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## NEXT COPP MEMBER MEETING

**Tuesday**  
**January 14, 2003 at 7:00 pm**  
**Legend Trail**  
**Community Center**  
(see directions on page 3)

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## 2002 In Review

**January** – The election campaign began with a candidate's forum for the three seats on the Scottsdale City Council. At a well attended COPP sponsored meeting of members and guests, the views of incumbents Cynthia Lukas, Robert Pettycrew and George Zraket along with challengers Wayne Ecton, Bob Littlefield and John Rooney were heard. It was a spirited session that launched a hard fought campaign decided later in the year.

The month also marked the City Council's approval of revisions to the Environmentally Sensitive Land Ordinance that enhanced protection of land development north of the CAP canal; a major accomplishment for the future management of land in the north.

**February** – COPP filed a petition to change the revocation process of conditional use permits to return authority to the City Council instead of the Board of Adjustment. In spite of the opposition voiced by zoning attorneys and other vested interests, the amendment was approved by the City Council.

**March** – The election results showed

that Wayne Ecton and Cynthia Lukas were elected to the City Council. However, Bob Littlefield and George Zraket were forced into a runoff as neither one received more than 50% of the vote.

COPP recommended that voters approve the City's revised General Plan. While not perfect, it was a significant improvement over the existing plan that was approved in 1992. This measure won by a large majority.

**April** – The Pima Road safety issue got a lot of attention because of some horrific accidents that occurred in the area of the Happy Valley Road intersection. COPP met with city officials to emphasize the need to monitor this high-speed arterial, as it would only get worse in the future. The city has instituted more policing activity and will soon put photo radar at the Pinnacle Peak intersection. The Pima Road safety problem is still not satisfactorily resolved and we will continue to monitor the situation.

**May** – The runoff election pitted Bob Littlefield and George Zraket against each  
*(see "2002" on page 3)*

## January Calendar of Events

January 7	CC hears proposed changes to Parking Ordinance
January 14	COPP Member Meeting – On the agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• City of Scottsdale staff will discuss proposed changes to several important zoning ordinances. See details on page 3 of this newsletter.</li><li>• PC hears proposed amendments to Wireless Ordinance</li></ul>
January 18	Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event from 7:30 am to 2:00 pm. Location: 9191 San Salvador Drive. Call 480-312-5000 for information.
February 3	Tentative date for CC hearing on Wireless Ordinance

*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.*

# Development Updates

## *Friends of the Scenic Drive Proposes, COPP Supports, Sign Ordinance Update*

Friends of the Scenic Drive has proposed an extensive update to Scottsdale's Sign Ordinance. Included in the update is a review of temporary development signs, signage in scenic corridors and political campaign signs.

Public involvement meetings on the proposed changes will be held in March and April of 2003, following which the draft amendment language will be reviewed by the Planning Commission and City Council at public hearings.

## *Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance To Undergo Review and Update*

The Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO) is a set of zoning regulations adopted by the City Council in 1991 to guide development throughout 134 square miles of desert and mountain areas of Scottsdale. These areas are located generally north and east of the Central Arizona Project Canal.

In December, 2001, the Scottsdale City Council revised the ESLO as part of a two-year process to thoroughly review the ordinance and make changes to improve its usability and effectiveness. In approving the revisions to this ordinance, Council asked staff to return within a year with an analysis showing what was working well and how the new ordinance could be fine-tuned to be more effective.

The new ordinance, while an improvement over its predecessor, still contains flaws that need to be addressed. Areas needing attention include treatment of perimeter walls, building heights, on-lot NAOS (Natural Area Open Space), and minimum lot size for a density incentive bonus.

Proposed revisions to the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance will go through a series of public hearings, culminating with a hearing by the City Council in early 2003. The Coalition of Pinnacle Peak will work through the public hearing process to correct the flaws in the existing ordinance.

## *Wireless Ordinance Update*

After nearly two years of effort, the Wireless Communications Ordinance Ideas Team is prepared to release its recommendations to the City Council. For the most part, the Ideas Team was able to agree on aesthetic and process related issues, including a tiered-review process where applications with minimal visual impact are eligible for a shorter review process.

However, because of the composition of the team which was heavily loaded with representatives of the Wireless industry, there were a number of issues on which agreement could not be achieved. At the end of the process, there were only four team members who were citizens of Scottsdale and who had no financial connection with the wireless industry. Those four team members wanted the revised ordinance to include assurances that:

- Citizens would be notified when an installation was to go in that could potentially affect them, or their children;
- The City would ensure that facilities, approved for installation by the City, met FCC regulations;
- The City and its citizens were adequately protected against possible litigation regarding the health affects of radiation;
- With all the relief given the wireless industry to speed up and ease the process to approve facilities, citizens still retained some protection against intrusive facilities, such as those located in sensitive areas such as

schools, new monopoles, unwanted flag or light poles, large and/or noisy equipment enclosures, etc.

It was in these areas that neither side would budge. It will now be up to the City Council to resolve the impasse.

## *City Council Initiates Foothills Zoning Overlay*

At its December 10 meeting, the Scottsdale City Council approved the initiation of the Foothills Zoning Overlay. The goal of the overlay is to preserve and maintain the unique "rural" character of the Foothills Area which covers approximately 8 square miles, generally between Dixileta Road to the north, Jomax Road to the south, 56th Street to the west and 96th street to the east.

This area is distinguished by its rural desert character of low-density single-family residential, the strong presence of the natural desert, and multiple property owners on one to five acre lots.

The zoning overlay will go through an extensive public hearing process before being heard by the City Council sometime in 2003.

Additionally, the city is also looking to consolidate the Foothills area into a broader strategic plan, called the Tonto Foothills Strategic Plan, to recognize the uniqueness of that area of Scottsdale that is north of the Deer Valley Road alignment. Work on the Tonto Foothills Strategic Plan is just beginning,

**Editor's Note:** Representatives of the City of Scottsdale will be in attendance at our January 14 member meeting to discuss and answer questions about the Foothills Overlay, the Tonto Foothills Strategic Plan, and proposed revisions to the Sign Ordinance, Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance, and Wireless Communications Ordinance Text Amendment.

## 2002 *(continued from page 2)*

other for the remaining undecided seat for the City Council. This was an embarrassment of riches, as COPP had recommended both candidates to its members. Because of COPP's long-term relationship with George Zraket and his four-year experience on the City Council we recommended him over Littlefield who ultimately prevailed in the runoff election.

**June** – The waterline construction along Pima Road required us to be ever vigilant about traffic issues, blasting along parts of the road and continued assurances from the city that when the revegetation of disturbed construction areas took place it would be done sensitively with adequate plants and watering systems.

**July** – Northwest 2000/FAA – increased noise created by new flight patterns reached a level of complaints to cause the City to reevaluate its position. COPP expects the City to be at the forefront of protecting all Scottsdale residents from unnecessary noise created by Sky Harbor and Scottsdale Airports. There is no question that residents are experiencing more noise than before NW 2000 was implemented by the FAA. COPP continues to work with city officials to find the best way to minimize this unwanted intrusion.

**August** – Henry Becker's trailers (Happy Valley and Pima) are determined to be in violation by the Maricopa County Superior Court and must be removed. However, Becker continues to appeal this decision as well as the other "artwork" on poles and sheds.

**September** – An attempt to initiate a referendum to reverse the Conditional Use Permit revocation amendment sought by COPP and approved by the City Council earlier in the year is defeated due to a lack of valid signatures.

Along with many downtown business people, COPP urged the City Council to remove the Downtown Redevelopment Area Designation for some 330 acres of land in the city's

downtown district. The Council agreed and the designation was terminated thus removing a cloud that prevented new investment in the area.

**October** – Stacked 40s – DMB Associates presents plans to develop 160 acres on the east side of Scottsdale Road and the 101 for a mixed use project of residential, office and retail. Members reacted favorably, but expressed great concern for traffic congestion and density of the project. COPP representatives in collaboration with the Grayhawk resident groups insisted that a regional traffic plan must be formulated beforehand to handle increased traffic and that the planned density of residential, hotel and retail space should be reduced.

The City council approves the General Plan amendment for the 16,600 acres in the north and approves the amendment with some minor changes favorable to environmental and planning concerns – a major step towards a long-term plan to preserve some 13,900 acres or more of land in the northern Sonoran desert.

**November** – The City Council approved DMB's rezoning request for the Stacked 40s project. The City Council followed COPP's recommendations to provide for a transportation plan to move traffic through Scottsdale Road and east and west of the 101 intersection. The city will widen Scottsdale Road before the project is opened to the public and add some new roads to accommodate expected traffic pressures. DMB also reduced the density of the project.

**December** – The last segment of the Pima Road waterline is started with a completion date of April 2003. The revegetation of disturbed areas is going well and as expected.

*Best Wishes for a Healthy and Successful New Year and a Big Thanks for Your Continued Support from All of us on the Board.*

Bob Vairo, Linda Whitehead, Dan Basinger, Alan Kaufman, Dick Janssen and Darlene Petersen

## COPP Supports Text Amendment to Restrict Front-Yard Parking in Residential Areas

The Coalition of Pinnacle Peak has gone on record urging the City of Scottsdale to approve a text amendment that will regulate parking and otherwise provide for the storage and use of recreational vehicles in residential areas. In a letter to the Planning Commission, COPP President Bob Vairo said: "This has been a long-standing problem in certain areas of the city, and it is time to update Ordinance No. 455 so that it reflects the wishes of a large majority of the population who find the present situation intolerable."

The areas that appear to need attention are as follows:

- Front yard and driveway parking – should not exceed 35% of the front yard area;
- Vehicles should not encroach upon public sidewalks;
- Vehicles should be a stipulated distance from side yards;
- Vehicles, boats, trailers parked within a side or rear yard should be screened by a six foot wall, fence or gate;
- Vehicles should not be occupied for living purposes while stored on the residential site.

At its December 11 meeting, the Planning Commission voted 6-0 against the amendment. The City Council will hear the proposal at its January 7 meeting.

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### Legend Trail Community Center directions:

North on Pima Road past Lone Mountain (1.5 miles)

To Legend Trail Parkway on right – then 1.5 miles on right to Community Center.



**Coalition Of Pinnacle Peak, Inc.**  
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Join COPP today! Your support will help COPP continue its mission as a volunteer organization serving the Northeast Valley.  
 If you cannot join COPP right now, please consider making a donation.

**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.**

*I support COPP's mission and would like to join COPP.* Your membership and/or donation is greatly appreciated.

Annual Membership \$50 per household       Donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_       I would like to volunteer

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Phone (_____) _____	
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Start Date _____	End Date _____

In what neighborhood/HOA do you live? \_\_\_\_\_

In which city do you vote? \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Suggestions \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Office Use Only
1/03

Have a question? Call the COPP Hotline at: 602.230.5233 or E-mail us at: [COPPeak@coppeak.org](mailto:COPPeak@coppeak.org)  
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