

Scottsdale Independent: Why are you running for Scottsdale Mayor?

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I want to protect Scottsdale's special character and high quality of life, both of which are being diminished by the current Mayor. He supports a Scottsdale of tall buildings that block our views, urban-level density that clogs our streets with traffic and stresses our infrastructure, an oversupply of ugly apartments, and an out-of-control bar district. He is encouraging the destruction and decay of Scottsdale's once world-renowned art gallery scene. He happily approves commercial development in residential neighborhoods and even supports commercial development (the Desert Discovery Center) in the citizen-created crown jewel of Scottsdale, the Preserve. And finally, he is squandering our hard-earned tax dollars on special-interest handouts instead of funding our city's critical infrastructure needs.

There is no better example of the stark difference between my opponent and me than his support of the Desert Discovery Center. The citizens of Scottsdale voted five times to tax themselves for almost a billion dollars to create a unique and special Preserve. They were promised that land would always be protected from development. Now, my opponent wants to break that promise and put a large-scale commercial entertainment venue, the Desert Discovery Center, right inside the gateway to our Preserve. Once the prohibition on development inside the Preserve is violated the precedent is set and the Preserve becomes open to further exploitation. I oppose breaking this promise to the citizens of Scottsdale and I will fight to protect our unique and special Preserve from development.

In contrast to my opponent's negative vision for Scottsdale, here is what I stood for when I was a Councilman for 12 years, and what voters can count on me to fight for as Mayor:

- I will keep our property taxes low by ending the wasteful city spending and special-interest subsidies my opponent allows.
- **Enough is enough!** I will continue to oppose the massive expansion of unsightly apartments and high-rises which obstruct our views, clog our streets and overstress our infrastructure.
- Public safety is the city's #1 responsibility. Funding public safety will always be my top budget priority.
- I will protect the local businesses and galleries which keep our city financially strong and enhance our high quality of life.
- I oppose bringing light rail to our city. It would raise our taxes by literally hundreds of millions of dollars and destroy the local business on Scottsdale Road, to our city.
- ***As a City Councilman I was a tireless advocate for Scottsdale residents and their neighborhoods. Voters can be sure I will do the same as Scottsdale's Mayor!***

Bob Littlefield is a former three-term Scottsdale City Councilman and is running for Scottsdale Mayor. He can be reached by email at bob@boblittlefield.com, and his website is www.boblittlefield.com.