



**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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- Nancy Buel
- Sid Coates
- Carol Coates
- Jack Erlich
- Karl Gaardsmore
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- Joanne Moorman
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- Mike Pisarik
- Bob Scarpetti
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What do you like about Fountain Hills, and what would you change?

Like	Change
Environment: the views/quiet/outdoor activities Environmentally preserve the desert Remoteness Most beautiful place in Valley Landlocked Environmental orientation Volunteer spirit Participation Small town "feel" Safety/medical response and fire Scenery Closeness to Phoenix and other areas What the town has done in terms of relationships with sister communities, i.e.: sense of family values...small town feel, sense of belonging, environmental beauty, opportunity to volunteer and contribute, community efforts to save the environment	Slow down on multi family housing Make FH a destination for tourism events...to increase revenues Emphasize efficiency of how government spends dollars More public exposure of how dollars are allocated Minimize/expose special interest control Add a movie theater Add a pool Be more innovative in including people of all ages in community activities in government Speeding/recklessness of drivers Increase overall safety Enforce traffic regulations and encourage good behavior Gated communities Keep residents better informed about what's happening Have service establishments stay open longer...evenings, etc. More recycling...need a major program

Like	Change
<p>Small town feel/rural environment Environmental beauty Community involvement Library Open feel Cultural events (theater, concert, etc.) No streetlights Small town feel Everything Opportunity to be involved Feeling of community, family</p>	<p>Stop relying on sales tax for revenue (tax is high). Need to find new sources now. Improve quality of schools Refurbish strip malls and downtown areas/plan open space Expand library Expand recreation center More nice chain restaurants Ensure infrastructure technology and other resources are available for growth Find more innovative ways to build condos and other middle income housing (more attractive) More support and facilities for cultural events (parking, buildings, theater facilities) Need a property tax for revenues More town council information on Channel 11 Use lake venue for more events More shade Need an aquatic center or pool Improve schools to keep kids here Maintain lower density housing and open space Have fountain going continually Park needs refurbishing (more trees) Arbor Day Limit high density Maintain multi generational population Limit "selfish senior syndrome" and don't denigrate youth Speed up council decisions and follow through Minimize "not in my back yard" attitude, i.e. state park, Target, etc. Add some jobs/industry Add a community college branch Add a second route to Scottsdale (traffic is terrible) Put large power lines underground (on Shea at entrance) Improve transportation opportunities (more bus pick up times, etc.) Stop relying on sales tax Add property tax with proper controls on spending Improve schools Annex trust land to keep control Increase communication Own public services...fire, water, police, garbage</p>

Core Values

- Commitment to accessibility and preservation of natural environment
- Small town/village/neighborly feel
- Diverse cultural and recreational activities
- Public safety and security
- Community involvement volunteerism
- Multi generational and diverse community
- High quality education system

Vision

- Fountain Hills is as environmentally attractive in 2025 as it was in 2005 (and well-maintained)
- Fountain Hills is a safe, friendly, and vital community with diverse cultural, recreation, educational, amenities for all ages and cultures
- Fountain Hills is an involvement/citizen-driven community

Vision Attainment Strategies

Environmental Stewardship

A. Maintain Open Space:

- Annex state trust land and develop according to town zoning and codes (low density and open space)
- Follow recommendations of Planning and Zoning Board and rigidly adhere to and enforce zoning rules and codes already in place; limit variances and changes
- Ensure codes mirror the vision of environmental stewardship (include dark skies: limit lighting)

B. Environmental Maintenance

- Ensure this has high budget priority
- Ensure maintenance is planned and carried out on a regular basis (keep washes clear, control erosion, re-vegetate, etc.)

C. Replant and refurbish parks in a style compatible with natural environment

D. Ensure public access to open areas through planning

E. Ensure that commercial and residential new construction is styled in line with the environmental vision

F. Ensure existing commercial buildings are well maintained and refurbished as needed

G. Control/limit signage

H. Encourage conservation and use of green materials/energy efficiency.

Community of diverse ages and socioeconomic levels

A. Improve quality of schools

- Ensure teacher pay is attractive
- Meet with school board to discuss and identify action steps

B. Attract a Community

- Provide additional cultural and recreational opportunities, senior center, theater, pool recreation center, skate park, library expansion

Small town, sophisticated, strong sense of community

- A. Investigate community based service: fire, police
- B. Provide community events: concerts and art fair
- C. Encourage involvement in community groups that bring people together; help groups increase visibility (partner with the town)
- D. Encourage use of technology to keep commuters in the loop