

## **Scottsdale Independent: I support the DDC idea — not the ‘Desert Disneyland’**

Jun 30th, 2016

My opponent in the November election for Scottsdale Mayor recently sent out a campaign email claiming I "strongly supported the DDC as a Councilman." He knows this is a distortion of the truth. Eight years ago I supported what the DDC was **originally** intended to be, a small, low-impact desert interpretive center with no commercial activity and no nighttime activity. Sadly, in the intervening years the DDC concept was hijacked by special interests who now want to put a 30-acre Desert Disneyland, complete with commercial activity and nighttime events, right smack in the Gateway to our Preserve. And to add insult to injury, they want Scottsdale taxpayers to pay for it! This is the DDC which my opponent supports and which I **oppose!**



In one scenario for the Desert Discovery Center, visitors would walk into the fanged mouth, read up on the reptile's digestive system, and end in a translucent chamber that makes up the rattle.

My opponent also claims he supports a public vote on the DDC. Funny, he didn't support a public vote in January of this year; then he was happy to have the Council decide. Only after public outcry did he grudgingly support a NON-BINDING vote to put the issue to the voters. You can be sure if he is re-elected to a final term he will flip again and there will be no public vote on the DDC.

***This is just another attempt by my opponent to divert attention from the one thing he dares not talk about in this campaign, his record as Mayor.*** It is a record of consistently voting to support the special interests who fund his campaign at the expense of Scottsdale residents. If the Mayoral campaign focuses on his record he will be defeated in a landslide, so he is desperate to divert the conversation to any other subject. He most certainly does not want to contrast his voting record with ***my record of consistently supporting Scottsdale residents during my 12+ years on the City Council.***

The bottom line is clear: **Scottsdale needs new leadership.**

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