Associates, Inc.

Strategic Plan Update Line:
(480) 816-5295
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FOUNTAIN HILLS STRATEGIC PLAN

UPDATE #1
APRIL 2005

Our Town. Our Choices. A Road Map to the Future

Citizen Values Shape Fountain Hills

On April 15 and 16, the citizens of Fountain Hills will join together to create an updated vision of our future. This Town Hall gathering is your chance to exchange ideas, to create a shared vision of the quality of life in Fountain Hills, and to reach agreement on where we are going as a community.



From Fountain Hills' earliest days, residents used a Town Hall format to create the plans for the future of the Town. These Town Halls, spanning more than 20 years, have woven together the vision and ideas of our residents. Many of the public facilities, open spaces, amenities, and services we enjoy in Fountain Hills today are the product of these citizen-driven planning efforts.

The most recent Fountain Hills Town Hall was held in 1995, and many of the goals set forth have become reality. The Town has doubled in size since that time. Nearly 50% of our current residents did not live in Fountain Hills in 1995. For this Town Hall session to be representative of the total community, we need input from a wide cross-section of citizens. This input will become the inspiration for the future of Fountain Hills.

Participants in earlier Town Halls have described the experience as an "uplifting" and "satisfying" opportunity to contribute to the place they call home. This tradition of citizen-based planning is a key aspect that differentiates the Fountain Hills lifestyle from that of other communities.

Take this opportunity to join your neighbors at the first of two Town Hall meetings, *Our Town. Our Choices*. on April 15 and 16. Contribute your insight and talent as the citizens of Fountain Hills create a new road map to the future.

Our Town. Our Choices. TOWN HALL MEETING #1

Where: Fountain Hills High School Cafeteria
16100 E. Palisades Boulevard
Northeast corner of Palisades and Golden Eagle

When: April 15 & 16

Friday April 15

Town Hall – Opening Work Session and Community Dinner
5:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.
Fountain Hills High School

Saturday April 16

Town Hall – Public Input Session and Continental Breakfast/Lunch
8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Fountain Hills High School

Advanced registration is required. Call (480) 816-5295, or online at: www.fh.az.gov/ourtownourchoices

Questions? Call (480) 816-5295

Calendar of Events

April

Wednesday April 13

Speakers' Bureau (SB)
Four Peaks Women's Club
7:15 p.m.
Community Center

Friday April 15

Town Hall – Opening Work Session
5:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.
Fountain Hills High School

Saturday April 16

Town Hall – Public Input Session
8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Fountain Hills High School

May

Tuesday May 3 (SB)

Noon Rotary
12:00 p.m.
Community Center

Friday May 6 (SB)

Civic Association Annual Meeting
7:00 p.m.
Community Center

Wednesday May 18 (SB)

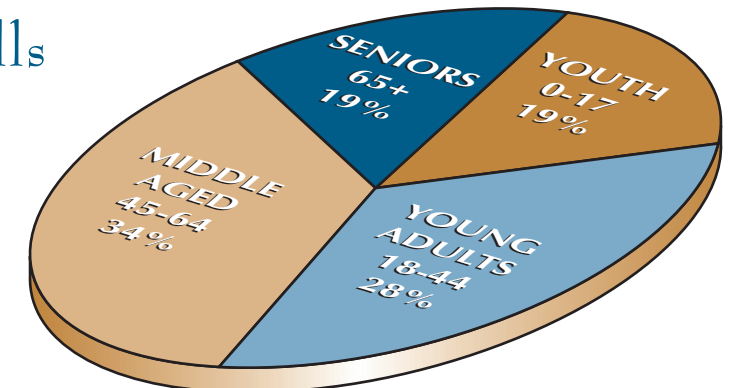
Fountain Hills Women's Club
12:00 p.m.
Community Center

Speakers' Bureau (SB) presentation dates are being added or may change. Please check the online calendar at www.fh.az.gov/ourtownourchoices or call the Strategic Plan Update Line at (480) 816-5295 for the most current information, or to schedule a presentation.



Fountain Hills Facts:

Age Demographics



CHARTING THE COURSE TOGETHER...

Community-Based Planning – A Citizen-Driven Process

Starting From Where We Are

Information is the cornerstone of successful citizen-based planning. Participants in Fountain Hills Town Hall meetings will receive the *Where We Are Now* report as background information prior to the sessions on April 15-16.

The *Where We Are Now* report provides information on demographics, financial and economic development, public safety, general infrastructure, and Town amenities. This information provides the factual basis from which to develop our vision for the future.

At the September and October 2004 public meetings conducted by the Town of Fountain Hills, citizens contributed their ideas and developed a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis. Data from the process is included in the appendix of the *Where We Are Now* report.

Volunteers interviewed civic leaders during the month of February, 2005. This information provides historical depth and continuity for the first Town Hall session. These interviews also add perspective on the progress made from earlier Town Halls, as well as insights on the nuances of the quality of life in Fountain Hills.

The Youth Visioning Institute (YVI) on March 16th was hosted by the High School, and co-sponsored by the Town of Fountain Hills and the Civic Association. Gathering input from young people through the YVI is a unique component of the Fountain Hills strategic planning process. The results of this event will be displayed in the Community Center and shared with participants at the upcoming Town Hall.

Deciding What We Want

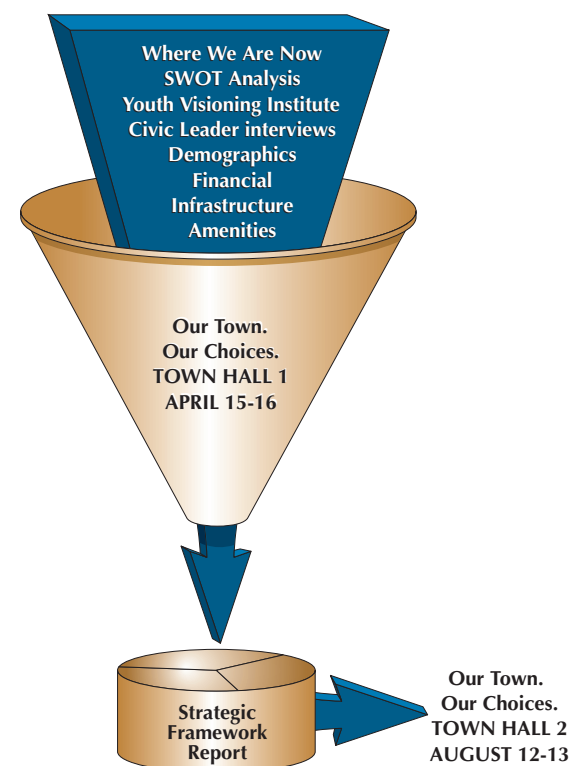
At the April Town Hall meeting, volunteer moderators will help citizens reach toward the future by gathering

their ideas about Fountain Hills. Using the resource data from the *Where We Are Now* report and other documents, the first Town Hall sessions are all about expressing our desires as to what Fountain Hills can be, what we as citizens value, and what we believe is important to maintain and improve the quality of life in our Town.

Mapping the Future

Citizen input obtained in the April Town Hall will be analyzed and compiled into the Strategic Framework report. This report will become the foundation of the August Town Hall.

The August Town Hall will be devoted to setting priorities and determining how to achieve those results within the framework of budgetary and political reality.



Key Terms: Strategic Planning

Strategic Planning is a disciplined process by which an organization envisions its future and develops strategies, goals, objectives, and action plans to achieve that future.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC is a group of resident volunteers with strategic planning and Civic Association expertise who came together during the 2004 public meetings. They are developing the citizen-driven planning process underway in Fountain Hills. (See back page for more detail).

SWOT Analysis

A method to identify the Town's internal strengths and weaknesses and its external opportunities and threats is called a "SWOT" analysis. This type of citizen input is useful in the first stages of exploring a community's wants, needs, and issues. The SWOT analysis from the 2004 public meetings is available in the Reports section of the website, and is included in the *Where We Are Now* report.

Project Manager

The project manager is responsible for overseeing the planning process, organizing citizen input, and developing key reports to support each stage of the Fountain Hills Strategic Plan. Phillip Blackerby of Blackerby Associates, Inc. is the Project Manager.

Peg Tibbetts

FOUNTAIN HILLS PIONEER

When Peg Tibbetts moved to Fountain Hills in 1975 it had few paved roads, facilities, or services. She proudly points out that nearly all the amenities we enjoy in Fountain Hills today are a result of citizens working together at Town Hall meetings. "We are a volunteer-based community. In the early days, we had to use volunteers because there was no vehicle to fund things." According to Peg, "Town Halls are a wonderful way for citizens to have a voice and bring facts to the forefront. That way we have objective information from which to base decisions about the direction of the Town."

Peg has a perfect attendance record. She has participated in every Fountain Hills Town Hall over the last 20 years. "I've been here since the Town's beginning and I feel that I have something to contribute. I'm looking forward to this next chapter in the history of Fountain Hills."

April Town Hall – Envision the Future

The *Our Town. Our Choices.* Town Hall is one of the first public events in the strategic planning process.

Friday April 15, 2005
5:45 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.
Fountain Hills High School
Dinner and Town Hall planning activities

Saturday April 16, 2005
8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Fountain Hills High School
Continental Breakfast, Lunch, and
Town Hall planning activities

The event's activities are interactive and participation in the entire two days is necessary. Registration is required to ensure adequate meals and resources are available. Register and receive a pre-session report online at www.fh.az.gov/ourtownourchoices or register by phone at the Strategic Plan Update Line at (480) 816-5295.



KICKOFF
JANUARY 29

YOUTH VISIONING
MARCH 16

TOWN HALL #1
APRIL 15-16

FOCUS GROUPS
JUNE 15-16

TOWN HALL #2
AUGUST 12-13

SURVEYS
SEPTEMBER

TOWN COUNCIL APPROVAL

CELEBRATION
JANUARY 2006