

# How Unbridled Development Hurts Your Pocketbook!

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So far, the 2020 campaign for Mayor and City Council has focused on the negative effects unbridled development has on Scottsdale's special character and high quality of life – increased traffic congestion, blocked views, stressed infrastructure and lack of parking. If you drive around Scottsdale, you can see these problems firsthand every day.

But there is another way unbridled development is hurting Scottsdale citizens, and that is money. Your money. Specifically, your tax dollars.

Last year city staff told the City Council that Scottsdale had over \$800 million of "unfunded" infrastructure projects; some observers believe the amount is actually much higher. Staff asked the City Council to put a bond issue before the voters to fund these projects. The City Council concluded the voters would never approve such a large amount and opted for a smaller \$319M package.

Which brings up the question; how did an affluent city like Scottsdale find itself hundreds of millions of dollars in the hole? The answer is simple; ***unbridled development doesn't pay; it costs.***

Unbridled development hurts Scottsdale's treasury in two ways. First, every time a tall, dense project is built it adds costs we current taxpayers have to pay – costs for increasing police and fire services, water and sewer, road improvements and other infrastructure needs. Current Scottsdale taxpayers end up paying these costs because my opponents and their allies do not make developers of these projects pay their own

way. **Scottsdale taxpayers are literally being forced to subsidize development we don't want!**

Second, unbridled development also hurts us by making Scottsdale's character less unique and special, which makes our city less desirable as a tourist destination. This is a problem because tourism is the most significant driver of Scottsdale's economy. Tourists will not want to come here (and spend money) if we make Scottsdale look like a bland copy of Anytown USA.

If I am elected Mayor, I will, as I did when I was a Councilman, support only **quality, character-appropriate development that pays for itself**. And I will apply that standard to all parts of our beautiful city. If you want to help me bring these values back to city government visit my web site at [www.boblittlefield.com/help.html](http://www.boblittlefield.com/help.html).

Former Councilman Bob Littlefield

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