

## Town Hall Forum Task Force

# Verde Valley Land Use: Making Collaborative Decisions

**DATE: Saturday, November 9th, 2019      Beaver Creek School**

**This Town Hall Forum** will explore the pressing issues impacting the region and its communities, in order to build informed consensus for action. Professionally produced by [Arizona Town Hall](#), the day will be facilitated by retired judge Pat Norris.

### **Expected Outcomes:**

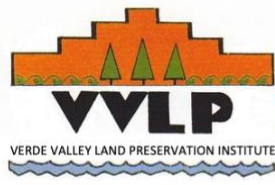
- Activated co-operation, collaboration and communication between the communities, particularly in the unincorporated areas;
- Coordinated initiatives for improved economic well-being in the region;
- Formation of a regional union to influence the county processes related to development;
- Town Hall process based on respectful dialogue that values diverse perspectives, builds relationships and fosters leadership development.

**Town Hall Process:** The event is designed in a fast-pace, one-day format. Stakeholders from across the Verde Valley region will convene to discuss significant aspects of the topic, share experiences, and formulate recommendations for actions to address identified needs.

A cross-section of invited participants will include community leaders, developers, business leaders, government staff, elected officials, educators and residents from the five municipalities and the five census designated areas that comprise the Verde Valley region.

The format will emulate the highly successful model developed by the Arizona Town Hall (AZTH).

- Kickoff and orientation
- Breakout group discussions
- Final plenary session



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Prior to the event, participants will receive a background report giving them a common base of knowledge for the Town Hall Forum discussions.

The event kicks off with a facilitator setting the stage for discussions on the topic. Participants then break out to assigned tables to address each of the discussion topics. Each table has a Moderator to steer discussion, and a Recorder to write down points of consideration. Discussion highlights and conclusions are consolidated by a Report Writing Team into a Forum Report.

The forum wraps up with a discussion session in which participants develop goals and action plans for implementation in their respective communities.

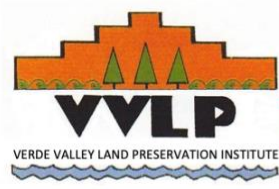
**Forum Report:** After the Forum, a team of writers and editors will polish the group reports into a final report that is published and distributed to the regional media and libraries, as well as agencies and organizations that have a role and/or responsibility for development concerns.

**Community Engagement:** Following the event, outreach sessions will be conducted to share Forum results with citizens and leaders throughout the region, including: Camp Verde, Cottonwood, Clarkdale-Jerome and Sedona, as well as the unincorporated communities of Big Park (VOC), Cornville-Page Springs-Verde Santa Fe, Verde Villages, Lake Montezuma-Rimrock and the Yavapai Apache Nation.

This Forum presents a unique and powerful opportunity for empowerment in the Verde Valley region:

- Leaders from every community will engage in productive dialog with thought leaders from across the region. They will be equipped with actionable steps and supported by the Town Hall organizers to inform, organize and activate the recommendations in their local community. A regional follow-up meeting to share results will be conducted 12 months after the Forum.
- Forum participants will establish relationships within the region for shared learning, collaboration and cooperation.
- Forum participants will learn skills for leading respectful discourse. This is key to what makes the Forum transformative to leaders and to communities.
- The formation of a unified Verde Valley Regional voice to work with the County and State on land use reforms is critical to improving the current conditions.

**About Arizona Town Hall:** Arizona Town Hall empowers individuals, communities and organizations to maximize their potential through informed, respectful conversation.



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*“It is a wonderful way to hear diverse views and ideas, network and to do something based on information discovered.”*

### **Town Hall Style Discussion Format:**

- Audience actively engaged
- Discussion
- Audience opinions valued and respected
- Audience hears more than one perspective
- Audience learns about participants

Arizona Town Hall educates, engages, connects and empowers people to resolve important issues through consensus, not division, using a process based on respectful dialogue that values diverse perspectives, builds relationships and fosters leadership development.