

### Action plan sets stage for Scottsdale's transportation future



With a handful of major street and road projects underway in Scottsdale, residents may wonder how these are planned. Enter Scottsdale's Transportation Action Plan, a tool that contains the objectives, policies, and guidelines for transportation decisions in Scottsdale. Created in 2022, the TAP was finalized through a public process that included outreach meetings and citizen commission review prior to final City Council approval.

The TAP acknowledges significant changes in community priorities, traffic patterns, technology and funding and reflects a shift towards a more sustainable and active transportation system. The plan emphasizes flexibility and adaptability to recognize the needs and opportunities of Scottsdale's different character areas – goals and values in the TAP align with the voter approved Scottsdale General Plan.

The plan highlights the importance of preserving and improving existing infrastructure. This includes upgrading roads to meet modern safety and accessibility standards, closing gaps in paths and trails and improving regional connectivity.

A notable change in the city's Transportation Action Plan was the reclassification of streets based on traffic volumes. This reclassification allows for the creation of "complete streets," which are designed to move cars effectively and efficiently while improving safety for pedestrians and cyclists. By accommodating multiple modes of transportation, Scottsdale aims to promote active lifestyles, improve air quality and reduce traffic congestion.

Learn more at [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), search "TAP."



### What do you think of these water saving ideas?

Due to current and forecasted water shortages, water conservation continues to be a top priority. As part of ongoing efforts to reduce citywide water consumption by 5%, Scottsdale Water is exploring new policies and initiatives that could have a big water saving impact in the future – and we would like to know what residents think. If you would like to be part of Scottsdale's water future, complete a quick six-item questionnaire at [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), search "get involved."



### Scottsdale earns gold certification in the What Works Cities program

The city's exceptional use of data to inform policy decisions, allocate funding, improve services, evaluate program effectiveness and engage residents were among the reasons Scottsdale has earned Bloomberg Philanthropies What Works Cities Certification at the Gold Level for 2023.

Scottsdale leveled up from being named on the Honor Roll in 2018, to Silver certification in 2019 and recertification in 2020 and is among an elite group of 62 cities worldwide to have achieved certification.

Among recent accomplishments, the What Works Cities team spotlighted Scottsdale's data-driven approach to tackling tough issues with short-term/vacation rental properties. The city's Short-term Rental Resource Center allows residents to view the license status and understand the impact of short-term rentals in their neighborhoods. Other notable examples include the role of analysis and data in managing Scottsdale's water resources and policies, in evaluating and implementing compensation programs to ensure the city remains a competitive employer in critical public safety positions and other areas, and in expanding ways to engage residents through technology such as the new Speak Up Scottsdale platform. [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), search "What Works Cities."

### Blue Zones Project launches in Scottsdale, the first in Arizona

Research shows that where people live has a bigger influence on their health than their genetics. Blue Zones focus on the area close to home where people spend 90% of their time, working with communities to optimize public policies and social connections to help make healthy choices easier and more accessible. The launch of Scottsdale's Blue Zones Project represents the beginning of a multi-year collaborative effort that involves the entire community working together toward one common goal – to support and build a culture of community health and wellbeing. Participating communities have seen double-digit drops in obesity and smoking rates, economic investment in downtown corridors, grant funding awards to support policies and programs to improve health equity, and measurable savings in healthcare costs. HonorHealth, Cigna Healthcare and Goodwill of Central and Northern Arizona are partnering with the city on this project. Learn more: [BlueZones.com](https://www.BlueZones.com)



## Scottsdale Salutes our Veterans

The city proudly honors those in our community who have served, and continue to serve, in the armed forces of the United States. Our

veterans, those on active duty, and members of the National Guard and reserves are truly valued members of Scottsdale – we proudly salute them!

The city’s Veterans Advisory Commission has initiated the Scottsdale Salutes program to publicly thank those who have worn the uniform – banners featuring veterans and those in military service will fly from street light poles in Old Town Scottsdale each November.

Learn more and nominate a veteran: [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), search “Scottsdale Salutes”

**A new email subscription enables residents to be notified when City Council meeting agendas are posted or amended.** This initiative will enhance transparency and foster greater citizen engagement by providing timely and convenient access to important meeting information. Sign-up for council agenda notifications at [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), search “City Clerk.”

**Task force explores needs for protecting open spaces and quality of life.** Appointed by the City Council, the Protect and Preserve Task Force began work in February, learning about financial and other aspects of maintaining the city’s open spaces, such as the McDowell Sonoran Preserve and Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt, along with public safety and other aspects. A voter approved 0.2% sales tax for preserve land acquisition will expire in 2025. In light of that, the task force is tasked with developing a recommended financial strategy. The public is invited to attend meetings and provide input. See specific dates and agendas at [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), search “Protect and Preserve.”

**August is Drowning Impact Awareness Month.** Drowning was the most common cause of death in Arizona for children ages 1-4 last year, and Arizona consistently ranks among the worst states for drowning. But drowning is preventable. Show your support and commitment to water safety by wearing purple in August. Learn how to prevent drownings: [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), search “pool safety”

## September is National Preparedness Month



Create a plan that outlines each family member’s responsibilities in case of an emergency. Make a “Go Kit,” which can include food and water, medication, money, contact information and locations to meet. Visit [Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov) for details.

**The city’s Street Operations division activates a 24/7 on-call program to respond to storm-related damage on streets and washes.** Streets crews are part of Scottsdale’s Emergency Response team and work alongside Parks and Recreation and Facilities Management to remove trees and debris from roads and out of the city’s right-of-way. Help everyone get home safely – do not drive around “Road Closed” signs and do not enter barricaded storm clean-up areas. When in doubt, wait it out!

**Discover better alternatives to sandbags for flood control.** Flood diversion tubes act much like sandbags to block floodwaters from entering homes. The tubes are easy to place and weigh little until filled with water. Any common garden hose attaches, making the flood diversion barrier simple to fill. Other options include transportable flood fence barriers and water absorbent cushions.

Residents whose properties are subject to seasonal flooding are encouraged to explore these alternatives to sandbags through local hardware stores and online retailers. Learn how to prepare and get safety tips: [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov), search “emergency”

## Things to do

For a complete list, search names in **bold** at [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](https://www.scottsdaleaz.gov).

- Old Town galleries open their doors to collector and casual patrons to enjoy featured artists and refreshments as part of **Scottsdale ArtWalk**. 7 to 9 p.m. Thursdays
- Visit the Railroad Park to end the summer and slide into the new school year at **Slide the Rails**. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 5.
- Students can win prizes and praise by entering the **Mayor’s Constitution Contest**. Deadline is Sept. 15.
- Bring holiday cheer to Scottsdale families. Sponsorship opportunities are available for the 2023 **Adopt-a-Senior** and **Adopt-a-Family** holiday programs.

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If you have questions or suggestions, please email [communications@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:communications@scottsdaleaz.gov)

**General city information:**  
480-312-3111 or email [questions@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:questions@scottsdaleaz.gov)



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