



# Phoenix Mountains Preservation Council, Inc.

## PMPC ACTIVITIES UPDATE: JULY 28, 2017

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

**HELLO PMPC MEMBERS:** The *PMPC ACTIVITIES UPDATE* is an informative summary of PMPC's current priority topics and their status. We issue these updates in between our full newsletters to keep our membership informed and knowledgeable. We welcome and encourage you to send us the protection topics and issues you believe need more attention, monitoring, and/or tracking. Please e-mail PMPC at [pmpcaz@gmail.com](mailto:pmpcaz@gmail.com) **Thank you!**

### **SAVE the DATE!! PMPC Annual Membership Meeting and Dinner, November 6<sup>TH</sup> at 6 PM:**

PMPC Annual Membership Meeting and Dinner is set for Monday, November 6th, at the North Mountain Visitors Center. Several local organizations and the City of Phoenix are invited to keep us all up-to-date on important topics. All members and those interested in learning more about PMPC are welcome to come! Dinner will be served prior to the Annual Meeting. More information, including the Annual Membership Meeting Agenda and Dinner details, will follow!!

### **PMPC Representatives attend Public Meetings and actively monitor the following Plans and Projects:**

- (1) **North Mountain Access Road Update:** To comply with loading standards, the City needs to replace the existing tower structures. The existing access road is in a state of disrepair and needs substantial improvements to control drainage. Construction is tentatively set to begin in September, with a Public Meeting a month before. Cars parking in the utility road access area are blocking tower service vehicles needing access. The future of this utility parking area is currently under consideration. Albert Granillo, City of Phoenix contact person on this Project, welcomes our ideas and participation in a survey, regarding this project. Please e-mail [agranillo@gci.az.com](mailto:agranillo@gci.az.com) to participate.
- (2) **Shaw Butte Access Road Update:** APS began staging to replace the Shaw Butte Towers. According to the new *trailhead signage*, construction updates will occur between July 28 and September 30. The access road will remain open to hikers, but not the loop trail on the west side of Shaw Butte.
- (3) **South Mountain Trails Master Plan:** The Parks Board granted final approval of the Draft Trails Master Plan. For more information: <https://www.phoenix.gov/parks/southmtntailplan>
- (4) **South Mountain Freeway - Update:** PMPC sent formal Freedom of Information Act Requests to the Federal Highway Administration and Arizona Department of Transportation; regarding wildlife and plant life scoping and mitigation planning documents. PMPC received FHA's information and documentation, which included two CDs – currently under PMPC's review. ADOT requested a \$75.00 processing/copying fee. PMPC paid this fee and is now awaiting ADOT's documents. PMPC continues to monitor all phases of this SMF project and construction.
- (5) **Camelback Mountain House Construction Objection:** PMPC representatives attended the Town of Paradise Valley Board of Adjustment meetings to voice PMPC's objection to a proposed house and driveway on Camelback Mountain; that would sit in a boulder field at an elevation of 1,800 feet. Currently the PV Board of Adjustment has postponed all Board Action until the current lawsuit between the Home Builder and the Local Home Owners is resolved – most likely in 2018. For updates and action items, visit the non-profit organization *Save Camelback Mountain* web site at: <http://savecamelback.org/>

### **Recreational Information for PMPC Members:**

- (6) **Desert Heat-Related Illness Awareness:** Use extra caution when recreating in our mountain deserts from May to October. Overexposure to heat or body overexertion can result in heat-related illness. Learn more about heat exhaustion and heat stroke risk factors, prevention, signs and symptoms; from the following websites: <http://nophonews.com/heat-safety/> and ["Take a Hike. Do it Right"](#)
- (7) **Dogs Prohibited on City Trails at 100-Degrees!!** Park Rangers wish to remind trail users of the new rule, approved in 2016, prohibiting dogs on all city trails, when the temperature is 100 degrees or warmer. Violators can be cited with a Class One Misdemeanor, which could carry with it a fine of up to \$2,500 and up to six months jail time, based on a judge's decision. [The Humane Society provides additional information about how to keep pets safe during warm weather months.](#)

***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.***