

CITY COUNCIL REPORT



Meeting Date: September 13, 2022
 General Plan Element: ***Economic Vitality and Open Space***
 General Plan Goal: *Ensure fiscal sustainability, manage open space*

ACTION

Establish the Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force. Adopt Resolution No. 12532 forming the Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force directing the City Treasurer to provide support for the task force; and providing for the dissolution of the task force upon completion of the task.

BACKGROUND

The Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force shall develop a recommendation to City Council on a financial strategy to protect and preserve Scottsdale's open spaces and quality of life, through identifying and quantifying the unfunded needs for the protection, preservation and perpetual maintenance of the City's open spaces (e.g., Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt and McDowell Sonoran Preserve), public safety and other needs.

The task force will be composed of nine Scottsdale residents representing different geographical areas (North, Central, and South) of the city using the geographical map created for the council districting process discussion.

At its work study meeting on May 17th, 2022, Council directed staff to prepare a work plan for an application process and Council selection of task force members. These actions would be followed by task force involvement, outreach and education of the public, and development of a recommendation(s) for Council's consideration. This action is consistent with that direction.

ANALYSIS & ASSESSMENT

Recent Staff Action

At its work study meeting on May 17th, 2022, Council was presented with options to form a citizen group to evaluate funding for protecting and preserving the city's open spaces and other unfunded needs and priorities in light of the up-coming expiration of the 0.2% Preserve sales tax. At this meeting, Council directed staff to form a citizen task force by resolution and follow standard Board and Commission procedures for the selection and appointment, by Council, of nine city of Scottsdale residents, geographically disbursed equally between north, central and south Scottsdale.

The Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force shall assist the City in investigating and identifying sustainable funding for protecting and preserving the City's open spaces (e.g., Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt and McDowell Sonoran Preserve) and other unfunded needs, including consideration of a new sales tax to replace the expiring 0.2% tax and develop a recommendation to City Council. If a new sales tax is considered, the task force must clearly identify the need for the tax. The task force may engage in surveys, public education, and outreach to fulfil its mission.

Policy Implications

Decisions concerning the final direction to move forward with a financial strategy remain the responsibility of the City Council and may also require voter approval. Recommendations from the task force must comply with the city's Comprehensive Financial Policies adopted by Council. The final decision on any financial and funding strategy must be considered by Council before June 2024.

Community Involvement

The primary goal for the formation of the task force is to engage citizens and enhance the level of public participation, in helping the city identify solutions to funding needs. Elements of the public engagement plan will include:

- All meetings of the task force will comply with Open Meeting Law requirements. Public attendance will be encouraged through public meeting notices. A televised recording of each meeting will be made and will be available through the city's website.
- Press releases and other media sources will be utilized to enhance awareness of the work of the task force.
- Innovative internet tools may also be utilized that encourage the participation of individuals that might not otherwise engage in the public discussion. The use of these tools will increase the transparency of the process.
- Instruments may be produced, either in house or with consultant assistance to seek input from the public on key decision points and priorities. These may be distributed through the mail, through utility bills, by phone or other methods as needed.

RESOURCE ANALYSIS

Staffing Workload Impact

Staff from both the City Treasurer's Office and City Manager's Office will provide support to the citizen task force including meeting preparations, analyses and presentations.

Future Budget Implications

Budget required for the task force includes meeting costs, survey costs, public outreach costs and other incidental costs necessary. An estimated amount needed for FY 2022/23 was included in the city's adopted operating budget for FY 2022/23.

OPTIONS & STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Recommended Approach

Adopt Resolution No. 12532 forming the Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force; directing the City Treasurer to provide support for the task force; and providing for the dissolution of the task force upon completion of the task.

Proposed Next Steps

With Council's direction, staff will open an application and recruitment process to solicit members for the task force and return at a future meeting with information on progress and proposals.

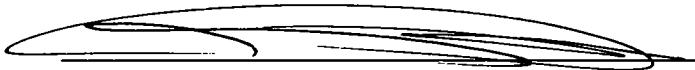
RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT(S)

City Treasurer; City Manager

STAFF CONTACT(S)

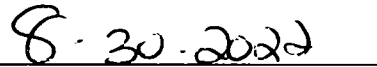
Gina Kirklin, Finance Director RKirklin@ScottsdaleAZ.gov

APPROVED BY



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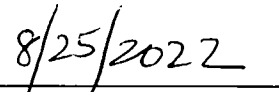


Date



Sonia Andrews, City Treasurer

(480) 312-2364, SAndrews@ScottsdaleAZ.gov



Date

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution No. 12532

RESOLUTION NO. 12532

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, FORMING THE PROTECT AND PRESERVE SCOTTSDALE TASK FORCE; DIRECTING THE CITY TREASURER TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THE TASK FORCE; AND PROVIDING FOR DISSOLUTION OF THE TASK FORCE UPON COMPLETION OF THE TASK.

WHEREAS, at the May 17, 2022 City Council work study session, the City Council directed that an advisory task force be formed to assist the City in investigating and identifying sustainable funding for protecting and preserving the City's open spaces and other unfunded needs, including consideration of a new sales tax to replace the 0.2% Preserve tax that is set to expire on June 30, 2025; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona, as follows:

Section 1. The Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force is hereby formed and shall consist of nine (9) members appointed by the City Council, who shall be Scottsdale residents representing different geographical areas (North, Central, and South) of the City using the geographical map created for the Council districting process discussion.

Section 2. The Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force shall develop a recommendation to City Council on a financial strategy to protect and preserve Scottsdale's open spaces and quality of life, through identifying and quantifying the unfunded needs for the protection, preservation and perpetual maintenance of the City's open spaces (e.g., Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt and McDowell Sonoran Preserve), public safety and other needs.

Section 3. The City Treasurer is directed to provide relevant staff and meeting space to assist the Task Force in formulating its recommendations and report.

Section 4. The Protect and Preserve Scottsdale Task Force shall make its recommendations to the City Council, and shall be dissolved without further action when the City Council makes a decision on whether to send the sales tax question to the voters, unless otherwise directed by the City Council.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale, Maricopa County, Arizona this _____ day of September, 2022.

CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, an Arizona
municipal corporation

ATTEST:

Ben Lane, City Clerk

David D. Ortega, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Sherry R. Scott, City Attorney

By: Kimberly Campbell, Senior Assistant City Attorney