

**Newspaper Articles 2001-2003, Usery,
Erosion, Mosquitos, Permits, Sand and
Gravel, West Valley Recreation
Corridor, Carefree, Paradise Valley,
Avondale, Arlington, Peoria, New River,
Sunnyslope, Skunk Creek, Rio Verde,
Mesa, Buckeye Valley, Canal, etc.**

**Newspaper Articles 2001-2003, Usery,
Erosion, Mosquitos, Permits, Sand and
Gravel, West Valley Recreation
Corridor, Carefree, Paradise Valley,
Avondale, Arlington, Peoria, New River,
Sunnyslope, Skunk Creek, Rio Verde,
Mesa, Buckeye Valley, Canal, etc.**

0		Title of Newspaper Article	X Key Words
29	July 9, 2001	A "Turquoise Necklace" of Open Spaces (& Pictures)	X 1890s, Pioneering Landscape, Frederick Law Olmsted, Charles Eliot, Green, Metropolitan Boston, Opened Spaces, Parks, Parkways, Water Quality, Flooding, System Ringed the Region, The Emeralds Necklace, Nations' First Regional Open-space System, Recreational, Greater Phoenix Area, Scottsdale's Grassy Indian Bend Wash, Tempe's Towne Lake, Rio Salado Project, Salt River, West Valley, 27th Avenue Recycling Center, Tres Rios Wetlands Project, Developer John F. Long, Agua Fria Greenway, Recreational Corridor, Trails, Flood Control, Agua Fria River, Anthem, Lake Pleasant, National Forests, Sonoran Preserve, Arizona State University, Architectural Dean Jim Elmore, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Officials From Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe, Glendale, Peoria, Maricopa County Association of Governments, Landmark Desert Spaces Report, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Financial Support, Arizona Congressional Delegation, Phoenix Arts Commission, Valley
52	July 17, 2001	Study Identifies Rio Verde Floodplain (& Map)	X Residents, Rio Verde Community, Oasis Community Center, Results, Two-year Floodplain Delineation Study, Northern Rio Verde Area, Initiated in 1999, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Examine, Evaluate Flood Hazards, Study, 70 Linear Miles, 30 Square Miles, Completed Hydrology Analysis, 136th St. and Forest Dr., Lone Mountain Rd. to Rio Verde Dr., Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Revising Flood Insurance Rate Maps, Regulating, Land Use, Reduce, Prevent, Flood Damage, Buildings, 100-year Floodplain, Flood Insurance, 100-year Flood, One-percent Chance, Four-and-one-half to Five Inches of Rain, 24 Hours, Survey Homes, Flood Hazard Areas, Level of Danger, Michael Ellegood, Chief Engineer, General Manager, Shallow, Sandy Main Channels, Slope, Skunk Creek (New River), Water, Run Slower, 42 Homes, Floodway, 15 are in the Floodplain, Drainage Study Area, Shanna Yager, Regulatory Division
1	August 9, 2001	Protests Flood Canal Plan - Usery Mountain Residents Say Measure Would Destroy Vistas (& Pictures & Map)	X Usery Mountain Recreation Area, Mesa, Steve Springer, Mountains, Sonoran Desert Landscape, Maricopa County, Mile-long Canal System, Boulder Mountain Estates, Protect Area, Floods, Heavy Rains Upstream, Divert Runoff, Tim Phillips, Planning Manager, County Flood Control District, Have Homes, Opposed to Any Plan, Scar Desert Vista, Giant Saguaro Cactuses, Brambly Creosote Bushes, Huge Trench
2	August 11, 2001	Flood District to Air New Plan - Public Hearing Set Wednesday	X Flood Control District of Maricopa County, 80-foot Wide Drainage Ditch, Catch, 100-year Flood Waters, Northwest Valley, Buying, Destroying 21 Houses, Pinnacle Peak Road, 83rd and 91st Avenues, Peoria, Residents, Hadn't Been Notified, Contractor, Ran Out of Fliers, Gone Home, Storm Drains, Retention Basins, Calle Lejos, Steve Simmons, Home Targeted
3	August 14, 2001	Erosion, Parking Alignments Hot Topics (& Picture)	X Erosion, Parking, Main Topics, Carefree Town Council Meeting, Jan Misseri, Construction, Town Engineer Eric Korsten, No Specific Erosion Hazard, Serious Erosion Problems, Sediment, Cave Creek Road, Mayor Ed Morgan, Doug Williams Maricopa County Flood Control District, Street Crossings, Rains, Washes, Local Washes, Long Term Problem, Housing Pads, Threatened, Requiring New Homes, Far Away from Washes
4	August 16, 2001	Usery Drainage Efforts Dropped - County Withdraws Flood-control Plans	X Flood Drainage Channels Usery Mountain Recreation Area Withdrawn, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Dropped Seven Proposals, Supervisor Dan Stapley, Mesa Residents, Petitions, Joe Munoz, Flood District Spokesman, Ellsworth Road Channel, \$28 Million, County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, Divert Floodwaters From Developments, 35-mile Square Area, Northeast Mesa, Concrete Channels, Berms, 55 Feet Wide, One Mile Long, Stacy Meisterheim
5	August 17, 2001	Mosquitoes Carry Virus, So County Finally Acts	X Jeff Esling, Encephalitis-carrying Mosquitos, Culex Mosquitoes, 99th and Northern Avenues, Flood Water, Large Swarm, West Valley Driving Range, Glendale, Chickens, Queen Creek, Laveen, Peoria, Tested Positive, Laura Devany, Environmental Services Department, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Clearing Vegetation, New River Channel, Apply for a 404 Permit, Army Corps of Engineers, Low-flow Channel, River Bottom, Water to Run, Water Tends to Pond, Breeding Ground, Thrive on Plant Sap, County Vector Control, Fogging, Kills Flying Insects, New Mosquitos, Born Within Three Days, Environment, Natural, Michael Ellegood, Chief Engineer and General Manager, Health Risks, Biblical-plaguelike Swarms, Mosquito Eating Fish, Gambusia, Ponds, Stock Tanks, Permanent Water
6	August 19, 2001	Gilbert May Use Basin as Golf Site - Flood-Control Area Could Also End Up as Regional Park (& Map)	X Flood Basin, Gilbert, New Public Golf Course, Regional Park, East Valley, Feasibility Study, Rittenhouse Basin, Superstition San Tan Corridor, Williams Field and Power Roads, Gilbert Parks and Recreational Director, Maury Ahlman, 160-acre Site, Freestone and Crossroads Parks, Constructed, Flood Zones, Encroaching Development, Empty Land, Soaking Up, 100-year Floodwaters, Current Condition, Flood, Water Overflow Its Banks, Flood Nearby Homes, Neighborhoods, Businesses, Kris Baxter, Spokeswoman, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, \$15 Million Project, Clear the Site, Stripping, Desert Growth,
8	August 22, 2001	Flood Plan's Death Met With Cheers (& Map)	X Northwest Valley Residents, Scrap Plans, 80-foot Wide Drainage Ditch, Destroy 21 Homes, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Storm Drains, Detention Basins, Calle Lejos, 83rd Avenue and Pinnacle Peak, Marilyn DeRosa, Project Manager, Glendale/Peoria Area Drainage Master Plan, County Board of Supervisors, John Bolley, Pinnacle Peak and 91st Avenue, Potential Flooding, 83rd and 91st Avenues, Neighborhood, Information, Contractor, Ran Out of Informational Fliers, Less Intrusive Plan, Alternative Plan, Rick Shaffer, Detention Basins, Two Open Channels, Underground, Not Feasible, Cost
7	September 4, 2001	Developing the Old Way... Without Permit (& Picture)	X Karen Clark, Backhoe, Front Yard, Robert Roach, General Contractor, Unincorporated County Island, Phoenix, Scottsdale, Grading, Access Road Through Wash, Dirt Road, Dead-ended, Destroying All Native Vegetation, Maricopa County Flood Control, Gary Schwarts, Violation of Section 1203, Drainage Regulation, Natural Drainage, Improved Drainage Design, Drainage System, Drainage Clearance, Drainage Administrator, Building Permits, Michael Smith, Enforcement Specialist, Cease and Desist Order, Legal Channels

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
10	September 5, 2001	Objections Mount Over Sand, Gravel Operations - Sun City West Woman Gets Involved (& Map)	x Valley Resident's Concern's, Sand and Gravel Operations, Meeting, State, Local, County Officials, Change, Regulations, Mining, Concrete, Asphalt Production, Recycling, Dust, Noise Pollution, Sun City West Woman, Shirley McDaniel, Sun City Homeowners Association, Property Owners and Residents Association, Complaints, El Mirage-based Vulcan Mining Co., Diesel Fuel, Environmental Research Foundation, Soot, Gasses, Nitric Oxide, Nitrogen Dioxide, Oxides of Sulfur, Hydrocarbons, Ethylene, Formaldehyde, Methane, Acrelein, Polynuclear Aromatic Hydrocarbons, Carcinogens, Person's Lungs, 26 Sand and Gravel Sites, Agua Fria River Basin, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Interfaith Services Building, Current Level, 40 Micrograms Per Cubic Meter, Own Monitoring, Pollution, Air Quality, Department of Health, Hearing, Board of Adjusters, Waiver, New West Materials, Operates Plants, 115th Avenue and Jomax Road, Avondale, Arizona Rock
11	October 1, 2001	In Council - Flood Control is in Our Control (& Picture)	x Flood Control, Mesa, Northeast Mesa Residents, Usery Park, City Council, Boulder Mountain Subdivision, Conveyance Channels, Impact, Desert, Introduce Flooding, County Supervisor Dan Stapley, Unincorporated Areas, Stakeholders, Las Sendas, Does Not Scar the Desert, McDowell and Ellsworth Roads, Retention Basins
13	October 5, 2001	Wiping Out Mosquitoes But Mindful of the Birds	x County Flood Control District, Clear Vegetation, New River, Northern Avenue, Dredge Channel, Allow Water, Flow Freely, Prime Habitat, Birds, Wildlife, Sentinel Chickens, Peoria, Positive, Encephalitis Virus, 99th and Northern Avenues, Breeding Ground, Mosquitos, Pond, Thrive, Plant Sap, Lush Vegetation, Michael Ellegood, District's Chief Engineers and General Manager, Hydrological Engineers, Biologists, County's Maintenance Crews, John Townsend, County's Vector Control Manager, Spraying, Treating, Water, 65 Degrees, Floodwater Mosquitos, Dormant, Disease-carrying Culex Mosquito, Don't Go Dormant in Winter, Jeff Esling, West valley Driving Range, Glendale, Dredging Low-flow Channel, Flow Out, Not Collect, New River Recreation Corridor, Hike, Nature, Skunk Creek to Camelback Road
14	October 5, 2001	Greenbelt Meeting Planned	x 47-mile Recreation Corridor, West Valley, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Public Meetings, Future, Agua Fria River, Agua Fria Watercourse Master Plan, Parks, Trails, Lake Pleasant to Gila River, Agua Fria Study, 32 Miles of Riverbed, West Valley, Barren Desert, Rivaling Indian Bend Wash, Scottsdale, West Valley Recreation Corridor, Dozen Political Jurisdictions
12	October 10, 2001	Rec Corridor Plan Takes Another Step	x Watercourse Master Plan, West Valley Recreation Corridor, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Guide Development, River, Reduce, Damage, Flooding, Watershed Runoff, Prohibit Development, Infringing, Destroying, Floodplain Storage, Cross-River, Upstream Impacts, 47 Mile Riverbed, Agua Fria, Gila River, Lake Pleasant, New River, Camelback Road, Circle Mountain Road, Public Parks, Unincorporated County, Avondale, El Mirage, Peoria, Glendale, Surprise, Phoenix, Local Municipalities, Maricopa Association of Governments, Private Entities, Maricopa County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, Coldwater Park, Riley Drive, Eliseo C. Felix Jr. Way, Avondale Mayor Ron Drake, Litchfield Park, Mayor Woody Thomas, Walking, Horseback Riding, Diane McCarthy, President, Westmarc, Diane Brossart, Valley Foreword,
15	October 24, 2001	7 Still Missing After Flooding - Residents of Wenden Begin Clearing Up Ravaged Homes (& Pictures)	x Seven People, Unaccounted, Flooding, Damaged, 100 Homes, Western Arizona Town, Missing People, Migrant Workers, Scooped Mud, Houses, Vehicles, Tales of Escape, Guillermo Lizarraga, Strapped, Three Children, Tree, From Drowning, Water Rushing, Arizona Department of Public Safety Helicopter, 300 People, Makeshift Shelter, Trailer, Floodwaters, Wenden, Heavy Rains, Evacuation, Nick Rohrig, Scrapes Mud, Susan Rohrig, Danielle, Survey Damage, Mud-covered Street
16	October 25, 2001	Wenden Picks Up Pieces - Rescuers Keep Searching for Several Missing People (& Pictures)	x Rescuers, Wenden, Ground Search, Several People, Unaccounted For, Floodwaters, No Official List of Names, Migrant Workers, LaPaz County Sheriff's Lt. Don Davis, Army National Guard Helicopter, Aerial Searches, Maj. Eileen Bienz, Jesse Carrasco, Mud and Water, Gov. Jane Hull, State of Emergency, West of Phoenix
17	November 13, 2001	Concerns Raised About Erosion in Carefree (& Pictures)	x Carefree Resident Jan Misseri, Concerns, Lack of Erosion Protection, Town of Carefree, Adequate Erosion Control Measures, Municipal Land Development, Natural Resource Management Planning, Municipal Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commissions, Zoning Ordinance, Town Administrator, Require Erosion Controls, Site Stabilized, Slope Stabilization, Zoning Administrator, Land on Nonchalant Ave., Lots 85 and 86, Experience Erosion, Wash Obstruction, Construction Debris, Driveway Crossing Wash, Town Engineer Erich Korsten, Larger Culvert, Cement Structure Installed, Scouring in Wash, No Scrub Pad, Stop Soil Tracking, Town Administrator Jon Pearson, Hilly Tracts, Wash at Cow Track, Paint Pony, 80th St. and Rising Sun, Home, Within Designated 100-year Flood Hazard Area, Steep Slope, Bank of Wash, Engineered Before Home Built, Created Erosion Problem, New Zoning Ordinance, Address Issues, Town Center Project, Councilman Bob Coady, The Desert Advocate, Mayor Ed Morgan, Planning Official Nancy Zeno, Certificate of Occupancy, Protect Washes, Riparian Areas, Soil Stabilization, State Statues, Natural Resource, Keep Regulation Standardized, Wildlife Corridors, Flooding Buffers, State Legislature, 1992, Watershed Enhancement, Never Passed, House of Representatives, Arizona Revised Statue 9-461.05 Section D-3, Environmental Planning, Policies, Strategies, Section E, Conservation, Development, Utilization of Natural Resources, Forests, Soils, Rivers, Other Waters, Flood Control Prevention, Pollution of Streams, Regulation of Land, Stream Channels, Correction of Erosion of Soils, Public Health, Safety, General Welfare, Floodplain Zoning Districts, Protect Life, Property, Hazards, Periodic Inundation, Lot Sizes, Drainage Requirements, Adverse Topography, Averse Soils, 15 Soil Types in Carefree, Shrinking/Swelling, Adsorption, Septic Tanks, Carefree Planning and Zoning Commission, Proposed Zoning Ordinance, Existing Ordinance, Wash Protection, Erosion and Sedimentation, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Public Workshop, Carefree Master Drainage Plan, Current Flooding Problems

0		Title of Newspaper Article	X Key Words
32	November 21, 2001	Panel Addresses Arlington Concerns	X Move, Arlington Elementary School, West Valley, Duke Energy's Donation, 355th Avenue and Dobbins Road, Superintendent Ron Fletcher, Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency, Department of Emergency Management, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, School Facilities Board, Aubrey Godwin, Director, Neil Peters, Judy Melody, Emergency Planning Zone, Floodway, Flood in 1993, Damage, Campus, Arizona, Maricopa County Flood Control Board, Repairs, Ed Boot, Deputy Director, Ruth Aud, Schools Lawyer, Roger Decker, Udall, Shumway, Blackhurst, Allen and Lyons, P.C., Students FIRST, Children of Arlington and Harquahala
57	November 28, 2001	Arlington District's Opponents' Gripes Are Plain Hogwash	X Arlington Elementary School, Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency, Department of Emergency Management, County Flood Control District, Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, School Facilities Board, Proposed School Site, School in Gila River Floodway Since 1957, County Flood District Formed in August 1959, Fire, Damaged, Not Allow, Construction, Remodeling, Current Location, Flood Plain, Sempre Energy Resources, Donate Land, 410th Avenue and Elliot Road, Roads, Not Adequate, 355th Avenue and Dobbins, Jimmie Garner, Spokesman, Arlington Valley, Power Plants, Military Bases, Terrorist Targets, Duke Energy, Aubrey Godwin, Director, Levels of Alert, Evacuate, Sandy Honeycut, Judy Melody, Palo Verde Spokeswoman, Floodway, Flood in 1993, Damages, Ed Boot, Deputy Director, Ruth Aud, District's Lawyer Roger Decker of Udall, Shumway,
18	December 5, 2001	Opinions - Flood Projects Spread Revenue	X Michael Ellegood, County Government, Taxpayer Dollars, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Storm Events, Monsoons, County Supervisors Brock, Stapley, Kunasek, Brewer, Wilcox, \$250 Million, Flood Control Features, Maricopa County, Growth, Exceeded Expectations, East Valley, Concrete, Earth Structures, Protection, West Valley, Major Watercourses, New River, Skunk Creek, Agua Fria River, Non-structural, Flood Hazard Areas, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Indian Bend Wash, East Maricopa Floodway, Regional Detention Basins, Channels, Capital Improvement Expenditures, Planning Efforts, \$400 Million, Potential Flood Control Projects, Underground, Municipal Detention Basins, Ball Fields
19	December 8, 2001	Flood-Project Dollars Shifting to West Valley (& Picture)	X Michael Ellegood, County Government, Taxpayer Dollars, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Storm Events, Monsoons, County Supervisors Fulton Brock, Don Stapley, Andrew Kunasek, Jan Brewer, Mary Rose Wilcox, \$250 Million, Flood Control Features, Maricopa County, Growth, Exceeded Expectations, East Valley, Concrete, Earth Structures, Protection, West Valley, Major Watercourses, New River, Skunk Creek, Agua Fria River, Non-structural, Flood Hazard Areas, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Indian Bend Wash, East Maricopa Floodway, Regional Detention Basins, Channels, Capital Improvement Expenditures, Planning Efforts, \$400 Million, Potential Flood Control Projects, Underground, Municipal Detention Basins, Ball
20	December 31, 2001	Paradise Valley Awash in Opposition Over Flood Plan - Residents Call Measures Expensive, Unnecessary - (& Pictures & Map)	X County Leaders, Approve, Construction, \$10.3 Million, Underground Storm Drains, North East Valley, Protect 185 Paradise Valley Homes, Flooding, Maricopa County, Doubletree Ranch Road, Tatum Boulevard, Indian Bend Wash, Road, Repaved, Move Floodwaters, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, 10-year Flood, Isn't Major Problem, Waste of Money, Paul Manera, Rains, Hit Paradise Valley, 1992, Bing Zhao, Flood Control District Manager, County Supervisor Don Stapley, Mesa, County's Flood Control Advisory Board, Liz Clendenin, Opponent, Improving Doubletree Ranch Road, Suspicions, Nature of Project, What Was Really Intended, Paul Cherrington, Manager, Water Engineering and Transmission, Salt River Project, Chairman of County Board of Supervisors Jan Brewer, Glendale, Lobbyist James Heiler, Push Project, Damage, Major Storm Could Cause, New Housing, Disrupted Natural Flow, Rainwater, Significant Storm, Devastating, Computer Models, Reduce Property Value, Removing Trash From Natural Washes, Expanding Storm Drains, John Armory, Jeff Cook
22	January 4, 2002	Flood-plan Disagreement Swells - P.V. Project Awaits Council Approval (& Map & Picture)	X Paradise Valley Neighborhood, \$10.3 Million Flood-control Project, Approved By County Officials, Opponents, No Need for Flood Control, Proponents, Suffered Flood Damage, Town Council, Final Approval, Storm Drains, Under Doubletree Ranch Road, Tatum Boulevard, 52nd Street and 56th Street, Direct Mountain Runoff, Indian Bend Wash, Prevent Water Damage, 180 Homes, Photographs, Storms, 1972 and 1992, Drainage Problem, Derrick Johnson, 10 Inches of Water, Yard, Cliff Svoboda, Politics, Liz Clendenin, Petition, Voter Referendum, Block Project, Robert Duckworth, Trucks Hull Away Debris, Washed in By Water, Locked Into Our Area, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Using Flood-control Project, Much Needed Pavement, Larger Storms, Michael Ellegood, General Manager, Increased Traffic, Flood Street, 10-year Flood, Rep. Barbara Leff, Huge Culverts Underground
21	January 7, 2002	Not a Time To Do Nothing About P.V. Flood Control	X Water, History, Arid Southwest, Nature's Overflows, Rains, Alkaline Soil, Soak Into the Earth, Runs Off, Washes, Raging Torrents, Paradise Valley, \$10.3 Million Flood-control Project, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Protect 180 Homes, Strong Runoff, Mountains, Foothills, Desert Greenbelt Plan, North Scottsdale, Populated, Structures, Damaged, Floods of 1972 and 1992, 83 Neighbors, Disgruntled Residents, Oppose the Plan
24	January 12, 2002	Flood-control Project OK'd for PV Amid Controversy	X Rick Johnson, Flood of July 1992, Paradise Valley Resident, Soggy Mess, 10 Inches of Water, Yard, Rooms, Flooded, Soaked Carpeting, Padding, Doubletree Ranch Road, 54th Street Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Approved \$10.3 Million Project, Channel Flood Waters, 10-year Flood, 1992, Opponents, Unnecessary, Clearing Desert Washes, Keeping Drainage Ditches Clean, Mitigate Flooding, Floodwaters, Damaging Their Properties, Town Council Members, Town of Paradise Valley, Mayor Ed Lowry, Paul Manera, Hydrologist, Liz Clendenin, Not Needed, Collect Referendum Signatures

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
33	January 19, 2002	Peoria Flood Plan Preserves Desert	x Good Rain, Floodwaters, Rage, Concrete Channels, Divert, Water, Peoria, Natural Washes, Channels, Move Water, Flood Control Measures, North Peoria Area Drainage Master Plan, Preserve, Natural Flood-control Function, Existing Washes, Floodplain Ecosystem, Habitat, 73 Square Miles, Foothills, Jomax Road, Agua Fria River, Lake Pleasant Regional Park, Natural Drainage Patterns, Avoiding Construction, Maintenance of Man-made Structures, Dave Moody, Peoria's Public Works Director, Debra Stark, Director of Community Development, Sun City, 99th Avenue, Functional, Useful, Not Aesthetically Nice, Overall View of Flood Control, Piecemeal, Design, Flood-control Methods, Water, Moves South, Westbrook Village Golf Club, Beardsley Road, 83rd and 99th Avenues, Land, Cannot Absorb, Minimum, Rainfall, Runoff Floods, Golf Courses, Developers, Landowners, Residents, Government Entities, Flood Control District of Maricopa County
23	January 29, 2002	Maricopa County Receives A-grade for Management	x Maricopa County, Best Run Counties in the Nation, A Minus Grade, Government Performance Project, Syracuse University, Flexible Budgetary Policies, Monthly Cost Reviews, Information Technology, Katherine Barrett, Special Project Editor for Governing Magazine, County Administrator David Smith, Public Official of the Year
50	February 6, 2002	W. Valley Dam Hurt By ATVs, Dirt Bikes	x Dirt Bike, All-terrain-vehicle Riders, Structural Damage, Flood Control Berms, Wiping Out Desert Vegetation, Slow Storm Waters, Northwest Valley, Destruction, Beefed-up Police Patrols, Joe Munoz, Public Information Manager, Maricopa County Flood Control District, McMicken Dam, White Tank Mountains, Costing Thousands of Dollars, Repair, Fences Cut by Off-roaders, Compromising the Function, Earthen Dam, Not Concrete, Tearing It Up, Big Problem, Surprise Area, Far East Valley, Growth, Closer, Once Remote Flood Control Areas, Surprise Police Detective Scott Bailey, Stepping Up Patrols, Deer Valley Road and Grand Avenue, Warnings, Repeat Offenders Arrested, Fined, Jailed, Brad Jones, Arizona Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs, Educating People, Proper Place, Issue, Step Up Enforcement, Suitable Area, Doesn't Impact Residents
26	February 21, 2002	Markings of Off-Roaders Mar McMicken Dam (& Picture)	x Off-roaders, Surprise Flood Control Project, Fines, Jail Time, Trespassers, Surprise Police Department Officers, Patrolling, McMicken Dam, Bell Road, Damage to Dam, Off-road Vehicles, ATVs, Charlie Klenner, Maricopa County Flood Control District Acting Division Manager, Operations and Maintenance, Structure, County Land, Built in Mid-1950s, Control Water, Flowing Downstream, Luke Air Force Base, Retrofitted, District, Early 1980s, Curb Erosion, Earthen Structure, Vehicles, Carve Huge Divots, Allow Water, Repair Problems, Tear Up Soil, Throwing Dust, Hard-crusted Soil, Soft Powder, 25 People, Warning, Flood Control Property, Detective Scott Bailey, Keep a Log, Second Time, Cited, Educate, Arrested, Damaging Structure, Liability Issues, Joe Munoz, Public Information Office Manager, Dust, Fines, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Sandee McCullen, Region 1 Director of the Arizona State Association of 4-Wheel Drive Clubs, Urbanized, Riders Few Places to
25	February 23, 2002	Dam Besieged By ATVs - McMicken: Surprise Officers Set Up Patrols (& Pictures)	x Off-roaders, Surprise Flood Control Project, Fines, Jail Time, Trespassers, Surprise Police Department Officers, Patrolling, McMicken Dam, Bell Road, Damage to Dam, Off-road Vehicles, ATVs, Charlie Klenner, Maricopa County Flood Control District Acting Division Manager, Operations and Maintenance, Structure, County Land, Built in Mid-1950s, Control Water, Flowing Downstream, Luke Air Force Base, Retrofitted, District, Early 1980s, Curb Erosion, Earthen Structure, Vehicles, Carve Huge Divots, Allow Water, Repair Problems, Tear Up Soil, Throwing Dust, Hard-crusted Soil, Soft Powder, 25 People, Warning, Flood Control Property, Detective Scott Bailey, Keep a Log, Second Time, Cited, Educate, Arrested, Damaging Structure, Liability Issues, Joe Munoz, Public Information Office Manager, Dust, Fines, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Sandee McCullen, Region 1 Director of the Arizona State Association of 4-Wheel Drive Clubs, Urbanized, Riders Few Places to
28	February 28, 2002	Flood Project to Use Surrounding land - P.V. Council Wasn't Told of Space Needs Before Meeting (& Map)	x Controversial Flood Control Project, Paradise Valley, Land, Six Properties, Town Engineer Bill Mead, Town Council, Public Meeting, Repaving Doubletree Ranch Road, Residents, Construction, Landscaping, Councilman Ed Winkler, Trouble, Mayor Ed Lowry, Affected Property Owners, Emily Kile, Maricopa County, \$10.3 Million, Drainage System, Under Road, Residents Opposed, Not That Much Water, Increase Traffic Volume, Speed, Narrow Curved Lanes, Extensive Vegetation, Drew Spear,
30	March 6, 2002	Brochure Errors Revive PV Drain Flap	x Paradise Valley, Inform Residents, Future Doubletree Ranch Road Storm-drain, Road-improvement, Brochure, Factual Errors, Sent, Town's Cost, Sidewalks, Both Sides, Just on the North, Liz Clendenin, Paul Manera, Oppose Project, Write-in Candidates, Tuesday's Town Council Election, Town Engineer Bill Mead, Strategies, Local Public Relations Firm, Improve Communications, Mistakes, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Town Manager Tom Martinsen, Corrected Pamphlet, Vice Mayor Dan Schweiker, Scott Vogel, Flood Control District's Project Manager, Five-year Budge, Storm Drains, Runoff, Phoenix Mountains Preserve, Mummy Mountain, Channeled, Tatum Boulevard, Doubletree
31	March 9, 2002	Decision Time for NE Valley Voters	x Voters, Settle Dispute, Flood Control, Paradise Valley, Fire Controversy in Fountain Hills, Vision of Scottsdale, Phoenix, Scottsdale, Cave Creek School District, Budget Override, Scottsdale, Growth and Redevelopment, Cynthia Lukas, George Zraket, Robert Pettycrew, Scottsdale Area Chamber, Bob Littlefield
27	March 13, 2002	Avondale Makes Progress Toward River Trail Project	x Avondale, Public Trail, City Parks, City Council, Intergovernmental Agreement, Maricopa County Flood Control District, City Engineer David Fitzhugh, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Construct Trails, Bed, Flood Levees, Agua Fria River, Coldwater Park, Riley Drive, Avondale Friendship Park, McDowell Road, Riverbed, Interstate 10 Bridge, West Valley Recreation Corridor, 42 Mile System of Trails, Parks, Recreational Facilities, Agua Fria and New River, Grants Coordinator Michael Powell, Partial Funding, \$500,000 Grant, Arizona Department of Transportation, Part of TEA-21 Legislation, Trail

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
34	March 22, 2002	Resident's Worry About Flood Risks	x DC Ranch, Rain, Homes, Flood Zone, Geology Lesson, Alluvial Fan Floods, Destroy, Scottsdale, Joel Goldstein, Scottsdale City Council, Desert Greenbelt Project, Flood Control, Environment, Insurance, Washed Away, Hundred-year Flood, Phoenix, Simon Eisenberg, Charley Freericks, Joe Tram, Joe Munoz, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Flood Appraisalment, Flood Insurance, FEMA
35	March 27, 2002	Officials Mull Flood-Control Alternatives - Plan Needed To Prevent Potentially Server Flooding, Property Damage (& Picture & Map)	x 100-year Flood, Scottsdale Road, Northeast Valley, 10-square Mile Area, North Scottsdale, Northeast Phoenix, Paradise Valley, Moderate to Server Damage, Heavy Storm Runoff, 100-year Flood, Afshin Ahouraiyan, Project Manager, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Regional Flood Control Plan, Flood-prone Area, Thunderbird Road, Indian Bend Wash, Scottsdale Road Drainage Corridor Drainage Master Plan, Flood Control District, City of Scottsdale, Phoenix, Town of Paradise Valley, Development, Public Meetings, Alternative Flood Control Plans, Protection, 84 Parcels of Property, 10-year Flood, Rainfall, Low-lying Areas, Two Feet of Water, Land Acquisition, Funds, No Added Flood-control Improvements, Property Owners Vulnerable, Area, Designated, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Floodplain, Costly Flood Insurance, Bob Johnson, Scottsdale City Planner, Weak Links, Existing Drainage System, Minor Storm Runoff, Culverts, Storm Drains, Detention Basins, Channels, Floodwalls, Built 30 Years Ago, Scott Buchanan, Stanley Consultants, Design, Engineer, Final Master Plan, Budget Constraints, Rights-of-way, Jurisdictional Priorities, Other Factors, Various Local Governments, Agencies, Financing, Bond
36	April 10, 2002	New River Residents Get Look at New Flood Plain Study	x Maricopa County Flood Control District, Protect People, Property, Flooding, Floodplain Delineation Study, New River Area, Open House, Rainfall, Runoff Histories, Peak Flooding, Flood Depths, Surveying, Aerial Mapping, Analyzed Drainage Factors, Slope, Vegetation, Soil Composition, Land Use, Topographic Map, Injury, Minimize Property Damage, Insurance Rates, Federal Government, Regulation, Education, Building Structures, Spokeswoman Angeline Fowler, Design, After 1990, Keeping People, Buildings, Areas, Prone to Flooding, Flood Use Permit, Build, Grade, Install Fencing, Minimizing Potential Damage, Upstream, Downstream, Dave Degerness, Hydrologist, Floodplain Mapping, 100-year, 24-hour Flood Event, I-17 Bridges, New River, New River School, Black Wash, Road Runner Cafe, Old Jackass Acres, 1987, FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps, 16 Current Structures, Last Event, Recorded, USGS Rock Springs, July 15, 1999, Flow, 526 cfs (Cubic Feet Per Second), Two-year Reoccurrence, 2,380 cfs, Rock Springs Gauging Site, 12,600 cfs, January 8, 1993, 10-year Event, 100-year 24-hour Flow, 34,000 cfs, Study Outlines, Boundaries, Hundred Year Flood Events, One Percent Chance Each Year, FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), Creates, Boundaries, Smaller, Larger Storms, Realtor, Reveal, Information, Carry Flood Insurance, Carry Mortgage, Federal Lender, National Flood Insurance Program, Adopt, Enforce Floodplain Management Ordinances, NFIP' Rating System, Discounts, Maricopa County, Level 5
37	April 22, 2002	Bill That Could Split Maricopa County Fails	x Mesa Area, Split Off, Maricopa County, Senate Committee, Voted, Against, Approved by House, Bill (HB2121), Public Vote, East Valley, Not Gotten Fair Share, Dollars, Attention, County Government, Bills Sponsor, Rep. Gary Pierce, Leaner County, Few Needs, County Services, Don't Need to Duplicate Building, Safety, Against Bill, County Supervisors Association of Arizona, Lobbyist Alan Ecker, Rory Hays, Maricopa County Flood Control District, County Supervisors, Board Members of Special Districts, Sen. Brenda Burns, Glendale
39	April 25, 2002	Sunnyslope Houses Residents, Homeless (& Picture)	x Cavecreek Road Overpass, 10th Street Wash, Sunnyslope, Awash, Human Detritus, Cardboard Boxes, Dirty Clothes, Pickles, Magazines, Smell, Freeway for Homeless, Phoenix Police Officer Rodney Mindrup, Come Through Here to Copulate, Defecate, Urinate, Phoenix, 12th Street and 19th Dunlap and Peoria Avenues, Geographic Fluke, Arroyos, North Mountain Park Phoenix, Mountain Preserve, Million Dollar Houses, Drunks Sleeping Behind Bus Stops, 350 and 450 Homeless Residents, Day-labor Jobs, Collecting Cans, Stealing Copper Tubing, 11th Street and Vogel Avenue, William Norton, Architect, Daughter Sylvia, 1907, What a Pretty Sunny Slope, Connie Kraemer, Sunnyslope Historical Society, Norton Built First Home in Sunnyslope, First Subdivision in 1911, 1927 First Presbyterian Church Established Desert Mission, Religious, Social Services, Tuberculosis Sanitariums, No Irrigation, North of Arizona Canal, Become Part of Phoenix Until 1959, Historical Museum, Seventh Street and Hatcher Road, People's Drug Store, First Drug Store With Drive Thru Window, Seventh Avenue, Man, Overloaded Shopping Cart, Wrought-iron Fence, CAP Flood-control Canal, Move Down There, Sleep Tonight, Federal Government Controls Access, 19th Avenue, Mountain View, Advance Blight Mode, Boarded-up Windows, Broken-down Vehicles, Vagrants Sleeping in Alleys, Active Drug House, Recovery, Apartment Complex 13th and Vogel Avenue, Rehabbed into Transitional House, Buddhist Temple, Tension, Sunnyslope Permanent Residents and Those Who Roam the Streets, Jim Neverman

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
38	April 30, 2002	Flood-Control Alternative to be Revealed to Public	x Home Owners, \$34.5 Million Plan, Flood-control Pipes, Culverts, Water-detention Basins, Protect Land, Northeast Mesa, McDowell and Hawes, 100-year Flood, Three-inches of Rain, 24-hour Period, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Spook Hill Area Drainage Master Plan, Flood Control District's Study Team, City of Mesa Staff, Citizens Committee's Recommendations, Mesa City Council, Land Acquisition, IGA's, Afshin Ahouraiyan, Project Manager, Funding, Taxes on Property, In Phases, Construct Underground Pipe/box, McKellips, McDowell, 76th Street, Haws, Range Rider Trail, Oak, Hermosa Vista, 87th Street, 88th Street, Palm Lane, Usery Pass Road, Ellsworth Road, Detention Basins, Open Channel, Brown, Mesa Mayor Keno Hawker, Back-up Strategy, Alternative, Protection, East of Ellsworth Road, Bill Puffer, Citizens Committee, Build Structures, Usery Mountain Recreation Area, Advisory Group, Power Road, East Mesa, Highway 88, Apache Junction, Goldfield Mountains, Superstition Boulevard, Protecting Land, Preserve, Reuse Vegetation, Maintain Flows, Existing Washes, Exclude Motorized Vehicles, Coordinate Construction, Enforce Existing Rules, Provide for Flows Across Roadways, Educate, Drainage Rules, Current Flood Problems, Downstream
71	May 11, 2002	Mesa, County Argue Over Flood Plan's Bill (& Map)	x Maricopa County, Revamped Flood-protection Plan, Northeast Mesa, Protect, Homes, Usery Mountains, \$34 Million, \$10 Million More, County and Mesa, Disagree, Foot the Bill, Protect 6,000 Residents, 100-year Flood, 4.2 Inches of Rain, 24-hour Period, Mesa City Councilman Bill Jaffa, Money from County or State, Financially Responsible, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Afshin Ahouraiyan, Project Manager, Property Damage, Loss of Life, Mesa, Tax Increase, Bonds Levied, City Manager Mike Hutchinson, Storm Drain Bonds, Derailed, Mile-long Usery Mountain Recreation Area, Diver Floodwater
40	May 15, 2002	Thirteen Skunk Creek Landowners Facing Buyouts (& Picture)	x 13 Local Property Owners, Skunk Creek Floodway, Offered Buyouts, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Skunk Creek Wash, Joy Ranch Road, Circle Mountain Road, Land, 100-year Floodway, \$22,500 Relocation Assistance, One-percent Chance, Charles Selley, Third Avenue Home, Won't Sell, 9 Acres, Family Trust, Dave Caldwell, 4.7 Acres, Joe Hines, New River Resident, Five Acres, Scottsdale Appraiser, Flood Control's Computer Model, Four Feet of Water, Less Than One Hour Response Time, Floodway, Wanda Sartin, 2.7 Acres, Maricopa County Flood Control Approved Skunk Creek Watercourse Master Plan, April 17, 2002, Arizona Revised Statutes, Identify Flood Problems, Prepare Plans, Eliminate, Minimize, Implement Flood Hazard Mitigation Program, Identified Non-encroachment Area, FEMA, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 100-year Floodway, Lateral Mitigation Erosion Hazard Zone, No-build Zone, Undeveloped Land, Limited-build Zone, Erosion Control Zone, Flood Warning System, Potential Flooding, Weather Radio, Pager, Monitoring, Maintenance Program, Watershed, Project Manager Marilyn DeRosa, Preserve Floodplain, High-hazard Area, Traditional Approach, Building Dams, Channels, Culverts, Natural Alternative, Preserves Wildlife Habitat, Acquisition, Best Approach, Public Safety, Tax Dollars, Natural Desert
41	May 15, 2002	Flood Control District to Involve Carefree Residents in Drainage	x Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Town of Carefree, First Phase, Town Drainage Master Plan, Collecting Information, Area Drainage, Erosion, Sedimentation, Greater Safety, Flooding, Reduce Area Drainage Problems, Open House, Future Drainage Plans, Creation of Solutions, Safe Environment, Reduced Risk, Inconvenience, Traveling, Flooding Events, Mike Ellegood, District Chief Engineer/General Manager, Entire Town of Carefree, 20 Square Miles, 46 Problem Drainage Areas, Doug Williams, Project Manager, 10 Linear Miles of Floodplain Delineations, Six Area Washes, North Galloway Wash, Public Safety, Flood Hazards, Road Crossing Improvements, Development Drainage Guidelines, Localized Structures, Key Issues, Sediment, Possible Erosion, Foothills Area, Deposits, Scouring, Blocks Culverts, Dip Road Crossings, Water Direction, Velocity, Additional Erosion, Undercutting, Washings, Crossings, Remove Sediment, Major Maintenance, Carefree Watershed, Linda Johnson, Associate Project Manager, CH2MHILL, Highly Complex Erosion, Drainage Issues, Effect Downstream, Analyze Data, Formulate, Alternatives, Implementation Costs
43	May 15, 2002	Residents of Local Flood Hazard Areas to Receive 25-Percent Discount on Flood Insurance	x Maricopa County Flood Control District, Top One Percent, Floodplain Management Agencies, United States, Residents, Special Flood Hazard Areas, 25-Percent Discount, Flood Insurance Premiums, Class 5 Agency, National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System, In 1991, Class 9, Shanna Yager, District CRS Program Coordinator, Class 4 Next Year, Reduce Flood Damage, Building Constructed in Compliance, NFIP Building Standards, 80 Percent Less Damage
42	May 22, 2002	Flood-Control Plans Get Citizens' OK at Meeting	x \$34.5 Million Project, Flood-control Pipes, Culverts, Water-detention Basins, Protect Land, Northeast Mesa, McDowell and Hawes, 100-year Flood, More Than Three Inches of Rain, 24-hour Period, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Public Meeting, Spook Hill Area Drainage Master Plan, County Supervisor Don Stapley, Angelina Fowler, Public Information Officer, Comment Sheets, Mesa City Council, Recommendation, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Design, Construct, Levies Taxes on Property, Underground Pipe/box, McKellips, McDowell, 76th Street, Haws Road, Range Rider Trail, Oak, Hermosa Vista, 87th Street, 88th Street, Palm Lane, Usery Pass Road, Ellsworth Road, Detention Basins, Open Channel, Brown, Signal Butte Floodway, Usery Mountain Recreation Area, Advisory Group, 35 Square Miles, Power Road, East Mesa, Highway 88, Apache Junction, Goldfield Mountains, Superstition Boulevard, Do Not Impact, Do Not Displace, Provide Maximum Flood-control, Cost-effective Solution, Alternatives

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
44	June 6, 2002	Off-Road Vehicles Destroying Flood Control Mechanisms in N.W. Valley	x Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Recent Damage, Northwest Valley's McMicken Dam, Flood Protection Land, Vegetation, Flood Control Mechanisms, Destroyed, Supvr. Jan Brewer, Flood Control Facilities, Desert Open Spaces, ATV's, Motorcycles, Dust, Air Quality, Surprise City Limits, North of Bell Road, Low Flow Channel, Cut, Fence, Joe Munoz, Public Information Manager, District Landscape Architect Dennis Holcomb, Native Desert Vegetation, Aid Erosion Control, Bank Stabilization, Absorbs, Reduces Water Runoff, Dust Control, Cover for Habitat, Desert Wildlife Species, Wildlife Corridor, Safety, Property Taxes, Similar Activities, East Valley, Scars, Impacts, Signs, Ownership, Penalty, Arizona Revised Statue 13-1502, Trespassing, Cited, Fined, Damage to Land, ARS 13-1602, Criminal Damage, Arizona State Land Department, Recreational Use Permits, Utilize State Trust Land, Environmentally Compatible Recreational Actives, Established Roads,
49	June 8, 2002	Flood Warning Worries - Experts Fear Alert for North Scottsdale Not Enough Time (& Picture & Diagram & Map)	x Hydrologists, Flood Control Officials, Public Works Planners, North Scottsdale's Flood Hazard, The Big One, Flood That Hasn't Happened, McDowell Mountains, Officials, Subdivision Builders, Dread, Drought, Hydrologists and Geologists, Scottsdale City Council, Study, Warning System, Residents, Emergency Crews, 26-acre Detention Basin, Bleed Off Storm Waters, Massive Public Outcry, December 2000, Desert Greenbelt Project, \$100 Million System, 11 Miles of Channels, Four Large Detention Basins, Catastrophic Flooding, Hydrologist Winn Hjalmarson, Evacuate, Homes, Scottsdale Transportation Director John Little, Real Danger, Doing Nothing, Flood Hazard Lurking, Alluvial Fan, Upside-down Funnel, Spits Rainwater, Sediment, Tightly Focused Apex, Sprays, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Hazardous as Oceanfront Property, Unpredictable Geologic Feature, Federal Scientists, Major Study, 1996, Consulting Firm KBL, Evaluate Risk, Warning System, Collect Data, Automatic Dialers, Home Numbers, Hjalmarson, Arid Lands Hydrologist, U.S. Geological Survey, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Thunderstorms, Reaction Time, Two Inches of Rain, 30 Minutes, Set Off Alarm, Water, Running Off, Hillside, Two-foot-wide Rocks, Boulders, Rolling Down, Joel Goldstein, CD Ranch, Details of Evacuation Plans, Pima Road Access, Point A to Point B, 26 Percent Chance, 100-year Flood, 30-year Mortgage, Flood Damage, Western United States, Fully Engineered Solution
46	June 12, 2002	Flood Control Hearing Will Be Held June 19	x Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Public Hearing, Proposed Scottsdale Road Corridor Drainage Master Plan, Several Plans, Presented, Flood Control Mitigation Alternatives, Portions of Scottsdale, Phoenix, Paradise Valley, Final Alternative, Afshin Ahouraiyan, Project Manager
45	June 13, 2002	Story Should Have Mentioned Greenbelt Foes	x Flood Warning Worries, Flood Control Issue, North Scottsdale, \$100 Million Desert Greenbelt, Public Testimony, December 2000, Citizen Arguments, Numerous Neighborhood Groups, Rational, Convincing, Current Flood Mitigation Concepts, Greenbelt Opponents, Concerned Groups, Disastrous Major Even, Never Happen, Questioned, Possibility of Such a Flood, Next 100 Years, 200-year Flood, 500-year Flood, 100-Year Flood, Natural Disasters, McDowell Mountains
47	June 19, 2002	Flood-Control Channel OK'd Near White Tanks (& Map)	x Major Storm, Floodwaters, Neighborhoods, White Tank Mountains, Maricopa County, \$3.5 Million Flood Channel, Protect Residents, County Officials, Major Downpour, Overburden, White Tanks North Inlet Channel, Major Flood Hazard, Olive and Glendale Avenues, Perryville Road, Rain, Desert, Server Flooding, Valerie Swick, Project Manager, County's Flood Control District, Meeting With Residents, Build, New Flood Control Channel, Olive and Northern Avenues, East Side of Beardsley Canal, Culverts, Recreation Corridor, Hiking, Equestrian Trails, Least Expensive, Alternatives, Lowest Construction Impact,
54	June 19, 2002	Community Meeting - Flood Control Hearing Will be Held June 19	x Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Public Hearing, Scottsdale Road Corridor Drainage Master Plan, Flood Control Mitigation Alternatives, Scottsdale, Phoenix, Paradise Valley, Final Alternative, Afshin Ahouraiyan, Project Manager
48	June 23, 2002	Skunk Creek to Assume Regional Park Role (& Picture)	x Skunk Creek, Linear Park, North Glendale, \$126,000, Design Work, \$1 Million, Construction Costs, Shirley Medler, Park Supervisor, City of Glendale, Trails, Vegetation, Signs, Regional Park System, Phoenix, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Channelization, 51st Avenue, Union Hills Drive, Peoria Border, Bell Road, 73rd Avenue, Creeks and Washes, Cement Culverts, Divert, Damaging Waters, Skunk Creek Project, 3 1/2-mile Path, Banks, Dry Creek, Horse and Walking Paths, Thunderbird Paseo Park, Councilman Manny Martinez, Foothills Park, 57th Avenue and Union Hills, Anchor Park, Skate Park, Multigenerational Center, Softball Fields, Dog Park, Foothills Branch Library
51	July 3, 2002	Price Tag May Be \$6 Million for Area Flood-Control Plan (& Map)	x Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Approved, Regional Flood Control Plan, Mitigate Damage, Heavy Storm Runoff, Paradise Valley, North Scottsdale, Northeast Phoenix, Scottsdale Road Corridor Drainage Master Plan, Improvements, Existing Flood-control, Drainage Systems, \$4.8 Million and \$6 Million, Afshin Ahouraiyan, Project Manager, Protection, 10-year Storm Event, \$42 Million, 100-year Storm, Bond Financing, Property Taxes, Municipal Contributions, Combination, Scottsdale Road Corridor, Flood Prone Area, Scottsdale Airport, Runoff, Berneil Ditch, Doubletree Ranch Road, Constructed Storm Drainage Facilities, Detention Basins, Drainage Channels, Storm Drains, Enlarge Water Detention Basins, Cactus Park, Cactus and Scottsdale Roads, Mescal Park, Mescal Street and 68th Place, Prevent Overflow, Existing Open Drainage Channel, Thunderbird Road to Sweetwater Avenue, Covered, Reduce, Hazard, Motorists, Pedestrians

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
53	July 24, 2002	Rio Verde Residents to Learn More About Master Plan to Study Drainage and Flooding	x 1070's, Rio Verde Area, 136th Street, McDowell Regional Park, Rapidly Developing, Single Lot Residences, Subdivisions, Impact, Area's Drainage, Flood Protection, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Area Drainage Master Plan, Public Meeting, Community-based Flood Protection, Felicia Terry, Project Manager, Rain, Desert, Server Flooding, Erosion, Planning Process, Public Safety, Moderate Slopes, Braided, Sandy-bottom Washes, McDowell Mountain, Verde River, Shallow Sheet Flooding, High-velocity Flows, Debris Flows, Erosion, Sediment Movement, Deposition, Channel Migration, Floodplain Delineation Studies, Area Washes, Rio Verde North Extension Floodplain Delineation, After Increased Permit Applications, Hydrologist Kathryn Gross, Analyze 70 Miles, Watercourses, Used to Regulate Development, Not Submitted to Federal Emergency Management Agency, Necessary for Development, Manage Development's Impact, Area's Drainage System, Flood Hazards, Community-based Alternatives, Address Problems, Remediation, Education, Reduce, Risks, Injury, Death, Property
55	July 24, 2002	Meeting on Rio Verde Floodplain Set	x Maricopa County Flood Control District Officials, Initiated Area Drainage Master Plan Study, Rio Verde's Area Drainage, Flood Protection Changed, Rapid Growth, McDowell Mountain Park, East of 136th Street, Public Meeting, Rio Verde Residents, Community-based Flood Protection Solution, Felicia Terry, Project Manager, Rain, Desert, Server Flooding, Erosion, Ideas, Concerns, Drainage Study, Moderate Slopes, Braided, Sandy Wash Bottoms, McDowell Mountain, Verde River, Geologic Characteristics, Shallow Sheet Flooding, High-velocity Flows, Erosion, Debris Flows, Erosion, Movement of Sediment, Migration of Wash Channels, Floodplain Delineations on Washes, Rio Verde North Extension Floodplain Delineation, Increased Permit Applications, Kathryn Gross, District Hydrologist, Analyzed 70 Miles of Watercourses, Regulate Development
64	July 25, 2002	Flood Control? It Should be Priority	x Drought-stricken East Valley Desert, Flood Control, Eastern Canal, Newcomers, Joe Munoz, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Bill Puffer, Chairman, Citizen Group, 2,500 Homes, Usery Mountain Recreation Area, Rains, Powerful Storm, Major Damage, Flood Control Officials, 1987, Proposed Flood Management Plan, 35-square Mile Area, Northeast Mesa, Engineering Studies, Underground Drainage Pipes, Retention Basins, Diversion Canals, Berms, \$32 Million, Afshin Ahouraiyan, Project Manager, Dave Ellegood, District's Chief Engineer, Effective Flood Control Planning, Development Project, Before, Approved,
56	August 4, 2002	Land Deal Swamps Mesa - City Drops Plan for Flood Control; Ex-Owners Seek \$3M in Damages	x Mesa, Court Battle, 60 Acres, Private Land, Condemned, Return Possession, Lawyer Dale Zeitlin, Larry Yount, Brother of Major League Baseball Great Robin Yount, 1999 Flood Control Project, Mesa and Maricopa County Flood Control District, Build Stormwater Detention Basin, General Motors Proving Ground, 400-acre Parcel, Owned by Yount's Corporation, LKY Real Estate, Joe Padilla, Mesa's Assistant City Attorney, Appraised, \$1.14 Million, Immediate Possession, Owners, Appraisal Done, \$7.4 Million, Arizona Supreme Court Ruling, Withdraw City's Request, Build Basins Elsewhere, \$3 Million in Damages, Undeveloped Desert Property, Vacant, Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Robert Myer
58	August 28, 2002	Doubletree Project to Begin at Year's End	x Doubletree Ranch Road Drainage and Street Improvement Project, Paradise Valley Town Engineer Bill Mead, Ribbon-cutting Ceremony, Groundbreaking Date, Kick-off, Mayor Ed Lowry, Liz Clendenin, Drainage Project, \$10.3 Million, County Flood Control District, Funding Delayed, Some Projects, Financial Issues, Angelina Fowler, Public Information Officer, Doubletree Ranch Road Project, Cost-sharing, Goodyear, Glendale, Phoenix, Bullard Wash, City of Goodyear, Bethany Home Outfall Channel, East Maricopa Floodway, Project Manager Scott Vogel, Emergency Clause, Resolution 1027, Intergovernmental Agreement, Town, Financially Responsible, Street Improvements
59	September 4, 2002	New River Zoning Violations Cases Going Forward	x Zoning Violations, New River Properties, Investigated, Legal Action, Maricopa County Planning and Zoning Code Enforcement Department, Steve McAdams, Water Line, Tank, Coyote Pass Road, Without Permit, Dennis Robinson, Cabinet Shop, West of New River Road, North of Shangri-La Resort, Enforcement Officer Dennis Mann, Special Use Permit, Late Fees
9	September 8, 2002	When it Rains... (& Picture)	x Summer Thunderstorm, Phoenix, Clouds, Light Show, Urban Ecologists, Arizona State University, Storms, Valley, Summer Monsoon Season, Downpour, Runoff, Information, Rain, Ecosystem, Monsoon Storms, Fertile Laboratory, Researchers, Rains Are Brief But Intense, Extended Dry Period, Scoop Up Materials, Collected on the Ground, ASU Ecologists, Storm Chasers, Remote Sensors, Rain Buckets, Scientist, David Lewis, Post-doctoral Associate, ASU's Central Arizona-Phoenix Long-Term Ecological Project, First Rush, Urgency Sampling, John Roach, Research Fellow, Storm Runoff, Lakes, Indian Bend Wash, Scottsdale, Samples, Chemical Makeup, Affect Growth, Tiny Organisms, Urban Development, Natural Systems, Undeveloped Desert, Nutrients, Rainfall, Valley Cities, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Metals, Chemicals, Lawn Fertilizers, Chemical Reactions, Seeps Into the Ground, Bacteria, Nitrogen, Greenhouse Gasses, Wet-dry Bucket, Airborne Materials, Nancy Grimm, Co-Director, Urban Runoff, Heavy Amounts of Chemicals, Nature, Landscaping Fertilizers, Kill Aquatic Life, Designing Neighborhoods, Filter Polluted Floodwaters, Aquatic Ecosystem, Terrestrial Ecosystem, Water's Chemistry, Grassy Catch

0		Title of Newspaper Article	X Key Words
60	September 11, 2002	Supervisors Approve Trail-blazing Plans - Trail Net to Link With Reach 11 (& Pictures)	X Northeast Phoenix Residents, Multiuse Nature Trails, Reach 11 Recreation Area, Hiking, Cycling, Horseback Ridding, 18 Miles of Trails, Linked, System of Trails, 335 Miles Across Maricopa County, Follow Central Arizona Project Canal, County Board of Supervisors, Approved First Phase, Regional Trail System, \$250,000 Per Year, Two Years, Supervisor Andy Kunasek, Northeast Phoenix, Cave Creek, Carefree, Existing Right-of-ways, Canals, Parks, Utility Corridors, Flood Control Projects, Phase 1, 221 Miles of Trails, White Tank Mountains, West Valley, Cave Creek Recreational Area, Northeast Phoenix, Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area, 16-member Maricopa County Trail Commission, Federal, State, Local Governments, Jurisdictions, CAP Canal, Partnership, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Phoenix Parks and Recreation, Cities of Phoenix, Scottsdale, Mesa, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Preliminary Concept, Public Forum
61	September 14, 2002	Scottsdale Plans Big for Gaping Hole (& Picture & Map)	X 50-acre Hole, North of Loop 101, Pima Road, Water Retention Basin, Scottsdale Officials, Grassy Park, Sports Fields, Pull 85,000 Dump-truck Loads, 1.1 Million Cubic Yards, Nick Simonetta, Spokesman, Arizona State Land Department, Regulate Water Flow, North/south Corridor, 100-year Flood Plain, Water Treatment Plant, Runoff, McDowell Mountains, Average Depth 25 Feet, Slopes, Gentile, Bill Exham, Scottsdale Community Services General Manager, Collect Water, City Amenity, Raging Floodwaters, Ripped City in Half, Mid 1970's, Indian Bend Wash, Eroded Seven-mile Long Area, Greenbelt, Parks, Golf Courses, Swimming Pools, Fishing, Boating Lakes, Lease, Land, Right-of-way From the State, Excavated Dirt, Used, Build Pima Freeway Section, Scottsdale Road and Princess Drive.
62	September 24, 2002	\$32M NE Mesa Flood Plans OK'd by Council	X Flood-control Pipes, Culverts, Water Detention Basins, Protect Land, Northeast Mesa, Approved, Funding, \$32 Million Project, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, City of Mesa, Storm Sewer Bonds, Directs Water to Canals, Dump, Salt River, Spook Hill Area Drainage Master Plan, Power Road, Highway 88, Apache Junction, Goldfield Mountains, Superstition Boulevard, Existing Drainage Facilities, Closed Systems, Open Channels, Minimize Downstream Flooding, Regional Flood Protection, Anna Leyva-Easton, Civil Engineer, Mesa City Council, Construct, Underground Pipe/box, McKellips and McDowell Roads, 76th Street to Haws Road, Range Rider Trail to Oak, Hermosa Vista, 87th Street, 88th Street, Palm Lane, Usery Pass.
63	October 9, 2002	Skunk Creek Residents Out of Harm's Way - Nine Area Homeowners Accept Buyouts, Area Now Enroute to New Homes	X Skunk Creek Watercourse Master Plan, Nine Residents, New Homes, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Buyout Program, High Flood, Erosion Hazard Areas, Built, Prior, Delineation, Flood Hazard Area, High Risk, Injury, Death, Property Damage, Floodway, Frequent, Deep, High Velocity Flows, Marilyn DeRosa, Project Manager, Skunk Creek, Circle Mountain Road, Honda Bow Road, 19th Avenue, Acquisition, Removal, Asbestos Survey, Re-seeding, \$2.5 Million, Removal of Structures, Three Inches of Rainfall, Fill Homes with Water, Banks, Victims of Erosion, Soil, Crumbles, Moves Downstream, County Supervisor Andy Kunasek, Public Safety, Natural Desert Environment, Wildlife Habitat, Major Flooding, Erosion and Lateral Movement, Large Floods, Moved Main Channel, 400 Feet, No Building, Designated 100-year Floodway, Erosion Hazard Zone, Rigorous Erosion Permitting Requirements, Floodplain Use Permit, Stream and Rain Gauges, Upper Watershed, Adobe Dam/Desert hills Area Drainage Master Plan
74	October 16, 2002	Close Up - Stormy Plan - Council Informed of Possible New Flood Plain (& Picture)	X Town of Paradise Valley, Flood, Paradise Valley Town Council, Councilmembers, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Project Manager Afshin Ahouraiyan, City of Scottsdale, Drainage Facilities, 10-square Mile Area, Central Arizona Project, Miller Road, 64th Street, Berneil Ditch, Five Alternatives, Improvements to Drainage, Scottsdale Road, 10-year Protection Level, Two of the Area's Basins, Cactus and Mescal Parks, 100-year Status, Berneil Wash, Storm Water, Channel, Overflow, Town Engineer Bill Mead, Flooded Twice Past 10 Years, Rainwater, Storm in 1994 Flooded Six Homes, Cost, Councilman Steve Benson, Cost for Master Plan, \$1.6 Million
65	October 21, 2002	Group Protests Delay of Ditch Fill-in (& Map)	X Historic, Ditch, Historic Designation, Waterway, Along Osborn Road, East Phoenix Residents, City, State Preservation Officials, Conservation, 94-year-old Shallow Ditch, 50th Place to 56th Street, Arcadia Osborn Neighborhood Association, Accident Waiting to Happen, Cover Waterway, Add Curbs, Sidewalk, Russell Moore, 1999, Phoenix Streets, Transportation Officials, \$500,000 Project, Cover Ditch, Plans Disrupted, Historic Ditch List, Salt River Project, Bureau of Reclamation, State Historic Preservation Office, John Keane, Executive Environmental Analyst, Neighborhoods, Adore Their Ditches, Dirt-bottom Canal, Modesto Ash Trees, Vegetation, Irrigation System, SRP, Farmlands, Define City's Image, Agricultural Region, Bill Collins, State Historic Preservation Officer, Isn't Just a Hole, Kevin Wright, Phoenix's Historic Preservation Office, Piping, Debris, Clogging
68	October 21, 2002	Study Says 90 Homes Were Built in Floodplain	X Flood Control Study, Identified 90 Homes, North Scottsdale, Built, Floodplain, Property Owners, Buy Flood Insurance, \$300 Per Year, for \$100,000, Stage Coach Pass Wash, Upper Boulder Wash, Hazard Areas, Elevations, 100-year Flood, 400 Parcels, Open House
67	October 30, 2002	Flood District Labels NS Danger Area	X Diane Cary, Sunflower Subdivision, North Scottsdale, Home, Build in Flood Plain, Bellasara, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, 1995, Legend Trail Community, Do Not Sit, 100-year Flood Plain, Years Later, Ninety Homes, Inside Flood Plain, Study by DEI Professional Service, City of Scottsdale, Tim Montgomery, Federal Officials, Study, New Flood Plain Maps, Propose Drainage Project, Mitigates Flooding, Bill Erickson, Flood Plain Administrator, Randy Bower, Build, Bridge, Complies with Flood Laws, Build Culvers, Purchase Flood Insurance, Proper Elevation, Accommodate Flooding, Pat Moraca, Consultant,

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
69	October 30, 2002	Funding For Flood Project Nears (& Map)	x El Mirage, Funding, Flood Control Project, Regional Park Site, Flood Control District of Maricopa County's Advisory Board, Resolution, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, West Cactus Road Retention Basin and Channel Project, Intergovernmental Agreement, \$4 Million Cost, Southwest Corner of El Mirage and Cactus Roads, Supervisor Max Wilson, Possible Flooding Problems, Transport Water, Surprise, Agua Fria River, El Mirage City Manager Stuart Brackney, Landscaped Channels, Thunderbird and Cactus Roads, Athletic Fields, Basketball Courts, Recreational Facility, Ramadas, Culvert, Ditch at Pueblo El Mirage Country Club, Designing Project, Construction, Landscaping, Tourism and Sports Authority, Salt River
70	November 1, 2002	E.V. Restoration Project Targets Salt River Bed Feds, Mesa, Reservation Aim to Rebuild Ecosystem (& Map)	x Dry, Dusty, Salt River Bed, Mesa, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Lush, Wet, Green Landscape, Federal Officials, Va Shly'ay Akimel Salt River Restoration Project, \$4.8 Million, Study, Restore, Year-round Water Flow, Trees, Shrubs, Grasses, Marsh Plans, Scarred River Bottom, Mesa Mayor Keno Hawker, Clean Up, Banks, Habitat, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Cleaning Up 14 Miles, Barren Riverbed, Loop 101 to Granite Reef Dam, Repair, Ecological Damage, Series of Dams, Upstream, Roosevelt Dam, 1911, Cutting Water Flows, Kayla Eckert, Water Resource Planner, Congress, Navigation, Flood Control, Ecosystem Restoration Projects, Riverbed, Continue, Deteriorate, Prevent Erosion, Damage from Floods, Never Fully Recover, Reintroduction of Cottonwood, Willow, Mesquite Trees, River Banks, Sustainable, Benefits, Environment, Sustainable Water Source, Survey, Dozen Sources of Water, Storm Runoff, Treated Water, Reroute, Redistribute, Mike Ternak, Project Manager, Detailed Plan, Repair More than 90 Years of Riverbed Deterioration, Feasibility Study, Federal Government Paying 50 Percent, Mesa, Salt River Community Splitting Remainder, Congress, 65 Percent, Ok, Three-year Design Phase, Construction, 2008, Jim Huling, Lobbyist, Arizona's Local Congressional Delegation, Reps. Ed Pastor, J.D.
66	November 27, 2002	Area Seeks Solution to Flooding (& Map)	x Public Meeting, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Public-input, Skunk Creek Watercourse, Adobe Dam/Desert Hills Area Drainage Master Plan, Reduce, Risks, Injury, Death, Property Damage, Flooding, Flood Hazard Identification, Regulation, Remediation, Education, Project Manager Marilyn DeRosa, Maximum Protection, Fiscally Responsible, Enhance Beauty, Desert Environment, New River, Desert Hills, Cave Creek, North Phoenix, 26-percent Chance, Experiencing Flood, 30-year Mortgage, Richard Harris, District Engineer, Desert of Arizona, Current Drainage Problems, Channel Capacity, Phoenix, Overchutes CAP Canal, Ponding, Erosion, Sedimentation, Diverted Drainage, Dip Crossings, Problems, Homes in Hazard Zones, Insufficient Capacity, Bridge Crossings, Piecemeal Solutions, Rain, Non-structural Solutions, Flood-plain Management, Flood-plain Delineation, Protecting Citizens, Flooding- and Erosion-Hazard Issues, Homeowner Insurance, Not Cover Flood Losses, Flood Insurance Policy, \$300 Per Year, for \$100,000, Building, \$250,000, \$100,000 Contents
75	November 27, 2002	Flood Control Plan Could Be a Winner	x West Valley, Under Water, 1970s, 100-year Flood, Water, Agua Fria River, 186,000 Cubic Feet Per Second, Bridges Over Salt River, Washed Away, River Bottom, Hound Dog Acres, 107th Avenue North of Sun City, Great 1978 Flood, Great 1980 Flood, 500-year Flood, Raging Rivers, Homes Damaged, Commerce Interrupted, Enhanced Flood-control Measures, Dams Raised, Channels Dug, Riverbed and Bridges Rebuilt, Force of Flowing Water, Valley, Salt, Agua Fria, New River, Gila Traversed, Undeveloped Rural Areas, Gila River Flows Through Thee Cities, Avondale, Goodyear, Buckeye, Maricopa County Flood Control District, El Rio Watercourse Master Plan, Restore Gila River Habitat, Protect Future Developments, Recreational Amenities, Minimizing Flood Damage, Protect Riparian Environments, Wildlife, Provide Hiking Trails, Fishermen
72	December 4, 2002	Doubletree Project to Break Ground Dec. 10 (& Aerial Photo)	x Updated Schedule, Doubletree Ranch Road Drainage and Street Improvement Project, Paradise Valley Web Site, Paradise Valley Town Council, Break Ground, Dec. 10, Doubletree Ranch Road and Indian Bend Wash Crossing, 5800 Block, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors Chairman Don Stapley, Maricopa County Supervisor Andrew Kunasek, Protect, Flooding, Improve Traffic, Pedestrian Safety, Reduce Cut-through Traffic, Beautify Roadway, Underground Storm Drains, Culverts, Carry Stormwater from Indian Bend Wash, Phoenix Mountains, \$10.3 Million Project, Town Responsible for Funding Street
73	December 10, 2002	PV to Start Road Project, Flood Control - Work to last Year, Cost \$13 Million	x Decade of Design, Debate, Deliberation, Construction, \$13 Million Flood-Control, Road-Improvement Project, Paradise Valley, Break Ground, Public Event, East Doubletree Ranch Road, Mayor Ed Lowry, Carry Runoff, 10-year Storm, Storm Pipes, Culverts, Storm Drains, Tatum Boulevard, 52nd Street, Butler Drive, 56th Street, Eliminate Existing Ditches, Road Lowered, Excess Floodwaters, Empty, Indian Bend Wash, Blucor, Inc., Supporters, Flooded During Storms, Opponents, Unnecessary, Waste of Money, Tatum to Invergordon Road, New Curbs, Sidewalks, Recreational Path, Traffic Islands, Crosswalks,
76	December 11, 2002	PV Puts Plenty of Pizazz Into Flood Project Kickoff	x Paradise Valley, Groundbreaking, Town Officials, Maricopa County, Major Flood Control, Road Improvement Project, Doubletree Ranch Road, Indian Bend Wash, Camelback Golf Course, Blucor, Gilbert-based Construction Company, Project Contractor, Mike Ellegood, Chief Engineer, General Manager, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Bidding, Pat Neal, Town's Construction Manager, Pre-construction Public Meeting, Carry Runoff, 10-year Storm, Storm Pipes, Drains, Culverts, Two-mile Stretch, Doubletree Between Tatum Boulevard and Invergordon Road, Upgraded and Rubberized Asphalt, Bike

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
77	December 13, 2002	Ground Broken on PV Flood-Control Project	x Town of Paradise valley, Groundbreaking, Maricopa County Officials, Ground Breaking, Major Flood Control, Road Improvement Project, Doubletree Ranch Road, Indian Bend Wash, Camelback Golf Course, Blucor, Gilbert-based Construction Company, Board of Supervisors, Mike Ellegood, Chief Engineer, General Manager, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Bid, Pat Neal, Town's Construction Manager, Carry Runoff, 10-year Storm, Storm Pipes, Drains, Culverts, Doubletree Between Tatum Boulevard and Invergordon Road, Upgraded, Rubberized Asphalt, Bike Path, Detours, Dust, Mud, Minimize Construction
78	December 17, 2002	Flood-Control Project Right for Paradise Valley - Resulting Improvements Worth Short-term Woes for Residents	x Northeast Valley, Rainy-day, Doubletree Ranch Road, Paradise Valley, Storm Water, Indian Bend Wash, Maricopa County Officials, Comprehensive Plan, Flooding Threats, 13-month Project, Improve Doubletree Ranch, Tatum Boulevard, Invergordon Road, Indian Bend Wash Crossing, Camelback Gold Course, Water Continue Flow, Wash, Close, Rains, Town Engineer Bill Mead, Storm-drain System, Intense Flooding in 1992, 200 Homes, At Risk, Residential Growth, Desert, Blunted, Effectiveness, Natural Drainage Washes, Curved, Beautified, Medians, Sidewalks, Curbs, Noise-absorbing Rubberized Asphalt, Construction, Maricopa County Flood Control District
79	December 18, 2002	Doubletree Ranch Road Flood Project to Begin (& Picture)	x Doubletree Ranch Road Drainage and Street Improvement Project, Paradise Valley Mayor Ed Lowry, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Michael S. Ellegood, Maricopa County Board of Directors Chairman Don Stapley, Indian Bend Wash Overpass, Street Improvements, Doubletree Ranch Road, Tatum Boulevard, Invergordon Road, Underground Storm Pipes, Culverts, Elimination of Ditches, Storm Drains, 52nd Street, Butler Drive, 56th Street, Cherokee Wash, Mike Sloyan, General Manager, Blucorp Contracting, Project Corridor, Ceremony, Dianne Smith, 1972, 57th Street, Dirt Road, April 1972, Major Flood, Paradise Valley Town Council, Councilwoman Jini Simpson, Supervisor Andy Kunasek, Vice Mayor Dan Schweiker, Councilmen Ron Clark, Ed Winkler, Blucorp President Gordon Bluth
92	January 23, 2003	County Considers Lawsuit on Easements - Flood Control on State Trust Land an Issue	x Maricopa County Officials, Refiling Lawsuit, Arizona State Land Department, Jurisdiction, 19,000 Acres, Flood Control Easements, State Trust Lands, Pinal County, Southeast of Mesa, Annexation, Julie Lemmon, Lawyer, Maricopa County, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Large Earthen Dams, Maintained, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Federal Judge, State Land Commissioner Richard Hubbard, Constructed, Federal Government, 1960s, Protect Land, Periodic Floods, State Land Commissioner Michael Anabel, Declared, Easement, Void, 1910 Arizona-New Mexico Enabling Act, Prohibits State from Granting Land Without Charging Money, January 2002, Filed Suit, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, Easements Valid, U.S. District Judge Susan Bolton, State, Federal Governments Granted Immunity from Litigation, 11th Amendment, U.S. Constitution, Maricopa County Supervisor Dan Stapley, Urging Mesa to Annex
80	February 5, 2003	A Canal Runs Through It - Irrigation Key to Buckeye Valley Agricultural Development (& Pictures)	x Maricopa County, Implement, \$2 Million Project, El Rio Watercourse Master Plan, Re-introduce Native Wildlife, Plants, Trails, Education, Limit, Flooding, 17.5-mile Stretch, Gila River, Avondale, Goodyear, Buckeye, Geomorphology, Land, Human Impact, Buckeye Irrigation Co. Canal System, Buckeye Valley, 1885, Malin Jackson, Joshua Spain, Built Canal System, Floods, Farmers, Developers, Blue Herons, Beavers, Seagulls, Larry Owen Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District, Agua Fria River, Hassayampa River, Citrus Road, Liberty Area, 1888, William O'Neil, W. Moultri, Ernest Walker and Curtiss Wasson, Buckeye Canal and Land Co., 1903, Fee Hike, Farmers, Angry, Formed White Tank Canal Co., Parallel Canal North of Buckeye Canal, 1907, Server Floods, Bought Buckeye Canal, Renamed, 1917, Gila River, Edging It's Way, Sluice at Reems Road (Estrella Parkway), 1922 Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District, Irrigation Drainage, Sell Water, Jackie Meck, General Manager, Roosevelt Irrigation District, 91st Avenue Waste Water Treatment Plant, Bullard Avenue, Salt River, Claim Water Rights, Arizona, Salt River Project, Wells, Tailgate Water, Egrets, Desert Sun, Coyotes, Rattlesnakes, Badgers, Rabbits, Turtles, Raccoons, Catfish, Tilapia, Salt Cedar Trees, Spillway, El Rio Officials, Overtaking Native Plants, Cottonwoods, Willows, Chocking Channels, Threat of Floods, Butter, Back-spread Water Out, Alleviate Flood Problems, Flood Plain, Locks and Chains, Canal's Head Gates, Keep People From Swimming, Partying, Fishing, Effluent Water, Pick Up Trash, Trespassers, Fill Dump Truck, Shutting Off Water, Electronic Weir, Signaled Loss of Water, Keep Vandals Out, Planned Trails, Education Center, Numerous Floods, Late 1970s, Early 1980s, Waddell Dam, Don Narramore, Board of Directors
81	February 14, 2003	E. Valley Hit With Wet Winter Storm - Showers Disrupt Traffic, Airport; Rain Likely to Continue Through Today (& Picture)	x Winter Storm, East Valley, Heavy Rain, Lightening, Delayed Planes, Closed Roads, Scottsdale, Flooding, Indian Bend Road, Roosevelt Street, 82nd Street, Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport, Delays, Spokeswoman Deborah Ostreicher, Jim Sabourin, America West Airlines, Departures Cancelled, Scott Harelson, Salt River Project, Outages, Scattered, Problems With Roofs, Leaks, Freestone Recreation Center, Gilbert, Water Ran Down Walls, Meteorologist Craig Ellis, National Weather Service, Heaviest Rain, Phoenix, East Valley .59 Inches and 1.06, Storm, Rainfall, Heavy Fog, Donovan Stewart, Puddle,

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
82	February 15, 2003	Indian Bend Wash Works Fine - 2.29-Inch Rainfall Swamps Area Roads, Trails, Golf Courses (& Picture)	x Rain-charged Floowaters, Indian Bend Wash, Surging, Scottsdale, Paradise Valley Streets, Stranding, Motorists, High Waters, Close, Flooded Roads, John Little, Transportation General Manager, Waterway, Bisects City, Hayden Road, National Weather Service Meteorologist, 2.29 Inches of Rain, Scottsdale Airport, Storm, 3 Inches of Rain, East Valley, Passing Clouds, Brown Water Swamped Roads, Golf Courses, Picnic Areas, Greenbelt, Clear Roads, Water-carried Debris, Three Cars Stuck, Mike Phillips City Spokesman, Washed Out Pinnacle Vista Road, Alma School Road, Repaired, Open, Mike Clark, Spokesman Rural/Metro Fire Department, No One Injured, Roosevelt and Hayden Roads, Miller and Osborn Roads, Jackrabbit and Hayden Roads, Firefighters, Flooded Streets, Retrieve Motorists, Ruth Johnson Scottsdale Parks and Recreation Division, Remove Barricades, Ensure Roads Not Damaged, McKellips Road, Watercraft,
83	February 15, 2003	It's a Most Unusual Day (& Picture)	x Peggy Berg, Dog Dewi, Indian Bend Wash Flooding
84	February 15, 2003	Storm Brings Near-Tragedies - 4 Are Saved After Entering Washes (& Pictures)	x Rainstorm, Central Arizona, Fire Officials, Two Near-Catastrophes, Boat Rides, Fast-running Washes, Glendale, 13-year Old Boy, Skunk Creek Wash, Inflatable Raft, Sucked Underwater, Dragged, 40-feet, Arthur Cassel, Union Hills Drive, 59th Avenue, Maricopa County Medical Center, Glendale Fire Capt. Elio Pompa, Scottsdale, Three Young Men, Rowboat, Indian Bend Wash, Boat Capsized, Ben Niskanen, Josh and Devin Riutta, Tempe, Police, Fire Agencies, Dozens of Accidents, Power Outages, Flooded Buildings, Motorists Stranded, High Water, North Valley, Businesses Heavily Damaged, 1.77 Inches of Rain, Sky Harbor International Airport, 4 Inches in Some Spots, 2 Feet of Snow, Highest Mountain Elevations, Unusual Storm, David Runyan, National Weather Service Meteorologist, Phoenix, Arizona, Series of Storms, Dent in State's Drought, Fog, Thick, Avondale, Floodwaters 3 to 4 Feet Deep, Closure of Bridge, County Route 85, Agua Fria River, Phoenix Goodyear Airport, Dysart and El Mirage Roads, Carry Debris, Large, Take Out Supports, Andrzej Wojakiewicz, Bridge Engineer, Peoria and Glendale, Heavy Flow, Washes, Grand Avenue Closed, 51st and 67th Avenues, Scottsdale Police, 42 Accidents, Additional 48
85	February 19, 2003	Doubletree Duty - Road Project Hits Potholes But Progress At a Smooth Pace (& Picture)	x Residents, Doubletree Ranch Road, Potholes, Blucorp Construction, Inc. Tatum Boulevard to 52nd Street, Torn Up By Construction, Curb, Gutter Installation, Project Manager Patrick Neal, \$7.69 Million Doubletree Ranch Road Drainage and Street Improvement Project, Chronic Disruption, Cable Service, Cox Cable, Qwest, Cut Into Cable Lines, Rainy Weather, Muddy Roads, Heavy Machinery
91	February 21, 2003	Rawhide Sale Sunk by Flood Control - Deadline Expires; Owner Planning to Keep Attraction	x Carefree Developer's Plan, Buy Rawhide, Flood Control Issues, Scottsdale Wild West-replica Town, Owner Jerry Hirsch, 40-acre Theme Park, Tourist Attraction, Scottsdale Road, Pinnacle Peak Road, Built in 1971, Hotelier Jim Paul, Old West Artifact, Sold in 1980s, Hirsch, Sold to Giant Industries, Jim Acridge, 1998, Bankruptcy Protection, Wild West Roots, Historical and Fun Family Experience, Rawhide General Manager Vic Ostrow, Rebuilding, Carefree-based Developer Douglas Dragoo, Buying Rawhide, \$45 Million, Scottsdale, Control Flooding, Floodwaters, Bill Erickson, Flood Plain Administrator, Floodwaters, Significant Water Flow, Smash, Berm, Flood Western Town, Problem Since 1984, Desert Greenbelt, Channel Floodwater, Protect Development, Scottsdale City Council, Phoenix, State Land Department, Army Corps of Engineers
86	March 5, 2003	Goodyear Declares Emergency Because of Recent Flooding	x Goodyear Vice Mayor Seth Kanter, Emergency Declaration, \$200,000 in Damage, City's Roads, Drainage Infrastructure, Flooding, Storm, Goodyear, Federal Emergency Relief, Goodyear Emergency Services Director and Fire Chief Mark Gaillard, Flooding, Damage, Roads, Drainage Areas, Repaired, McDowell Road, Bullard Avenue, Pebble Creek Parkway, Roadway Removal, Replacement, Van Buren Street, Estrella Parkway, Pothole Repair, Yuma Road
88	March 9, 2003	Flood Control Will Take Lots of Time, Money	x Good Soaking, Flooded, Flooding, Water, Homes, Traffic Problems, Joe Munoz, Spokesman, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Fast Rain, Localized Flooding, Fixed, Time, Money Cooperation, Studies, Drainage Plans, Removing Homes, Hazardous Floodways, Aging Structures, Flood Officials, Flash Flooding, Major Floods, Drought, Cycle Thing, Development, Building, Outskirts, Urbanized Areas Mapped, Michael Ellegood, Rural Areas, White Tank Mountains, Not Completely Mapped, Watershed, Watercourse, Fifteen of 37 Watersheds, Need to be Studied, 400 Buildings, Constructed, Delineated Floodways, High-risk Areas, Glendale, Phoenix, Bethany Home/Grand Canal Flood Control Project, Buying 76 Endangered Homes, Skunk Creek, North Phoenix, Homes Built in High-flood Areas, February, Wettest Recorded in 60 Years, Fast Moving Water, Flowed 4 to 6 Feet, Indian Bend Wash, 13-square Miles, South Scottsdale, Floodwaters, Bridge Closed, Avondale, County Route 85, Agua Fria River, Phoenix Goodyear Airport, 43rd Avenue and Camelback Road, Paradise Valley
87	March 14, 2003	PV is Honored and 'StormReady' Place - Weather Service Bestows Designation	x Paradise Valley, First Municipality, Metropolitan Phoenix, Western United States, Designated, StormReady Community, Emergency Weather Plan, Training, Education, Public Awareness, David Runyan, National Weather Service Phoenix Forecast Office, Mayor Ed Lowry, Town Council, Plaque, Extra Steps, Prepare, Server Weather, Mike Winters, Town's Fire Marshall, 8 Inches of Rain a Year, History, Server Thunderstorms, Damaging Winds, Flooded Washes, Police Department, Supervisors, Storm Spotters, Weather Radios for Department, Town Hall and Public Works, Monitor Rain Gauges, Indian Bend Wash, 24-hour Emergency Operations Center, Arizona, Yuma, Coconino County, Mesa, Scottsdale

0		Title of Newspaper Article	X Key Words
93	March 17, 2003	How Bartlett Balefill Case Sparked National Debate	X Fight, Proposed Garbage Dump, Bartlett, President Bush, Overhull Rules, Protect, Wetlands, U.S. Supreme Court Ruling, Limit Federal Governments Authority, Environmental Groups, Flooding Problems, Developers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Isolated, Streams, Rivers, Navigable Waterways, EPA Spokesman John Millett, 2002 Supreme Court Ruling, Solid Waste Agency, Waste Disposal Group, Landfill, Garbage Compressed Into Bales, Migratory Bird Rule, Federal Clean Water Act, Isolated Wetlands, Local and State Authorities, Solid Waste Agency, Mount Prospect Trustee Timothy Corcoran, Waste Agency Board Member, Howard A. Learner, Environmental Law, Policy Center, Builders, Don't Need Federal Permit, Need to Seek Local Permits, Tom Ward, Attorney, National Association of Home Builders, Joe Hmieleski, Lake County Wetland Specialist, Wetlands Include Swamps, Marshes, Other Moisture-rich Areas, Important, Soak Up Storm Water, Run Off Into Streams, Rivers, Flooding Problems, Natures Sponge, Habitat, Wildlife, Threatened, Endangered
89	March 21, 2003	Investor Nabs West Phoenix Parcel Targeted for 850 Home Sites... Pays \$12.78 Million	X Grant Lane, Granite Capital Corp., Mesa, \$12.78 Million, 206-acer Parcel, 107th Avenue and Camelback Road, Phoenix, Auction, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Larry Hendershot
94	March 28, 2003	Sun Air Residents Unhappy About Proposed Mini-Storage	X Sun Air Estates, New River Channel, Southeast Corner of Peoria Avenue, In the City, Maricopa County Flood Control District, MCFCD, Arrowhead RV and Boat Storage, Mini-storage Facility, Channelized New River, Community Service Director J.P. de la Montaigne, Army Corp of Engineers, 100-acres Open Space, 97th Avenue and Peoria, West Valley Recreation Corridor, Pine District Councilman Carlo Leone, CIP Study, City Manager Terry Ellis, See if Developer Wants to Sell, Condemn Land, Community Development Director Debora Stark, Zoned in 1997, C-4, Planning Manager Chad Daines, 527 Indoor/Outdoor Lease Spaces, Conditional Use Permit, Planning and Zoning Commission, Corinne Townsend, Attend Meeting, City's Engineering Director Dave Moody, Ron Marks, Wildlife, Birds, Put in RV Parking, Bridge
90	April 2, 2003	\$224 Million Needed to Repair 13 Aging Dams, County Reports (& Picture & Map)	X Thirteen Cracked, Settling Dams, Maricopa County, Rehabilitated, \$224 Million, Flood Protection, Patch Up, Federal Assistance, Repair, Rebuild, Structures, Aging Dams, Michael Ellegood, General Manager, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Tom Renckly, Branch Manager, Alternative, Remove Dams, Consequences, Remove Flood Control, Thousands of People, Work, Live, Floodplain, Provide Flood-proofing Measures, High Flood Insurance Rates, Property Values Plummet, Will Not Operate Unsafe Dams, Earthen Dams, Flash Flooding, Major Floods, Joe Munoz, Spokesman, Arizona, 400 Dams, Huge Masonry, Theodore Roosevelt Dam, Mine-tailing Dams, Tribal-owned Dams, Federal Government, Built, 21 Dams in Maricopa County, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 11,000 Dams, 47 States Since 1948, End of 50 Year Design Life, Maricopa County 25 Years Ago, Three Reach 50 Years, Design Standards, Changed, Protect Small Watersheds, Farmland, Development, Encroached, White Tanks No. 4, Built 1954, Jackrabbit Trail and Interstate 10, Buckeye, Huge Mound of Dirt, Horseshoe Figure, 1 1/2 Miles Long, 20 Feet Tall, Never Had Problems With Flooding, Phyllis Fennell, Bingham Equipment Co., Cracks and Foundation Issues, Current Design Construction Standards, Stiffer More Dense Soil, Concrete Pipes, Plastic Like Tarp, Water From Penetrating Structure, McMicken Dam, Grand Avenue, Sun City Grand, Luke Air Force Base, 30 Crack at Buckeye Dam No. 1, West Valley, Earth Fissures, Powerline Dam, Far East Valley, White Tanks No. 3 Interstate 10, Loop 303, National Rehabilitation Program, 2,200 Dams Need Attention, Don Paulus, Conservation Service
95	April 4, 2003	Officials Say Dam Rehabilitation Will Cost More Than \$224 Million	X Flood Control Officials, \$224 Million, Fix 13 Cracked, Setting Dams, Maricopa County, Maintain Flood Protection, Federal Money, Michael Ellegood, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Dam Rehabilitation, Alternative, Remove Dams, Consequence, Flood Protection, Tom Renckly, Branch Manager, Remove Older Dams, Thousands of People, Living, Working, Floodplain, Provide Flood-proofing Measures, High Flood Insurance Rates, Property Values Plummet, Will Not Operate Unsafe Dams, Phoenix Area, Little Rainfall, Potential Flash Floods, Arizona, Federal Government, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Natural Resources Conservation Service, 11,000 Dams, 47 States, Since 1948, 50-year Design Life, Constructed, 25-years
96	April 4, 2003	Federal Funds Wanted for Gila Bend's Floodplain	X \$33 Million in Federal Funds, Flood-control Project, Protect, 30 Percent, Town Population, Town Manager David Evertsen, Two Arizona Congressmen, Raul Grijalva, Ed Pastor, Gila Bend Town Council, Sand Tank Flood Control Project, Protecting South of Interstate 8, 100-year Flood, Reconstruction, Levee, Federal Standards, 270-acer Floodwater Retention Basin, Railroad, Canal Construction, Flood Hazards, Man-made Flood Channel, Agricultural Area, North of Interstate 8, Sufficient Capacity, Protect 140 Homes, Businesses, Estimated People Live in Area, Floodplain Problems
97	April 9, 2003	Flood of Blackmail	X Maricopa County Flood Control District, Threatening, Remove Dams, Structures Without Flood Protection, \$224 Million, Dams, Fine, Shored, More Dirt, Cost of Repairs
98	April 9, 2003	Close Up - Detour Daze - PV Deals with Projects on the Road to Completion (& Picture)	X Paradise Valley Residents, Road Construction, Doubletree Ranch Road Drainage and Street Improvement Project, Invergordon Road, Tatum Boulevard, Several Laterals, Scottsdale Road, Two-year Street-widening Project, Undergrounding, Electrical Power Lines, Adding Lanes, Indian Bend Road, Gold Dust Avenue, Shea Boulevard, 64th Street, 52nd Street, Butler Drive, Town Council, Liz Clendenin, Traffic, Cherokee Elementary School, Drop-off, Pick-up Times, A Mess, Praised Project Managers, Residents Informed, Town Engineer Bill Mead, Open Trench Length

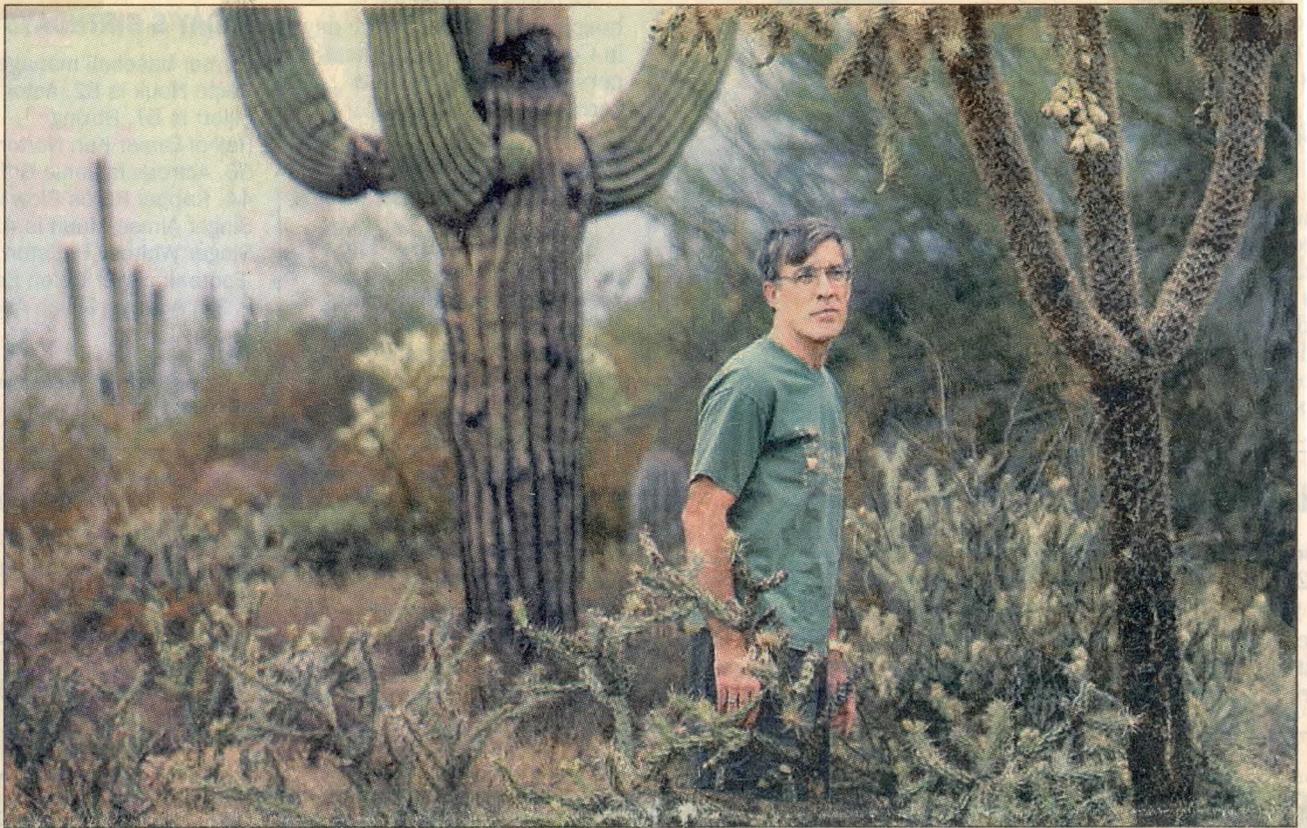
0		Title of Newspaper Article	X Key Words
99	April 11, 2003	N. Pima Road Resurfacing Likely to be Finished Today	X Resurfacing Project, Closed, North Pima Road, Lone Mountain to Stagecoach Pass, Torn Up, Blasted, Washed Away by Flash Flooding, Chuck Hill, Construction Coordinator, 3-mile Stretch, Bob Forsyth, Contract Administrator, 20-year Expected Life, Scottsdale Road
100	April 16, 2003	Trail May be Linked to Flood Control (& Map)	X Massive Flood Control Structure, Trail System, White Tank Mountains, Agua Fria River, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, McMicken Dam, 10-Mile Corridor, Western Surprise, North of Sun City West, Connection, Maricopa County Regional Trail System, Bicycles, Pedestrians, Horse Traffic, No Motorized Vehicles, All-terrain Vehicles, Tearing Up Dam, Dennis Holcomb, Senior Landscape Planner, Mesquite, Vegetation, Attractive, City General Plan, Large Greenbelt, Phil Testa, Community and Economic Development Department Director, 50-year Old Dam, Grand Avenue, Construct Trailhead, Capital Improvement Plan, Recreational Infrastructure, 43-mile Agua Fria Recreation Corridor, Multiple Jurisdictions, Avondale, Peoria
101	June 4, 2003	Land-use Suggestions Flood Arlington (& Picture)	X Citizens, Suggestions, Floodplain, Arlington Elementary School, 17 Acres, Gila River Floodway, Frequently, Flooded, Two to Three Feet of Water, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Buy Land, Demolish Buildings, Floodplain Regulations, Future Farmers of America, FFA Club, 355th Avenue, Dobbins Road, Sally Stewart, Public Information Officer, Returning Land, Natural State, Community Park, Public Meeting, Project Manager Valerie Swick, Mike Ellegood, Chief Engineer, General Manager, School's Playground, Swampy Mess
102	June 4, 2003	Popular Launch Area Now Off-Limits to Balloonists	X Maricopa County Officials, Banned Valley Hot-air-balloon Enthusiasts, Cave Buttes Dam, Arizona Balloon Club, Not Respecting Property, Gates Unlocked, Cutting Fences, Traveling Off-road, Destroying Structures, Polluting Air, Joe Munoz, Spokesman, North Phoenix, Pinnacle Peak Road, Happy Valley Road, Cave Creek Watershed, Phillip Heinrich, Club's Government Liaison, 135 Members, Cease and Desist, Trespassers, Damaging Dam, Scarring the Basin, Creating Dust, Unauthorized Use, County Environmental Services Department, Citation, Substantial Fine, Good Neighbors
103	June 10, 2003	Peoria Must Fix the Flooding on the Golf Courses	X Heavy Rains, Westbrook Village Golf Course, Flooded, Maricopa County Superior Court Jurors, Peoria, Negligent, City, Pay, \$71,000 in Damages, Drainage Plan, Fix Situation, Comply with Guidelines, Chuck Journey, General Manager, Golf Club, Retain, Water, Level, City Attorney Steve Kemp, City Council, Outside Engineering Firm, County Flood Control Staffers, Study, October 2000, Close for Two Days, Lakes Course, Storm Water, Developments, Destroyed Pumping Station's Electronic Controls, Lawsuit, Superior Court, April 2001, February, More Storms, Closed Two Golf Courses, 11 Days
104	June 17, 2003	Flood Control Project to Aid Fast-Growing Laveen Area	X Valley Officials, Break Ground, \$19 Million Flood-control Project, Laveen, Rapidly Growing Community, Public, Private Sponsorship, Protect 1,400 Acres, Potential Flood Hazard, Collecting, Draining, Storm Waters, 100-year, Lesser Storms, Laveen Area Conveyance Channel, Maricopa County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, Property Owners, Developers, Donated, 123 Acres of Land, Channel, Dry, Recreational Area, Six-miles of Earthen Corridor, Open Space, Parks, Water Features, Trails, Conveyance Channel, 17-acre Detention Basin, 43rd and Southern Avenues, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Phoenix, Maricopa County Department of Transportation, Salt River Project, 75th Avenue and Baseline Road, Councilman
106	June 19, 2003	County to Pay to Floodproof 4 Homes	X Maricopa County Flood Control District, Taxpayer Money, Floodproof Private Homes, County Supervisors, \$60,000, Elevate Four Mobil Homes, Southwest Valley, Damaged, Flooding, Michael Ellegood, Chief Engineer, General Manager, New Guidelines, Federal Emergency Management Agency, February Storms, Saturating the Floors, Settling Four Homes, Patton Road and 243rd Avenue, Flood Plains, Not Mapped, Wittman Resident Amy Allen, Raising Home, Won't Solve Problem, Home Built in a Wash, Splitting Apart, Mold, Health
105	June 24, 2003	Grand Canal Project in 2nd Stretch - Flood-Control Work Will Cost \$67 Million	X West Valley Canal System, Hold Water, Small-town Farming, Flooding Hazard, Protect, Threat of Flooding, Glendale, Phoenix, Maricopa County, Broke Ground, Guard Five Miles, Grand Canal, \$67 Million Bethany Home/Grand Canal Project, Demolish 72 Homes, Urbanization, Hasan Mushtaq, Phoenix Flood Plain Manager, Flooding, Bad, Area Underwater, Heavy Rainstorms, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Considerable Flooding, Downtown Glendale, Indian School to Bethany Home Roads, Flood-mitigation Project, Future Agua Fria Freeway, 97th Avenue and Bethany Home Road Alignment, Sunset Detention Basin, 64th Avenue and Indian School Road, Equestrian Trails, Bike Pathways, Recreation
108	July 1, 2003	Issues Pack Council Agenda	X Los Arcos, Scottsdale City Council, \$5 Million Agreement, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Drainage Projects
107	July 11, 2003	Community Center to Honor Fallen Police Officer (& Picture & Map)	X Police Officer, Killed by Truck, Name, Adorn, State-of-the-art Community Center, North Phoenix Park, Phoenix Officer Goelet A. Beuf, Phoenix Law Enforcement Association, Development Services, Issue Building Permits There, Human Services Department, Doris Marshall, Senior Services, Councilman Dave Siebert, Michael Dean, Administrator, Northwest Parks, 40-acre Park, New Park Site, Free, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Phoenix Parks and Preservation Initiative

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
118	July 12, 2003	Rio Salado Green Again - Habitat Being Restored (& Picture)	x Seventh Street Briage, Salt River Bed, Gravel, Bulldozers, Birds, Plants Grasses, Rio Salado Project, Restore Natural Habitat, Five Miles, 19th Avenue to 28th Street, Green Marsh, Ponds, Birds, River Dried Up, Dams, Water Supply, Landfills, Sand and Gravel Pits, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Local Audubon Members, 44 Species of Birds, Karen Williams, Project Coordinator, 1,000 Cottonwood, Willow Trees, River's Banks, Walt Kinsler, Project Manager, Pink Blooms, Tamarisk, Protect Riverbanks, Erosion, Mesquite Bosques, Water From Wells, Underground Aquifer, Digging, Uncovered Storm Drains, Additional Water, Habitats, Low Flow Channel, Storm Releases, Terraced Area, Over-bank, Recreation Area, Bicycling, In-line Skating, Horseback Ridding, Hiking, Jogging, Ramps, Connect, Indian Bend Wash, Scottsdale, Agua Fria River, Tempe Town Lake, Nature Center, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Army Corps of Engineers, Floods, Drought, Prevent Damage, Natural System, Nature Seekers, Urban Environment, Earshot of Airplanes Landing, Horns, Honking, Flocking Birds, Interfere with Airplanes, Sky Harbor, Federal Aviation Administration, Beautify, City, Restoring, Riverbed, South Mountain's Home Growth, Development, Beyond the Banks, Office Parks, Light Industrial Projects, Riparian Habitat
112	July 15, 2003	Ftn. Hills Keeps Eye on 6 Dams in Town	x Modern Technology, Unconventional Methods, Weather Tracking, Monsoon Season, Fountain Hills, Six Dams, Flood Control, Water Levels, Storms, Monitors, Computer Tracking System, Rain Gauges, Tracked Physically, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Town Officials, People, Unofficial Weather Trackers, Potential Flash Floods, Environmental Group, Grades Ditches, Cleans Brush Out, Runoffs, Public Works Director Tom Ward, Flood Response Plan, Town Public Safety Teams, Organizations, Ensure Safety, Emergency Action Plans, High Terrorism Alerts, Reviewing Evacuation Procedures, Medical Sites, Supplies, Natural Disaster, Mother Nature, Unpredictable, Heavy Pour
113	July 16, 2003	Maricopa County to Aid FEMA on Flood Maps	x County Officials, Agreement, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Map Updates, County's Flood Control District, Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps, \$357,000 to Cover Expenses, Prepare the Maps, FEMA Issues, Hard-copy, Potential Homeowners, National Flood Insurance Program, Maricopa County, Up-to-date Flood Hazard Information
115	July 16, 2003	Wash Not Just Pretty Face - Indian Bend Parks are Flood-Control System (& Pictures)	x Eldorado Park, Chaparral Park, Indian School Park, Scottsdale's, Flood Control Project, Summer Monsoons, Indian Bend Wash, Indian Bend Road, McKellips Road, Years Past, Hayden Road, Floodwaters, Stranded City, Death, Destruction, Seven-mile Grass Lined Stretch, Public Parks, Lakes, Golf Courses, 1960s, Scottsdale Residents, Rejected, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Concrete-lined Channel, Storm Runoff, Greenbelt, Fill With Water, Bill Erikson, Flood Plain Administrator, Hold Flow, Up To 30,000 Cubic Feet Per Second, Cubic Foot Equals 7.4 Gallons of Liquid, Marc Eisen, City's Emergency Services Director, Gravity-Fed, Northeast Phoenix, Drains, Salt River, Unbridged Crossings Over Wash, Barricaded, Solar-powered Warning System, Motorists, Don't Heed, Ticket, Deputy Police Chief Dee Taylor, Automatic Rain Gauges, Warning Devices, Storm Runoff, Bill Murphy, City Parks, Recreation and Facilities Department, Greenbelt is Flood-ready, Drains, Bike Paths, Free, Clear, \$100 Million Desert Greenbelt, Central Arizona Project Canal, Scottsdale City Council, Rejected Project, Too Costly, Natural Desert Environment, Storm Warning System, Weather Satellite Data, Graphics, Forecasts, National Weather Service, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Emergency Response Personnel, Culverts, Hayden and Pima Roads, Flow
116	July 16, 2003	Memorable Monsoon Moments in Last 10 Years	x July 14, 2002, Lightening, Paradise Valley, July 14, 2001, Strong Winds, Microburst, Phoenix, Scottsdale, McCormick Ranch, Storm, One Dead, Ripped Off Roofs, Power Lines, Poles, Traffic Signals, Damaged, Trees, July 14, 1999, Construction Worker, Pickup Truck, Maricopa County Sheriff's Helicopter, Cross, Flooded Arroyo, 40th Street and Stanford Drive, August 22, 1996, Wind, 83rd Street and Turney Avenue, July 25, 1996, Rural/Metro Fire Department, Severely Flooded, Electrical Transformer Fires, September 28, 1995, American Red Cross, Rain-soaked Homes, 66th Street and McDowell Road, August 20, 1995, High Voltage Power Lines, North Scottsdale Road, August 22, 1992, Saved Seven People, Floodwaters, Indian Bend
117	July 16, 2003	History of Indian Bend Wash Greenbelt	x 1959, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Formed, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Plan to Channel, Indian Bend Wash, 1961, 7-mile-long Concrete Channel, Scottsdale City Council, Approves Plan, 1963, Scottsdale, Flood Control District, Corps, Maricopa County Department of Parks and Recreation, Creation of Parks, 1964, Scottsdale Daily Progress Publisher Jonathan Marshall, Grass, Lakes, Indian Bend Wash Committee, Bill Walton, Recommends Greenbelt, Bill Donaldson, City Manager, 1965, Voters Approve \$1.4 Million in Bonds, 1966, Voters Reject \$22 Million Flood-control Bond Issue, Eldorado Park, Disastrous Flood, 1967, Independent Study, John Erickson, Supporting Greenbelt, 1970, Plan Workable, 1972, June, Worst Flood, Millions in Property Damage, Floodwaters Divide City, Hayden Road, Man Drowns, 1973, \$10 Million Flood Bond Issue, Passed, Joint Development of Wash, 2000, Greenbelt is Built, June 23, 1972, Firefighters, Help Bail Out, Entry Way, Safari Hotel, Scottsdale Road and Camelback Road, Monsoon

0		Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
114	July 17, 2003	Balloonists Steaming at Site Loss - County Closes Takeoff, Landing Area (& Picture)	x Hot-air Balloon Operators, Decision, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Close, Takeoff and Landing Area, North of Phoenix, Federal Dust Regulations, Liability Issues, Banned Access, Cave Buttes Dam, Commercial Balloon Operators, 3,000 Acre Parcel, Jomax Road, Cave Creek Road, 20 years, Permits to Use State Trust Land, Brian Holmes, Interstate 17, 51st Avenue, 27th Avenue and Happy Valley Road, Carefree Highway, Chase Down Dirt Bikers, Busts, Gate Open, Cuts, Fence, Michael Ellegood, General Manager, Environmental Services Department, Off-road Vehicles, Destroying Public Facilities, Taxpayer Expense, Chase Vehicles, \$10,000-a-day Fine, Balloon Pilot Bob Romaneschi, Calm Prevailing Winds, Safely Land, Phoenix Behind Decision, Intergovernmental Agreement, 1994, City's Parks and Recreation Department, Rene Vera, Parks and Recreation Administrator, Trespassing, Major Problem, Remote Control Airplanes, Permission, Irresponsible Land Use
119	July 17, 2003	Rio Salado Goes Green - Project is Restoring 5-mile Stretch of River (& Pictures)	x Seventh Street Bridge, Salt River Bed, Gravel, Bulldozers, Birds, Plants Grasses, Rio Salado Project, Restore Natural Habitat, Five Miles, 19th Avenue to 28th Street, Green Marsh, Ponds, Birds, River Dried Up, Dams, Water Supply, Landfills, Sand and Gravel Pits, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Local Audubon Members, 44 Species of Birds, Karen Williams, Project Coordinator, 1,000 Cottonwood, Willow Trees, River's Banks, Walt Kinsler, Project Manager, Pink Blooms, Tamarisk, Protect Riverbanks, Erosion, Mesquite Bosques, Water From Wells, Underground Aquifer, Digging, Uncovered Storm Drains, Additional Water, Habitats, Low Flow Channel, Storm Releases, Terraced Area, Over-bank, Recreation Area, Bicycling, In-line Skating, Horseback Riding, Hiking, Jogging, Ramps, Connect, Indian Bend Wash, Scottsdale, Agua Fria River, Tempe Town Lake, Nature Center, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Army Corps of Engineers, Floods, Drought, Prevent Damage, Natural System, Nature Seekers, Urban Environment, Earshot of Airplanes Landing, Horns, Honking, Flocking Birds, Interfere with Airplanes, Sky Harbor, Federal Aviation Administration, Beautify, City, Restoring, Riverbed, South Mountain's Home Growth, Development, Beyond the Banks, Office Parks, Light Industrial Projects
120	July 19, 2003	Rio Salado Project Giving Salt River Its Old Splendor - Our Stand: Grassy Marshes and Trees Replacing Rocky Scar in Phoenix Core (& Picture)	x Restoring, Salt River, Phoenix, Natural State, Arizona, Grassy Marshes, Riverbanks, Birds, Bushes, Plants, Trees, Construction, Storage Dams, Valley, Ugly Scars, Sand and Gravel, Sonoran River Environment, Central Avenue Bridge, Rebuilding, Cottonwood, Willow Trees, Mesquite Bosques, Marshy Plant Life, Grasses, Seventh Street and Central, Birds, Roosevelt Dam, Rio Salado Project, Tempe Town Lake, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, City of Phoenix, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Congressional Budgeters, Bank One Ballpark, Beauty, Egrets, Audubon Society, 44 Bird Species, Water Pumped, Underground Aquifers, Storm Drains, Runoff, Recreational Area, Walking, Hiking, Biking, Birdwatching, Picnicking
110	July 21, 2003	Cracking Down at Dam - No Trespassing at Cave Buttes County Warns; Patrols Added (& Picture)	x Stiff Fines, Ongoing Costs, Maricopa County, Take Control Cave Buttes Dam Area, Northeast Valley, Security Patrols, Banned Hot-air Balloonists, Flood Control District Property, Stop Everyone, Trespassing, Off-road Vehicles, Joe Munoz, Raise, Dust, Patching Fences, Cleaning Up Area, Pinnacle Peak Road, Happy Valley Road, 16th Street, Cited for Trespassing, Criminal Damages, Chief Engineer, General Manager Mike Ellegood, Arizona Balloon Club, Disrespecting Property, Gates Unlocked, Cutting Fences, Traveling Off-road, Off-road Vehicle, Gun Enthusiasts, Tearing Up Desert, Maricopa County Air Quality Regulators, District, May Face \$10,000 Fines Daily, Philip Heinrich, Philip Heinrich, Club's Government Liaison, Chief Jordon Daacquisto, Capt. Ron Reddic, Maricopa County Protective Services, Stolen Vehicle, Burned
111	July 21, 2003	Focus On Fountain Hills/Rio Salado - Inch of Rain Can Result in Disaster (& Picture)	x One Inch of Rain, Natural Disaster, Fountain Hills, Rio Verde, Northeast Valley Communities, Monsoon Storm, 18 Inches of Mud, Property Damage, Heavy Downpour, One Inch, 15 Minutes, Dirt, Off, McDowell Mountains, Mudslide, Tom Ward, Fountain Hills Public Director, Rainfall, Phoenix, Communities Continue to Grow, Flood Control, Washes, Fountain Park Lake, Natural State, Vegetation, Destroyed, Altered, Can't Absorb Water, Natural Trees, Plants, Natural Sponge, Keep Dirt, Rocks, Huge Boulders, Lori Noss, Chainwoman, Committee of Preservation and Environment, Catch Runoff, Downpour, Fountain, Shuts Off, Heavy Winds, Spaying Effluent Water, Emergency Plan, Evacuations, Channel 11, Fliers, Door-to-door Visits, Loudspeakers, Media, Town Manager Tim Pickering, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office, Command Post, Six Dams, Designated for Flood Control, Computer Tracking System, Rain Gauges, Monitor Water Levels, Rio Verde's Population, Two Major Storms, Feb. 13-14, 2.25 Inches, Sept. 10 Storm, Inch of Rain, Less than 20 Minutes, New Flood Control Projects, Sally Stewart, Rio Verde Area Drainage Master Plan, Rio Verde Flood Response Plan, Identify, Flooding Problems, Hazards, Cost-effective Alternatives, Cover 50-square Miles, Verde River, Tonto National Forest, 115th Street Alignment, McDowell Mountain Regional
109	October 1, 2003	Scottsdale Group Withholds Blessing on Rio Salado Plan	x Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce Board, Declined, Endorse, Proposed Valley-wide Property Tax Increase, Proposed Rio Salado Reclamation Project, Questions, Economic Impact, Viability, Practicability, Special Meeting, Chamber President Bob Solem, Unanswered Questions, Transformation of 26 Miles of Shoreline, Dry Salt River Bed, Public Recreation, Business, Residential Area, Countywide Election, Pro-project Citizen for Rio Salado, Concerns, Flood Control, Without Construction, Dam, Verde River, Flows, Mesa, Cleanup of Toxic Wastes, Dumps, Water Conservation, Eminent Domain, Stream-bed Ownership Problems, Lack Of Representation, Not Boarder Rio Salado, Uncertain Costs, More Complete Design Study, Cliff Dam, Cleaning Up Toxic-waster Dumps, Aaron Kizer, Scottsdale's \$54.3 Million Indian Bend Wash Flood Control, Recreation Project, Mostly Paid by Others, Federal, State, County Funds

'... It's going to destroy the park. Secondly, it's going to be ugly.'

#1



SAMANTHA FELDMAN/TRIBUNE

Steve Springer stands just outside his back yard in Mesa's Boulder Mountain Estates, where a proposed plan by the county would destroy the area's vegetation to create a huge trench to divert water.

Protests flood canal plan

AZ Republic 8/19/01

Usery Mountain residents say measure would destroy vistas

BY JASON EMERSON
TRIBUNE

From his house at the edge of the Usery Mountain Recreation Area in Mesa, Steve Springer can see mountains and Sonoran Desert landscape that seems to go on forever.

He fears that a mile of gaping trenches could soon become part of the view.

Maricopa County is considering building a mile-long canal system through the virgin desert behind Springer's back yard in Boulder Mountain Estates to protect the area from floods caused by heavy rains upstream.

The idea is to divert runoff from the mountain range around 6,000 people living near its base.

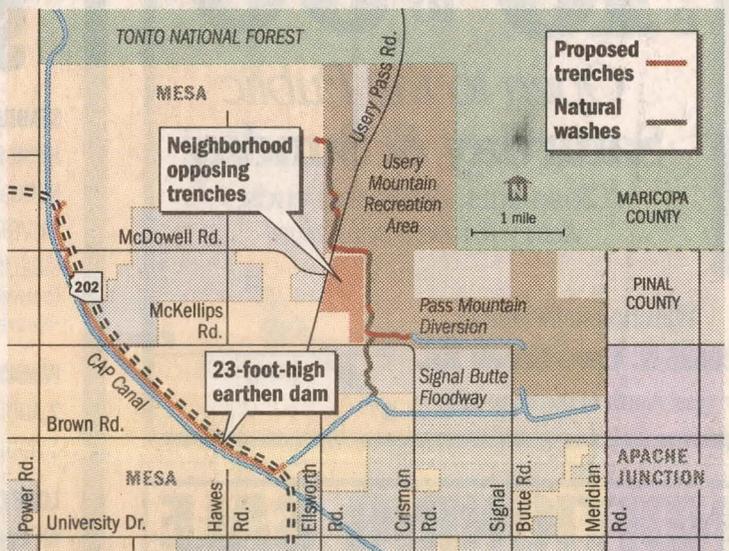
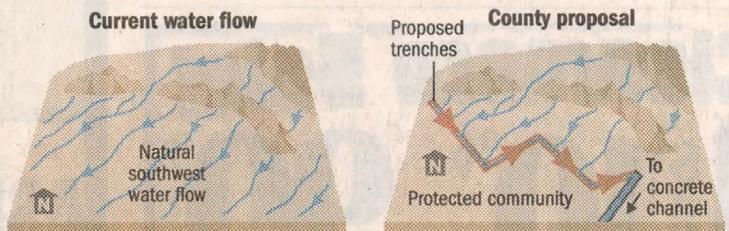
"The community needs to recognize there is a level of protection they'll actually receive," said Tim Phillips, planning manager with the county flood-control district.

But Springer and hundreds of others who have homes in the area are opposed to any plan that would scar the desert vista in the county-owned park.

Where giant Saguaro cactuses and brambly creosote bushes now grow, bulldozers would plow 7-foot-deep, 55-foot-wide trenches to carry water

Trenching the desert

Under a plan by the Maricopa County Flood Control District, trenches spanning 55 to 70 feet in width would be cut through the Usery Mountain Recreation Area to control flooding. Many residents are opposed to the plan, saying trenches would spoil the desert and are not necessary because other flood control measures are feasible.



Please see **CANAL**, Page A18

SOURCE: Maricopa County Flood Control District

Scott Kirchofer/TRIBUNE

#2

8/11/01

Flood district to air new plan

Public hearing set Wednesday

By David Madrid
The Arizona Republic

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County planned to build an 80-foot-wide drainage ditch to catch 100-year flood waters in the northwest Valley.

The only problem was that the plan entailed buying and destroying 21 houses that sat in the proposed ditch's path, north of Pinnacle Peak Road between 83rd and 91st avenues in Peoria.

Residents were especially chagrined to find that they hadn't been notified of the planned ditch until it was almost a done deal.

But the Flood Control District held new meetings after it discovered that a contractor hired to hand out fliers about those previous meetings had run out of fliers and simply gone home, leaving the residents most affected uninformed.

In June, the residents were given four options to choose from, including the open ditch. The majority of residents chose an option that calls for storm drains and retention basins north of Calle Lejos and at 83rd Avenue and Pinnacle Peak.

A slightly modified alternative to that option will be presented at a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Sunrise Mountain High School auditorium, 21200 N. 83rd Ave.

Steve Simmons, who lives off Pinnacle Peak near 83rd Avenue, said that he plans to be at the meeting.

He said he was surprised when he found out about the previous plan that targeted his 3,000-square-foot-home for removal because his home is just about a year old. He also has a 2,000-square-foot garage behind his house.

See **FLOOD** Page 9

#3

Erosion, Parking Alignments Hot Topics

by Caleb Soptelean

CAREFREE – Erosion and parking were the main topics at the Carefree Town Council meeting last week.

Town Center Construction Coordinator Patrick Neal gave an interesting report on the ongoing construction taking place downtown, including the installation of two roundabouts.

During public comment, local resident Jan Misseri expressed concern about erosion being caused by the construction. She said she was not talking about "what pipe is where" but, rather, "construction practices and policies." This was in reference to erosion taking place outside of the Town Center project that's been giving drivers headaches for months.

Town engineer Eric Korsten said "there's no specific erosion hazard in the Town Center project." That didn't satisfy Misseri, however. "There are serious erosion problems outside the project," she said. "You've got sediment going up and down Cave Creek Road."

Mayor Ed Morgan noted Misseri has interest and expertise in this area, and recommended a tour of the affected area by Misseri and town consultants.

Doug Williams of the Maricopa County Flood Control District (Flood Control) noted that street crossings will likely become areas for sediment to rest after rains. "Consultants will be walking the washes in the weeks and months to come," he said. Williams noted that the local washes move a lot of sediment during rains and this creates a long-term problem. "Housing pads could become threatened," said Williams, and a regulatory feature Flood Control might implement is requiring new homes to be farther away from washes.

In his construction update, Neal related, "We are in the first week of the fourth month of construction. We're now at the very intensive stage, with dynamic barricading." He said the road project should be complete in 25 days (Sept. 1). "With some effort, you can get everywhere you need to get in town." He

added, "There's a very good chance we'll meet our forecasted schedule."

Neal noted two large Ironwood trees will be planted in the middle of the roundabouts, which raised the ire of local resident Steve Warsaw who said, "Ironwoods grow densely and down," noting one won't be able to see through them while negotiating the roundabout. Neal replied that the trees would be kept trimmed up. "I don't think they look good droopy," he said.

Although acknowledging the construction downtown has resulted in a lot of complaints, Morgan said he has a stock answer for those who call. "This is the first time we've torn up the Town Center," he says, adding that he apologizes and hopes people have the foresight to look forward to the New Center.

On a 6-1 vote, with Councilman Bob Coady dissenting, council approved a compromise plan for parking around the

Town Center. The plan includes some diagonal and some perpendicular parking and results in 56 more parking spaces than before, according to Town Planner Dennis Zwagerman.

Also during public comment, local resident Jim Forster said the new alignment would create a traffic problem on the building's southwest corner. Several councilmen noted that if problems arise, the parking can be restriped.

In other council news, unanimously approved was

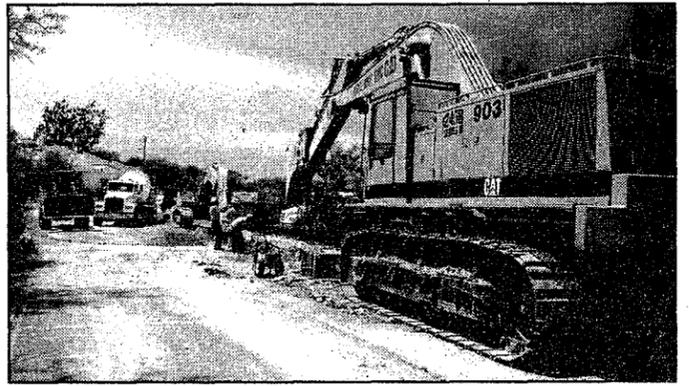
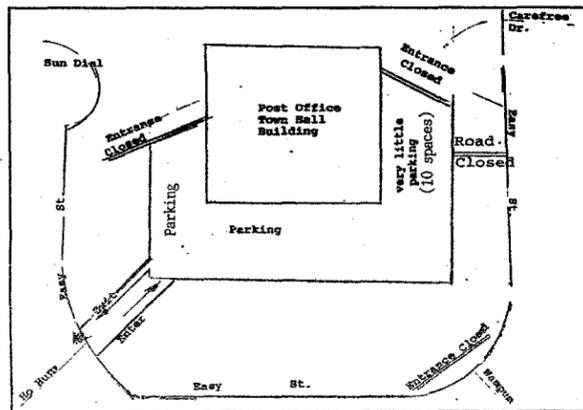


Photo by Caleb Soptelean

Construction is 'hot and heavy' in downtown Carefree this week as workers labor to complete the road project by Sept. 1.

Thomas Chenal as the permanent town attorney and Mohr, Hackett, Pederson, Blakely & Randolph as the town's legal representatives. Chenal previously served on Carefree Council for four years.



#4

Usery drainage efforts dropped

County withdraws flood-control plans

By Paul McKibben
The Arizona Republic

Plans for flood drainage channels through Usery Mountain Recreation Area have been withdrawn on the eve of a public meeting on the project.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County dropped seven proposals involving the park after county Supervisor Don Stapley said he opposed it. More than a thousand Mesa residents had signed petitions against the idea.

"I believe there has to be more creative thought than there has been," said Stapley, whose district includes the area. "We had a false start."

Joe Munoz, flood district spokesman, said the only plans being considered are to do nothing or to build a channel on Ellsworth Road.

"We're stuck at the point where we have to go back to Square 1 and we redo this," Munoz said.

The Ellsworth Road channel would cost about \$28 million because the county would have to buy land from Mesa and property owners.

Stapley said any plans that call for taking homes and businesses are dead and that his fellow supervisors would support him.

But county Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox said some sort of flood control is needed.

"As long as there is a need, we've got to do it," she said.

The Flood Control District had been weighing eight proposals to divert floodwaters from developments in a 35 square-mile area near northeast Mesa. The most controversial was for a series of concrete channels and berms 55 feet wide and about one mile long in Usery Park. Residents said it would ruin the park.

Neighbor Stacy Meisterheim said she's happy with Stapley's response.

"We applaud that and we'll be watching to see if that goes through," Meisterheim said. "It's not over yet."

Tonight's workshop is at 6:30 in the Red Mountain Multigenerational Center, 7550 E. Adobe Road, Mesa.

Mosquitoes carry virus, so county finally acts

By David Madrid
The Arizona Republic

Jeff Esling has mixed feelings about the discovery of encephalitis-carrying mosquitoes near his business.

He doesn't want to say he's happy about it. But because the Culex mosquitoes carrying the disease have been found near 99th and Northern avenues, Esling says something is finally being done for an area where mosquitoes have survived and thrived for too long.

"Last year when all they found here was the flood water mosquito, which doesn't carry disease, they didn't give a rat's (expletive)," he said of the various agencies he had complained to about the large swarms of mosquitoes that drove his customers away.

Esling is co-owner of the West Valley Driving Range near 99th and Northern Avenues in Glendale.

This year, the encephalitis-carrying mosquitoes have caught the attention of the county.

Chickens in all three sentinel chicken flocks in Queen Creek, Laveen and Peoria have tested positive for the encephalitis virus, verification that mosquitoes carrying the virus are flying all around the Valley, says Laura Devany, a spokeswoman for the county Environmental Services Department.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County will begin clearing vegetation in the New River channel in an effort to reduce the number of mosquitoes in that 99th and Northern avenue area.

The district also plans to apply for a 404 permit from the Army Corps of Engineers so that it can dig a low-flow channel in the river bottom that will allow the water to run.

Mosquitoes are attracted to the area because water tends

to pond in the New River, which gives the insects the breeding ground they need. Also, vegetation in this part of the channel is lush, and the mosquitoes thrive on plant sap.

The county Vector Control has been fogging the area once a week with a chemical that kills flying insects. The chemical, kills 80 percent of the mosquitoes it comes in contact with, but new mosquitoes are born within three days.

"While keeping the environment as natural as possible is extremely important to the Flood Control District, we also understand that the welfare of the area residents must come first," said Michael Ellegood, the district's chief engineer and general manager. "We will keep as much of this vegetation as we can, while eliminating the health risks."

And while Esling says his driving range isn't experiencing as bad a mosquito problem

as last year, when he described biblical-plaguelike swarms, he says it's about time someone is doing something to kill the insects.

In the meantime, his driving range is open for business.

He has some advice for customers though.

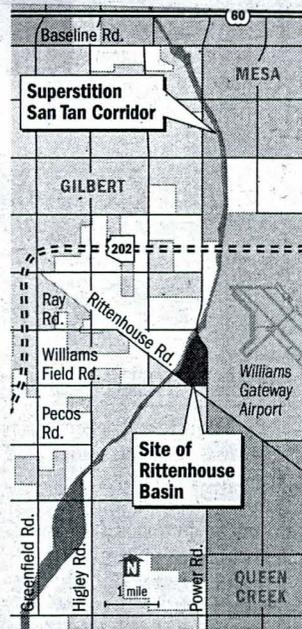
"A little bit of mosquito repellent won't hurt," he says.

To file a mosquito complaint, call (602) 506-6616 or on the Web go to www.maricopa.gov/envsvc.

The county Vector Control Office also offers mosquito-eating fish called gambusia for free. The fish can be placed in ponds, stock tanks or any permanent water a homeowner may have. For information on fish availability, call (602) 506-0700.

Reach the reporter at david.madrid@arizonarepublic.com or (602) 444-6926.

#6



Scott Kirchofer/TRIBUNE

Gilbert may use basin as golf site

Flood-control area
could also end up
as regional park

BY CHARLENE KOSKI
TRIBUNE

Plans for a flood basin in Gilbert will result in either a new public golf course or a regional park for the East Valley.

A feasibility study is under way to determine whether the planned Rittenhouse Basin — located off the Superstition San Tan Corridor at the corner of Williams Field and Power roads — could be made into a golf course, Gilbert Parks and Recreation director Maury Ahlman said.

Gilbert officials expect the study to be completed within a month.

If the study determines the 160-acre site is not good for a golf course, the land will be used as regional park, Ahlman said. Other popular Gilbert parks, including Freestone and Crossroads

the 160-acre site is not good for a golf course, the land will be used as regional park, Ahlman said. Other popular Gilbert parks, including Freestone and Crossroads parks, were constructed in flood zones.

A study last year showed encroaching development along the Superstition San Tan Corridor had replaced empty land capable of soaking up potential "100-year" floodwaters. In the corridor's current condition, if a flood hits, water would overflow its banks and flood nearby homes, neighborhoods and businesses, said Kris Baxter, spokeswoman for the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

To fix the problem, the Flood Control District plans to dig several basins along the corridor. The first of those would be the Rittenhouse Basin.

Before construction can begin on the \$15 million project, the county needs to clear the site, which means stripping it of desert growth. The district plans to auction off the approximately 200 mesquite trees on the site to help preserve the trees and save taxpayer money, Baxter said.

It would cost the county about \$800 to transplant each of the trees, whereas small trees can be purchased for about \$30 each, she said.

"Home developers like to have the full-grown trees," Baxter said. "Sometimes the roadways will need full-grown trees or homeowners themselves may want the full-grown instead of waiting five years for smaller ones to grow. We don't need that."

The auction is scheduled for Sept. 11. The starting bid will be \$2,000 for all the trees. They will be sold "as-is, where-is" and as a bunch. Whoever purchases the trees will have about six months to remove them.

For more information on the auction, call Lori Amos at (602) 506-4747.

In today's TRIB



COMMUNITY NEWS

© August 29 - September 4, 2001

Developing the old way ... without permits

By Linda Bentley

MARICOPA COUNTY - Karen Clarke woke up Friday morning to the sound of a backhoe in her front yard.

The man on the backhoe who refused to identify himself to Clarke, was later recognized, by neighbors, as Robert Roache, a general contractor who has built numerous homes in the unincorporated county island area between Phoenix and Scottsdale, in which he also lives.

Roache not only refused to identify himself, but also refused to stop grading an access road through the wash along the front of her property.

The dirt road dead-ended at the wash in front of Clarke's property.

While Roache proceeded grading across the wash, destroying all native vegetation and cactus in his path, Clarke attempted blocking off his access by parking a van in the way. Clarke claimed Roache just went around. Clarke contacted Maricopa County Flood Control and Roach eventually left.

Gary Schwartz from flood control had just finished posting a notice in the newly bladed access, when Sorioran

News showed up at the scene.

The notice states, "The work being done on this property may be in violation of Section 1203 of the drainage regulation of the unincorporated area of Maricopa County."

Schwartz marked the notice with an "X" next to the portion of the notice, "Section 1203, States in Part:

1. It is a violation of the Regulation to develop, construct, alter, use, repair, improve, fill, divert, obstruct, remove or commence the creation, construction, alteration, repair, improvement, filling, diversion, obstruction or removal of any wash, culvert, easement, channel, ditch, berm, detention basin, wall, fence, other structure or use which may affect any natural drainage or improved drainage design or drainage system without obtaining a drainage clearance from the Drainage Administrator."

Although Roache wasn't available for comment, his wife Joyce did say that he was planning to build a home for the landowners, just south of Clarke's home and that Roache had just purchased half of their two and a half-acre parcel to build a spec

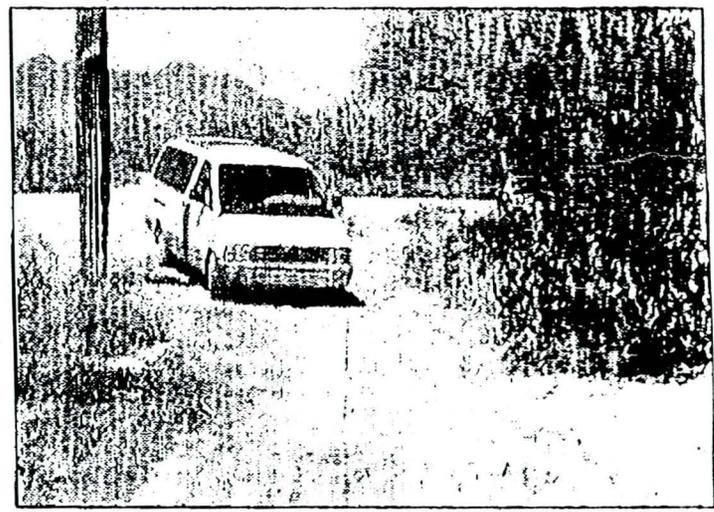


PHOTO BY LINDA BENTLEY

Karen Clarke attempted to block grading activity through a wash along the front of her property by parking a van in the way of the "unidentified" backhoe operator.

home. Joyce stated that her husband had not yet obtained building permits for the project but he was "in the process."

Michael Smith, an enforcement specialist in the regulatory division of Maricopa County Flood Control, said that Schwartz must have felt that a violation occurred, or he wouldn't have posted the notice, and said that Schwartz did catch up with

and speak to Roache.

According to Smith, the procedure would now provide for Roache to obtain a drainage clearance/permit for the grading activity. If Smith doesn't see a permit issued within the next 30 days, he would send out a notice of violation letter to Roache.

Meanwhile, Clarke is looking into filing a cease and desist order through legal channels.

#8

Flood plan's death met with cheers

By David Madrid
The Arizona Republic

Northwest Valley residents applauded a decision to scrap plans to build an 80-foot-wide drainage ditch that would destroy 21 homes and praised an agency that a few weeks ago they were condemning.

The new plan now proposed by the Maricopa County Flood Control District calls for storm drains and detention basins north of Calle Lejos and near 83rd Avenue and Pinnacle Peak.

Marilyn DeRosa, project manager for the Glendale/Peoria Area Drainage Master Plan, said the new plan likely will go to the county Board of Supervisors for approval around early November.

If things go well, DeRosa said, the groundbreaking could occur next July and the project would be competed in July 2003.

John Bolley, a Peoria resident who lives south of Pinnacle



Jeanne Hernández/The Arizona Republic

8/22/01

Peak and 91st Avenue, said he is "very pleased" with the new plan and the consideration given the residents by the Flood Control District.

"The last meeting was basically a disaster," Bolley said. "But you can see what gets accomplished when people get involved."

See FLOOD Page 3

FLOOD District ditches old plan

From Page 1

Originally, the Flood Control District sought to solve potential flooding in the area by installing a drainage ditch that would wipe out 21 homes north of Pinnacle Peak between 83rd and 91st avenues.

District officials thought they had a winner of a plan because virtually nobody opposed it. They didn't know that the neighborhood most affected, including the 21 homeowners, hadn't received any information on the plan because a contractor hired to distribute informational fliers ran out of the fliers before reaching the affected neighborhood.

The contractor didn't return

to finish the job.

So the residents in the area were surprised when they found out about the plan to buy and raze their homes to make way for the ditch. Flood-control officials were surprised when they were contacted by angry residents who live in the targeted houses.

The agency held another meeting that brought out about 300 angry and suspicious residents, the majority of whom favored a less intrusive plan than the one that would have destroyed the 21 homes. The district has opted for that plan, which replaces the proposed ditch with a storm drain.

Even the alternative plan has some critics.

Rick Shaffer, who lives

south of Pinnacle Peak, said the entire plan, including the detention basins and two open channels, should be underground.

He said the recent drowning of a 14-year-old Tucson boy who was sucked through a drainage tunnel and swept down a wash illustrates the dangers that the new plan will bring.

"It's just like a magnet," said Shaffer, who has a 10-year-old son.

DeRosa said putting the entire drainage system underground is not feasible because of the cost.

Reach the reporter at david.madrid@arizonarepublic.com or (602) 444-6926.



WORLD CHAMPS

azcentral

 PRINT THIS

Sponsored by 

When it rains . . .

By **Shaun McKinnon**

The Arizona Republic
Sept. 08, 2002

To you, a summer thunderstorm might mean welcome relief from hot, dry Phoenix afternoons. You get a few clouds to break up the monotony, a wicked light show.

To a team of urban ecologists at Arizona State University, the storms that roll through the Valley during the summer monsoon season crackle with raw data. A good two-hour downpour can translate into months of experiments. A bucketful of runoff can reveal new information about what's in the rain, what it does when it hits the ground and what happens to our ecosystem when nature takes a wild swipe at it.



Christine Keith/The Arizona Republic
Arizona State University biology Professor Nancy Grimm and researcher David Lewis stand near a collector that has been placed under a paloverde tree in Tempe.

Monsoon storms provide an unusual and fertile laboratory for researchers interested in the desert. The rains are brief but intense. They show up quickly and don't linger. They usually arrive after an extended dry period and then scoop up materials that have collected on the ground, and sometimes in the air, over days or weeks.

The ASU ecologists chuckle at the idea that they're "storm chasers," the sort of wild-eyed thrill seekers depicted in the movies, racing off to find another killer tornado. Remote sensors and rain buckets allow these scientists to wait out the worst of the storm and retrieve the data once it has moved on.

"It's pretty critical to get out there quickly," said David Lewis, a post-doctoral associate working with ASU's Central Arizona-Phoenix Long-Term Ecological Project. "Most of what we want to see comes off in the first rush, so that lends some urgency to sampling."

John Roach, a research fellow with the project, may come the closest to actually "chasing" a storm. He has focused his research on how storm runoff affects lakes, zeroing in on the Indian Bend Wash in

CHEAP SEATS

Scottsdale. He sees each storm as a sort of "reset" button for the lakes in that wash, restocking them with new water.

As soon after a storm as he can, Roach wades into the lake or takes a small boat out to get samples from the water. He takes more three days later, a week later, two weeks later and so on. He looks at how storms change the chemical makeup of a lake and how they affect the growth of various living things, mostly tiny organisms.

The storm studies have revealed how intense urban development affects the natural systems, Roach said. When you examine storm water samples from the city and from the undeveloped desert, the contents show a "flip-flop" in the kinds of nutrients found.

"We have 25 years looking at the same stuff," he said. "We want to see how different it is in the city with all the changes, the differences between a golf course and a parking lot."

For some of his work, which includes studying the chemistry of rainfall, Lewis draws information from water samples taken at a huge network of stations maintained by Valley cities and the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

In those samples, he finds an array of materials from bits of metals and tires to nutrients and other chemicals used in lawn fertilizers. The materials build up during dry periods, then just wash away in the first big monsoon storm.

Rain can also set off chemical reactions as it seeps into the ground, Lewis said, "turning on" bacteria like a switch. Depending on what else is in the soil - fertilizer, for example - the bacteria can emit a form of nitrogen that contributes to greenhouse gasses.

The ASU project also uses a "wet-dry bucket" to study what kind of airborne materials end up on the ground and in the water. Two buckets sit side by side, one with a cover over the top. The open bucket collects whatever is in the air until it begins to rain. Sensors then flip the lid over and collect rainwater in the clean bucket. The contents of both are studied after the storm.

Nancy Grimm, co-director of the overall project, said urban runoff carries heavy amounts of chemicals not found in nature, especially landscaping fertilizers. If the runoff carries too much fertilizer into, for example, a lake on a golf course, it can set off a reaction that can kill aquatic life.

Aside from the pure scientific knowledge the project can add, researchers believe their work can yield practical applications, such as designing neighborhoods that naturally filter polluted floodwater.

"We have a wealth of data resources available already," Grimm said. "And then these events give us the one time when we have the aquatic ecosystem connected to the terrestrial ecosystem."

One project Lewis wants to pursue is how the path that runoff takes can affect the water's chemistry. For example, if cities built grassy catch basins downstream from parking lots and roads but upstream of major canals and collector washes, would that remove pollutants naturally before they could mix with other water supplies?

Grimm hopes to add more technology to the project as time and resources allow.



SUN CITY WEST

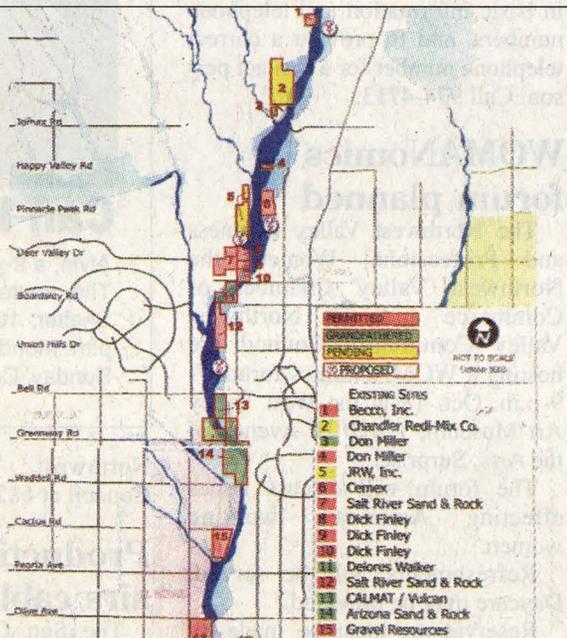
INDEPENDENT

#110

SEPT. 5-11, 2001
Vol. 42 • No. 36

COVERING THE NEWS OF SUN CITY, SUN CITY WEST AND YOUNGTOWN

Sand and gravel operations in the Agua Fria River



Objections mount over sand, gravel operations Sun City West woman gets involved

By JULI NESSETT
Independent Newspapers

Over the last several months issues pertaining to Valley residents' concerns about sand and gravel operations have escalated.

Meetings with state, local and county officials have resulted in efforts to possibly change some of

the regulations pertaining to corporations involved in mining, concrete and asphalt production and recycling.

Dust, noise and pollution are just some of the issues weighing heavily on local residents' minds, but one Sun City West woman in particular, believes things have got to change and soon.

Shirley McDonald, a retired engineer from the aerospace industry, became involved with the issue several months ago, when both the Sun City Homeowners Association and Property Owners and Residents Association began receiving complaints about the El Mirage-based

See ■ GRAVEL, Page 3

Vulcan Mining Co.

Since that time Ms. McDonald has been investigating sand and gravel matters and has dug up many interesting facts and figures.

She likens sand and gravel operations near local communities to a dinosaur in a backyard.

"It just doesn't fit," she said.

One fact Ms. McDonald found pertains to the diesel fuel that most sand and gravel operations use in trucks.

According to an article released by Environmental Research Foundation, "When diesel fuel burns in an engine's combustion chamber, the resulting exhaust contains gases and particles (soot). The gases include nitric oxide, nitrogen dioxide, oxides of sulfur and hydrocarbons (e.g., ethylene, formaldehyde, methane, benzene, phenol, 1,3 butadiene, acrolein and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons, sever-

al of which are known carcinogens)."

The article goes on to state that because the particles released from diesel fuel exhaust are so small, thus respirable, they can easily lodge in a person's lungs forever.

There are 26 sand and gravel sites in the Agua Fria River Basin, according to a map provided by the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

Four additional sites have been proposed, three of which will lie next to Sun City West and the other, which will lie near an Interfaith Services building just outside Sun City West, according to Ms. McDonald.

"It is really important for Sun City West to pay attention to this, because it is here," she said.

Ms. McDonald said the current level of particulates in the Valley is 40 micrograms per cubic meter per year. The not-to-exceed level according to air quality agencies is 50 micrograms per cubic meter per year.

"That's the level where it affects people's health, only a 10 microgram per cubic meter difference," said Ms. McDonald.

Ms. McDonald believes approval of only one of the four proposed

sites could put the Valley over the acceptable level.

She is also worried about the fact that the companies in question do their own monitoring for pollution and air quality.

"It's a conflict of interest. Even if they report findings as over the limit, the whole thing is just riddled with time delays," said Ms. McDonald. "They can take three months to run tests on a new baghouse and another month to write the report. And then there are waivers and exemptions for different things.

"Well the people are getting socked with all this while they're having their waivers and exemptions," she said.

Ms. McDonald said she would rather see monitoring agencies overseeing this process, as well as monitoring the tests as they happen.

She was told by an official from the Department of Health, it only takes one day for health-affecting particulates to lodge in someone's lungs.

"I think they should have equipment set up to monitor all the time and do it regularly, because the damage to your lungs doesn't wait two or three months," she said.

Ms. McDonald also does not feel

she is supported by her elected officials for the most part.

"I feel like I am a taxpayer and a voter and I should be able to talk to my representatives," she explained. "I think they are supposed to remember that they work for us and it's pretty obvious in this state they don't think that.

"I just feel the public is being left out of this. This is the 21st century and there is science. To ignore science is just going to hurt people," she said.

A hearing is scheduled Sept. 12 at the Board of Adjusters office in reference to a waiver that New West Materials, a local sand and gravel company, has requested.

New West currently operates plants off of 115th Avenue and Jomax Road and another in Avondale.

In addition, residents from around the Valley, fed up with sand and gravel operations, are working to form a central committee, under the direction of former CEO of Arizona Rock Products Association, Phil Gagle.

The group hopes that together, they may combine to be a stronger force to combat the power of the sand and gravel lobby.

#11

10/1/01

IN COUNCIL

Flood Control is in Our Control



BILL JAFFA

Flood control is a major issue facing residents in Northeast Mesa, and our attendance to the issue is critical to the well-being of our city. The work by our Northeast Mesa residents in regard to flood control is a fine example of citizenry efforts extended for the good of our city.

It was Northeast Mesa residents concerned about the Usery Park who alerted me to the county's plans for flood control. Residents came before City Council to further address the issue.

After visiting the Boulder Mountain subdivision and reviewing the proposal to introduce conveyance channels close to that community, I became concerned about the impact to the desert and the integrity of the proposal. I was also concerned that it might actually introduce flooding into the Boulder Mountain subdivision from its eastern perimeter.

I met with County Supervisor Don Stapley shortly thereafter, and I am proud of the lead role he played to take this most important issue back to the drawing board.

My review of all of the proposals led me to conclude that it was in the best interests of the entire impacted community to recommend to the full City Council that a community committee be created to make recommendations to Mesa as well as to the county.

The flood-control issue impacts several developments in Mesa and unincorporated areas of the county, and all of the residents who live in this area will be stakeholders in the solution we reach. As a result, all of the neighborhood concerns deserve to be debated by the stakeholders.

After limited debate, Council agreed to my proposal, and that committee is now in place. Eleven members serve on the committee. Members include residents of neighborhoods from Las Sendas east to Boulder Mountain.

I look forward to attending the committee's meetings. I commit to bringing to the committee the resources that it needs to evaluate the issue and to make its recommendation. I am also confident that the county will provide requested resources as well. It is the recommendations of this committee that will drive the final decision on flood control.

I believe a flood-control solution may be achieved that does not scar the desert, relies primarily on dedicated rights of way along McDowell and Ellsworth Roads, and uses existing flood control channels and retention basins that do not disturb existing residences.

I thank the community again for efforts extended and continuing on this most important issue.

#12



West Valley View- News
Simply the best
Classifieds in the West Valley

Rec corridor plan takes another step

by Jeff Billington
staff writer

With only the finishing touches remaining to be made to its watercourse master plan, the West Valley Recreation Corridor is moving closer to reality.

An Oct. 9 open house gave West Valley residents the opportunity to see how the master plan, which is being created under the direction of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, will function and be incorporated into the recreation corridor.

The watercourse master plan is used to guide development along the river to help reduce possible damage caused by flooding. It seeks to limit any increased watershed runoff, prohibit development from infringing on and destroying flood plain storage and limiting development that may alter flood plains and cause cross-river and upstream impacts.

When it's finished, the corridor will consist of 47 miles of riverbed along the Agua Fria from the Gila River to Lake Pleasant, and along the New River north of Camelback Road to Circle Mountain Road. Numerous public parks, trails and other amenities will be next to or accessible from the riverbed.

The corridor will pass through unincorporated county property and the cities of Avondale, El Mirage, Peoria, Glendale, Surprise and Phoenix. Its existence depends on the collaboration of only local municipalities, but also the Flood Control District, Maricopa Association of Governments and private entities.

It's now up to these cities to create the amenities and trails that will unite the recreation corridor, said Maricopa County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, D-District 5.

"Working together we will leave a legacy of desert beauty, the West Valley Recreation Corridor," she said.

Avondale is currently in the lead in developing its section of the corridor, Wilcox said.

The city is in the process of building a trail along the river that will connect two of its city parks: Coldwater Park on the southeast corner of Riley Drive and Eliseo C. Felix Jr. Way and the new regional park south of McDowell Road and east of the Agua Fria River. Avondale also is trying to develop a wildlife habitat near the confluence of the Agua Fria and Gila rivers, she said.

Area cities should work together to make the recreation corridor a reality, Avondale Mayor Rick Drake said.

"If they [cities] formulate it, it will help serve many," he said. "I think it's a project worthy of the West Valley."

Avondale's plans for the river include trails for walking and a quiet rural type of setting.

"We envision it to be a passive area," Drake said.

Even though Litchfield Park is not directly adjacent to the recreation corridor, it is easily accessible to its residents, Litchfield Park Mayor Woody Thomas said in offering his city's support of the corridor.

"I believe it reflects a lot of what we're doing in our city," Thomas said.

A system of trails and parks runs through Litchfield Park, and the recreation corridor would give residents even more opportunity for walking and horseback riding, he said.

Advocacy group to be launched

Diane McCarthy, president of Westmarc, and Diane Brossart of Valley Forward, announced at the Oct. 9 meeting the formation of Friends of the West Valley Recreation Corridor.

Westmarc is an organization comprising West Valley civic and business leaders that works to

West Valley Forward is an organization comprising West Valley civic and business leaders that works to address and resolve issues of regional concern. The Valley Forward Association works to promote the growth of business and culture across the Valley.

The nonprofit Friends of the West Valley Recreation Corridor will lobby for the project at public meetings and other events where the recreation corridor is being discussed.

The organization's formal launch is scheduled for 10 a.m. Nov. 8 at the Peoria Sports Complex, 16101 N. 83rd Ave. The final watercourse master plan also will be unveiled at that meeting. Membership is open to anyone. The first year's dues will be waived for those who register before Nov. 1.

Information about the West Valley Recreation Corridor is available on the Web at www.aguafria.org, or by calling 602-240-2408.

Wiping out mosquitoes but mindful of the birds

By David Madrid
The Arizona Republic

The county Flood Control District is in the midst of a juggling act. On the one hand, it has to clear vegetation out of the New River near Northern Avenue and dredge a channel to allow water to flow freely.

On the other hand, some of that vegetation is prime habitat that attracts various birds and other wildlife.

The county was prompted to act after sentinel chickens in Peoria tested positive for the encephalitis virus. The New River near 99th and Northern avenues was identified as a breeding ground for mosquitoes because water tends to

pond there and the mosquitoes thrive on the plant sap of the lush vegetation.

"Will we satisfy 100 percent of the people? No," said Michael Ellegood, the district's chief engineer and general manager. "Frankly, we had to cut down a few more trees and bushes than we would like. But the crews up there, these guys are real sensitive to what they are doing."

Ellegood said hydrological engineers, a biologist and the county's maintenance crews have worked together to save as much habitat as possible.

"We are basically hand-clearing some of the underbrush," he said.

John Townsend, the county's

vector control manager, said that his staff has been spraying the area for mosquitoes weekly and that the Flood Control District has been treating some of the water as well.

"It seems like for the last few weeks it hasn't been too bad down there," Townsend said. "And we're getting a little break with the nighttime temperatures. Once it starts to cool down, floodwater mosquitoes are less active. Once it hits 65 degrees, the floodwater mosquitoes go dormant."

But the floodwater mosquitoes aren't the ones that carry diseases. Townsend said that although the county has found fewer signs of the disease-carrying Culex mosquito in the

area, those mosquitoes are still out there. And the Culex mosquitoes don't go dormant in the winter, although their breeding cycle slows.

Therefore, the New River site has been listed as a routine site that vector control will check once every three to four weeks for signs of mosquitoes breeding once the weather cools.

Jeff Esling, co-owner of the West Valley Driving Range, near 99th and Northern avenues in Glendale, said he has seen a big difference in the number of mosquitoes since the county began its work.

"We've been battling this issue for two years now," said Esling, who described the mos-

quito problem last year as resembling a "biblical plague."

"Things are being done now," he said. "It hasn't eliminated the problem 100 percent, but it's nothing like it was before. There's no way you can eradicate mosquitoes 100 percent, but we are seeing so few mosquitoes now it's not a problem."

Ellegood said that Flood Control District workers are dredging a low-flow channel so that the water will flow out of the area and not collect.

He said Glendale wants to create a New River Recreation Corridor, so the county is looking at other projects along the New River.

"They (Glendale) want a

place where people can hike and do things of that nature," he said. "Birds and all that will add to the experience, but there will be mosquitoes, too. We have to strike a balance."

Townsend said vector control would like to see Flood Control do more of the same work along the New River from Skunk Creek to Camelback Road.

The more water that is running freely in the river, the fewer mosquitoes residents will have to contend with, he said.

Reach the reporter at david.madrid@arizonarepublic.com or (602) 444-6926.

#13

#14

Greenbelt meetings planned

By Marty Sauerzopf
The Arizona Republic

10/5/01
Plans for a 47-mile recreation corridor through the West Valley will move forward again next week when the Maricopa County Flood Control District hosts three public meetings to discuss the future of the Agua Fria River.

The meetings will provide information on the Agua Fria Watercourse Master Plan, a critical component of a planned system of parks and trails stretching from Lake Pleasant to the Gila River.

The Agua Fria study covers about 32 miles of the riverbed, which West Valley developers want to see turned from barren

desert into a recreational attraction rivaling Indian Bend Wash in Scottsdale.

The proposed West Valley Recreation Corridor would include both the Agua Fria and New rivers and would cut through nearly a dozen political jurisdiction as it wends south from Lake Pleasant.

The meetings are scheduled:

■ 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Estrella Mountain Community College, 3000 N. Dysart Road, Avondale.

■ 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive.

■ 2 p.m. next Friday at the West Valley Art Museum, 17420 N. Avenue of the Arts, Surprise.

#15



Matt York/Associated Press

A trailer lies on its side as floodwaters continue to recede Monday in Wenden. Heavy rains forced the evacuation of several hundred residents from the town of 1,200.

10/24/01

K2 ROR Danielle NPK



Jack Kurtz/The Arizona Republic

Seven-year-old Nick Rohrig scrapes mud out of his grandparents' home in Wenden on Monday morning.

7 still missing after flooding

Residents of Wenden begin cleaning up ravaged homes

By Beth DeFalco
The Arizona Republic

WENDEN — Seven people were still unaccounted for Monday in the aftermath of flooding that damaged at

least 100 homes in this small western Arizona town.

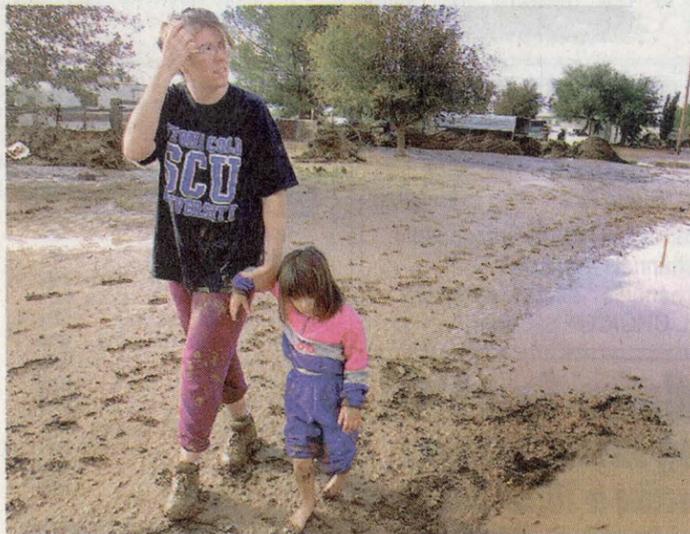
Witnesses reported seeing at least two of the missing people floundering in the water, officials said. The missing people were believed to have been among dozens of migrant workers who were picking crops in the area.

As the search continued Monday, residents scooped mud out of houses and vehicles and recounted harrowing tales of escape.

Guillermo Lizarraga said he strapped his three children to a tree outside his trailer to keep them from drowning in the water rushing by his home.

Then, one by one, he lifted them into a hovering Arizona Department of Public Safety helicopter.

Lizarraga's family and about 300 other people spent Sunday night in a makeshift shelter in the Parker High School gymnasium.



Jack Kurtz/The Arizona Republic

Susan Rohrig and her daughter, Danielle, survey the damage on a mud-covered street in Wenden.

10/25/01

#16



Matt York/Associated Press

Jesse Carrasco carries a TV amid Wenden's mud and water. Gov. Jane Hull on Monday declared a state of emergency for the town 90 miles west of Phoenix.

Wenden picks up pieces

Rescuers keep searching for several missing people

By Beth DeFalco
The Arizona Republic

Rescuers in Wenden were to launch a ground search today for several people still unaccounted for since floodwaters roared through town Sunday.

What's making rescue efforts more difficult is that there is no official list of names for the missing and that it's possible that those unaccounted for are migrant workers who left the area without telling anybody.

"We're really working off thirdhand in-

formation," La Paz County sheriff's Lt. Don Davis said Tuesday. "Some guy tells us that he hasn't seen his buddy, and that's all we know."

An Army National Guard helicopter has been conducting aerial searches since Sunday and continued flying over the town Tuesday, said Maj. Eileen Bienz, Guard

See WENDEN | Page B2

How to help

The Red Cross is asking for cash donations to help people in Wenden. To donate call 1-800-HELP-NOW or visit the Web site at www.redcross.org

Steep slopes

Steep slopes near this home on Cow Track in Carefree "are a problem," according to local resident Jan Misseri and Town Administrator Jon Pearson.



Concerns raised about erosion in Carefree

by Caleb Soptelean

CAREFREE – Carefree resident Jan Misseri is raising concerns about a lack of erosion protection by the Town of Carefree, and says the town is not taking adequate erosion control measures that it has the authority to implement.

Misseri, who says she has experience in municipal land development regulation and natural resource management planning through working 14 years as a municipal employee and consultant for three cities and the Municipal Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commissions in Connecticut, has met with Town officials on at least two occasions and says she is still waiting for answers to her questions.

"There is in the current zoning ordinance that the Town Administrator can require erosion controls so that a site be stabilized," said Misseri, quoting the zoning ordinance which says, "Slope stabilization can be required by the Zoning Administrator if necessary." She wonders why this is not being done and notes two tracts of land on Nonchalant Ave. near downtown Carefree, Lots 85 and 86, have experienced erosion from small washes nearby.

Lot 85, located at 7553 Nonchalant, has a wash obstructed with construction debris. It did have a driveway crossing the wash, but after Town Engineer Erich Korsten notified the landowner, the location of the driveway was changed—reportedly because the owner didn't want to pay to have a larger culvert and cement structure installed, as was requested by Korsten.

Lot 86, located at 7570 Nonchalant, has a driveway crossing a wash with scouring in the wash on the west side of the driveway and no scrub pad

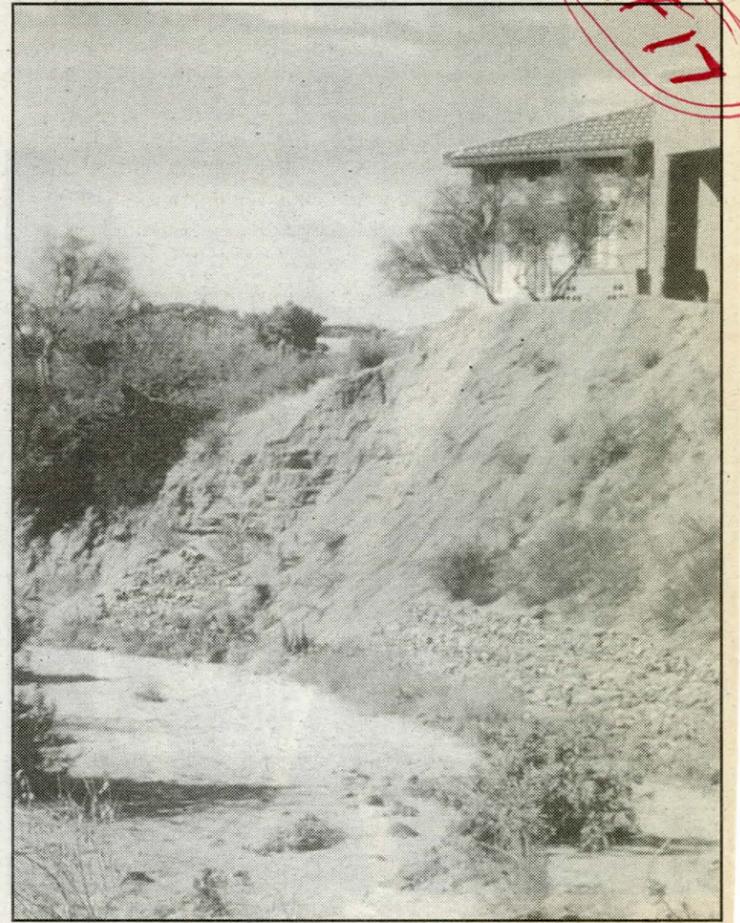
at the end of the wash to stop soil tracking.

Town Administrator Jon Pearson said if the developments in question are suffering erosion, both of which sit on hilly tracts of land, the homeowners would likely need to question the developer or town staff. To his knowledge, neither has done this.

In regard to a home built next to a wash at Cow Track, Paint Pony, 80th St. and Rising Sun (see photo), Misseri said the home appears to be within the designated 100-year flood haz-

ard area. Pearson said the steep slope along the bank of a wash appears to have been engineered before the home was built and this has created an erosion problem. He said the new zoning ordinance may be a way to address issues like this one.

In addition, Misseri expressed concerns about erosion and related issues at the new Town Center Project to Korsten and Councilman Bob Coady in an Aug. 16 meeting. She says while at that meeting,



Korsten indicated that he would address her concerns in writing. She has yet to hear from him, according to Misseri. Two calls to Korsten from *The Desert Advocate* were not returned.

Mayor Ed Morgan said he would see that Korsten answers Misseri's questions at some point in the "very near future" after the Town Center

Project is complete. Morgan noted town employees are "working almost around-the-clock in finishing that up."

Misseri also met with Morgan, Pearson and Planning Official Nancy Zeno on Aug. 29 to talk about the situations on Lots 85 and 86.

The town has the authority to

Erosion

Please see page 6

Erosion Cont...

From page 3

require erosion controls before a certificate of occupancy is granted for a property, Misseri says, but she acknowledges, "The only way municipalities and counties will enact and enforce regulations to protect washes, riparian areas, soil stabilization, etc., is if it is specifically addressed in state statute. Arizona Revised Statutes generally allude to it, but do not say that the natural resource must be protected. It doesn't even describe the natural resource. Enabling legislation that directly requires municipalities to do this is needed in order to keep the regulation standardized."

Misseri concluded, "Plan a development around preserving the natural resources in the area, maintaining wildlife corridors, flooding buffers, etc., and the quality of life is better." She notes a bill was introduced in the State Legislature in 1992 relating to riparian areas and watershed enhancement. The bill never passed out of the House of Representatives, however.

Arizona Revised Statute 9-461.05 addresses general plans for municipalities. Section D-3 says cities and towns with more than 2,500 in population but less than 10,000, with an average growth rate exceeding two percent per year for the 10 years immediately preceding the most recent census, shall have a general plan that has an environmental planning element that contains analysis, policies and strategies to address anticipated effects, if any, of plan elements on air quality, water quality and natural resources associated with proposed development under the general plan. Other cities "may" have the aforementioned environmental planning element. Either way, this includes Carefree.

Additionally, Section E says cities and towns less than 50,000 in population may have a conservation element for the conservation of, development and utilization of natural resources, including forests, soils, rivers and other waters ... and other natural resources. The conservation element may also cover ... flood control, prevention and control of the pollution of streams and other waters, regulation of the land in

stream channels and other areas ... prevention, control and correction of the erosion of soils ... protection of watersheds.

Pursuant to the provisions of the article, the legislative body of any municipality by ordinance may, in order to conserve and promote the public health, safety and general welfare ... establish floodplain zoning districts and regulations to protect life and property from the hazards of periodic inundation. Regulations may include variable lot sizes, special grading or drainage requirements, or other requirements deemed necessary ... establish special zoning districts for certain lands characterized by adverse topography, adverse soils ...

Misseri notes that of the 15 soil types existing in Carefree, each of them has at least one negative in relation to shrinking/swelling, severe limits of absorption for septic tanks, slope of greater than 15 percent, and erosion of more than 5 tons per acre per year.

The Town of Carefree is currently working on a new zoning ordinance, but the process has been delayed due to the untimely death of the town's attorney. The proposed zoning ordinance has yet to come before the Planning and Zoning Commission in a public meeting.

Misseri wrote a letter to the Carefree Planning and Zoning Commission on May 15 of this year requesting that the commission consider her recommendations. She says in the letter, "The Proposed Zoning Ordinance provides less environmental protection measures than the Existing Zoning Ordinance. The provisions for wash protection and erosion and sedimentation controls during development are not being enforced." When asked about Misseri's statements, Morgan offered a "no comment."

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County held a public workshop on the Carefree Master Drainage Plan on Tuesday, Nov. 13, at Town Hall. Members of a study team will be working with the public to help identify any current flooding problems and to gather information on the development of solutions. The purpose of the Master Drainage Plan is to identify methods to reduce potential damage or loss of life from storm runoff. Erosion will also be addressed.

#18

MY OPINIONS

© THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

12/5/01

Flood projects spread revenue

By Michael S. Ellegood

Too often we read or hear about what county government is not doing with taxpayers dollars or how those dollars are unevenly distributed.

Here at the Flood Control District for Maricopa County, our elected board and staff take seriously our responsibility to protect County residents and visitors from loss of life or property from significant storm events such as the summer monsoons.

Within the next six years the district, with support from County Supervisors Brock, Stapley, Kunasek, Brewer and Wilcox, will implement almost \$250 million of flood control features across Maricopa County.

Providing flood control where growth has exceeded expectations has many challenges not the least of which are geography and urbanization.

The East Valley, where much of the Valley growth has occurred, must rely more on concrete and earth structures to provide protection, whereas the west Valley, with major water courses such as New River, Skunk Creek and the Agua Fria River, can utilize "non-struct-

MY TURN

tural" flood control measures which keep residents out of flood hazard areas.

As the major growth areas within the metro area, the central core and East Valley have historically been the major focus for flood control with projects such as the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Indian Bend Wash, the East Maricopa Floodway and numerous other regional detention basins and channels. Capital improvement expenditures for flood control facilities in the East Valley went from 17 percent of the budget in 1996/1997 to almost 40 percent in 1999/2000.

Planning efforts have identified over \$400 million in potential flood control projects within the East Valley alone, many of which are being implemented today. But with the open areas to the west and southwest seeing increased growth, there is a transition of flood control effort to where the need for protection is moving.

In the past, capital improvement dollars leaned toward the East Valley. Today, those dollars are fairly evenly distributed as the transition to the west Valley occurs. For example,

over the next six years projects in District 1 and 2 are budgeted for 35 percent of the our capital improvement budget. To the north and northwest in Districts 3 and 4, goes 33 percent of the budget. The remaining 32 percent is for projects within the large central core and southwest area in District 5).

Planning dollars, as expected, have already begun transition to the southwest and west Valley, as East Valley projects, that have already been identified, are designed and constructed.

Flood control facilities are unique from other infrastructure in that the best flood control feature provides the community necessary protection but really can't be seen as it is underground, part of a multi-functional detention basin with ball fields or where flood hazard areas remain as open space.

This is what, with the close support of elected county officials, is being done with county property tax dollars for flood control.

Michael S. Ellegood is chief engineer and general manager of Flood Control District of Maricopa County. The views expressed are those of the author.

LETTERS

#19

AR REP

12/8/01

Flood-project dollars shifting to West Valley

Too often we read or hear about what county government is not doing with taxpayers' dollars or how those dollars are unevenly distributed.

Here at the Flood Control District for Maricopa County, our elected board and staff take seriously our responsibility to protect county residents and visitors from loss of life or property from significant storms, such as during the summer monsoon.

Within the next six years, the district, with support from county Supervisors Fulton Brock, Don Stapley, Andrew Kunasek, Jan Brewer and Mary Rose Wilcox, will implement almost \$250 million of flood-control features across Maricopa County.

Providing flood control where growth has exceeded expectations has many challenges, not the least of which are geography and urbanization.

The East Valley, where much of the Valley growth has occurred, must rely more on concrete and earth structures to provide protection, whereas the West Valley, with major water courses such as the New River, Skunk Creek and Agua Fria River, can use "non-structural" flood-control measures that keep residents out of hazardous areas.

As the major growth areas within the metro area, the central core and East Valley have historically been the major focus for flood control, with projects such as the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Indian Bend Wash, the East Maricopa Floodway and numerous other regional detention basins and channels. Capital-improvement expenditures for flood-control facilities in the East Valley went from 17 percent of the budget in 1996-97 to almost 40 percent in 1999-2000.

Planning efforts have identified more than \$400 million in potential flood-control projects within the East Valley alone, many of which are being

MY TURN



MICHAEL S. ELLEGOOD

Special for The Republic

implemented today. But with the open areas to the west and southwest seeing increased growth, there is a transition of flood-control effort to where the need for protection is moving.

In the past, capital-improvement dollars leaned toward the East Valley. Today, those dollars are fairly evenly distributed as the transition to the West Valley occurs. For example, over the next six years, projects in District 1 and 2 are budgeted for 35 percent of the our capital-improvement budget. To the north and northwest in Districts 3 and 4 goes 33 percent of the budget. The remaining 32 percent is for projects within the large central core and southwest area in District 5.

Planning dollars, as expected, have already begun transition to the southwest and West Valley, as East Valley projects that have already been identified are designed and constructed.

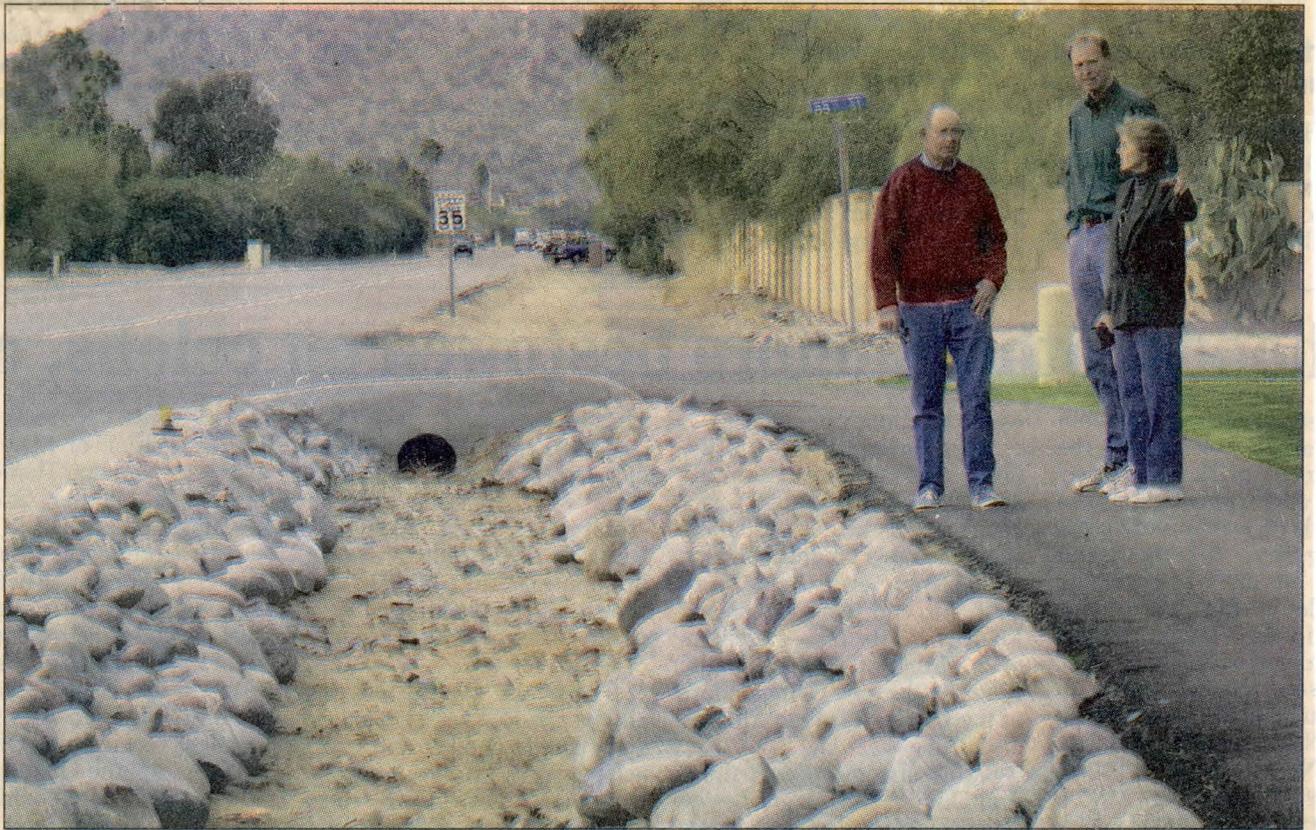
Flood-control facilities are unique from other infrastructure in that the best flood-control feature provides the community necessary protection but really can't be seen, as it is underground, part of a multi-functional detention basin with ball fields or where flood areas remain as open space.

This is what, with the close support of elected county officials, is being done with county property-tax dollars for flood control.

Michael S. Ellegood is chief engineer and general manager of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County. The views expressed are those of the author.

Troubled waters

#20
12/31/01



ANDY SAWYER/TRIBUNE

From left, John Amory, Jeff Cook and Liz Clendenin stand Friday next to a stretch of Doubletree Ranch Road in Paradise Valley that has the type of flood control they prefer. Behind them is a stretch without flood control.

Paradise Valley awash in opposition over flood plan

Residents call measures expensive, unnecessary

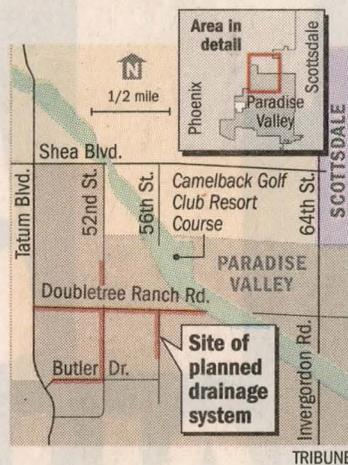
BY ED BAKER
TRIBUNE

County leaders are expected on Thursday to approve, over the objections of some of those they propose to help, construction of a \$10.3 million series of underground storm drains in the north East Valley.

The drains, designed to protect 185 Paradise Valley homes from flooding, would require Maricopa County to dig up much of Doubletree Ranch Road between Tatum Boulevard and the Indian Bend Wash.

The road would then be repaved and designed to move floodwaters in conjunction with the drains.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County says the project is needed to protect the homes, most of them situated on an acre or more of land each, from a so-called 10-year flood — a significant flood that occurs, on average, about once every 10 years.



TRIBUNE

But about 80 area residents have signed affidavits claiming that flooding in the region isn't a major problem.

They call the project a waste of money that will do little but disturb residents while it's being constructed.

"We've lived here since 1967," said resident Paul Manera. "You always get a little water when it rains, but

we've never had a problem where water comes in the house."

County officials say residents who oppose the project fall into two categories: those who don't have flooding problems — and either don't care or aren't aware of neighbors' flooding problems — and those who haven't lived in the area long enough to see the devastation a major flood can bring.

The last 10-year flood to hit Paradise Valley was in 1992, said Bing Zhao, a Flood Control District manager.

"The last significant storm shut down a school. People couldn't pick up their kids," said County Supervisor Don Stapley, R-District 2 of Mesa, a supporter of the project. "This project is important. The science and engineering is solid. It's been double-checked and triple-checked."

The county's Flood Control Advisory Board has disagreed with Stapley's assessment twice — recommending the project be denied in

Please see **FLOOD**, Page **A6**

FLOOD: Some don't think there is an issue

From Page A1

February 2000 and again in May 2000.

Advisory board members question the project's merit.

Liz Clendenin, a vocal project opponent, said she suspects the real reason the county is supporting the project is to help Paradise Valley with the costs of improving Doubletree Ranch Road — something town officials have wanted to do for some time.

Stapley said the idea is nonsense. The county is paying for 60 percent of the project. The town is picking up 40 percent and is paying for all the road improvements, he said.

Some advisory board members, however, share Clendenin's suspicions about why the project is being pushed so heavily.

"There were questions by several of the people about the nature of the project and what was really intended," said board member Paul Cherrington.

"There are several residents who don't believe or don't accept that there is a flooding issue, and I think there was enough concern with (the board) that they recommended that it not be approved," said Cherrington, who is also the manager of water engineering and transmission for Salt River Project.

The chairman of the county's Board of Supervisors, Jan Brewer, R-District 4 of Glendale, acting on the advisory board's recommendation, has refused to bring the item up for a final vote.

But Stapley, who will become chairman on Wednesday, will likely bring the item to a vote. Brewer said she'll likely support it.

"My only problem is that it didn't go through the process. I thought it should go through the flood control board, so they could review it and send it up to us," Brewer said. "I don't feel we should

break process."

Stapley, however, said there is no need to send it back to the advisory board. That board simply makes recommendations and, Stapley said, it is clear this project has merit.

Pointing to Brewer's about-face on the issue, some opponents said they believe some supervisors have been told they'll lose campaign contributions or party support if they don't vote for the project.

Brewer, who is expected to leave her position next month to run for state office, confirmed she had been visited by a lobbyist, James Heiler, who was hired by Paradise Valley to push the project. No threats were made, however, she said.

Flood Control District officials, caught in the middle of the issue, plan to make a presentation to supervisors Thursday morning — showing the damage a major storm could cause.

The officials say the problem has gotten worse in the last decade. New housing, much of it built in the last 10 years, has disrupted the natural flow of rainwater, they said.

A significant storm, they said, could be devastating. County and federal computer models show a significant portion of the town would be covered, at least for a few hours, by water in the event of such a storm.

"Many people who get flooded don't want to tell other people because they fear it will reduce their property value," Zhao said.

Some nearby residents disagree.

What flooding problems there are, they said, could be reduced by removing trash from natural washes and expanding some storm drains.

— Tribune writer Ed Baker can be reached by e-mail at ebaker@aztrib.com or by calling (480) 898-4907.

#20

EastValleyTribune.com

HOME • TALK TO US • ADVERTISING • CLASSIFIEDS • SUBSCRIBE

U Find it F

EastValleyTribu

Click here for today's newspaper print ads

Monday, December 31, 2001 • Current temperature: 58°F

- LOCAL NEWS
- NATIONAL NEWS
- LOCAL SPORTS
- NATIONAL SPORTS
- LOCAL BUSINESS
- NATIONAL BUSINESS
- MARKET GLANCE
- EAST VALLEY LIVING
- OPINION
- OBITUARIES

SHOP LOCAL
RETAIL SPECIALS

PHOTOGRAPHY

GET OUT

FEEDBACK

CONTACT US

HOME DELIVERY

ABOUT THE TRIBUNE

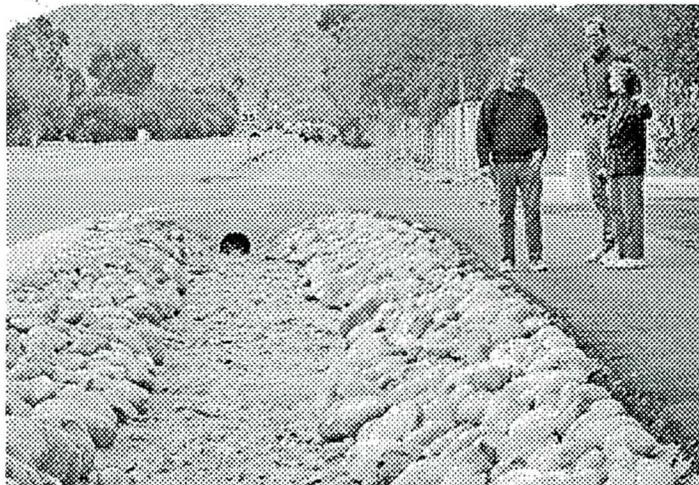
CIRCULATION

ADVERTISING

CLASSIFIEDS

TRIBUNE IN EDUCATION

LOCAL NEWS



ANDY SAWYER / TRIBUNE
John Amory, Jeff Cook and Liz Clendenin stand Friday next to a stretch of Doubletree Ranch Road in Paradise Valley that has the type of flood control they prefer.

Paradise Valley awash in opposition over flood plan

BY ED BAKER
TRIBUNE

County leaders are expected on Thursday to approve, over the objections of some of those they propose to help, construction of a \$10.3million series of underground storm drains in the north East Valley.

The drains, designed to protect 185 Paradise Valley homes from flooding, would require Maricopa County to dig up much of Doubletree Ranch Road between Tatum Boulevard and the Indian Bend Wash.

The road would then be repaved and designed to move floodwaters in conjunction with the drains.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County says the project is needed to protect the homes, most of them situated on an acre or more of land each, from a so-called 10-year flood — a significant flood that occurs, on average, about once every 10 years.

But about 80 area residents have signed affidavits claiming that flooding in the region isn't a major problem. They call the project a waste of money that will do little but disturb residents while it's being constructed.

"We've lived here since 1967," said resident Paul Manera. "You



» THE TEAMS
» COVERAGE



John Yantis
Fiesta Bowl,
party street
closures
» READ MORE



- FIND
- J
 - H
 - Auto
 - Gara
 - Per



Scott Bordow
Grass is green
for Oregon's
Bellotti
» READ MORE

East Valley education
Learn what's going on in local schools

Local sports

always get a little water when it rains, but we've never had a problem where water comes in the house."

County officials say residents who oppose the project fall into two categories: those who don't have flooding problems — and either don't care or aren't aware of neighbors' flooding problems — and those who haven't lived in the area long enough to see the devastation a major flood can bring.

The last 10-year flood to hit Paradise Valley was in 1992, said Bing Zhao, a Flood Control District manager.

"The last significant storm shut down a school. People couldn't pick up their kids," said County Supervisor Don Stapley, R-District 2 of Mesa, a supporter of the project. "This project is important. The science and engineering is solid. It's been double-checked and triple-checked."

The county's Flood Control Advisory Board has disagreed with Stapley's assessment twice — recommending the project be denied February 2000 and again in May 2000.

Advisory board members question the project's merit. Liz Clendenin, a vocal project opponent, said she suspects the real reason the county is supporting the project is to help Paradise Valley with the costs of improving Doubletree Ranch Road — something town officials have wanted to do for some time.

Stapley said the idea is nonsense. The county is paying for 60 percent of the project. The town is picking up 40 percent and is paying for all the road improvements, he said.

Some advisory board members, however, share Clendenin's suspicions about why the project is being pushed so heavily.

"There were questions by several of the people about the nature of the project and what was really intended," said board member Paul Cherrington.

"There are several residents who don't believe or don't accept that there is a flooding issue, and I think there was enough concern with (the board) that they recommended that it not be approved," said Cherrington, who is also the manager of water engineering and transmission for Salt River Project.

The chairman of the county's Board of Supervisors, Jan Brewer, R-District 4 of Glendale, acting on the advisory board's recommendation, has refused to bring the item up for a final vote.

But Stapley, who will become chairman on Wednesday, will likely bring the item to a vote. Brewer said she'll likely support it.

"My only problem is that it didn't go through the process. I thought it should go through the flood control board, so they could review it and send it up to us," Brewer said. "I don't feel we should break process."

Stapley, however, said there is no need to send it back to the advisory board. That board simply makes recommendations and, Stapley said, it is clear this project has merit.

Pointing to Brewer's about-face on the issue, some opponents said they believe some supervisors have been told they'll lose campaign contributions or party support if they don't vote for the project.

Brewer, who is expected to leave her position next month to run

» LOCAL SCHEDULE
» 5A BOYS RANKINGS
» 4A BOYS RANKINGS
» 5A GIRLS RANKINGS
» 4A GIRLS RANKINGS

for state office, confirmed she had been visited by a lobbyist, James Heiler, who was hired by Paradise Valley to push the project. No threats were made, however, she said.

Flood Control District officials, caught in the middle of the issue, plan to make a presentation to supervisors Thursday morning — showing the damage a major storm could cause.

The officials say the problem has gotten worse in the last decade. New housing, much of it built in the last 10 years, has disrupted the natural flow of rainwater, they said.

A significant storm, they said, could be devastating. County and federal computer models shows a significant portion of the town would be covered, at least for a few hours, by water in the event of such a storm.

“Many people who get flooded don’t want to tell other people because they fear it will reduce their property value,” Zhao said.

Some nearby residents disagree. What flooding problems there are, they said, could be reduced by removing trash from natural washes and expanding some storm drains.

— Tribune writer Ed Baker can be reached by e-mail at ebaker@aztrib.com or by calling (480) 898-4907.



© 2001

Freedom Interactive
Newspapers of Arizona

[HOME](#) | [SUBSCRIBE](#) | [CLASSIFIED](#) | [ADVERTISING](#) | [ABOUT THE TRIBUNE](#)

[Terms](#)
[Privacy](#)

#21
Doubletree Project etc

Not a time to do nothing about P.V. flood control

Water is at the very core of the history of the arid Southwest. And during the past 150 years, controlling nature's overflows has at times been as important as making sure we have enough.

Although water here is scarce, when it rains, our alkaline soil doesn't accept much water to soak into the earth; it runs off and collects into washes that can become raging torrents of briefly biblical proportions.

Some folks in Paradise Valley -- some of them long-time residents -- don't recall or don't understand this. They plan to battle a \$10.3 million flood-control project the Maricopa County Flood Control District says is vital to protect 180 homes from strong runoff from nearby mountains and foothills.

Unlike the massive Desert Greenbelt plan for mostly uninhabited areas of north Scottsdale that was correctly voted down by Scottsdale's council, at issue in Paradise Valley is an area that is already populated, an area where structures have already been damaged by previous floods in 1972 and 1992.

Statements signed by 83 neighbors in the area stating their homes have never been flood-damaged is like a petition against stepped up police patrols saying one has never had his house broken into, or one against a new fire station because one's home has never burned down.

Here the public good -- and the protection of the public treasury from post-diluvian damage claims -- justifies the cost and outweighs some inconvenience and affronts to aesthetics, which is the burden of the opponents' arguments.

If disgruntled residents who oppose the plan can offer practical, affordable and more aesthetically pleasing alternatives, more power to them. But doing nothing is not a realistic option.

Tribune 1-7-02

#22

Tribune Jan. 7/02

Flood-plan disagreement swells

P.V. project awaits council approval

BY ZARANA SANGHANI
TRIBUNE

A Paradise Valley neighborhood is bickering over a \$10.3 million flood-control project approved by county officials Thursday. Opponents claim there's no need for flood control in

the area and may petition for a voter referendum to block the project. Proponents say they have suffered flood damage and are eager for relief. The Town Council will be asked to give final approval on the joint city-county funded project Thursday. The project would put storm drains under Doubletree Ranch Road and adjacent parts of Tatum Boulevard,

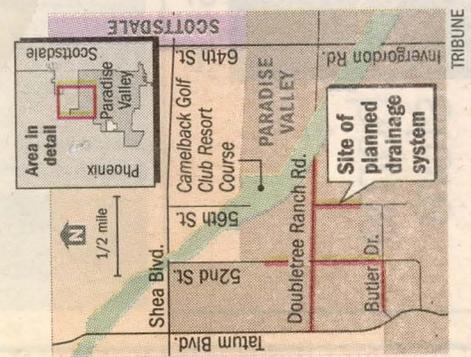
the drains would direct mountain runoff under Doubletree Ranch to the Indian Bend Wash. Town and county officials said the project will prevent water damage to about 180 homes, and they showed photographs of flooding in the area

from storms in 1972 and 1992.

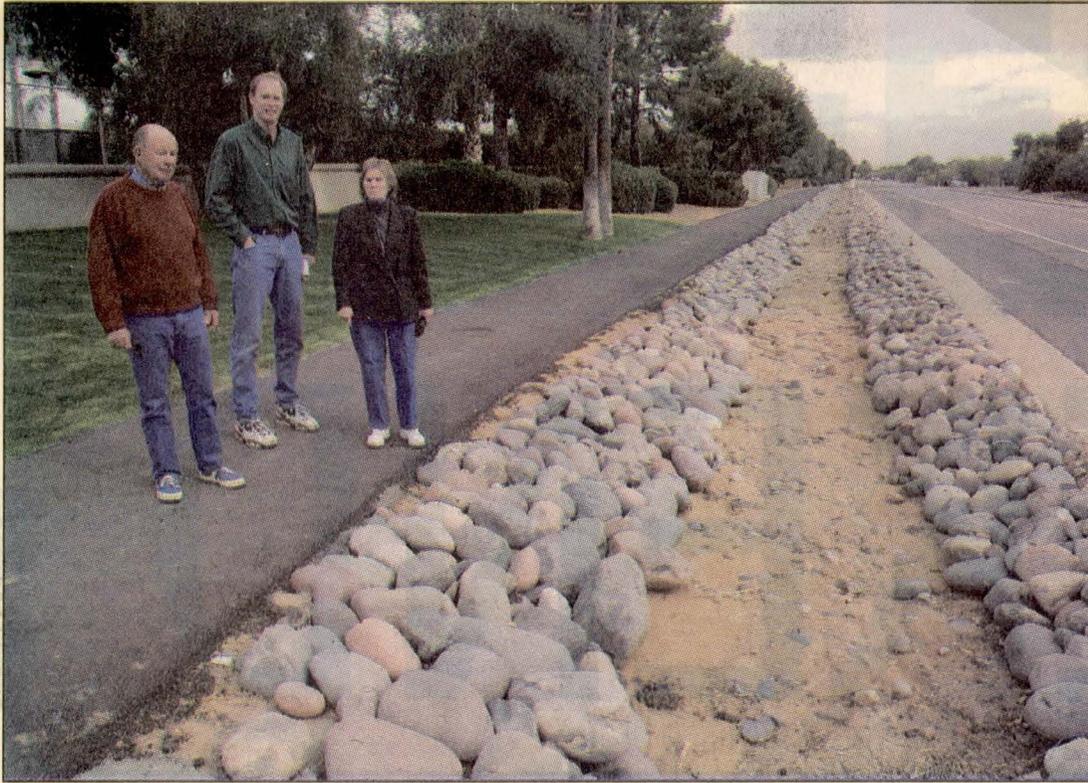
"There is a drainage problem in the Doubletree area," said Derrick Johnson, a resident who lives a block south of Doubletree Ranch Road. "There were 10 inches of water in my yard (in 1992). This project enjoys popular support."

Opponents said the pro-

Please see **FLOOD**, Page **A8**



1/4/02



TRIBUNE FILE/TRIBUNE

Some Paradise Valley residents oppose flood-control stretches such as the one along Doubletree Ranch Road.

FLOOD: Critics say politics to blame

From Page A1

ject is a hoax and is disliked by most area homeowners.

"This stopped having to do with floods a long time ago," said resident Cliff Svoboda. "This has become ... politics in its purest form."

Last year, 83 of 112 area homeowners sent signed affidavits to the county saying their homes have never been damaged by floods, said Liz Clendenin, a neighborhood homeowner.

Clendenin said she and many of her neighbors may petition for a voter referendum to block the project.

Several hundred signatures have been gathered on petitions in favor of and against the project.

Many residents who live near Doubletree Ranch Road said they need flood control.

Robert Duckworth said when his property gets

flooded, trucks have to haul away debris washed in by the water. He added that he represents 34 other homeowners in his subdivision who support the project.

"We get a lot of water," Duckworth said. "At times we're locked into our area."

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the project Thursday, after about seven years of research and design by the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

Clendenin said the town is using the flood-control project to get the county to help pay for the much-needed pavement of Doubletree Ranch Road. The town will pay for 40 percent of the flood-control project and all of the \$2.7 million for road improvements. The county will also share the cost of paving the road that is dug up to put in the storm drains.

The storm drains would contain all the water from a size of flood that happens every 10 years, on the average. During larger storms, the lowered Doubletree Ranch Road will pull water away from homes and onto the road, said Mike Ellegood, general manager of the Flood Control District.

Some residents fear increased traffic. They are also wary of traveling down a flooded street.

"A 10-year flood doesn't cause serious problems (in the Doubletree area)," said Rep. Barbara Leff, R-Paradise Valley, a resident of the neighborhood. "Putting huge culverts underground, perhaps not maintaining them properly, causing back-up (of water on the streets) — it frightens people."

— Tribune writer Zarana Sanghani can be reached by e-mail at zsanghani@aztrib.com or by phone at 480-970-2337.

#23

1-29-02

Maricopa County receives A- grade for management

By Tom Zoellner
The Arizona Republic

Maricopa County, once a "poster child for badly run county government," is one of the two best managed large counties in the nation, according to a university study released Monday.

The county earned an A minus grade from the Government Performance Project at Syracuse University, which lauded Maricopa's flexible budgetary policies, monthly cost reviews and information technology coordination.

"It looks like Maricopa has done a lot to address its problems and has been very innovative," said Katherine Barrett, special project editor for *Governing* magazine, which will publish the study next month. "They are a good

model for other counties."

Fairfax County, Va., in suburban Washington, scored the only other top mark in the study of the nation's 40 largest counties, which painted a generally pessimistic picture.

Squeezed between states and cities and charged with providing thankless services, county governments are often tripped up by "obsolete state laws, clumsy organizational structures and limited control over revenues," the report said. Maricopa suffers from all these encumbrances, but still manages to thrive, Barrett said.

"We can use this as a stimulus for further improvement," said County Administrator David Smith, who was named a "Public Official of the Year," by *Governing* magazine two months ago.

#24

1/12/02

© THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

2

Flood-control project OK'd for PV amid controversy

By Diana Balazs
The Arizona Republic

Rick Johnson remembers the flood of July 1992 very well. The Paradise Valley resident awoke to a soggy mess.

"I had 10 inches of water in the yard," he said. "I rose that morning to have my feet go splash."

Several rooms in his house had been flooded. Soaked carpeting and padding had to be removed and replaced.

Johnson has lived one lot south of Doubletree Ranch Road near 54th Street since 1987. He is elated that the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors last week unanimously approved a \$10.3 million project designed to channel floodwaters from a 10-year flood, like the one in 1992.

"My reaction was one of elation," Johnson said. "This project is totally justified on its merits."

The board's vote Jan. 3 came after a drawn-out and testy battle that pitted neighbor against neighbor. Opponents said the project was unnecessary and costly. They argued

that clearing desert washes and keeping drainage ditches clean could mitigate flooding.

But residents like Johnson said something had to be done to stop floodwaters from damaging their properties.

Both sides crowded the supervisors auditorium. Five of the seven Town Council members were there in support, as well as town staff members and two former mayors.

"I'm very happy for the town. It's a real vote for the town of Paradise Valley," current Mayor Ed Lowry said.

Residents pro and con testified and presented postcards and petitions to illustrate their points.

"I came down here to say I am against the project. I'm disappointed in the vote, of course," said Paul Manera, a hydrologist who has lived in the area since 1967.

Liz Clendenin, who along with Manera and other neighbors tried to convince the board that the project was not needed, said residents might collect referendum signatures to place the issue on the ballot.

"We are discussing it," she said.

#25

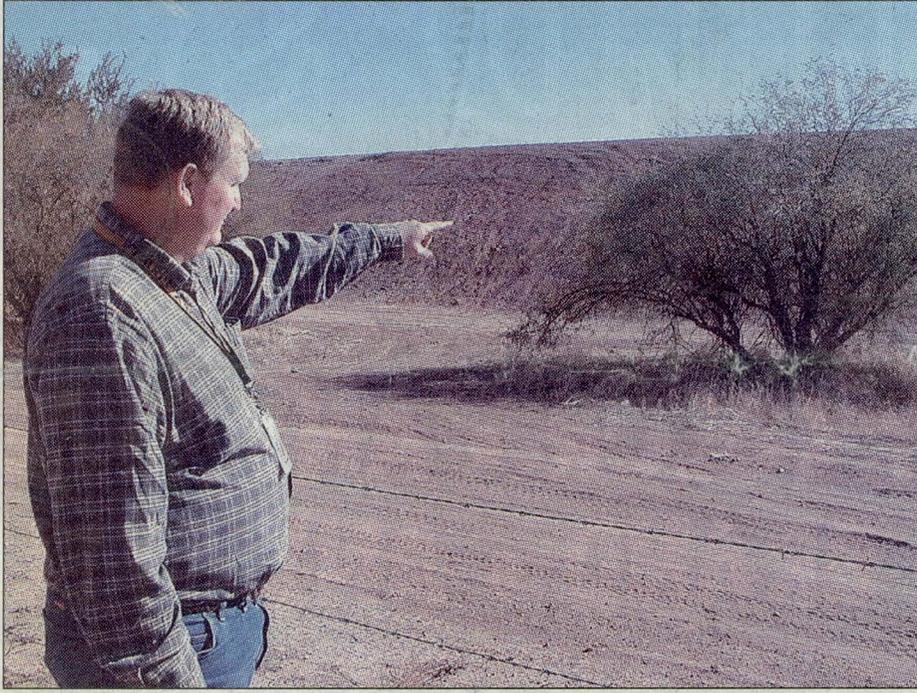
2/29/02



FILE PHOTO

An ATV rider turns the corner on his cycle north of Bell Road and west of McMicken Dam in this 1999 photo. Surprise police officers are patrolling areas around the dam because of damage caused by off-road vehicles.

Dam besieged by ATVs



PATRICK O'GRADY/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Charlie Klenner, acting division manager of the operations and maintenance division of the Maricopa County Flood Control District, points to damage done on McMicken Dam by off-rovers.

MCMICKEN: Surprise officers step up patrols

PATRICK O'GRADY
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Off-rovers are leaving their mark on a Surprise flood control project, and now officials are warning that more marks may result in fines or jail time for trespassers.

Surprise Police Department officers have begun patrolling areas around McMicken Dam and north of Bell Road because of damage to the dam from off-road vehicles — primarily small ATVs.

"Our main concern is keeping them off the dam," said Charlie Klenner, Maricopa County Flood Control District acting division manager for the operations and maintenance division.

See Earthen dam, A5

Earthen dam carved up

From A1

The structure, which stretches north and east through Surprise and county land, was built in the mid-1950s as a way to control water flowing downstream toward Luke Air Force Base. The dam was retrofitted by the district in the early 1980s to curb erosion on the primarily earthen structure.

Because the dam is constructed of dirt, vehicles traveling up and down can carve huge divots in its side and allow water into various areas, creating repair problems, Klenner said.

"It's not a matter of just throwing dirt up there," he said. "You've got to compact it down."

The off-roaders also tear up soil around the dam, throwing dust into the air and turning the normally hard-crustured soil to soft powder, Klenner said.

Surprise police contacted 26 people driving recreational vehicles on the Flood Control District's property — which stretches about a half mile on either side of the dam — two weekends ago in one of their first patrols. In all cases, officers provided people with a warning that they were trespassing, said Detective Scott Bailey, Surprise Police Department spokesman.

"We're going to keep coming out here until the problem goes away," he said.

Police plan to keep a log of those they have contacted. If officers find they already have warned a person when they stop them a second time, they will be cited. Bailey said the department prefers to educate people about the noise and dust before issuing citations, although the individuals still may be arrested if they are caught damaging the structure during their first offense.

The district asked for Surprise's cooperation in patrolling the area because of liability issues and because it does not have enough personnel to ensure the dams are patrolled, said Joe Munoz, public information office manager for the district.

"This is the first time we've asked the police to help us, and Surprise has been more than willing to help," he said.

The district is hoping the patrols will limit the amount of dust on the land, something that has become a continuing problem for residents in the area. If the district cannot control the dust on its property, it could be subject to fines from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Munoz said.

"The liability from the taxpayers' point of view is pretty big," he said.

Those who drive off road, typically in the larger trucks and Jeeps, usually adhere to a program called "Tread

Lightly" where off-roading participants are encouraged to use care when using their equipment.

The problem is that so many people have begun to get involved in the sport that it makes educating newcomers of appropriate places to ride difficult, said Sandee McCullen, Region 1 director of the Arizona State Association of 4-Wheel Drive Clubs.

"I think we are getting the education out there," McCullen said. "It's just not going as quickly as we would like."

Many of those using the smaller all-terrain vehicles have few clubs and peer groups that encourage individual riders to stay on trails, McCullen said.

Another issue is that many of the areas that experience problems with ATVs have urbanized quickly and left riders with few places to go, McCullen said.

"I think if we give them places to ride, they won't go anywhere else," she said.

Since Surprise has begun its patrols, Klenner said his crews have not had to repair wire fences designed to keep people off the dam. Surprise will continue to patrol the area, but will not patrol south of Bell because that is county land. Munoz said the district will ask for some support from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office for that area.

26

Feb. 21, 02

Markings of off-roaders mar McMicken Dam



Patrick O'Grady / Surprise Today

Charlie Klenner, acting division manager of the operations and maintenance division of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, points to damage done on McMicken Dam by off-roaders.

By **PATRICK O'GRADY**
Surprise Today

Off-roaders are leaving their mark on a Surprise flood control project, and now officials are warning that any more marks may result in fines or jail time for trespassers.

Surprise Police Department officers have begun patrolling areas surrounding McMicken Dam and north of Bell Road because of damage from off-road vehicles — primarily small ATVs — to the dam.

“Our main concern is keeping them off the dam,” said Charlie Klenner, Maricopa County Flood Control District acting division manager for the operations and maintenance division.

The structure, which stretches north and east through the Surprise and county, was built in the mid-1950s as a way to control water flowing downstream toward Luke Air Force Base. The dam was retrofitted by the district in the early-1980s to curb erosion on the primarily earthen structure.

Because the dam is constructed of dirt, vehicles traveling up and down can carve huge divots in its side and allow water into various areas and create repair problems, Klenner said.

“It’s not a matter of just throwing dirt up there,” he said. “You’ve got compact it down.”

The off-roaders also tear up soil around the dam, throwing more dust into the air and turning the normally hard-crustured soil to soft powder, Klenner said.

Surprise police contacted 26 people using the Flood Control District’s property — which stretches about a half mile on either side of the dam — for activities two weekends ago in one of their first patrols. In all cases, officers provided people with a warning that they were trespassing, said Detective Scott Bailey, Surprise Police Department spokesman.

“We’re going to keep coming out here until the problem goes away,” he said.

See Observation, A5

Observation of dam will increase

From A1

Police plan to keep a log of those they have contacted. If officers find they have already warned a person and stopped them again, they will be cited. Bailey said the department prefers to educate people about the noise and dust before issuing citations, although they still may be arrested if they are caught damaging the structure in their first offense.

The district asked for Surprise's cooperation in patrolling the area because it does not have enough personnel to ensure the dams are patrolled and because of liability, said Joe Munoz, public information office manager for the district.

"This is the first time we've asked the police to help us, and Surprise's been more than willing to help," he said.

The district is hoping the patrols will limit the amount of dust on the land, something that has become a continuing problem for residents in the area. If the district cannot control the dust on its property, it could be subject to fines from the Arizona Department of Environ-

mental Quality, Munoz said.

"The liability from the taxpayers point of view is pretty big," he said.

Those who drive off road, typically in the larger trucks and Jeeps, usually adhere to a program called "Tread Lightly" where participants in off-roading are encouraged to use care when using their equipment.

The problem is that many people have begun to get involved in the sport that it makes educating newcomers of appropriate places to ride difficult, said Sandee McCullen, Region 1 director of the Arizona State Association of 4-Wheel Drive Clubs.

"I think we are getting the education out there," McCullen said. "It's just not going as quickly as we would like."

Many of those using the smaller all-terrain vehicles have few clubs and peer groups that

encourage the behavior of individual riders to stay on trails, McCullen said.

Another issue is that many of the areas that experience problems with ATVs have urbanized quickly and left riders few places to go, McCullen said.

"I think if we give them places to ride, they won't go anywhere else," she said.

Since Surprise has begun its patrols, Klenner said his crews have not had to repair wire fences designed to keep people off the dam. Surprise will continue to patrol the area, but will not patrol south of Bell because that is county land. Munoz said the district will ask for some support from the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office for that area.

Patrick O'Grady may be reached at 876-2522 or pogrady@aztrib.com.

#27

3/13/02

Avondale makes progress toward river trail project

by Jeff Billington
staff writer

Avondale has taken another step toward having a public trail connecting its two largest city parks. At its March 2 meeting, the City Council unanimously approved an intergovernmental agreement with the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

"It allows the city and the public use of Flood Control [District] property," City Engineer David Fitzhugh said of the agreement.

The agreement now will go to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors for its approval.

"We don't anticipate any problems there," Fitzhugh said.

The agreement would allow the city to construct trails in the bed and along the flood levees of the Agua Fria River. Avondale plans to construct a trail connecting Coldwater Park, south of Rile Drive and west of the Agua Fria River, to Avondale Friendship Park, south of McDowell Road and east of the Agua Fria.

The proposed trail would lead from Coldwater Park north along the levee on the west side of the river. It then would go into the riverbed and under the Interstate 10 bridge, and up the bank on the east side of the river into Avondale Friendship Park.

In the future, the city also would like to extend the trail to connect it with trails built by other cities as part of the West Valley Recreation Corridor. The Recreation Corridor is a planned 4 1/2 mile system of trails, parks and other recreational facilities along the Agua Fria and New River. Under the agreement, the Flood Control District would continue to own the land, but Avondale would be responsible for the construction and maintenance of any trails, Fitzhugh said.

A project review will take about 18 to 24 months, Grants Coordinator Michael Powell said.

"We're hopeful that construction can start by January 2004," Powell said, adding that partial funding will come from a \$500,000 grant.

The city was awarded the grant in August from the Arizona Department of Transportation. Grants like this are part of TEA-21 legislation and are used to fund transportation enhancement projects. But it is too early to be sure of what the final cost will be, he said.

"We're hopeful that costs will be fairly reasonable," Powell said.

To help alleviate the costs of other trail projects along the river, the city is requiring future developments built along the river in areas where the trail is planned to finance the landscaping and its maintenance. The city would be responsible for maintaining the pathway in those areas.

Jeff Billington can be reached by e-mail at jbillington@westvalleyview.com.

#28

Flood project to use surrounding land

P.V. council wasn't told of space needs before meeting

BY ZARANA SANGHANI
TRIBUNE

A controversial flood control project in Paradise Valley will require land from at least six properties, town engineer Bill Mead told the Town Council on Thursday. It was the first time the council heard about the requirement for extra space.

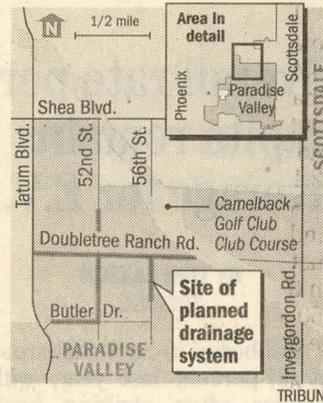
The Town Council and a team of six engineers held a public meeting to discuss the repaving of Doubletree Ranch Road. Residents commented on everything from hours of construction to plants for landscaping.

"We should have been having some sort of discussion with those (property owners)," Councilman Ed Winkler said. "For that to come out in a meeting such as this or a letter from a town attorney ... this is the kind of action that gets you and I in more trouble than I can say."

The council asked Mayor Ed Lowry to meet with affected property owners. Mead said the information just became public because he had to wait for the project to be approved last month, and then he followed the usual procedure.

The news worried resident Emily Kile. Her home's back yard is along the road, and she is afraid her wall will be damaged or taken down during construction without sufficient notification. She said the town must keep residents better informed.

The town has budgeted for a public information officer who will maintain a telephone hotline and send out



newsletters periodically.

The town and Maricopa County will spend \$10.3 million to put a drainage system under the road, and the town will make \$2.7 million in road improvements. The project is expected to begin in January and take 14 months to complete.

Residents opposed to the flood control project have said the area does not get that much water. They also have worried the road will be repaved in a way that increases traffic volume and speed.

The planned road improvements call for narrow, curved lanes with extensive vegetation which should discourage fast traffic, said Drew Spear, a traffic engineer on the project.


 PRINT THIS
Sponsored by **KBHOME**

A "turquoise necklace" of open spaces

By **Frederick Steiner**
Special to the Republic
July 09, 2001 12:00:00

In the 1890s, the pioneering landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted and his protégé, Charles Eliot, had a vision in green for metropolitan Boston.

They proposed an interconnected system of open spaces, parks, and parkways, which would address emerging water quality and flooding problems. Because this system ringed the region, Olmsted and Eliot dubbed their scheme "The Emerald

Necklace."

It became the nation's first regional open-space system and a legacy of green areas and recreational opportunities that have served generations of Bostonians.

The Greater Phoenix area has the start of a similar vision: a "turquoise necklace" of connected open spaces. Imagine a green loop around the Valley. In the east, Scottsdale's grassy Indian Bend Wash already runs north to south, ending near Tempe's Towne Lake - a jewel in the regional necklace and part of the Rio Salado dream of restoring the parched bed of the Salt River.

To the west, Phoenix has begun its own Rio Salado project, including walkways and a constant stream of water. It will flow into the rapidly growing West Valley, past the inventive 27th Avenue Recycling Center to the city's innovative Tres Rios wetlands project and beyond to the Salt River's confluence with the Gila River.

Developer John F. Long's bold proposal for the Agua Fria Greenway could form the western section of the Turquoise Necklace. He envisions a recreational corridor, including trails, that would double as flood control along the Agua Fria River. To the north, there are possibilities for linkages with the Anthem community, Lake Pleasant, and national forests to the north.

Phoenix's new Sonoran Preserve would be the northern edge of the Turquoise Necklace, including major washes that are critical to wildlife.



Jennifer Grimes/The Arizona Republic

Stretches such as this at Indian Bend Park in Scottsdale already form a beginning for a 'turquoise necklace' around the city.



Besides preserving the area's natural beauty and creating recreational opportunities, the necklace would enhance the region's appeal to businesses and tourists, creating an economic engine. Leading metropolises around the world have distinct characteristics. While Greater Phoenix is now one of the nation's largest urban regions, it still lacks identity.

The Turquoise Necklace would create a powerful, positive image. It contrast sharply with the barren desert that so many outsiders imagine our region to be.

How can we get from dream to reality? Leadership is essential. Partnerships are vital. Vision is crucial.

Arizona State University's former architecture dean, Jim Elmore, who has advocated for the Rio Salado since the late 1960s, exemplifies leadership. Long, with his Agua Fria proposal, is another leader.

So are the current directors of the Maricopa Flood Control District, who have adopted a strategy to use natural washes instead of concrete channels to control storm water.

Officials from Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe and, now, Glendale and Peoria are putting together pieces of the necklace. The Maricopa Association of Governments contributed a regional perspective through its landmark Desert Spaces report.

The successful components of the Turquoise Necklace, thus far, have relied on partnerships. Take the first phase of Phoenix's Rio Salado. City agencies collaborated with the Maricopa Flood Control District, while the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers provided financial support, thanks to support from key members of the Arizona congressional delegation. The Phoenix Arts Commission joined in, as well.

Boston's Emerald Necklace took shape because it became a shared community vision. If the Valley of the Sun residents embrace the desert version, perhaps a hundred years from now, residents will look back to the Turquoise Necklace and credit it for defining the desert lifestyle of Greater Phoenix.

Frederick Steiner, until recently director of the School of Planning and Landscape Architecture at Arizona State University, will head the School of Architecture at the University of Texas.

Links referenced within this article

Find this article at:

<http://www.arizonarepublic.com/special16/articles/0709steiner09.html>

Uncheck the box to remove the list of links referenced in the article.





azcentral.com

 PRINT THIS

Sponsored by

**WELLS
FARGO**

#30

Brochure errors revive PV drain flap

By **Diana Balazs**
The Arizona Republic
March 06, 2002

Paradise Valley's attempt to better inform residents about the future Doubletree Ranch Road storm-drain and road-improvement project backfired after a brochure containing factual errors was sent to residents last month.

The errors include understating how much the town's cost for the project will be and a computer-generated rendering of the completed project showing sidewalks on both sides of the street rather than just on the north.



Liz Clendenin and Paul Manera, who oppose the project and are write-in candidates in Tuesday's Town Council election, questioned the brochure's timing.

"It kind of seems odd to bring it out right now when it has been an issue in the election," Manera said.

Town officials said the four-page brochure was a way to better communicate with residents about the project, which has divided neighbors.

"It was a good opportunity to keep people informed. A lot of people are going to be going away in the next couple of months," town engineer Bill Mead said.

The town recently hired Strategies, a local public-relations firm, to improve communications through press releases and other means. The town does not have a public information office.

The firm based the brochure on information it had received from the town.

"It's frightening to think that the information came out of the town's files," Clendenin said.

Although town officials said they proofread the publication, mistakes got through, including the cost of the project, split between the town and the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

The county will pay \$6.2 million and the town will pay \$4.1 million. The brochure listed the town's cost as \$3.4 million and the county's as \$8 million. The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors approved the project in January.

The brochure, which cost about \$3,000 to produce, was sent to all town residents. Clendenin, who lives on Doubletree, said she and other residents did not receive a copy in the mail.

Town Manager Tom Martinsen has apologized for the errors and has said a corrected pamphlet will be sent to residents. Mead expects it to be mailed by April 1.

Why bother, Clendenin asked.

"The damage is done. Don't waste more money," she said.

Vice Mayor Dan Schweiker said he spotted only four mistakes in the brochure and doesn't know what all the fuss is about.

"I just didn't think it was that big of a deal," he said.

Schweiker said the project had already been approved and its cost published numerous times in newspapers. If there was any concern about the publication's timing, the prudent thing to do would have been not to send it out until after the election, Schweiker said.

"But we thought it was ready to go, and we mailed it," he said.

In the future, another set of eyes will review publications dealing with Doubletree. Scott Vogel, the Flood Control District's project manager, has asked that the district also review the material.

"I think it would be helpful in getting accurate information out," he said.

The town had hoped to start the Doubletree project in July. The project was approved without allocating funds for it in the Flood Control District's five-year budget. Vogel said that the budget is being adjusted to accommodate the project but that at this point the money won't be available until January.

Through a series of storm drains, runoff from the Phoenix Mountains Preserve and Mummy Mountain will be channeled from Tatum Boulevard along Doubletree into Indian Bend Wash.

Reach the reporter at diana.balazs@arizonarepublic.com or (602) 444-6877.

Links referenced within this article

diana.balazs@arizonarepublic.com
<mailto:diana.balazs@arizonarepublic.com>

Find this article at:

<http://www.arizonarepublic.com/scottsdale/articles/0306doubletree0306Z8.html>

Uncheck the box to remove the list of links referenced in the article.



azcentral.com

#31

PRINT THIS

Sponsored by World Champs GEAR!

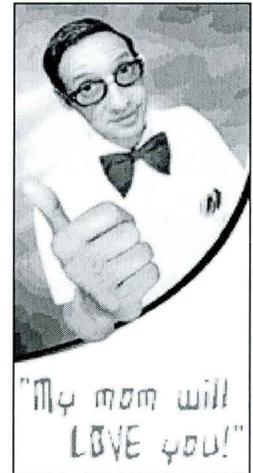
Decision time for NE Valley voters

By Lesley Wright
The Arizona Republic
March 09, 2002

Voters will have a lot of power in their hands Tuesday.

They'll help settle a dispute over flood control in Paradise Valley, potentially resolve a fire controversy in Fountain Hills and determine the future vision of Scottsdale.

Incumbents are battling each other, challengers and a few write-in candidates. General plans - blueprints for development and growth - are up in Phoenix and Scottsdale, and Cave Creek School District officials are asking for approval of a budget override.



Scottsdale

The outcome of the City Council election could have a dramatic effect on growth and redevelopment.

Three of the seven City Council members are up for re-election, and all three of them - Cynthia Lukas, George Zraket and Robert Pettycrew - are fighting to keep their seats. If any one of them loses, it would dramatically change the dynamics of the council, which often splits on a 4-3 vote on critical issues.

Terms of the debate center on reactions to a "vision" floated by the newly politicized Scottsdale Area Chamber. This look at the future calls for taller, denser buildings and commercial activities that would make the city an employment and retail powerhouse competitive with Phoenix and surrounding East Valley cities.

The chamber has endorsed Lukas, Pettycrew and attorney John Rooney, who is in his first race. All three deny they are running as any kind of slate, but each tends to favor a more active and energetic approach to the redevelopment of the struggling downtown and other areas.

On the other side are Zraket, who is known as the leader of the council's minority voice, and challengers Bob Littlefield, a small-business owner, and retired corporate executive Wayne Ecton.

This camp generally calls for fostering Scottsdale's appeal as a suburban resort destination instead of trying to pull sales-tax generators away from other cities. In most cases, they oppose using

#32



Sections

West Valley View- News

- Home
- News
- Viewpoint
- Letters
- Education
- Sports
- Classifieds
- Entertainment
- Business News
- Business
- Calendar
- Obituaries
- Religion
- Police Logs
- Area Directory
- About us
- Send Letters
- Send Resume
- Article Search

Simply the best
Classifieds in the West Valley

Panel addresses Arlington concerns

by Beth Kristin Ott
staff writer

The decision to move Arlington Elementary School and disagreements over where to move it have kept many residents of the far West Valley community preoccupied for the past year. But the district's governing board has now moved to settle the issue. First the board hosted an open forum to receive further input on the location, then at its Nov. 26 meeting, members vote unanimously to sell the school to the county, accept Duke Energy's donation and build a new school at 355th Avenue and Dobbins Road.

"We're going ahead with the school now," said Superintendent Ron Fletcher. Representatives from the Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency, Department of Emergency Management, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station and the state School Facilities Board presented more information to the public on the safety of selected site on Nov. 20. More than 50 residents attended the forum.

The five-member Arlington Elementary School District governing board has spent 2001 looking for a site to build a new school and trying to gain the support of the community. Neither job has been easy.

The land that the board has expressed interest in now is at 355th Avenue and Dobbins Road, 3 miles from Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. Duke Energy has agreed to pay about \$120,000 for the 40-acre property. The existing Arlington campus sits about seven miles from plant, although radiation experts say the closer site will not make a difference.

"You're really talking about a flat line," said Aubrey Godwin, director of the Arizona Radiation Regulatory Board. "There's very little difference in risk between three miles, five miles and 10 miles."

Still, some residents continued to question the board's site choice for the new school and the safety and procedures near Palo Verde.

"You mentioned different levels of alert. There comes a point when a decision has to be made: do you evacuate or take shelter? What is the protocol for that school? Are they going to hunker down or are they going to run for their lives?" asked Neil Peters. "I think the parents need to know that because if they are sheltered, mommas aren't going to be able to retrieve their babies."

The decision always would be to evacuate, except in special circumstances, Godwin responded. He re-emphasized that the school would be alerted of an emergency immediately, and it has the luxury of buses on campus.

"Would that put our children in a war zone? Things have changed since Sept. 11," said Sandy Honeycut.

"There has never been a credible threat against Palo Verde or any other nuclear power plant in the country," said Judy Melody, a Palo Verde spokeswoman.

The current campus is within the emergency planning zone for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station and a floodway. A flood in 1993 caused \$48,233 in damages to the campus.

The school-building process

The 1998 Students FIRST initiative provided that new schools needed for increased student population would be paid for by the state, further providing a one-time sum of money for deficiency corrections at every school in Arizona.

Because the Maricopa County Flood Control Board has said Arlington School cannot make significant improvements at the current location, the deficiency corrections money can be put

10/01

significant improvements at the current location, the deficiency corrections money can be put toward a new school.

Arlington was awarded about \$500,000 from the School Facilities Board for repairs, however, the board has increased its funding to more than \$1 million for a new school. The deadline for schools to put their deficiency money to use is June 30, 2003.

"It really gives the 10-member school facilities board the authority to build a new school," said Ed Boot, deputy director of the Arizona School Facilities Board. "It no longer requires a bond passed by you to build a school, because we'll build the school. It no longer takes a vote of the people as a requirement to build a new school."

The School Facilities Board does not get involved in decisions regarding new school location design, Boot emphasized.

"I think the decision that has been made that we are working with your governing board and your superintendent bodes well for your community," Boot said. "We are going to support that and a new school built if that is the desire of your governing board."

One person in the audience asked if there are other schools around the country located as close as three miles from a nuclear plant. Ruth Aud, from the Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management, replied there are schools in New Hampshire and New Jersey as close as one mile from nuclear power plants.

Whose decision is it?

The Arlington school board members were present, though silent, during the meeting last week. They listened to the panel's presentations and the citizens' questions and comments.

"This is the board's decision. Some may think that it's your decision, but the answer is that it's the board's decision," said the school district's lawyer, Roger Decker of the firm Udall, Shumway, Blackhurst, Allen and Lyons, P.C.

The Students FIRST initiative changed the process of new-school funding and approval, and as a result, some local control was taken away, Boot said.

"We have the opportunity to build a new school at no charge, no bond and no taxation, and it's really a no brainer for the board. I've told them in my humble legal opinion they would be derelict in their duty not to do that," Decker said.

Superintendent Ron Fletcher, who has said this would be his last year at Arlington School, has expressed his desire for the children of Arlington and Harquahala to have a new school.

"We have five different funds trying to get you folks a school for nothing," Fletcher said.

The process of getting an architect and construction bids needs to be started soon to complete the school by June 30, 2002, Decker said. The Facilities Board is not likely to cut off funding if the school is at least under construction on that date, Boot added.

"There is no time and no need for an election," Decker said. "This is a decision the board has made and that they are empowered to make."

Beth Kristin Ott can be reached by e-mail at bott@westvalleyview.com



Going Shopping?



azcentral.com



search azcentral.com

azcentral.com

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC



the Rep

news sports money entertainment community computing home & garden travel & outdoors health casino

Community >

Community news and Valley map AZ Neighbors Obituaries Community Resources
Points of Interest Cultures AZ Traffic Information Airport Information Venues

community
news



SAVE
THIS



EMAIL
THIS



PRINT
THIS



MOST
POPULAR

communit
resource

Click on any city
below:

- Ahwatukee
- Apache Junction
- Carefree
- Cave Creek
- Chandler
 - Gilbert
- Glendale
- Paradise Valley
 - Peoria
 - Phoenix
 - Mesa
- Scottsdale
- Sun Cities
 - Tempe
- West Valley
- More Valley
news

Peoria flood plan preserves desert

David Madrid

The Arizona Republic

Jan. 19, 2002

Get a good rain and the floodwaters will rage through the desert.

But rather than building concrete channels to divert the water, Peoria plans to take a different approach by using the natural washes and channels to move the water.

So, as Peoria grows to the north, it is thoroughly addressing its flood-control measures with the North Peoria Area Drainage Master Plan.

The plan seeks to preserve the natural flood-control function of existing washes and channels, which in turn will minimize disturbances to the floodplain ecosystem and habitat.

The plan encompasses 73 square miles of the foothills area north of Jomax Road west of the Agua Fria River and south of Lake Pleasant Regional Park.

By using natural drainage patterns, the city figures it can save itself some money by avoiding construction and maintenance of man-made structures.

Dave Moody, Peoria's public works director, noted that although natural washes and channels will still need some maintenance, they won't need as much as man-made concrete structures would.

Debra Stark, director of community development, said the city wants to avoid concrete channels such as are used in Sun City and along 99th Avenue.

"The channel that runs along 99th Avenue is very functional and very useful, but it's not aesthetically nice," she said. "If you want to preserve and protect open space, that's not the way to go."

She acknowledged that there will be some locations where the use of concrete channels will be needed.

- Getting started
- Education
- Housing
- Traffic
- Attractions
- Police/Fire
- Cities/Counties
- Government
- Weather
- Support groups
- Kids
- Teens
- Miscellaneous
- Maricopa County
restaurant inspections

concrete channels will be needed.

The city, she said, is taking an overall view of flood control rather than approaching it piecemeal.

While the city addresses and designs its flood-control methods to the north, it will also take into account the effect of the water as it moves south.

That will be good news for residents, such as those belonging to the Westbrook Village Golf Club. The golf club sued the city last year, alleging that, because houses were built north of Beardsley Road between 83rd and 99th avenues, the land there cannot absorb even a minimum amount of rainfall.

The result, according to club officials, is that runoff floods the two golf courses.

Stark said the city plans to work with developers, landowners, residents and government entities such as the Flood Control District of Maricopa County to further develop and perfect its flood-control plan.

Reach the reporter at david.madrid@arizonarepublic.com or (602) 444-6926.



community main | community news and valley map | obituaries | points of interest | cultures az
traffic information | neighbors | newspapers in education | community resources | local venues

site map | azcentral.com main | news | sports | entertainment | money | community | computing
travel | home & garden | health | fun & games | classifieds | weather | maps

customer service | terms of service | send feedback about azcentral.com
subscribe to The Arizona Republic | Republic photo store | contact The Arizona Republic

Copyright 2002, azcentral.com. All rights reserved.
USA Today | Gannett Co. Inc. | Gannett Foundation | Real Cities Network



azcentral.com

#34

PRINT THIS

Sponsored by

World Champs
GEAR!

Residents worry about flood risks

By Christina Lucarotti

The Arizona Republic

March 22, 2002

The sky is clear, but DC Ranch residents are worried about rain.

The development's million-dollar homes, surrounded by rural desert, sit in a flood zone.

Monday night, 60 concerned citizens gathered for a geology lesson in alluvial fan floods, the type that, given the right circumstances, could destroy their Scottsdale neighborhood.

The meeting was the first of three meant to address the problem.

"I think there's a real need to do something in this area. Exactly what I'll let the experts propose," said Joel Goldstein, who organized the forum.

Last year, the Scottsdale City Council voted against the \$100 million Desert Greenbelt Project, which was aimed at flood control. After spending 10 years in the development stage, the project was rejected for reasons including the toll it would have taken on the environment.

Now residents say they are preparing themselves, be it with insurance or a pantry of emergency supplies, to be washed away in the event of a hundred-year flood.

"Anyone who thinks a hundred-year flood only happens every 100 years hasn't lived in Phoenix very long," said Simon Eisenberg, DC Ranch resident.

Eisenberg said the interest residents have in the issue is encouraging, but he was disappointed when the council rejected the Greenbelt project.

Looking beyond the long-dead proposal, Charley Freericks, vice president of the DC Ranch development, said he thinks the experts might find a better way for flood control.

"It's a complex problem," Freericks said. "We keep hoping the technical folks will come to an agreement on how to deal with it."



Joseph Tram and Joe Munoz of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County led Monday's forum, titled "Flood Appraisalment of our Neighborhoods."

The next meeting, "Flood Insurance and FEMA: What is and is not covered," is scheduled for 7 p.m. April 25 at 9260 E. Desert Camp Drive.

Links referenced within this article

Find this article at:

<http://www.arizonarepublic.com/northeastvalley/articles/0322Greenbelt0322Z7.html>

Uncheck the box to remove the list of links referenced in the article.



#35

Officials mull flood-control alternatives

Plan needed to prevent potentially severe flooding, property damage

By Tom Barry
Independent Newspapers

In the event of a 100-year flood Scottsdale Road, the main north-south transportation artery in the Northeast Valley, would be rendered virtually useless, according to officials.

What's more, many homes, businesses, schools and other property in a 10 square-mile area of North Scottsdale, Northeast Phoenix and Paradise Valley could suffer moderate to severe damage from heavy storm runoff.

"Quite frankly, we've been fortunate that there hasn't been a 100-year flood," says Afshin Ahouraiyan, project manager for the Flood Control District of Maricopa County. "But there is a very real likelihood that it will occur at some time in the future."

In June, the district will present its recommendation for a regional flood control plan to help mitigate the potential for damage in the flood-prone area.

The primary focus area is the Scottsdale Road drainage corridor, which straddles Scottsdale Road and extends from Thunderbird Road on the north to Indian Bend Wash in Paradise Valley to the south.

The Scottsdale Road Corridor Drainage Master Plan is an outgrowth of more than a year of study undertaken by the Flood Control District and the City of Scottsdale. Phoenix and the Town of Paradise Valley are also participating in the development of a final master plan.

On March 19, district and city officials held the second of three public meetings at which they presented five alternative flood-control plans.

The plans range in scope from one that would afford protection to 84 parcels of property from a 100-year flood at an estimated cost of nearly \$42 million, to a more modest version that would only protect 26 parcels against a 10-year flood at a cost of about \$10 million.

Rainfall from a 100-year or 10-year storm yield 3.2 and 2 inches of rain, respectively. With most of the rain falling within a two-hour period, some low-lying areas could experience as much as two feet of water.

"These solutions offer varying degrees of flood protection, which are contingent on costs, impacts to the community, possible land acquisition, and the availability of funds," Mr. Ahouraiyan explained.

The final alternative would provide no added flood-control improvements whatsoever. It is an option that, officials warn, would leave property owners vulnerable in more than one way.

Failure to implement flood-control improvements also could result in the area being officially designated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a flood plain, and homeowners and businesses would be required to obtain costly flood insurance,

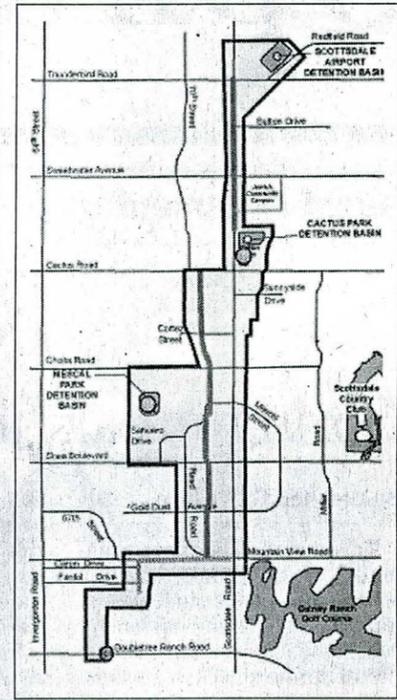


Photo by Tom Barry/Independent Newspapers

In this October 2000 photo, floodwaters rage through the Scottsdale Road Channel, just south of Sutton Drive. The map at right indicates the Scottsdale Road Corridor Drainage Master Plan area.

explained Bob Johnson, a Scottsdale city planner.

"There are several weak links in the existing drainage system which are not capable of controlling even minor storm runoff," Mr. Ahouraiyan said.

He said the existing system of culverts, storm drains, detention basins, channels and floodwalls were built over a period of about 30 years without a comprehensive plan.

"We can no longer piece-meal it, as has been done in the past," said Scott Buchanan of Phoenix-based Stanley Consultants, which will help

design and engineer the final master plan for the Flood Control District.

Over the years, budget constraints, available rights-of-way, jurisdictional priorities, and other factors imposed limitations on drainage systems in the area, he said.

Mr. Johnson said implementation of the final master plan will be contingent on the availability of funds from the various local governments and agencies participating in the project. Financing may come from bond issues, municipal budgets, property tax revenue, or a combina-

tion of several sources.

The public can review the Scottsdale Road Corridor Master Plan by visiting the project web site at www.scottsdaleroadCDMP.com. Written public comments will be accepted until March 29, and may be mailed to Afshin Ahouraiyan, Project Manager, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, 2801 W. Durango Ave., Phoenix 85009.

For more information, call Mr. Ahouraiyan, (602) 506-1501, or Scott Buchanan, Stanley Consultants Inc., (602) 912-6500.

New River residents get look at new flood plain study

A/10/02

By Heidi Dahms
Canyon Country News

The Maricopa County Flood Control District hopes to protect people and property from flooding with its recently completed floodplain delineation study of the New River area.

Residents got an opportunity to look at the study at an open house at New River Elementary School last Tuesday.

According to information from the district, it looked at rainfall and runoff histories to determine peak flooding and flood depths, did extensive surveying and aerial mapping and analyzed drainage factors such as slope, vegetation, soil composition, and land use to develop a detailed topographic map.

The district put in a lot of advance work for two reasons – to protect the public from injury during flooding, and to minimize property damage while obtaining discounts on flood insurance rates.

“We are charged with protecting the public. The Federal Government has determined that it’s cheaper to prevent damage and injury than to come in afterwards. We’re trying to protect people ahead of the flooding. We do that in a variety of ways, from regulation and education to building (flood control) struc-

tures,” said Flood Control District spokeswoman Angeline Fowler.

Previously, the district focused its efforts on the design and installation of flood control structures. But after 1990, according to district flood control information, the county focused its efforts on keeping people and buildings out of areas that are prone to flooding.

Now, people who own property in a flood plain must obtain a Floodplain Use Permit before they build, and even before they grade or install fencing. The district aims this regulation at minimizing potential damage to the owners’ property as well as to neighboring land owners upstream or downstream.

Dave Degerness, hydrologist for the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, said, “The project entailed floodplain mapping for the 100-year, 24-hour flood event from approximately 1/4 mile downstream of the I-17 bridges that span New River to 1/3 mile upstream of the New River School. We also mapped the floodplain for the local wash called Black Wash, which is situated between the Road Runner Cafe and the old Jackass Acres.

“The floodplain for New River did not change much from the previous floodplain study which

“We actually outline where the flood plain areas are so we can tell people, ‘You are living in a flood plain and this is not necessarily a safe place to live.’” - Maricopa County Flood Control District spokeswoman Angeline Fowler.

was completed in 1987 and is shown on the current FEMA flood insurance rate maps. The Black Wash floodplain varies from 300 feet to as little as 50 feet wide,” he said.

Degerness said the study affects approximately 16 current structures, but there are numerous parcels within the floodplain area.

The area hasn’t seen a significant flooding event in the past several years, Degerness said.

“The last event of any size that occurred in the vicinity was recorded by the USGS at Rock Springs on July 15, 1999,” he said. “The flow was 526 cfs (cubic feet per second), much less than the estimated two-year recurrence interval of 2,380 cfs for this station.

“The largest flow in recent times at the Rock Springs gauging site was 12,600 cfs which occurred on January 8, 1993. This flow would roughly be the 10 year event. The Flood Control’s 100-year, 24-hour flow is 34,000 cfs at New River,” he

said.

Fowler said the district uses the study to inform people who now live in a flood plain, or those who are considering buying or building a home there.

“We actually outline where the flood plain areas are so we can tell people, ‘You are living in a flood plain and this is not necessarily a safe place to live,’” she said.

The floodplain delineation study outlines the boundaries of the flood plain in the New River area within the criteria of hundred year flood events, Fowler said.

“That means there is a one percent chance each year of that storm happening. FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) creates those boundaries. There are smaller and larger storms, but this is the standard we protect to,” she said. FEMA uses data from the studies like the one the county unveiled last week to upgrade flood insurance rate maps.

Realtors who sell homes in

the delineated flood plain areas reveal that information to prospective buyers, Fowler said, and people who buy or build there must carry flood insurance if they carry a mortgage from a federal lender. The information will also appear on the home’s title.

Conversely, if a homeowner does not carry a mortgage on the property, or is not living in a flood plain, they don’t have to carry the insurance. However, if the property owner wants to refinance or borrow money to upgrade the property, he will have to purchase flood insurance.

“Sometimes we would advise (homeowners) to buy the insurance, but it’s only required if they live in the (delineated) area,” Fowler said.

Homeowners who live in a flood plain may obtain coverage from the National Flood Insurance Program. The agency provides coverage in communities that adopt and enforce floodplain management ordinances to reduce flood damage. The NFIP’s rating system awards discounts for communities that exceed program standards. According to district information, Maricopa County is now at Level 5, allowing residents

#30



Monday, April 22, 2002 • Current temperature: 83°F

#37

NEWS UPDATE

Bill that could split Maricopa County fails THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A push to make it easier for the Mesa area to split off from the rest of Maricopa County appears dead for the current legislative session.

With members saying a split was more involved than it seemed at first blush, a Senate committee today voted 4-0 against a bill which had been approved 33-22 by the House.

The bill (HB2121) would have applied only to Maricopa County and required a public vote for a split to actually occur.

Under the bill, a split would have to be approved by at least 20 percent of the portion of the county that would remain in the original county and at least 50 percent in the portion that would be split off.

Current law requires approval by at least 50 percent in both portions.

Some supporters of splitting off the so-called "East Valley" from the rest of Maricopa County contend that their area has not gotten its fair share of dollars and attention from county government.

However, the bill's sponsor, Rep. Gary Pierce, said he was mainly interested in trying to save money for taxpayers by having a leaner county government in an area with fewer needs for county services.

"You don't need to duplicate building and safety. You don't need to duplicate planning and zoning," said Pierce, R-Mesa. "I believe you can cut costs so much."

Those testifying against the bill during Monday's hearing include the County Supervisors Association of Arizona. Though the bill only applies to Maricopa County, "the other counties all felt this sets a bad precedent," said association lobbyist Alan Ecker.

Rory Hays, representing the Maricopa County Flood Control District, said the bill ignores that the county supervisors also serve as board members for special districts.

There would be chaos unless that's fixed, she said. Sen. Brenda Burns, R-Glendale, said that illustrated that the process of a split hasn't been thought out enough.

"We'd have to make a sweep of the statutes and make a lot of changes," she said.

Pierce said after the hearing that if he introduces similar legislation next year, it will have to have more details spelled

#38

East Mesa

INDEPENDENT

25 CENTS

COVERING THE NEWS OF EAST MESA

WEEK OF APRIL 30, 2002

Flood-control alternative to be revealed to public

By Richard H. Dyer
Independent Newspapers

Home owners will get a look Wednesday at a \$34.5 million plan for flood-control pipes, culverts and water-detention basins to protect land in northeast Mesa. It will protect property south of McDowell and Hawes from a 100-year-flood — one that dumps more than three inches of rain in a 24-hour period.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County is hosting a public meeting on the Spook

Hill Area Drainage Master Plan 6:30-8 p.m. May 1 in the Community Room at Mesa Community College at Red Mountain, 2305 N. Power Road. A presentation is planned at 6:45 p.m.

The flood-control district's study team and city of Mesa staff members are in agreement with a citizens committee's recommendation on a preferred plan. The Mesa City Council discussed the proposal March 28, but agreed to postpone approval until residents can review it.

"Once this plan gets approved ... we ask for a resolution to give us authorization to go ahead and do advance land acquisition and to negotiate IGA's (intergovernmental agreements) and such. Once that gets approved, then it shows up in the title search for any property, saying there is a plan out in this area," Afshin Ahouraiyan, flood-control district project manager, said to the council March 28.

Funding for a project would come from the Flood Control District of Maricopa County,

OPINIONS SOUGHT

Should taxpayers fund a \$34.5 million flood control project in northeast Mesa? Why or why not? Call *East Mesa Independent's* anonymous Speak Out line at (623) 445-2850 ext. 2, send an e-mail message to Rdyer@aol.com, or write a letter to the editor.

which levies taxes on property at 23 cents per \$100 assessed valuation; and the city of Mesa. Officials said the work would be done in phases.

The plan to be recommended to the Mesa City Council and the board of the Flood Control

See ■ FLOOD, Page 3

■ FLOOD

From Page 1

District of Maricopa County would construct an underground pipe/box on McKellips and McDowell roads from 76th Street to Hawes Road, on Hawes from Range Rider Trail to Oak and south of McKellips to Hermosa Vista, on Oak from Hawes to 87th Street, on 88th Street from Palm Lane to McDowell and southeast, and at McDowell and Usery Pass Road and south to Ellsworth Road; detention basins on the northeast corner of Hawes and Oak, 88th and McDowell and Usery Pass and McKellips, and on the northwest corner of McDowell and Usery Pass and 76th Street and McDowell Road; and improve an open channel from Brown and Usery Pass Road, southwest 2,350 feet along the Signal Butte Floodway.

Four flood-control alternatives costing \$22 million to \$34 million were shown to the public at a meeting Jan. 10. They were distinguished by colors — red, yellow, blue and green — and had varying levels of flood protection.

Mesa Mayor Keno Hawker on March 28 asked if there was a back-up strategy if full funding was not available.

"We didn't actually create a back-up strategy, but the committee preferred the green, and the results from the citizens ... strongly preferred the green

alternative. The problem is, it does not provide any protection for the area to the east of Ellsworth Road, and our charge was to try to provide maximum flood protection," Bill Puffer, a member of the citizens committee, said.

"I would like to go with the citizens' recommendation. But I also know that if we get into real financial constraints, I don't want the same citizens coming back and saying, 'You said \$34 million was going to be appropriated and now you're backing off,'" Mayor Hawker said.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County proposed several projects last year, but local residents were against plans to build structures in the Usery Mountain Recreation Area.

An advisory group of local residents was chosen by the Mesa City Council to look at alternatives to protect property in the Spook Hill Area Drainage Master Plan, which encompasses 35 square miles from Power Road in east Mesa to Highway 88 in Apache Junction, from the base of the Goldfield Mountains to approximately Superstition Boulevard.

The committee had four criteria when studying flood-control devices: do not impact Usery Mountain Recreation Area, do not displace residences, provide maximum flood control, and

provide a cost-effective solution.

Mr. Puffer made several recommendations March 28 on protecting land in northeast Mesa, including: preserve and reuse vegetation; maintain flows in existing washes; exclude motorized vehicles from basins; coordinate construction activities; enforce existing rules; provide for flows across roadways; educate property owners on drainage rules; and resolve current flood problems downstream of development.

For more information on the Spook Hill Area Drainage Master Plan, write to Afshin Ahouraiyan, project manager, at Flood Control District of Maricopa County, 2801 W. Durango Street, Phoenix, AZ 85009-6399, or e-mail afa@mail.maricopa.gov; or fax it to him at (602) 506-1501. For more information, check out the Web site at www.spookhilladmp.com.

Mr. Puffer told the Mesa City Council March 28 that the citizens committee would like to continue to provide recommendations on flood-control issues in northeast Mesa.

"We would like to continue to have some input, whether it is as a formal committee or some other approach," he said. We feel better about having some say in what happens in the area that we live in."

Sunnyslope houses residents, homeless

By **MIKE FIMEA**
Arizona Business Gazette

First of two parts

The first thing you notice is the smell.

Under the Cave Creek Road overpass, the 10th Street Wash in Sunnyslope is awash with a sea of human detritus: cardboard boxes, dirty clothes, a half-full jar of pickles, a girlie magazine with a torn cover.

But that smell ... you're pretty sure what it is, but you'd rather not say.

"At night, this wash is like a freeway for the homeless," said Phoenix police Officer Rodney Mindrup, a 28-year veteran of the force. "They come through here and copulate, defecate and urinate.

"We can chase them out but they just move elsewhere. It's like we're putting a Band-Aid on the problem without any ointment to help the wound heal."

The wound is a persistent homeless population in Sunnyslope, an older area of north Phoenix bounded by 12th Street and 19th, Dunlap and Peoria avenues.

A geographic fluke — a network of arroyos connecting North Mountain Park and the Phoenix Mountain Preserve — have combined with the usual social pressures to make Sunnyslope attractive for those whose lives have bottomed out.

"People don't understand the variety of people who live here," Mindrup said.

"I can show you \$2 million houses in the mountains, people living out of cardboard boxes, and drunks sleeping behind bus stops. It's a conflict of lifestyles caused by economic differences."

Between 350 and 450 residents of Sunnyslope are homeless, Mindrup said. Many of them work day-labor jobs that



Mike Fimea/Arizona Business Gazette

Phoenix police officers Jim Neverman (left) and Rodney Mindrup stand inside a popular gathering spot for Sunnyslope's homeless: an underpass near Cave Creek and Mountain View roads.

pay \$30 to \$35 per day.

But others wander the streets collecting cans, stealing copper tubing off air-conditioning units, or ducking into a wash to take care of personal business.

Mindrup pulls his cruiser up to a wash near 11th Street and Vogel Avenue, a few blocks north of Dunlap. Intending to show his passenger the result of a recent cleanup effort, he instead spots a disheveled man about 50 feet away.

Standing under a paloverde tree, the man's pants are pulled down to mid-thigh. He turns his head, jerks his pants back up, and slowly ambles out of the wash.

"I'll go somewhere else," he says sheepishly, adjusting a dirty Diamondbacks' cap.

Mindrup says little, watching the man shuffle past the cruiser and continue along Vogel.

"After a while, you come to an understanding that you won't resolve all the problems of society," Mindrup said. "You just make little dents and you try to keep up."

The dark side of the human condition was the last thing on William Norton's mind when he

took his daughter, Sylvia, on a horse-and-buggy trip in 1907.

Norton, a Phoenix architect, wanted to see the desert surrounding the then-tiny town. As the buggy approached North Mountain, about 10 miles from downtown, Sylvia gazed at the hill and remarked "what a pretty, sunny slope."

"That's how we got our name," said Connie Kraemer, co-founder and former president of the Sunnyslope Historical Society.

Norton, a recovering tuberculosis patient, built the first home in Sunnyslope and laid out the first subdivision in 1911. By 1927, the First Presbyterian Church had established its Desert Mission in the area.

The facility provided religious and social services and was part of a support network that came to include three tuberculosis sanitariums.

"It was better for patients to be (in Sunnyslope) because the air was a little drier," Kraemer said. "There was no irrigation because it was north of the Arizona Canal."

Sunnyslope didn't become part of Phoenix until 1959, after four incorporation attempts

failed. That was the same year Connie and her husband moved to the area. The Kraemers still live in the house they bought in 1959 and Connie needs little prompting to extol Sunnyslope's virtues.

She talks excitedly about a historical museum planned for a building near Seventh Street and Hatcher Road that once housed Peoples' Drug Store. When it opened in 1953, Connie says, it was first drugstore in the country with a drive-through window.

"This is a beautiful community, like a little hometown in the big city," she said. "You have the mountain ranges, the little mom-and-pop businesses, and you know your neighbors."

Mindrup pulls his cruiser along the Arizona Canal west of Seventh Avenue. He points first to a man sitting next to an overloaded shopping cart, then to a narrower canal just to the north, ringed by a wrought-iron fence.

"That's the CAP flood-control canal," Mindrup said. "That guy will move down there to sleep tonight because he knows the cops can't get in. The federal government controls access to

the CAP canal; it's a situation unique to this area."

The cruiser reaches 19th Avenue, the western border of Sunnyslope. Mindrup heads north a few blocks, then turns east on Mountain View. The neighborhood is in advanced blight mode, complete with boarded-up windows, broken-down vehicles, and vagrants sleeping in the alleys.

"That's an active drug house," Mindrup says as he passes a residence with a large American flag hanging from a pole in the front yard.

"This side of Sunnyslope has been allowed to run down more. The homeless will go back and forth between here and the east side all day long."

Among the ruins, though, signs of recovery are evident in the neighborhood. An apartment complex near 13th and Vogel avenues is being rehabbed into a transitional house for recovering drug users. And less than a half-mile away is a Buddhist temple.

"I helped them carry their Buddha into the temple," Mindrup said. "Nobody knows it's here."

Mindrup's daily beat is defined by the ongoing tension between Sunnyslope's permanent residents and those who roam the streets and occupy the arroyos. The situation is not without irony.

"Some of the homeless will come to our community meetings. They bring their backpacks with them," Mindrup said.

"You can't deny them coming in there because they are residents, even if they don't have a fixed address."

Next week: A federal grant from the Justice Department helps Sunnyslope address homelessness and related neighborhood issues.

#139

#40

Thirteen Skunk Creek landowners facing buyouts

by Caleb Soptelean

NEW RIVER – Some 13 local property owners who live within the Skunk Creek Floodway were recently offered buyouts by the Flood Control District of Maricopa County. The homeowners, whose

properties are located along Skunk Creek Wash from Joy Ranch Road on the south to Circle Mountain Road on the north, have been targeted for voluntary buyouts because their land is located inside the wash's 100-year floodway. The estimated cost of the land buyouts is \$2.8 million.

buyouts are eligible for up to \$22,500 in additional relocation assistance. There is a one-percent chance a 100-year flood will occur in any given year.

Investigation by *The Desert Advocate* reveals that at least one of the 13 property owners

Residents who accept the

Skunk Creek
Please see page 15



Joe and his dog

Long-time New River resident Joe Hines is pictured next to Skunk Creek Wash with his 16-year-old Chinese Pug named Trap. Hines is one of 13 landowners targeted for a buyout by Flood Control due to their property lying in the floodway.

Photo by Caleb Soptelean

5/15/02 Desert Advocate

Skunk Creek buyout *Cont...*

will decline the buyout offer. One will reportedly accept the offer and several are undecided, while others could not be reached for comment.

Charles Selleys, a 68-year-old resident who has lived at his Third Avenue home for over 30 years, says flatly that he won't sell. "I'm an old man, and I don't want to move," he said. Selleys is married and notes that his nearly nine acres of land is owned by a family trust. When he dies, his house will be used by his wife or children, he said.

Dave Caldwell, who owns 4.7 acres on Third Avenue, a dirt road, has apparently accepted an offer of \$225,000.

Joe Hines, 65, another longtime New River resident who's lived in the area 32 years, said he's undecided about selling, and plans on obtaining another appraisal after the county's appraiser low-balled him.

"I have five acres with a custom energy-efficient home," Hines said, adding \$210,000 is not a fair price. "They sent out a Scottsdale appraiser. I don't think he's ever seen dirt. He's an educated idiot. He didn't give me credit for a heat pump and carport, dual-pane windows or shade screens. He says we're growing at six percent a year, when the (property value) figures I've seen show us increasing by 12 percent."

Hines said he has 45 days to accept, reject or negotiate the county's offer, which was made in mid-April.

Flood Control's computer model, said Hines, predicts he'll have four feet of water in his house if a 100-year flood occurs. According to Flood Control, there is less than one hour response time for those who live in the floodway if a flood occurs.

Wanda Sartain, who owns 2.7 acres along with her husband Perry, says she's undecided about whether she'll accept the offer. "I'm being ripped off," she said, noting she was offered \$82,600 and her recently-assessed 2003 property value is \$108,000.

Maricopa County Flood Control approved the Skunk Creek Watercourse Master Plan on April 17, 2002.

Arizona Revised Statutes requires Flood Control identify flood problems and prepare plans to eliminate or minimize these problems by implementing flood hazard mitigation

programs. The Flood Control District was authorized to undertake the Skunk Creek Watercourse Master Plan study in June 1999, which identified a non-encroachment area which is effectively the FEMA, or Federal Emergency Management Agency, 100-year floodway and a lateral migration erosion hazard zone.

In addition to land buyouts, Flood Control is also implementing a no-build zone for undeveloped land in the floodway, a limited-build zone for the erosion control zone, and a flood warning system whereby residents who live in the floodway or erosion control zone will be alerted to a potential flooding of their property by weather radio or pager. Flood Control will also be formulating an Area Drainage Master Plan over the next several years, and will be preparing a monitoring and maintenance program for the watershed.

"We hope that we have provided a solution for the Skunk Creek residents that fits with their wants and needs," said project manager Marilyn DeRosa. "We have created solutions that not only protect lives and property, but preserve the floodplain for future residents and generations.

"These homeowners reside in a high-hazard area. We realize that they have lived in this area for many years and that they are very attached to their property and land. However, it just isn't safe to live there. We are making every effort to keep these people safe and make this transition as easy as it possibly can be."

Flood Control considers its

buyout program and related measures a more "natural approach" to flood control. The more traditional approach, with costs projected at \$12 million, would have included building dams, channels and culverts. The more natural alternative, in contrast,

preserves wildlife habitat and reduces the amount of property affected.

"The acquisition of homes is a unique approach to floodplain management," said DeRosa. "It is the best approach for everybody. Not only is it the best approach for

public safety, it saves tax dollars and helps protect the natural desert environment."

For more information, contact DeRosa at 602-506-4766 or Public Information Officer Angeline Fowler at 602-506-6762.

#41

Flood Control District to involve Carefree residents in Drainage

CAREFREE – Over the past nine months, the Flood Control District of Maricopa County has been working with the Town of Carefree on the first phase of a Town Drainage

Master Plan, collecting information about area drainage, erosion, and sedimentation problems. Once completed, the plan should give area residents greater safety during flooding

and should reduce area drainage problems.

Residents will have the opportunity to attend an Open House highlighting the completion of the plan's first phase

on Wednesday, May 22, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Carefree Town Hall. At the meeting, the District will present information about the problems already identified. This data collection will provide the basis for future drainage planning and the creation of solutions.

"Although providing a safe environment for residents is the primary goal of the Flood Control District in this project, the end result should be a cost savings for taxpayers and provide reduced risk and inconvenience for anyone traveling during flooding events," said Mike Ellegood, District Chief Engineer/General Manager.

The study encompasses the entire Town of Carefree and covers approximately 20 square miles.

"Through field trips and information from both citizens and the Town, the District has identified 46 problem drainage areas in Carefree, of which 20 require further analysis before the District can generate possible solutions," said Doug Williams, project manager. "It is important that the public come out to the meeting and

look over the information we have collected. We want to make sure that we haven't missed any glaring area problems, before we start looking at solutions."

As part of the Drainage Master Plan, the study team is also conducting approximately 10 linear miles of floodplain delineations on six area washes, one of which is the North Galloway Wash. The others are unnamed at this time.

"By delineating these washes, the District can help protect public safety in those areas and provide the residents with a more accurate picture of the area flood hazards," said Williams.

In addition, the District will also present residents with a conceptual solution of how the District plans to address the problems, which could include road crossing improvements, development drainage guidelines and localized structures.

One of the key issues with drainage and flooding in Carefree is sediment and possible erosion. In foothills areas, sediment moves quickly through the washes, creating deposits and scouring. Sediment also blocks culverts and dip road crossings, thus creating a significant change in water direction and velocity, and creating additional erosion and undercutting in many of the washes and crossings.

"Sedimentation has a large monetary impact on the town, in terms of maintenance," said Williams. "Every year crews have to remove sediment from road crossings, which can create major maintenance headaches and an area hazard."

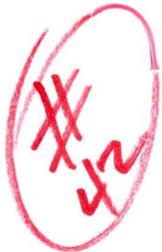
The Carefree watershed also has the potential for a significant amount of flow in a flooding event.

"Although this flooding hasn't occurred in recent years, when it does it will catch many residents by surprise and could have a major effect on public safety," said Linda Johnson, Associate Project Manager for the CH2MHILL Consulting Engineers. "This general area has some highly complex erosion and drainage issues, which could have a significant effect downstream through this watershed."

The May 22 meeting will be the second such meeting for the Carefree Drainage Master Plan. Once the public has provided input on the data collected, the planning team will analyze the data and formulate a series of alternatives to address the problems. The alternatives should be presented to the community in the Fall of 2002.

Once the plan is completed at the end of the year, the Town of Carefree will be responsible for implementation and costs.

For more information, contact Doug Williams at 602-506-8743 or email daw@mail.maricopa.gov.



Flood-control plans get citizens' OK at meeting

By Richard H. Dyer
Independent Newspapers

A \$34.5 million project for flood-control pipes, culverts and water-detention basins to protect land in northeast Mesa was accepted by a majority of citizens at a May 1 meeting, a county official said. The project will protect property south of McDowell and Hawes from a 100-year-flood — one that dumps more than three inches of rain in a 24-hour period.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County hosted a public meeting on the Spook Hill Area Drainage Master Plan in the Community Room at Mesa Community College at Red Mountain, 2305 N. Power Road. County Supervisor Don Stapley spoke at the meeting.

Most of the 75 people at the meeting approved of the plan, said Angeline Fowler, the flood control district's public information officer. Many of the citizens had not attended other meetings on the plan, she said.

"A lot of new faces. The real sense in the room was no negativity; a lot of questions and answers," she said.

About one-half of the 75 who attended the meeting filled out comment sheets, Ms. Fowler said.

"They were generally favorable — for many it was the first time they had seen the plan. There was a pretty good consensus from the people. Everybody

seemed to be on the same page."

The Mesa City Council and the flood control district board will review the plan and make a recommendation to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors within three months, she said.

"They'll start the negotiations with the city for funding.... They'll rank items with all other projects, attach funds, (and

decide) when to design and when to construct," she said.

A flood-control district study team and city of Mesa staff members are in agreement with a citizens committee's recommendation on a preferred plan. The Mesa City

OPINIONS SOUGHT

The majority of 75 citizens who attended a meeting May 1 on a \$34.5 million flood control project in northeast Mesa accepted the plan, a county official said. Do you agree with those who attended the meeting? Why or why not? Call East Mesa Independent's anonymous Speak Out line at (623) 445-2850 ext. 2, send an e-mail message to Rrdyer@aol.com, or write a letter to the editor.

Council discussed the proposal March 28, but agreed to postpone approval until residents could review it.

Funding for a project would come from the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, which levies taxes on property at 23 cents per \$100 assessed valuation; and the city of Mesa. Officials said the work would be done in phases.

The plan would construct an underground pipe/box on McKellips and McDowell roads from 76th Street to Hawes Road, on Hawes from Range Rider Trail to Oak and south of McKellips to Hermosa Vista, on Oak from Hawes to 87th Street, on 88th Street from Palm Lane to McDowell and southeast, and at McDowell and Usery Pass roads

■ FLOOD

See ■ FLOOD, Page 3

From Page 1

and south to Ellsworth Road; detention basins on the northeast corner of Hawes and Oak, 88th and McDowell and Usery Pass and McKellips, and on the northwest corner of McDowell and Usery Pass and 76th Street and McDowell Road; and improve an open channel from Brown and Usery Pass roads southwest 2,350 feet along the Signal Butte Floodway.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County proposed sev-

eral projects last year, but local residents were against plans to build structures in the Usery Mountain Recreation Area.

An advisory group of local residents was chosen by the Mesa City Council to look at alternatives to protect property in the Spook Hill Area Drainage Master Plan, which encompasses 35 square miles from Power Road in east Mesa to Highway 88 in Apache Junction, from the base of the Goldfield Mountains

to approximately Superstition Boulevard.

The committee had four criteria when studying flood-control devices: do not impact Usery Mountain Recreation Area, do not displace residences, provide maximum flood control, and provide a cost-effective solution. Four flood-control alternatives costing \$22 million to \$34 million were shown to the public at a meeting Jan. 10. They had varying levels of flood protec-

tion.

For more information on the Spook Hill Area Drainage Master Plan, write to Afshin Ahouraiyan, project manager, at Flood Control District of Maricopa County, 2801 W. Durango Street, Phoenix, AZ 85009-6399; send an e-mail to afa@mail.maricopa.gov; or fax it to him at (602) 506-4519. For more information, check out the Web site at www.spookhilladmp.com.

#43

Residents of local flood hazard areas to receive 25-percent discount on flood insurance

MARICOPA COUNTY – The Maricopa County Flood Control District is now in the top one percent of floodplain management agencies in the United States, and as a result, residents living in special flood hazard areas of unincorporated Maricopa County will now receive a 25-percent discount on their flood insurance premiums.

The District is now rated a Class 5 agency by the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System. Currently over 900 communities participate in the program. "When the District joined the program in 1991, we were rated as a Class 9," said Shanna Yager, District CRS Program Coordinator. "Each year we improve and implement new programs to keep the public safe. We're aiming for a Class 4 next year."

The National Flood Insurance Program helps reduce flood damage by nearly \$800 million a year. Buildings constructed in compliance with NFIP building standards suffer approximately 80 percent less damage annually than those not built in compliance. Every \$3 paid in flood insurance claims saves \$1 in disaster assistance payments.

For more information on the NFIP, contact Flood Control Public Information Officer at 602-506-6762.

Off-road vehicles destroying flood control mechanisms in N.W. Valley

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County estimates that recent damage to the Northwest Valley's McMicken Dam by off-road vehicles, ATVs, and motorcycles could cost County residents thousands of dollars.

Local residents are using McMicken Dam and its surrounding flood protection land as a recreation site. In the process, vegetation and various flood control mechanisms which are vitally important to the flood protection of the Northwest Valley are being destroyed.

District 4 Supvr. Jan Brewer stated, "The reality we face is that our flood control facilities and desert open spaces are being severely damaged by continued use of ATVs and motorcycles. The scars left behind are long-lasting." She added that "addi-

tionally, the dust that is raised by these vehicles also has been shown to directly impact our air quality." McMicken Dam is located in Brewer's District.

Over the past year the dam, which is located in the Surprise city limits to the north of Bell Road, has lost 50 percent of its vegetation on the dam itself and in the low flow channel that runs alongside.

"The majority of people don't realize that they are doing anything wrong. It only takes one person to cut the fence and then everyone follows. I'm sure these people don't realize that their recreational activities could be affecting the safety of Valley residents," said Joe Munoz, Flood Control District public information manager.

According to Flood Control District Landscape Architect Dennis Holcomb, the maintenance of native desert vegetation is incredibly important to flood control. Not only does the vegetation aid in erosion control and bank stabilization, the vegetation also absorbs and reduces water runoff, and helps with dust control.

In addition, the vegetation provides cover and habitat for a variety of desert wildlife species which use this area as a major wildlife corridor.

Damage to this area also affects the safety and pocket-books of all Maricopa County property owners. The Flood Control District is funded in part by residents' property taxes and thus

residents directly pay to fix the damage inflicted on this area.

This problem isn't just affecting our land and flood control areas in the Northwest Valley. Similar activities are occurring throughout the county, particularly on sites in the far East Valley. As development increases, off-road vehicle activities are moving farther and farther out of the city, trying to find land for this activity.

"Desert vegetation is very slow growing and recovery will take many years," Holcomb said. "The scars and impacts of off-road vehicle recreation may be evident for many years to come."

Nearly 6,000 acres of land west of McMicken Dam is owned and managed by the Flood Control District. This area is fenced and posted with signs that prominently display ownership and penalty.

From this point on, under Arizona Revised Statute 13-1502, individuals and groups found trespassing on Flood Control property will be cited and fined. If individuals are found to have caused damage to the land, they will be cited under ARS 13-1602 for criminal damage.

Land is available for activities such as these. In fact, the Arizona State Land department issues Recreational Use Permits that allow individuals, families, and groups to utilize state trust land for environmentally compatible recreational activities. Off-road vehicular travel is allowed in established roads and trails.

For more information about the Flood Control District or this issue, contact the Flood Control Public Information Office at (602) 506-6762.

Scottsdale / E.V.
Tribune
6/13/02

#45

Tribune
6/13/02

Story should have mentioned greenbelt foes

Re "Flood warning worries" (Tribune, June 8):

Any future reporting on the issue of flood control in north Scottsdale should at least consider the scores of citizens who carefully researched and appropriately trashed the city's original proposal for a \$100 million Desert Greenbelt in the far north reaches of Scottsdale during a large public testimony in December 2000.

Citizen arguments, not the expert testimony of retired flood control engineers, prompted the quick and humane death of the original \$100 million water-control boondoggle. In fact, the arguments provided by numerous neighborhood groups were so rational and convincing, most would logically expect that all future discussion of the project — whether considering the previous or current flood mitigation concepts — include a fair and balanced reporting of all the issues considered during the previous deliberations.

The Tribune article scarcely mentioned the crowds of greenbelt opponents, leave alone the arguments brought

forward by these concerned groups of taxpaying citizens. Opponents believed a "disastrous major event" would never happen, the article continues. This is an incorrect assertion. In fact, nobody ever questioned the possibility of such a flood over the next 100 years and no presenter in December 2000 (pro or con) argued this point. But, one interesting scenario was raised during those discussions: What if we citizens had paid \$100 million to protect against a 100-year flood and this very land in question suddenly got hit with a 200-year, or a 500-year flood? Why only protect against a 100-year flood?

If our officials and experts are so concerned about the risks of a 100-year flood and the subsequent impact on our safety and well-being, why aren't we equally concerned about the serious impacts inherent in a 100-year drought? Each of these natural disasters has a statistically equal likelihood of occurring west of the McDowell Mountains.

**Tim Montgomery, chairman
People First 2002
Scottsdale**

#46

At A Glance

6/12/02

Flood control hearing will be held June 19

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County will hold a public hearing June 19 on its proposed Scottsdale Road Corridor Drainage Master Plan.

The meeting will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Scottsdale Airport Terminal, located at Butherus and North Airport drives.

Several plans were presented at a hearing in March to address flood control mitigation alternatives for the Scottsdale Road Corridor, which includes portions of Scottsdale, Phoenix and Paradise Valley. The upcoming hearing will help choose a final alternative, said Afshin Ahouraiyan, project manager for the Flood Control District.

For more information, call (602) 506-1501 or visit www.scottsdaleroad-CDMP.com.

#47

Flood-control channel OK'd near White Tanks

6/19/02

By Marty Sauerzopf
The Arizona Republic

Fearing that a major storm could send floodwaters into neighborhoods near the White Tank Mountains, Maricopa County will soon begin building a \$3.5 million flood channel to protect residents.

County officials said a major downpour could overburden the White Tanks North Inlet Channel and create a major flood hazard between Olive and Glendale avenues near Perryville Road.

"It is important for us to remember that while it does not rain often in the desert, when it does, severe flooding can occur," said Valerie Swick, project manager for the county's Flood Control District.

After a series of meetings with residents, the district has decided to build a new flood control channel between Olive and Northern avenues on the eastern side of the Beardsley Canal.

The project will include culverts to carry floodwater to the eastern side of the canal and will create a recreation corridor that could in-

Flood control channel

The county wants to bolster its flood control system near the White Tank Mountains.



Jeanne Hernández/The Arizona Republic

clude hiking and equestrian trails.

Swick said the channel was the least expensive of a number of alternatives considered for the area. It will also have the lowest construction impact.

The county is doing preliminary design work this month, then will try to identify how the project will be paid for. The design work for the channel will be completed next year, with construction following.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

online Edition

Sections

FRONT PAGE VALLEY & STATE SPORTS BUSINESS ARIZONA LIVING OPINIONS

CLASSIFIEDS | ADVERTISE | SUBSCRIBE | ARCHIVES | TALK BACK | HELP | REPUBLIC STORE | ABOUT US

en
SIGN
SPEC
VIA I

Site Search

GO
Republic

SOUTHWEST VALLEY

SAVE THIS

EMAIL THIS

PRINT THIS

MOST POPULAR

Flood-control channel OK'd near White Tanks

#47

By Marty Sauerzopf
The Arizona Republic
June 19, 2002

SUNDAY SECTIONS

- A&E
- JOBS ARIZONA
- TRAVEL
- VIEWPOINTS

FEATURES SECTIONS

- HOME
- FOOD & DRINK
- PREVIEW
- WHEELS

LOCAL SECTIONS

- AHWATUKEE
- CHANDLER
- TEMPE
- MESA
- GILBERT
- NORTHEAST
- SCOTTSDALE
- NORTH SCOTTSDALE
- SUN CITIES/SURPRISE
- GLENDALE/PEORIA
- NORTH PHOENIX
- CENTRAL PHOENIX
- SOUTHWEST VALLEY

ON AZCENTRAL.COM

- ENTERTAINMENT
- CALENDARS
- TRAVEL & OUTDOORS
- COMMUNITY STORIES
- GOLF
- HOME & GARDEN
- COMICS & GAMES
- OBITUARIES

Fearing that a major storm could send floodwaters into neighborhoods near the White Tank Mountains, Maricopa County will soon begin building a \$3.5million flood channel to protect residents.

County officials said a major downpour could overburden the White Tanks North Inlet Channel and create a major flood hazard between Olive and Glendale avenues near Perryville Road.

"It is important for us to remember that while it does not rain often in the desert, when it does, severe flooding can occur," said Valerie Swick, project manager for the county's Flood Control District.

After a series of meetings with residents, the district has decided to build a new flood control channel between Olive and Northern avenues on the eastern side of the Beardsley Canal.

The project will include culverts to carry floodwater to the eastern side of the canal and will create a recreation corridor that could include hiking and equestrian trails.

Swick said the channel was the least expensive of a number of alternatives considered for the area. It will also have the lowest construction impact.

The county is doing preliminary design work this month, then will try to identify how the project will be paid for. The design work for the channel will be completed next year, with construction following.

- Co
- Of
- Tr
- AZ

- Co
- Op
- W

xc: Roger Ball
Roberta Crowe
Reed Kempton
Mike Ellegood
Joe Munoz

Skunk Creek to assume regional park role

PATRICK O'GRADY
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Skunk Creek is nearly complete, but then again, it may never be truly finished.

The linear park that cuts through north Glendale is essentially done after two years of work, \$126,000 in design work and more than \$1 million in construction costs. But in some cases the work is just beginning, said Shirley Medler, park supervisor with the city of Glendale.

Just as the city is finishing laying in the trails, vegetation and signs for Skunk Creek, it's already begun to look at how it will tie in with a regional park system, Medler said.

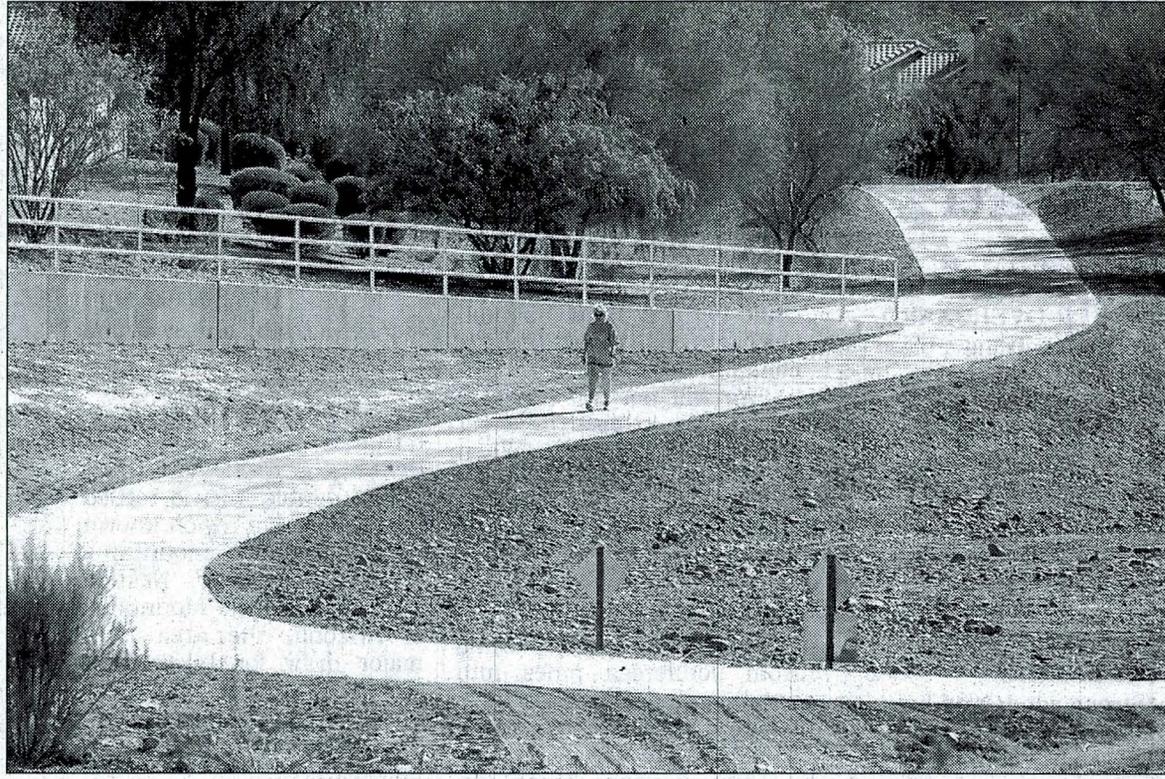
"As the creek comes out of Phoenix, we're trying to link up with them and have a regional park," she said.

The impetus for the park came out of work the Maricopa County Flood Control District and the city did when they provided channelization for the creek, which runs from 51st Avenue north of Union Hills Drive and exits the city at the Peoria border south of Bell Road near 73rd Avenue.

In the past, district officials would develop channelization plans that would include turning creeks and washes to cement culverts to divert potentially damaging waters from cascading through neighborhoods. New plans, however, call for similar channelization but with a return to a creek's original vegetative state following the district's work.

As the district's Skunk Creek project ended, the city began creating a 3½-mile path along the banks of the dry creek and developing horse and walking paths that eventually tie in with the city's Thunderbird Paseo Park, Medler said.

Councilman Manny Martinez, who toured the project late last week, said he was pleased with the work along the creek and the progress the



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

A pedestrian uses Glendale's new walking path in the Skunk Creek channel.

city was making with other parks that will lie along the creek.

The city is expanding Foothills Park near 57th Avenue and Union Hills as an anchor park. The amenities, some currently under construction, will feature a skate park and eventually a multigenerational center, and will tie in with softball fields already at the park, a dog park and the Foothills Branch library.

Even though the park isn't technically finished, some signs still need to be posted and there are plans for an official grand opening, the park is getting used, Medler said.

"I've seen baby buggies on it, some rollerbladers. Lots of people are enjoying it," she said.

Patrick O'Grady may be reached at 876-2522 or pograd@aztrib.com.

#48

#49

Flood warning worries

Experts fear alert for north Scottsdale not enough time

BY SCOTT C. SECKEL
TRIBUNE

When hydrologists, flood control officials and public works planners talk about north Scottsdale's flood hazard, three words come up: The big one.

The big one is a flood that hasn't happened since people have lived in the western shadow of the McDowell Mountains.

It's the flood that officials and subdivision builders dread and the flood that many north Scottsdale residents believe will never happen. Despite Arizona's years-long drought, hydrologists and geologists fear residents are wrong.

The Scottsdale City Council in January ordered a long-term study to develop an early warning system for residents and emergency crews. Officials also want to build a



BRAD ARMSTRONG/TRIBUNE

Scottsdale transportation manager John Little, standing on a bridge that goes over a wash on the eastern boundary of Pinnacle Peak Road, says the biggest flood risk is "not having a plan."

26-acre detention basin to capture and bleed off storm waters.

The warning system replaces a contentious plan to blunt the threat. Massive public outcry led the council in December 2000 to spike the proposed Desert Greenbelt project, a \$100 million system of 11 miles of channels and

four large detention basins to contain catastrophic flooding from the west face of the McDowells. The city had already invested \$22 million in a decade's worth of studies and designs.

Nationally recognized hydrologist Winn Hjalmarson said such an early warning

Please see **FLOOD**, Page **A9**

East Valley Tribune

SATURDAY

JUNE 8, 2002

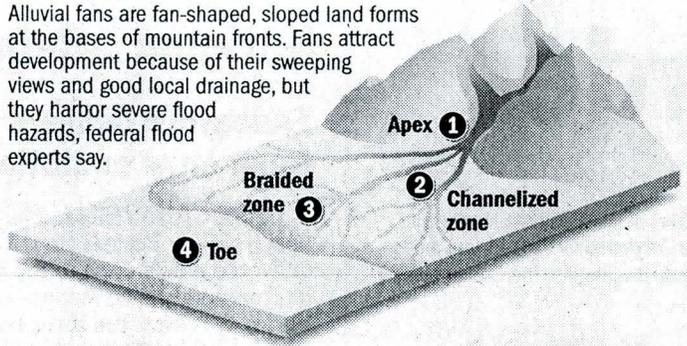
A Freedom
Communications
Newspaper ©2002

50¢

#29

How alluvial fans work

Alluvial fans are fan-shaped, sloped land forms at the bases of mountain fronts. Fans attract development because of their sweeping views and good local drainage, but they harbor severe flood hazards, federal flood experts say.



- 1 **Apex:** Water from intense storms collects from across the mountains and pours out from this confined point.
- 2 **Channelized zone:** Swift waters carrying sediment and debris out of the mountains either follow pre-existing channels cut by other storms or jump out and create new channels. Flood hazards are most severe in this area.
- 3 **Braided zone:** Water slows down here. Flows widen and become shallower, unpredictably filling old channels with sediment and debris and cutting new channels.
- 4 **Toe:** Water continues to slow and spread out, producing a shallow overland flow called sheet flow.

SOURCE: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Scott Kirchofer/TRIBUNE

FLOOD: 'The risk is not having a plan'

From Page A1

system won't give people enough time to evacuate their homes and leave north Scottsdale.

But Scottsdale transportation director John Little said the real danger lies in doing nothing.

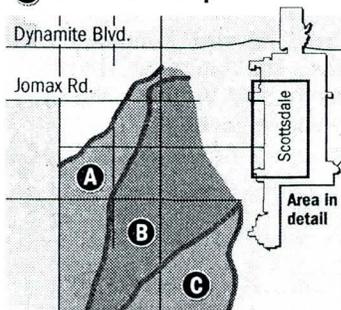
"The risk is not having a plan," Little said.

The flood hazard lurking in the McDowell Mountains is known as an alluvial fan, an upside-down funnel that spits rainwater and sediment out of a tightly focused apex and unpredictably sprays it around

Hazard area

In the event of a 100-year storm, flooding would affect these areas:

- A **Rawhide wash floodplain**
- B **Pima floodplain**
- C **Reata Pass floodplain**



#49

a fan-shaped area. The only other land the Federal Emergency Management Agency considers as hazardous as an alluvial fan is oceanfront property.

Not much is known about how the unpredictable geologic feature behaves. Federal scientists conducted the only major study of alluvial fans in 1996.

Greenbelt opponents believed a disaster, what scientists and engineers call a "major event," would never happen, and that the channels and basins were too drastic a solution.

Instead, city officials agreed to pay consulting firm KBL \$1.5 million to evaluate the risk and devise an early warning system. The study, launched in mid-February, will be completed in 2004, Little said.

A warning system might collate data from various weather agencies and alert residents and emergency crews. Automatic dialers might call all home numbers in a particular area and tell residents what will happen, what to do, and what roads may be affected, Little said.

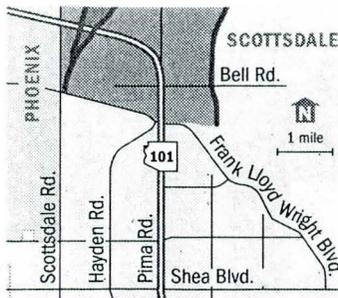
Hjalmarson was one of the six scientists who wrote the first study of alluvial fans. An arid-lands hydrologist for 30 years, Hjalmarson retired in 1993 from the U.S. Geological Survey and now consults for the Maricopa County Flood Control District. He has studied the McDowell fan for decades.

"Early warning in that environment is going to be really dicey because the source area is so nearby — the mountains there," he said. "There are going to be a lot of thunderstorms that won't produce anything. One of them is going to produce the big one."

The bottom line is that the reaction time will be only minutes, Hjalmarson said.

"Maybe five, 10, 15 minutes on some kind of sophisticated warning system," he said. "But it's not going to be very long because that's just not the way (alluvial fans) behave."

Two inches of rain in 30



SOURCE: Scottsdale TRIBUNE

minutes could set off an alarm. At the end of that time, water could be running off the hillside and making its way down to the channel, tossing around two-foot-wide rocks. Boulders could be rolling down in the currents. At one forum, Joel Goldstein, who has lived in DC Ranch for three years, asked for details of evacuation plans for north Scottsdale, considering Pima Road access could be severed by water. "They said, 'We really don't have those right now,'" he said.

Routes likely will be identified by the early warning system, Little said. "We anticipate inconvenience and that people may be prevented from going from point A to point B."

A 26 percent chance of a 100-year flood exists during a 30-year mortgage, Hjalmarson said.

"It's been my experience observing flood damage in the western United States, you don't take alluvial fans lightly," he said. "You better put in a fully engineered solution. Piecemeal solutions don't work in alluvial fans."

While Goldstein has lived in the desert Southwest for only three years, he said he is not deluded by blue skies.

"That type of flood could happen at any time, as long as there is sufficient amount of rain to cause it," he said. "There is potential life-threatening problems. Pick up the newspapers in Arizona. Every time there's a flood you read about someone who died."

—Tribune writer Scott C. Seckel can be reached by e-mail at sseckel@aztrib.com or by calling (480) 970-2312.



Win A Vacation To The 4-Star



NEWS SPORTS MONEY/TECH ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE COMMUNITY TRAVEL HEALTH FOOD & HOME CASINO

news

SAVE THIS EMAIL THIS PRINT THIS MOST POPULAR

news as happen

- World & Nation the buzz Weather Education Traffic Info Politics Photo Galleries News Multimedia Scanners Roof Camera Republic Print Edition Benson Cartoons Republic Columns Republic Front Pages Obituaries E-mail Newsletters Space.com Special Reports

W. Valley dam hurt by ATVs, dirt bikes

Marty Sauerzopf The Arizona Republic Feb. 06, 2002

Dirt bike and all-terrain-vehicle riders are causing structural damage to flood control berms and wiping out desert vegetation designed to slow storm waters in the northwest Valley.

The destruction has prompted beefed-up police patrols in the area.

Joe Muñoz, public information manager for the Maricopa County Flood Control District, said damage to McMicken Dam and surrounding flood control land near the White Tank Mountains is costing thousands of dollars to repair. And he said crews are repeatedly repairing perimeter fences cut by off-roaders.

"It's getting to the point where they're compromising the function of the structure," Muñoz said. "It's an earthen dam. It's not concrete. When they're tearing it up, it becomes a big problem."

Muñoz said the situation is becoming all too common around the Valley, particularly in the Surprise area and in the far East Valley, where growth is bringing off-road riders closer to once-remote flood control areas.

Surprise police Detective Scott Bailey said the department is stepping up patrols at McMicken Dam, near Deer Valley Road and Grand Avenue. He said the department will give people a warning but repeat offenders could be arrested and fined or jailed.

Brad Jones of the Arizona Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs said educating people about the proper place to ride is always an issue but the county needs to step up enforcement to drive the message home to riders.

"You can send anybody to a whole bunch of classes, but they still break the rules," Jones said. "You can't blame the education. You've got an enforcement problem."

"The basic root of the whole thing is to provide a suitable area for people to ride that doesn't impact local residents. However, with the growth we have in the Valley, where they're riding now used to be a suitable place to ride."

Muñoz said maintenance crews can barely keep up with the damage being inflicted by off-road vehicles.

In addition to damaging McMicken Dam, off-roaders have torn up much of the vegetation needed to slow floodwaters.

"They have literally mowed that stuff down," he said.

- Letter writer may have knowledge about missing girl, father says
Mesa mom dies saving daughter, friend in robbery
Ex-sheriff found guilty of plotting successor's murder
Lotta dust, lotta wind, little rain
Infant's death in filthy home sparks privacy debate
Turkish police on alert over possible chemical, biological attack
Teen who survive suicide pact sentenced for role in rape
25 million children will lose at least 1 parent to AIDS by 2010, experts say
Students allegedly shared needle to draw blood in junior high class
Case of slain journalist in hands of Pakistani judge
Group sues Cheney, oil company, alleging accounting fraud
86 cats removed from trailer house

Click for more Breaking News

SEARCH THE SITE

Search input field with dropdown menu and go button

Search for Phoenix area homes in the MLS.

Price tag may be \$6 million for area flood-control plan

P.V. Independent July 3

By Tom Barry
Independent Newspapers

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County has approved a regional flood-control plan to help mitigate damage from heavy storm runoff in portions of Paradise Valley, North Scottsdale and Northeast Phoenix.

The Scottsdale Road Corridor Drainage Master Plan was the outgrowth of nearly two years of study and public hearings jointly undertaken by the Flood Control District and the three municipalities.

Under the plan, improvements to existing flood-control and drainage systems will cost between \$4.8 million and \$6 million, said Afshin Ahouraiyan, project manager.

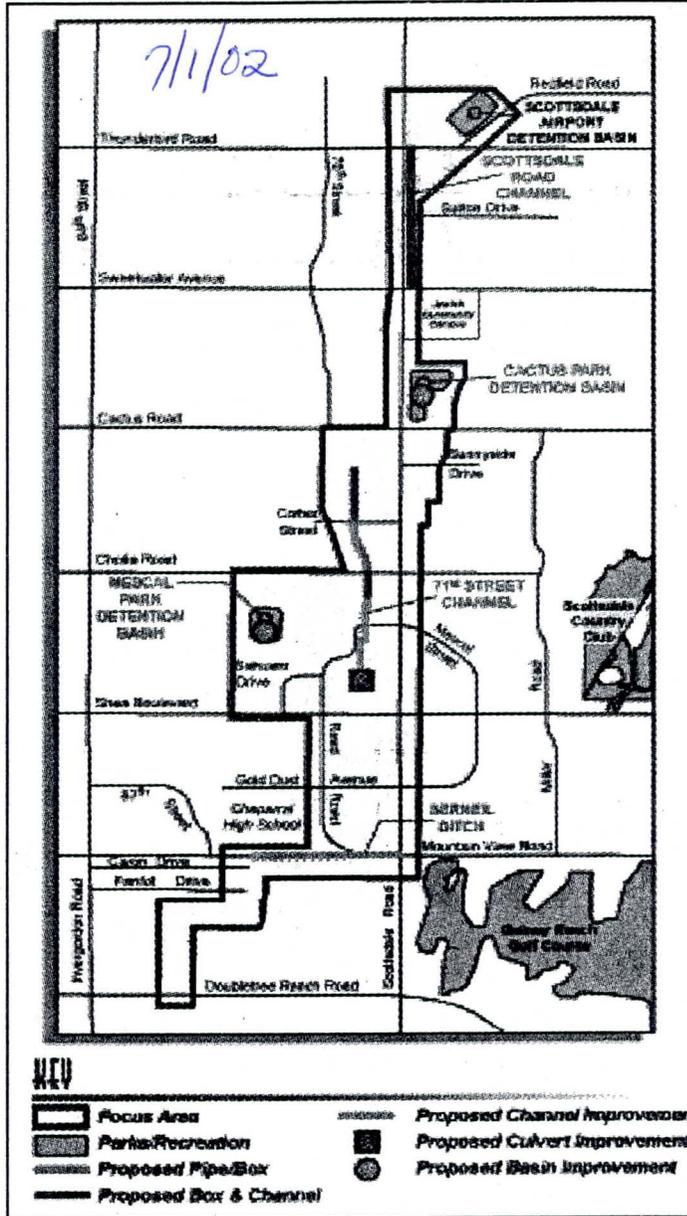
It should provide protection from at least a 10-year storm event, he said.

The plan is a modest one in comparison to other alternatives that were considered.

Estimates for a comprehensive flood-control plan ranged as high as \$42 million for one that would have protected the area from a 100-year storm.

From a practical standpoint, however, officials said available funding would have precluded such an ambitious plan.

Mr. Ahouraiyan said implementation is still contingent on funding, which may include bond financing, property taxes, municipal contributions, or a combina-



The Scottsdale Road Corridor Drainage Master Plan will cost between \$4.8 million and \$6 million to implement and will offer protection from heavy runoff in the event of a 10-year storm.

See Flood — Page 6

Flood

Continued From Page 1

tion of one or more such sources.

The three-mile Scottsdale Road Corridor is a flood-prone area that extends from the Scottsdale Airport, the principal source of the runoff, to the Berneil Ditch near Doubletree Ranch Road in Par-

adise Valley.

Over the years, Paradise Valley, Scottsdale and Phoenix have constructed storm drainage facilities of their own, including detention basins, drainage channels and storm drains. Some were built as part of private or commercial development projects.

"They were never developed as part of a cohesive regional flood-control sys-

tem," Mr. Ahouraiyan said. "As a result, there are limitations in the system that leaves certain areas vulnerable to flooding."

A primary feature of the new plan will be to enlarge water detention basins at Cactus Park, near Cactus and Scottsdale roads, and Mescal Park, near Mescal Street and 68th Place.

Officials said enlarging the detention basins would help

prevent overflow, particularly near Cactus and Scottsdale roads, and help to avert a possible closure of Scottsdale Road in the event of a 100-year storm.

The existing open drainage channel along Scottsdale Road, from Thunderbird Road to Sweetwater Avenue, would also be covered to reduce the hazard to motorists and pedestrians during a storm runoff.

#52

Study Identifies Rio Verde Floodplain

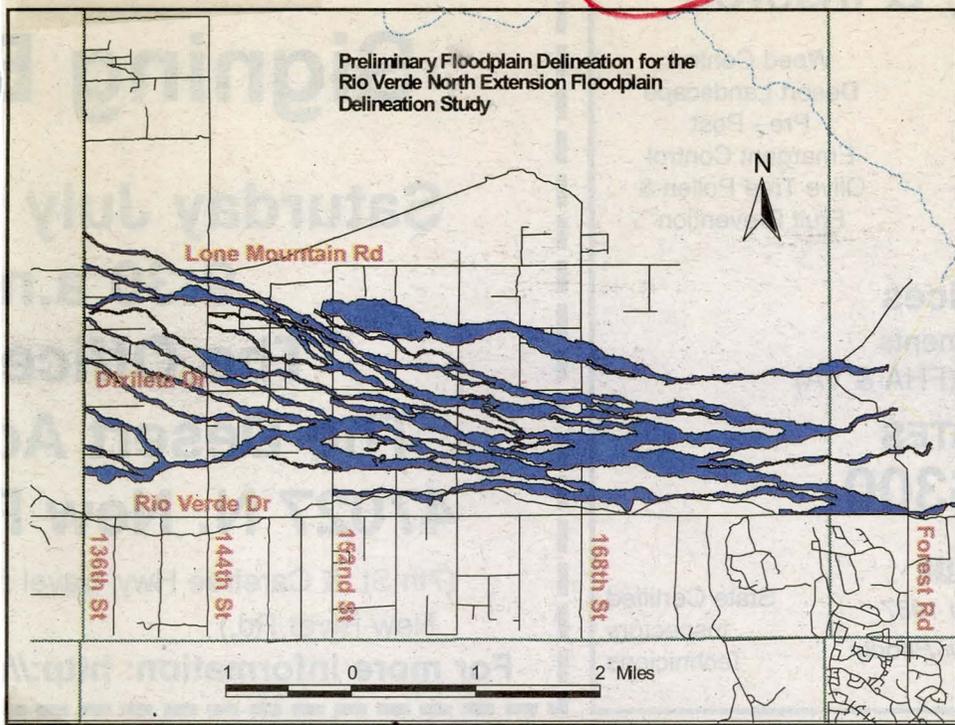
by Karen Seemeyer

RIO VERDE – Residents of the Rio Verde community packed the Oasis Community Center on Tuesday, July 10, to learn the results of a two-year Floodplain Delineation Study covering the northern Rio Verde area. The study was initiated in 1999 and is in the last phase of completion.

The purpose of the delineation study, conducted by the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, is to examine and evaluate flood hazards in areas which are, or are likely to be, developed and to determine flood hazards within those areas. The study encompasses

Rio Verde Floodplain

Please see page 11



The Desert Advocate July 17, 01

Rio Verde Floodplain *cont...*

From page 1

es 70 linear miles of floodplain and 30 square miles of completed hydrology analysis between 136th St and Forest Dr from Lone Mountain Rd to Rio Verde Dr.

Residents crowded around the half-dozen tables manned by Flood Control personnel, each table containing maps for review by property owners. Homeowners, concerned about their property being in the floodplain, posed a myriad of questions to District employees and shared their concerns, questions and opinions with one another.

The study results will be submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for approval in late August or early September. Upon approval by FEMA, the study results will be used for revising flood insurance rate maps for the area and, additionally, for regulating future land use and development so as to reduce or prevent possible flood damage to property and structures.

Buildings that are located within a 100-year floodplain are required by FEMA to be covered by flood insurance if they are financed by federally insured loans. The Agency defines a 100-year flood as a

flood that has a one-percent chance of occurring in any given year. According to the District study team, approximately four-and-one-half to five inches of rain in 24 hours would produce a 100-year flood.

The next step in this study is to survey homes in the flood hazard areas—at no cost to homeowners—to determine the level of danger, if any, in the event of a 100-year flood.

Michael Ellegood, Chief Engineer and General Manager of the Flood Control District, stated, "This study area has shallow, sandy main channels. The slope is not as great as in the Skunk Creek (New River) study, allowing the water to run slower."

Currently, there are 42 homes in the floodway and 15 in the floodplain. Ellegood said the next phase is to begin the Drainage Study of the area.

Any homeowner who wants specific information on their home should fax the property parcel number to Shanna Yager, Regulatory Division of the Flood Control District, at (602) 506-4601. Within two weeks she will look up the particulars on that property. To talk to Shanna Yager, call (602) 506-4874.

#53

Independent Date N/A

Rio Verde residents to learn more about master plan to study drainage and flooding

7/24/02

RIO VERDE – Since the 1970s, the Rio Verde area, which lies east of 136th Street and north of the McDowell Regional Park, has been rapidly developing with single lot family residences and subdivisions. This growth and development is having a significant impact on the area's drainage needs and flood protection.

In this regard, the Flood Control District of Maricopa County has started an Area Drainage Master Plan to study drainage and flooding in the Rio Verde area. The district will be holding a public meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Tonto Verde Country Club for residents to learn more about what the district will be doing in their community over the next two years.

"We hope to provide a community-based flood protection solution for the Rio Verde residents," said Felicia Terry, District Project Manager. "It is important for us to remember that while it does not rain often in the desert, when it does, severe flooding and erosion can occur."

The planning process should take approximately two years and will incorporate the ideas and concerns of area residents, while providing public safety.

The Rio Verde area is charac-

terized by moderate slopes and numerous braided and sandy-bottom washes that run easterly from the McDowell Mountains to the Verde River. These characteristics lead to shallow sheet flooding, which results in extreme high-velocity flows, debris flows, erosion, sediment movement, deposition, and channel migration.

"These conditions make the Rio Verde area a much harder area to study than usual," said Terry.

This is not the district's first study in the Rio Verde area. Over the past few years, the district has performed many floodplain delineation studies on area washes.

"The last study – Rio Verde North Extension Floodplain Delineation – was undertaken after the district noticed an increase in permit applications for the area," said District Hydrologist Kathryn Gross. "In an effort to plan and study ahead of development, this study analyzed 70 miles of watercourses. Of that, five miles was a re-delineation of a current floodplain and approximately 65 miles was a new delineation."

The results of that floodplain delineation study are currently being used to regulate development in the area. The study

will not be submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency unless the Area Drainage Master Plan shows that the study is necessary for the regulation of washes in the area.

"By studying the area in detail, there may be ways for the district to manage developments' impact on the area's drainage system, thus reducing flood hazards," Terry said. "During the course of the plan, we intend to identify a range of community-based alternatives to address the problems."

The Flood Control District invites area residents and anyone with an interest in this plan to attend the public meeting or visit the district's website at www.fcd.maricopa.gov.

Those with questions or concerns can contact the study's project manager Felicia Terry at 602-506-8111 or email her at fet@mail.maricopa.gov.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County is tasked to provide regional flood hazard identification, regulation, remediation, and education to Maricopa County residents so that they can reduce their risks of injury, death and property damage from flooding, while still enjoying the natural and beneficial values served by the floodplains. ❖

Community Meetings

Flood control hearing will be held June 19

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County will hold a public hearing today, June 19, on its proposed Scottsdale Road Corridor Drainage Master Plan.

The meeting will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Scottsdale Airport Passenger Boarding Lounge, 15000 N. Airport Drive (Airport Drive and Butherus Avenue).

Several plans were presented at a hearing in March to address flood control mitigation alternatives for the Scottsdale Road Corridor, which includes portions of Scottsdale, Phoenix and Paradise Valley. The upcoming hearing will help choose a final alterna-

tion, said Afshin Houraiyan, project manager for the Flood Control District.

For more information, call (602) 506-1501 or visit www.scottsdaleroadCDMP.com.

June 19, 2002

#54

Meeting on Rio Verde floodplain set

7/24-30/02

By Curtis Riggs

RIO VERDE - Maricopa County Flood Control officials have initiated an area drainage master plan study to determine how the Rio Verde area's drainage and flood protection has changed because of rapid growth of the area north of McDowell Mountain Park and east of 136th Street.

Flood control officials will hold a public meeting from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 6 at the Tonto Verde Country Club, 18401 El Circulo Drive. The meeting is an opportunity for Rio Verde residents to ask about what flood control officials will be doing in their community in the next two years.

"We hope to find a community-based flood protection solution for Rio Verde residents," Felicia Terry, district project manager, said in a press release. "It is important for us to remember that while it does not rain often in the desert, when it does, severe flooding and erosion can occur."

The ideas and concerns of area residents will be incorporated into the drainage study.

The Rio Verde area has moderate slopes and many braided, sandy wash bottoms that run east from the

McDowell Mountains to the Verde River. These geologic characteristics lead to shallow sheet flooding that result in extreme high-velocity flows, debris flows, erosion, movement of sediment and the migration of wash channels.

"These conditions make the Rio Verde area a much harder area to study than usual," Terry said.

Over the past few years, flood control has performed many floodplain delineations on area washes.

"The last study - Rio Verde North Extension Floodplain Delineation - was undertaken after the district noticed an increase in permit applications for the area," Kathryn Gross, district hydrologist, said in a press release. "In an effort to plan and study ahead of development, this study analyzed 70 miles of watercourses. Of that, five miles was a re-delineation of a current floodplain and approximately 65 miles was a new delineation."

The results of the floodplain delineation study are now being used to regulate development in the area.

For information about the study call Terry at 602-506-8111 or by e-mail at fet@mail.maricopa.gov.

#55

#56

Local News

SERVING COMMUNITIES OF THE EAST VALLEY

Got a story?

South East Valley call Brian Cole,
(480) 898-6514, e-mail bcole@aztrib.com
North East Valley call Paul Giblin,
(480) 970-2331, e-mail pgiblin@aztrib.com

A3

Tribune Aug 4, 2002

Land deal swamps Mesa

City drops plan for flood control; ex-owners seek \$3M in damages

BY JASON EMERSON
TRIBUNE

Mesa is locked in an odd court battle over 60 acres of private land that the city condemned three years ago but is now trying to give back to the former owners.

The former owners are objecting to Mesa's attempt to return possession of the property without paying for the time the city controlled it, and have asked a judge to award unspecified damages.

"They have to pay for that period of time for the years they've owned it," said Phoenix lawyer Dale Zeitlin, one of several lawyers representing the landowners. One of the owners is Larry Yount, brother of

former Major League Baseball great Robin Yount.

Mesa stands to lose millions in the case, and could end up with no property to show for it after more than three years of litigation.

The case stems from a 1999 flood control project undertaken jointly by Mesa and the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

The county wanted to build storm water detention basins on 60 acres of desert land north of the General Motors Proving Ground in southeast Mesa. The land was part of a roughly 400-acre parcel owned by Yount's corporation, LKY Real Estate.

Mesa and the landowners originally disagreed over the

location of the basins and then couldn't reach an agreement on the land's value, said Joe Padilla, Mesa's assistant city attorney.

The city appraised the 60 acres needed for the basins at \$1.14 million and asked the court to grant immediate possession, which it did.

But after Mesa took ownership and paid the \$1.14 million, the owners had an appraisal done that came in at \$7.4 million, Padilla said.

The higher amount was based on an Arizona Supreme Court ruling concerning how land is valued for partial takings, which takes into account hypothetical uses for the land, Padilla said.

The owners argued that Mesa was taking the most valuable part of their parcel and should be fairly compensated, Padilla said.

Because neither Mesa nor

the county could afford the \$7.4 million, Padilla asked to court to withdraw the city's request for immediate possession. The city and county would build the basins elsewhere, Padilla said.

The owners have objected to the request, and are seeking roughly \$3 million in damages, Padilla said. Zeitlin would not confirm the amount.

Padilla said the damage claim is ridiculous because it amounts to charging the city rent for undeveloped desert property that would have sat vacant anyway.

Aside from the \$1.14 million Mesa has spent, the county spent more than \$1 million designing a series of storm water detention basins for the property that will never be built, Padilla said.

Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Robert Myers is expected to schedule a date for oral arguments, Padilla said.

#57

West Valley View, Litchfield Park, Arizona, November 28, 2001

OUR MOUNTAIN

Arlington district's opponents' gripes are plain hogwash

The time has long since passed for the minority standing in the way of a new Arlington Elementary School to step aside and let the school be built.

A panel of experts comprising representatives from the Arizona Radiation Regulatory Agency, the Department of Emergency Management, the County Flood Control District, the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station and the state School Facilities Board met Nov. 20 to present information about the latest proposed school site and address the concerns of some of the residents. The panel effectively countered the straw-man arguments that have been presented by the loosely organized group of opponents of every new school site the beleaguered school district's governing board has proffered since it was told the existing school has to be moved.

Here's a brief history of the Arlington tempest: The rural elementary school has been in the Gila River Floodway since 1957 — before there was a County Flood Control District, which was formed in August 1959. Following a fire last year that burned a couple of classrooms and damaged a restroom, the Flood Control District told the school district it would not allow it to commit to any further construction or remodeling at the school's current location because the school is in a flood plain.

The district board then launched a search for a site for a new school. In August, Maricopa County purchased the existing school campus at 16352 S. Arlington School Road for about \$1.5 million. The state School Facilities Board will provide additional money needed to build the new school.

Sempra Energy Resources offered to donate land at 410th Avenue and Elliot Road, but some residents objected to that free site because the roads leading to it are not adequate, they said.

They also launched recall petitions against two of the school board members who had voted to accept the Sempra site, but the county Elections Department deemed their petitions invalid.

However, because of the residents' objections, the board voted Oct. 8 to acquire land at 355th Avenue and Dobbins Road instead of using the Sempra land. Duke Energy is purchasing the land for the district.

But the obstructionists, who consider themselves more knowledgeable than the experts, still weren't happy. It's too close to the nuclear plant, they whine, as they paint apocalyptic scenarios of Chernobyl-type nuclear disasters and terrorist attacks on the nearby Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. How will mothers manage to spirit their babies away from danger in such scenarios, they ask in a blatant attempt to tug at the heartstrings of anyone who will listen. (Oddly enough, one of the most vociferous obstructionists, Jimmie Garner, has no children attending Arlington School, yet has elected himself spokesman for all the parents in the district.)

Hence the presentation by the nuclear experts, whose message essentially was: three miles, five miles, 10 miles — it really doesn't make a difference. If Palo Verde were to experience a major disaster, the entire Arlington Valley would be a disaster area. But the chances of Palo Verde going down in such a way are very slim indeed.

If the obstructionists are truly concerned about safety, they're going to have to find a site far, far away from power plants, military bases, post offices, metropolitan areas, high-rise buildings and human beings — perhaps someplace deep in the mountains of Wyoming.

The truth is, we're all terrorist targets, and obvious targets such as nuclear power plants are probably among the safest places to be right now because of the increased level of security around them.

The naysayers have been given a chance to make their arguments, and their arguments have proven so much hot air generated by ignorance and mulish stubbornness.

The people who have been fighting the school board every step of the way in this process claim that they have only the children's interest at heart. If that's the case, they should step aside, because all they are doing is ensuring that the children of the Arlington school district will never have a safe school to attend.

Arlington

(From page A1)

Nov. 20. More than 50 residents attended the forum.

The five-member Arlington Elementary School District governing board has spent 2001 looking for a site to build a new school and trying to gain the support of the community. Neither job has been easy.

The land that the board has expressed interest in now is at 355th Avenue and Dobbins Road, 3.15 miles from Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station. Duke Energy has agreed to pay about \$120,000 for the 40-acre property. The existing Arlington campus sits about seven miles from the plant, although radiation experts say the closer site will not make a difference.

"You're really talking about a flat line," said Aubrey Godwin, director of the Arizona Radiation Regulatory Board. "There's very little difference in risk between three miles, five miles and 10 miles."

Still, some residents continued to question the board's site choice for the new school and the safety and procedures near Palo Verde.

"You mentioned different levels of alert. There comes a point when a decision has to be made, do you evacuate or take shelter? What is the protocol for that school? Are they going to hunker down or are they going to run for their lives?" asked Neil Peters. "I think the parents need to know that, because if they are sheltered, mommas aren't going to be able to retrieve their babies."

The decision always would be to evacuate, except in special circumstances, Godwin responded. He re-emphasized that the school would be alerted of an emergency immediately, and it has the luxury of buses on campus.

"Would that put our children in a war zone? Things have changed since Sept. 11," said Sandy Honeycutt.

"There has never been a credible threat against Palo Verde or any other nuclear power plant in the country," said Judy Melody, a Palo Verde spokeswoman.

The current campus is within the emergency planning zone for Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station and a floodway. A flood in 1993 caused \$48,233 in damages to the campus.

The school-building process

The 1998 Students FIRST initiative provided that new schools needed for increased student population would be paid for by the state, further providing a one-time sum of money for deficiency corrections at every school in Arizona.

Because the Maricopa County Flood Control Board has said Arlington School cannot make significant improvements at the current location, the deficiency corrections money can be put toward a new school.

Arlington was awarded about \$500,000 from the School Facilities Board for repairs, however, the board has increased its funding to more than \$1 million for a new school. The deadline for schools to put their deficiency money to use is June 30, 2003.

"It really gives the 10-member school facilities board the authority to build a new school," said Ed Boot, deputy director

of the Arizona School Facilities Board no longer requires a bond passed by you to build a school, because we'll build a school. It no longer takes a vote of the people as a requirement to build a new school."

The School Facilities Board does not get involved in decisions regarding new school location and design, Boot emphasized.

"I think the decision that has been made that we are working with your governing board and your superintendent bodes well for your community," Boot said. "We are going to support that and get a new school built if that is the desire of your governing board."

One person in the audience asked if there are other schools around the county located as close as three miles from nuclear plant. Ruth Aud, from the Maricopa County Department of Emergency Management, replied there are schools in New Hampshire and New Jersey as close as one mile from nuclear power plants.

Whose decision is it?

The Arlington school board members were present, though silent, during the meeting last week. They listened to the panel's presentations and the citizens' questions and comments.

"This is the board's decision. Some might think that it's your decision — the answer is that it's *their* decision," said the school district's lawyer, Roger Decker of the firm Udall, Shumway, Blackhurst, Allen and Lyons, P.C.

Beth Kristin Ott can be reached by e-mail at bott@westvalleyview.com

RICOPA CO EMERGENCY NIGHT 5064601

NO. 810 P02

Town of Paradise Valley

INDEPENDENT

25 CENTS

CONTAINS ARTICLES ON THE TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY AND THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

#58

Doubletree project to begin at year's end

By Amy Washburn
Independent Newspapers

The long-awaited Doubletree Ranch Road Drainage and Street Improvement Project is set to begin as the year comes to an end.

Paradise Valley Town Engineer Bill Mead said the official ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place in early December, with the project start following shortly after.

"With the holidays so near to the groundbreaking date, we may hold off on starting the project until after they are

over," he said.

A tentative date of Dec. 10 has been discussed for the ceremony.

Mr. Mead said his idea for the kick-off of the project will include Mayor Ed Lowry riding through a ceremonial ribbon on some sort of earth-moving equipment.

The idea of a groundbreaking for the often-controversial project surprised some residents who live in the project area.

See Project — Page 6

Project

Continued From Page 1

"You've got to be kidding. Why would they hold a groundbreaking for a project that so many residents don't want?" Liz Clendenin asked.

Prior to the January 2002 council approval of the drainage project totaling \$10.3 million, the County Flood Control District distributed their 60 percent of the funding to other capital improvement plans on their schedule.

"Funding is delayed on some projects because of financial issues," said Angeline Fowler, Flood Control District public information officer. "Often times the cities involved in the cost sharing request their projects be put on hold because (the city) is not financially ready."

Funding was delayed on

three projects to make way for the Doubletree Ranch Road project. The other projects involve cost-sharing with the cities of Goodyear, Glendale and Phoenix.

The Bullard Wash project is cost-shared 50 percent by the Flood Control District and 50 percent by the City of Goodyear. The total project cost is \$20 million; the delayed phase is \$8 million.

The Bethany Home Outfall Channel is cost-shared 50 percent by the District and 25 percent by the cities of Phoenix and Glendale. The total project cost is \$67 million; the delayed phase is estimated at \$12 million.

The East Maricopa Floodway project, which is estimated to cost \$30 million, also had funding delayed. The project will take place in an unincorporated area of the county, leaving the District to entirely fund the task.

"(The District) delays funding on projects when the partner cities don't have their money as fast as they had liked or planned," said Doubletree Ranch Road Project Manager Scott Vogel. "(The District's) budget is a dynamic thing. The funding for projects depends on what they are."

An emergency clause was included in Resolution 1027 authorizing the intergovernmental agreement with the Flood Control District; Mr. Vogel however, said it does not have any bearing on the importance of the project to the District.

"Emergency clauses approved by a city or town government are totally separate from the priority of projects that we do," he said.

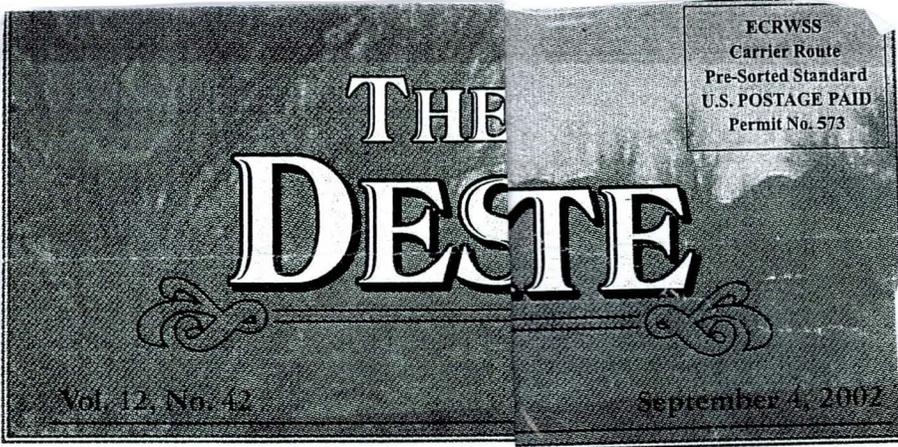
The town is fully financially responsible for the street improvements necessary for the project. Phase one of the

street improvements is estimated to cost \$1.2 million, phase two will cost \$1.4 million.

A schedule for the roadway improvements has yet to be set. A contractor is expected to be chosen in late November, at which time a construction timeline will be established.

P.V. Independent 8/28/02

#59



New River zoning violations cases going forward

by Caleb Soptelean

NEW RIVER – Cases involving zoning violations on two New River properties are currently being investigated and/or are awaiting legal action by Maricopa County Planning and Zoning's code enforcement department.

Steve McAdams, who installed a water line and tank on a hill next to Coyote Pass Road over three years ago without a permit, and Dennis Robinson, who has been operating a cabinet shop on property located along the west side of New River Road, north of Shangri-La Resort, have had actions initiated against them by Maricopa County, according to Enforcement Officer Dennis Mann.

Mann said McAdams was given time to apply for a special use permit after the fact, which would involve paying late fees, but failed to do so and has been

Zoning violations
continued on page 6

#160

Supervisors approve trail-blazing plans ^{9/11/02}

Trail net to link with Reach 11

By **Tom Barry**
Independent Newspapers

Northeast Phoenix residents have long enjoyed easy access to a system of multi-use nature trails in the Reach 11 Recreation Area for hiking, cycling and horseback riding.



Eventually, the 18 miles of trails in Reach 11 will be linked to an uninterrupted system of trails that will extend nearly 335 miles across Maricopa County, a major portion of which will follow the Central Arizona Project canal.

Last week, the county Board of Supervisors approved the first phase of the Regional Trail System, an ambitious plan to link already established trails with new trails. The board also allocated \$250,000 per year for the next two years to help develop the system.

"This is the start of the payoff for county residents, who hopefully in the not too

distant future, will be able to hike, bike and ride on the great trail system," said Supervisor Andy Kunasek, whose District 3 encompasses Northeast Phoenix, Cave Creek and Carefree.

He said the overall goal of the system is to preserve open space to help improve the quality of life for the county's fast-growing population.

In addition to established trails, the project will utilize existing rights-of-ways, such as canals, parks, utility corridors and flood control projects.

Phase I will encompass 221 miles of trails that will extend from the White Tank Mountains in the West Valley to the Cave Creek Recreation Area in Northeast Phoenix and the Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area near Cave Creek. The exact placement of trails has yet to be identified.

The trail system is the outgrowth of more than three decades of planning. In 2000, the 16-member Maricopa County Trail Commission was formed to help

See Trails — Page 5

Trails

Continued From Page 1

usher the plan and to coordinate efforts with a multitude of federal, state and local governments and jurisdictions.

Long a favorite of cyclists, hikers and horseback riders, Reach 11 Recreation Area in Northeast Phoenix encompasses 1,500 acres and extends about seven miles along the north side of the CAP canal. Created in partnership with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, it is managed by the Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department.

In addition to the county, participants in the Regional Trail System include the cities of Phoenix, Scottsdale and Mesa, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Maricopa



Photo courtesy of Phoenix Parks Dept.

Cyclists and hikers can enjoy 18 miles of trails in Northeast Phoenix's Reach 11 Recreation Area, which will eventually be linked to the Maricopa County Regional Trail System.

County Flood Control District and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District.

The preliminary conceptual plan will be unveiled at

a public forum on Sept. 20.

The meeting will take place at 2 p.m. at the South Mountain Environmental Education Center, 10400 S. Cen-

tral Ave.

Information about the trail system can also be obtained at www.maricopa.gov/trail.

#61

Scottsdale plans big for gaping hole

BY JOHN YANTIS
TRIBUNE

A 50-acre hole being dug north of Loop 101 west of Pima Road will someday be a huge water detention basin that Scottsdale officials hopes one day to use as a grassy park or sports fields.

Crews are scheduled to work until spring to pull an estimated 85,000 dump-truck loads, or 1.1 million cubic yards, of earth to build the basin.

"We're trying to create the eighth wonder of the world up there," joked Nick Simonetta, spokesman for the Arizona State Land Department, the agency that owns the land.

The basin will regulate water flow in a growing north/south corridor in a 100-year flood plain. The depression, which is just south of the city's water treatment plant, will help regulate flows in the area and runoff from the McDowell Mountains, officials said. When it's done the basin will be an average depth of 25 feet and its slopes will be gentle enough for park activities.

Bill Exham, Scottsdale community services general manager, said the basin is one of six areas where there is potential for multi-use facilities.

"We could potentially put fields in some of these spaces, he said. "It makes some



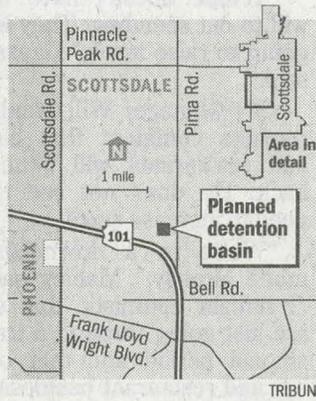
PAUL O'NEILL/TRIBUNE

Two loaders fill a truck Friday at the future site of a retention basin north of Loop 101.

sense rather than leaving it a ditch. But in any type of basin that's going to collect water, you have to be careful with where you're going to put it. There's no money for construction. It's just identified to take a look at it."

It wouldn't be the first time Scottsdale turned a major flood control project into a city amenity.

To tame the raging floodwaters that ripped the city in half through the mid 1970s, the city converted the Indian Bend Wash, an eroded seven-mile long area running north and south through the center of the city, into a greenbelt. The project now provides a string of parks, golf courses,



TRIBUNE

swimming pools and fishing and boating lakes.

Of the nearly 1,200 acres in the greenbelt, more than 300 are devoted to city parks.

To make the basin idea

work, Scottsdale would lease the land or ask for a right-of-way from the state.

Much of the excavated dirt was used to build the Pima Freeway section of Loop 101 between Scottsdale Road and Princess Drive. When the project was completed, the freeway contractor proposed doing the excavation in exchange for being able to use or sell the dirt for other construction.

About 80 percent of all the material has been moved, Simonetta said.

"Essentially the city and land department will figure out best to bear costs of engineering work," he said. "It's a matter that's under continuing discussion."



East Mesa INDEPENDENT

25 Cents

COVERING THE NEWS OF EAST MESA

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2002

\$32M NE Mesa flood plans OK'd by council

By Richard H. Dyer
Independent Newspapers

A plan for flood-control pipes, culverts and water-detention basins to protect land in northeast Mesa has been approved by the city council.

Funding for the \$32 million project could come from the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, which levies taxes on property at 23 cents per \$100 assessed valuation; the city of Mesa, with money from storm sewer bonds at an election in 2004; and private entities.

OPINIONS SOUGHT

Do you agree with the Mesa City Council's decision to find funding for part of a \$32 million flood-control project for northeast Mesa? Why or why not? Call East Mesa Independent's anonymous Speak Out line at (623) 445-2850 ext. 2, send an e-mail message to Rrdyer@aol.com, or write a letter to the editor.

There is no timeline for design or construction on the

project that directs water to canals that dump northwest into the Salt River, city officials said. The Spook Hill Area Drainage Master Plan encompasses 35 square miles from Power Road in east Mesa to Highway 88 in Apache Junction, from the base of the Goldfield Mountains to approximately Superstition Boulevard.

"It proposes to use existing drainage facilities as a well as constructing a series of detention basins, closed systems and open channels. Once completed, this system will be able to minimize

downstream flooding as well as provide a regional flood protection for the study area," Anna Leyva-Easton, civil engineer, told the council Sept. 5.

The Mesa City Council on Sept. 5 voted 7-0 to adopt the plan. It would construct an underground pipe/box on McKellips and McDowell roads from 76th Street to Hawes Road, on Hawes from Range Rider Trail to Oak and south of McKellips to Hermosa Vista, on Oak from Hawes to 87th Street, on 88th Street from Palm Lane to McDowell and southeast, and at McDowell and Usery Pass

roads and south to Ellsworth Road; detention basins on the northeast corner of Hawes and Oak, 88th and McDowell and Usery Pass and McKellips, and on the northwest corner of McDowell and Usery Pass and 76th Street and McDowell Road; and improve an open channel from Brown and Usery Pass roads southwest 2,350 feet along the Signal Butte Floodway.

"This is a problem - flooding in the desert. Although we haven't seen that in awhile,

See Flood — Page 6

Skunk Creek residents out of harm's way

Nine area homeowners accept buyouts, are now enroute to new homes

NEW RIVER – As part of the Skunk Creek Watercourse Master Plan, nine area residents are en route to new homes this fall, courtesy of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

The District, which instituted a Skunk Creek buyout program for residents living in the high flood and erosion hazard areas on the creek this year, qualified 13 homeowners as eligible for the program, nine of which accepted the voluntary offers.

“These homes and their owners, all of which were built prior to delineation of the flood hazard area, were at high risk of injury, death, and/or property damage and the floodway has the potential for frequent, deep and high-velocity flows,” said Marilyn DeRosa, District Project Manager. “Homeowners had a less than one-hour response time in the

had homes along Skunk Creek between Circle Mountain Road and Honda Bow Road. The remaining two homes are downstream near 19th Avenue.

In addition to the above nine, an additional property owner is working with the District to move his home to an area of his parcel not in the floodway. He will likely sell the District a portion of his five-acre parcel and use the money to relocate the home.

Two residents of the high-risk area were not interested in moving and declined involvement in the program. The last property owner, who uses the property for ranching and does not live on site, felt the county's offer was not substantial enough.

“The estimated cost for acquisition of all the properties, plus removal, asbestos survey, and re-seeding is \$2.5 million, which is a significant savings to taxpayers over the structural alternative, which would have cost over \$12 million,” DeRosa said.

their new homes by November. Following their move, the District will assess the properties for asbestos and arrange for any asbestos removal. The District will then arrange for the removal of the structures from the property and area re-seeding. This will mostly likely occur in the spring.

“Flood control is a challenge in this area,” said DeRosa. “Not only would three inches of rainfall fill some of these homes with water, homes adjacent to the banks of Skunk Creek could easily become victims of erosion as the soil they sit on crumbles and moves downstream.”

“The voluntary acquisition of homes is a unique approach to floodplain management,” said County Supervisor Andy Kunasek. “It is the best approach for everybody. Not only is it the best approach for public safety, it saves tax dollars, and helps protect the natural desert environment, preserves wildlife habitat, and reduces the amount of property affected in building structural solutions.”

The voluntary buyout was only a portion of the Skunk Creek Watercourse Master Plan. In addition, the District has identified a corridor along the Skunk Creek where development is restricted due to hazards from flooding and erosion.

“Erosion is a serious issue for residents in this area,” said DeRosa. “It should be noted that over the last 50 years, the Skunk Creek has been subject to some major flooding, erosion and lateral movement and large floods have moved the main channel by more than 400 feet.” Because of this, there is now no building allowed in the designated 100-year floodway and only a limited build is allowed in the Erosion Hazard Zone. To build in this corridor, residents must meet rigorous erosion permitting requirements as part of getting a Floodplain Use Permit.

Another outcome of the Skunk Creek Watercourse Master Plan is the placement of additional stream and rain gauges on Skunk Creek and in the upper watershed, which should provide engineers with more accurate information on the area.

In addition, the District will be conducting additional studies in the area, beginning with the Adobe Dam/Desert Hills Area Drainage Master Plan, which will complement the Skunk Creek Watercourse Plan and study drainage in the whole watershed.

For more information, call DeRosa at 602-506-4766 or Public Information Officer Angeline Fowler 602-506-6762.

#163

Flood control? It should be priority

You are new to this drought-stricken East Valley desert. Frogs are using Lubriderm, and you think flood control is a covert operation to detect al-Qaida submarines cruising up the Eastern Canal.

"A lot of newcomers just don't think it rains here," said Joe Muñoz, Maricopa County Flood Control District spokesman. "And when it does they still don't believe it."

Not Bill Puffer.

He is chairman of a citizens group that wants to put its finger in the dike before an inevitable torrent turns palatial neighborhoods and 2,500 homes near the Usery Mountain Recreation Area into high-rent wetlands.

"There hasn't been a good rain in this area since a good part of the population has been here," Puffer said. "They don't know what's going to happen the next time it really rains. If a couple of inches of rain in that recent powerful storm



ART THOMASON

The Arizona Republic

were dumped on us there would have been major damage."

Flood control officials have known this for decades. In 1987, they proposed a flood management plan for a 35-square-mile area, including the county's breathtaking Usery Mountain area and an adjacent section of northeast Mesa.

But flood control means high-dollar engineering studies, installing underground drainage pipes, building retention basins or diversion canals and berms.

Today's costs: About \$32 million, said Afshin Ahourriayan, project manager for the flood control plan.

Money that the county and the cities still don't have.

Flood control, like voting in local elections, has never been a high priority.

"Because flooding is the last thing on people's minds," Muñoz said. "It happens maybe once in every five years."

That's why Dave Ellegood, the flood control district's chief engineer, has come up with a better strategy.

He wants to employ effective flood control planning into every development project before it is approved. Across the Valley.

"Whenever we in public works construct anything it forever changes the landscape," Ellegood said. "So it's a tremendous responsibility to assure that what we build will enhance the community, not damage it."

It sounds reasonable.

But I could be all wet.

Reach Thomason at
art.thomason@arizonarepublic.com or
(602) 444-7971.

7/25/02

#64

Good job Joe!!

Julie

Joe Munoz - FCDX

From: Mike Ellegood - FCDX
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2002 10:42 AM
To: Joe Munoz - FCDX; Angeline Fowler - FCDX; Russ Miracle - FCDX; Afshin Ahouraiyan - FCDX
Subject: FW: Flood control in desert? It should be a priority - AZ Rep - 07-25-02

FYI, good coverage
 -----Original Message-----

From: Julie White - MCDOTX
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2002 10:28 AM
To: RTA KM (for email postings) (E-mail); Tom Buick - MCDOTX; Roger Ball - MCDOTX; Mike Sabatini - MCDOTX; Roberta Crowe - MCDOTX; Mike Ellegood - FCDX
Subject: Flood control in desert? It should be a priority - AZ Rep - 07-25-02

Flood control in desert? It should be a priority

July 25, 2002



ART THOMASON

You are new to this drought-stricken East Valley desert.

Frogs are using Lubriderm, and you think flood control is a covert operation to detect al-Qaida submarines cruising up the Eastern Canal.

"A lot of newcomers just don't think it rains here," said Joe Muñoz, Maricopa County Flood Control District spokesman. "And when it does they still don't believe it."

Not Bill Puffer.

He is chairman of a citizens group that wants to put its finger in the dike before an inevitable torrent turns palatial neighborhoods and 2,500 homes near the Utery Mountain Recreation Area into high-rent wetlands.

"There hasn't been a good rain in this area since a good part of the population has been here," Puffer said. "They don't know what's going to happen the next time it really rains. If a couple of inches of rain in that recent powerful storm were dumped on us there would have been major damage."

Flood control officials have known this for decades. In 1987, they proposed a flood management plan for a 35-square-mile area, including the county's breathtaking Utery Mountain area and an adjacent section of northeast Mesa.

But flood control means high-dollar engineering studies, installing underground drainage pipes, building retention basins or diversion canals and berms.

Today's costs: About \$32 million, said Afshin Ahouraiyan, project manager for the flood control plan.

Money that the county and the cities still don't have.

Flood control, like voting in local elections, has never been a high priority.

"Because flooding is the last thing on people's minds," Muñoz said. "It happens maybe once in every five years."

That's why Dave Ellegood, the flood control district's chief engineer, has come up with a better strategy.

7/27/2002

#165

10/21/02

10/21/02

B4 MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2002

Downtown • East Phoenix • North-Central • South Phoenix
New River • Maryvale • Sunnyslope • Moon Valley • Deer Valley

PHOENIX

Stacy Sullivan, Phoenix editor • 602.444.NEWS (6397)
stacy.sullivan@arizonarepublic.com

Mike -
Just when you
think an endangered
bird is a big problem
maybe we should
stop talking about
"aging infrastructure!!"
@Julie

Group protests delay of ditch fill-in

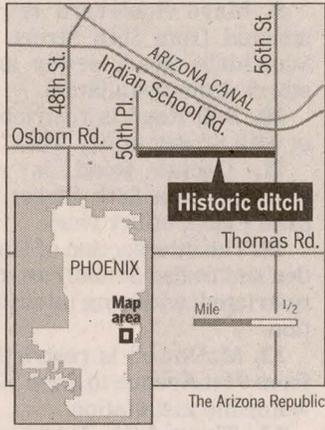
By Yvonne Wingett
The Arizona Republic

"Historic" and "ditch" don't normally go together in the same sentence, so the possible historic designation of one waterway along Osborn Road is bewildering east Phoenix residents and holding up the neighborhood's wishes of covering it.

City and state preservation officials are calling for the conservation of the 94-year-old shallow ditch that runs from 50th Place to 56th Street. But the Arcadia Osborn Neighborhood Association calls it an accident waiting to happen and is annoyed that plans to cover the waterway and add curbs and sidewalk have been interrupted.

"I think safety ought to overrule historic preservation," said Russell Moore, the neighborhood association president.

Since 1999, Phoenix



streets and transportation officials have worked with the neighborhood on a \$500,000 project to cover the ditch and narrow sections of the street. Their plans were disrupted when the waterway topped the "historic ditch list," compiled by the Salt River Project, the Bureau of Reclamation and the State Historic Preservation Office.

"The idea was that we

don't want them all to disappear without a trace," said John Keane, executive environmental analyst for Salt River Project. "(And) there's some neighborhoods that adore their ditches."

The dirt-bottom canal, lined with Modesto ash trees and vegetation, is part of the irrigation system that once carried water from the SRP to farmlands. It helped define the city's image as an agricultural region, said Bill Collins, a state historic preservation officer.

"This isn't just a hole (that) we're trying to name," said Kevin Weight of Phoenix's Historic Preservation Office.

Though residents agree that protecting history is important, they say that sidewalks are crucial for the children who walk to two nearby schools. And, they say, piping helps keep debris from clogging the ditch and helps conserve water.

*

*

Page 1
 Adobe Dam/Desert Hills
 ADMP
 27-Nov-02
 #166

POSTAL PATRON CAVE CREEK

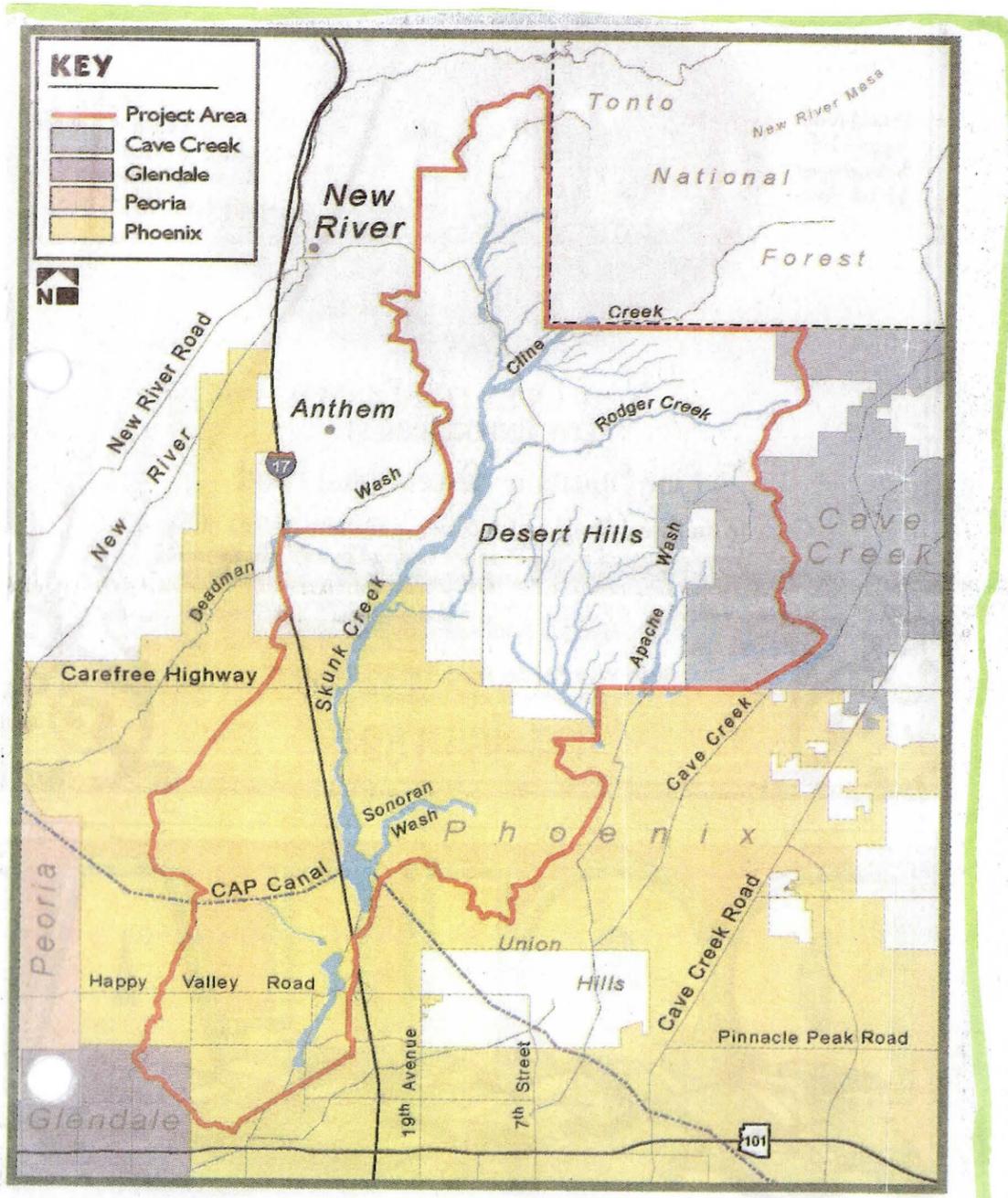
ECRWSS
 Carrier Route
 Pre-Sorted Standard
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 Permit No. 347

THE DESERT ADVOCATE

Vol. 13, No. 4

The Oldest Newspaper in Northern Maricopa County
 Est. 1989

November 27, 2002



Area study seeks solution to flooding

by Alan Richardson

DESERT FOOTHILLS/PHX – A Thursday, Nov 14, public meeting of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County was the last area public-input meeting regarding controls being considered for the Skunk Creek watercourse until May 2003.

The Adobe Dam/Desert Hills Area Drainage Master Plan is to be designed to reduce the risks of injury, death, and property damage due to flooding. As part of that mission statement, the Flood Control District is charged to provide flood hazard identification, regulation, remediation and education.

The district, according to project manager Marilyn DeRosa, has developed a vision statement to provide the “maximum protection from the affects of flooding” while being “fiscally responsible.” She added that this vision includes a

Floodplain
continued on page 12

Floodplain

continued from page 1

goal to “complement or enhance” the beauty of our desert environment. DeRosa reports that all residents of New River, Desert Hills, Cave Creek and North Phoenix will be impacted by the results of the Adobe Dam/Desert Hills drainage plan.

According to the Flood Control District, there is a 26-percent chance of experiencing a flood during the life of a 30-year mortgage, compared to only a four-percent chance of fire. Richard Harris, district engineer, said, “It is the district’s responsibility to protect the public from flooding hazards.”

The district reports that flooding is a serious issue, even in the desert of Arizona.

The public was informed at the meeting, held at Desert Valley Baptist Church in New River, of some current drainage problems. The district has concerns over channel capacity in Phoenix and overchutes at the CAP canal.

Also, they said issues with ponding, erosion, sedimentation, diverted drainage and dip crossings can cause problems for area residents. District officials noted there are homes in hazard zones and insufficient capacity at some bridge crossings, and added that the past approach of piecemeal solutions will no longer work.

“It is important for us to remember that while it does not rain often in the desert, when it does, severe flooding can occur,” said Harris. He added, “Non-structural solutions to flood-plain management,

“ There is a 26% chance of experiencing a flood ...compared to only a 4% chance of fire.”

such as flood-plain delineation, minimize the public cost of protecting citizens from flooding

while providing protection.”

Master plan goals are to define recommendation of solutions to flooding- and erosion-hazard issues. The project manager solicited input from the public about flooding/erosion problems.

Most homeowner insurance policies do not cover flood losses, and a flood insurance policy may be required by a lender if a home is mortgaged and the property is located in a flood plain.

A policy usually costs around \$300 per year for \$100,000 of coverage for the building. You can insure your home with flood insurance for up to \$250,000 for the building and \$100,000 for its contents. ❖



North Scottsdale INDEPENDENT

#67

25 CENTS

NG McDOWELL MOUNTAIN RANCH, GRAYHAWK, IRONWOOD, DC RANCH, TROON, DESERT HIGHLANDS & DESERT MOUNTAIN WEEK OF OCTOBER 30, 2002

Flood district labels NS danger area

By **Amy Seip**
Independent Newspapers

Diane Cary moved to the Sunflower subdivision in North Scottsdale one year ago, leery about buying because her home was said to have been built in a flood plain.

"A flood plain is scary to me," she said.

So when buying a second home in Bellasara, Ms. Cary wanted to ensure the home was not located in a flood plain.

On Oct. 23, representatives from the Flood Control District of Maricopa County informed Ms. Cary and others her new home does not sit in a flood plain.

She remains skeptical.

In 1995 when the Legend Trail community was built, homeowners were told their homes did not sit in the direct path of a 100-year flood plain.

Years later, it turns out, that estimation was wrong. Since then, 687 homes have been built.

Ninety homes were identified as lying inside a flood plain, according to a study conducted by DEI Professional Services for the city of Scottsdale and the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

But these homes were not tagged with the flood plain designation years ago, a fact that worries Legend Trails owner Tim Montgomery.

"It's scary," he said. "It's like the city was building in the dark. Ultimately, they put the horse before the cart

and built before they knew these homes were in danger."

Federal officials will study the new flood plain maps created by the consultants, which may take anywhere from nine months to two years, while the 90 affected homeowners sort through the new information.

If the new flood plain map is approved by federal officials, Scottsdale will ask the city council to propose a drainage project.

"If we find a large enough

number of homes are at risk, we will ask council to develop a project that mitigates flooding," said Bill Erickson, flood plain administrator for the city.

Randy Bower, a North Scottsdale resident who is also considering building a second home in the area, now has to figure out how to build a bridge in his front yard so it complies with the flood laws.

See Flood — Page 6

Flood

Continued From Page 1

"I have to figure out where to build the culverts around my home," he said. "I will need to construct a bridge because my front yard lies in the flood plain."

Mr. Bower will also have to purchase flood insurance because of the new designations.

That insurance could increase his premiums by an additional \$300 per year.

But Mr. Erickson said all the homeowners should not be concerned, as the homes identified in the flood plain may not be in danger.

He said builders may have built the homes at the

proper elevation to accommodate flooding. If that is the case, flood insurance would not have to be purchased.

However, if these homes are not protected properly, insurance rates will increase.

In the meantime, building in North Scottsdale will continue.

"We can't stop people from building," said Pat Moraca, a consultant who worked on the study. "We want to get ahead of development, but homeowners just have to rely on the expertise of the builder so the structure is engineered high enough above ground."

#68

10/24/02

John D'Anna, Scottsdale e
john.danna@scc

For additional ne
see today's community se

Study says 90 homes were built in floodplain

SCOTTSDALE—A flood control study has identified 90 homes in north Scottsdale that were built in a floodplain.

The property owners may have to buy flood insurance, which costs about \$300 per year for \$100,000 of coverage.

The yearlong study targeted the areas around Stage Coach Pass Wash and Upper Boulder Wash. The study, which identified hazard areas and determined elevations for the 100-year flood, showed 400 parcels in the floodplain.

Affected property owners have been notified of the study results, and flood control will host an open house Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. at Sunrise Community Church, 29505 N. Scottsdale Road.

#79

Funding for flood project nears

10/30/02
By BRIAN POWELL
Surprise Today

El Mirage is making progress in its effort to secure funding for a flood control project that will include a regional park site.

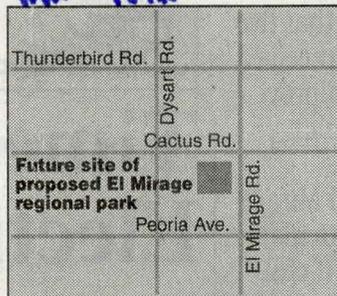
The Flood Control District of Maricopa County's advisory board unanimously voted in August to forward a resolution to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, which acts as the district's board of directors.

A board vote on the West Cactus Road Retention Basin and Channel Project resolution has not been scheduled.

If approved, an intergovernmental agreement between El Mirage and the flood control district could be signed. The city and district are expected to equally split the project's \$4 million cost. El Mirage would then work to find sponsors to fund a regional park on the site of the project's retention basin, at the southwest corner of El Mirage and Cactus roads.

District 4 County Supervisor Max Wilson, who represents the city, said after walking the

Max N/A



SURPRISE TODAY

property with officials, he saw possible flooding problems.

"I'll let (the city) make a full presentation before I tell how my vote's going to go, but I've been supporting the project since I came into office," Wilson said. "The town can use it, and they need the county's help to do it."

The flood control project would transport water from Surprise through El Mirage into a retention basin and eventually into the Agua Fria River.

El Mirage City Manager Stuart Brackney said preliminary plans have water travelling through landscaped channels between Thunderbird and Cactus roads west of El Mirage

Road and into the basin. The retention basin would double as a regional park with athletic fields, basketball courts, a recreational facility and ramadas.

From the basin, a culvert would transport the water east under El Mirage Road into a ditch at Pueblo El Mirage Country Club that would empty into the river.

Brackney said if it is approved, the first stage is designing the project. That would be followed by construction, landscaping and finally transforming the retention basin into a regional park.

"The regional park is our responsibility, not the flood control district's responsibility," Brackney said.

Brackney said the city is talking with the Tourism and Sports Authority, Salt River Project and the Arizona Diamondbacks about funding construction of the ballparks. He said it will be easier to approach them if the flood control project gains approval.

"Nobody has promised or guaranteed us a dime for the park," Brackney said.

11/1/02

#70

E.V. restoration project targets Salt River bed

Feds, Mesa, reservation aim to rebuild ecosystem

BY JASON EMERSON
TRIBUNE

The dry and dusty Salt River bed cutting between Mesa and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community could become a lush and wet greenscape under a plan federal officials outlined Thursday in Mesa.

The Va Shly'ay Akimel Salt River Restoration Project is in the early stages and won't be enacted for years.

But city, reservation and federal officials are spending \$4.8 million to study how to restore the Salt River's lost ecosystem, which once included a year-round water flow, trees, shrubs, grasses and marsh plants.

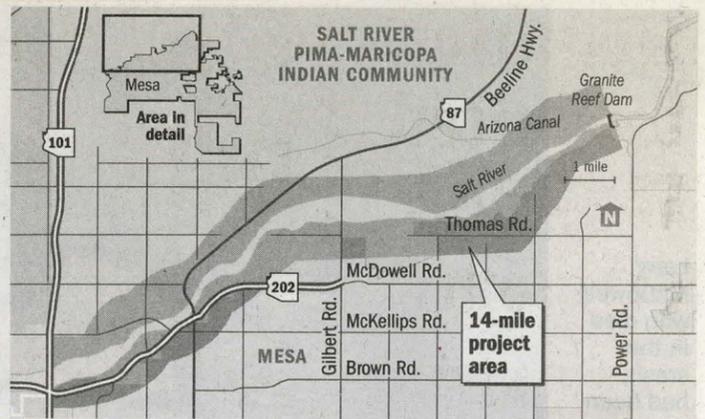
"Both communities have said that

we want something besides a scarred river bottom," said Mesa Mayor Keno Hawker. "When we clean up the banks, we want to have something that's attractive to look at and reflects the earlier stages of what the habitat used to be."

The plan began taking shape two years ago when Mesa and the Salt River community asked the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for help in cleaning up 14 miles of barren riverbed stretching from Loop 101 to the Granite Reef Dam.

The goal is to repair some of the ecological damage that resulted when a series of dams were built upstream — including the Roosevelt Dam in 1911— cutting water flows downstream, said Kayla Eckert, a water resources planner with the Corps of Engineers. The agency is

Please see **BED**, Page **A9**



Brad A. Towsley/TRIBUNE

BED: Flood damage could be lessened

From Page **A1**

authorized by Congress to do navigation, flood control and ecosystem restoration projects.

The riverbed will continue to deteriorate if government agencies don't take steps now to stop it, federal officials warn. The restoration project also could help prevent erosion damage from floods, officials said.

The 14-mile stretch of the Salt River north of Mesa will never fully recover, Eckert said. However, some of the habitat can be restored, including the reintroduction of cottonwood, willow and mesquite trees on the river banks, she said.

"The dams aren't coming down anytime soon," Eckert said. "So the question is how do we go back to something more sustainable in that river that benefits the environment."

The answer lies in finding a sustainable water source.

In a survey of the area completed in June, the Corps of Engineers identified nearly a dozen sources of water, including storm runoff and treated wastewater.

"There is some opportunity out here to have water resources that aren't being used by anybody, or are being discharged into the river that we can reroute or redistribute," said Mike Ternak, the project manager.

Over the next four months, a consortium of experts headed by the Corps of Engineers will put together a detailed plan to repair more than 90 years of riverbed deterioration.

Officials are waiting on the \$4.8 million feasibility study, which is scheduled to be completed in December 2004. The federal government is paying 50 percent of the study's cost, while Mesa and the Salt River community are splitting the remainder.

There's no cost estimate yet for the restoration project. Rough estimates are expected in March, Eckert said.

Congress is expected to pay 65 percent of the project's cost. Mesa and the Salt River community are expected to split the difference.

If Congress gives its OK in early 2005, the project will move into a three-year design phase. Construction won't begin until at least 2008 and will last a number of years, Eckert said.

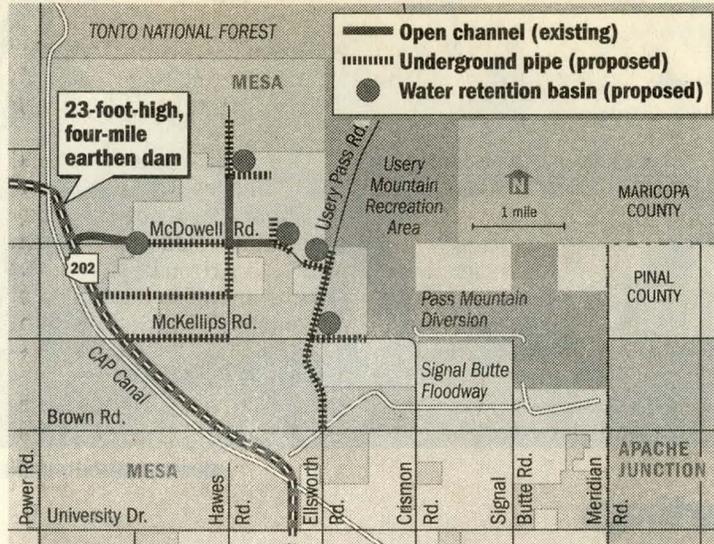
According to Jim Huling, a lobbyist employed by Mesa, members of Arizona's local congressional delegation supporting the project are Reps. Ed Pastor and J.D. Hayworth, and Sen. Jon Kyl.

— Tribune writer Jason Emerson can be reached by e-mail at jemerson@aztrib.com or by phone at (480) 898-6568.

#71

Flood protection plan

A revamped flood protection plan for northeast Mesa has won the approval of Maricopa County, Mesa, and residents.



SOURCE: Maricopa County Flood Control District

Scott Kirchofer/TRIBUNE

Mesa, county argue over flood plan's bill

BY JASON EMERSON
TRIBUNE

Maricopa County is backing a revamped flood-protection plan for northeast Mesa that would protect hundreds of homes in the area without destroying pristine desert in the Utery Mountains.

The only problem is that the plan will cost about \$34 million — about \$10 million more than the last one — and the county and Mesa disagree over who should foot the bill.

The plan is intended to protect about 6,000 residents who live near the base of the mountains from a 100-year flood caused by 4.2 inches of rain dropped during a 24-hour period.

Mesa City Councilman Bill Jaffa said Friday that the money for the project will have to come from either the county or the state because the city doesn't have it.

"The question is who's financially responsible," he said.

Maricopa County Flood Control District officials argue that costs should be split 50-50

between the city and county.

If Mesa doesn't help shoulder costs, residents in the area could be left without flood protection for 10 to 15 years, flood control officials said.

"The holdup will be whether the city of Mesa has the funds available," said Afshin Ahouraiyan, a project manager with the flood control district.

Both agencies agree the area needs flood protection.

"The plan we adopted needs to be implemented as soon as possible because of the potential for property damage and the loss of life," Jaffa said.

For Mesa to pay half the cost, residents will have to approve a tax increase so bonds can be levied to pay for the project, said City Manager Mike Hutchinson.

"We don't have enough storm drain bonds to do all that stuff," Hutchinson said, pointing out that voters turned down bond measures in 2000.

Last year, Jaffa helped residents derail the county's plan to dig a mile-long canal in the Utery Mountain Recreation Area to divert floodwater.

#12

Doubletree project to break ground Dec. 10

By Amy Washburn
Independent Newspapers

12/4/02

Residents in search of an updated schedule of the Doubletree Ranch Road Area Drainage and Street Improvement Project need not look further than the Paradise Valley Web site.

Included on the site are the dates of events leading up to the completion of the project as well as a map detailing its scope.

The Paradise Valley Town Council will break ground on the project at 10 a.m. Dec. 10 at Doubletree Ranch Road and the Indian Bend Wash crossing, in the 5800 block of Doubletree Ranch Road.

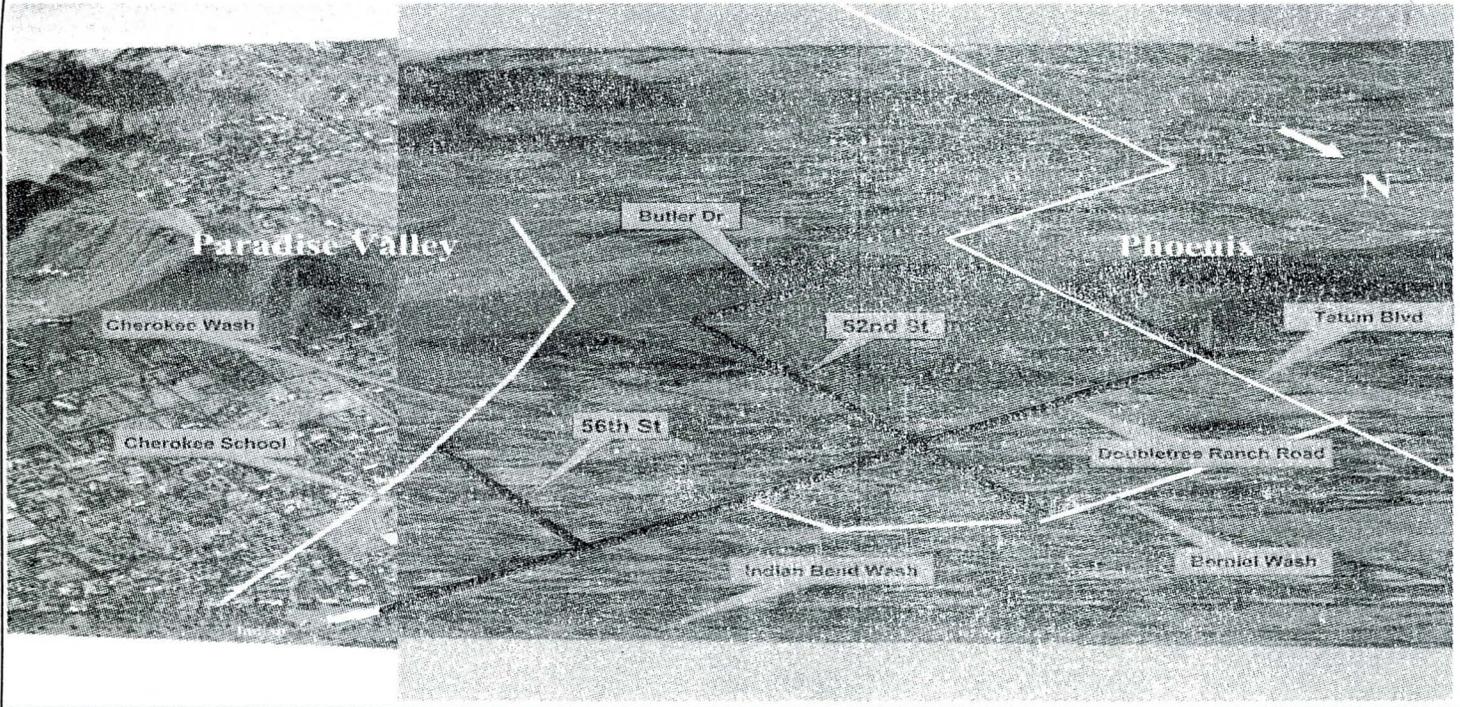
Among those expected to attend are Maricopa County Board of Supervisors Chairman Don Stapley, Maricopa County Supervisor Andrew Kunasek and members of the Paradise Valley Town Council.

The project has been designed to protect Paradise Valley residents from flooding, improve traffic and pedestrian safety, reduce cut-through traffic, and beautify the roadway.

Once completed the underground storm drains and culverts will be installed under Doubletree Ranch Road to carry storm water from Indian Bend Wash.

See **Doubletree** — Page 6

Project Map



Submitted photo

Estimated to take 14 months to complete, the drainage and street improvement project will affect Doubletree Ranch Road between the Indian Bend Wash and Tatum Boulevard as well as 52nd Street, 56th Street and Butler Drive.

Doubletree

Continued From Page 1

The wash carries large amounts of storm waters running from the Phoenix

Mountains.

Award of contract is expected to take place for the project at the Dec. 19 council meeting. A pre-construction meeting will take place Jan. 6.

The \$10.3 million project,

which was approved by the council in January 2002, will be completed by the end of April 2004.

The Town is responsible for funding the street improvement portion of the project. The first phase of

the street improvements is expected to cost \$1.2 million, while the second phase will cost \$1.4 million.

Information and an updated project schedule can be found at www.ci.paradise-valley.az.us.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

online Edition

Sections

FRONT PAGE LOCAL SPORTS BUSINESS ARIZONA LIVING OPINIONS

CLASSIFIEDS | ADVERTISE | SUBSCRIBE | ARCHIVES | TALK BACK | HELP | REPUBLIC STORE | ABOUT US

en

SIGN SPEC VIA I

#13

Site Search

Republic

GO

• [Advanced search, tips](#)

SCOTTSDALE

SAVE THIS

EMAIL THIS

PRINT THIS

MOST POPULAR

PV to start road project, flood control

Work to last year, cost \$13 million

By Diana Balazs

The Arizona Republic
Dec. 10, 2002

PARADISE VALLEY - After a decade of design, debate and deliberation, construction of a \$13 million flood-control and road-improvement project in Paradise Valley is scheduled to begin.

Officials will break ground at 10 a.m. today, gathering for the public event in the 5800 block of East Doubletree Ranch Road.

"I think it's the biggest public works project the town has ever had and probably will ever have," said Mayor Ed Lowry.

The approximately one-year project, to begin in January, is designed to carry runoff from a 10-year storm. It will consist of storm pipes and culverts under Doubletree Ranch Road, storm drains in Tatum Boulevard, 52nd Street, Butler Drive and 56th Street, and the elimination of existing ditches along Doubletree. Doubletree will be lowered to allow excess floodwaters to empty into the Indian Bend Wash.

Blucor Inc. has been selected to do the work, which will be done in phases to minimize disruption. In addition to on-site construction managers, the town will set up a 24-hour telephone hotline for residents and will update them throughout the project with mailers.

The project deeply divided the neighborhood. Supporters said they were tired of being flooded during storms, while opponents argued the project was unnecessary and a waste of money.

The project also calls for \$2.7 million in street improvements to Doubletree from Tatum to Invergordon Road, including new curbs and sidewalks, a recreational path, traffic islands, medians and crosswalks. The road will be resurfaced with rubberized asphalt.

The town will pay for the street improvements. The \$10.3 million cost for the flood control will be split, with the Flood Control District of Maricopa County paying 60 percent and the town 40 percent.

SUNDAY SECTIONS

R&E
CAREERBUILDER
TRAVEL & EXPLORE
VIEWPOINTS

FEATURES SECTIONS

HOUSE & HOME
FOOD & DRINK
MOVIE PREVIEW
WHEELS

LOCAL SECTIONS

AHWATUKEE
CHANDLER
TEMPE
MESA
GILBERT
NORTHEAST
SCOTTSDALE
NORTH SCOTTSDALE
SUN CITIES/SURPRISE
GLENDALE/PEORIA
NORTH PHOENIX
CENTRAL PHOENIX
SOUTHWEST VALLEY

ON AZCENTRAL.COM

ENTERTAINMENT
CALENDARS
TRAVEL & OUTDOORS
COMMUNITY STORIES
GOLF
HOME & GARDEN
COMICS & GAMES
OBITUARIES

7 DAY ARCHIVE

• Cc
• Ot
• Tr
• Az

Co
Op
• Nc

#74

CLOSE UP

STORMY PLAN

Council informed of possible new flood plan

By Amy Washburn
Independent Newspapers

The Town of Paradise Valley may be getting ready to get their feet wet in another project to better equip the area in case of a flood. The big question for the Paradise Valley Town Council is how much will it cost the town?

Councilmembers were informed by Maricopa County Flood Control District Project Manager Afshin Ahouraiyan about the results of a study that could impact the town at its Sept. 29 work/study session.

Last March, the Flood Control District of Maricopa County initiated a study regarding the City of Scottsdale's seven-year-old request for a joint study of the drainage facilities within a 10-square mile area.

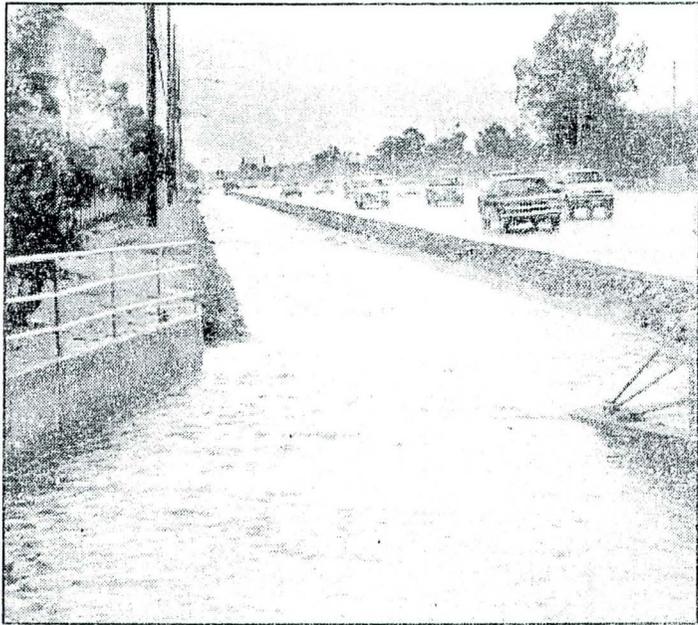
Council members were first briefed on the project area. It is defined by the Central Arizona Project to the north, Miller Road to the east, 64th Street to the west and Berneil Ditch to the south.

The study produced five alternatives with varying costs, constraints and benefits that would create improvements to drainage facilities alongside Scottsdale Road.

After hearing feedback from residents at meetings held in May 2001, March 2002 and June 2002, one alternative out of 15 plans was selected.

The chosen alternative would provide a 10-year protection level within the study area.

The protection level at two



Submitted photo

A rain storm in October 2000 created flooded washes in Scottsdale. The rain was estimated to be a two-year rainfall.

of the area's basins, found at Cactus and Mescal parks, would be increased to 100-year status.

According to Mr. Ahouraiyan, Berniel Wash in Paradise Valley is in need of improvements to allow storm water to run quickly down the channel rather than overflow in the area.

Town Engineer Bill Mead said the wash's surrounding area had been flooded twice in the past 10 years.

Rainwater from a storm in 1994 flooded six homes in the area.

Although Paradise Valley has been affected by overflow water from Berniel Wash, council members were wary of the cost that Paradise Valley will incur.

"I am still waiting to hear how Paradise Valley will ben-

efit from this," Councilman Steve Benson said.

The council's skepticism towards the initial meeting no doubt stemmed from the project's lofty price tag.

The total cost for the master plan is \$6 million. Improvements to Berniel Wash alone will cost \$1.6 million.

Mr. Ahouraiyan said funding for the project has not gone into negotiations. The Maricopa County Flood Control District will pay a portion of the project, while the City of Scottsdale and Town of Paradise Valley are also expected to participate in the funding.

"Is it fair for (Paradise Valley) to pay one-third of this project if we're only a small

See Flood — Page 6

25 CENTS

October 16, 2002

Town of Paradise Valley
TWO PERCENT

#75 AG

West Valley View, Litchfield Park, Arizona, November 27, 2002

OUR VIEWPOINT

Flood control plan could be a winner

Anyone who has moved here since January 1993 might have a hard time imagining parts of the West Valley under water. It happens every now and then.

Back in the late 1970s, we had what was called a 100-year flood. Water was rushing through the Agua Fria River at the rate of 186,000 cubic feet per second. All but three bridges over the Salt River were washed away. People who lived on one side of the river and worked on the other spent more time trying to cross the river than they spent at work. People who built in the river bottoms, such as the residents of an erstwhile community called Hound Dog Acres on 107th Avenue north of Sun City, watched helplessly from an embankment as the usually bone-dry Agua Fria flowed through their living rooms.

The Great 1978 flood was followed by the Great 1980 flood, which was dubbed a 500-year flood. Again, bridges were swept away by the force of the raging rivers, homes were damaged and commerce was interrupted.

After those disasters, enhanced flood-control measures were put into place. Dams were raised, channels dug in the riverbed and bridges rebuilt to withstand the force of flowing water. But those were the rivers that flowed through developed parts of the Valley — the Salt, the Agua Fria, and the New River.

The Gila traversed relatively undeveloped rural areas and flood-control measures weren't a priority on that river.

But times are changing. The once-remote Gila River flows through three cities that are now growing at a rapid pace — Avondale, Goodyear and Buckeye.

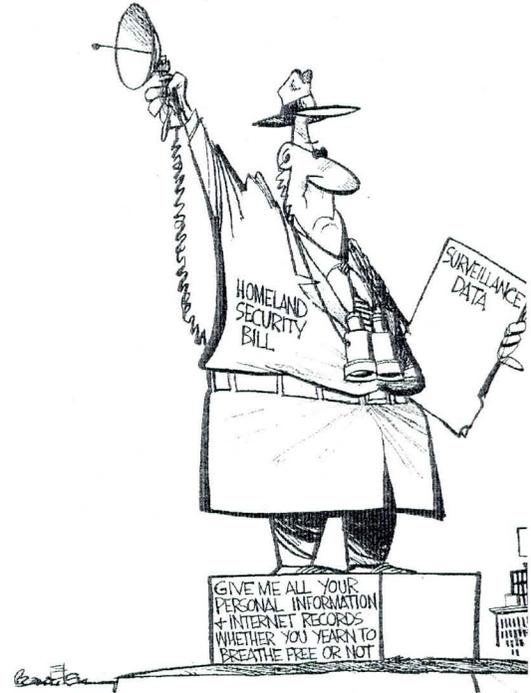
Starting next week, the Maricopa County Flood Control District will be sponsoring a series of meetings to inform the public about the El Rio Watercourse Master Plan, which is designed to restore Gila River habitats while implementing flood control measures that will protect future developments (see story on Page A11). It's an innovative plan that will provide additional recreational amenities for West Valley residents while keeping future residential developments dry during exceptionally wet periods.

Besides minimizing flood damage, the measures will protect riparian environments and wildlife, provide hiking trails and give fishermen another place to cast their lines.

At first glance, it sounds like a winning plan, but we'll keep you informed as more details come forth.

KIRK'S OPINION

Cartoonist for the Toledo Blade



LETTERS TO THE

Voters earn 'thank you'

To the editor:

The Agua Fria Union High School District would like to thank the voters in our community for their support in our recent bond election. With this confirmation we will continue to provide a quality education for all of our students.

Bond committee members who spend countless hours ensuring the passage of this initiative deserve our recognition as well. Thank you, Jim Warkowski, Bill Mellinger, John Manobianco, Mark Gonzales, Jeff Andreson, Meredith Stucky and Dick Lattin for your commitment to the Agua Fria Union High School District demonstrated through your work on the committee.

We are fortunate to live in a community that supports education as strongly as this community. Our promise is to never take that sup-

port for granted.

When questioned he was able to play with such success Newton stated, "If I see farther than because I stood or giants." As we play with the needed election provided, the community, to ing us your should

Doug Wilson,

A

High

Prop. 30: hypocris

To the editor:

The passage of 2-to-1 margin prc

1. Two-thirds c all these years wh didn't want welfa

Correction

Embarrassing misspellings

In a letter to the editor in the Nov. 20 West Valley Bill Brainard of Litchfield Park criticized the View

#710

azcentral.com

HEALTH · ENTERTAINMENT · CALENDAR · GAMING · TRAVEL · JOBS · CARS · REAL ESTATE · PHONE BOOK

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

online Edition

Sections

FRONT PAGE LOCAL SPORTS BUSINESS ARIZONA LIVING OPINIONS

en

CLASSIFIEDS | ADVERTISE | SUBSCRIBE | ARCHIVES | TALK BACK | HELP | REPUBLIC STORE | ABOUT US

SIGN SPEC VIA I

Site Search

Republic

GO

• [Advanced search, tips](#)

SUNDAY SECTIONS

R&E
CAREERBUILDER
TRAVEL & EXPLORE
VIEWPOINTS

FEATURES SECTIONS

HOUSE & HOME
FOOD & DRINK
MOVIE PREVIEW
WHEELS

LOCAL SECTIONS

AHWATUKEE
CHANDLER
TEMPE
MESA
GILBERT
NORTHEAST
SCOTTSDALE
NORTH SCOTTSDALE
SUN CITIES/SURPRISE
GLENDALE/PEORIA
NORTH PHOENIX
CENTRAL PHOENIX
SOUTHWEST VALLEY

ON AZCENTRAL.COM

ENTERTAINMENT
CALENDARS
TRAVEL & OUTDOORS
COMMUNITY STORIES
GOLF
HOME & GARDEN
COMICS & GAMES
OBITUARIES

7 DAY ARCHIVE

SCOTTSDALE

SAVE THIS

EMAIL THIS

PRINT THIS

MOST POPULAR

PV puts plenty of pizazz into flood project kickoff

By **Diana Balazs**
The Arizona Republic
Dec. 11, 2002

PARADISE VALLEY - Only in Paradise Valley would a groundbreaking be held on a golf course complete with fruit, pastries and juice for nourishment, a blue-and-white tent for shade and a squeaky-clean front-end loader for atmosphere.

With a golfer in the distance yelling "Fore," town officials joined Maricopa County officials Tuesday in ceremonially breaking ground for a major flood control and road improvement project along Doubletree Ranch Road.

The event was held in the Indian Bend Wash, which courses through the Camelback Golf Club.

Blucor, a Gilbert-based construction company, has been selected as the project contractor. The Board of Supervisors is expected to award the contract bid and authorize construction at its Jan. 8 meeting, said Mike Ellegood, chief engineer and general manager of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

Ellegood said the economic downturn had a positive effect because competitive companies bidding on the project came in with less-costly figures.

The engineer's estimate for the project was \$12.3 million. Blucor's bid came in at \$7.7 million, Ellegood said.

"We're quite pleased with the way the bids came in. There were other bids also fairly low as well," he said.

Pat Neal, the town's construction manager, said construction is expected to begin the week of Jan. 13 with completion set for February 2004.

• Co
• Ot
• Tr
• AZ

Co
Op
• No

az

- SUNDAY
- MONDAY
- TUESDAY
- WEDNESDAY
- THURSDAY
- FRIDAY
- SATURDAY

Neal said a pre-construction public meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Jan. 6 at Town Hall, 6401 E. Lincoln Drive.

The project is designed to carry runoff from a 10-year storm through a series of storm pipes, drains and culverts along the two-mile stretch of Doubletree between Tatum Boulevard and Invergordon Road. Doubletree also will be upgraded with rubberized asphalt, bike paths and other improvements.

Ellegood said the project is only beginning. The road will be torn up, and there will be detours, dust and mud. Officials said everything will be done to minimize the construction's impact on the neighborhood.

"At least we see the light at the end of the tunnel. Hopefully, by this time next year, that job will be done," he said.

Reach the reporter at diana.balazs@scottsdalerepublic.com or (602) 444-6877.

 University of Phoenix	Phoenix Campus Accelerate your career in Just 2-3 Years! START NOW!
---	---

[Republic Front Page](#) | [Local](#) | [Sports](#)
[Arizona Living](#) | [Business](#) | [Opinions](#)

[Subscribe to The Republic](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

[Help Center](#) | [About us](#)

Copyright 2002, The Arizona Republic. All rights reserved
Gannett Co. Inc.

#77

azcentral.com

HEALTH ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR GAMING TRAVEL JOBS CARS REAL ESTATE PHONE BOOK

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

online Edition

Sections

FRONT PAGE LOCAL SPORTS BUSINESS ARIZONA LIVING OPINIONS

en

CLASSIFIEDS | ADVERTISE | SUBSCRIBE | ARCHIVES | TALK BACK | HELP | REPUBLIC STORE | ABOUT US

SIGN SPEC VIA I

Site Search

Republic

GO

• [Advanced search, tips](#)

NORTHEAST

SAVE THIS

EMAIL THIS

PRINT THIS

MOST POPULAR

Ground broken on PV flood-control project

By **Diana Balazs**
The Arizona Republic
Dec. 13, 2002

• Cc
• Ot
• Tr
• Az

[an
whi
this

SUNDAY SECTIONS

R&E
CAREERBUILDER
TRAVEL & EXPLORE
VIEWPOINTS

FEATURES SECTIONS

HOUSE & HOME
FOOD & DRINK
MOVIE PREVIEW
WHEELS

LOCAL SECTIONS

AHWATUKEE
CHANDLER
TEMPE
MESA
GILBERT
NORTHEAST
SCOTTSDALE
NORTH SCOTTSDALE
SUN CITIES/SURPRISE
GLENDALE/PEORIA
NORTH PHOENIX
CENTRAL PHOENIX
SOUTHWEST VALLEY

ON AZCENTRAL.COM

ENTERTAINMENT
CALENDARS
TRAVEL & OUTDOORS
COMMUNITY STORIES
GOLF
HOME & GARDEN
COMICS & GAMES
OBITUARIES

7 DAY ARCHIVE

Only in the town of Paradise Valley would a groundbreaking be held on a golf course complete with blue-and-white tent for shade; fruit, pastries and juice for nourishment; and a squeaky-clean front-end loader for atmosphere.

With a golfer in the distance yelling, "Fore," town officials joined Maricopa County officials Tuesday in ceremonially breaking ground for a major flood control and road improvement project along Doubletree Ranch Road.

The event was held in the Indian Bend Wash, which courses through the Camelback Golf Club.

Blucor, a Gilbert-based construction company, has been selected as the project contractor. The Board of Supervisors is expected to award the contract bid and authorize construction at its Jan. 8 meeting, said Mike Ellegood, chief engineer and general manager of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

Ellegood said the economic downturn had a positive effect because competitive companies bidding on the project came in with less-costly figures.

The engineer's estimate for the project was \$12.3 million. Blucor's bid came in at \$7.7 million, Ellegood said.

"We're quite pleased with the way the bids came in. There were other bids also fairly low as well," he said.

Pat Neal, the town's construction manager, said construction is expected to begin the week of Jan. 13 with completion set for February 2004.

Neal said a pre-construction meeting for the public is scheduled for 6 to 8

- SUNDAY
- MONDAY
- TUESDAY
- WEDNESDAY
- THURSDAY
- FRIDAY
- SATURDAY

He said a pre-construction meeting for the public is scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m. Jan. 6 at Town Hall, 6401 E. Lincoln Drive.

The project is designed to carry runoff from a 10-year storm through a series of storm pipes, drains and culverts along the two-mile stretch of Doubletree between Tatum Boulevard and Invergordon Road. Doubletree also will be upgraded with rubberized asphalt, bike paths and other improvements.

Ellegood said the project is only beginning. The road will be torn up, and there will be detours, dust and mud. Officials said everything will be done to minimize the construction's impact on the neighborhood.

"At least we see the light at the end of the tunnel. Hopefully, by this time next year, that job will be done," he said.

Reach the reporter at diana.balazs@arizonarepublic.com or (602) 444-6877.

 University of Phoenix	Phoenix Campus
	Accelerate your career in Just 2-3 Years! START NOW!

[Republic Front Page](#) | [Local](#) | [Sports](#)
[Arizona Living](#) | [Business](#) | [Opinions](#)

[Subscribe to The Republic](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

[Help Center](#) | [About us](#)

Copyright 2002, The Arizona Republic. All rights reserved
[Gannett Co. Inc.](#)

azcentral.com

HEALTH · ENTERTAINMENT · CALENDAR · GAMING · TRAVEL · JOBS · CARS · REAL ESTATE · PHONE BOOK

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

online Edition

Sections

FRONT PAGE

LOCAL

SPORTS

BUSINESS

ARIZONA LIVING

OPINIONS

en

CLASSIFIEDS | ADVERTISE | SUBSCRIBE | ARCHIVES | TALK BACK | HELP | REPUBLIC STORE | ABOUT US

SIGN SPEC VIA I

Site Search

Republic

GO

• [Advanced search, tips](#)

SUNDAY SECTIONS

R&E
CAREERBUILDER
TRAVEL & EXPLORE
VIEWPOINTS

FEATURES SECTIONS

HOUSE & HOME
FOOD & DRINK
MOVIE PREVIEW
WHEELS

LOCAL SECTIONS

AHUATUKEE
CHANDLER
TEMPE
MESA
GILBERT
NORTHEAST
SCOTTSDALE
NORTH SCOTTSDALE
SUN CITIES/SURPRISE
GLENDALE/PEORIA
NORTH PHOENIX
CENTRAL PHOENIX
SOUTHWEST VALLEY

ON AZCENTRAL.COM

ENTERTAINMENT
CALENDARS
TRAVEL & OUTDOORS
COMMUNITY STORIES
GOLF
HOME & GARDEN
COMICS & GAMES
OBITUARIES

7 DAY ARCHIVE

REPUBLIC EDITORIALS

SAVE THIS

EMAIL THIS

PRINT THIS

MOST POPULAR

Flood-control project right for Paradise Valley

Resulting improvements worth short-term woes for residents

Dec. 17, 2002

Any Northeast Valley motorist who has experienced the dubious rainy-day thrill of re-creating the Apollo 13 splashdown on Doubletree Ranch Road knows the delicate relationship between Paradise Valley and storm water in the Indian Bend Wash.

Although the construction is going to mess up Doubletree Ranch Road for a year, we're pleased to see Paradise Valley and Maricopa County officials moving forward with a comprehensive plan to address flooding threats in the area.

The 13-month project, which is pending final county approval but expected to get under way in January, is unprecedented in Paradise Valley's history. It will improve Doubletree Ranch between Tatum Boulevard and Invergordon Road, with a special focus on the Indian Bend Wash crossing at the Camelback Golf Club course.

Water will continue to flow through the wash and close Doubletree Ranch when it rains, Town Engineer Bill Mead said. It's supposed to work that way. But a new storm-drain system will be able to handle the runoff from a significant "10-year storm" that could endanger nearby homes.

Paradise Valley last experienced that sort of intense flooding in 1992, and, according to the town's Web site, about 200 homes could be at risk now. Residential growth west of the Indian Bend Wash over the past few decades has eaten up the desert and blunted the effectiveness of many of the natural drainage washes.

Besides the project's flood-control component, Doubletree Ranch also will be curved and "beautified" with new medians, sidewalks and curbs, and the like. They're even going to use noise-absorbing rubberized asphalt.

Such an ambitious project is not without drawbacks. Doubletree Ranch is

The Re

Edit the new edit con Ann Boa Dok Mac Nils Pim Rot Rot Val We: Ben

- SUNDAY
- MONDAY
- TUESDAY
- WEDNESDAY
- THURSDAY
- FRIDAY
- SATURDAY

Such an ambitious project is not without drawbacks. Doubletree Ranch is going to be a nightmare for residents throughout 2003. In fact, the road will be open during construction only to local traffic, and town officials are warning that mailboxes, driveways and landscaping will have to be moved or rebuilt. As a tradeoff, homeowners probably will appreciate the quieter and calmer traffic pattern that will result from the changes.

And the timing is right. One good thing about a sluggish economy is that bidding for public-works projects gets fiercer and, in this case, the winning bid for what was estimated to be a more than \$12 million project was under \$8 million. And the town was wise to take advantage of the cooperation of the Maricopa County Flood Control District, which is expected to pick up about 60 percent of the tab.

Flooding is serious business, and Paradise Valley is right to make the issue a priority, even though there will be short-term hassles for drivers and residents.

 University of Phoenix	Phoenix Campus	
	Accelerate your career in Just 2-3 Years!	START NOW!

[Republic Front Page](#) | [Local](#) | [Sports](#)
[Arizona Living](#) | [Business](#) | [Opinions](#)

[Subscribe to The Republic](#)

[Terms of Service](#)

[Help Center](#) | [About us](#)

Copyright 2002, The Arizona Republic. All rights reserved
Gannett Co. Inc.

#79

CLOSE UP

12/18/02



Photos by Amy Washburn/Independent Newspapers

Members of the Paradise Valley Town Council as well as county offices ceremoniously shoveled dirt Dec. 10 at Doubletree Ranch Road Drainage and Roadway Improvement project groundbreaking ceremony. They were, from left, Flood Control District of Maricopa County member Michael S. Ellegood, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors Board of Directors Chairman Don Stapley, Mayor Ed Lowry, Councilwoman Jini Simpson, Maricopa County Supervisor Andy Kunasek, Vice Mayor Dan Schweiker, Councilmen Ron Clarke and Ed Winkler, and Blucorp Contracting President Gordon Bluth.

Doubletree Ranch Road flood project to begin

By **Amy Washburn** and **Wendy Miller**
Independent Newspapers

In less than one month, ground will be broken on the Doubletree Ranch Road Drainage and Roadway Improvement Project.

Paradise Valley Mayor Ed Lowry, Flood Control District of Maricopa County member Michael S. Ellegood and Maricopa County Board of Supervisors Board of Directors Chairman Don Stapley spoke at a Dec. 10 event held near the Indian Bend Wash overpass to kick off the project.

The project, which will

begin Jan. 6, includes street improvements along Doubletree Ranch Road from Tatum Boulevard to Invergordon Road, underground storm pipes and culverts under streets and the elimination of ditches alongside Doubletree Ranch Road. Storm drains will be installed in Tatum Boulevard, 52nd Street, Butler Drive and 56th Street, while a box culvert crossing will be installed for Cherokee Wash at 56th Street.

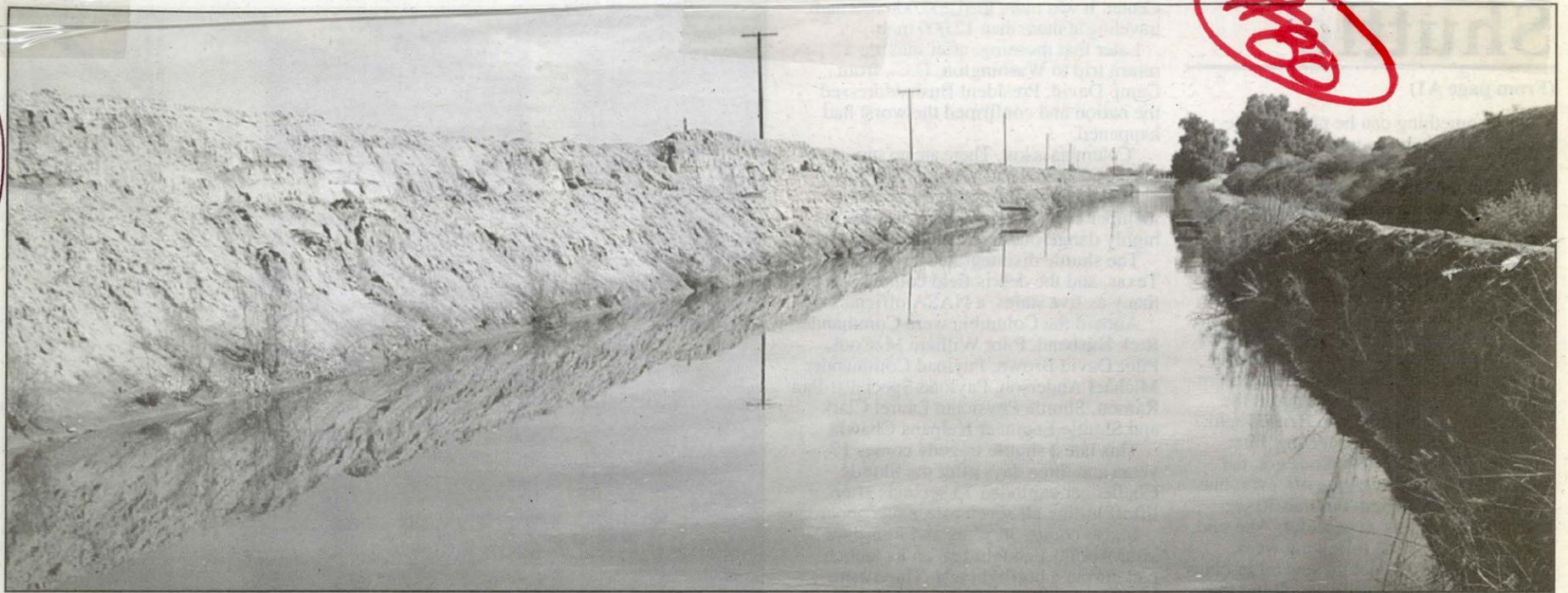
"On Jan. 6 the dirt will start flying," said Mike Sloyan, general manager of Blucorp Contracting, the company managing all aspects

of the project.

Many people who reside along the project corridor attended the ceremony. Dianne Smith has lived near Doubletree and 57th Street since 1972.

"It was a dirt road when I moved here so I'm excited about the project. It will be quite an improvement," Mrs. Smith said.

Two months after moving to Paradise Valley in April 1972, Paradise Valley experienced a major flood. Mrs. Smith remembers the helicopters hovering overhead with loud speakers, asking



View photo by Owen K. Martin

Westward ho!

The Buckeye Canal travels west from its head gates near the confluence of the Agua Fria and Gila rivers, eventually emptying into the Hassayampa

River west of Buckeye. The canal district has a long history that dates back to the late 19th century.

A canal runs through it

Irrigation key to Buckeye Valley agricultural development

EDITOR'S NOTE: In the coming years, Maricopa County plans to implement a \$2 million project, the El Rio Watercourse Master Plan, which proposes to re-introduce native wild-life and plants, set up trails and educational centers, and limit the extent of flooding along a 17.5-mile stretch of the Gila River that runs through Avondale, Goodyear and Buckeye.

In the coming months, the View will look at different aspects of the El Rio project area, including wildlife, the geomorphology of the land and human impact on the river. The following, focusing on the Buckeye Irrigation Co. canal system, is the first in this series.

by Anna Foard
staff writer

After more than a century of carrying water to farms and homes in the Buckeye Valley, the Buckeye Irrigation Co. canal has a history as rich as the fertile land around it.

Since 1885, when Malin Jackson and Joshua Spain first built the canal system, it has weathered countless floods and a myriad of names and management changes. Still it endures, its shores and water continuing to attract enterprising farmers and developers, as well as skittish blue herons, industrious beavers and the occasional flock of lost seagulls.

In the beginning

"Water in Arizona is like oil in Texas," said Larry Owens, superintendent of the Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District, a state municipality that operates the Buckeye Irrigation Co.-owned canal.

Perhaps that was what Jackson and Spain were thinking when they posted a legal notice May 28, 1885, claiming an area for their canal from where the Agua Fria River meets the Gila River and extending west along the north side of the Gila to the Hassayampa River.

A new canal system certainly would prove to transform the arid desert land into a prosperous agricultural valley by helping to capture, control and use the Gila, Salt and Agua Fria river water to irrigate farms.

Jackson named the canal after his home state of Ohio, the "buckeye state," and in September 1885, the Buckeye Canal Co. was born. In 1888, the canal system received its first flow of water.

With its head gates near the confluence of the Agua Fria and Gila rivers, the canal flowed west along the north side of

the Gila, parting near what is now Citrus Road into a northern branch feeding the Buckeye town area and a southern branch feeding the Liberty area.

During the first few years, the canal changed hands several times: in 1888 to William O'Neil of the Buckeye Irrigation Co.; in 1899 to W. Moultri of Fresno, Calif.; and then later in 1899 to Ernest Walker and Curtiss Wasson of the Buckeye Canal and Land Co.

When the canal company raised water rates in 1903, a group of farmers, angry at the fee hike, formed the White Tank Canal Co. and began constructing a parallel canal north of the Buckeye Canal.

In 1907, after a few years of severe floods, another group of farmers — realizing that the White Tanks Canal would take too long to construct and that the Buckeye Canal company was not providing the best of services — bought the Buckeye Canal, naming the new company the Buckeye Irrigation Co.

During 1908, the Buckeye Irrigation Co. reached an agreement with the White Tank Co., in which any stockholders in the latter company could transfer to the Buckeye Irrigation Co. and receive an equal amount of stock.

In 1917, with the Gila River slowly edging its way to the Buckeye Canal, the company moved the uppermost portion (between the head gate near the Gila River to a sluice at Reems Road, now Estrella Parkway) to the newly completed White Tank Canal.

In 1922, the Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District was created to promote proper irrigation drainage and to operate the canal system.

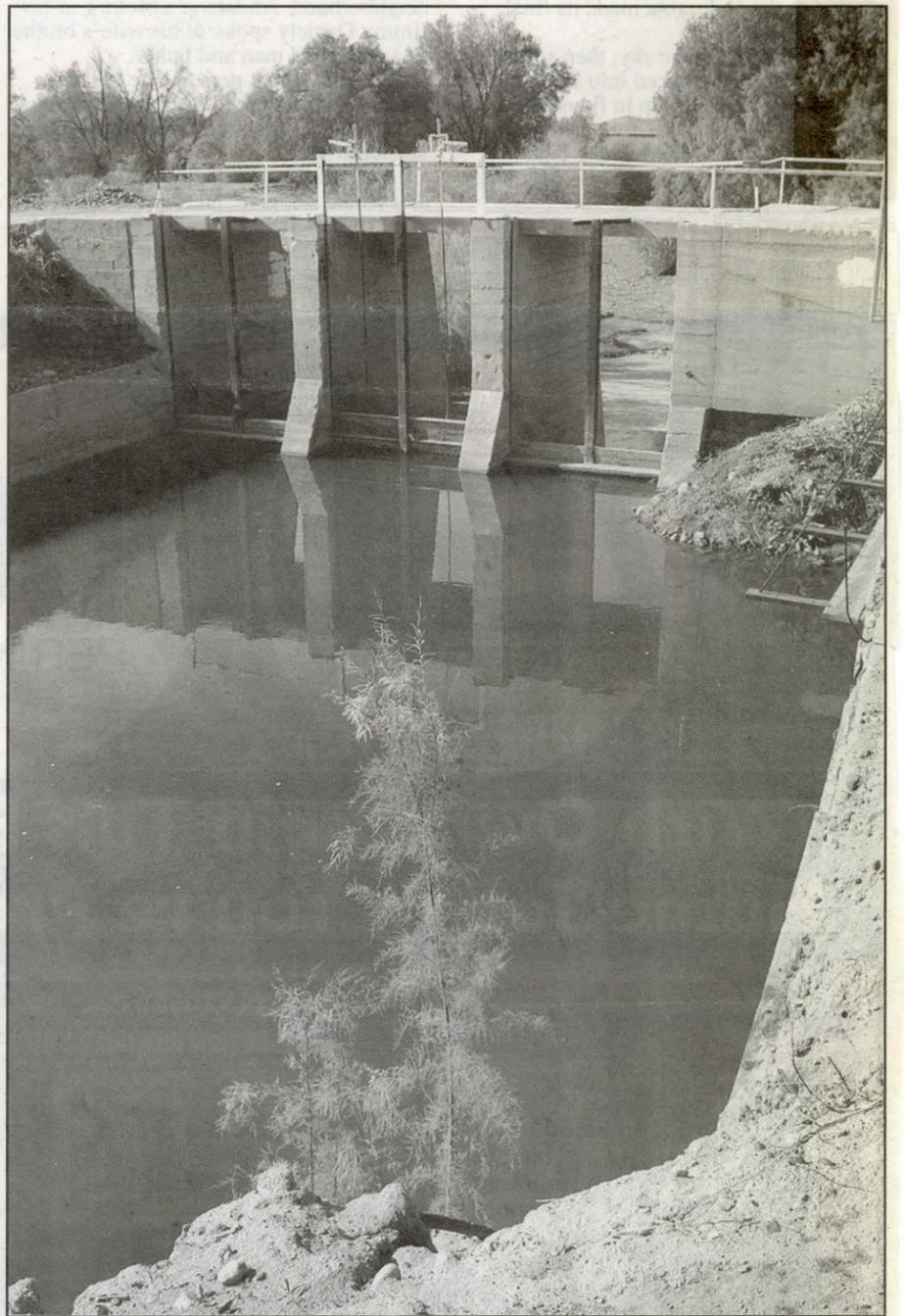
Canal still runs today

Meandering more than 25 miles through fertile agriculture land, the canal has helped to change the Buckeye Valley into one of the fastest growing sections of Maricopa County.

"As far as the function of the company and the district, they have always been the same. We sell water, that's our primary purpose," said Jackie Meck, general manager of the Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District.

With 16 employees, the district sold 128,000 acre-feet of water to help irrigate around 17,000 acres last year. The district supplies water to farmers south of the canal; those north of the canal get their water from the Roosevelt Irrigation District.

The Buckeye canal gets water from the 91st Avenue Waste Water Treatment Plant, seven miles above the canal's dam near Bullard Avenue.



View photo by Owen K. Martin

Sluice gates

Sluice gates at the head of the Buckeye Canal allow for excess water to be drained down the channel that leads back to the Gila River.

"The water, once it comes in the [Salt] river at 91st Avenue, it belongs to us. Any amounts of water, even flood waters if we can control it," Meck said, adding that the Buckeye Irrigation Co. was one of the first to claim water rights in Arizona, second to Salt River Project.

Thirty-two wells in use every half-mile along the canal, as well as any tailgate water (unused water at the end of a canal) that may come from farms and the Roos-

velt Irrigation District north of the canal, supplement the canal water.

"It's a plus that gets us over our hump," Owens said, though he added that the district cannot count on the tailgate water.

During the dry summer months, the wells run 24 hours a day, he said.

Four ponds along the canal hold any excess water that may be needed to pick

Canal

(From page A10)

up the slack when the water level fluctuates. The canal averages between six to eight feet of water in depth, and runs at about one mile per hour.

Each farmer has a head gate at the canal that leads to his "lateral" or ditch that irrigates his land. Repairing these ditches, as well as maintaining the wells and canal, is part of the Buckeye canal district's work.

There are more than 200 farmers that get water from the canal district. The town of Buckeye and a few households also get their irrigation water from the canal.

Humans are not the only ones finding uses for the water, however. All along the canal, flocks of birds congregate at its banks — herons, egrets, even seagulls that appear out of place in the desert sun.

A 40-acre lake at the head of the canal above its dam has become home to these and other birds, as well as coyotes, rattlesnakes, badgers, rabbits, turtles, raccoons, catfish, tilapia, and a hard-working beaver that has helped to keep the canals clean. (Owens said he and his workers let him be.)

The canal and river waters also have become home to the ever-rampant salt cedar trees. At the end of its run, the Buckeye canal water rushes over a spillway into a channel choked with such vegetation before emptying into the Hassayampa River and to the Gila beyond.

El Rio may help canal district

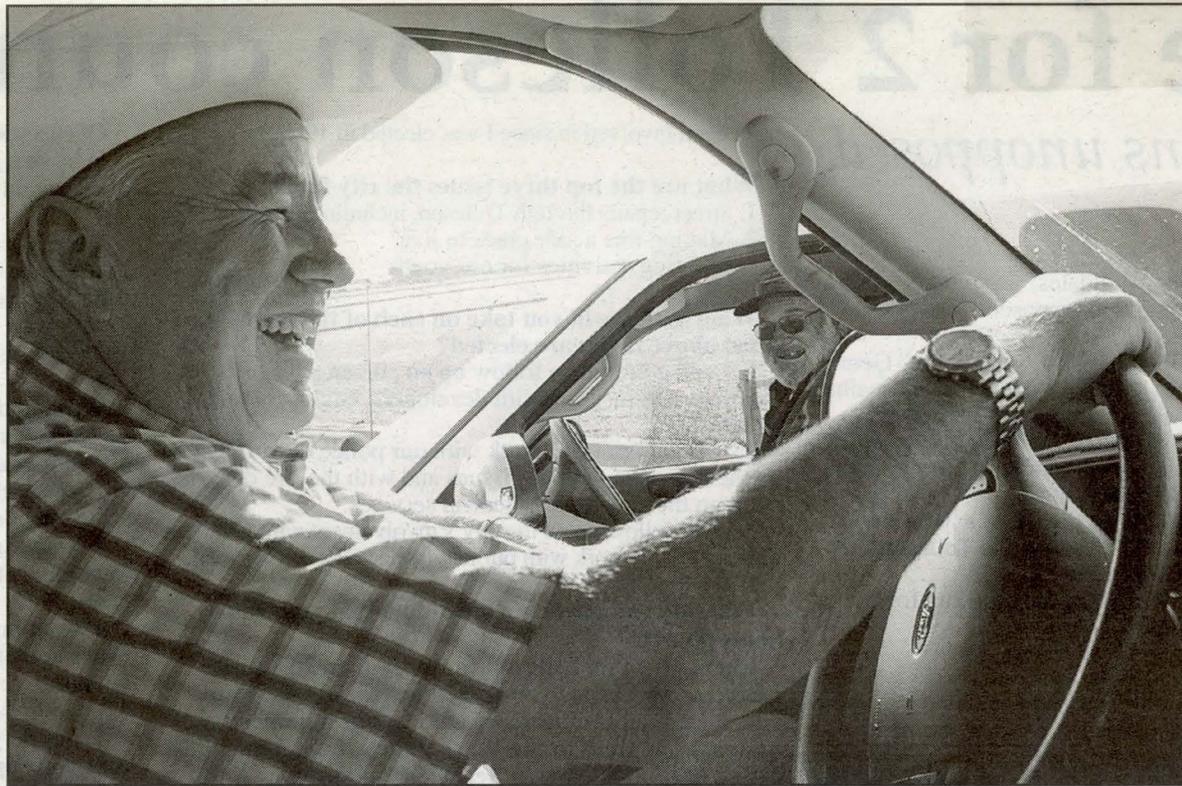
El Rio project officials plan to try to get rid of the salt cedars — an introduced species that has wreaked havoc in the area for many years.

Salt cedars grow quickly, overtaking native plants such as cottonwoods and willows, choking channels and creating a greater threat of floods.

"If you do have a flood [the salt cedars] act as a buffer and back-spread the water out," Owens said.

Standing by the Buckeye Canal near the spillway into the Hassayampa, the superintendent looked up at the massive growth of salt cedars that crowd the banks of the small channel.

"I had the salt cedar trimmed a year



View photos by Owen K. Martin

Canal chat

(Left) Buckeye Water Conservation and Drainage District Superintendent Larry Owens speaks with Buckeye area farmer Don Narramore, a member of the Buckeye Irrigation Co. board of directors, as the two pass along the dirt road that runs along the bank of the Buckeye Canal. (Below) The hand wheel of a control gate allows the flow of water into the canal to be adjusted.

ago," he said, adding that a picture of the Gila River just 100 years ago showed only cottonwoods and willows. "There wasn't a salt cedar in there."

Even beavers will not touch the salt cedars, Owens said. "We haven't found anything they're good for yet."

Getting rid of the salt cedars is just one measure out of many in the works to help alleviate flood problems in the El Rio project area. If the project succeeds, it will mean many places in Buckeye will be out of the flood plain, "which will open it up for development," Meck said. "When development starts coming into this district, it will increase the amount of water that we have for the remaining farm lands — in theory."

The El Rio project also may save Owens money on locks and chains.

Each year the superintendent spends \$1,000 on locks and chains for the fences

around the canal's head gates and dam area, trying to keep people from swimming, partying and fishing in the effluent water. It has been an uphill battle.

Owens' crew goes out six to eight times a year to pick up trash left by trespassers, collecting enough to fill a dump truck each time.

One day, somebody managed to close all three head gates of the canal, completely shutting off the water and nearly drying up the whole canal. An electronic weir (measuring the water depth) near the head signaled the loss of water in time, and Owens has since designed a special pedestal and locks to keep vandals out.

"We spend probably another \$1,000 on [warning] signs just to replace them because idiots destroy them," Owens said. "They'll walk in there, they'll cut my locks and drive in, and leave their garbage

everywhere."

The El Rio project, he said, with planned trails, educational centers and areas along the Gila River accessible to the public, should help to alleviate the problem.

"It will give the public a place to go," he said.

Perhaps most importantly, however, the El Rio project may succeed in minimizing the ever-looming threat of floods.

During the past century, the Buckeye Valley has seen numerous floods, most recently in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

"If we got that same amount of water today, water would come into the town of Buckeye," Meck said. "That's again why we're really interested in El Rio, to keep the town of Buckeye from being flooded."

With the Waddell Dam built, the threat has diminished in the past 20 years.

"But it still can happen. Mother Nature can do some bad tricks on you sometimes," Owens said.

Anna Foard can be reached by e-mail at afoard@westvalleyview.com.

EAST VALLEY TRIBUNE

MESA, AZ

FRIDAY 115,000

FEB 14 2003



14
.xz2a.

PL
XX....

#81



JENNIFER GRIMES, TRIBUNE

KEEPING DRY: Chandler students Donovan Stewart, 9, jumps over a puddle while his brother James, 6, follows.

E. Valley hit with wet winter storm

Showers disrupt traffic, airport; rain likely to continue through today

By FRANCIS MA
TRIBUNE

1501 AP

A winter storm hit the East Valley with heavy rain and spurts of lightning Thursday that delayed planes and closed roads.

Three roads were closed in Scottsdale because of flooding, police said: Indian Bend Road, Roosevelt Street, and 82nd Street.

Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport had two- to three-hour delays

by the evening, according to spokeswoman Deborah Ostreicher.

Jim Sabourin, spokesman for America West Airlines, said 25 out of the 350 departures were canceled.

Scott Harelson of Salt River Project said outages were scattered around the Valley, but nothing significant.

"A couple of fuses went, which caused a couple of neighborhoods to lose power," Harelson said. "There has only been a slight increase in calls (Thursday) concerning outages."

The rain also was a time to discover problems with roofs, such as the brand new one at Freestone Recreation Center in Gilbert.

The \$6.75 million facility at 1045 E. Juniper Ave. had at least a dozen leaks

Thursday. Water ran down walls and dripped in spots, including on the hardwood gym floor.

Meteorologist Craig Ellis of the National Weather Service said the heaviest rain fell in Phoenix.

The East Valley got between .59 inches and 1.06 inches of rain from the storm, which started Tuesday.

"There's still a threat of rainfall, at least until (this) morning," Ellis said. "The rain will probably end in the evening or late at night."

Heavy fog may occur Saturday morning, Ellis said.

CONTACT WRITER: (480) 898-6514
or fma@aztrib.com

2/15/03

Indian Bend Wash works fine

2.29-inch rainfall swamps area roads, trails, golf courses

By **TONI LAXSON**
TRIBUNE

1501 AP

Rain-charged floodwaters sent the Indian Bend Wash surging onto about a dozen Scottsdale and Paradise Valley streets Thursday night, stranding three motorists in high waters and prompting officials to close a dozen flooded roads, officials said.

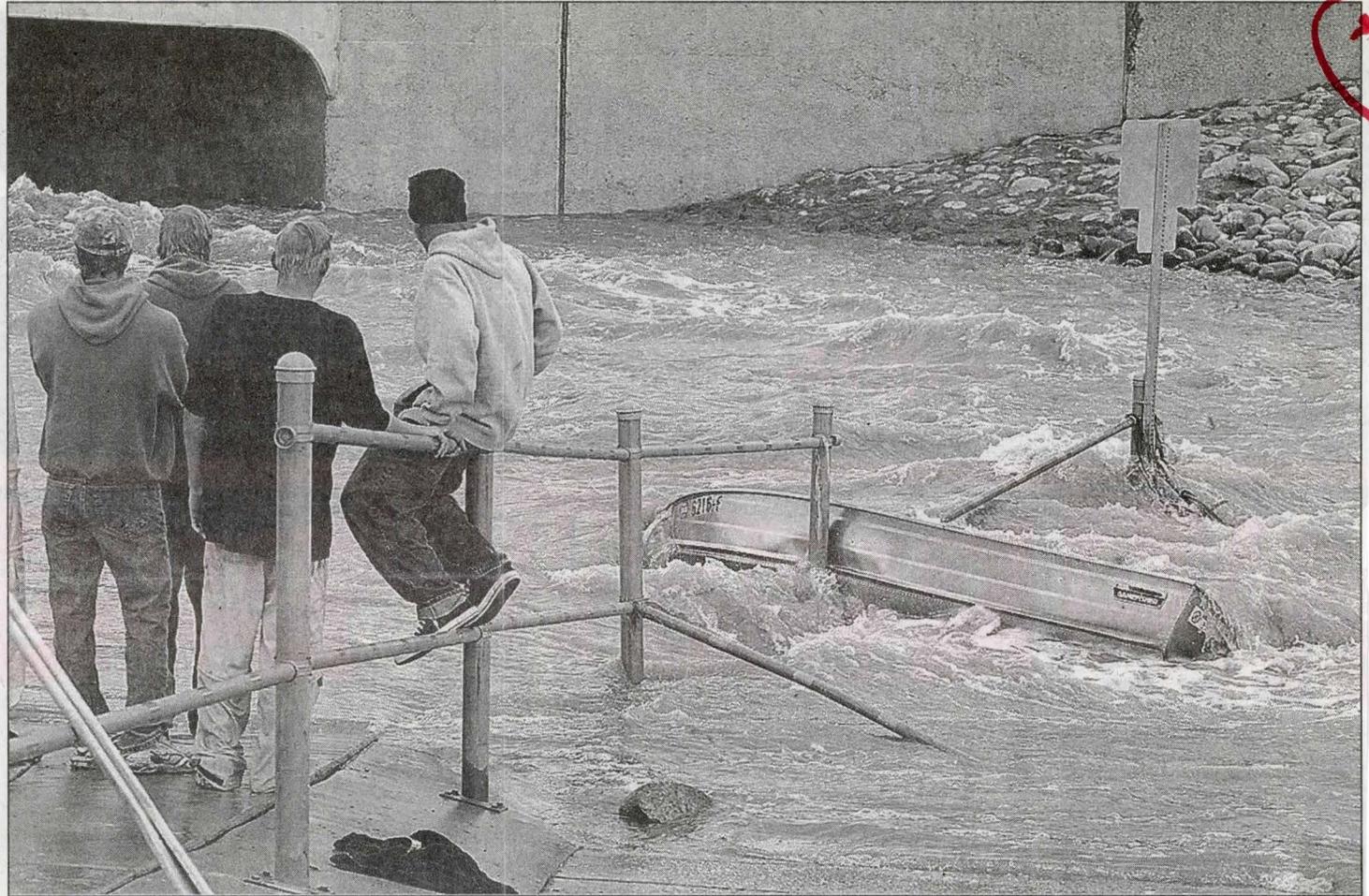
"Indian Bend Wash was designed to flood. It's performing very well," said John Little, transportation general manager for Scottsdale, of the waterway that bisects the city from north to south near Hayden Road.

A National Weather Service meteorologist said 2.29 inches of rain was recorded at the Scottsdale Airport since the storm moved in Wednesday. Unofficial reports recorded more than 3 inches of rain in parts of Scottsdale and the north East Valley.

Forecasts called for sunshine with some passing clouds today.

Rainfall from Thursday and Friday's storms filled Indian Bend Wash, whose brown water swamped roads, golf courses and picnic areas all along the greenbelt.

Heavy equipment was used Friday to clear roads of water-carried debris, said Mike Phillips, city spokesman. Unpaved portions of road



482

ALL ASHORE: Boat occupants and their friends look out Friday into Indian Bend Wash at McKellips Road. The watercraft in which they had been riding lodged on a post and railing, sending the passengers into the water.

ANDY SAWYER, TRIBUNE

washed out at Pinnacle Vista Road east of Alma School Road. The roads were repaired and open, though final repairs will be made Tuesday, Phillips said.

Three cars became stuck in high water overnight Thursday on Scottsdale roads, said Mike Clark,

spokesman for the Rural/Metro Fire Department.

Clark said no one was injured in three water rescues that started about 12:30 a.m. with a car stranded at Roosevelt and Hayden roads.

Two hours later, a car was stuck at Miller and Osborn roads.

A third vehicle could not get out of water at Jackrabbit and Hayden roads shortly after 5 a.m., Clark said.

Firefighters were able to wade into the flooded streets and retrieve the motorists, he said.

Ruth Johnson, with the Scottsdale Parks and

Recreation Division, said crews could remove the barricades from closed roads today. Besides clearing debris from the roads, crews will have to ensure that roads were not damaged, she said.

CONTACT WRITER: (480) 970-2324
or tlaxson@aztrib.com

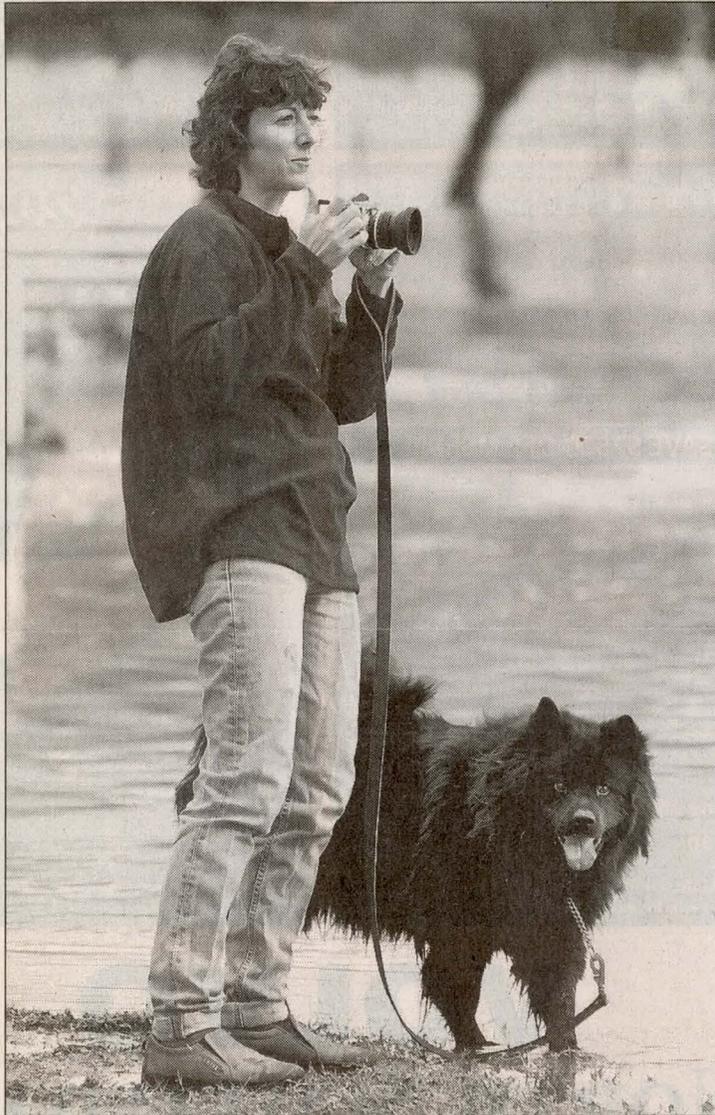
ARIZONA REPUBLIC

PHOENIX, AZ
SATURDAY 886,200
FEB 15 2003

#83



82 PL
.xz1a. .a...x



Dave Seibert/The Arizona Republic

It's a most unusual day

1501 AP
Peggy Berg and her dog, Dewi, take advantage of Indian Bend Wash flooding Friday to get some shots of all that water.

#84



82 .xz1a. PL .d...X



Photos by Dave Seibert/The Arizona Republic

Ben Niskanen, 18, (left) Devin Riutta, 18, and Josh Riutta, 20, try to hold on Friday to their boat in the Indian Bend Wash in Scottsdale. Below, Niskanen clutches a rope as the boat capsizes. Authorities caution that such activity is dangerous.

Storm brings near-tragedies

2/16/03

A February soaking

A slow-moving storm fueled by warm tropical moisture left several inches of rain in some parts of Arizona late Wednesday through early Friday. Some Valley totals:

Adobe Dam	2.64"
Ahwatukee	1.42"
Buckeye	3.26"
Cave Creek	2.52"
Deer Valley Airport	2.62"
Gilbert	1.3"
McDowell Mountain	2.6"
Papago Park	1.81"
Peoria	2.75"
Phoenix/Sky Harbor	1.77"
Scottsdale Airpark	2.28"
Surprise	2.36"
Tempe/ASU	1.26"
Williams Gateway	1.22"

Source: National Weather Service, Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Tony Bustos/The Arizona Republic



View a slide show of flooding after the Valley's heavy rainfall this week at news.multimedia.azcentral.com. Keep up with the forecast over the weekend at weather.azcentral.com.

4 are saved after entering washes

By Carlos Miller, Shaun McKinnon, Brent Whiting and Kristina Davis
The Arizona Republic

In the wake of the biggest rainstorm to slam central Arizona in nearly three years, fire officials found themselves responding to two near-catastrophes involving youths, who could not resist going for boat rides in the fast-running washes.

In Glendale, a 13-year-old boy who plunged into the Skunk Creek Wash with an inflatable raft nearly drowned after he was sucked underwater for at least a minute and dragged at least 40 feet.

Glendale resident Arthur Cassel saw the accident and pulled the boy from the water near Union Hills Drive and 59th Avenue. He was listed in serious condition Friday night at Maricopa Medical Center.

"He is extremely, extremely lucky to be alive," Glendale fire Capt. Elio



Pompa said.

In Scottsdale, three young men hopped into a rowboat without wearing life preservers and barreled down Indian Bend Wash, laughing all the way until their boat capsized.

Ben Niskanen, 18, and brothers Josh and Devin Riutta, ages 20 and 18 respectively, ended their wild ride in Tempe, only to be greeted by various police and fire agencies. They were neither injured nor cited.

"I don't regret what we did," Devin Riutta said. "It

was an experience to live for. I would do it again."

However, fire and police officials did not share his bravado.

"You have to respect the water," Pompa said. "You don't want to put yourself in that situation because it's a battle you're not going to win."

And that was only part of the chaos created by Thursday's storm.

Dozens of accidents were reported, along with scat-

STORM 4 are rescued after taking boats into washes

From Page B1

tered power outages and flooded buildings. Firefighters responded to a handful of calls from motorists stranded in high water, mostly in the north Valley. A roof on two Glendale businesses was heavily damaged, forcing their closure.

Officially, 1.77 inches of rain fell at Sky Harbor International Airport from late Wednesday to early Friday, the

most for a single storm since March 2000, when 2.76 inches fell over three days. The 1.42 inches measured Thursday at the airport station set a record for the date.

As much as 4 inches of rain fell in some spots outside the Valley and more than 2 feet of snow fell in the highest mountain elevations, although the storm's tropical nature kept snow levels well above normal for this time of year.

"It was an unusual storm, being so singular," said David Runyan, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Phoenix. "Usually we'll get a few rainstorms during February, but one event with so much rain is unusual."

Normally, Sky Harbor receives just under an inch of rain in February. This storm pushes the total since January to 2.34 inches, about 1.19 inches above normal for the

year. That in itself hasn't happened in a long time, Runyan said.

Still, he said, Arizona would need a steady series of storms that wet to make a dent in the state's drought.

"This makes an impact on the drought, but it does not totally erase the problem," he said.

The forecast calls for fog this morning, potentially thick in some areas but burning off

by midday, when skies should begin to clear. In Avondale, floodwaters 3 to 4 feet deep forced the closure of a bridge on County Route 85 over the Agua Fria River, which flows through the area east of the Phoenix Goodyear Airport, between Dysart and El Mirage roads.

"Our concern was that this much water could easily carry debris large enough to take out one of our supports," said

Andrzej Wojakiewicz, Maricopa County bridge engineer.

In Peoria and Glendale, there was a heavy flow through the washes, especially in the northern parts of both cities.

During the height of the storm in Glendale, Grand Avenue was closed between 51st and 67th avenues, Pompa said. In Scottsdale, police reported 42 accidents Wednesday and an additional 48 on Thursday, about twice as many as usual.

#85

2/19/03

CLOSE UP



Photo by Wendy Miller/Independent Newspapers

Last week's rainy weather brought on muddy roads as well as heavy machinery to lay down milled asphalt for driveways along Doubletree Ranch Road. The project is at the end of the first month of its 14-month work schedule.

DOUBLETREE DUTY

Road project hits potholes but progresses at a smooth pace

By **Wendy Miller**
Independent Newspapers

Residents at the west end of Doubletree Ranch Road could be driving on a paved road by early April if construction travels along at its current speed.

Despite potholes in the process, representatives from Blucorp Construction, Inc. are confident Doubletree from Tatum Boulevard to 52nd Street—the stretch currently torn up by construction— will be paved by late March to

early April. Curb and gutter installation could begin as soon as this week.

"I'd give the project at least a seven on a scale of 10," Project Manager Patrick Neal said. "It's a complex project; work is being done in a confined area in an urban situation with residents on all sides. Right now, we're probably slightly ahead of schedule."

The work is being done as part of the \$7.69 million Doubletree Ranch Road Area Drainage and Street Improvement Project. At

present, the work site has been closed except to residents, and even their access is restricted to a westbound dirt road.

Aside from limited road access, one of the biggest glitches for residents has been a chronic disruption of cable service through both Cox Cable and Qwest. Mr. Neal estimated workers have cut into the cable lines 15 times during the past month.

This has happened

See **Doubletree** — Page 6

#86

A10

West Valley View, Litchfield Park, Arizona, March 5, 2003

Goodyear declares emergency because of recent flooding

View editor

Goodyear Vice Mayor Seth Kanter issued an emergency declaration Feb. 20 because of an estimated \$200,000 in damage to the city's roads and drainage infrastructure caused by flooding, which was exacerbated by last week's storm.

The declaration will enable Goodyear to receive state and federal emergency relief.

Goodyear Emergency Services Director and Fire Chief Mark Gaillard has reported that the storms caused flooding and damage to several roads and drainage areas, all of which must be repaired.

The most serious damage areas are:

- McDowell Road from Bullard Avenue to PebbleCreek Parkway — roadway removal and replacement.
- Van Buren Street from Bullard Avenue to Estrella Parkway — roadway and pothole repair.
- Yuma Road from Bullard Avenue to Estrella Parkway — roadway and pothole repair.

McDowell Road, from Bullard Avenue to PebbleCreek Parkway, will remain closed, and is not expected to reopen for another two or three weeks, until the pavement is removed and replaced.

Yuma Road and Van Buren Street also had to be closed for periods after last week's storms.

The city's 24-hour hot line for up-to-date road information is 623-932-1716.

#87

PV is honored as 'StormReady' place

~~Arizona~~ AZ REP Mar. 14. 2003
Weather Service bestows designation

By Diana Balazs
The Arizona Republic

PARADISE VALLEY — Paradise Valley has become the first municipality in metropolitan Phoenix — and the Western United States — to be designated a StormReady community.

A StormReady community is one that has in place an emergency weather plan, which includes a combination of training, education and public awareness.

On Thursday, David Runyan, warning coordination meteorologist with the National Weather Service's Phoe-

nix forecast office, presented Mayor Ed Lowry and the Town Council a plaque in recognition of the town's efforts. The town also received signs that can be posted with the StormReady designation.

The certification is good for three years.

As a StormReady community, Paradise Valley has taken the extra steps to prepare for severe weather, said Mike Winters, the town's fire marshal.

He said many residents, particularly those who have lived in the town for a short period, don't think about bad weather.

"It doesn't fool anybody who's been here any length of time. We know we have the potential and we should be ready for it," he said.

Runyan said the town receives about 8 inches of rainfall a year and has a history of severe thunderstorms producing damaging winds and flooded washes.

"The community leaders in the town have done a lot of things to get their community ready to be able to respond to the storms that do occur in the community," he said.

Among other things, the police department has trained its supervisors as storm spotters and acquired special weather radios for the department, Town Hall and Public

Works.

It also is able to monitor rain gauges in the Indian Bend Wash and other normally dry washes and set up a 24-hour emergency operations center.

In Arizona, only Yuma and Coconino County have the StormReady designation. Runyan said Mesa is in the process of being certified.

Scottsdale has expressed interest in the program, but has not formally applied, he said.

For more information about the StormReady program, visit www.stormready.noaa.gov.

Reach the reporter at diana.balazs@arizona-republic.com or (602) 444-6877.

Flood control will take lots of time, money

By Christina Leonard
The Arizona Republic

During any good soaking, it seems the same Valley spots almost always become flooded. The same intersections, the same neighborhoods.

And officials say the flooding will likely continue for a long, long time.

"Water goes into people's homes. It causes traffic problems," said Joe Munoz, spokesman for Maricopa County Flood Control District. "But we will always have that when we have fast rain in a short amount of time."

Those "nuisances" caused by localized flooding could be fixed, but it would take a lot of time, money and cooperation from various agencies and municipalities, Munoz said.

And the district has several other priorities it must address, including completing studies and drainage plans, removing homes from hazardous floodways and dealing with aging structures.

Flood officials say many people don't realize the county's heavy propensity for flash flooding. The district, which has a \$71 million budget mostly from taxes, can cite a dozen major floods in the past century.

"Traditionally, if you look at statistics, after a drought, there comes a flood," Munoz said. "There's a cycle thing we can't control. And we try to tell people that, but sometimes it's a hard sell."

For years, flood control experts have raced to try to catch up with rapid development. Most of the county's urbanized areas have been studied, but people are still building on the outskirts.

"Generally speaking, the urbanized areas are mapped," general manager Michael Ellegood said. "The rural areas, particularly west of the White Tank Mountains, are not completely mapped yet."

Officials hope to have every watershed and watercourse mapped and planned by 2010. The studies take about a year

to 18 months to complete and cost about \$1 million for areas from 50 to 300 square miles.

Fifteen of the district's 37 watersheds still need to be studied, and a dozen of the remaining completed studies are more than 10 years old.

The county has spent millions buying out homes after studies have shown danger. More than 400 buildings have been constructed in delineated floodways, which are high-risk areas.

In a joint project with Glendale and Phoenix, it will cost about \$67 million to build the Bethany Home/Grand Canal flood-control project, which includes buying out 76 endangered homes in the area.

And the county is spending more than \$1.9 million to buy out nine homeowners close to Skunk Creek in north Phoenix after the homes were mistakenly built in high-flood areas.

Even though this February was the wettest recorded in more than 60 years, Munoz said the rains didn't cause significant problems.

"It wasn't major to the point that we couldn't handle it," Munoz said.

The storms did bring fast-moving water at one point that flowed as high as 4 to 6 feet in some parts of the Indian Bend Wash, a 13-square-mile strip of land in south Scottsdale. Floodwaters also closed a bridge in Avondale on County Route 85 over the Agua Fria River, which flows through the area east of the Phoenix Goodyear Airport.

Munoz said certain neighborhoods are prone to flooding during major storms — those near 43rd Avenue and Camelback Road in Phoenix or areas in Paradise Valley, for example.

"When I came in here in 1997, it was obvious ... that all the money in the world wasn't going to be enough to provide 100 percent protection all the time to everybody," Ellegood said. "We had to be judicious in how to spend this money."

Reach the reporter at christina.leonard@arizonarepublic.com.

#888

3/9/03

#89

**BUSINESS REAL ESTATE
WEEKLY**

**SCOTTSDALE, AZ
WEEKLY
MAR 21 2003**



Burrelles
INFORMATION SERVICES

217
..z2..

16

rs....

JA

1501 AP ✓
FRONT PAGE
INVESTOR NABS WEST PHOENIX PARCEL TARGETED FOR 850 HOME SITES . . . PAYS \$12.78 MILLION

Phoenix – Investor **Grant Lane** of **Granite Capital Corp.** in Mesa has agreed to pay \$12.78 million to buy a 206-acre parcel located at the southwest corner of 107th Avenue and Camelback Road in Phoenix. The parcel was sold to Lane earlier this week through an auction held by the **Flood Control District of Maricopa County**. The acquisition was brokered through **Blake McKee** and **James Hotis** of **Hogan & Associates Inc.** in Tempe. The purchase is slated to close May 2. **Financing yet to be arranged.** Lane outbid **Continental Homes Inc.** in Scottsdale to acquire the property, targeted for roughly 850 single-family lots in a project being called **Camelback Ranch**. Lane says the community will include a mixture of cluster housing and home sites ranging from 45 feet wide to 70 feet wide by 110 to 120 feet deep. Lane intends to sell platted and engineered lots to home builders. Phase one to include 300 to 350 home sites that should be available by year-end. Another 250 lots are planned in a second and third phase. McKee and Hotis have the marketing assignment. No word on pricing. Lane says he may land-bank a portion of the home sites. Over the years, Lane has been involved in both home building and lot development in the Valley. Lane has just completed an 800+ residential project called **Rio Del Rey** at the northwest corner of 59th Avenue and Beardsley Lane in Phoenix. Lane says he is “always looking for new projects that make sense.” Find out more from Lane at (480) 464-1890. **Larry Hendershott** is the contact with the Flood Control District in Maricopa County . . . (602) 506-2964. Talk to McKee and Hotis at (480) 967-1300.

#90

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

PHOENIX, AZ
WEDNESDAY 886,200
APR 2 2003



82
.xz1a.

JK
.a...x

\$224 million needed to repair 13 aging dams, county reports

By Christina Leonard
The Arizona Republic

1501 AP

Thirteen cracked or settling dams throughout Maricopa County need to be rehabilitated at a cost of at least \$224 million to avoid leaving thousands of residents without flood protection.

County flood control officials, who say they will continue to patch up what they can, are seeking federal assistance to repair or rebuild the most critical structures. The district faces stiff competition from communities across the nation, all facing the same problem.

"Our single biggest issue in the

longer term facing this district, and districts across the nation, (is) aging dams," said Michael Ellegood, general manager of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County. "Our dams need replacement or repair. This is a relatively new phenomenon."

Flood officials say there's no need to panic. But they do worry about the funding, which they'll seek dam by dam.

"Because many communities in Maricopa County are protected from flooding by these dams ... if we can't get the

D See DAMS Page A2

DAMS \$224 million in repairs is needed

From Page A1

money, we're left with some tough choices," said Tom Renckly, Flood Control District branch manager. "If we had no other way to repair the dams, then ultimately our only alternative left at that point would be to remove the dams, and the consequence of that would be to remove the flood protection."

That means thousands of people would live or work in a floodplain, where they'd have to provide flood-proofing measures, face high flood insurance rates and potentially watch their property values plummet. Renckly said there's no way to figure out exactly when the dams would fail but said the district will not operate unsafe dams.

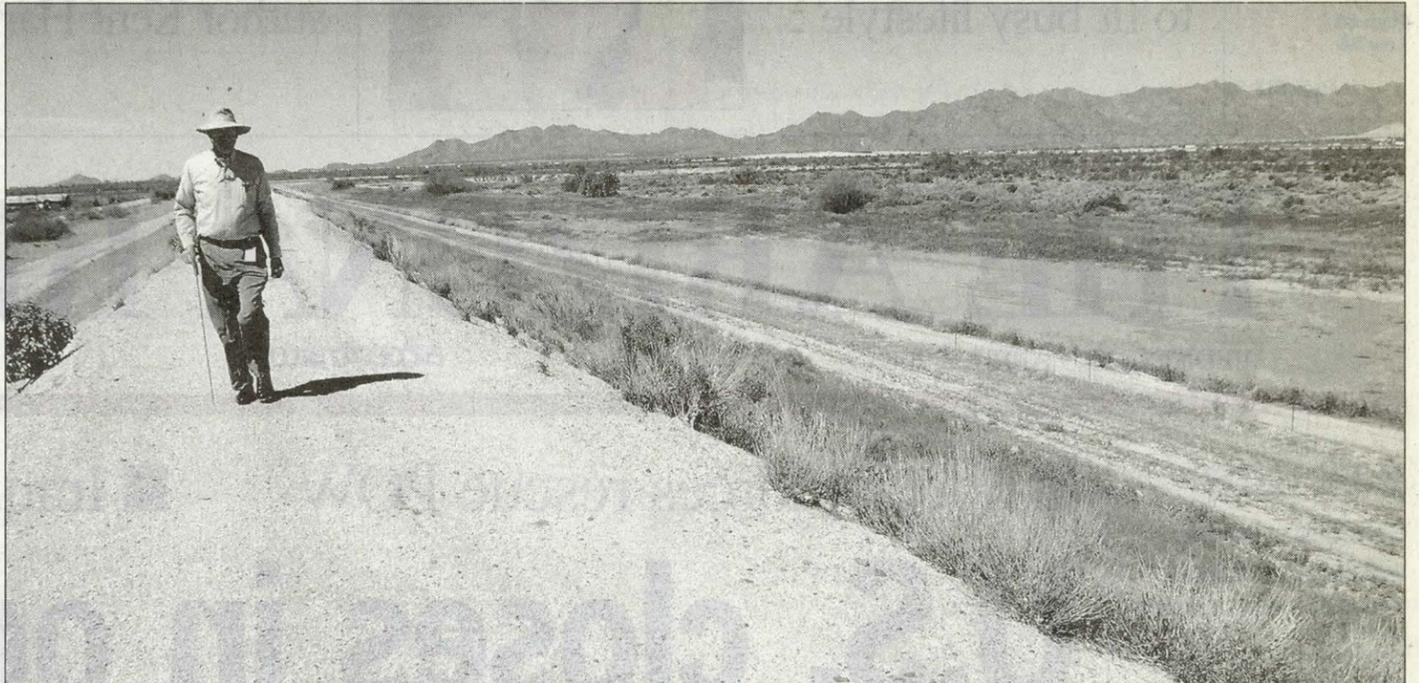
Although the Valley generally sees little rain and these earthen dams remain dry most of the time, many newcomers don't realize the propensity for flash flooding. The Flood Control District, which has a \$71 million budget mostly from taxes, can cite a dozen major floods in the past century.

"All these dams were built to protect the county, and they've done their job," said Joe Munoz, a Flood Control District spokesman.

Arizona has more than 400 dams, ranging from huge masonry ones like the Theodore Roosevelt Dam and large mine-tailing dams to smaller, tribal-owned dams. Over the years, the federal government has built 21 dams in Maricopa County, either through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Conservation Service has constructed more than 11,000 dams in 47 states since 1948. Many of those dams are nearing the end of their 50-year design life. The service has developed a program to try to rehabilitate some of them.

In Maricopa County, most of the dams were constructed more than 25 years ago, and three are reaching 50 years old. Design standards have changed and so has the purpose of many dams. Many were built to protect small watersheds and agricultural farmlands, but the Valley's rapid development has encroached on the structures.

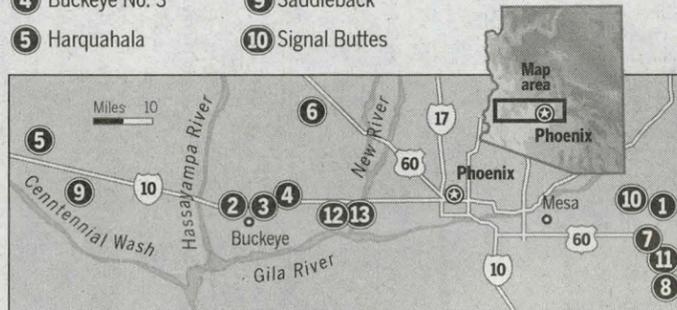


Christine Keith/The Arizona Republic

Larry Lambert, dam safety project manager for the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, walks along White Tanks No. 4 dam in Goodyear, one of 13 aging dams in the county that is in need of repair.

Valley dams in need of repair

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| ① Apache Junction | ⑥ McMicken | ⑪ Vineyard Road |
| ② Buckeye No. 1 | ⑦ Powerline | ⑫ White Tanks No. 3 |
| ③ Buckeye No. 2 | ⑧ Rittenhouse | ⑬ White Tanks No. 4 |
| ④ Buckeye No. 3 | ⑨ Saddleback | |
| ⑤ Harquahala | ⑩ Signal Buttes | |



Source: Flood Control District of Maricopa County

Dan Kempton/The Arizona Republic

One such dam, White Tanks No. 4, was built in 1954 near Jackrabbit Trail and Interstate 10 near Buckeye. It looks like a huge mound of dirt shaped in a horseshoe figure, 1½ miles long and 20 feet tall. Many people may not even recognize it's a dam.

A farm equipment yard is next to the property, and farmland surrounds the rest of it. Only a few structures stand nearby, but development is coming.

"We've never had problems with flooding," said Phyllis Fennell, an employee at Bingham Equipment Co. on Jackrabbit Trail. "There's nothing

to worry about. We'd have to have some gigantic water deal to ever consider (flooding)."

But flood officials say the dam faces myriad problems, including cracks and foundation issues. It doesn't meet current dam design construction standards. Officials would now use stiffer, more dense soil, install concrete pipes in the outlets instead of metal ones, and use a plasticlike tarp to prevent water from penetrating the structure.

Thirteen dams throughout the Valley are causing considerable concern.

McMicken Dam, which stretches 10 miles long west of

azcentral.com

Read about the construction of some of Arizona's oldest dams and view a slide show of historic images of the Salt River Project dams and canals at azhistory.azcentral.com.

Grand Avenue, faces some of the same problems. Removing it would expose a huge area that includes parts of Sun City Grand and Luke Air Force Base.

During the past year, flood control officials have repaired about 30 cracks at Buckeye Dam No. 1 in the West Valley. And they also have discovered earth fissures near the Powerline dam in the far East Valley.

The county so far has sought federal assistance for only one dam, White Tanks No. 3, which is north of Interstate 10 and west of Loop 303. It has similar problems, including the fact that one edge of the dam is 3½ feet to 4 feet lower than the other.

Flood control officials would like to see a huge basin built with a place for recreation. But that project could cost \$16 million, 35 percent of which the county would pay.

That's a considerable chunk considering the national rehabilitation program's total funding is only \$30 million for fis-

cal 2003.

A recent survey of known rehabilitation needs in 22 states revealed that more than 2,200 dams need attention at an estimated cost of more than \$540 million.

The Western states will see the highest-dollar rehabilitations because dams here are longer and built to protect areas near mountainous terrain, said Don Paulus, who works in the Conservation Service's Phoenix office.

He said project funding will depend on how quickly communities can pull together a plan, the degree of risk and whether the sponsoring community can be "ready, willing and able."

Paulus added that Maricopa County's White Tanks project was the first application received, and it's the "top priority nationwide based on failure and risk index."

But the county's other dams may have to wait. Renckly estimated it may take 25 years to rehabilitate them.

Until then, county officials will continue to assess their needs and repair what they can.

"Two-hundred twenty million sounds like a lot," he said. "But without the structures, the damage would be significantly greater due to flooding."

#90

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/0402agingdams02.html>

\$224 million needed to repair 13 aging dams, county reports

Christina Leonard
The Arizona Republic
Apr. 2, 2003 12:00 AM

Thirteen cracked or settling dams throughout Maricopa County need to be rehabilitated at a cost of at least \$224 million to avoid leaving thousands of residents without flood protection.

County flood control officials, who say they will continue to patch up what they can, are seeking federal assistance to repair or rebuild the most critical structures. The district faces stiff competition from communities across the nation, all facing the same problem.

"Our single biggest issue in the longer term facing this district, and districts across the nation, (is) aging dams," said Michael Ellegood, general manager of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County. "Our dams need replacement or repair. This is a relatively new phenomenon."

Flood officials say there's no need to panic. But they do worry about the funding, which they'll seek dam by dam.

"Because many communities in Maricopa County are protected from flooding by these dams . . . if we can't get the money, we're left with some tough choices," said Tom Renckly, Flood Control District branch manager. "If we had no other way to repair the dams, then ultimately our only alternative left at that point would be to remove the dams, and the consequence of that would be to remove the flood protection."

That means thousands of people would live or work in a floodplain, where they'd have to provide flood-proofing measures, face high flood insurance rates and potentially watch their property values plummet. Renckly said there's no way to figure out exactly when the dams would fail but said the district will not operate unsafe dams.

Although the Valley generally sees little rain and these earthen dams remain dry most of the time, many newcomers don't realize the propensity for flash flooding. The Flood Control District, which has a \$71 million budget mostly from taxes, can cite a dozen major floods in the past century.

"All these dams were built to protect the county, and they've done their job," said Joe Munoz, a Flood Control District spokesman.

Arizona has more than 400 dams, ranging from huge masonry ones like the Theodore Roosevelt Dam and large mine-tailing dams to smaller, tribal-owned dams. Over the years, the federal government has built 21 dams in Maricopa County, either through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Conservation Service has constructed more than 11,000 dams in 47 states since 1948. Many of those dams are nearing the end of their 50-year design life. The service has developed a program to try to rehabilitate some of them.

In Maricopa County, most of the dams were constructed more than 25 years ago, and three are reaching 50 years old. Design standards have changed and so has the purpose of many dams. Many were built to protect small watersheds and agricultural farmlands, but the Valley's rapid development has encroached on the structures.

One such dam, White Tanks No. 4, was built in 1954 near Jackrabbit Trail and Interstate 10 near Buckeye. It looks like a huge mound of dirt shaped in a horseshoe figure, 1 1/2 miles long and 20 feet tall. Many people may not even recognize it's a dam.

A farm equipment yard is next to the property, and farmland surrounds the rest of it. Only a few structures stand nearby, but development is coming.

"We've never had problems with flooding," said Phyllis Fennell, an employee at Bingham Equipment Co. on Jackrabbit Trail. "There's nothing to worry about. We'd have to have some gigantic water deal to ever consider (flooding)."

But flood officials say the dam faces myriad problems, including cracks and foundation issues. It doesn't meet current dam design construction standards. Officials would now use stiffer, more dense soil, install concrete pipes in the outlets instead of metal ones, and use a plasticlike tarp to prevent water from penetrating the structure.

Thirteen dams throughout the Valley are causing considerable concern.

McMicken Dam, which stretches 10 miles long west of Grand Avenue, faces some of the same problems. Removing it would expose a huge area that includes parts of Sun City Grand and Luke Air Force Base.

During the past year, flood control officials have repaired about 30 cracks at Buckeye Dam No. 1 in the West Valley. And they also have discovered earth fissures near the Powerline dam in the far East Valley.

The county so far has sought federal assistance for only one dam, White Tanks No. 3, which is north of Interstate 10 and west of Loop 303. It has similar problems, including the fact that one edge of the dam is 3 1/2 feet to 4 feet lower than the other.

Flood control officials would like to see a huge basin built with a place for recreation. But that project could cost \$16 million, 35 percent of which the county would pay.

That's a considerable chunk considering the national rehabilitation program's total funding is only \$30 million for fiscal 2003.

A recent survey of known rehabilitation needs in 22 states revealed that more than 2,200 dams need attention at an estimated cost of more than \$540 million.

The Western states will see the highest-dollar rehabilitations because dams here are longer and built to protect areas near mountainous terrain, said Don Paulus, who works in the Conservation Service's Phoenix office.

He said project funding will depend on how quickly communities can pull together a plan, the degree of risk and whether the sponsoring community can be "ready, willing and able."

Paulus added that Maricopa County's White Tanks project was the first application received, and it's the "top priority nationwide based on failure and risk index."

But the county's other dams may have to wait. Renckly estimated it may take 25 years to rehabilitate them.

Until then, county officials will continue to assess their needs and repair what they can.

"Two-hundred twenty million sounds like a lot," he said. "But without the structures, the damage would be significantly greater due to flooding."

2/21/03
Joe - Fy - 1
C

#91

2/19/03 - B1

Rawhide sale sunk by flood control

Deadline expires; owner planning to keep attraction

By **DONNA HOGAN**
TRIBUNE

A Carefree developer's plan to buy Rawhide sank because of flood control issues.

The Scottsdale Wild West-replica town will remain in the hands of former owner Jerry Hirsch, who rescued it from bankruptcy in October.

Hirsch said he will keep the 40-acre theme park, fix it up and continue to run it as a tourist attraction. He did not say what he will do with the 120 undeveloped acres that make up the bulk of the property.

Rawhide, on Scottsdale Road south of Pinnacle Peak Road, is Scottsdale's biggest tourist attraction. It was built by hotelier Jim Paul in 1971 to house his prize collection of Old West artifacts. Paul sold it to Hirsch in the early 1980s. Hirsch sold it to Giant Industries founder Jim Acridge in 1998. Acridge and Rawhide filed for bankruptcy protection last year.

A 120-day deadline to sell Rawhide — part of a complex agreement forged in bankruptcy court in October — expired Tuesday without a deal. Potential buyers are still at the table, said Phillip Mitchell, attorney for the trustee appointed by the court to peddle the property. He holds out

SEE RAWHIDE • PAGE B2

RAWHIDE: Hirsch not looking to sell property

FROM PAGE B1

some hope he can make a post-deadline deal.

"It would require cooperation on everybody's part to make it happen," Mitchell said.

But Hirsch, who was the major lien-holder when Acridge plunged the property into bankruptcy, has no obligation to sell now that the deadline has passed. And Hirsch said he isn't looking to unload it again.

"Our focus is to build Rawhide and return it to its former stature as an international tourist attraction," Hirsch said in a prepared statement. "We're committed to retaining its Wild West roots, serving as a historical and fun family experience and strengthening our reputation as a popular sought-after entertainment attraction."

Rawhide general manager Vic Ostrow, who ran the attraction when Hirsch owned it before, said he has been booking events three or four years in the future.

"We are here to stay," Ostrow said. "My direction has been to focus on rebuilding. We have ongoing discussions about ways to improve Rawhide. My job is to run it and get back the million people (a year) who will make us a profitable operation."

Carefree-based developer Douglas Dragoo said in October he was interested in buying Rawhide for \$45 million, which would have paid off Rawhide's other creditors and helped Acridge out of personal bankruptcy. Dragoo passed because of worries about how Scottsdale will control flooding in the area, his attorney, Michael Widener, said Tuesday.

"Floodwaters cascade across Rawhide, and the city

and other parties have been studying (the situation) for some time," Widener said. "There are different ideas about how to deal with this. They had plans that included construction of facilities that involved using a fairly significant portion of Rawhide."

"The bottom line is flood control issues made it impossible for Mr. Dragoo to (buy it)," Widener said. "Scottsdale is struggling with how to solve the problem, but if you are paying that much money for property you need to know what will happen. He couldn't risk that investment."

Bill Erickson, Scottsdale's flood plan administrator, agreed that Rawhide is in the path of floodwaters, and a significant water flow could smash the attraction's protective berm and flood the Western town. City planners have recognized the problem since 1984, Erickson said, and devised the Desert Greenbelt plan to channel floodwater and protect all the developments in the area. Scottsdale City Council canned the plan two years ago, and the city hasn't come up with an alternative, he said.

Rawhide owners could engineer a solution to protect their own 160 acres, Erickson said.

"We could see several ways of solving the problem," he said. "But it could be expensive, and the land plan may have to change."

Erickson also said that it's not likely a plan could be devised and blessed by all parties — which would include Scottsdale and Phoenix, the State Land Department and the Army Corps of Engineers — in 120 days.

CONTACT WRITER:
(480) 970-2338
or dhogan@aztrib.com

#92

1/23/03 P.A.B

County considers lawsuit on easements

Flood control on state trust land at issue

By **JASON EMERSON**
TRIBUNE

Maricopa County officials are considering refiling a lawsuit against the Arizona Land Department related to jurisdiction over 19,000 acres of flood control easements on state trust lands in Pinal County southeast of Mesa.

The acreage is part of a larger segment of Pinal County land that Mesa now is studying for possible annexation. City officials told the Tribune this week the study is in its early stages.

Julie Lemmon, a lawyer for Maricopa County, said the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors is considering several options, including refiling a lawsuit in state court related to several large earthen dams in Pinal County maintained by the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

A federal judge dismissed an initial lawsuit last year.

Deputy state land commissioner Richard Hubbard said this week it was premature to comment.

The county flood control district has maintained the dams since they were constructed by the federal government in the 1960s. They were built to protect land in eastern Maricopa County from periodic floods.

In October 2001, state land commissioner Michael Anable declared that the 19,000 acres in flood control easements surrounding the dams claimed by Maricopa County were void. Anable cited the 1910 Arizona-New Mexico Enabling Act, which prohibits the state from granting land without charging money for it. The flood control district did not pay the state for the easements.

In January 2002, the Maricopa County Flood Control District filed suit in U.S. District Court against the Arizona Land Department, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, asking the court to rule whether the easements were valid.

In August, U.S. District Judge Susan Bolton dismissed the lawsuit. Bolton ruled that the state and federal government were granted immunity from the litigation by the 11th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Maricopa County Supervisor Don Stapley, R-District 2 of Mesa, is urging Mesa to annex thousands of acres of state trust land in northern Pinal County where the dams are located. Stapley said the action could help resolve disputes over jurisdiction.

CONTACT WRITER: (480) 898-6568
or jemerson@aztrib.com

1-23-03
TRIBUNE

Burrelle's

INFORMATION SERVICES

75 EAST NORTHFIELD ROAD / LIVINGSTON / NEW JERSEY 07039 / (973) 992-6600 / (800) 631-1160

World Wide Web Edition

93

Carol Stream/Glendale Heights Daily Herald

Date of Publication: 03/17/2003

Account Number: 1501AP



Headline: How Bartlett balefill case sparked national debate

Source Web Page: http://www.dailyherald.com/news_story.asp?intid=3769715

By Matt Arado Daily Herald Staff Writer

The fight over a proposed garbage dump near Bartlett has been dead since 2001, but the national impact of the dispute is just starting to be felt.

Earlier this year, President Bush called for an overhaul of the rules that protect the nation's wetlands, a move prompted by a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in the Bartlett case. That ruling limited the federal government's authority over isolated wetlands.

Environmental groups say Bush's move could leave about 150,000 acres of wetlands in Illinois - and as many as 20 million acres across the continental United States - without federal protection.

Losing those wetlands to development could mean more flooding problems and the unchecked spread of concrete in the suburbs, environmentalists say.

Developers take a different view. They say new wetlands rules could end years of excessive regulation that has put even small roadside ditches under federal control.

Both groups are keeping a close eye on the rule-making process, which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are conducting together.

EPA officials say they'll try to clarify in the new rules exactly which wetlands are "isolated," and therefore not eligible for federal protection. Isolated wetlands generally are those that don't sit next to streams, rivers and other navigable waterways.

"That's a gray area right now for us," EPA spokesman John Millett said. "The rule-making process is an attempt to get a handle on that."

Millet said coming up with new rules could take two to five years. Several suburban counties won't have to wait that long, however. Lake, DuPage and Kane counties have all adopted ordinances that protect local wetlands.

States' rights case

The 2001 Supreme Court ruling behind the wetlands discussion arose from a dispute that began nearly 20 years ago in the Northwest suburbs.

People living in and near Bartlett banded together in the mid-1980s to fight a "balefill" proposal submitted by the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, a waste-disposal group comprising 23 suburbs. A balefill is a landfill where the garbage is compressed into bales before being buried.

At first, the dispute was strictly a neighbors-vs.-development battle, the kind common in growing

World Wide Web Edition

suburbs. It grew into a states' rights case in 1987, when the Army corps decided it had jurisdiction over the proposed balefill site, a sprawling piece of land in the far northwest corner of Cook County.

The Army corps based its claim on the "migratory bird rule," a provision of the federal Clean Water Act. The rule stated that when migratory birds use isolated ponds as habitat, the ponds become essential to interstate commerce - the bird-watching industry, for example. The balefill site was dotted with such ponds.

The Supreme Court, though, struck down the migratory bird rule and said the Army corps overstepped its authority when it tried to regulate the balefill site. Isolated wetlands should be left to local and state authorities to regulate, the court said.

Though the ruling appeared to clear the way for construction of the balefill, the solid waste agency abandoned the plan in the face of intense opposition from neighbors and state legislators. The agency started selling off the 410-acre site in 2001. The state of Illinois bought more than half of the site for about \$21 million. Bartlett officials are entertaining development proposals for other portions of the site.

The ruling was listed as one of the top 10 legal opinions of 2001 by Lawyers Weekly USA, a national legal journal that cited the decision's potentially sweeping impact on the nation's wetlands. Waste agency officials say they never expected the balefill proposal to spark a national environmental debate.

"It never entered anyone's mind," said Mount Prospect Trustee Timothy Corcoran, a waste agency board member. "We thought, and still think, that this project was the best local solution for our waste disposal needs. It's amazing to see what it all led to."

Effect of ruling

Environmental groups are worried the Bush administration will use the ruling to let builders devour millions of acres of wetlands.

"The Supreme Court ruling amounted to an unnecessary self-inflicted wound on the environment," said Howard A. Learner, executive director of the Chicago-based Environmental Law and Policy Center, an advocacy group. "And now the Bush administration is seizing on it for the sake of developers."

If a wetland area does not fall under federal protection, builders don't need to seek a federal permit to fill it in. They still need to seek local permits, though, and they're usually required to create wetlands to replace those destroyed.

Builders' groups, which lobbied hard for new wetland rules, say forcing developers to go through a federal permitting process every time they want to build over isolated wetlands discourages "smart growth" and makes housing more expensive. They believe it's both appropriate and necessary to distinguish between state and federal wetlands in light of the Supreme Court decision.

"We want the EPA and the Army corps to draw that line," said Tom Ward, an attorney for the National Association of Home Builders, based in Washington, D.C. "Otherwise, every depression on the side of the road is said to be under federal jurisdiction, and that goes way beyond reasonable protection. Not all wetlands are high quality."

EPA spokesman Millet said the government will take all points of view into account when working on the new rules. The Bush administration specifically invited public comment on the issue when it announced in January that new rules would be drafted.

World Wide Web Edition

Millet also disputed some environmentalists' claims that the rule-making could leave 20 percent of the country's wetlands unprotected.

"The vast majority of wetlands are jurisdictional, and are likely to remain so when and if new rules are made final," Millett said. "In addition, the administration continues to operate with one goal in mind - no net loss of wetlands."

There are roughly 100 million acres of wetlands in the continental United States. Illinois is home to a little less than 1 million acres, according to the state Department of Natural Resources.

Several suburban governments have assumed jurisdiction themselves over local wetlands areas. Lake and Kane counties adopted ordinances to this effect after the Supreme Court ruling. DuPage County already had such an ordinance in place.

"Now we know that if the federal government ends up not having jurisdiction over a wetland in our county, then we do," said Joe Hmieleski, Lake County wetland specialist.

There has been talk in the Illinois General Assembly about adopting statewide standards for wetlands protection, but no law has formally been proposed.

What wetlands do

Environmentalists say wetlands, which include swamps, marshes and other moisture-rich areas, are important for three reasons.

First, they soak up storm water that otherwise would run off into streams and rivers, which could lead to **flooding** problems. Towns along rivers, such as Des Plaines, Mount Prospect and Prospect Heights, already have spent a great deal of money, in some cases millions, on **flood**-control efforts. The loss of wetlands could make life more difficult for them, environmentalists say.

"Wetlands, even isolated wetlands, do a fabulous job of reducing **flooding**," said Douglas Chien, conservation field representative for the Illinois chapter of the Sierra Club. "We call them 'nature's sponge.' In a very real way, they help protect the investment of homeowners downstream."

Second, wetlands serve as habitat to a number of forms of wildlife, some of which are threatened or endangered, Lake County's Hmieleski said.

Wetlands also contribute to the surrounding region's quality of life by offering a natural counterpart to the rooftops and concrete covering so much of the suburban landscape, Hmieleski said.

"This isn't about stopping all development," he said. "If a builder meets the standards we've set, then we'll issue a permit. But protecting isolated wetlands helps us maintain a balance between development and open space, which we think is key to having a pleasant community."

Balefill: General Assembly has discussed statewide standards

(c) 2003 Daily Herald , Paddock Publications, Inc.

PEORIA TIMES

GLENDALE, AZ

WEEKLY 7,000

MAR 28 2003



38
.xz2..

JZ
XX....

#94

Sun Air residents unhappy about proposed mini-storage

By HOPE D. PETERS
Staff Writer 1501 AP

For more than 20 years, the residents of Sun Air Estates have enjoyed the peaceful, quiet open space park setting along the New River channel adjacent to their And this retirement community is not happy.

But, unfortunately, the City's hands are tied. Although the property at the southeast corner of Peoria Avenue and New River channel is in the City, it was until recently owned by Maricopa County Flood Control District. MCFCD recently sold the nine-acre parcel to Arrowhead RV

and Boat Storage for a mini-storage facility—a surprise not only to the residents, but to City staff.

“What I know is about 15 years ago when they came in and channelized New River,” Community Service director J.P. de la Montaigne said, “the Army Corp of Engineers had to provide a total of 100 acres of open space and we thought they used 97th (avenue) and Peoria as part of the 100 acres.”

De la Montaigne said Flood Control went back and counted the acreage, discovering it had more than 100 acres of open space.

“They considered it excess land and put it up for sale,” de la Montaigne said. “They considered the whole inventory to see which pieces they could sell.”

De la Montaigne said the City had no idea the land was up for sale and also thought it would stay open space.

“We had always considered it part of the West Valley recreation corridor,” de la Montaigne said. “We had it earmarked for trails. We would have developed into some kind of open space park or rest stop area.”

The City even allocated just under \$640,000 for fiscal year

2009 in its Capital Improvement Program for its future development. De la Montaigne said he called Flood Control and asked why the City was not informed prior to the sale.

“They said they weren't required to tell us,” De la Montaigne said. “But even if they told us, we probably wouldn't have the money (to purchase it).”

Pine district Councilman Carlo Leone said the residents are upset because for the past 20 years, they were “promised” the land would remain open space.

“I found out it was sold when they (residents) did in Febru-

ary,” Leone said. “I wish we could get it back. But the county always owned it.”

During last week's CIP study session, Leone asked if the City could buy it back.

City Manager Terry Ellis said there were only two things the City could do: See if the developer wants to sell, or condemn the land. But Ellis said the City does not have the funding for either of those two possibilities until FY 2009/2010.

Community Development Director Debra Stark said the City would be happy to work

More SUN AIR on A12

Sun Air, From A1

with all the property owners that live near the proposed development.

The property was zoned in 1979 for general commercial C-4, planning manager Chad Daines said. He said the proposed site plan consists of 527 indoor/outdoor lease spaces for storing boats or recreational vehicles. Daines said the site plan with conditional-use permit has been filed and is still under review. It has not been scheduled for a public hearing before the planning and zoning commission.

"We had been promised for 20 years open space," Sun Air Estates resident Corinne Townsend said. "The City always told us—I guess they thought Flood Control was going to turn it over to them—they'd keep it open green space or a trail area to walk along the channel. We're very unhappy."

Townsend said with all the development along Peoria Avenue, traffic will become an even worse nightmare with the fifth-wheelers and RVs coming

in and out. Townsend said her home is up against the riverbed.

"I really don't want to look at something like that," Townsend said. "I have a view of the mountains as I look out now."

The only thing the residents can do is attend the meetings, said Townsend, who added that she would be attending the meeting with the City's Engineering Director Dave Moody at 8:30 a.m. Monday.

"We did meet with the fire chief and there are some things about it he wasn't happy with," Townsend said. "But he said no one can promise us anything."

Ron Marks, Sun Air Estates homeowners association chairman, said what bothers his community the most is the development will chase all the wildlife and birds out of the area.

"I think it's a real bad scene," Marks said. "There are major problems brewing here."

"They're going to put in nine-foot and 12-foot walls

and put storage sheds back there and have RV parking," Marks said. "You know what it's going to do to our homes? It's going to destroy the prices—with all the noise and fumes."

Marks said he asked how they're going to get the 40-foot RVs turned in there when the entrance is right next to a bridge.

"They said we're going to have to put stoplights and stuff in there," Marks said. "This is ridiculous—there's going to be a true bottleneck right on that bridge. And with one coming in and one going out—how are they going to work that?"

Marks said they have a lot of questions regarding this property.

"We've sure been fighting, but it's not easy," Marks said. "We've got a lot of elderly people here and they're very frustrated, but they don't have the energy to go out and fight. All they can say is 'What's going to happen to our homes.'"

#95

ARIZONA CAPITOL TIMES

PHOENIX, AZ
WEEKLY 5,000
APR 4 2003



Burrelles
INFORMATION SERVICES

112
.x22..

16 GK
XX....

Officials Say Dam Rehabilitation Will Cost More Than \$224 Million

1501AP-P18
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flood control officials said it will cost at least \$224 million to fix 13 cracked or settling dams in Maricopa County to maintain flood protection for thousands of residents.

County flood control officials are seeking federal money to repair the most critical structures, but the district faces competition from communities across the nation that have the same problem.

"Our single biggest issue in the longer term facing this district, and districts across the nation, is aging dams," said Michael Ellegood, general manager of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

The need for dam rehabilitation is a relatively new development, he added.

Officials said they worry about securing funding for the dams, which protect many communities in the county. However, the public need not panic, they said.

"If we had no other way to repair the dams, then ultimately our only alternative left at that point would be to remove the dams, and the consequence of that would be to remove the flood protection," said Tom Renckly, Flood Control District branch manager.

To remove the older dams would mean

thousands of people living or working in a floodplain, where they'd have to provide flood-proofing measures, face high flood insurance rates and potentially watch their property values plummet. Mr. Renckly said there's no way to figure out exactly when dams would fail but said the district will not operate unsafe dams.

While the Phoenix area receives relatively little rainfall, landscape features create the potential for flash floods. The Flood Control District, which derives its \$71 million budget mostly from taxes, can cite a dozen major floods in the past century.

Overall, Arizona has more than 400 dams. The federal government has built 21 dams in Maricopa County, either through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Conservation Service has constructed more than 11,000 dams in 47 states since 1948. Many of those dams are nearing the end of their 50-year design life. The service has developed a program to try to rehabilitate some of them.

In Maricopa County, most of the dams were constructed more than 25 years ago, and three are reaching 50 years old. 



Burrelle's

INFORMATION SERVICES

75 EAST NORTHFIELD ROAD / LIVINGSTON / NEW JERSEY 07039 / (973) 992-6600 / (800) 631-1160

World Wide Web Edition

Arizona Republic (Phoenix, AZ) - Print Circ 365,979

Date of Publication: 04/04/2003

Account Number: 1501AP



Headline: Federal funds wanted for Gila Bend's floodplain

Source Web Page: <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/0404wvflood04.html>

Officials are pushing for \$33 million

Brent Whiting

The Arizona Republic

Apr. 4, 2003 12:00 AM

GILA BEND - Officials are pushing for \$33 million in federal funds for a flood-control project that will protect 30 percent of the town's population.

Town Manager David Evertsen said Thursday that two Arizona congressmen, Raul Grijalva and Ed Pastor, have joined forces in support.

The Gila Bend Town Council voted March 25 to seek the funding, he said.

A decision is expected within six months.

The proposed Sand Tank Flood Control Project is aimed at protecting an area south of Interstate 8 from the ravages of a 100-year flood.

Plans call for, among other things, reconstruction of a levee to bring it up to federal standards, as well as a 270-acre floodwater retention basin.

The work is needed because of freeway, railroad and canal construction through Gila Bend that have resulted in flood hazards, Evertsen said.

In addition, man-made flood channels through an agricultural area north of Interstate 8 do not have sufficient capacity to handle a 100-year flood, a hypothetical event with a 1 percent chance of occurring in any given year, Evertsen said.

The project, if approved, will protect about 140 homes and businesses.

An estimated 600 people live in the target area, representing 30 percent of the town's population, now set at slightly more than 2,000, Evertsen said.

Quality of life is significantly restricted because of floodplain problems, he said.

Copyright 2003, azcentral.com. All rights reserved.

#97

Burrelle's

INFORMATION SERVICES

75 EAST NORTHFIELD ROAD / LIVINGSTON / NEW JERSEY 07039 / (973) 992-6600 / (800) 631-1160

World Wide Web Edition

Arizona Republic (Phoenix, AZ) - Print Circ 365,979

Date of Publication: 04/09/2003

Account Number: 1501AP



Headline: Flood of blackmail

Source Web Page:

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/westvalleyopinions/articles/0409nwlets04092.html>

Apr. 9. 2003 12:00 AM

The gall of the Maricopa County Flood Control District is disturbing. Threatening to ultimately remove the dams, leaving existing structures without flood protection, if it doesn't get its \$224 million is ludicrous and more along the lines of blackmail.

These dams are doing fine and should simply be shored with more dirt where needed. The district's \$71 million budget should easily be able to handle the cost of these repairs.

These are tough times financially for all of us. Maybe the district needs to streamline some of its crews, instead of looking for ways of keeping them busy and spending more of the taxpayers' money.

Mike Biewener

Peoria

Copyright 2003, azcentral.com. All rights reserved.

#98

CLOSE UP

4/9/03

DETOUR DAZE

PV deals with projects on the road to completion

By **Wendy Miller**
Independent Newspapers

Which way today?
That's the question many Paradise Valley residents are asking when attempting to drive through the obstacle courses of road construction presently taking place in and around the Town.

The biggest of these is the Doubletree Ranch Road Area Drainage and Street Improvement Project at the north end of town. More than 17,000 linear feet of street along Doubletree between Invergordon Road and Tatum Boulevard as well as several laterals extending from Doubletree are affected.

In addition, traffic through the west edge of town is being hindered along Scottsdale Road thanks to a two-year street-widening project that is undergrounding existing 69kv electrical power lines and adding lanes between Indian Bend Road and Gold Dust Avenue.

To add insult to injury, on April 2, the City of Scottsdale began a street-paving project on Shea Boulevard between Scottsdale Road and 64th Street, also known as Invergordon Road. Expected to last through April 17, construction along Shea now bogs down the lines of vehicles using 64th Street to Shea as an alternate route away from Doubletree.

While some residents along these construction corridors consider their roadways paved with good intentions, others, although weary of the noise, one-way traffic and bumpy rides, are resolved to take it all in stride.

Good news does await weary drivers and homeowners who have persevered since mid-January. Traffic flow will be reintroduced to



Photo by Wendy Miller/Independent Newspapers

Like those of the Scarecrow in "The Wizard of Oz," directions through Town can be a might confusing. However, representatives from Blucorp, Inc. and Paradise Valley are doing their best to keep traffic flowing smoothly during road construction.

many areas in the very near future, and the bulk of some work is nearing completion.

So here is what's happening:

Doubletree Ranch Road Area Drainage and Street Improvement Project

Work is now underway on all streets included in the project plan. They include Doubletree Ranch Road between Invergordon Road to Tatum Boulevard and its laterals: 56th Street, 52nd Street and Butler Drive.

This is a bone of contention for residents who thought work would take place on one section at a time.

"That doesn't hold up with the agreement between the Town Council and residents," said Liz Clendenin, who lives off Doubletree near Tatum. "They're supposed to have one area at a time completed before moving on to another. Instead they have the entire area torn up at once. This is a

disaster.

"I understand there is a bonus for each day that construction is finished early," she continued. "But that's not our problem. (Working on all areas at once) is not what we agreed to."

She said traffic at Cherokee Elementary School, on 56th Street, and Tesseract School, at Doubletree and Tatum, during peak school drop-off and pick-up times is "a mess." At the same time, she praised project managers for keeping residents informed, even "knocking on doors when a (utility) line is hit."

Completing one area before moving on to another throughout the entire project is a misconception, said Town Engineer Bill Mead.

"The project specifications state that maximum open trench length will be 1,000 feet, and that has held true," he said. "It wouldn't be practical to work the other way."

The same project specifi-

#99

Burrelle's

INFORMATION SERVICES

75 EAST NORTHFIELD ROAD / LIVINGSTON / NEW JERSEY 07039 / (973) 992-6600 / (800) 631-1160

World Wide Web Edition

Arizona Republic (Phoenix, AZ) - Print Circ 365,979

Date of Publication: 04/11/2003

Account Number: 1501AP



Headline: N. Pima Road resurfacing likely to be finished today

Source Web Page: <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/arizona/articles/0411nepima11.html>

Thomas Ropp

The Arizona Republic

SCOTTSDALE - A resurfacing project that has closed North Pima Road all week is scheduled to be completed by 4 p.m. today.

Scottsdale closed the busy road from Lone Mountain to Stagecoach Pass, one of many interruptions on this stretch.

In the past year, North Pima Road has been torn up, blasted, pounded and portions washed away by **flash flooding**. But until this week, the road remained open.

Chuck Hill, Scottsdale's construction coordinator, said Pima Road had to be closed because it would have been impossible to resurface the 3-mile stretch with thousands of vehicles trying to use it.

Bob Forsyth, Scottsdale's contract administrator, said North Pima Road's surface had about reached its expected 20-year life. He was also concerned because of increased traffic and heavy equipment rumbling over that stretch.

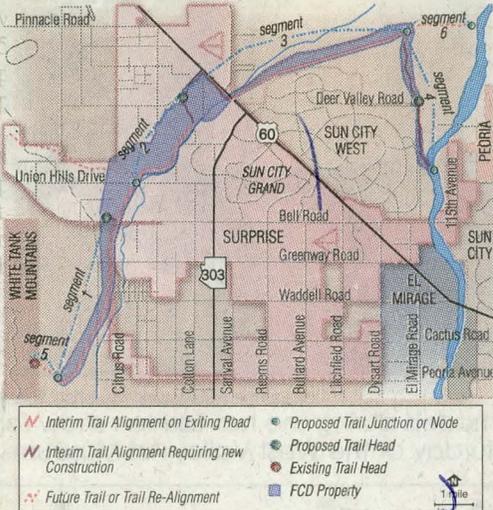
Traffic has been rerouted to Scottsdale Road. Forsyth said complaints were few, although a golfer was upset at the prospect of missing his tee time.

Forsyth said 7,000 tons of material were used to resurface the road at a cost of \$380,000.

Copyright 2003, azcentral.com. All rights reserved.

#100

INTERIM TRAIL CONCEPT PLAN



4/16/03

CHARLES WADE/SURPRISE TODAY

Trail may be linked to flood control

By PATRICK O'GRADY
Surprise Today

A massive flood control structure could open up as trail system connecting the White Tank Mountains with the Agua Fria River.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County is proposing using McMicken Dam, a roughly 10-mile corridor stretching through western Surprise and north of Sun City West, as a connection for the Maricopa County regional trail system.

The proposed trail would be open to bicycles, pedestrians and horse traffic, but no motorized vehicles would be allowed. The Flood Control District has worked with the city of Surprise in the past regarding motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles tearing up the dam. If the trail moves forward, it should not provide any additional challenges, said Dennis Holcomb, senior landscape planner for the district.

"I think it presents the same challenges that it presents today," he said. "You have the potential for people to ride ATVs and tear up the dam."

The district's property — which is a mile wide along the dam at certain points — currently is closed to the public. If opened, it could offer a unique opportunity with low costs, Holcomb said.

"What we have out here is mesquite and other types of vegetation that makes it quite attractive," he said.

Surprise officials agree. On the city's general plan, the area is listed as a large green belt, and officials had planned to use it for some form of open space, said Phil Testa, the city's Community and Economic Development Department director.

"We think that's a tremendous asset to the community.

The city and Flood Control District officials have had preliminary discussions about what would be involved.

The vegetation is not something the district will have to remove and replant. The more the 50-year-old dam will not be worked on as other projects the district is working on within the proposed trail system, Holcomb said.

With little work to be done on the trail itself, all that would be required is the addition of parking and trailheads. The first two phases of the trail, tying the mountains with Grand Avenue over about nine miles, could be opened for less than \$1 million, Holcomb said.

See City would, A5

City would have to keep up trail

From A1

That money would be up to cities to spend, as the district cannot spend any of its money on recreation facilities, Holcomb said.

"What we're looking for the city to do is come in and construct the trail-head and then to maintain the trail," he said.

It could take more than a year to end up in Surprise's capital improvement plan because it is unlikely that it will land in the 2003-04 budget city officials are putting together, Testa said.

"I think we need to look at putting into our budget for the next fiscal year," he said.

The move would not be the first time the district has donated the land and asked cities to put in the recreational infrastructure. That is the plan for the roughly 43-mile Agua Fria Recreation Corridor planned along the river's course and involves multiple jurisdictions. Some cities, such as Avondale, have put together infrastructure and park plans. Others, such as Peoria, have plans in place but may look to developers to fund trail improvements.

WEST VALLEY VIEW

AVONDALE, AZ
WEEKLY 40,000
JUN 4 2003



77 .xz2.. JK
XX....

#101

Land-use suggestions flood Arlington

by James Riswick
special to the View 1501 AP

Citizens offered a deluge of suggestions recently in a meeting intended to determine what to do with the floodplain currently occupied by Arlington Elementary School.

Located on 17 acres in the Gila River floodway, the school buildings frequently have been flooded over the years with two to three feet of water.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County will buy the land from the Arlington School District for \$1 million and demolish the buildings because of floodplain regulations. The Flood Control District either could donate or lease the land to those who could use it.

Although new buildings cannot be erected on the site because of the same regulations, the Flood Control District has taken suggestions (and still is taking them) from citizens on what to do with the property.

The May 19 meeting at Arlington School yielded several suggestions, including setting aside five acres where the Future Farmers of America could train. That land would replace the five acres the FFA club is giving up to accommodate Arlington School's replacement at 355th Avenue and Dobbins Road.

"It was one of the ideas that garnered a lot of support from the public in the meeting," said Sally Stewart, the Flood Control District's public information officer.

Other ideas included returning the land to its natural state or creating a community park. The District will take the suggestions, and at a later public meeting, citizens will have the opportunity to vote on which suggestions have the greatest appeal.

"What we're trying to do is put together a work group that a number of citizens said they would be interested in participating in," District Project Manager Valerie Swick said. "We're going to go back to the public in September with more suggestions."

Mike Ellewood, the chief engineer and general manager of the Flood Control District, will make the final decision after Swick and others at the district submit the list of suggestions and prioritized uses provided by the



Photo courtesy of the Arlington Elementary School District

In too deep

Flooding turns Arlington Elementary School's playground into a swampy mess in this undated photo.

public work groups.

"It's a community area and we want them to be able to use it if they want to," Swick said. "Or [we could] lease it to a farmer who would be able to use it. We don't want to just fence it off so no one can enjoy it. It's a beautiful area."

Any money needed to develop the land into a community park, for instance, would have to come from

outside sources and not from the Flood Control District.

Past land buyouts, usually of private homes, generally have returned the land to their natural states. That most likely will be the case for a majority of the 17-acre school property.

For information on future public work group meetings, contact District Project Manager Valerie Swick at 602-506-2929.



DATE NOW!
Dating as easy as 1-2-3...
Take control of your Social Life

79.5 MILLION
Number of single adults in the U.S.

NEWS SPORTS MONEY ENTERTAINMENT COMMUNITIES HEALTH FOOD & HOME STYLE TRAVEL SHOP CASIN

Scottsdale Weather
Temp: 96 °F
Hi: 105 °F
Lo: 76 °F

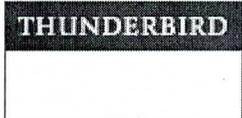
• Records/averages

- Scottsdale Main**
- School Info**
- Sports**
- Golf
- Local Courses
- High Schools
- Opinions**
- Opinions Columns**
- Traffic Info**
- Airport Info**
- Obituaries**
- Maps**
- Multimedia**
- Points of Interest**
- Venues**
- Scanners**
- Message Boards**
- E-mail Newsletters**

SEARCH THE SITE

All

• Advanced search, tips



SAVE THIS | EMAIL THIS | PRINT THIS | MOST POPULAR | LARGER TYPE | SMALLER TYPE

more new

Popular launch area now off-limits to balloonists



Christina Leonard
The Arizona Republic
Jun. 4, 2003 12:00 AM

NORTHEAST VALLEY - Maricopa County officials have banned Valley hot-air-balloon enthusiasts from using Cave Buttes Dam, one of their most popular launching grounds.

Officials have accused members of the Arizona Balloon Club of not respecting the property by leaving gates unlocked, cutting fences and traveling off-road.

"They may say we're taking away the closest place for people to recreate. But they have to remember we have to be careful about not destroying structures or polluting the air," said Joe Muñoz, spokesman for the county's Flood Control District.

The dam is in north Phoenix, about one mile north of Pinnacle Peak Road where Happy Valley Road would intersect with 16th Street. It protects the lower portions of the Cave Creek watershed. The district has banned hot-air ballooning in the entire 3,700-acre area owned by the county.

Club members say the county has overstated the damage.

"Just because they're balloonists doesn't mean they're our members," said Philip Heinrich, who acts as the club's government liaison.

Heinrich, a pilot since 1993, said people have enjoyed unlimited use of the site for 15 to 20 years.

"That's where most of us fly these days," he said. "It's an open area. It's pretty to fly over. It's safe. There's no power lines, and we don't generate noise complaints because there aren't houses."

The social club, which has about 135 members, mostly weekend hobbyists, holds safety seminars, competitions and meetings.

The Flood Control District ordered the "cease and desist" in April, claiming that club members have allowed trespassers onto the property by leaving gates unlocked. They said one member was seen damaging the dam, and they accused others of scarring the basin and creating dust by driving off-road.

"This and other unauthorized use has created a dust problem causing the District to be cited by the County Environmental Services Department," a letter sent by the district stated. "This citation carries with it the potential for a substantial fine."

Heinrich said he has been talking with officials to clear up the problem.

"We want to work with them, we want to be good neighbors, and we want to continue flying," he said. "We're not angry at the Flood Control District.

They've got serious problems they've got to solve."

- Firing teacher costs \$44,000
- World's largest saguaro
- Districts wrong for city, foes say
- Waterfront plan focuses on condominiums, open space
- Districts wrestle with enrollments
- Uniforms that are mandatory?
- Scottsdale tightens massage rules
- Council adopts 'very difficult' city budget
- 'Emergency' home is urgent need for kids in foster care
- Manross now wants 1 'big box' or of plan
- Scottsdale hails visitors from Mexic Sister City
- 'Grizzled' boys of summer
- Snoozing man escapes bedroom blaze
- Popular launch area now off-limits to balloonists
- Rubberized repaving plan OK for northern Loop 101
- Troon quietly expands
- Hot days, soft economy create perfect golf deals
- FH graduation a picnic in the park
- Project Graduation parties rock
- Cultural Council, director tackling new challenges
- New massage rules criticized
- Symphony forced to find new home
- City growth spurs drive for districts
- 3 big boxes hang on 1 Scottsdale council member vote

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

PHOENIX, AZ
TUESDAY 498, 234
JUN 10 2003



82
.xz1a.

JK
.a...x

#103

Peoria must fix the flooding on the golf courses

By David Madrid
The Arizona Republic

PEORIA — In heavy rains, Westbrook Village Golf Club has to contend with flooded golf courses, but that could change with a jury's decision.

Last week, eight Maricopa County Superior Court jurors determined that the golf club shouldn't have to put up with the flooding. It found Peoria negligent for actions that led to the flooding, and the city has to pay \$71,000 for damage to the courses.

Now, the city will have to take another look at its drainage plan to the north of the golf courses to try to prevent the Westbrook flooding.

"The major portion of the award is that the city of Peoria is required to fix the situation and to comply with their guidelines," said Chuck Journey, general manager of the golf club. "That means they have to retain the water to a certain level north of Westbrook Village."

The city could appeal the jury's decision, which City Attorney Steve Kemp says will be up to the City Council.

Though Peoria doesn't agree with the jury's findings, Kemp said the city will bring in an outside engineering firm to work with city engineers and county flood-control staffers to study what has to be done to keep water in the northern neighborhoods instead of letting it flow to the golf course.

That will create some complicated engineering issues that significantly affect the way Peoria's drainage system works, Kemp said.

In October 2000, the Westbrook Village Golf Club had to close its Lakes course for two days because of storm water roaring in from developments to the north. The water destroyed the pumping station's electronic controls.

Since then the club has been trying to convince Peoria that its engineering led to the flooding. It filed the lawsuit in Superior Court in April 2001.

In February, more storms closed the two Westbrook golf courses for 11 days.

Reach the reporter at david.madrid@arizonarepublic.com or (602) 444-6926.

Flood control project to aid fast-growing Laveen area

By Christina Leonard
The Arizona Republic

Valley officials will break ground today on a \$19 million flood-control project in Laveen that was fast-tracked to meet the needs of the rapidly growing community.

The project, which includes public and private sponsorship, will protect about 1,400 acres of potential flood hazard by collecting and draining storm waters from 100-year and lesser storms.

The Laveen Area Conveyance Channel was conceived about three years ago, and normally would have taken more than five years to get to this point, officials said.

The community, tucked in the rural southwest corner of Phoenix, is expecting a population boom with 18,000 homes already planned.

"You could walk through Laveen last year and not hit one home, now you have housing developments that pop up before your eyes," Maricopa County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox said. "We had to move fast to stay ahead of the development."

Four public agencies teamed up with 10 private property owners and developers, who donated about 123 acres of land and saved taxpayers more than \$6 million, officials said.

When the channel is dry, it will double as a recreational area — an almost six-mile earthen corridor of open space with parks, water features and trails. The project will include a conveyance channel and a 17-acre detention basin at 43rd and Southern avenues.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Phoenix, the Maricopa County Department of Transportation and the Salt River Project will break ground at 8 a.m. Tuesday at the southwest corner of 75th Avenue and Baseline Road. Councilman Doug Lingner will co-host the event with Wilcox.

#104



#105

82 .xz1a: JK .a...x

Grand Canal project in 2nd stretch

Flood-control work will cost \$67 million

By Yvonne Wingett
The Arizona Republic

1501AP

For years, a part of a West Valley canal system built to hold water for small-town farming has caused a flooding hazard for properties along it.

To protect against the threat of flooding, Glendale, Phoenix and Maricopa County officials in January broke ground

on a flood-control project that will guard five miles of properties along the Grand Canal.

Now, the three entities are in the second stretch of the \$67 million Bethany Home/Grand Canal project, and Phoenix is set to acquire and demolish 72 homes by September.

"All of these canal systems were built to hold water for farming, but with all this urbanization in the Phoenix metropolitan area, now it's causing a flooding hazard," said Hasan Mushtaq, a Phoenix flood plain manager.

Flooding has been so bad that, in a few instances, the area was underwater after

heavy rainstorms, he said.

The Maricopa Flood Control District discovered considerable flooding in the West Valley, especially in downtown Glendale and on land north of the Grand Canal from Indian School to Bethany Home roads.

The flood-mitigation project will run from the future Agua Fria Freeway at about the 97th Avenue and Bethany Home Road alignment to Sunset Detention Basin at 64th Avenue and Indian School Road.

The area will include equestrian trails and bike pathways for recreation when complete.

#106



82 .v71a: JK .a...x

County to pay to floodproof 4 homes

By Christina Leonard
The Arizona Republic

1501AP

For the first time, Maricopa County's flood control district has agreed to spend taxpayer money to floodproof private homes.

County supervisors on Wednesday unanimously approved spending up to \$60,000 to elevate four mobile homes in the far southwest Valley that were damaged by flooding in February.

"We think that's the right solution, and we think that's what government should be doing," said Michael Ellegood, the district's chief engineer and general manager. "I don't think government should be buying them out in this case."

Ellegood said his department struggled with the deci-

sion, but it wants to follow new guidelines from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The decision may set a precedent and Ellegood said they will evaluate future claims on a case-by-case basis.

"It's a lot less costly to provide this kind of protection than to buy somebody else out," he said. "We have to be careful of how we spend our money."

The February storms caused damage ranging from saturating the floors to settling the four homes, located near Patton Road and 243rd Avenue. Flood plains had not been mapped in the area.

Some of the homeowners had requested the district buy them out or relocate them, a cost the county estimated at \$400,000.

But Wittman resident Amy Allen, 27, said that raising her home in the northwest Valley by 36 inches won't solve her problem.

"This would not change the fact that my home was built in a wash and will continue to sink with each rainfall," she wrote, adding that the county should buy her property at a fair market value rate.

She said her house is splitting apart and she believes there are two different kinds of mold growing there. She fears for the health of herself, her husband and their four children.

"They shouldn't have let anybody move into the middle of a wash," she said. "It's made me and my husband lose complete faith in our government system."

#107

Community center to honor fallen Phoenix police officer

By Sarah Anchors
The Arizona Republic

A police officer who was killed by a truck will be remembered by having his name adorn a state-of-the-art community center at a north Phoenix park.

The new park, which also will house city offices and a police substation, will be dedicated Saturday amid festivities including sporting events, a barbecue and children's games.



Goelet A. Beuf

The two-story community center is named after Phoenix Officer Goelet A. Beuf (pronounced Go-let Buff), who was killed when a tractor-trailer truck rolled over him at 24th Avenue and Lone Cactus Road in November 1999. Beuf, 33, was in the road, trying to stop a fleeing suspect.

In the center's lobby will sit a bust of Beuf, paid for by the Phoenix Law Enforcement Association.

Police will staff the station at all times, policing the park as well as the surrounding area.

In a new twist, development services staff will issue building permits there. Currently, residents and businesses have to go downtown to get permits.

Also, the Human Services Department will offer seniors weekday meals, bingo, painting, exercise classes, medical check-ups and counseling.

Doris Marshall, deputy director of senior services, said she expects about 150 seniors to use the center.

"We are too excited," Marshall said. "Right now, we operate in one room in a church."

The center also has meeting rooms, indoor basketball courts, an indoor track, a dance room and a weight room.

"This is the next generation center," Councilman Dave Siebert said.

Unfortunately, the center won't open right away.

The city waited for the new fiscal year, which started July 1, to pay for some costs, such as hiring staff and buying weight-room equipment, said Michael Dean, district administrator of northwest parks. The city plans to start programs in the coming months.

The park is open, though. The 40-acre park has a playground, picnic area, softball and soccer fields, basketball and volleyball courts. Lights are coming this month.

The facility took years. The city planned a park at 41st Avenue and Yorkshire Drive. Residents complained about the lights and crime, so the city sold the land in 1998. The city obtained the new park site for free from the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

The community center and park cost \$14 million. The biggest chunk is \$10.9 million from the Phoenix Parks and Preserves Initiative, a sales tax approved by voters in 1999. It also includes money from selling the previous park site, bond money and funds from

New facilities in north Phoenix

WHAT: Dedication of the Goelet A. Beuf Community Center and opening of the Paseo Highlands Park.

WHEN: Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon.

WHERE: 3435 W. Pinnacle Peak Road.

EVENTS: Dedication and ribbon cutting, basketball, volleyball, climbing wall, inflated moon bounce, information booths, Fire Department display, play equipment, barbecue.

COST: Free.

the development services and Human Services Departments.

Paseo Highlands Park

North Phoenix is home to a \$10 million complex that includes a 40-acre park with the new two-story Goelet A. Beuf Community Center.



Jeanne Hernández/The Arizona Republic

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

PHOENIX, AZ
TUESDAY 498,234
JUN 17 2003

#104



82 JK
.xz1a. .a...X

Flood control project to aid fast-growing Laveen area

By Christina Leonard
The Arizona Republic

1501 AP

Valley officials will break ground today on a \$19 million flood-control project in Laveen that was fast-tracked to meet the needs of the rapidly growing community.

The project, which includes public and private sponsorship, will protect about 1,400 acres of potential flood hazard by collecting and draining storm waters from 100-year and lesser storms.

The Laveen Area Conveyance Channel was conceived about three years ago, and normally would have taken more than five years to get to this point, officials said.

The community, tucked in the rural southwest corner of Phoenix, is expecting a population boom with 18,000 homes already planned.

"You could walk through Laveen last year and not hit one home, now you have housing developments that pop up before your eyes," Maricopa County Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox said. "We had to move fast to stay ahead of the development."

Four public agencies teamed up with 10 private property owners and developers, who donated about 123 acres of land and saved taxpayers more than \$6 million, officials said.

When the channel is dry, it will double as a recreational area — an almost six-mile earthen corridor of open space with parks, water features and trails. The project will include a conveyance channel and a 17-acre detention basin at 43rd and Southern avenues.

The Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Phoenix, the Maricopa County Department of Transportation and the Salt River Project will break ground at 8 a.m. Tuesday at the southwest corner of 75th Avenue and Baseline Road. Councilman Doug Lingner will co-host the event with Wilcox.

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

PHOENIX, AZ
TUESDAY 498,234
JUL 1 2003

#108



82 JK
.xz1a. .a...X

Issues pack council agenda

By Lesley Wright
Scottsdale Republic

1501 AP

SCOTTSDALE — The night before making the most momentous decision of the year on Los Arcos, the Scottsdale City Council has a jam-packed list of legislative items to resolve before leaving for a seven-week summer recess.

The council today will take a quick series of votes on issues ranging from a

new city attorney to Scottsdale's first drought plan.

The group will meet early, at 4 p.m. instead of 5 p.m., at Scottsdale City Hall, 3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd., to discuss the recruitment process for finding a city attorney to replace David Pennartz, who is leaving on Aug. 15 to start his own firm.

Former Tempe City Attorney Brad

B

See COUNCIL Page 2

30/11

COUNCIL Agenda is packed with issues

From Page 1

Woodford will be considered as the interim top counsel during a closed executive session that runs until 5 p.m. If Woodford gets the post, he will start on Aug. 11.

On Wednesday night, the council will vote on giving a \$36.7 million subsidy to developer Steve Ellman to build a Wal-Mart, Lowe's and Sam's Club at the former Los Arcos Mall site at Scottsdale and McDowell roads. That meeting begins at 5 p.m.

In other business on the council's Tuesday night agenda:

■ Scottsdale would add teeth to its water conservation

code if council members approve a drought management plan. Under the new code, the city manager could order mandatory water conservation.

■ An ambitious plan to add a zoning "overlay" to Scottsdale's downtown.

Business owners have complained for years about issues such as parking and one-size-fits-all zoning downtown. Planners developed an overlay that would add more flexibility for parking, residential buildings and development standards.

The plan also includes new restrictions for bars, nightclubs, massage parlors and other businesses. Overall, the plan should help business owners more easily invest in

smaller projects, city planners said.

■ DC Ranch, one of Scottsdale's upscale master-planned communities, will come before the council for final approval of a 111-lot subdivision within the community. The ranch will dedicate a 12.8-acre park site to the city and firm up zoning for the various parts of the master plan.

■ Council members are expected to approve a \$5 million agreement with the Flood Control District of Maricopa County for drainage projects throughout the city.

■ The council will award construction contracts for two fire stations. An existing station near McDonald Drive and

Scottsdale Road, one of the oldest in the city, is set for a \$200,000 renovation and expansion. A \$741,000 station will go up at Pima Road and Ashler Hills Drive.

■ Scottsdale may request that the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation provide \$50,000 in casino revenues to help Scottsdale promote tourism in the Northeast Valley.

This is part of Proposition 202, the 17 Tribe Indian Self-Reliance Initiative that allows continued gaming on Indian lands. As part of the proposition, the tribe shares some funds with local governments.

Scottsdale group withholds blessing on Rio Salado plan

By JOHN SCHWARTZ
The Arizona Republic

The Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce board has declined to endorse a proposed Valley-wide property-tax increase to pay for about half of the proposed \$3 billion Rio Salado reclamation project.

"While acknowledging the visionary concepts of the Rio Salado Project, (the Chamber) still has questions about the economic impact, viability and practicability of the project," according to a resolution released Wednesday.

"Therefore ... the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce does not support the funding mechanism of the Rio Salado Project to be voted on Nov. 3."

The decision came late Tuesday at a special meeting on Rio Salado, Chamber President Bob Solem said Wednesday.

"We were very careful with the wording of our resolution because we don't want to give anyone the idea we are against Rio Salado as a concept," Solem said. "It's just that there are still enough unanswered

questions about the project that we are not ready to make this kind of commitment (to its funding)."

The Rio Salado plan calls for transformation of 26 miles of shoreline along the usually dry Salt River bed into a public recreation, business and residential area. The work would take about 25 years.

A countywide election will be held Nov. 3 on the property tax.

On Sept. 18 in a public forum in Scottsdale, the pro-project Citizens for Rio Salado responded to seven specific concerns expressed by a study group established by the Chamber.

The concerns, for the most part, were not alleviated by the group's response, Solem said.

The task force had seven major areas of concern: flood control without the construction of another dam on the Verde River, which flows into the Salt River near Mesa; the property tax; cleanup of toxic wastes and dumps in the riverbed; water conservation; eminent domain and stream-bed ownership

— Rio Salado, B2

10/1/01

50/1/01

~~10/1/01~~



RIO SALADO

Continued from B1

problems; lack of representation on the Rio Salado board by municipalities, such as Scottsdale, that would not border Rio Salado; and the project's uncertain costs.

"A few of the questions, such as representation, were pretty well answered satisfactorily by the Rio Salado, but others were less so and remain a concern," Solem said.

"Those include the lack of a more complete design study without Cliff Dam (on the Verde) and a better grasp on the cost and method for

cleaning up the toxic-waste dumps in the river."

Solem, a real-estate and land investor, said the Chamber is not going to be active against the Rio Salado Project and would not support any groups that oppose the project.

Aaron Kizer, executive director of Citizens for Rio Salado, said Wednesday that the Chamber board's vote "was very short-sighted."

"We gave them a comprehensive

written response to all their concerns but feel we were denied a full opportunity to go one-on-one with them to answer any remaining questions."

Kizer said the chamber must have forgotten that Scottsdale's \$54.3 million Indian Bend Wash flood control and recreation project was mostly paid by others and that the city and its citizens contributed only about 25 percent of its total cost, the rest paid for by federal, state and county funds.

Kizer said the Chamber's decision not to endorse the added property tax was surprising and does not reflect the attitude of Scottsdale residents.

"A survey completed earlier this year that looked for areas of voter strength for Rio Salado showed that on a per capita basis, Scottsdale came out on top of all Valley cities in support of the project," Kizer said. "The residents don't share the attitude of their Chamber."

#110



82
.xz1a.

JK
A...X

Cracking down at dam



Carlos Chavez/Scottsdale Republic

Chief Jordan Dacquisto (right) and Capt. Ron Reddic with the Maricopa County Protective Services Division check out a stolen vehicle that was burned at Cave Buttes Dam. The county said it would be increasing patrols in the area.

No trespassing at Cave Buttes, county warns; patrols added

By Christina Leonard
Scottsdale Republic

NORTHEAST VALLEY — Faced with stiff fines and ongoing costs, Maricopa County has decided to take control of the Cave Buttes Dam area in the Northeast Valley by introducing regular security patrols there.

It has already banned hot-air balloonists from the Flood Control District property, and now it wants to stop everybody from trespassing. The bulk of the

problem, county officials say, stems from off-road vehicles.

"ATV's don't necessarily need trails," said Joe Muñoz, spokesman for the county's flood control district. "They go out there and rev these things up, and they have their kids and they have food. These things raise a lot of dust and they grind up the ground really fast. It's just not meant for this kind of stuff."

Officials say they have spent more



COUNTY Patrols to increase at Cave Buttes Dam

From Page 1 B

than \$27,000 this year patching up fences and cleaning up the area about one mile north of Pinnacle Peak Road where Happy Valley Road would intersect with 16th Street.

The district owns and manages about 3,500 acres surrounding the dam. The area is fenced and posted with signs displaying ownership and the penalty.

Flood control officials, who signed a \$50,000 contract with the county's Protective Services to patrol the area, said people found on the property could

be cited for trespassing or criminal damage depending on the circumstances. Muñoz would not disclose how many officers will work the area, nor would he say when they would conduct the patrols.

Muñoz said flood control Chief Engineer and General Manager Michael Ellegood believes open space should be used, "but when it starts costing you money, you have to draw the line."

In April, county officials banned Valley hot air balloon enthusiasts from using one of their most popular launching grounds. They accused mem-

bers of the Arizona Balloon Club, which had authorized use of the area for years, of disrespecting the property by leaving gates unlocked, cutting fences and traveling off-road.

Now Muñoz said it's the off-road vehicles and gun enthusiasts tearing up the desert.

Maricopa County air quality regulators have warned the district that it may face \$10,000 daily fines if it doesn't take steps to mitigate the dust problem created by unauthorized activity there.

"They're just going to have to find farther and farther

places out where the dust isn't a problem," Muñoz said of the off-road enthusiasts.

As for the balloonists, Philip Heinrich, who acts as the club's government liaison, said they're trying to get their launch spot reinstated. And although he can't say they've never gone off-road, Heinrich said members do try to obey the rules.

"It's always been the off-road bikers, in my opinion," he said.

Reach the reporter at
christina.leonard@arizona
republic.com or (602) 444-4845.



82
.XZ1a.

JK
.a...X



FOCUS ON FOUNTAIN HILLS/RIO VERDE

Inch of rain can result in disaster

By Laura Dobbins
Scottsdale Republic

1301AP

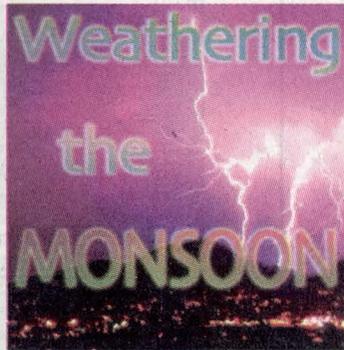
FOUNTAIN HILLS AND RIO VERDE — One inch of rain can be enough to cause a natural disaster in Fountain Hills and Rio Verde.

Both of these small Northeast Valley communities can attest to that after experiencing a monsoon storm last September that rammed through them, leaving up to 18 inches of mud and causing considerable property damage.

A heavy downpour of one inch of rain in 15 minutes pushed large amounts of dirt off the McDowell Mountains, creating a mudslide that roared into the communities.

"It wasn't the amount of rain, it was the duration," said Tom Ward, Fountain Hills public works director. "That's a lot of rainfall in a short amount of time, and a lot of stuff was coming off those mountains."

Fountain Hills is nestled on the east side of the McDowell Mountains with an elevation 500 feet higher than Phoenix. To the north lies Rio Verde, an adult community of 1,800 that sits at the western edge of the lower Verde River.



As these communities continue to grow, flood control becomes more crucial.

Fountain Hills

This town of 20,000 uses its several hundred acres of washes and its Fountain Park Lake for flood control.

The town keeps its washes in their natural state.

"When vegetation is destroyed or altered, it can't absorb the water coming through. Natural trees and plants work as a natural sponge and keep dirt, rocks and huge boulders from going through," said Lori Noss, chairwoman of the Committee to Preserve the Environment.

A natural wash at the northeast side of Fountain Park

Lake is also used to catch runoff during a downpour. The fountain also shuts off automatically during heavy winds to prevent spraying of the effluent water beyond the lake.

The town also has an emergency plan it can implement.

Should evacuations be needed, residents would be notified through the local Channel 11, fliers, door-to-door visits, loudspeakers and the media, Town Manager Tim Pickering said.

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office would set up a command post, and other state, county and town emergency agencies would be called in.

Along with its washes, Fountain Hills has six dams designated for flood control and uses a computer tracking system plugged into rain gauges at the dams to monitor water levels. It also relies on people living near the dams for weather updates.

Rio Verde

Rio Verde's population has grown significantly as it has been developed. The community has experienced two major storms in less than a year.

The last two significant storms in the area came Feb. 13-14 with nearly 2.25 inches over a two-day period and the Sept. 10 storm that resulted in an inch of rain in less than 20 minutes.

For these reasons the county is seeking new flood control projects, said Sally Stewart of the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Two projects under review are the Rio Verde Area Drainage Master Plan and a Rio Verde flood response plan.

The drainage master plan will identify flooding problems and hazards and will explore a range of cost-effective alternatives to eliminate or minimize these problems. The study will cover a 50-square-mile area near the Verde River between Tonto National Forest, the 115th Street Alignment and McDowell Mountain Regional Park.

The county is also considering a flood response plan similar to those used in incorporated areas such as Fountain Hills to implement during road closures, Stewart said.

Contact the reporter at
laura.dobbins@scottsdale
republic.com or (602) 444-6849.

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

PHOENIX, AZ

TUESDAY 498,234

JUL 15 2003



82
.yz1a.

JK
.a...x

#112

Ftn. Hills keeps eye on 6 dams in town

By Laura Dobbins
Scottsdale Republic

1501AP

FOUNTAIN HILLS — This small community uses modern technology as well as unconventional methods of weather tracking to prepare for the monsoon season.

Fountain Hills has six dams designated for flood control. Water levels during monsoon storms are monitored through a computer tracking system plugged into rain gauges at the dams. The reading can be tracked physically or through a computer tracking system provided by the Maricopa County Flood District.

Town officials also rely on people living near the dams as unofficial weather trackers to estimate water levels or potential flash floods. There's also an environmental group in town

that grades ditches and cleans brush out of washes to get them ready for runoffs.

Public Works Director Tom Ward said the town also has a flood response plan that uses state, county and town public safety teams and organizations to ensure the safety of its residents.

Earlier this year, Fountain Hills updated its emergency action plan during high terrorism alerts around the country. This included reviewing evacuation procedures, setting up medical sites and stock piling supplies. This same plan would work during a natural disaster, town officials say.

"Mother Nature can be unpredictable, and should there be a steady, heavy pour, anything can happen," Ward said. "That's why we have an emergency plan in place."

azcentral.com



PRINT THIS

Sponsored by Las Vegas Air & Hotel

Ftn. Hills keeps eye on 6 dams in town

Laura Dobbins
The Arizona Republic
Jul. 15, 2003 12:00 AM

advertisement



FOUNTAIN HILLS - This small community uses modern technology as well as unconventional methods of weather tracking to prepare for the monsoon season.

Fountain Hills has six dams designated for flood control. Water levels during monsoon storms are monitored through a computer tracking system plugged into rain gauges at the dams. The reading can be tracked physically or through a computer tracking system provided by the Maricopa County Flood District.

Town officials also rely on people living near the dams as unofficial weather trackers to estimate water levels or potential flash floods. There's also an environmental group in town that grades ditches and cleans brush out of washes to get them ready for runoffs.

Public Works Director Tom Ward said the town also has a flood response plan that uses state, county and town public safety teams and organizations to ensure the safety of its residents.

Earlier this year, Fountain Hills updated its emergency action plan during high terrorism alerts around the country. This included reviewing evacuation procedures, setting up medical sites and stock piling supplies. This same plan would work during a natural disaster, town officials say.

"Mother Nature can be unpredictable, and should there be a steady, heavy pour, anything can happen," Ward said. "That's why we have an emergency plan in place."

Find this article at:

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/scottsdale/articles/0715sr-fhmonsoon15Z8.html>

Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.



Downtown • East Phoenix • North-Central • South Phoenix
New River • Maryvale • Sunnyslope • Moon Valley • Deer Valley

PHOENIX

#13

Maricopa County to aid FEMA on flood maps

PHOENIX — Maricopa County officials say they hope to profit from an agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency by speeding up flood map up-

• 602.444.NEWS (6397)
narepublic.com

**from this region,
on or go to azcentral.com**

dates.

The county's flood control district has agreed to prepare digital flood insurance rate maps for the federal agency. The district will receive \$357,000 to cover expenses required to prepare the maps.

Traditionally, FEMA issues hard-copy flood insurance rate maps, which identify flood hazard areas within a community. Potential homeowners use the maps to determine whether they need to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Officials say pooling resources with the federal agency will save money, and Maricopa County will now receive the most up-to-date flood hazard information available.

Burrelle's

INFORMATION SERVICES

75 EAST NORTHFIELD ROAD / LIVINGSTON / NEW JERSEY 07039 / (973) 992-6600 / (800) 631-1160

World Wide Web Edition

Arizona Republic (Phoenix, AZ)

Date of Publication: 07/16/2003

Account Number: 1501AP

#113



Headline: Maricopa County to aid FEMA on flood maps

Source Web Page: <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/0716Phxbriefs16.html>

July 16, 2003

PHOENIX - Maricopa County officials say they hope to profit from an agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency by speeding up flood map updates.

The county's flood control district has agreed to prepare digital flood insurance rate maps for the federal agency. The district will receive \$357,000 to cover expenses required to prepare the maps.

Traditionally, FEMA issues hard-copy flood insurance rate maps, which identify flood hazard areas within a community. Potential homeowners use the maps to determine whether they need to participate in the National Flood Insurance Program.

Officials say pooling resources with the federal agency will save money, and Maricopa County will now receive the most up-to-date flood hazard information available.

State Fair's book ready for 2003's participants

PHOENIX - The 2003 Arizona State Fair Premium Book is now available for individuals participating in events at this year's fair. It lists all contest divisions, rules for exhibits, regulations and fees.

Premium Books are available at County Fair offices, online at www.azstatefair.com, or by mail through the State Fair Entry Office.

The fair will run Oct. 9-26. For information call (602) 268-3247.

Copyright 2003, azcentral.com. All rights reserved.

ARIZONA BUSINESS
GAZETTE (ABG)

PHOENIX, AZ
WEEKLY 16,215
JUL 17 2003



-484 x JK
exz2.. bc....

#114

Balloonists steaming at site loss

COUNTY CLOSES TAKEOFF, LANDING AREA

By **MIKE FIMEA**
Arizona Business Gazette

Valley hot-air balloon operators are steaming over a decision by the Maricopa County Flood Control District to close a popular takeoff and landing area north of Phoenix.

Citing federal dust regulations and liability issues, the Flood Control District banned access to the area around Cave Buttes Dam on May 1.

Commercial balloon operators have used the 3,000-acre parcel north of Jomax Road and west of Cave Creek Road for about 20 years.

Balloonists still fly near Cave Buttes because they have permits to use state trust land to the north and west. But moving off county land has changed the flight patterns.

Brian Holmes, president of



File photo by Mike Fimea/Arizona Business Gazette

Hot-air balloons have been forced off land north of Phoenix controlled by the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Phoenix-based Hot Air Balloon Co., said flights that once landed east of Interstate 17 now carry as far west as 51st Avenue. With growth in the Valley push-

ing farther north, those vacant parcels are likely to be filled in as soon as two years.

"Developing is exploding out there. They're scraping land

around 27th Avenue from Happy Valley Road to the Carefree Highway," Holmes said.

Holmes and other pilots believe the Flood Control District

banned balloons because they're an easy target. The flights drift slowly across the early-morning sky and are easy to spot.

"Why suddenly are we the problem?" Holmes said. "The district told us they realize that other people are using the area and causing dust. But they don't have the money to chase down every dirt biker that busts a gate open and cuts through a fence."

Michael Ellegood, general manager of the district, concedes that balloonists are not the sole cause of the dust problems that sparked a citation in January from the county's Environmental Services Department.

"The bigger issue is off-road vehicles," Ellegood said. "They come in and just absolutely destroy public facilities at tremendous taxpayer expense."

The district's problem with balloons is with the "chase vehicles" that pack up equipment after the balloon lands. Ellegood said the balloonists have keys to gated roads in the Cave Buttes area.

"In their zeal to recover their

Balloon

Continued / Page B61

balloons, they'll unlock the gates and leave them open," he said.

"We warned them several times, but all we get is a lot of arm waving and 'it's not us.' We don't want people back there, and we don't want off-road vehicles back there. We can't risk a \$10,000-a-day fine (for federal dust violations)."

Balloon pilot Bob Romaneschi said the natural air phenomenon near Cave Buttes offers ideal flying conditions. Calm, prevailing winds from the east allow the balloons to safely land near Interstate 17.

"If we're not allowed to use the roads we're familiar with, it changes our flight characteristics," said Romaneschi, who also owns a balloon repair and maintenance company. "Once we leave the ground, we have no control over where we land. We want to find a reasonable solu-

tion and gain access to (Cave Buttes) at least on an emergency basis."

Holmes and Romaneschi say Phoenix is behind the district's decision to close access. As part of an intergovernmental agreement signed in 1994, rangers from the city's Parks and Recreation Department provide security at Cave Buttes.

In the early 1990s, Romaneschi said, balloon operators were told that although Cave Buttes would someday be developed as a city park, the Flood Control District would allow them access.

"There has been no immediate development, but more control has been handed over to (the) Phoenix parks (department)," Romaneschi said.

"It's not the county pulling the strings. As long as Phoenix doesn't want us there, the district won't change their minds."

Rene Vera, a Parks and Recreation administrator with the city,

said trespassing in Cave Buttes is a major problem that came to a head when the county was cited for dust violations.

He said the operators of remote-control airplanes are the only group with permission to use the area.

"This isn't a permanent use of the land; five years from now, residents will be living right there," Vera said.

"One of the problems with growth is that some uses aren't allowed any more. I used to go dove hunting at 43rd Avenue and the river bottom, but you can't do that now."

Ellegood said he is willing to reconsider the ban if the dust control and trespassing issues can be addressed.

"I'm hopeful we can work through what needs to be done and allow the balloons back in there," he said. "What I'm opposed to is irresponsible use of the land. It's not like they haven't been warned before."



82
.x21a.

JK
.A...X

#115

Wash not just pretty face



Scottsdale Republic

On June 23, 1972, Rural/Metro firefighters help bail out the front entryway of the Safari Hotel on Scottsdale Road, just north of Camelback Road, after a monsoon storm. See memorable monsoon moments, Page S2.

Indian Bend parks are flood-control system



By Diana Balazs
Scottsdale Republic

Scottsdale — If you play golf at the public course at Eldorado Park, take swimming lessons at Chaparral Park Pool or play volleyball at Indian School Park, you're having fun in Scottsdale's most ambitious and

yet-to-be-matched flood control project. During summer monsoons, the Indian Bend Wash, which bisects the city from north of Indian Bend Road to McKellips Road along Hayden Road, reins in floodwaters that in years past stranded the city and left death and de-

See INDIAN BEND Page 2



Steps to adopting special needs child

For most families, adopting a special needs child can take six to nine months. During this time, prospective parents work with an agency to prepare themselves for the placement of a child with special needs. Page S4.

TODAY INSIDE THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

■ The Scottsdale School Board takes up teacher raises and the possibility of a pay freeze.

For details on this story, see the Scottsdale page in the Local section of The Arizona Republic.



On June 23, 1972, Rural/Metro firefighters help bail out the front entryway of the Safari Hotel on Scottsdale Road, just north of Camelback Road, after a monsoon storm. See memorable monsoon moments, Page S2.

Indian Bend parks are flood-control system



By Diana Balazs
Scottsdale Republic

Scottsdale — If you play golf at the public course at Eldorado Park, take swimming lessons at Chaparral Park Pool or play volleyball at Indian School Park, you're having fun in Scottsdale's most ambitious and

yet-to-be-matched flood control project. During summer monsoons, the Indian Bend Wash, which bisects the city from north of Indian Bend Road to McKellips Road along Hayden Road, reins in floodwaters that in years past stranded the city and left

See INDIAN BEND Page 2

Girls' faces kissed by sun in

By Lisa Schencker
Scottsdale Republic

SCOTTSDALE — It wasn't easy for Scottsdale sisters Avia, Tori and Holly Lopez to keep a straight face while posing with oranges.

"When they laughed the oranges would fall out," said Avia.

Sunkist Smile" contest.

The sisters' faces will appear next month on hundreds of thousands of orange bags in grocery stores across the nation and in a *Family Circle* advertisement in September. The girls' family won \$10,000 for the photo, which was taken by Tom Lopez, their father.

year-old Avia, said she was surprised they won the contest.

"I thought it was one of those contests that no one ever wins," said the Sunrise Middle School seventh-grader.

So far the family has spent their winnings on a cruise and \$200 in spending money for

Memorable monsoon moments in last 10 years: #116

■ **July 14, 2002** - Lightning struck a luxury home in the town of Paradise Valley, sparking an attic fire. The home was destroyed.

■ **July 14, 2001** - Strong winds from a microburst skipped across east Phoenix, the town of Paradise Valley and Scottsdale, pounding parts of McCormick Ranch. The storm left one dead, ripped off roofs, downed power lines, poles and traffic signals and damaged

hundreds of trees.

■ **July 14, 1999** - A 25-year-old construction worker was snatched from the roof of his pickup truck by a Maricopa County sheriff's helicopter after he tried to cross a flooded arroyo at 40th Street and Stanford Drive in Paradise Valley.

■ **Aug. 22, 1996** - Wind knocked down a tree that fell on power lines and set the roof of a home on fire near 83rd Street and Turney

Avenue in Scottsdale.

Firefighters rescued a bird and six tortoises from the home.

■ **July 25, 1996** - Rural/Metro Fire Department received more than 40 calls on downed power lines, trees and branches. Several areas were severely flooded, and there were a handful of electrical transformer fires and tree fires, and two house fires.

■ **Sept. 28, 1995** - American Red Cross volunteers served lasagna dinners to 11 Scottsdale families with rain-soaked homes near 66th

Street north of McDowell Road.

■ **Aug. 20, 1995** - Winds knocked down high voltage power lines across North Scottsdale Road, forcing police to shut down the road in both directions.

■ **Aug. 22, 1992** - Rural/Metro rescuers saved seven people from floodwaters in five incidents in north Scottsdale and along Indian Bend Wash.

Source: The Arizona Republic archives

INDIAN BEND Flood-control system

From Page 1 B

struction.

The idea for the seven-mile, grass-lined stretch of public parks, lakes and golf courses was developed in the 1960s by Scottsdale residents who rejected initial plans by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to dig a concrete-lined channel to handle storm runoff.

Newcomers especially are not aware that the greenbelt is a flood-control project and is designed to fill with water. Bill Erickson, the city's flood plain administrator, said he receives calls from residents wondering why they can't make their tee time because of flooding.

"Why is our park under water? Why can't we go out and play golf? How could you possibly do something like that?" are some of the questions Erickson has fielded.

The greenbelt is designed to hold a flow of up to 30,000 cubic feet of water per second. A cubic foot equals 7.4 gallons of liquid. At capacity, even portions of Hayden Road are designed to be under water.

"It is built for the water to fully go from bank to bank and cover Hayden Road should it ever get that bad," said Marc Eisen, the city's emergency services director.

In fact, the wall along Hayden by Saguaro High School, 6250 N. 82nd St., is actually a flood-control wall to protect the campus, he said.

Barricades go up

The gravity-fed Indian Bend Wash begins in northeast Phoenix and drains into the Salt River. When the greenbelt fills, unbridged crossings over the wash are barricaded to prevent drivers from crossing. Scottsdale employs a solar-powered warning system to alert motorists.

"They don't come on until there is water in the wash. Once they are on they need to be believed," Eisen said.

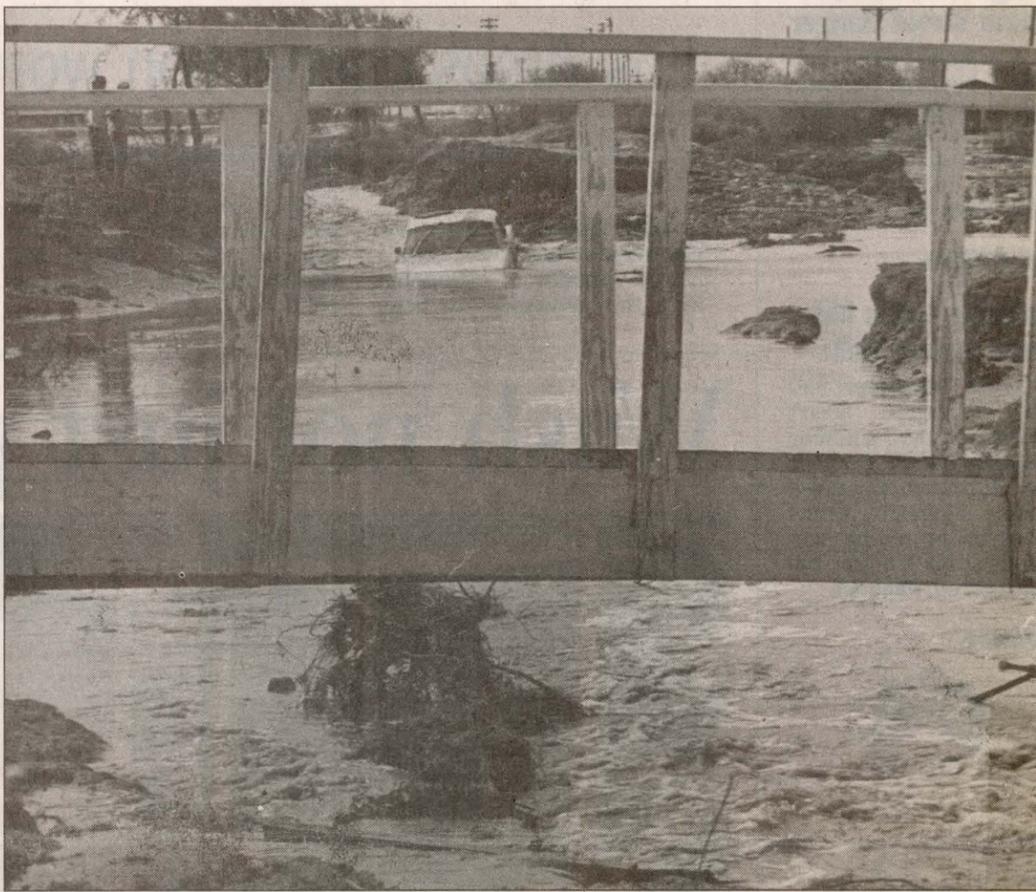
Motorists who don't heed them are subject to a ticket, said Deputy Police Chief Dee Taylor.

"If it's closed and it's barricaded and they insist on going through, they can be issued a ticket for failure to obey a traffic control device," she said.

History of Indian Bend Wash greenbelt

■ **1959** - The Flood Control District of Maricopa County is formed. At a public meeting, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers presents a plan to channel the Indian Bend Wash.
 ■ **1961** - The corps suggests a 7-mile-long concrete channel. The Scottsdale City Council approves the plan a year later.
 ■ **1963** - Representatives of Scottsdale, the Flood Control District, the corps and the Maricopa County Department of Parks and Recreation meet to explore the creation of

parks. Scottsdale has none.
 ■ **1964** - Instead of a concrete channel, then *Scottsdale Daily Progress* Publisher Jonathan Marshall suggests grass should be planted and lakes created for flood control. A city-appointed Indian Bend Wash Committee headed by resident Bill Walton, who later became a city councilman, recommends a greenbelt. Bill Donaldson, Scottsdale's city manager from 1965 to 1971, oversees the development of the greenbelt parks system.



Scottsdale Republic

In September 1970, flooding along Indian Bend Wash destroyed cars and blocked traffic.

Coming Thursday

Meet some of the Northeast Valley's storm spotters and what it takes to become one.

The city is putting together a system of automatic rain gauges and warning devices that would give city officials a faster heads-up when storm runoff approaches, Eisen said.

Bill Murphy, service manager for the city Parks, Recreation and Facilities Department, said the city takes steps to ensure that the greenbelt is flood-ready.

"Right now, this time of year we mow the parks once a week. We try to keep really all the drains and bike paths and things like that running through the park area, keep them really free and clear," he said.

Trouble farther north

Scottsdale attempted an-

other massive flood control project, the \$100 million Desert Greenbelt, to protect thousands of homes north of the Central Arizona Project canal. But the Scottsdale City Council unanimously rejected the project in 2001. Critics said it was too costly, environmentally damaging and would invite more intensive growth.

Now the city is using a combination of cooperation and science to tame potential floodwaters up north.

"We have looked to the development community to construct some of the Desert Greenbelt portions," Erickson said.

And those segments won't look like a concrete channel, but fit in with the natural desert environment, he added.

Also, the city is investing \$13,000 this year for an early storm warning system. It will receive weather satellite data and graphics on storms as far as 150 miles out, Erickson said.

This would be in addition to forecasts it receives from the National Weather Service and

the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

The information would be used to alert emergency response personnel more quickly to an impending storm, Erickson said.

The city also is designing plans for added culverts along Scottsdale, Hayden and Pima roads.

Scottsdale north of the CAP remains the most vulnerable to flooding, Erickson said.

"The land is so fragile up there. The flow paths of the water can move at any time," he said.

Homes in the area must be built on raised pads to allow water to flow around them.

"But we fully anticipate that we'll lose some roads. We fully anticipate that we're going to lose some power lines, people's landscaping, maybe some driveways, things like that, during a big storm," Erickson said.

Reach the reporter at diana.balazs@scottsdalerepublic.com or (602) 444-6877.

■ **1965** - Voters approve \$1.4 million in bonds, including money to acquire park land.
 ■ **1966** - Voters reject a \$22 million flood-control bond issue. Ground is broken for Eldorado Park, the city's first. In the fall, a disastrous flood hits Scottsdale.
 ■ **1967** - An independent study by engineer John Erickson is released, supporting a greenbelt. A year later, the Erickson plan is presented to the council. The corps begins to study it.
 ■ **1970** - The corps finds the Erickson plan workable. A city

sales-tax measure to provide flood-control funds is defeated.
 ■ **1972** - In June, the worst flood in the city's history hits, causing millions in property damage. Floodwaters divide the city at Hayden Road. One man drowns, and 17 families are left homeless.
 ■ **1973** - A \$10 million flood bond issue is passed by a 7-1 ratio. Scottsdale authorizes a contract with the Flood Control District for joint development of the wash.
 ■ **2000** - The greenbelt is built in phases with its last piece completed in 2000.

#117

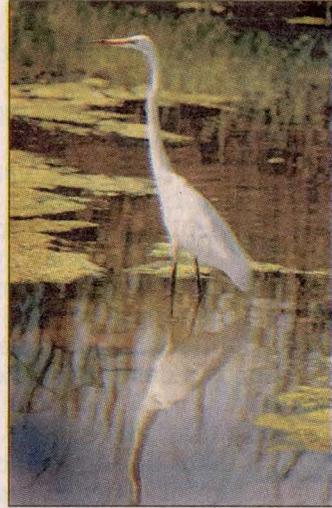
#118



337 JK
.XZ.A. XX...X

Rio Salado green again

Habitat being restored



An egret surveys an area where water already flows. Audubon members have seen 44 bird species along the river.

By Katie Warchut
The Arizona Republic

1501AP

Drivers rushing across the Seventh Street bridge over the Salt River bed may see only gravel and bulldozers. But if they look closer, they may catch a glimpse of birds, plants and grasses — signs of life in the long-awaited Rio Salado project.

The project will restore the natural habitat of five miles of the Salt River, between 19th Avenue and 28th Street, and provide a place for people to enjoy nature.

Currently in its third year of construction, the project will not open to the public until 2005. But already green marsh grass, ponds and birds stand out in stark contrast against the city and its desert surroundings.

The river dried up years ago when dams were constructed to provide the Valley with a water supply. Landfills, sand and gravel pits soon replaced the water.

Now, great egrets and snowy egrets wade in shallow water, seemingly oblivious to bulldozers scooping concrete out of the riverbed behind them. Local Audubon members have already spotted 44 species of birds by the river.

"If you build it, they will come," said Karen Williams, project coordinator.

Project crews have planted a forest of 1,000 cottonwood and willow trees, which once grew along the river's banks. They look like



Photos by Michael Ging/The Arizona Republic

Cottonwood and willow trees, which will become part of a riparian habitat, are being planted along the riverbanks. The trees will grow 8 to 12 feet a year.

shrubs now, but the trees will grow 8 to 12 feet per year, said Walt Kinsler, project manager. Pink blooms distinguish tamarisk, brought in to protect riverbanks from erosion. Mesquite bosques were planted from seeds gathered near the river.

Water from wells pumping from an underground aquifer will sustain wildlife. Digging into the riverbed has also uncovered storm drains that bring additional

water to the habitats. Though the water is not potable, it goes back into the ground and comes out cleaner, Kinsler said.

The riverbed itself consists of three parts — a low flow channel to carry storm releases, a terraced area and an over-bank, which will serve as a recreation area for bicycling, in-line skating, horseback riding, hiking and jogging. Ramps will

"We're working with the community and businesses to put investment in the river and protect it."

— Karen Williams
Rio Salado project coordinator

See RIO Page 12

RIO Project is restoring Salt River

From Page 1 **D**

cross over the river, which will eventually connect with Indian Bend Wash in Scottsdale, the Agua Fria River and Tempe Town Lake. Project coordinators are also working with the Audubon Society to build a nature center.

The costs

All the work comes at no small cost. The total is up to \$100 million when inflationary costs and grant funding are added to the original \$85 million approved by Congress in 1997. The city of Phoenix had to match 35 percent of the \$85 million with \$16 million in bond funding in 2001 and the Flood Control District of Maricopa County contributed the balance of \$18 million. The Army Corps of Engineers, involved in the project since the study began in 1993, is paying the remaining 65 percent.

With all the time and

money invested in the effort, coordinators said they will have to carefully monitor the project, which is threatened by both floods and drought. But there is only so much they can do to prevent damage.

"Anything that is below the (upper bank) is in harm's way," Williams said. "The reality is that this is a natural system. We'll protect it to the best of our ability."

A city neighbor

Nature-seekers also have to understand that the project is meant for an urban environment, within earshot of airplanes landing and horns honking.

"If you want a place without noise and traffic, then no, this isn't the place you want to come," Williams said.

The area also creates challenges, including flocking birds, which can interfere with airplanes at Sky Harbor. Williams said project coordinators are working with the Federal Aviation Administration to work out a solution.

At the same time, the project will help beautify the city and allow people who come to see wildlife stay in the Valley.

"This is not in the boonies, it's a river that goes through our cities," Williams said.

Beyond the Banks

In addition to restoring the riverbed, project planners are also focusing on the surrounding community. South Mountain's home growth and appreciating values suggest the area is ripe for more development, Williams said. A plan called Beyond the Banks is designed to bring housing, retail and mixed-use projects south of the river. Office parks and light industrial projects are planned for the north bank.

"We're working with the community and businesses to put investment in the river and protect it," Williams said.

Reach the reporter at katie.warchut@arizonarepublic.com or (602) 444-4947.

1119



82
.xz1a.

JK
.a...x

Rio Salado goes green

Project is restoring 5-mile stretch of river



An egret wades in quiet water in a restored part of the riverbed. Audubon members have spotted 44 bird species in the area.



Photos by Michael Ging/The Arizona Republic

More than 1,000 cottonwood and willow trees have been planted in and along the Salt River bed between 19th Avenue and 28th Street in the first three years of the long-awaited Rio Salado project.

By Katie Warchut
The Arizona Republic

1501 AP

Drivers rushing across the Seventh Street bridge over the Salt River bed may see only gravel and bulldozers. But if they look closer, they may catch a glimpse of birds, plants and grasses — signs of life in the long-awaited Rio Salado project.

The project will restore the natural habitat of five miles of the Salt River, between 19th Avenue and

28th Street, and provide a place for people to enjoy nature.

Currently in its third year of construction, the project will not open to the public until 2005. But already green marsh grass, ponds and birds stand out in stark contrast against the city and desert.

Nature sightings

The river dried up years ago when dams were constructed to

provide the Valley with a water supply. Landfills, sand and gravel pits soon replaced the water.

Now, great egrets and snowy egrets wade, seemingly oblivious to bulldozers scooping concrete out of the riverbed. Local Audubon members have already spotted 44 species of birds by the river.

"If you build it, they will come," said Karen Williams, project coordinator.

A

See RIO Page 2

RIO Restoration puts green back in riverbed

From Page 1 **A**

Project crews have planted a forest of 1,000 cottonwood and willow trees, which once grew along the river's banks.

Copa County contributed the balance of \$18 million. The Army Corps of Engineers, involved in the project since the study began in 1993, is paying the remaining 65 percent.

The vision

Water from wells pumping from an underground aquifer will sustain wildlife. Digging into the riverbed has also uncovered storm drains that bring additional water to the habitats. Though the water is not potable, it goes back into the ground and comes out cleaner, Kinsler said.

The riverbed itself consists of three parts — a low flow channel to carry storm releases, a terraced area and an over-bank, which will serve as a recreation area for bicycling, roller-blading, horseback riding, hiking and jogging. Ramps will cross over the river, which will eventually connect with Indian Bend Wash in Scottsdale, the Agua Fria River and Tempe Town Lake. Project coordinators are also working with the Audubon Society to build a nature center.

The costs

All the work comes at no small cost. The total is up to \$100 million when inflationary costs and grant funding are added to the original \$85 million approved by Congress in 1997. The city of Phoenix had to match 35 percent of the \$85 million with \$16 million in bond funding in 2001 and the Flood Control District of Mari-

A city neighbor

Nature-seekers also have to understand that the project is meant for an urban environment, within earshot of airplanes landing and horns honking.

The area also creates challenges, including flocking birds, which can interfere with airplanes at Sky Harbor. Williams said project coordinators are working with the Federal Aviation Administration to work out a solution.

At the same time, the project will help beautify the city and allow people who come to see wildlife stay in the Valley.

Beyond the Banks

In addition to restoring the riverbed, project planners are also focusing on the surrounding community. South Mountain's home growth and appreciating values suggest the area is ripe for more development, Williams said. A plan called Beyond the Banks is designed to bring housing, retail and mixed-use projects south of the river. Office parks and light industrial projects are planned for the north bank.

Reach the reporter at
katie.warchut@arizonarepublic.com
or (602) 444-4947.

#120

ARIZONA REPUBLIC

PHOENIX, AZ
SATURDAY 486,131
JUL 19 2003



337
.XZ.A.

JK
XX...X

EDITORIAL

Rio Salado project giving Salt River its old splendor

Our stand: Grassy marshes and trees replacing rocky scar in Phoenix core

^{150 LAP}
Check this out: They're restoring the Salt River in Phoenix to its natural state.

Check it out. (Not today, of course. Wait till cooler temperatures arrive.)

Arizona used to have many places like this: grassy marshes along riverbanks. All sorts of birds and bushes, plants and trees.

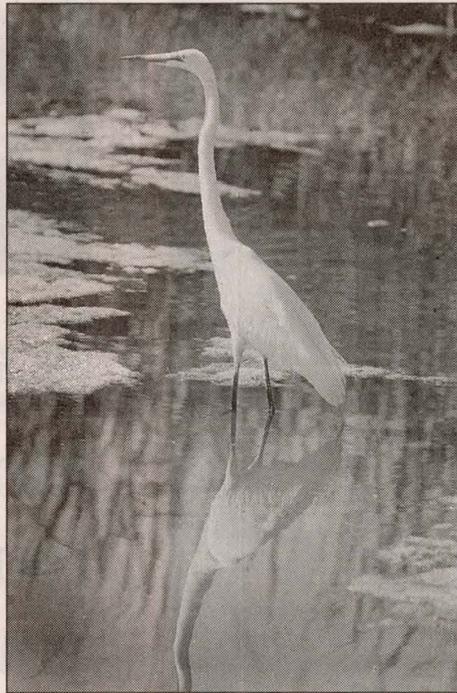
But that was decades ago, before the construction of storage dams that enabled the Valley to urbanize and grow. Before so many rivers became ugly scars used solely as a source of sand and gravel to build the streets and cities we see around us.

We forgot all about those grassy marches. More than 90 percent of the Sonoran river environment has been lost over the last century.

But now, under the shadow of the Phoenix downtown, spitting distance from the Central Avenue bridge over the Salt River, they're rebuilding it.

Check it out. Varying shades of green, cottonwood and willow trees, mesquite bosques, marshy plant life and grasses. Between Seventh Street and Central!

Listen: Birds, as if you were in the marshes and trees behind Roosevelt



Michael Ging/The Arizona Republic

An egret fishes in part of the Salt River being restored to its natural state.

Dam. You can actually hear them from the Central Avenue bridge, even as cars whiz by.

This portion of the Rio Salado project won't be as flashy or have the development potential that Tempe Town Lake has. It will be years in the making. But slowly and surely, with the continued support of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, the city of Phoenix, the Maricopa County Flood Control District and congressional budgeters, the scar is being erased, brought back to its natural state, at least in central Phoenix, where any green outside Bank One Ball-

park is cherished.

You can imagine the beauty it will have. A few beautiful egrets have already found the place — in downtown Phoenix. Audubon Society members say they have spotted 44 bird species along the river, wetted by water pumped from underground aquifers, storm drains and runoff.

Within a few years, it's going to be a recreational area, for walking, hiking, biking, birdwatching and picnicking.

Imagine that: birdwatching in south-central Phoenix.

But it's coming. And it will be special.