



# SECTION 3 - APPENDIX





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# 1. ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ACA</b>	Arizona Commerce Authority	<b>GA</b>	Growth Areas Element
<b>ACC</b>	Arts, Culture & Creative Community Element	<b>GP</b>	General Plan
<b>ADA</b>	Americans with Disabilities Act	<b>GPEC</b>	Greater Phoenix Economic Council
<b>ADEQ</b>	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality	<b>H</b>	Housing Element
<b>ADOT</b>	Arizona Department of Transportation	<b>HB</b>	House Bill (State of Arizona)
<b>ADWR</b>	Arizona Department of Water Resources	<b>HC</b>	Healthy Community Element
<b>ARS</b>	Arizona Revised Statutes	<b>HOA</b>	Home Owners Association
<b>ASLD</b>	Arizona State Land Department	<b>HUD</b>	US Department of Housing and Urban Development
<b>ASU</b>	Arizona State University	<b>ID</b>	Improvement District
<b>B</b>	Bicycling Element	<b>II</b>	Infill Incentive District
<b>C</b>	Circulation Element	<b>kV</b>	Kilo Volt
<b>CAP</b>	Central Arizona Project / Character Area Plan	<b>LEED</b>	Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design
<b>CBD</b>	Central Business District	<b>LU</b>	Land Use Element
<b>CC&amp;Rs</b>	Codes, Covenants, & Restrictions	<b>MAG</b>	Maricopa Association of Governments
<b>CD</b>	Character & Design Element	<b>NAOS</b>	Natural Area Open Space
<b>CDBG</b>	Community Development Block Grant	<b>NPDES</b>	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
<b>CI</b>	Community Involvement Element	<b>NPR</b>	Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Element
<b>CIP</b>	Capital Improvement Plan/Program	<b>OS</b>	Open Space Element
<b>CFD</b>	Community Facilities District	<b>PB</b>	Public Buildings Element
<b>COD</b>	Cost of Development Element	<b>POA</b>	Property Owners Association
<b>CONSV</b>	Conservation Element	<b>PSF</b>	Public Services & Facilities Element
<b>CPTED</b>	Crime Prevention through Environmental Design	<b>R</b>	Recreation Element
<b>CRR</b>	Conservation, Rehabilitation, & Redevelopment Element	<b>RPZ</b>	Runway Protection Zone
<b>DNL</b>	Day/Night Average Sound Level	<b>RSB</b>	Recommended Study Boundary (of the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve)
<b>DS&amp;PM</b>	Design Standards and Policies Manual	<b>S</b>	Safety Element
<b>DU</b>	Dwelling Unit	<b>SB</b>	Senate Bill (State of Arizona)
<b>E</b>	Energy Element	<b>SCC</b>	Scottsdale Community College / Scottsdale Cultural Council
<b>EP</b>	Environmental Planning Element	<b>SRPMIC</b>	Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
<b>EPA</b>	US Environmental Protection Agency	<b>SRP</b>	Salt River Project
<b>ESL</b>	Environmentally Sensitive Lands	<b>S.T.E.P.</b>	Scottsdale Town Enrichment Program
<b>ESLO</b>	Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance	<b>SUSD</b>	Scottsdale Unified School District
<b>EV</b>	Economic Vitality Element	<b>T</b>	Tourism Element
<b>FAA</b>	Federal Aviation Administration	<b>TPC</b>	Tournament Players Club
<b>FAR</b>	Floor Area Ratio	<b>WR</b>	Water Resources Element
<b>FEMA</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency		
<b>FHA</b>	Federal Housing Administration		
<b>FCDMC</b>	Flood Control District of Maricopa County		

## 2. GLOSSARY

‡ - This symbol in the General Plan indicates that a goal, policy, map, or sentence meets a State requirement for General Plans under Arizona Revised Statutes 9-461.05

### A

**Abatement (Noise)** - The method of reducing the degree and intensity of noise. For Scottsdale Airport, noise abatement is addressed through a series of recommended procedures for flight operations and voluntary pilot compliance. Scottsdale operates in compliance with FAA standards for noise awareness and mitigation.

**Acre** - A measure of land containing 43,560 square feet.

**Active Recreation** - Leisure activities that use organized play areas including, playing fields, swimming pools, and basketball courts.

**Activity Areas** - Areas where development is concentrated, but to a lesser degree than Growth Areas.

**Adaptive Reuse** - Developing a new use for an older building or for a building originally designed for a special or specific purpose.

**Aesthetic** - Elements in the natural or created environment (including artistic elements) that are pleasing to the eye. The desirable appearance of place.

**Affordability, Affordable (Housing)** - Housing that can be rented or purchased by a household with entry-level or “workforce” income, or spending no more than 30% of annual household income on housing expenses.

**Aggregate(s)** - Cinder, crushed rock or stone, decomposed granite, gravel, pumice, pumicite, and sand, which are typically mined from riverbeds and drainage areas.

**Aging-in-Place** - The idea that people will remain in the community through all life stages, either in their family homes, in homes to which they have moved in middle or later life, or in a supported accommodation of some type, such as an assisted-living facility.

**Airport Influence Area** - An area surrounding the Scottsdale Airport, as determined in the Airport Part 150 Noise Compatibility Study, to which the Part 150’s Land Use Management Element applies.

**Airport Part 150 Noise Compatibility Program (Part 150)** - A voluntary noise compatibility study established by the FAA, which develops and recommends actions that an airport, municipalities, airlines, and the FAA could take to help reduce aircraft noise.

**Alley** - A narrow service way with public access, but not intended for general traffic. Alleys are typically found in areas of the city that are south of Indian Bend Road, located along rear property lines, and are often used for utility access, service and circulation, solid waste collection, and maintenance.

**Alternative Energy or Fuel** - Energy sources that do not rely on fossil fuels, such as, sunlight and wind.

**Amenity** - A natural or created feature that enhances the aesthetic quality, living environment, visual appeal, or makes a particular property, place, or area more attractive.

**Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** - 1990 Federal legislation specifying provisions for design or redesign of buildings, parking, and outdoor areas to remove barriers for persons with disabilities and guaranteeing equal access opportunity to public accommodations, transportation, and government services.

**Annexation** - The incorporation of land area into an existing community with a resulting change in the boundaries of that community. Annexation may include newly incorporated land from county lands or land transferred from one municipality to another.

**Archaeological Resource** - Any material remains of past life that are at least fifty years old and of historic or pre-historic significance.

**Archaeological Site** - A concentration of archaeological resources in a specific location.

**Architectural Style** - A classification system for building design primarily organized and defined chronologically based on the occurrence or presence of a defining feature, a reflection of changing trends, and emergence of new ideas, technology, or materials that make new styles possible. Some examples of styles familiar to Scottsdale include mid-century modern, ranch style, Spanish colonial, and mission revival.

**Arterial Street** - A road with partial control of access, intended to move high volumes of traffic over longer distances and at higher speeds than secondary roads. (See also: Major Street)

**Arts** - The expression or application of human creative skill which may include visual arts in the form of artworks, crafts, photography, film/audio-visual, fashion, lightscapes, gallery exhibitions, and architecture; performing arts such as drama, music, and dance; literary art through books, poetry, and libraries; culinary art; and ideas/products of imagination.

**Assemblage; Land, Property, or Parcel**

- The merging of separate, adjacent parcels under one ownership to create larger-scale developments. This technique is sometimes used to prevent decline and/or repurpose underused properties as a part of revitalization or redevelopment efforts. (See also: Neighborhood Assemblage).

**Assisted-Living Facility** - A health care facility, other than a hospital or in-patient nursing care facility, that provides residential units, supervisory care services, personal care services, directed care services, or health-related services for persons who do not need inpatient nursing care. Services in these facilities may include help with daily life activities, such as dressing and bathing.

**Assured Water Supply** - A program by the Arizona Department of Water Resources designed to sustain the State's economic health by preserving groundwater resources and promoting long-term water supply planning. To obtain a designation of assured water supply, an organization must prove it has legal, physical, and continuous availability of a 100-year water supply. The City of Scottsdale is a designated provider.

## B

**Bicycle Boulevards** - Streets with low motorized traffic volumes and speeds, designated and designed to give bicycle travel priority. Bicycle Boulevards can use signs, pavement markings, and speed and volume management measures to discourage through trips by motor vehicles and create safe, convenient bicycle crossings of busy arterial streets.

**Bicycle Lane** - A section of a road that is marked for exclusive bicycle use.

**Bike Route** - May include shared streets, bike lanes, or shared-use paths, in any combination for bicycle circulation.

**Bikeway** - A corridor designated for bicyclists that is not part of a vehicular road or bike route, such as bicycle paths.

**Biodiversity** - The variety of plant and animal life in a particular habitat or in the world as a whole.

**Blight** - The visible and physical decline of a property or neighborhood due to any of the following: defective/inadequate street layout; faulty lot layout; unsanitary/unsafe conditions; deterioration of site/infrastructure; tax delinquency exceeding fair value of land; defective title conditions; improper/obsolete platting; and/or conditions that endanger life or property.

**Boulder** - Exposed bedrock or bedrock cluster produced by weathering.

**Buffer** - An area of land separating two distinct land uses that acts to soften or prevent the negative effects of one land use on the other. Often the buffered area is open space, landscaped areas, fences, walls, berms, or any combination of these things. A buffer may also be a transitional land use designation between two other land uses, for example, a suburban land use that buffers a rural land use from a commercial land use.

**Buffered Bicycle Lane** - Conventional bicycle lanes paired with a designated buffer space separating the bicycle lane from the adjacent motor vehicle travel lane and/or parking lane.

**Buffered Roadway** - A road that has been designated in the General Plan to have a buffered setback (of a lesser extent than a Scenic Corridor) to reduce impacts a major street may have on neighboring parcels and to provide a unique image and visual aesthetic for certain streets. Refer to the Open Space Element for Visually Significant Roadway designation definitions.

**Building Envelope** - The outer shell of a building, typically the roof, above-grade walls, and below-grade walls. Also called building enclosure.

**Building Height** - Typically, the vertical distance from the lowest point of the structure to the highest point of the roof as measured according to Scottsdale's Zoning Ordinance.

**Build-out** - The point when land eligible for development under the General Plan has been developed to its maximum allowed level. Build-out does not preclude revitalization, infill, or redevelopment efforts.

**Built Environment** - Human-made elements including, buildings, structures, roads, canals, paths, and trails, that together create the physical character of an area or community.

**Business Attraction** - City programs aimed at attracting new businesses or industries to the community.

**Business Retention** - City programs aimed at supporting, keeping, and sustaining existing local businesses.

## C

**Capital Improvement** - Any building or infrastructure project that will be owned by a governmental unit financed, purchased, or built with direct appropriations or backed with public bonds. A project may include construction, installation, project management, or supervision; project planning, engineering, or design; and the purchase of land or interests in land. Some common examples include, streets, public libraries, water and sewer lines, and park and recreation facilities.

**Capital Improvements Plan or Program (CIP)** - A plan for the purchase, installation, design, and construction of capital improvements that includes a prioritized listing of projects, their timing, phasing, and related costs.

**Carpooling** - Two to four persons commuting in a motor vehicle to or from a destination in a privately owned vehicle. (See Also: Trip Reduction)

**Central Arizona Project (CAP)** - The 336-mile long aqueduct system constructed to deliver water from the Colorado River into central and southern Arizona.

**Central Business District (CBD)** - A single, contiguous geographic area that may be designated by the City Council if it meets the following State requirements: 1) located within a slum or blighted area; and 2) geographically compact and no larger than five (5) percent of the total land area of the city, or 640 acres. The State allows the city to abate tax for government property improvements within the Central Business District for a limited period of time. Per State Statute requirements, to use some tax abatement tools associated with formal Redevelopment Authority, a single, Central Business District must be designated within city corporate boundaries.

**Character** - Unique features, qualities, and attributes that identify a place. Urban design is concerned with the use of character to distinguish place or relate places to one another.

**Character Area Plan (CAP)** - The second level of Scottsdale's three-level General Plan structure that guides more detailed planning, land use, and character for a defined sub-area of the city.

**Character Type** - A designation in the Character & Design Element that describes the general pattern, form, and intensity of development. See Character & Design Element for descriptions of each Character Type in Scottsdale.

**Circular Economy** - In the linear economic model, products are made, used, and disposed of in the landfill. The circular economy is an alternative model of production and consumption in which resources are kept in use for as long as possible to extract maximum value, then recovered to regenerate new materials. This is achieved through intentional design of products and systems and by employing reuse, leasing, sharing, repair, refurbishment, remanufacturing, and recycling. The circular economy minimizes waste, pollution and carbon emissions and conserves energy, water, and other resources.

**Citizen, Community, or Public Participation, Community Involvement, Public Outreach** - An open process in which the rights of the community and its citizens to be informed, be involved, comment, and receive response from city government are met through a wide range of methods and opportunities. (See also: Civil Dialogue)



**Citizen Survey** - A National Citizens Survey conducted by randomly selecting residents to measure their views on city programs and services. Typically utilized in prioritizing programs and services citywide.

**City Charter** - The document that outlines the city government's structure, processes, powers, and limitations.

**City Council** - A seven-member elected body of Scottsdale residents responsible for governing the city and making policy, legislative, and regulatory decisions about the provision of city services and resolution of civic issues.

**CityShape 2020** - A public education and outreach process conducted between 1994 and 1996, which involved a comprehensive review and update of Scottsdale's General Plan as an expression of Scottsdale's Shared Vision. The process established the three-tiered General Plan structure and Six Guiding Principles for use in making decisions on planning-related issues.

**Civil Dialogue** - Discussion between parties to enhance understanding; advance the public's interests; further individual dignity; and improve society. Civil dialogue is generally robust, honest, frank, and constructive dialogue. It includes a willingness to explain respectfully the reasons behind one's opinions and to listen and understand the opposing side's reasons. Civil dialogue provides a safe environment for different points of view to be expressed and evaluated. (See also: Citizen or Public Participation)

**Clustering** - Essentially any development approach that locates buildings in limited areas on a site and results in a more compact arrangement of buildings on a property. This allows the remaining land to be used for open space and creates larger blocks of connected open space instead of smaller, individual areas.

**Cogeneration** - Also called Combined Heat and Power (CHP), the simultaneous production of electricity and heat from a single fuel source, such as natural gas, biomass, coal, waste heat, or oil. Cogeneration provides onsite generation of electrical or mechanical power; waste-heat recovery for heating, cooling, or process applications; and seamless integration for a variety of technologies, applications, and fuel types.

**Collector Street** - A secondary street used to connect local traffic to major streets.

**Community Center** - A facility that provides public services for residents, including recreational and cultural services, and services for youth or seniors.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)** - Grant program administered by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Grants must primarily be used to help low-income households with emphasis on housing and public improvement projects.

**Community Facilities District (CFD)** - A special taxing district used for financing the installation, operations, and maintenance of public facilities through the sale of General Obligation and other government-backed bonds. CFDs are used by developers of both residential and commercial projects for costly infrastructure improvements and also used for community-initiated programs. The bonds associated with a CFD become the responsibility of the property owners who benefit from the infrastructure improvements.

**Community Member or Citizen** - A person who lives, works, or owns property in Scottsdale.

**Community Park** - Park located in a centralized area in relation to a group of neighborhoods or major parts of the city. Community parks accommodate large groups; generally feature a community center and lighted recreational amenities; are often located next to elementary, middle or high schools; and are accessed mainly by automobiles and bicycles.

**Community Policing** - A public safety strategy that focuses on local law enforcement building ties and working closely with members of a community or neighborhood. Community policing promotes partnerships and neighborhood problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that cause crime, social disorder, and fear of crime.

**Community Rating System** - The Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) system for recognizing and encouraging community floodplain management beyond the minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) standards.

**Compact Development** - Development designed to use less land than conventional development.

**Conservation** - (1) The controlled use and systematic protection of a resource, including environmental or cultural resources; or (2) To use something sparingly so as not to exhaust supplies. (See also: Preserve, Preservation, Water Conservation and Conservation, Neighborhood)

**Conservation, Neighborhood** - A process that seeks to maintain significant character-defining features of a neighborhood, such as lot size, lot coverage, building height, and streetscapes. (See also: Conservation and Historic Preservation)

**Context** - The relationship between a location and its surrounding natural, planned, permitted, and/or built environment; the whole environment relevant to a particular building or place; the interrelated conditions in which something exists or occurs.

**Continuous Open Space** - A system of linked, interconnected open spaces, including washes (inclusive of Vista Corridors), streetscapes, trails, and canals.

**Conveyance (Water)** - The distribution of water using natural and constructed systems, such as pipelines, pumps, and canals.

**Corridor** - A linear pattern of similar land uses (e.g., commercial or open space corridor); a major transportation route, including freeways, expressways, arterials, or transit lines; or any major utility route, such as transmission lines or canals. (See also: Vista Corridor, Scenic Corridor, and Wildlife Corridor)

**Creative Placemaking** - Strategically shaping the physical and social character of a neighborhood, area, city, or region around arts and cultural activities through public, private, not-for-profit, and community partnerships. (See also: Placemaking)

**Creative Workforce** - Employees or workers with expertise or occupations involving a high level of creative thinking, including developing, designing, or creating new applications, ideas, relationships, systems or products, and artistic contributions.

**Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)** - A multi-disciplinary approach to deterring criminal behavior through design of the built environment.

**Cultural Resource(s)** - Any building site, district, structure, or object significant in history, architecture, archaeology, culture, or science. This can extend to include the community's heritage and way of life. (See also: Archaeological Resource and Historic Site or Resource)

## D

**Density** - Usually used to describe the number of housing units per acre of land in residential districts. Also used to generally describe the concentration of buildings within an area of land. (See also: Intensity)

**Desert Scenic Roadway** - A road designated in the General Plan to have an open space buffer (of a lesser extent than a Scenic Corridor or Buffered Roadway) to maintain and enhance open space along roads in Environmentally Sensitive Lands. Refer to the Open Space Element for Visually Significant Roadway designation definitions.

**Design Guidelines** - Non-mandatory provisions that steer the design of buildings and are used by staff, the city's boards and commissions, and City Council for evaluating projects. Design guidelines are usually applied in a particular area or to a particular use to protect investment or establish a unifying look for an area. Typical guidelines might focus on building orientation, architectural details, and streetscape considerations.

**Developed Open Space** - Generally landscape areas, turf areas, parks, golf courses, and other outdoor recreational facilities intended for both passive and active recreation. Refer to the Land Use Element for the Developed Open Space Land Use Category definition and the Open Space Element for the primary open space type definitions.

**Developer** - A property owner, partnership, company, or corporation which owns or has authorization to develop or redevelop a property.

**Development** - The physical extension or construction of land uses. Development includes subdivision of land; construction or alteration of structures, roads, utilities, and other facilities; installation of water and sewer systems; grading; deposit of refuse, debris, or fill; and clearing of vegetative cover.

**Development Fee** - One-time capital charges, typically to developers, to fund the construction of public facilities needed to accommodate new development. Arizona State law requires all municipal fee structures to be based on adopted Land Use Assumptions and Infrastructure Improvements Plan Reports, which describe existing infrastructure, available capacity, planning, and cost estimates for new infrastructure required to serve development. Sometimes called an Impact Fee.

**Development Project, Project** - Any development resulting from the approval of a building permit, lot split, preliminary or final plat, rezoning application, grading permit, public or private infrastructure, variance requests, development review, master plans, native plant removal, relocation or re-vegetation, or use permit.

**Development Regulations** - Scottsdale's Zoning Ordinance, Land Division Ordinance, and other regulations, that regulate particular development factors, including the type of land use, densities, height and bulk, landscaping, parking requirements, some elements of design, and standards for street layout and design. (See also: Zoning)

**Development Review** - A process involving the review of all aspects of a proposed development, including the site plan, the relationship of development to the surrounding area, and carrying out character and design related goals and policies of the General Plan. The Scottsdale Development Review Board oversees the development review process.

**Development Review Board** - A decision-making citizen board, consisting of a City Council member, a Planning Commissioner, and five (5) appointed professional members. The Development Review Board reviews all aspects of the proposed design of a development including, but not limited to, site planning and the relationship of the development to the surrounding environment and the community.

**Development Site, Site** - A specific area of a development project proposed for a zone, use, or density.

**Distributed Generation** - Using small sources of electrical power, such as solar, micro-turbines, fuel cells, or other generating devices, at designated sites to meet individual customer energy load. These sources (i.e., generators) are sized to match a specific load, such as a house, industry, or community.

**Downtown Core** - As identified, described, and defined by specific boundary in the Council-adopted Old Town Scottsdale Character Area Plan, the Downtown Core generally includes those portions of Old Town Scottsdale identified as Historic Old Town, portions of the Scottsdale Arts District along Main Street and north of Indian School Road, Marshall Way north of Main Street to Fifth Avenue, and portions of the Fifth Avenue District [Cross-reference Page 13 of the Old Town Scottsdale Character Area Plan for the specific, adopted, Downtown Core boundary]. In contrast to the majority of the area, the Downtown Core is comprised of the lowest intensity of development in all of Old Town.

**Drainage** - Surface water runoff or the removal of surface water or groundwater from land by drains, grading, or other means, which includes runoff controls to minimize erosion and sedimentation during and after construction or development. (See also: Stormwater, Stormwater Runoff)

**Drought** - Three or more consecutive years of less-than-average rainfall.

**Drought Management Plan** - The City of Scottsdale Water Resources Department management program of responses to drought and/or shortage conditions.

**Dwelling** - Any building, or part of a building used for residential purposes; includes live/work and mixed-use buildings.

**Dwelling Unit (DU)** - A house or apartment that is a separate and independent unit, occupied or intended for occupancy by one household.

## E

**Early Notification** - A procedure to allow neighborhood associations, business groups, and affected residents to review project applications before they are scheduled for public hearings.

**Easement** - The right to use property owned by another for designated purposes, such as access to another piece of property, conveyance of stormwater, or transmission of utilities.

**Economic Sector** - A specific industry or group of interconnected industries.

**Ecosystem** - Living and non-living elements that interact to form a complete environmental unit.

**Effluent** - Wastewater, treated or untreated, that flows out of a treatment plant, sewer, or industrial outfall. (See also: Wastewater)

**Element (General Plan)** - A piece of the General Plan focused on a specific topic, such as open space or land use. State law requires the General Plan to include seventeen (17) elements, and allows for other elements to be identified by the community. Scottsdale's General Plan includes twenty-four (24) elements organized into seven (7) chapters.

**Employment Center, or Core** - Generally, a relatively large area of the city dominated by office, high-technology, light industrial, and other job-generating land uses. Refer to the Land Use Element for the Employment Land Use Category definition.

**Endangered Species** - As designated by the Federal Government, a species of animal or plant with prospects for survival and reproduction in immediate jeopardy.

**Entry-Level Household** - A person or family that can afford to purchase a home for the first time.

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** - Federal agency charged with protecting the environment.

**Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL)** - Land in Scottsdale with unique and sensitive natural features, including mountains and hills, large rock formations, native landscapes, archeological and historical sites, significant washes, Scenic Corridors, wildlife habitats, and land with special hazards.

**Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO)** - A set of zoning regulations originally adopted by the City of Scottsdale in 1991 (and subsequently revised) to guide future development in the desert and mountain areas of Scottsdale. The Ordinance includes standards to ensure that new construction will be compatible with the natural beauty of the area.

**Equestrian** - Relating to horses, horseback riding, or people who ride horses.

## F

**Fair Housing** - The right to choose housing free from unlawful discrimination.

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** - A federal agency responsible for coordination of disaster preparedness, response and recovery efforts, as well as, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and flood hazard mapping.

**Flood Control** - Any structural or non-structural measures designed to divert or contain floodwater and prevent flooding.

**Floodplain** - The channel and the relatively flat area adjoining the channel of a natural stream or river that has been or may be covered by floodwater.

**Floodplain(s), 100-year** - Land predicted to flood during a 100-year storm, which has a 1% chance of occurring in any given year.

**Floor Area Ratio (FAR)** - A measure of development intensity, typically described in the Zoning Ordinance, that is expressed by the ratio of gross building floor area to net lot area of a site.

**Fossil Fuels** - Buried, combustible geologic deposits of organic materials, formed from decayed plants and animals, that have been converted to crude oil, coal, natural gas, or heavy oils by exposure to heat and pressure in the earth's crust over millions of years. Fossil fuels are generally considered "non-renewable" energy sources.

**Freeway** - Major road with controlled access devoted exclusively to traffic movement, mainly of a through or regional nature. Local examples include the Pima Freeway (SR 101) and the Red Mountain Freeway (SR 202).

**Frontage** - The part of a lot that touches a road, street, or watercourse. It is often described by a measure of distance or length in linear feet such as "60 feet of frontage."

## G

**Gateway** - A point along a street where a motorist or pedestrian gains a sense of arrival into the city or a particular area, typically through signs, monuments, landscaping, change in development character, or a natural feature.

**General Plan [Arizona Revised Statutes]** - A municipal statement of land development policies, that may include maps, charts, graphs, and text that set forth objectives, principles and standards for local growth and redevelopment enacted under the provisions of Article ARS 9-461, as amended.

**General Plan** - The Scottsdale General Plan is a comprehensive, long-range plan consisting of community goals and policies setting forth objectives, principles and standards for the state mandated elements of land use, circulation, open space, growth areas, environmental planning, cost of development, water resources, conservation (natural resources), recreation, public services and facilities, public buildings, housing, conservation, rehabilitation and redevelopment, safety, bicycling, energy, and neighborhood preservation and revitalization. In addition, the Scottsdale General Plan includes community-created elements for economic vitality, character and design, community involvement, arts and culture, tourism, and a healthy community.

**General Plan Amendment** - A formal City Council change to the text or maps of the General Plan. Per State Statute, a change to the General Plan is considered a Major Amendment if it is "a substantial alteration of the municipality's land use mixture or balance as established in the Land Use Element." All amendments must meet certain requirements in the Land Use Element.

**Geologic Hazard** - Any public safety hazard associated with geologic forces, including landslides, mudslides, rock slides, erosion, and sedimentation.

**Golden Rule City** - A commitment by the City of Scottsdale to “do unto others as you would have them do unto you” in every aspect of how the city conducts business and relates to its citizens.

**Grade Separation** - Crossing facilities, including overpasses, underpasses, skywalks, or tunnels, that allow pedestrians and motor vehicles to cross a street at different elevations.

**Green Building** - The practice of increasing the efficiency of building resource use, including energy, water, and materials, while also reducing negative effects on human health and the environment during the building’s lifecycle through site layout, building design, construction, operation, maintenance, and removal.

**Green Building Program** - The Green Building Program is a voluntary building initiative for the development community including homeowners and building users in Scottsdale that are interested in living, working, worshipping, socializing, and entertaining in environmentally compatible, healthy buildings. The program encourages environmentally responsible building techniques, materials, and processes.

**Groundwater** - Water under the earth’s surface, often confined to aquifers, capable of supplying wells and springs.

**Growing Smarter Act** - 1998 State legislation governing long-range planning activities in Arizona cities and towns focused on a community’s General Plan. This legislation discusses the content, organization, amendment procedures, public involvement, notification requirements, 10-year update or re-adoption, and other procedural and material requirements.

**Growing Smarter Plus ACT** - 2000 State legislation that amended the original 1998 Growing Smarter Act. Growing Smarter Plus redefined major amendments to the General Plan and required that General Plan adoptions be ratified by a public vote after City Council approval.

**Growth Areas** - Areas of the community that best accommodate future growth allowing increased focus on creating or enhancing transportation systems and infrastructure coordinated with development activity.

## H

**Habitat** - The physical location or type of environment in which an organism or biological population lives or occurs.

**Hazardous Material or Waste** - A substance that could be harmful to people, animals, plants, and the environment, including pesticides, herbicides, poisons, toxic metals and chemicals, liquefied natural gas, explosives, volatile chemicals, and nuclear fuels.

**Heat Island** - The phenomenon involving elevated temperatures in urban/suburban areas as compared with outlying rural/undeveloped surroundings. Heat islands are generally caused by reduced vegetation, solar heat absorption, material heat capacity, use of energy, and building spacing.

**High-Capacity Transit** - Any transit technology that operates or functions to move a large number of passengers.

**High-Density** - A relative term, which may vary depending on the surrounding context, usually used to describe development dominated by multi-family housing, or areas generally more than eight and up to twenty-five dwelling units to an acre of land.

**Highest-Density** - A relative term, which may vary depending on the surrounding context, usually used to describe development dominated by multi-family housing, or mixed-use development in areas generally more than twenty-five dwelling units to an acre of land.

**Historic Preservation** - Private or public identification and protection of physical resources in the built environment of local, State, or national significance. The term can also refer to the process of maintaining resources as they were originally designed and built and preventing more deterioration.

**Historic Register, Scottsdale** - Refers to the official list of resources in the community that have been designated Historic Property (HP) overlay zoning district and have been placed on the Scottsdale Historic Register by City Council after a local public hearing process. The list of resources may include archaeological sites.

**Historic Resource** - Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, object, or landmark included in, or eligible for inclusion on, the National Register of Historic Places, the Arizona Register of Historic Places, or the Scottsdale Historic Register; including artifacts, records, and material remains related to such property or resource. Historic Resources include archaeological resources. (See also: Archaeological Resource and Cultural Resource)

**Homeowners' Association (HOA)** - An organization initially established by developers of residential subdivisions. Control of the entity is transitioned to a board of home owners. An HOA is typically responsible for administration of the subdivision's codes, covenants and restrictions (CC&Rs), and other property controls for maintaining a safe and quality environment and design uniformity. Most neighborhoods built in Scottsdale after 1980 have HOAs.

**Household Hazardous Waste** - Waste that is generated in the home that is toxic or hazardous to humans and the environment when discarded, including paint, motor oil, batteries, and household cleaning products.

**Human-Scale** - The proportional relationship of the physical environment to human dimensions in terms of bulk and massing of buildings or other features. An example of human-scale development is a multiple-story building with retail stores on the ground floor that provide visual interest at human-eye level using window displays and architectural features.

**Human Services** - An integrated system of social services, resources, and opportunities to help people improve their lives, the lives of others, neighborhoods, and the total community.

**Identity of Place** - The meaning and significance people individually or collectively assign to a place. Identity is influenced by physical aspects of a geographic location and its unique historic and cultural associations. Place identity has evolved as a planning concern in response to a loss of individuality and distinctiveness as represented by uniformity in design.



**Impact Fee** - See Development Fee

**Implementation** - In the context of the General Plan, implementation is an action, procedure, program, or technique that carries out General Plan goals and policies. For example, the Parks and Recreation Master Plan implements the goals and policies of the Open Space and Recreation Elements.

**Improvement** - 1) A change or addition by which something is made better; 2) Something done or added to real property, such as installation of infrastructure or landscaping, that increases the property's value; or 3) The upgrade or replacement of an existing utility or other public infrastructure.

**Improvement District** - A designated area of the city with specific boundaries that is assessed the costs of certain public improvements, including street paving, sidewalks, crosswalks, curbs, gutters, culverts, bridges, fire hydrants, sewers, power lines, water lines, and street lighting. (Refer to the Cost of Development Element for more information about improvement districts)

**Industrial Pretreatment Program** - The permitting and enforcing of regulatory standards to identify, reduce, or prevent commercial and industrial pollutants from discharging into the publicly owned treatment works.

**Infill, Infill Development** - Development of individual vacant lots or "leftover" vacant properties in areas already developed with access to services and infrastructure.

**Infill Incentive District** - An optional implementation tool allowed by the State of Arizona to encourage infill development in particular locations that meet statutory criteria. This tool recognizes that the strategic application of zoning district standards and regulations might inhibit infill, revitalization, and redevelopment and otherwise preclude the provision of public amenities and benefits. An Infill Incentive District is a regulatory mechanism and is different from general infill development. (See also: Infill)

**Infrastructure** - Public services and facilities, including sewage disposal systems, water supply systems, other utility systems, streets and roads, parks, and schools.

**In-Lieu Fee** - Cash payments that may be required of an owner or developer as a substitute for dedication of land or physical improvements.

**Intensity** - The relative measure of development impact, as defined by characteristics such as traffic generation, floor area ratio, and lot coverage; or, the level or concentration of activity occurring on a site or in an area. (See also: Floor Area Ratio and Density)

**Invasive Species** - A plant, animal, or microbial species introduced into an area accidentally or unknowingly that may adapt, thrive, and aggressively spread, stressing indigenous and balanced ecosystems.

J

K

## L

**Land Subsidence** - Sinking or downward settling of the earth's surface, not restricted in rate, magnitude, or area involved.

Subsidence may be caused by natural geologic processes, such as solution, compaction, or withdrawal of fluid lava from beneath a solid crust. Human activity such as subsurface mining or the pumping of oil or groundwater may also cause subsidence.

**Land Use Definitions** - Descriptions, including generalized densities, of each land use category in the Land Use Element that correspond to the categories on the Future Land Use map.

**(Future) Land Use Map** - A map in the General Plan Land Use Element that illustrates the general, planned distribution of land uses and intensities. It visually discerns land use compatibility and spatial relationships, establishes the physical form of the community, and identifies urban design opportunities. A land use map serves as a guide in the preparation of zoning ordinances and zoning district maps.

**Livability** - The balance of elements in the physical environment that contribute to the physical, social, economic, political, and emotional well-being of residents.

**Low-Density** - A relative term, which may vary depending on the surrounding context, usually used to describe development dominated by larger-lot, single-family housing, or areas generally one dwelling unit to one or more acres of land.

**Low-Impact Infrastructure, Green Infrastructure** - An approach to stormwater management that mimics the natural hydrology of a site and uses captured stormwater run-off. This contrasts with conventional methods that convey stormwater offsite as quickly as possible to regional drainage facilities. The low-impact model views stormwater as a resource, reduces stormwater runoff, uses natural systems for filtration, and helps protect ecologically sensitive areas within a development.

## M

**Major Street** - In the General Plan, an arterial street or freeway. Depending on context, such as in a Growth Area, major collector streets may be considered major streets.

**Mass, Massing** - The physical volume, shape, or bulk of a building or structure.

**Master-Planned Community** - A designed grouping of various compatible land uses, such as housing, recreation, shopping centers, and industrial parks, within one contained development or subdivision.

**(Scottsdale) McDowell Sonoran Preserve** - A permanently protected preserve of Sonoran Desert and mountains with the purpose of maintaining scenic views, protecting wildlife and desert plant habitat, and preserving archaeological and historical resources and sites, while providing public access for educational and passive outdoor recreational opportunities. Upon completion, Scottsdale's Preserve will consist of about one-third of the city's land mass.

**Mixed-Use** - Generally, a development type in which complementary and integrated uses, such as office, retail, resorts, and residential, are combined in the same building (vertical mixed-use) or within separate buildings on the same site or nearby sites (horizontal mixed-use). Refer to the Land Use Element for the Mixed Use Neighborhoods Land Use Category definition.

**Mode, Modal** - The form or method of travel distinguished by vehicle type, operation, technology, and rights-of-way separation.

**Moderate or Medium-Density** - A relative term, which may vary depending on the surrounding context, usually used to describe development dominated by a variety of single-family, two-family, or multi-family housing developments, or areas generally between more than one and eight dwelling units to an acre of land.

**Multi-Family Housing** - 1) A building, or part of a building, designed for occupancy by three (3) or more families; or 2) A housing variety associated with high- and moderate-density development within Suburban, Urban, and Mixed-Use Neighborhood land uses. Multi-family housing may be owner or renter occupied.

**Multimodal** - An approach to transportation that includes pedestrians, bicyclists, transit vehicles except rail and modern streetcar, equestrians, and motorists of all ages and abilities, and aims to create a comprehensive, integrated, and connected transportation network.

## N

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)** - Authorized by the Clean Water Act, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program controls water pollution by regulating sources of pollution that discharge into waters of the United States.

**National Register of Historic Places** - The Federal list of properties identified as worthy of preservation. Properties may be listed on the register or may be identified as being “eligible” or “potentially eligible.” Properties are usually listed in the National Register through nominations by the State Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO).

**Native Plants** - Plants indigenous to an area or from a similar climate and requiring little or no supplemental irrigation once established.

**Natural Area Open Space (NAOS)** - Areas of undisturbed natural desert, but may include revegetated areas.

**Natural Open Space** - Generally, an open space area that has largely maintained its natural environmental character, or has had its character restored with minimal man-made facilities. Natural open space may include structures for wildlife and plant habitat and passive recreation purposes. Refer to the Land Use Element for the Natural Open Space Land Use Category definition and the Open Space Element for the primary open space type definitions.

**Natural Resource** - A feature or phenomenon in nature that enhances the quality of human life, including land, water, air, vegetation, geology, animal habitat, and topography.

**Neighborhood** - A part of the city defined by characteristics that may include distinct ethnic or economic characteristics, housing types, schools, vicinity of a notable feature or landmark. Boundaries may be defined by physical barriers, such as major highways or natural features. Neighborhoods are often self-defined by the residents, property owners, and tenants or by homeowner and/or business associations.

For the purposes of the General Plan, unless otherwise described, neighborhoods are not exclusively residential or made up of a single housing type (i.e., single family, residential, or mixed use). The term “neighborhood” in its general use includes supporting uses such as shopping, schools, and places of worship and employment.

**Neighborhood Assemblage** - The process in which the owners of several properties in a neighborhood seek a buyer for their collective properties, or when a developer interested in a neighborhood for redevelopment seeks to put all properties under contract (also called a “buyout”). Neighborhood assemblages most often occur where land values may be increasing, such as near transportation improvements or near new office or commercial developments. The city has a Neighborhood Assemblage Policy (Resolution 3157, May 15, 1989) to help guide assemblage. (See also: Assemblage; Land, Property or Parcel)

**Neighborhood Park** - Park of roughly two (2) to ten (10) acres in size, intended to meet the recreation needs of people living or working within a one-half mile radius. Neighborhood parks provide primary recreation services and facilities; are easily accessible and available to local residents; serve a single neighborhood or several neighborhoods, depending on the location of the park; are preferably located with or next to elementary schools, neighborhood centers, or other gathering places; and are accessed mainly by pedestrians and bicycles.

**Neighborhood Plan** - The third level of Scottsdale planning. A neighborhood plan is a guide and framework for neighborhood decision-making. It includes broad statements about resident goals, preferences, and values for the neighborhood. It also contains recommendations for carrying out the goals and generally represents the consensus of the neighborhood.

**Neighborhood Street, Local Street** - A road that provides access to properties in a neighborhood. Not intended for through traffic or heavy traffic loads.

**Net-Zero Energy** - The practice of producing as much energy as is consumed by off-setting energy use through a combination of energy efficiency and renewable power.

**Noise** - Any undesired audible sound, especially one that is loud or disagreeable.

**Non-Renewable Resource** - Natural resources, such as fossil fuels and natural gas, that cannot be replaced once used.

**Non-Residential Land Use** - Any of a broad category of land use that does not contain housing, including, but not limited to, commercial, industrial, public, and institutional uses.



**Old Town** - In Scottsdale, the commercial, cultural, civic, and symbolic center of the community consisting of a vital mix of supporting land uses. Old Town Scottsdale is about two (2) square miles located generally south of Chaparral Road, west of Miller Road, north of Earll Drive, and east of 68th Street.

**Open Space** - Any parcel or area of water or land that is essentially unimproved and devoted to an open space use for the purpose of (1) the preservation of natural resources; (2) the managed production of resources; (3) outdoor recreation; or (4) public health and safety.

**Open Space, Common** - Land within or related to a development that is designed and intended for the common use or enjoyment of the residents, and not individually owned or dedicated for public use.

**Open Space, Useable** - Open space, which because of its size, function, visibility, accessibility, and strategic location, is a community amenity or resource.

**Ordinance** - A city-adopted law or regulation.

**Overlay Land Use Category** - A supplemental land use designation relating to the use or potential use of an area that differs or varies from the standards, requirements, and permitted uses associated with the base or underlying land use designation.

**Overlay Zoning District** - A method used to apply supplemental zoning provisions to a specific area's underlying or base zoning. An overlay zone might restrict certain uses or allow higher densities than would be permitted in the same zone in other parts of the city. The Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance district is an overlay zoning district.

## P

**Parcel** - A legally defined lot, or contiguous group of lots, in single ownership or under single control, and considered a unit for purposes of development and open space calculation.

**Park** - A tract of land designated and used by the public for active and passive recreation.

**Park-and-Ride** - A parking lot designed for drivers to leave their cars and use mass transit facilities beginning, ending, or stopping at the park-and-ride facility.

**Particulate Air Pollution** - A mixture of large and fine solid particles and liquid droplets found in the air.

**Passive Recreation** - Leisure activities that involve less energetic, individual, or non-organized (i.e., team) activities, such as walking, bicycling, horseback riding, running, sitting, hiking, skateboarding, picnicking, card and board games, or simply enjoying the natural environment.

**Path, Pathway** - A paved, shared-use, pedestrian, equestrian, or cyclist route or system.

**Pedestrian-Oriented** - A form of development that makes the street environment inviting for pedestrians.

**Placemaking** - A multi-faceted approach to the planning, design, and management of public spaces that emphasizes a local community's assets, and creating public spaces that foster people's health and well-being and give a place an identity.

**Planning Agency** - Per Ordinance 3956 (August 2011), the agency of the City of Scottsdale, consisting of the Department of Planning and the Department of Public Works, with the duty of administering the General Plan, as allowed per Arizona Revised Statutes 9-461.01.

**Planning Commission** - Seven (7) member citizen commission responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the City Council on proposals for development, the subdivision of land, amendments to zoning, land use studies, the annual Capital Improvement Program, the General Plan, and other development regulations.

**Predictive Modeling** - Utilizing computer systems to analyze large sets of data, including historical data, to help determine where to deploy resources.

**Preserve, Preservation** - To keep something protected from anything that would cause its quality or condition to change or deteriorate. (See also: (Scottsdale) McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Conservation, and Historic Preservation)

**Preserve Scenic Buffer** - A road designated in the General Plan to have an open space buffer (of a lesser extent than a Scenic Corridor) to maintain and enhance open space along streets within and adjacent to the Recommended Study Boundary (RSB) of the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Refer to the Open Space Element for Visually Significant Roadway designation definitions.

**Public Art** - Sculpture, painting, murals, and other forms of artwork that are placed in public spaces or in public view to enrich and add visual interest to the built environment.

**Public Hearing** - A meeting of a board, commission, or City Council that has been announced and advertised in advance, is open to the public, and during which the public is given an opportunity to talk and participate.

**Public Notification** - The advertisement of a public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation, and through other media sources describing time, place, and nature of the public hearing and where the application and documents may be inspected.

**Public/Private Partnership** - A merging of public and private resources to achieve an end result or product that would be difficult to achieve through public or private activity alone.

**Public Use** - Any building or property that serves a public function including, schools, libraries, City Hall, post offices, police and fire stations, and recreational and cultural facilities.

## Q

**Quasi-Governmental, Quasi-Public** - A private entity involved in the delivery of an essential governmental service or required government program.

## R

**Rainwater Harvesting** - Using landscaping and modified infrastructure to collect and direct rainwater to areas of soil where water infiltrates and is stored.

**Rare Species** - As designated by the Federal Government, an organism, plant or animal, that is uncommon, scarce, or infrequently encountered.

**Recharge, Groundwater** - The natural or human-induced process of infiltration and percolation of rainwater, surface water, or treated wastewater, from land areas, streams, or engineered methods through permeable soils into aquifers that provide underground storage.

**Reclaimed Water** - Wastewater that is treated to remove solids and certain impurities to a level that is suitable for such uses as turf irrigation, landscape application, water features, and aquifer recharge.

**Recommended Study Boundary (RSB) of the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve** - The Recommended Study Boundary (RSB) of the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve correlates with the land area the city desires to ultimately acquire through the preservation program and is the geographic area for which the Scottsdale voters approved the use of tax proceeds to purchase and maintain land for the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve.

**Recreational Facility** - A place designed and equipped for sports and leisure activities.

**Recycling** - The recovery of materials such as paper, glass, plastic, metals, construction and demolition material and organics from the waste stream, along with the transformation of those materials to make new products, thereby reducing the use of virgin raw materials. Recycling includes three steps which create a continuous loop: 1) collection and processing of recyclable materials, 2) manufacturing new products from recycled materials, and 3) purchasing products with recycled content.

**Redevelop, (Informal) Redevelopment** - To change the existing development in an area or on a property, sometimes by demolishing existing building; increasing the overall floor area existing on a property; or both. Sometimes this also involves a change in land use. (See also: Infill)

**Redevelopment Authority, Formal Redevelopment** - Refers to powers and tools granted by the State of Arizona to cities for the purpose of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of citizens by improvement of deteriorated urban conditions, acquiring property, and establishing open space and infrastructure. The use of these powers is limited to areas that are formally designated for redevelopment and under a redevelopment plan formally adopted by the City Council, which includes goals and policies that indicate the intent of plan.

**Rehabilitation, Rehabilitate** - The upgrading of a building previously in a dilapidated or substandard condition.

**Renewable Energy Source** - Energy sources that do not rely on fossil fuels, including, sunlight and wind.

**Resident** - A person of any age or capacity who lives or regularly stays in Scottsdale. Residents may be full-time, part-time, seasonal, or temporary.

**Resort** - A building or group of buildings that include guest rooms and visitor accommodations and may include any of the following amenities: outdoor recreation (e.g., golf, horseback riding), low to medium density residential developments, supporting commercial services (e.g., restaurants, gift shops) and institutional facilities, such as convention or meeting space. (Refer to the Land Use Element for the Resorts/Tourism Land Use Category definition)

**Resort Corridor** - The Resort Corridor consists of medium to low intensity development and exists along Scottsdale Road between East Highland Drive and Indian Bend Road. This corridor contains a mixture of land use classifications including mixed-use neighborhood and other uses that support, maintain, enhance, and expand hospitality/tourism land uses.

**Retail** - A place of business in which merchandise is sold to consumers.

**Revitalization** - Bringing new life or vigor to an area, often through public and private investment.

**Rezoning (Zoning District Map Amendment)** - To change the zoning classification of particular lots or parcels of land.

**Right(s)-of-Way** - The strip of land over which certain transportation and/or other public facilities are built, including roads, sidewalks, and utility lines. A public right-of-way is typically dedicated or deeded to the public for public use and controlled by a public agency, such as the city.

**Riparian Areas** - Includes both wet and dry varieties. Wet riparian areas include temporary and permanent streams with naturally occurring plants. Wet riparian areas are an important and rare habitat in Scottsdale. Dry riparian areas include major desert washes and minor floodways with naturally occurring plants.

**Runway Protection Zone (RPZ)** - A trapezoidal area at or beyond the airport runway end that should, where practicable, remain clear of all above-ground objects to enhance the safety and protection of people and property.

**Rural, Rural Area** - Generally, a less-developed area where the land is used primarily for low-density residential uses. These areas may include open space, and permitted uses such as ranches, stables, equestrian facilities and other equestrian-related uses, and those uses permitted by Use Permit. (Refer to the Land Use Element for the Rural Neighborhoods Land Use Category definition)

## S

**Safe Routes to School** - An approach that promotes walking and bicycling to school through infrastructure improvements, enforcement, tools, safety education, and incentives to encourage walking and bicycling to school.

**Safe-Yield** - A groundwater management goal to achieve and maintain a long-term balance between the annual amounts of groundwater extracted and recharged in an area.

**Salinity** - The amount of dissolved salt minerals in water, including calcium, magnesium, sodium, sulfate, and chlorides. Too much water salinity can negatively affect vegetation and reduce the life of household plumbing, fixtures, and appliances.

**Scale** - The relationship of a particular project or development, in terms of size, height, bulk, intensity, and aesthetics, to its surroundings.

**Scenic Corridor** - A major road designated in the General Plan that provides a large open space buffer to minimize the visual intrusion of neighboring development and maximize the unique character of different areas of the city. Refer to the Open Space Element for Visually Significant Roadway designation definitions.



**Scottsdale Visioning (Shared Vision)** - 1990-1992 citizen-driven process that established Four Dominant Themes and 24 Vision-Tasks that define Scottsdale's character and future.

**Sense of Place, Sense of Community** - The characteristics of a location that make it readily recognizable as being unique and different from its surroundings and that provides a feeling of belonging to or being identified with that particular place. (See also: Identity)

**Sensitive Design Principles** - Program and documents aimed at strengthening the focus on design in the community, promoting coordination of the city's design-related efforts and resources, and guiding discussion of design-related issues.

**Setback** - Typically, the distance between a property line and a building or structure. Depending on the specific zoning district, setbacks may be measured in different ways.

**Settling Pond** - An area dedicated to the separation and storage of waste residue generated from the water treatment process and stormwater runoff.

**Sewer** - Any pipe or conduit used to collect and convey sewage from the generating source to treatment plants.

**Shared-use Path** - Paths that accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.

**Sign Controls** - City regulations governing the location and design of signs.

**Signage** - Generally referring to public and private signs and their design attributes.

**Signature Special Events** - Annual events and event series staged in Scottsdale that generate significant economic activity, including major league baseball spring training, arts festivals, auto auctions (e.g., Barrett-Jackson, Russo and Steele), Culinary Festival, Native Trails, Rock and Roll Marathon, Arabian Horse Show, Parada del Sol Rodeo and Parade, and the Waste Management Phoenix Open.

**Single-Family** - A house intended for occupancy by one family that is structurally independent from any other dwelling unit.

**Smart Grid** - Controls, computers, automation, and other technologies and equipment that work with the electrical grid (i.e., network of transmission lines, substations and transformers that delivers electricity) to respond quickly and digitally to changing electric demand.

**Solid Waste** - Unwanted or discarded solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous material. Commonly referred to as "trash" or "garbage." As a general category, however, solid waste includes many items that are not "trash," such as metal, paper products, glass, and other recoverable resources.

**Specialty Park** - Park that provides specialized facilities and preserves significant, unique features of the community. Specialty parks generally serve the entire city or region; are located where necessary to capitalize or preserve an existing feature, facility, or market area; and may need either a high-degree of access or limited access, depending on purpose.

**Specialty Retail** - A retail store that focuses on specific or unique product categories, as opposed to retailers who sell a variety of consumer goods.

**Stakeholder** - A person who is involved with and/or affected by a course of action.

**Stepback** - In the General Plan, an arrangement of building forms, shapes, and massing that causes the building design to “move away,” “step back,” or recede from a property line or neighboring development to provide an open area above the first or second level of the building. The Zoning Ordinance delineates specific stepback requirements for zoning districts.

**Stormwater, Stormwater Runoff** - Water generated from rain, snowmelt, or drainage. Runoff is generated when precipitation flows over land or impenetrable surfaces (e.g., asphalt) and does not absorb into the ground. As runoff flows over the land, it accumulates debris, chemicals, sediment, and other pollutants that may adversely affect water quality, if untreated.

**Streetscape** - The combination of individual design elements that characterize the street frontages of the city. Some examples of these elements are landscaping, seating, lighting, and sidewalk design.

**Suburban, Suburban Area** - Generally low- to moderate-density and intensity development patterns consisting of residential uses and supporting commercial and employment uses. (Refer to the Land Use Element for the Suburban Neighborhoods Land Use Category definition)

**Sustainability** - For the purposes of the General Plan, sustainability is a condition of living that enables the present generation to enjoy social well-being, a vibrant economy, and a healthy environment, without compromising the ability of future generations to enjoy the same.

## T

**Telecommuting** - A trip reduction strategy and a work arrangement, where employees work at a location other than the primary work location, such as at home or in a subordinate office. (See also: Trip Reduction)

**Themed Streetscape** - A street in the General Plan that has, or is planned to have, streetscape design guidelines to provide a consistent, themed appearance along the street.

**Threatened Species** - As designated by the Federal Government, any species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant part of its range.

**Trails** - A shared-use pedestrian, equestrian, and/or bicyclist route or system that is not paved.

**Transit** - Transportation system mainly for moving many people and made available to the public, usually through paying a fare. Typical vehicles used for transit include buses, rail cars, and other fixed guideway vehicles.

**Transition** - 1) A gradual change from one development density or intensity to another, from one land use to another, or from a preserved area to a developed area; or 2) The placement of buildings and their forms, shapes, and massing that causes the building design to recede from the property line or neighboring development; provide open space and openings between buildings; and/or create compatible development between lower and higher intensities and densities.

**Transition Areas** - A change from one development area to another, either in terms of height, density, intensity, massing, or character – usually as a means to ensure compatibility between developments.

**Trip Reduction** - Techniques aimed at reducing traffic congestion, vehicle trips, and miles traveled with the main goal of improving air quality. Strategies include carpooling, transit use, walking, biking, telecommuting, and compressed work schedules (such as a 4-day work week).

## U

**Universal Design** - An idea that all environments and products should be accessible and useable by all people, regardless of age, size, or ability.

**Urban, Urban Area** - (1) Relating to or characteristic of a city; or (2) Generally characterized by moderate- to high-density and intensity development, walkability, and available public services to adequately serve high intensity development. Residential uses in urban areas tend to consist of multi-family types. (Refer to the Land Use Element for the Urban Neighborhoods Land Use Category definition)

## V

**View Corridor** - A line of sight between an observer and an object or feature of visual significance or sensitivity; area along major watercourses or other features to protect major wildlife habitat, protect distant views, separate land uses, and provide links for trails and paths.

**Viewsheds** - The major segments of the natural terrain that are visible above the natural vegetation.

**Vision** - A shared dream of the future characterized by long-term idealistic and aspirational thinking. The vision is the foundation for the development of goals, policies, and programs. Although a vision is not a binding goal, and may not be achievable in the lifetime of those participating in the drafting of the General Plan, it provides a picture of the community that the citizens desire.

**Visitor** - Includes tourists and travelers from outside of the region experiencing, staying, or working in Scottsdale for a defined and limited time. Visitors may also include short-term daily visitors engaged in various day or nighttime activities.

**Vista Corridor** - A major open space corridor that follows major watercourses or other features and protects major wildlife habitat, protects distant views, separates land uses, and provides links for trails and paths.

### **Visually Significant Roadways** -

Preservation of mountain viewsheds, the Sonoran Desert, natural features, and landmarks that enhance the unique image and aesthetics of major streets through open space buffering. Visually Significant Roadways include Desert Scenic Roadways (in ESLO districts), Scenic Corridors, roads with buffered setbacks, roads with specific streetscape design themes, and roads with specific design guidelines. Refer to the Open Space Element for Visually Significant Roadway designation definitions.

## W

**Wash** - Usually a watercourse that flows during flood events or intermittently. Washes are important wildlife corridors and habitats. (See also: Water Body; Water Course)

**Wastewater** - The used or effluent water from homes, communities, and businesses. It includes both domestic and commercial sewage and contains multiple types of pollutants.

**Water Body** - Any permanent or intermittent body of water, whether natural or artificial, including arroyos, washes, canals, riverbeds, and lakes. This excludes swimming and ornamental pools.

**Water Conservation** - Any beneficial reduction in water loss, use, or waste. This includes water management practices and programs that improve the use and/or efficiency of water, functional process, and behavior.

**Water Resources** - A term used to collectively describe the legal and physical water supply available to the city which includes groundwater, wastewater, reclaimed water, surface water, and precipitation.

**Watercourse** - A lake, riverbed, arroyo, wash, or other channel over which water flows at least periodically. Watercourses include specifically designated areas where substantial flood damage may occur.

**Watershed** - The area of land where all of the water underneath it, or draining off it, goes to the same place. All areas of Scottsdale drain into the larger Salt River and Gila River watersheds. Some areas of the community drain to smaller tributaries, including the Verde River, the Indian Bend Wash, and other minor watersheds.

**Wayfinding** - Enabling a person to find his or her way to a given destination through the use of landmarks, effective signage, and building design.

**Wildlife Corridor, Wildlife Movement Corridor, Migration Route** - Linkages of vegetated habitat areas that allow or facilitate wildlife movement between larger habitats in an urban environment.

**Workforce Housing** - A broad range of owner and renter residential housing, located in or near employment centers, and intended to appeal to essential workers in the community, including police officers, fire fighters, teachers, nurses and medical technicians, hospitality workers, and knowledge and office workers.

**Working Artists** - May include performers, authors, poets, writers, architects, fashion designers, photographers, cinematographers, art gallery owners, performance venue operators, cultural event producers, and others.

X

Y

Z

**Zero Waste** - The conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health.

**Zoning / Zoning Ordinance** - Land use regulations enacted by the city to create districts or zones that permit and identify special conditions within those zones. Land uses in each district are regulated according to type, density, height, lot size, placement, building bulk, and other development standards. The ordinances include procedures for changing the status of land use and physical development standards.

### 3. RELATED PLANS & POLICIES

#### A

- Airpark Circulation Study (2008)
- Airport Economic Benefit Update (2019)
- Airport FAA 14 CFR Part 150 Noise Compatibility Study (2005)
- Airport Master Plan (2015)
- Annexation Policy (1989)

#### B

#### C

- Cactus Corridor Area Plan (1992)
- Capital Improvement Plan\*
- CDBG Annual Action Plan\*
- Citizen Survey\*
- City of Scottsdale Charter
- City Code
- CityShape 2020 Comprehensive Report (1996)
- Commercial Solar Guidelines (2019)
- Community Cultural Assessment (2007)
- Community Services Master Plan (2015)
- Competitive Position Analysis and Recommendations (2010)
- Cultural Resources Master Plan (2016)

#### D

- Desert Foothills Character Area Plan (1999)
- Desert Open Space System Plan (1997)
- Desert Park Design Guidelines (1999)

- Design Guidelines\*
- Design Guidelines and Development Framework for the ASU-Scottsdale Center for New Technology and Innovation and the Surrounding Area (2005)
- Design Standards and Policies Manual (2018)
- Downtown Infill Incentive District (2010)
- Downtown Circulation Study (2006)
- Downtown Scottsdale Pedestrian Mobility Study (2007)
- Downtown Tourism Related Economic Feasibility Study (2018)
- Downtown Parking Study (2015)
- Drought Management Plan (2015 - 2018)
- Dynamite Foothills Character Area Plan (2000)

#### E

- East Shea Area Plan (1987)
- Economic Development Strategic Plan (2020)
- Economic Trends Quarterly/Annual Reports\*
- Energy Policy (1999)
- Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (1991 + amendments)
- Environmental Regulatory Guide (2014)
- Expressway/Shea Boulevard Policy (1995)
- Exterior and Site Lighting Design Guidelines\*

\*UPDATED ANNUALLY/PERIODICALLY

F

- Fire Department Strategic Plan\*
- Fiscal Sustainability Analysis (2010)
- Frank Lloyd Wright Streetscape Design Guidelines (1991)
- Future In Focus Process Summary (2000)

G

- General Plan Assessment Report (2009)
- General Plan Development Forecast Update (2020)
- Golden Rule City (2017)
- Golf Course Policy (1997)
- Great Sonoran Desert Design Concepts (1996)
- Greater Airpark Character Area Plan (2010)
- Greater Phoenix Green Infrastructure Handbook: Low Impact Development (LID) Details for Alternative Stormwater Management (2019)
- Green Building (LEED™) Policy for New City Construction and Remodels (2005)
- Green Building Design Principles\*
- Green Building Program and Guidelines\*
- Green Building: Home Remodeling Guidelines for Sustainable Building in the Sonoran Desert (2005)

H

- Housing and Human Services: Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choices (2011 - 2016)

- Housing and Human Services: Five-Year Consolidated Plan (2010 - 2015)
- Housing and Human Services: Section 8 Annual Agency Plan\*
- Human Services Plan (2020)

I

- Integrated Water Resources Master Plan (2020)
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Strategic Plan (2003)
- International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for Commercial and Residential Projects\*
- International Green Construction Code (IGCC) For Commercial Projects\*

J

K

L

- Land Divisions Ordinance (2007)
- Land Use Assumptions Report (2017)
- Library System Strategic Plan (2019)
- Lodging Statistics Report - Tourism and Events\*
- Longwoods Return to Sample Report - Tourism and Events\*
- Longwoods Visitor Research Report - Tourism and Events\*

*\*UPDATED ANNUALLY/PERIODICALLY*

M

- MAG Active Transportation Plan (2020)
- MAG Complete Streets Guide (2011)
- MAG Desert Spaces Environmentally Sensitive Development Areas Policies and Design Guidelines (2000)
- MAG Desert Spaces Plan (1995)
- MAG Pedestrian Plan (2000)
- MAG Pedestrian Policies and Design Guidelines (2005)
- MAG Regional Bikeway Master Plan (2007)
- MAG Regional Off-Street System Plan (2001)
- Maricopa County Active Transportation Plan (2018)
- Maricopa County Parks and Recreation - Maricopa Trail Maps\*
- Maricopa County Parks and Recreation - Strategic System Master Plan Report (2009)
- Maricopa County Regional Trail System Plan (2004)
- McDowell Road Design Guidelines (2003)
- McDowell Sonoran Preserve Access Area Design and Site Standards (1999)
- McDowell Sonoran Preserve Ordinance (2000)

N

- Neighborhood Assemblage Policy (1993)
- Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Policy & Procedures (2010)

O

- Old Town Scottsdale Character Area Plan (2018)
- Old Town Scottsdale Urban Design and Architectural Guidelines (2019)
- Operating Budget\*

P

- Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2004)
- Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan (2019)
- Peaceful Valley Neighborhood Plan (1992)
- Police Department Strategic Plan\*
- Power Line Undergrounding Ordinance (1979)
- Principles for Civil Dialogue (2013)
- Protection of Archaeological Resources Ordinance (1999)
- Public Art Master Plan (2012)

Q

R

- Report of the Visioning Scottsdale Town Hall (2013)
- Residential Solar Guidelines (2016)
- Roadway Noise Abatement Policy (2011)

S

- Scenic Corridor Design Guidelines (2004)

\*UPDATED ANNUALLY/PERIODICALLY

- Scenic Corridor Policy (2001)
- Scottsdale Arts Annual Report (2018 - 2019)\*
- Scottsdale Arts Overview & Campus Vision (2019)
- Scottsdale Arts Strategic Plan (2018 - 2020)\*
- Scottsdale Cultural Assessment (2021)\*
- Scottsdale Cultural Council Annual Report\*
- Scottsdale Cultural Council Strategic Plan (2011)
- Scottsdale Road Streetscape Design Guidelines (2008)
- Scottsdale Town Enrichment Program (S.T.E.P.) Summaries (1969 - 1982)
- Scottsdale Water Strategic Plan (2019 - 2024)
- Sensitive Design Principles (2001)
- Shared Vision Report (1992)
- Shea Area Plan (1993)
- Shea Boulevard Streetscape Design Guidelines (1994)
- Sherwood Heights Neighborhood Plan (2002)
- Southern Scottsdale Character Area Plan (2010)
- Stormwater Management Plan (2015)
- Strategic Plan for a Comprehensive Sonoran Desert Preservation Program (1997)
- Strategy for the Preservation and Creation of High-Quality, Safe, and Affordable Housing, (1999)

- Sustainable City Facilities Policy (2001)

T

- Tourism Related Downtown Economic Feasibility Study [Downtown 2.0] (2017)
- Tourism and Marketing 5-Year Strategic Plan (2013)
- Trails Master Plan: On The Right Trail (2004)
- Transportation Master Plan (2016)

U

V

- Via Linda Streetscape Design Guidelines (1994)
- Visitor Statistics Report - Tourism and Events\*

W

- Waterfront Infill Incentive District (2003)
- WestWorld Master Plan (2003)

X

Y

Z

- Zoning Ordinance\*

*\*UPDATED ANNUALLY/PERIODICALLY*



## 4. HISTORICAL CONTENT



### SCOTTSDALE'S PAST

1950s

When incorporated in 1951, Scottsdale was a small community of 2,000 residents situated on about two square miles. The community developed as a commerce center for local agricultural activity. Few paved roads existed, and daily activities focused on working in citrus groves, cotton fields, dairy farms, and shopping in the downtown area.

As a small community, much of the first 60 years of Scottsdale's business activity focused around the needs and functions of an agricultural community. The seeds for future economic growth evolved from local residents' and visitors' interests in art, hospitality, health, and well-being. Small artist communities, galleries, resorts, dude ranches, and equestrian breeding establishments began to spring up in the community. Partially because of the exposure the area received during World War II as a location for military training, new businesses moved facilities to the area in the 1950s.

In the early to mid-1950s several events took place that would set the city's growth and character in motion. First, the Chamber of Commerce recognized the benefit and potential growth of the winter visitor and tourist market. Many distinctive projects and events were developed, such as the Parada Del Sol, Spring Training baseball, the opening of the Safari and Valley Ho hotels, apartment housing for winter visitors, "The West's Most Western Town" slogan, and the western retrofit of the original Downtown and 5th Avenue shopping districts. Second, Motorola opened major plants at the southern end of the community and in nearby east Phoenix, bringing strong population growth of well-educated and skilled employees from the upper Midwest. Third, in response to the population growth, the community saw the beginning of single-family tract housing development south of the downtown area. This, along with the expansion of Arizona State University into a major university, brought about Scottsdale's first major growth period in the late 1950s and early 1960s.



## 1960s

From 1960 to 1970 the city experienced explosive growth in housing and population. The population grew from approximately 10,000 to 67,000. The typical family had four or five members, and the head of the family usually had at least some college education, if not a degree. Most people lived in single-family homes on modest sized lots, similar to housing development occurring at the same time in suburbs across the country. The city annexed rapidly, first southward from Old Town and later northward to Deer Valley Road, growing from about two square miles to over 60 square miles. With the notable exception of a few major industrial plants and resorts, this early growth did not include a strong balance of services, mixed employment, or public amenities.

Key decisions made in collaboration by the residents and business owners in the 1960s through the Scottsdale Town Enrichment Program (S.T.E.P.), further spurred the nature and quality of growth in the community. The first decision to become a full-service resort destination led to the construction of many new resorts, specialty retail, and high-end shopping. Another key decision turned the airport into a vital facility surrounded by a major center of business activity. These actions have led to high quality development and a favorable setting for small and innovative businesses.

During the late 1960s, Los Arcos Mall, Scottsdale Fashion Square Mall, and the growth of small businesses in and around Old Town established major service uses. The beginnings of a strong public park system and creation of the Civic Center Complex were some of the first public amenities built. Greater housing variety began to occur with the introduction of townhomes and the first apartments not oriented toward winter visitors.

## 1970s

In the early 1970s another growth spurt occurred, and with it, the first master planned development in the city—McCormick Ranch. This project would inspire many subsequent developments throughout the Phoenix Metropolitan Area. With the advent of master planned development came new concepts and policies, such as developer-built public improvements, contributions to the infrastructure, and amenities to support new neighborhoods. Before this time, most infrastructure had been built using public funds from Maricopa County bonds, Federal Government grants, and local improvement districts. Besides providing public amenities, McCormick Ranch introduced private amenities and strong property owner associations. To absorb the costs of these amenities, new housing became noticeably more expensive, establishing a trend for upper-middle and high-end housing costs that still exists in the community.

From the mid-1970s through the mid-1980s, the city experienced periods of slow growth followed by major growth upswings. Through these cycles, the predominant growth focus was on master planned developments, like McCormick Ranch, Scottsdale Ranch, and Gainey Ranch. Large multifamily housing filled in remaining parcels in the southern parts of the city. Two periods of resort growth also occurred: the first, in the mid-1970s, resulted in a “resort corridor” along Scottsdale Road from Chaparral Road to McCormick Parkway. The second brought full-service luxury resorts, such as the Gainey-Hyatt and Scottsdale Princess. The Scottsdale Airport grew in activity, and the surrounding employment areas began to form during this period. In addition, the Mayo Clinic opened, bringing new interest in healthcare and biomedical uses to the community and its growing senior population. Part-time resident growth continued, but more so in low-density, single-family housing than in the townhome and apartment developments of years past.

Reflecting strong community sentiment to protect the McDowell Mountains and retain natural desert areas, the city adopted zoning regulations in 1977 called the Hillside Ordinance. This ordinance established where development could occur on desert and mountain lands and prohibited development on high mountain slopes. The ordinance was legally challenged soon after its adoption in November 1977. In 1985, the Appeals Court declared the Hillside Ordinance unconstitutional, and the Arizona Supreme Court upheld that decision in July 1986. Scottsdale used interim ordinances to continue protection of the desert while working on the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO), which was adopted in February 1991.

## 1980s

The city doubled in size with annexations that took place between 1982 and 1984. In these new areas of the city, a number of large projects had been approved under the prior Maricopa County jurisdiction, and most were within the Hillside and ESLO zoning districts. These projects were restructured in the city in the mid-1980s, and by the 1990s, were beginning final planning and construction. This created a new sense of character in the community with the protection of native plants, desert open spaces, and hillsides. Overall densities declined as compared with earlier development periods in the city.

1980s & 1990s

Beginning in the mid-1980s, the percentage of low-density custom homes increased in the northern part of the city. In the late 1980s, a growth slowdown occurred, followed in the early and mid-1990s by the strongest growth the city had experienced since the mid-1950s. While the dominance of growth in master planned communities continued, this growth period broadly diversified the geography of where development occurred. By the mid-1990s, virtually all new housing was built north of Shea Boulevard, with the majority being north of Bell Road. By 2000 nearly 80% of residential building was custom homes.



2000s & Today

As the community has matured, it has become a major center of economic activity maintaining strong tourism, healthcare, education, business services, and retail sectors. The growing diversity of local business activity has allowed the area to adjust as the regional and national economy has evolved, creating a more stable economic and fiscal environment.

Since 2000, Scottsdale has begun to experience increased revitalization in mature parts of the city. Old Town has experienced an influx of residents who prefer urban-style living choices over the suburban and rural parts of Scottsdale. McDowell Road has experienced significant changes with the Los Arcos Mall redevelopment into ASU/SkySong Innovation Center and the outflow of auto dealerships along the “Motor Mile.” The Airpark has become one of the largest employment centers in the State, anchored by one of the busiest business aviation airports in the nation—Scottsdale Airport. Primary development focus in the community has shifted from the large single-family subdivisions and master planned communities to a focus on infill and revitalization projects.



## DESERT AND MOUNTAIN PRESERVATION EFFORTS

In 1990, Scottsdale citizens (through the non-profit McDowell Sonoran Land Trust, today called the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy) began the process of preserving Scottsdale's McDowell Mountains and Sonoran Desert. The goal is to preserve approximately 34,000 acres, equal to 1/3 of Scottsdale's total land area, or 53 square miles. The area is defined as the Recommended Study Boundary (RSB) for the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve and voter approved tax dollars can only be used within this boundary.



The Preserve consists of mountains, Sonoran Desert, and natural corridors linking to natural open spaces in neighboring communities, the Tonto National Forest, and Maricopa County Regional Park. Because of these connections, the Preserve is a large sustainable natural desert habitat for wildlife and desert plants, which was made available for appropriate passive recreation to allow residents and visitors to experience and enjoy the Preserve.

In 1995, Scottsdale voters approved a 0.2% tax increase to purchase land in the original 16,640-acre RSB. In 1998, voters approved an expansion of the RSB, to approximately 34,000 acres. In 2004, Scottsdale voters approved an additional 0.15% increase in the sales tax for land acquisition and also to provide appropriate public access. In 2018, voters passed a City Charter amendment that would require public approval of any construction in the Preserve, beyond currently planned trailheads.

A total of 19,643 acres in the RSB were State Trust Land. In 1998, all of the State Trust Land in the original boundary (2,762 acres) and 317 acres next to the County Regional Park was reclassified as suitable for conservation under the Arizona Preserve Initiative (API). As a result, in 1998, the City of Scottsdale petitioned the State Land Department to reclassify the remaining 16,600 acres of State Trust Lands as suitable for conservation. In 2001, the State Land Commissioner reclassified approximately 13,000 acres as suitable for conservation with a deed restriction to ensure that the property purchaser would be required to conserve these lands. In return, the city agreed to rezone the remaining State Trust land to increase its value to make up for the loss to the land department caused by the reclassification (4-GP-2002).

As of 2020, approximately 30,000 acres of the planned 34,000 acres has already been acquired or protected as part of the Preserve. As such, the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve is one of the largest preserves located within city limits in the United States. When combined with the city's Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO), which preserves the natural desert and environmentally sensitive land features, as development occurs outside the Preserve, the city and its citizens have shown a major commitment to preserving its mountain and desert features for residents, visitors, and future generations.

## HISTORY OF GENERAL PLANNING IN SCOTTSDALE

In 1960, Maricopa County prepared the first Comprehensive Plan for Scottsdale, which included a Land Use Element and street plans and covered an area of about 15 square miles between McKellips Road on the south, Indian Bend Road on the north, Pima Road on the east, and 64th Street on the west.



In 1966, the Scottsdale Town Enrichment Program (S.T.E.P.) involved 300 citizen participants and numerous civic organizations in discussing the future of the community. These forums spurred a comprehensive General Plan study (by Eisner-Stewart and Associates) and a 1967 City Charter amendment to require the adoption of a comprehensive plan. The Eisner-Stewart Plan included Land Use, Circulation, and Public Facilities Elements and covered an area of about 80 square miles from Deer Valley Road to McKellips Road. It recommended reinforcement of the Civic Center/Old Town as the city's governmental, civic, and cultural hub; the concentration of employment uses in the Airpark area; residential uses to the east of the Airpark area to support the employment uses; and a system of parks and recreation uses, including the Indian Bend Wash.

Between 1972 and 1975, the comprehensive General Plan process included updates to the Land Use and Circulation Elements and the McCormick Ranch Center General Plan Amendment. In 1976, the Northeast Area Plan was prepared for an area covering 25 square miles north and east of the Central Arizona Project (CAP) aqueduct to Deer Valley Road and the eastern corporate boundary. This planning project involved twelve months of dialogue among a variety of study groups and public hearings, as well as, the participation of the City Council, Planning Commission, and city staff. It designated a "future development line" beyond which development would not occur for ten years.

In the 1980s and 1990s, city staff updated the Land Use, Environmental Design, Circulation, and Public Facilities Elements of the General Plan.

Following recommendations from the CityShape 2020 process, the city created an Interim General Plan and added an Economic Element in 1998.

The 1998 Growing Smarter and 2000 Growing Smarter Plus Acts required all Arizona cities and towns to update their General Plans by December 2001 and have such plans ratified by a vote of the public. This legislation was the impetus for the review and update of Scottsdale's General Plan beginning in the summer of 1999. The new Plan included new State-mandated elements, the recommendations from CityShape 2020, and a Community Involvement Element. The Plan was adopted by the City Council in 2001 and ratified by the voters in 2002.

By 2011, it had been ten years since the City Council’s adoption of the 2001 General Plan, requiring an update to meet state requirements. The City of Scottsdale, working with a citizen task force and three-year community engagement process, created a 2011 General Plan - encompassing thousands of participants and work hours. The updated Plan included new State-mandated elements and other State and local law changes since 2001. The 2011 General Plan was adopted by the City Council but was not ratified by the Scottsdale voters in March 2012.

In fall 2012, based on feedback from the community, the City Council directed the Planning Department to again provide an inclusive process to create a new General Plan for community consideration. The City of Scottsdale hired the non-profit organization, Arizona Town Hall, to conduct a Town Hall of 100 community members representing all different perspectives in Scottsdale. The committee of 100 worked for three days to create draft Community Values and a Vision Statement for the General Plan. After the Town Hall event, the City Council asked Arizona Town Hall to select a 25-member Task Force to represent the different perspectives of the community. Furthermore, the community-at-large discussed major community topics identified during the 2011 General Plan process—such as Land Use, General Plan Amendment Criteria, Character Areas, Growth Areas, economic development, neighborhoods, and transportation—at community workshops. The Task Force developed the General Plan considering all community input. The General Plan Task Force presented a draft General Plan 2035 to the Scottsdale Planning Commission in November 2014. That plan included updates to all elements, the addition of two new State-mandated elements—Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalization Element and Energy Element—as well as two new community-created elements—Arts, Culture & Creative Community Element and Healthy Community.

**A LEGACY OF CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT**

The formulation of the Scottsdale Town Enrichment Program (S.T.E.P.) forums was likely the most significant public participation event in the history of the city. This involvement of interested, creative, and collaborative citizens made Scottsdale different from the multitude of similar suburbs. The S.T.E.P. forums set the bar for how our citizens expect to be involved in decision-making about the community’s future. Subsequent public participation programs have occurred over the decades, including Scottsdale Visioning, CityShape 2020, and Future In Focus, to ensure that Scottsdale’s legacy of citizen involvement continues.

Unlike many communities, Scottsdale’s tradition of community involvement is characterized through numerous standing and ad hoc committees, commissions, and boards addressing a wide range of subjects. This pattern has raised the level of expectation for citizen involvement to essentially a mandate.

HISTORY OF GENERAL PLANNING IN SCOTTSDALE

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
<b>Major City Milestones</b>	Incorporation (1951) Major Annexations (1956 - 1964 )	City Charter (1962) Scottsdale Town Enrichment (S.T.E.P. Forums) (1964 -1974) East Shea Annexation (1975)	Scottsdale Vision 2000 Update (1981-1982) Indian Bend Wash (1984) North Area Annexations (1982-1984)	Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve			
<b>Arizona State Statutes</b>		Arizona's General Plan Statute Created (1972)	Arizona's Growing Smarter Act (1998) Arizona's Growing Smarter Plus Act (2000) HB 2638 Energy Element Regulatory Bill of Rights (2007) SB 1598 (2011)	HB 2080 Utility Planning (2006) SB 1385 NPR Element (2008)			
<b>City's General Plan</b>	Comprehensive Plan for Scottsdale (Maricopa County) (1960) Establish Zoning Commission (Duty to create a Comprehensive Plan) (1951)	General Plan (Eisner-Stewart) (1967) General Plan Review (Wisley-Ham) (1972-1973) City Charter Requires Comprehensive Plan (1967)	General Plan Update (1980-1981) Interim General Plan (1997) Scottsdale Visioning City-Shape 2020 (1991-1992) (1995-1996)	General Plan Update (1992) Reformat/Reprint (1998) General Plan Update (2001/2002) Future in Focus (2000)	General Plan Update (Not Ratified) (2009-2011) 2001 General Plan Continued Compliance (2019) General Plan 2035 (2012-2021)		
<b>Major Comprehensive Area Plans</b>		Northeast Area Plan (1976)	Airport Area (1984) Scottsdale Foothills (1984) Tonto Foothills (1986)	C.A.P. Corridor Study (1988)			
<b>Character Area Plans</b>		Shea/Scottsdale (1979)	Downtown (1984) East Shea (1987)	Cactus Corridor (1992) Shea Area (1993)	Desert Foothills (1999) Downtown Update (2009) Greater Airport (2010) Southern Scottsdale (2010) Old Town UDAG (2019)		
<b>Major Zoning Ordinances &amp; Districts</b>	Original Ordinance (1953)	Major Update (1961)	Hillside Ordinance (1977) Major Update (1969)	Downtown Ordinance (1986) Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO) (1991)	Downtown Overlay (2003) Historic Preservation District (1999) Foothills Overlay (2001)	PUD (2008) Central Business District (2010) Downtown Infill Incentive (2010)	PCP (2013)
<b>Citywide Master Plans</b>		Transportation (1973) Bikeways (1974)	Trails (1978) Parks (1979)	Trails (1985) Parks (1996)	Water and Sewer (1992) → Bikeways (1996)	Bikeways/Trails/Transportation (2008) Parks (2005)	Human Services Library System (2015) Stormwater Management (2015) Cultural Resources (2016) Transportation (2016) Library System (2019) Parks & Recreation (2019) Integrated Water Resources (2020) Economic Development (2020)



## THE FOUNDATION FOR THE COMMUNITY VISION

Each of us has a vision of what Scottsdale should be like in the future. Although our visions are different, they share common qualities. Unanimous agreement about the future is not the goal of the General Plan. Rather, it strives to create balance and blending of opinions to form a community that collectively manages change. Only then can we retain the community’s unique characteristics and still welcome the future.

The Scottsdale General Plan 2035 strives to reflect the coherent vision, aspirations, and community values of a diverse population.

The community vision is built on a foundation of citizen involvement. Building on the Scottsdale Town Enrichment Program (S.T.E.P.) forums of the 1960s, 1970s, and early 1980s, two community visioning processes, Scottsdale Visioning (1991-92) and CityShape 2020 (1994-96), identified Dominant Themes and created Guiding Principles for the community. These ideas were carried forward into the 2001 General Plan and validated through voter ratification. During the General Plan 2035 process, the community has retained these themes and principles by summing them up into primary Community Aspirations for Scottsdale’s future—Exceptional Experience, Outstanding Livability, Community Prosperity, and Distinctive Character. Differences of opinion about what the future should bring will always exist, but it is evident that the foundation laid by our legacy of community visioning holds true.



## Scottsdale Visioning and the Shared Vision

In 1991, a “community visioning” process began to identify the most important and significant beliefs and desires about the long-term future of the community. In December 1992, the City Council accepted a report outlining Scottsdale’s Shared Vision. The Shared Vision identified four mutually supportive Dominant Themes, which reflect Scottsdale’s special qualities and are the foundation for Scottsdale’s long-term vitality. The Four Themes represent who we are and present an inspiring vision of our emerging special place in the broader regional, national, and global economy.



The Four Dominant Themes were:

- **Sonoran Desert:** Our growth and development should proceed with clear awareness of the impact on our rare and beautiful environment.
- **Resort Community:** Tourism and the constant influx of people from all over the world strongly affect our way of life as well as our economy.
- **Arts & Culture:** Scottsdale’s cultural assets are an integral part of the community and a basis for further development.
- **Health & Research:** Scottsdale has a culture of wellness and an optimistic spirit of innovation. Health, biotechnology, computer, and other high-tech businesses are a natural fit for the growing diversity of our community.

*“Building on its southwestern heritage, stylish reputation, and innovative methods for delivering municipal services, Scottsdale has evolved into an internationally recognized resort center, art community, and health care provider. The desert community of Scottsdale has always been its own special place. It has never tried to be all things to all people.”*

*- Scottsdale Shared Vision 1992*

## CityShape 2020

After the Visioning process, a comprehensive review of the General Plan called CityShape 2020, occurred in late 1994. CityShape 2020 was an extensive educational and community outreach process responsible for reaffirming and improving the General Plan as an expression of the Shared Vision. Completed in 1996, the recommendations from the CityShape 2020 process are the basis for planning in Scottsdale today. The recommendations include:

- Six Guiding Principles (the principles are equal, with no priority in the listing):
  - **Preserve Meaningful Open Space:** The City of Scottsdale is committed to promoting the acquisition, dedication, and setting aside of open space as a community amenity and in support of the tourism industry in Scottsdale.
  - **Enhance Neighborhoods:** Scottsdale’s residential and commercial neighborhoods are a major defining element of this community. The quality of our experience as a Scottsdale citizen is expressed first and foremost in the individual neighborhoods where we live, work, and play. Scottsdale is committed to maintaining and enhancing our existing and future neighborhoods. Development, revitalization, and redevelopment decisions, including rezoning and infrastructure planning, must meet the needs of our neighborhoods in the context of broader community goals.
  - **Seek Sustainability:** Scottsdale is committed to the effective management of its finite and renewable environmental, economic, social, and technological resources to ensure that they serve future needs.
  - **Support Economic Vitality:** Scottsdale is committed to the goal of supporting its existing economic strengths by targeting new opportunities which can diversify our economic base; providing for the fiscal health of the city; and forming partnerships with the community, which strengthen our ability to meet this goal.
  - **Advance Transportation:** The transportation system must be the backbone of Scottsdale, supporting its economy and serving and influencing its land use patterns in a positive way.
  - **Value Scottsdale’s Unique Lifestyle and Character:** Scottsdale offers a superior and desirable Sonoran Desert lifestyle for its citizens and visitors. The preservation of this unique lifestyle and character will be achieved through a respect for our natural and man-made environment, while providing for the needs of our citizens.
- An enhanced focus on “character and quality” in development; and
- A three-level approach to planning: Citywide, Character Area, and Neighborhood Planning

Both the Shared Vision and CityShape 2020 recommendations are reflected in General Plan 2035’s vision, aspirations, values, and goals and policies.

## **Future in Focus/2001 General Plan**

Future in Focus was a community effort to re-evaluate Scottsdale's General Plan, bring it up to date with the Growing Smarter and Growing Smarter Plus ACTS, and make sure the overall direction for our city's development (through the General Plan) was still in line with the community's vision and goals. Future in Focus examined the vision created through Scottsdale Visioning and CityShape 2020 in the light of changes that had occurred between 1990 and 2000. The process resulted in the 2001 General Plan, which was subsequently ratified by the Scottsdale voters in 2002, per State mandate.

Based on input received from Scottsdale community members, the 2001 General Plan focused on:

- Growth management policies;
- Strengthening and preserving community character and neighborhoods;
- Involving the community in the decision-making process;
- Expanding transportation choices; and
- Housing affordability and the need for moderately priced senior living facilities.



Using community input throughout Scottsdale's 2001 General Plan process ensured that the plan incorporated the diversity of perspectives and beliefs held by Scottsdale community members.

*"The importance of community participation in the process to update the General Plan cannot be underestimated. For a General Plan to meet the needs, expectations, and ultimate desires of its community, it must thoroughly consider all sectors of the community, consider various positions and alternatives, and ultimately analyze and present the results in a fair and non-biased manner."*

*- Future in Focus Community Involvement Outreach Summary, November 2000*

## Scottsdale General Plan 2035

General Plan 2035 started with a conversation about how Scottsdale should evolve over the next 20 years. That conversation began in early 2013 with a group of 80 youth in the Future Leaders Town Hall, followed by a consortium of 100 community members in the Visioning Scottsdale Town Hall. The conversation lasted for more than two years.



More than 1000 people were directly involved in the conversation—through one-on-one discussions; workshops; photo contests; online questionnaires; written submissions; Task Force, Planning Commission and City Council meetings; and community conversations. Many more were indirectly part of the conversation—by talking with each other, reading articles, blogging, and viewing General Plan exhibits and posters. Over the course of two years, ideas flowed. People listened, shared, and discussed hard topics.

In 2014, the effort culminated in the release of a draft 2035 Task Force recommended plan. However, due to other community initiatives, the draft plan never progressed through the State Statute required public hearing process, nor was the plan considered for adoption or ratification. In 2020, the 2014 Task Force draft plan was chosen as the baseline plan to begin a new General Plan update process. A Citizen Review Committee made up of representatives from city boards and commissions was formed to review the Task Force draft 2035 plan and provide suggested updates to it. As part of both the 2012 - 2014 and 2020 processes, some of the major concepts the community discussed included:

- Scottsdale is a special city in the heart of the Sonoran Desert.
- Scottsdale’s appearance, climate, specialty businesses, culture, leisure opportunities, education, and healthcare are what bring visitors and businesses to the community.
- Scottsdale is a mosaic of diverse neighborhoods, each one contributing in its own way to the “picture” that is Scottsdale.
- Recognizing that growth will continue in the city, the community insists on contextually-sensitive, responsible, and managed growth. The goal is not to be the fastest growing city in Arizona, but rather, continue to make Scottsdale the best place for growth that is likely to occur.
- Scottsdale is and should continue to be an economic destination city, this includes:
  - National and international tourists;
  - Regional visitors/shoppers;
  - Specialty, high-end retail;
  - A world class educational system;
  - A well-educated workforce and high-paying jobs;
  - A diversity of large and small businesses in a variety of sectors; and

- A place for a variety of socioeconomic levels and demographic groups.
- Scottsdale is a leader in preserving the natural environment and open spaces, as well as promoting environmentally-sensitive development.
- Scottsdale strives to be healthy and interconnected through a variety of transportation choices, continues to excel in environmental initiatives, and provides open space and recreation opportunities for community members.
- Scottsdale continues to be a multi-generational community, with people living here during all life stages.
- Some recognized challenges in the future include:
  - Accommodating growth in a sensitive and economically-responsible way;
  - Recognizing Scottsdale’s population is aging and has one of the highest elderly populations in the country, we must continue to expand support and services to this growing demographic;
  - Realizing the community is reaching build-out, and therefore, future development will be primarily infill or redevelopment; it will be important to ensure this development integrates into existing neighborhoods;
  - Providing a range and diversity of housing options for the community;
  - Although the community will continue to use the automobile as the primary means of travel, encouraging use of a variety of mobility choices will enhance community health, reduce traffic congestion, and connect residents and visitors to destinations without using a car;
  - As established areas of Scottsdale revitalize and regenerate, providing access to significant, useable public open spaces and recreation opportunities will be important; and
  - Ensuring prudent implementation of the General Plan for consistency with the community’s vision and values.

These citizen participation processes, encompassing thousands of work hours, have helped to define the future vision for the community and provided new tools with which to achieve that vision. The General Plan is one of those tools.



# 5. PHOTO CREDITS\*

\*Unless noted below, photo by City of Scottsdale

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George 'Doc' Cavalliere Park



## 6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Linda Milhaven

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George Ertel

Barry Graham

Renee Higgs

William Scarbrough

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Ross Cromarty (Neighborhood Advisory Commission, Resigned 8/20/2020)

Steve Dodd (McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission)

Janice Eng (Human Services Commission)

Shakir Gushgari (Development Review Board, Effective 10/15/2020)

Pamela Iacovo (Transportation Commission)

Ryan Johnson (Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission)

Kurt Jones (Parks and Recreation Commission)

Carol Miraldi (Neighborhood Advisory Commission, Effective 8/20/2020)

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Shiela Reyman (Library Board)

William Scarbrough (Development Review Board, Resigned 10/6/2020)

Blair Schweiger (Historic Preservation Commission)

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Janice Shimokubo (Human Relations Commission)

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Kathe Barnes (6/3/2013 - 11/3/2014)	Loren Molever (6/3/2013 - 11/3/2014)
Mike Bergfeldt (8/19/2013 - 11/3/2014)	Jude Nau (6/3/2013 - 11/3/2014)
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Development Review Board	Parks & Recreation Commission
Historic Preservation Commission	Scottsdale Arts
Human Relations Commission	Scottsdale Environmental Advisory Commission
Human Services Commission	Tourism Development Commission
Library Board	Transportation Commission
McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission	

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Judy Doyle, <i>Acting City Treasurer</i>	Thomas Shannon, <i>Fire Chief</i>
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Ken Kung, <i>City Court</i>	Jeff Walther, <i>Chief of Police</i>
Benjamin Lane, <i>City Clerk</i>	Dan Worth, <i>Public Works</i>

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