



# Community Connection

*News and events for citizens of Sedona*

January 2008

[www.SedonaAZ.gov](http://www.SedonaAZ.gov)

Volume 4, Issue 1

## An Update from Mayor Pud Colquitt

A new year always brings forth a feeling of anticipation, a sense of new beginnings, and certain challenges that must be faced. As you know, we are at the beginning of Phase 2 of the SR179 construction from Back O' Beyond to the "Y." This construction will be with us for at least 2 plus years and it is my hope that we as a community can come together and face the uncertainty and intrusion into our everyday lives with patience and kindness. Patience because we really have little control over many events that could occur, and kindness because it is just the right thing to do. We need to support our business community because they are a very important source of our revenues and even more importantly they are our neighbors and friends. The City, Arizona Department of Transportation, Chamber of Commerce and Sedona Main Street Program are working in partnership to keep us informed, the traffic moving, the business doors open, and especially to keep us safe.



*Quinn and Mayor Colquitt*

2007 was an eventful year with the completion of many important projects and the start of new initiatives. The Uptown Enhancement Project is complete and now enjoyed by locals and tourists. The Sedona RoadRunner transit system began the connector route in Uptown and the commuter route to and from Cottonwood in the a.m. and p.m. The Sedona Cultural Park Community Plan Amendment was approved. Our Sedona Police Department traffic patrol slowed traffic on Hwy 89A. The school bond passed, which will provide Sedona's residents and students with a performing arts facility. Local events were held such as the Easter Egg Hunt, St. Patrick's Day Parade, Western Americana Day (even with the torrential rain), Mitzvah Day (day of service), wonderful arts events such as the Sedona Plein Air Festival and Sedona Arts Festival, and the list could go on and on. An event that did not happen, of which I am very grateful, was no major forest fire occurred in our vicinity; however, we should always keep our guard up.

It is my hope that 2008 will be the year that we seriously address the importance of a sustainable future for Sedona. Guy Dauncey, President of the British Columbia Sustainable Energy Association defines sustainability as the following: "Sustainability is a condition of existence

which enables the present generation of humans and other species to enjoy social well being, a vibrant economy, and a healthy environment, and to experience fulfillment, beauty, and joy, without compromising the ability of future generations of humans and other species to enjoy the same."

According to the Morrison Institute For Public Policy, November 2007, "Sustainability involves multiple components. Many people are familiar with the three overlapping circles used to represent sustainability. One circle stands for economic performance, another for social equity, and another for environmental quality. Together

they comprise the triple bottom line of sustainability that business and policy leaders must address with every decision they make. Where the interests of all three circles intersect is considered the "sweet spot" of sustainability, the place where progress on all three fronts can be achieved. A fourth circle might represent new technology, since innovation must play a role in finding answers to issues such as energy production and air pollution. A fifth circle could represent culture, which binds society together yet exists apart from the concept of social equity. Some suggest the environment circle should be expanded to encompass all others, arguing that environment is the foundation upon which everything else depends."

Why the emphasis on sustainability? Quite simply, our future existence depends on being sustainable. Referring to the "overlapping circles" which one could we do without and still maintain an acceptable quality of life? We, who reside in Sedona, cherish our quality of life and strive to retain a small town character and this is good; however, we must come

**Continued on Page 2**

### Mayor's Coffee Chats

<b>Jan.</b>	Canyon Breeze Restaurant 300 N. Hwy 89A Thursday, January 17 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
<b>Feb.</b>	Starbucks Coffee Co. 101 N. Hwy 89A Thursday, February 21 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
<b>Mar.</b>	Rose Tree Inn 376 Cedar Street Thursday, March 27 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
<b>April</b>	Canyon Breeze Restaurant 300 N. Hwy 89A Thursday, April 24 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

## Mayor's Update Continued -

to terms with the reality of what it takes to sustain that quality of life and small town character. I believe it demands that we think "long term." How do we sustain our economy 10 or 20 years from now? How do we protect our environment for the next 20 or so years? What do we want our community to look like in 20 years? You should demand that we have long-range financial/economic redevelopment and environmental plans. These plans do not happen overnight, but involve study, public involvement, and the 4 "C's" which are cooperation, collaboration, coordination, and communication. Quite simply, we put aside our individual personal issues and think more collectively – less talk and more action.

### Historic Preservation Grants

The City of Sedona has recently awarded matching grants to the owners of five local historic landmark properties. These small grants go a long way in helping to preserve significant historical periods and Sedona's small town character.

The preservation grants are intended to restore, repair and protect structures. This year's projects will help fund new roofing, chimney re-pointing, window stabilization, removal of inappropriate contemporary features, and exterior painting.

All of the properties are designated as local Historic Landmarks, and the Hummingbird House is also listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The properties are:

- The Bennet-Purtymun Cabin built in 1922, located at the Sedona Charter School – the oldest cabin in Sedona
- The Delia Hart pump house, fully functional and made from river rock, tucked away in the parking lot at Artesania
- The Hart Store, a unique home décor business known as the Hummingbird House situated on the corner of Brewer and Ranger Roads
- Howard Madole designed home, beautifully maintained in its original condition both inside and out
- Pushmataha Building in use as Keep Sedona Beautiful offices

The City's \$15,000 fund will provide grants ranging from \$2,000 to \$4,600. Property owners will provide an equal amount of matching funds to carry out their projects. With over \$40,000 in total project value, the program continues to demonstrate how a small financial incentive can achieve significant results in the community.

For more information, please call Kathy Levin, Associate Planner, at 203-5035.

## Re-development Planning

Since over 80% of the City's commercial land area has been developed, most of the growth in the City's commercial area is currently happening through the re-development of properties that are already built on. There has been a concern that the City does not have a specific strategy for how this re-development should occur. There are also concerns regarding traffic and parking and re-development in some residential areas. Are there specific types of development that should be encouraged in specific areas? Is there a better way to develop and communicate community goals regarding buildings, design, streetscape and other elements so that they "fit in" with each other? And are there better ways for the City to review re-development projects? Understanding the regional and local economy will also be important in determining the kind of planning that may be needed to address these issues and answer some of these questions.

Staff is now pursuing a general approach, approved by the City Council in September 2007, to complete an initial phase of an Economic Sustainability and Re-development Strategy by early 2008 that will determine priorities for re-development planning and the type of consultant(s) and type and extent of the work needed to complete this plan. Following this initial work, a consultant(s) would be retained to do the detailed planning. This effort will be underway through 2008.

### Update on Affordable Housing Issue

The Sedona Community Plan limits the number of housing units that can be built in different parts of the community. The City is considering amending the Community Plan to provide more flexibility in these density limits, but only in cases where additional housing units will be made affordable to Sedona residents and employees.

Public meetings and outreach events will be scheduled over the next couple of months to further discuss this issue. You may also contact Jessica Williamson, Housing Planner, at 203-5045 or email [jwilliamson@SedonaAZ.gov](mailto:jwilliamson@SedonaAZ.gov).

### Parks and Recreation Department Moves To City Hall

The Parks and Recreation Department has moved to Sedona City Hall, located at 102 Roadrunner Drive. The phone number remains at 282-7098.

January 18th deadlines for upcoming programs:

Boys & Girls Youth Basketball – Cost is \$35 per child  
Men's Winter League Basketball – Cost is \$250 per team  
Women's and Co-Rec Volleyball – Cost is \$125 per team

Aquatic aerobics classes are offered both morning and evening. For more information, call 282-7098 or email Parks & Recreation Director Bill Lee at [blee@SedonaAZ.gov](mailto:blee@SedonaAZ.gov).

## Highway 179 Improvement Project Enters Sedona – February 2008

The Highway 179 Improvement Project is scheduled to begin construction of Phase II in Sedona in February 2008. The Back O' Beyond Roundabout was completed during Phase I construction and many utilities were relocated in preparation for major construction in the summer and fall of 2007. The next phase of the project will complete construction within the City limits, from the "Y" to the new forest alignment that starts just south of the new roundabout at Back O' Beyond.

The City anticipates total completion of the Highway 179 Improvements in late spring 2010. However, the contract for Phase II contains a special early completion incentive for the business corridor, defined as Canyon Drive to Brewer Road, including the "Y." Substantial construction work in this area should be completed between February 4, 2008 and November 20, 2008 (between the Super Bowl and Thanksgiving). The contractor will be paid \$5,000 per day up to \$125,000 to complete the project early and will be fined \$5,000 per day if the business district is not completed within that time frame. This incentive is to complete work that will make the corridor driveable – this includes curbs and gutters, placement of driveway accesses, and first layers of pavement – not sidewalks and landscaping. Completion of the business district does not include work on the new bridge.

The City has been working closely with the Arizona Department Of Transportation (ADOT) in preparation for the improvement work beginning in Phase II. ADOT has committed to continue a close relationship with the City and our residents and businesses, maintain two-way traffic throughout construction, and minimize the footprint of the new roadway. ADOT will continue to hold construction chats on the first Thursday of each month to provide information about the project and provides a weekly email or fax update. You can sign up at [www.scenic179.com](http://www.scenic179.com). Additionally, staff in the City Manager's Office can provide you information about the project or direct you to the appropriate ADOT staff person.

Contact Alison Zelms in the City Manager's Office at 204-7127 or [azelms@SedonaAZ.gov](mailto:azelms@SedonaAZ.gov) with questions.

### How to Drive a Roundabout

**Guidelines to Remember:**

1. Slow Down
2. Yield to traffic in the circle
3. Obey one-way signs
4. Watch for pedestrians and bicyclists

**Know Where You Are Headed** - Get in the proper lane. Roundabout traffic moves counterclockwise so look to your left for oncoming traffic.

**Slow Down** when you enter the roundabout, speeds drop to 15 - 20 MPH.

**Yield** to the motorists in the roundabout. Once you are in the roundabout, you have the right of way. Remember to use your **turn signals**.

**Pedestrians** use crosswalks & use caution.

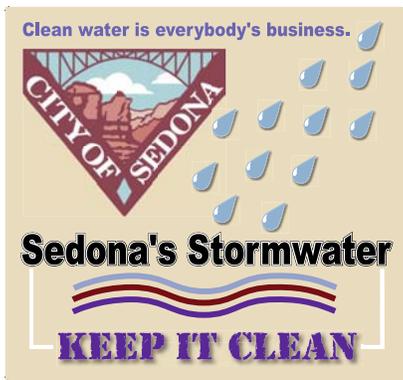
**Bicycles** follow the rules of the road or walk your bike and use the crosswalks.

**Emergency Vehicles** - Yield to Emergency Vehicles in the roundabout. Exit and if you can, pull over.

**Trucks** - Watch out for large trucks. Don't try to pass large trucks in the roundabout.

Graphic courtesy of ADOT

## Storm Water Quality Management Program



Have you seen the City's stormwater sign? This sign is part of the City's effort to make citizens, contractors, and tourists aware of the need to prevent stormwater pollution. In 2003, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, in conformance with the Federal Clean Water Act, required the City to comply with a General Permit allowing the City to discharge stormwater to Oak Creek and its tributaries. The City was required to prepare a program to educate people about stormwater pollution, develop measures to enhance stormwater quality, and implement enforcement actions against polluters. The City developed brochures that were mailed to residents and contractors during the last few years. The City Council recently approved the Stormwater Ordinance which defines what can be put into the storm drainage system, what constitutes pollution, and establishes penalties for improper discharges to the storm drainage system. The City plans to contact businesses and residents over the next several months to acquaint them with the ordinance requirements. The new ordinance can be reviewed at

[www.SedonaAZ.gov](http://www.SedonaAZ.gov) on the Public Works Department page under "Stormwater In Sedona."

## Maintenance of Weeds, Ditches and Culverts in the City Right-Of-Way

The City of Sedona has established guidelines for the maintenance of its rights-of-way. These guidelines state when the City crews will typically perform weed and ditch maintenance in the right-of-way. A property owner or resident is responsible to perform weed and drainage work when they desire more frequent maintenance of an area than the City performs.

### What is the right-of-way?

The right-of-way is property under, on the surface, adjacent to, and above the ditches, roadways and sidewalks owned by the City of Sedona. The City has the right to be upon and control what is done within the right-of-way. Right-of-way often extends into what you may consider your yard. For instance, roadway right-of-way usually extends 10 to 20 feet beyond the roadway pavement. In some situations residents and businesses are responsible for maintenance of areas within the right-of-way. Maintenance includes weed removal, ditch and culvert cleaning, and removal of snow and ice from sidewalks in the winter. Some work in the right-of-way requires a permit from the City. Please go to [www.SedonaAZ.gov](http://www.SedonaAZ.gov) and look for Right-of-way Permits.

### Weeds

Currently, the City mows weeds to approximately five feet beyond the edge of the city's roads twice a year. The reason for this maintenance is to keep vegetation from encroaching on the roadway. Residents are responsible the remainder of the year to maintain weeds along streets adjacent to their properties and for maintenance beyond this distance. The City has recognized a need for more frequent weed removal adjacent to streets such as SR 89A, Thunder Mountain Road/Sanborn Drive (Rhapsody Road to just east of Rodeo Road), Upper Red Rock Loop Road, Navoti Drive, and White Bear Road. Other exceptions include removal at any time of growth causing visibility or travel way issues along a roadway.

### Storm Drainage

Currently, routine maintenance of storm drainage facilities is focused on drainages related to a City roadway. These include gutters, ditches, and culverts. The City program to clean roadside ditches and culverts throughout the City has a three to five year cycle. Otherwise, owners and residents are responsible to maintain driveway culverts and ditches adjacent to their properties. The City may clear drainages, including driveway culverts, which appear to pose a flooding hazard to several properties. On occasion debris will be removed from natural channels and washes, if a City facility is threatened.

## Free Mediation Services

Having a conflict with a neighbor or in your family?

The City sponsors *free* mediation services to assist disputing parties in communicating and developing mutually agreeable solutions. The service is private and confidential in which an impartial third party helps identify and clarify issues.

For more information, please call the City Manager's Office at 204-7127.

## Vote-By-Mail Primary Election

*Your City, Your Choice.....*



**Your Vote is Your Voice!!!**

### Election Date and Purpose of Election

A Vote-By-Mail Primary Election will be held on March 11, 2008, for the election of Mayor, a two-year term, three Council seats consisting of a four-year term, and one Council seat consisting of a two-year term. Beginning with the election of 2010 and commencing every two years thereafter, an election will be held for three Council seats with a staggered four-year term. In 2010 and continuing every four years thereafter, the election will be held for the position of Mayor with a four-year term, if the measure is approved.

The following additional measures will also appear on the March 11, 2008 Primary ballot:

- A. A proposal to adopt a Local Alternative Expenditure Limitation – Home Rule Option.
- B. A proposal to submit to vote whether the mayor should be elected to a four-year term.

### Deadline for Voter Registration

Coconino and Yavapai County voter registration lists will be used for the Primary and General Election. In order to be qualified to vote at the Primary Election you must be registered to vote by February 11, 2008. If a General Election is necessary to vote in this election, you must be registered by April 21, 2008.

## What is the Alternative Expenditure Limitation?

On the Ballot in March 2008, Sedona voters will decide whether to maintain the City's Alternative Expenditure Limitation (AEL) status or revert to a State Imposed Expenditure Limitation (SIEL). Every four years, the citizens of Sedona vote on whether to maintain a local alternative expenditure limitation. You might be asking yourself, "What does this mean?" Hopefully the information provided here will help to make the facts about the Alternative Expenditure Limitation clear and provide an opportunity for an informed decision.

In 1980, Arizona voters approved a tax reform package, which included a state imposed limitation on what cities and towns could spend.

**Denial** of the Alternative Expenditure Limitation will eliminate the ability of the City to set its own budget. Rather, the State Imposed Expenditure Limitation would take affect in July 2008. The SIEL would not limit the amount of revenue that the City takes in (taxes), however, it would reduce the amount that can be expended. The state limit is based on a formula that uses only population and inflation increases as factors. It does not account for outside factors such as our large visitor population or major increases in the cost of construction that have been felt over the last few years. It also doesn't account for normal revenue streams such as development impact fees, timeshare fees, and sewer capacity fees – the City still collects the fees but is not able to expend a portion of that revenue. Additionally, it does not allow for adjustments related to costs for new or increased programs or expanded services, such as increases in police staffing or expansion of the sewer system to new customers.

The SIEL does not affect the City's ability to expend funds from bond proceeds (sales tax obligations), to authorize future bond elections, or to repay principal and interest on outstanding obligations.

**Approval** of the Alternative Expenditure Limitation will continue the City's ability to set its own budget – the same ability that Sedona has had since the first approval of the AEL 12 years ago. This means the Sedona City Council will set its own expenditure limitation during the annual budget process. In this way, the Council can take into account all of the financial resources available.

The AEL does not affect the current sales or bed tax rates for the City.

If the ballot issue passes and the AEL remains in effect, expenditures will be limited to not exceed the available financial resources that the City expects to have in the next year.

If the ballot issue fails the City will be under the State Imposed Expenditure Limitation. Under this option, the City estimates that at least 8 to 10 million dollars or 30% of the City's annual budget would have to be eliminated, or the City would have to seek revenues that are exempt from the State Imposed Limitation.

If you still have questions about the issue please contact the City Manager's Office at 204-7127.

## Arts and Culture Commission Announces Artist Grant Opportunities

The City of Sedona Arts and Culture Commission is accepting applications from local artists for two types of grants, the Artist Project Grants and the Emerging Artist Materials Grants.

The **Artist Project Grants** are intended to support major projects being undertaken by Sedona artists who already enjoy an established arts career and are important in establishing the quality of the work produced by the artists that make up Sedona's arts community. Five grants of \$5,000 will be awarded.

The **Emerging Artist Materials Grants** are intended to foster the development of emerging artists in all disciplines by providing recognition and financial support to purchase materials necessary to continue artistic work. Ten grants of \$1,000 each will be awarded.

Application requirements and guidelines for both grants are available by contacting Ginger Wolstencroft, Director of Arts and Culture, at 204-7119, or email [gwolstencroft@SedonaAZ.gov](mailto:gwolstencroft@SedonaAZ.gov) or go to the City's homepage at [www.SedonaAZ.gov](http://www.SedonaAZ.gov) and look under "News & Updates." Applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, March 7, 2008 or delivered by 5:00 p.m.

## Senior Information Referral Services

According to the 2000 census, seniors comprise 33.4% of Sedona's population. People have come here from all over the country to work and then retire or are already retired and ready to enjoy the beautiful red rocks and the excellent climate in what many describe as the "most beautiful place on earth."

In this red rock paradise, however, there are important realities and needs that challenge seniors, many of whom live on their own. It could be a sudden illness, need for hospitalization and follow up, in-home care with nursing services, an accident that might require rehabilitation services, the ongoing need for meals delivered to the home, transportation, grocery shopping, prescription pick-up, counseling services and/or bereavement support groups.

Through Senior Information Referral Specialist Anne Leap, the City has the above information available and more. She maintains a current and accurate listing of services in the City, Counties, State and Federal agencies, along with private organizations whose mission it is to serve seniors.

For more information, please contact Anne Leap at 203-5151 or email [aleap@SedonaAZ.gov](mailto:aleap@SedonaAZ.gov).



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Sedona, Arizona 86336  
(928) 282-3113  
TDD (928) 204-7102  
[www.SedonaAZ.gov](http://www.SedonaAZ.gov)



Your City Council wants to hear from you. They can be contacted by mail at Sedona City Hall, 102 Roadrunner Drive, Sedona, AZ 86336 or by email:

Mayor Pud Colquitt: [pcolquitt@SedonaAZ.gov](mailto:pcolquitt@SedonaAZ.gov)  
Vice Mayor Jerry Frey: [jfrey@SedonaAZ.gov](mailto:jfrey@SedonaAZ.gov)  
Councilor Rob Adams: [radams@SedonaAZ.gov](mailto:radams@SedonaAZ.gov)  
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Councilor Harvey Stearn: [hstearn@SedonaAZ.gov](mailto:hstearn@SedonaAZ.gov)

*The City Council is here to listen and serve you!*

### City Council Changes Meeting Times

Regular City Council meetings now begin at 4:30 p.m. Work sessions will be held as needed with a start time of 5:30 p.m.

**POSTAL PATRON**



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