



June ~ 2009

Community Development News

Name That Rec Center!!

On July 7th, the City Council will consider suggestions for naming the city's new Recreation Center, due to be complete in May/2010. To submit a suggestion, contact Kyla Allen at kallen@ci.cottonwood.az.us.



Designs Approved for New Restaurants



Bing's Burgers, to be located in an existing building in Old Town, formerly a gas station.



SOUTH ELEVATION

The new Panda Express Restaurant to occupy the current Wendy's location adjacent to SR 89A/260.

ADOT Board Visits Verde

The Verde Valley hosted a 2-day conference with members of ADOT's transportation Planning board on June 18-19, which meets periodically with local officials around the State. The Board's last meeting in the Verde Valley occurred over 10 years ago. This year, the Board received a resounding plea for widening of the remaining stretch of SR 260 south to I-17, as emphasized by the City's General Plan and regional traffic study.

What's New in Old Town?

Cruz-In & Sock Hop June 27th



OTA Funded For FY 09-10

The Cottonwood City Council renewed funding this years for the Old Town Association. The group will receive a \$10,000 stipend from the City to support their yearly calendar of events.

Pres & VP to Attend Gov's Conference

OTA Pres., Lisa Pender and VP Annabelle Sclipa were recently awarded scholarships by the AZ Office of Tourism to the Gov's Tourism Conference in Scottsdale from July 8-10.

Farmers Mkt Resumes July 2nd w/Knuckleheads



Farmers Market Continues Every Thursday, 5pm-dusk!

ART WALK 2nd Saturdays!

Cowboy CRUZ-IN Sept. 19

More info on-line at www.oldtown.org

Planning Updates

Slag Fund Approved for City Use

On June 2nd, the City Council approved an agreement with Minerals Research & Recovery, for a contribution to the City of 50 cents per ton of slag as it is re-processed and removed from the fairgrounds site over the 15+ year timeline of the activity. The operation should produce over \$500,000 in contributions to the City during that period. Under the agreement, the money may be applied to any use by the City.

GenPlan LU/Circulation Reviewed

On June 11th, the City Council and P&Z Commission reviewed the status of the Land Use, Circulation and Growth Areas elements of the General Plan. The next joint session, regarding the Open Space and Environmental Planning elements, will be held in September (TBA).

VISTA Worker on Housing Issues

Cottonwood has enlisted the assistance of VISTA worker Jon Rolph, to review a variety of housing issues associated with the older portions of the City. Primary to those efforts may be the acquisition and rehab of dilapidated home sites in the Old Town area; and review of associated historic preservation issues and opportunities. Rolph is also currently helping to staff the Verde Valley Housing Task Force, and researching housing opportunities which may be associated with the Stimulus Plan.

Housing Task Force Seeks Grant

The V.V. Housing Task Force plans to request local contributions toward a match for a \$30,000 grant to support a regional housing study, in order to identify regional housing needs and opportunities. The grant application is due in July.

P&Z Considers Design Districts

The P&Z Commission is in the process of developing a Design Manual to better facilitate the Design Review process. Over the next several months, the Commission will be closely reviewing various portions of the City to identify optimal architectural standards for each area; as well as for a variety of physical site components and details.

“Verde Front” Trails Considered

The Regional Trails planning group continues to deliberate over possible trail segments. The group is currently focusing on the “Verde Front,” a system of potential multi-use trails which exist along the face of Mingus Mountain. The planning effort has been coordinated by Yavapai County for several months in concert with the US Forest Service, State Parks, CD staff, a variety of community organizations and the general public. As part of this process, Staff is also working with the County to digitize internal trail corridors. Public presentations may begin in the Fall.

Council Reviews Group Homes

On July 7th, the City Council will begins its formal consideration of amendments to the Cottonwood Zoning Ordinance for the purpose of addressing standards for a variety of different lodging facilities, among them the issue of how to address a variety of different “Group Homes” in the community.

P&Z OKs New Landscape Code

On June 15th, the P&Z Commission recommended approval of major changes to the City’s Landscape Code in order to address water conservation measures, as well as a host of other site development issues affecting landscaping techniques, placement of various types of landscape plantings and facilities, etc. The new code will first be reviewed by the City Council as part of a work session on July 14th.

Bike Plan Comments Considered

Staff is meeting this month with local Bicycle advocates to review public commentary received on the current plan draft. It’s anticipated the group will formulate a recommendation regarding any potential revisions prior to formal Council consideration, tentatively in August.

Zoning Clearance Adopted

On June 16^h, the City Council approved changes to the Procedural Code of the City Zoning Ordinance (Sec. 303), establishing a formal “Zoning Clearance” process. The changes will require review of a Zoning Clearance application by the Community Development Director as part of all future requests for land use changes or building permits. This requirement will take effect July 16th.

Multi-Modal Transportation Study

On May 18th, the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors accepted the final draft of the V.V. Multi-Modal Transportation Study, under development two years by Lima & Associates in cooperation with the Verde Valley communities. The document, which addresses regional transportation issues, functions as an update to the 1999 study, and also considers multiple transportation modes.

P&Z / BOA Candidates Selected

On June 2nd, the City Council appointed Judd Wasden to fill the P&Z seat vacated by Darold Smith’s recent election to the Council; and Jean Wilder to fill an opening on the Board of Adjustment.

Re-Organization Moves Forward

On June 9th, the City Council directed that the planned re-organization of the City’s departmental structure begin moving forward. Beginning in July, all code enforcement matters will be directed to the Police Department / Code Enforcement staff. Other CD Department changes may include movement of some or all of the remaining CD Staff to the new Development Services facility (formerly the old Foxworth building).

Monthly Planning Meetings

Ctwd Econ Dev Council	1 st Thurs@7am	Hobo Joe’s
City Council	1 st /3 rd Tues@6pm	Council Chambers
Old Town Assoc.	2 nd & 4 th Wed@5	Little Lisa’s
P&Z Commission	3 rd Mon@6pm	Council Chambers
V.V. Housing Task Force	4 th Thurs@2pm	YavCo Verde Rm
V.V. Land Pres. Inst.	(TBA)	
V.V. Reg. LU Plan	3 rd Wed@2pm	YavCo Verde Rm
V.V. Reg. Econ Org	2 nd Fri@12	Yavapai College
V.V. Reg. Trails Group	4 th Thurs@9am	(TBA)
V.V. Wine Consortium	3 rd Wed@10am	(TBA)

Building Summaries available on-online:
www.ci.cottonwood.az.us.