

Desert Discovery Center Concept Survey Results

Executive Summary:

These are the results of the Desert Discovery Center Survey that was conducted at the April 20, 2016 public meeting that was held on the DDC project. The intent of the survey was to use the results to help guide the project team through the design process.

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April 21, 2016 Public Meeting

Question 1: On average, how often do you visit Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve?

- 8 Daily
- 26 Weekly
- 16 Monthly
- 20 A few times per year
- 3 Never

Question 2: Where do you currently access the Preserve?

- 45 Gateway Trailhead
- 13 Tom's Thumb Trailhead
- 10 Brown's Ranch Trailhead
- 9 Bell Road
- 1 Westworld
- 1 Dynamite & Alma School
- 1 Silverleaf
- 1 McDowell Mountain Park
- 1 Quartz Trail
- 1 Wingate Ranch
- 1 104th Street
- 1 Pima Road
- 1 128th Street
- 1 136th Street
- 1 Sunrise Trailhead
- 1 Grant Ranch

Question 3: How far do you live from the proposed location of the DDC at the Gateway Trailhead (Thompson Peak Parkway & Bell Road)

- 28 Less than a mile
- 30 1-5 miles
- 12 5 – 10 miles
- 2 more than 10 miles

Question 4: What is the primary reason you usually visit the McDowell Sonoran Preserve?

65	Hike
2	Bike
1	Horseback ride
10	Other

Question 5: What issues would you like to see addressed as part the planning process for the Desert Discovery Center Concept?

Let me start out by saying that I am very supportive of the concept of a Desert Discovery Center. What I do not understand is the selection of the proposed site. Why the McDowell Sonoran Mountain Preserve at the Gateway Loop, when the City of Scottsdale owns land and has other alternatives such as the NE corner of 94th Street and Bell Road? I know that this property may not be as esthetically pleasing-probably because it is not a beautiful designate preserve. Which brings me to my question of why does the City of Scottsdale wish to utilize land that was purchased to be a preserve under the Preserve Ordinance and alter the natural state of the preserve? It is my understanding, as last proposed, the DDC is incompatible with and or violates many of the rules as established in the Preserve Ordinance. The need to charge a fee, the proposed inclusion of a café or restaurant, the proposed inclusion of a gift shop, an amphitheater with sound amplification system and the need to have night time operations are what I understand to be examples of inconsistencies with the current Preserve Ordinance. It is my further understanding that the residents of the City of Scottsdale voted to authorize the City of Scottsdale to purchase the land associated with the McDowell Sonoran Preserve to be maintained as land governed by the Preserve Ordinance. If the premise has changed from what was originally presented to the residents of Scottsdale for their approval, will the City of Scottsdale once again allow its residents to opine by way of a vote prior to repurposing any portion of the McDowell Sonoran Mountain Preserve or will the City Council simply modify the Preserve Ordinance to accommodate their use of preserve lands?

What educational programs will be offered? I think it is a great concept and believe an interpretive center is necessary at the gateway.

Lights, noise control, low scale visibility.

This is a steamroller process. Objectionable. I would like to know the total expenditures to date on this process. The council's fiduciary responsibilities are in question!

I am not opposed to the DDC. I am opposed to the location. I have much to say-I will go to council meetings.

The DDC must not be located within the preserve for the following reasons: Would violate preserve ordinance as follows: 1)charging fees to enter when preserve is free to all users & would have to be walled in preventing animal movement in the area. 2) Having concessions in preserve. 3) Having amphitheater w/ sound amplification. 4) Night operations which hamper animal movement & search for food and dawn & dusk. 5) Violates preserve minimum structures concept in major way. Such a major project in the preserve needs to be voted upon by Scottsdale citizens if decision remains to place DDC within the

preserve. Gateway trailhead is not appropriate location for DDC for many valid reasons. It should be placed closer to other tourist destinations for tourist convenience. The land owned by the city at 94th & Bell would be desirable because all the preserve ordinance restrictions would be avoided, it is close to West World & in the Bell Rd. tourist area. It would draw much more tourist attendance than the more isolated Gateway.

Is there a need or interest? If so, how will it be funded? How much will it cost? How was the need/interest determined? Why do we need an amphitheater? Can the center be built without an amphitheater? Will voters have the final say on the center? Why this site? Why not build it elsewhere? EG Westworld.

Respect for atmosphere and environment of preserve. Congestion and impact on traffic (increase).

Traffic/congestion/parking spaces. Impact of proposed deficit-adding extra events to make a profit. How will council override ordinances? Protecting preserves.

Traffic on Thompson Peak Parkway. Lights in the preserve @ night. Impact of special events to override deficit. How will the council override established ordinances preventing this type of project in the preserve?

Access, parking, location of the buildings, traffic flow, programs at the DDC.

Why is this even a thought? We want the preserve to remain as a preserve, as it is. We, the people, and community do not want or need this. Who is getting the money and kickbacks to make all these buildings, etc? What is all the increased traffic going to do to our roads & impact our home values? We do not want our taxes going up to pay for this fiasco! We already have Desert Botanical Garden with all the things being talked about! If this is about to be forced on us, we the people need to vote on this!

I have reviewed a copy of the Preserve Ordinance No. 3321 which speaks of the purpose of the preserve in section 21-2 “establish in perpetuity a preserve of Sonoran desert and mountains to maintain scenic views, as a habitat for wildlife and desert plants” and “for the purpose of acquiring land and making constructive improvements for Preserve amenities thereto”. Do you believe that the proposed 30 acre development with 15 buildings and a 74,000 sq.ft. facilities is in keeping with the ordinance and with the citizens’ understanding of the nature of the preserve when voting for the preserve? I believe that this is poor stewardship of the preserve and contrary to the wishes of the Scottsdale citizens.

Seems like the preserve ordinance is being abandoned. Seems like there are commercial aspects to the operation. I really don’t see any benefit to developing the preserve any further than it is. I am concerned about the extra traffic & noise. Seems like this project is beneficial to the “Development community” as opposed to the general public.

Locate OUTSIDE PRESERVE. SMALLER-less impact on wildlife. Construction will damage saguaros.

Stewardship of preserve “protect the preserve”. Cost. Traffic. Why not a vote on DDC? Any changes to plat maps of the preserve and citizenship input.

Too many extra tourists in our area. We already deal with West World events and the golf tournament. 2) You’re going to take a part of our beautiful desert that is full of wildlife for a museum about the desert? We see bobcats, mountain lions, coyotes, javelin from our cars. They won’t stay if you bring the extra

vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Please don't bring another tourist attraction to our area. Perhaps next to the Museum of the West, in the West World complex, or next to MIM.

Relocation of DDC to corner of Bell/Thompson Peak or city property near West World. 2) Scaled down version to be more open air, no commercial/retail

Relocation of DDC to corner of Bell/Thompson Peak or city property near West World. 2) Scaled down version to be more open air, no commercial/retail endeavors. 3) This is our PERSERVE not a park, amusement center or wonderland. It is not commercial but intended to be left in a natural state, not developed-for study, learning, enrichment. Don't develop the preserve! Please put this somewhere else.

I believe that any proposed discover center should be located on a site other than the Gateway or any other site in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. There are other more appropriate and correctly zoned locations which would not cause unnecessary destruction of Preserve land and wildlife. I question the objectivity of the project advocates with respect to disclosures and the public outreach process. I ultimately believe that any project of a scope that Scottsdale's tourism industry considers a world class tourist attraction would pose a great disruption to surrounding communities. Our roads and streets are already overly congested during school and peak seasons, during events such as the car and horse shows as well as Phoenix Open and Bike Week. It poses safety and security concerns. It has previously been stated that if there is opposition to putting a discovery center in the Preserve then it would not be done. I would like to go on record that I do oppose building a discovery center in the Preserve.

I look forward to see more details: plans, cost, architectural drawings.

Location-would like to hear about alternate spots for DDC rather than in preserve.

Alternate sites. How does the concept of a restaurant serving alcohol and open at night fit in with the concept of a natural desert community and its four-legged wildlife? SEE CITY ORDINANCE 3321.

I'm not against the project just the location at the Preserve. It would disrupt plant and wildlife. It would require items in violation of the Preserve Ordinance. Items such as restaurant, gift shop, amplification and a fee to tour. The Preserve is free-so a fence must be built? What about the wildlife foraging for food when there are evening programs? This is a tourist spot? So build it where the tourists are-West World. Doesn't the city own the land off of Bell & 94th? There are rests, Marriott & 101 easy access. Build it there. This does not belong in our Preserve. It is flat out WRONG!

Location-it is hard to understand why you are considering building a structure that is huge to educate people on how to live & preserve & appreciate our beautiful living desert & ultimately destroying that very precious resource in the process. To quote a song: "you don't know what you got till it's gone-you paved Paradise and put up a "Desert Center". Shame on you!

I would like to see this project cancelled.

Cancel the project. Have it removed from the Preserve.

Alternate location: wouldn't 94th & Bell location, which is in a more desirable tourist corridor with more traffic making DDC more sustainable. Also this alternative location avoids issues of Preserve location. DDC footprint: The preserve was envisioned to have MINIMAL improvements. Putting larger structures

violates the whole concept of a preserve-which is defined as to “keep intact”. DDC fee: If DDC charges a fee for touring, isn't there a conflict with the Preserve intended to be free for all users? Some sort of barrier would be needed to separate DDC & Preserve-which violates preserve concept.

Maybe the NIMBYS need to know what the people stopped when they BOUGHT the land? Let them choose between the reason the land was bought-the DDC- or what it was saved from Home Development NO DDC=?=sell it to a developer & let them build homes like it would have been w/o DDC.

Keeping it out of the Preserve itself. Keeping the project limited in scope to start. Allow growth as use and demand grows. Stop throwing our tax dollars at this when it is such an unknown.

Impact animals/environment. Cost/feasibility.

Traffic. Congestion. Trash. Light at night. Disturbance of birds and animals. Cost-why not use the money to buy more preserve land? Not just disturbance from construction, but also through the vastly increased number of people in the area. Regarding trash, that leads to people leaving wrappers, bottles, cans and bags in the area. Also scores of headlights from night time events is a concern, mostly for wildlife.

I would rather any monies being spent be re-allocated to purchasing additional preserve land and keeping it pristine. I am concerned about traffic, crowds. The trails are already crowded on weekends.

The Gateway is the perfect location for the DDC.

Alternate site. This site is as well used and visited as it can be. No one comes to Arizona to visit a preserve. They come here for golf & spring training. No extra hotel dollars will be gained from this. We strongly disagree with this site choice. The mayor and city council should be listening to the residents, not the tourism people. We live here because it is here in its natural form-no development here! Go to West World where there are no adjacent \$ million & homes.

The size of the DDC. Current plans are too large & intrusive. Don't particularly want it to become a major tourist attraction or research center-not at all appropriate. Don't object to some additional development-but how do you right-size it for the good of the Preserve?

The DDC should NOT be inside the Preserve. Use the tax dollars to build elsewhere to provide tourism opportunities. Preserve provided for all people in Scottsdale and beyond to enjoy as planned originally. The possible plan to have lighting erected for expanded parking, possible venues of food and beverage, etc., is in direct opposition to the Preserve. The people allowed themselves to be taxed for wildlife, hiking, previewing nature-not tourism. Build outside Preserve!

Move it to a non-Preserve location.

Traffic increase. Auto pollution. Impact of pollution & people on flora and fauna. Unrestrained development example. Concept is fine, but we don't want it so close to residential area. Development is ruining north Scottsdale for its residents!!

Hours of operation-why is there a need for night time operations? No outdoor concerts-this is an SSLO area. Lighting-this is a “night sky” area.

Why have it at all? Why improve on what God already created? PUBLIC VOTE!!

Ecosystem research to learn impact of encroaching development & climate change.

I am opposed to the DDC as the city is broke. The location of the DDC at Gateway is a terrible choice. The mission expansion is alarming. The city will do whatever it wants. The public meetings are a farse.

The proposed expansion is totally unnecessary, expensive and additional facilities would really increase traffic.

Keep it as it is. Don't expand it.

Parking, entrance & egress, access to trails from center.

Primary concern is to keep the museum out of the Preserve! Once built it will pave the way for future development within. As the so called "build-out" fear draws closer the developers will begin to use the necessity to build further.

Violation of current governing ordinances. City council usurping power to change ordinances without a citizen vote.

Maintaining it as a preserve without commercial activity.

Do not feel preserve land should be converted as a precedent-preserve means just that.

We do not want to pay for more building & more traffic-please do listen to the people. Totally against a small project let alone expanding it. We are by Pinnacle Peak-it's a mess.

I object to the massive increase in scope vs the original concept.

Unless it is TINY (add-on to existing welcome center), PLEASE DO NOT BUILD ON THE PRESERVE.

Do not lose focus of Item # 4 under the Environmental section.

Animal displacement. Should go to a public vote. Why not other city-owned land & private land to build. Duplication of education-conservancy does great job and can be expanded. Parents-children desire their children to be outdoors & learning-many classes offered by the conservancy. Global-we already have visitors from around the world who appreciate the outdoor pristine desert. Sustainability-financial-city of Scottsdale will be responsible for debt-we the people thus we the people should VOTE.

Maintaining the pristine desert. 2) Keeping commercial operations out of Preserve. 3) Determine why the DDC will be fiscally successful when Talieson west which focuses on sustainable desert architectural construction.

Traffic noise abatement on McDowell Mountain Ranch Road, Thompson Peak Parkway, and surrounding areas. Minimizing the construction and ongoing operation cost to taxpayers. Assure that the overall project remains within the appropriate scale for the location and for the actual number of people that will be using the facility, and not over-inflated estimates.

Public funds should not be subsidizing the tourist industry. The risk of funding an enterprise that has a high chance of not being successful are huge. Private monies would not take the risk. What is Plan B to minimize ongoing capital? A Desert Discovery Center will not attract summer visitors. Start small and then see.

Cost-citizens should not be paying. Size-too big. Location-please do not locate in the Preserve. It is a Preserve to be kept for the wildlife. There are so many homes now close to the Preserve-the traffic is an issue, the noise is an issue. Sustainability- should be zero waste, completely green. No restaurant/night noise. Traffic- not only car but traffic in the Preserve making it unenjoyable for people who use it to escape and enjoy the desert.

I appreciate this opportunity to share: The size and commercial aspects. Relative to restaurant/café...the ? of necessity of this & impact on the flora and fauna. Since the opening of the Gateway Trailhead, the frequency of wildlife sightings has drastically decreased. I hike a.m./mid-day/sunset and it all is vastly different today. Very discouraging.

Eliminate or move it. Keep the Preserve as is. At most, provide a small entry location, improve current. Save taxes. Stop further spending studies. In 2 years of moving to N. Scottsdale, I have seen 2 beautiful area replaced with multi story condos that destroyed the view and added traffic and congestion. Keep development in City...don't take away our views, our natural landscape.

To educate the public of: 1)this has been "on the books" for decades. 2)many brilliant visionaries have poured heart and soul into this project. 3) building the discovery center will work to control the visitors-educate and direct, keep them on trails and off virgin desert land. 4) the land is for everyone & NEWBY SNOTTSDALIANS don't get to "gate it off" because they feel so privileged compared to other humans not so fortunate to live in N. Scottsdale. 5) Living in N. Scottsdale does not make you "better, smarter, faster".

Place it outside the Preserve!! 94th/Bell the best site by far. 2) No Preserve taxes for DDC program; we still have land to buy! 3) downsize significantly if in Preserve (less than 10 acres total). 4) If in Preserve, architecture like Gateway T.H: isolate from T.H. 5) If in Preserve, no night programs.

Museum of the West, with city & native American feel! I'd love to see the center incorporate more Soleri! I support the DDC and after becoming more familiar with the project, I think we need to be mindful of the scale of the project &buildings-sometimes less is more. A simple building can serve this purpose just fine! Thank you all for your efforts on the project. The opportunity for the city to share the Sonoran Desert with the world is something we must do-it's good for Scottsdale!

I would like this entire project cancelled. It is perfect the way it is now with educated guides & maps. We have also attended the conservancy events (via linda) for the kids, which were outstanding. I will definitely consider moving or relocating without having nature on one side of our lives. We employ local residents in our current local business & would move our business elsewhere (as we have done before) & these employees could not have employment with us.

Size of project. Initial concepts done almost a decade ago are WAY too big. Bed tax revenue have not met expectations in most recent projects (old town/museum of the west). Why would this be different? This project is not supported by the community of MMR. It serves a purpose for those who are not residents of MMR.

I am in complete opposition of this project. This land is a PRESERVE, it is confusing as to why this beautiful desert landscape will be bulldozed for yet more building in North Scottsdale. The impact on the surrounding preserved land is monumental-the traffic, waste, more buildings that will eventually sit possibly empty. We do not need a center to learn about our beautiful desert. Stepping on the trails gives you an immediate education. The volunteers are full of wisdom & educational information. Why pay to learn about our desert-while it is still free to all. The Desert Botanical gardens are wonderful for furthering education. We DON'T NEED MORE shops, restaurants, etc. in this area.

Keeping Reserve pristine. 2)DDC being compatible with preserve. 3)Will fees need to be collected for DDC? Preserve is free. 4) Will there be concessions? Hours? Dawn to dusk like the preserve? Night operations? 5) Will there be 15 buildings? Why? 6) Will there be huge parking lot? Why? 7) Amphitheaters? Sound amplifications? Affect wildlife?

Avoid increased taxes. Conforming to preserve law in effect now. Do not disturb animals. Seek other location on land owned by Scottsdale or West World. Keep preserve pristine-don't need restaurant or lengthened hours.

This should not be built in the Preserve-we do not want to spend \$71 million anyway. \$1.7 million annually forever ++, pave 30 acres of open desert land-this is NUTS & should not happen. People can walk in desert & have an "experience".

I am opposed to the DDC being built at the Gateway Trailhead or anywhere in the Preserve. The fundamental purpose of a preserve is to maintain a pristine environment free from human development. Building the DDC on the preserve simply defies common sense. In addition to destroying a portion of the preserve in order to construct the DDC, I also object to the impact that the DDC will have on the Preserve and wildlife once it becomes operational, i.e. increased noise, traffic lights and nighttime activities. The DDC should be built at an alternate location such as the NE corner of 94th Street and Bell Road, West World or other location. Until the proposed location of the DDC is moved out of our Preserve, I cannot provide input on potential experiences at the DDC.

Question 6: The project team would like to incorporate your thoughts regarding the planning and vision for the Desert Discovery Center into the planning process– what experiences might visitors have there, how can the DDC be a community resource, what should the architect and experience designer keep in mind as they begin their work? Please take a look at the following list and check those items that would be important to you as a community member.

Environmental/Conservation Considerations

- 20 Visitors walk away respecting, valuing and connecting with the desert
- 12 Renowned as a global research center on desert environments
- 28 DDC respects neighbors – human and wildlife
- 12 Built as a model for sustainable, low-scale/impact, desert architecture
- 7 Policy makers take notice of research to inform global decisions regarding living in arid environments
- 10 Serves as a portal for the McDowell Sonoran Preserve so visitors better understand the surrounding environment

Community Impact

- 10 Tells the story of “The People’s Preserve”
- 14 Scottsdale becomes known for its environmental and conservation ethic
- 11 Becomes “the” field trip for Scottsdale and surrounding area school children
- 16 Serves as a point of pride for Scottsdale residents – a place they want to be and that they want to take visitors
- 2 DDC partnerships reinforce and support the DDC’s mission
- 4 Provides enhanced opportunities for volunteerism

Educational Opportunities

- 13 Provides opportunities for learners of all ages (preschool through adult learners)
- 6 Conducts scientific research on a local and global level
- 11 Changes people's perception of and relationship to the desert
- 7 Adds a Valley focal point for STEM education opportunities
- 20 Inspires the next generation to care for their environment
- 6 Provides a venue for lectures and symposiums

Visitor Experience

- 8 Offers changing exhibits – you rarely see the same thing twice
- 5 Provides interactive, high-tech multimedia experiences
- 8 Daily rituals – sunrise/sunset ceremonies, Native American traditions
- 8 Experience is revelatory – you see the desert from the macro, actual and micro levels
- 7 Provides opportunities to experience the Sonoran Desert in other ways – art, poetry, cooking
- 15 Inspires visitors to change a behavior aimed at preserving the desert environment

Question 7: Please provide any general comments on the DDC Concept and this evening's public meeting.

Let me start out by saying that I am very supportive of the concept of a Desert Discovery Center. What I do not understand is the selection of the proposed site. Why the McDowell Sonoran Mountain Preserve at the Gateway Loop, when the City of Scottsdale owns land and has other alternatives such as the NE corner of 94th Street and Bell Road? I know that this property may not be as esthetically pleasing- probably because it is not a beautiful designate preserve. Which brings me to my question of why does the City of Scottsdale wish to utilize land that was purchased to be a preserve under the Preserve Ordinance and alter the natural state of the preserve? It is my understanding, as last proposed, the DDC is incompatible with and or violates many of the rules as established in the Preserve Ordinance. The need to charge a fee, the proposed inclusion of a café or restaurant, the proposed inclusion of a gift shop, an amphitheater with sound amplification system and the need to have night time operations are what I understand to be examples of inconsistencies with the current Preserve Ordinance. It is my further understanding that the residents of the City of Scottsdale voted to authorize the City of Scottsdale to purchase the land associated with the McDowell Sonoran Preserve to be maintained as land governed by the Preserve Ordinance. If the premise has changed from what was originally presented to the residents of Scottsdale for their approval, will the City of Scottsdale once again allow its residents to opine by way of a vote prior to repurposing any portion of the McDowell Sonoran Mountain Preserve or will the City Council simply modify the Preserve Ordinance to accommodate their use of preserve lands?

I hope the city will approve the building of the DDC.

I really like the concept and hope this project moves forward.

The checklist above does not include comments expressed by attendees or our opinions & evaluation; so I only checked. Maintain Gateway as it exists.

This meeting was a joke- a sham. The council & the City of Scottsdale.

There is a lot of discussion about the location of the DDC, is there any public record how the location was selected, and could that be made available to make people understand better why this is the best location for the DDC.

The best way to appreciate the Preserve is to leave it in its natural state without imposing buildings and commercial activities within it. I think the DDC concept has merit but not within the preserve itself which was created to preserve the desert, not bulldoze it out to put buildings, concrete and manmade development.

I think the whole thing smells rotten. I don't think DDC cares a bit about educating children or giving more access to the public. I think this is a commercial enterprise in disguise and is shameful!

I STRONGLY OPPOSE! KEEP THE PRESERVE AS A PRESERVE!

I strongly oppose the DDC!

Well done, organized, great presentation.

We don't want or need any of this! We already have Desert Botanical that does all of the above!! This is a huge waste of our taxpayers money and a travesty on what this preserve is meant to be! Any changes being thought about must be put to a vote!!! If you compare this DDC to the Museum of the West, we and many others are very disappointed with it. It shows very little about Arizona and looks like the art gallery art all around it. To us, it is a dismal failure, as the DDC would also be. It seems this council is only interested in ruining our s.west and western heritage. High rise buildings, more traffic, light rail & ruining our preserve & old town experience is not helping our heritage!

How do we stop this project? Seems like a loser, similar to the Museum of the West which doesn't have a lot of content about Arizona. Another big "developer project". Will this be put to a vote prior to final funding?

How do banquets at facility Preserve desert? How do cooking classes do the same?

No DDC in the Preserve!

The above subjects are very generic, and sounds like you're selling to tourists. All of the above are negatives to those of us that own homes and have built our lives here. **Ms.** __ stated that our desert is unique to the world-then leave it alone. Do we as residents and taxpayers get to vote on this??? Perhaps you should also build a casino there-it wouldn't be any worse-and would help with financial sustainability.

Every one of these items can be easily and readily accomplished using the desert itself-not manmade structures that impact the Preserve. Leave the building OUTSIDE of the Preserve boundaries. There is NO REASON to desecrate the Preserve with a DDC complex. It is never what residents intended in its proposed scale.

No to the DDC!

I do not believe that the City Council solely should be empowered to initiate any amendment to the municipal use plan for the Preserve land or to allocate City funds for feasibility studies or building of a discovery center. These matters should be put to a public vote.

I agree that a facility like this would be wonderful, but can this be built away from the Preserve?
PLEASE PUT THIS UP FOR A VOTE.

I see the appearance of arrogance here. The one microphone was provided only to the anointed speakers. Why was there no microphones provided for audience use? I have run several events where two microphones were standard.

Must have a/c in building I assume. No tourists 4 6 mos-who do you expect to come? The meeting tonite was 1-sided and therefore not accurate. You want public input? Then give the other side equal time to present info. BTW, everyone does have access to the Preserve. I've seen wheel chairs-disabled adults & children. Build it somewhere else & then I'll tell you my opinion.

I support this project being cancelled.

I am against the DDC in the Preserve. I am against the DDC & funding and entire project.

The last site evaluation was done in 1997? Too much has changed to base this development on 1997 information.

I & others would like to learn why only the one site is being considered. If other sites were looked at and ruled out, show us & tell us why.

This project is a joke! Trying to promote this as a tourist attraction is a terrible idea. People want to hike & see the beautiful landscape. Please rethink this idea.

School buses belching diesel fumes. An average Target store is 80,000 sf, this would rival that in site-and in parking spaces. That is not “preserving” anything.

I hope no night time use will be allowed! Bell Road east of Thompson Peak is only one lane and has a lot of pedestrian and bicycle use. Adding an additional lane would ruin that current experience. 70,000 sq.ft. is the size of a target!! Too big!!

Thrilled this project is going forward. Scottsdale will be known as the Desert Discovery Center of the world.

The Scottsdale residents need to vote on this!

Research does not make sense in DDC. Not sure how plan will determine what the right size of the DDC.

The Monterey Aquarium was built in commercial area and not a Preserve. You are attempting to build buildings, etc. IN a Preserve that should be used strictly as the Passive activities (hiking, biking, etc.), it was set aside for and build the DDC elsewhere in commercial areas to take “field trip” to Preserve. SAVE NATURE AND WILDLIFE!!! Should be public vote not city council decision!

Most people in attendance don't want the DDC or at least place it in a location not in the Preserve.

With West World so close to the proposed DDC, traffic will be a problem-put DDC somewhere that wants additional tourism & development-perhaps the Salt River Pima reservation. Why not group DDC with other museums like MIM. Tourism is encroaching on my north Scottsdale quality of life!

I feel the scope is too large as currently presented. I don't believe a gift shop, café, auditorium are needed to enjoy the preserve. There are already interpretive trails in the Gateway as well as accessible trails for individuals. There will be an impact from traffic and increased visitors.

When referring to Scottsdale City Council please use the term “majority of council”. Saying “Council approved” infers the whole council approved. This survey is all about helping to create a DDC. There is no room for why I don't want it.

There is already a building in place with ample room for educating our young and others. Increased traffic will not be beneficial to our desert.

Shameful attempt to violate the purpose of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Fiscally irresponsible!

The “educational” aspect could be built outside of the preserve on city land by Notre Dame.

Encourage visitors to see what’s CURRENTLY THERE!!!

We the people need/deserve a public vote.

The DDC needs to have a minimal footprint if it is located within the Preserve. Joan Fundala is talking as if the decision to make the DDC 30 ac-or more!! ASU is funded to do this research-we are already paying for this research.

The DDC concept is interesting, but it appears that public opinion on the location is that it needs to be moved. Generally, it appears that the city will do this regardless. More study and more definite information needs to be transmitted to the public.

From the meeting, it sounds like there are thousands of acres where this could be located. Why would it be located near so many communities and at such a popular trailhead? I do not believe that plans will not change later. Once it is approved and built, you will do what you want. This meeting has been all one-sided. A resident perspective should be included.

Noise, night use should be restricted, please consider. In its current state, it IS accessible to handicapped-I see them regularly. Scottsdale has so many great restaurants-having a restaurant seems unnecessary. Intent of Preserve should be passive; not to disturb ecology. Wildlife impact has already been hugely negative-how can this decrease/impact be mitigated?

Very well presented. History of project so important to educate NEWBIES of how long this has been in the works-long B/4 “they” got here. Get people involved to understand B/4 they act against things they know little of.

As to global research center, how will DDC compete with other local desert centers? (ie: Hohokam cultural center, Sonoran Desert Museums, Pueblo Grande, etc). How large an endowment will be set aside in perpetuity? > \$50 million?

GODSPEED! I approve & was excited by the designs in the 2010 study. Sharing this treasure is our responsibility, it can be done tastefully and is an investment in our future. Like good residents of Scottsdale, we can do this and respect our neighbors, the land and our Preserve. Desert Discovery Center for all! Don’t let selfish win-share our desert! It’s been planned long enough, time for action!

DDC will encourage people to visit trails & assume they are safe. This will likely result in many search & rescue efforts for these ill-prepared visitors. Why is this good?? Who is making money on this? Put our taxpayer money towards schools & the real future of Arizona.

Let’s do conservation not capitalism for the benefit of just a few people. Free access for MMR Preserve.

I oppose building anything in the preserve! What kind of direction are they giving the architect on size and cost? What quantitative evidence do you have that more people will come to Scottsdale as a result of the building?

It was very disappointing to see that there was only one microphone at the meeting. Perhaps it was because the public comments were 99.99% against the preserve being located at the Gateway trailhead. It

was clear that the representatives of the city and the DDC were not interested in hearing any comments that did not support their plans. More appropriate for a tourist attraction.

DRAFT

Zip Code of Survey Respondents:

85251 – 1

85254 – 1

85255 – 53

85257 – 1

85259 – 1

85260 – 3

85262 – 3

85266 – 4

DRAFT