



# Phoenix Mountains Preservation Council, Inc.

## PMPC ACTIVITIES UPDATE: JAN 19, 2017

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**HELLO PMPC MEMBERS:** As part of our strengthened & focused activities, we are providing a *PMPC Activities Update* – a short summary of current priority topics and status to keep you all informed. You can expect this update on a consistent basis – this is our first one in 2017 – many more to follow. Please send the PMPC Board any preserve protection topics & issues you recommend that need monitoring and tracking.  
Email PMPC at [pmpcaz@gmail.com](mailto:pmpcaz@gmail.com).

### **PMPC ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2017!!**

See the attached Membership form. Thank you for your continued help with the protection of the Phoenix Mountain Preserve!

**PMPC Meeting: Monday, March 6 – Welcome! Members Meeting and Board Meeting plus Pizza Dinner at North Mountain Visitors Center – 7 pm**

### **PMPC Hike: Saturday, February 11 – Squaw Peak Trailhead at 40<sup>th</sup> and Shea**

Meet at 8:30 am for an easy to moderate hike. RSVP to Dick at Richard Fincher [rd@workplaceresolutions.com](mailto:rd@workplaceresolutions.com)  
Bring your friends and family!!

**(1) HOORAY!! Lower 2700 LED Lights for City Street Lights:** PMPC along with neighborhood organizations and Dark Skies urged City of Phoenix Council to replace street lights with a lower 2700 Kelvin LED instead of the currently used 4000 Kelvin bulbs. Through public input, City leaders were made aware of the adverse effect higher Kelvin rated bulbs would have on people, animals and plants. PMPC would like to thank all members who took the time to contact their City Council members and/or provided input through the *Parks and Recreation LED Lighting Public Input Survey* to provide a sensible long-term solution to keep our streets, sidewalks and Mountain Preserve safe and sustainable. In December, Phoenix City Council Voted to use lower 2700 Kelvin LED Lights for City Street Lights – a wonderful and grateful appreciation to the City Council.

**(2) South Mountain Draft Trails Master Plan:** PMPC representatives have been attending public meetings and monitoring the development of the draft South Mountain Trails and Trail Names master plan. PMPC has sent out multiple updates and reminders to PMPC Membership, and has been encouraging everyone to take a moment and go online to provide your comments. The Public comment date ended on January 8, 2017. PMPC would like to thank all Members who took time to provide comments. The Draft Trails Master Plan will be presented to Parks Board for approval in February 2017 (tentative dates). Trail monitoring will continue.

**(3) South Mountain Freeway Objection - Update:** The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit recently turned down the *temporary injunction request* filed by the Gila River Indian Community, as the Court had done in August for the injunction request filed by PARC. The temporary injunction would have stopped all work on the SMF until the final appeal request is decided which is not expected until later in 2017. ADOT stated in their brief to the Court that, "The [ADOT] contractor will not be permitted to begin any construction activities in the Center Segment until July 2018 at the earliest." The Center Segment is the part of the SMF that goes through South Mountain preserve. However, Pecos Road is not part of the Center Segment, and so all the SMF major construction work along Pecos Road is allowed to continue. PMPC will continue to monitor and keep Members informed.

**(4) Camelback Mountain House Construction Objection:** PMPC representatives were invited and attended the Town of Paradise Valley Board of Adjustment meeting to voice the PMPC objection to a proposed house and driveway on Camelback Mountain that would sit in a boulder field at an elevation of 1,800 feet. If constructed, the boulders, some the size of small cabins, will be dynamited, forever disfiguring and destroying this treasured landmark. **Update:** The local non-profit organization *Save Camelback Mountain* now has a web site - <http://savecamelback.org/> - they are collecting signatures on an on-line Petition that will be sent to the Hillside Building Committee and to Mayor Michael Collins.

*PMPC fights the battles needed to keep these natural places intact so YOU can experience all of your favorite outdoor recreational activities in the Phoenix Mountain Preserves.*

\*\*\* PMPC Executive Board & Patrick McMullen, PMPC President \*\*\*