

## COGS Candidate Questionnaire

Instructions: Please fill out the information requested and return it by **May 4, 2020** via email to: **cogspc1@gmail.com**. Upon receipt of your completed questionnaire, you may be contacted to schedule an appointment for an interview with the COGS Political Committee.

*Your complete and unedited responses will be posted on the informational COGS website for public review, along with those of the other candidates. Please keep your answers brief.* However, if you need more space the box will expand to accommodate you. If needed, please continue on an additional page.

No.	Question	Response
1.	<b>Demographics</b>	
1.a.	Name	Bob Littlefield
1.b.	Address	8926 E. Sheena Drive, 85260
1.c.	Phone	602-228-9145
1.d.	Years in Scottsdale	
1.e.	When did you register to vote in Scottsdale? Have you failed to vote in any Scottsdale or General Election since you registered?	1984. No
1.f.	Have you been elected or appointed to City positions including City Task Forces, Boards, Committees or Commissions? If so, please list.	12 years on Scottsdale City Council, 2002-2014
1.g.	Please list any Civic Activities or organizations you belong to.	Spent 20 years working with Scottsdale's kids as a youth soccer and baseball coach, soccer referee and soccer club board member. Member of the American Legion.
1.h.	Education/Training	B.S. in Engineering from Arizona State University, 1974
1.i.	Current Occupation or Pre-Retirement	Information Technology, Aviation
1.j.	Other personal information that you would like to share:	2-tour Vietnam Combat Veteran
2.	<b>Campaign Information</b>	
2.a.	Address	8926 E. Sheena Drive, 85260
2.b.	Phone	602-228-9145
2.c.	Fax	None
2.d.	Web-site address	www.boblittlefield.com
2.e.	E-Mail address	bob@boblittlefield.com

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No.	Question	Response
2.f	Endorsements	Protect Our Preserve
3.	Why have you decided to become a candidate for Mayor <del>City Council</del> ?	<p>In the last three years the voters of Scottsdale have organized to protect the Preserve from commercial development, elected citizen-friendly City Council candidates by unprecedented margins and successfully fought unbridled overdevelopment in Downtown. I am proud to have been a part of those efforts.</p> <p>All of this activism makes it clear Scottsdale citizens want a change from the current policy of toxic overdevelopment pursued by our current City Council majority, including by the two currently announced candidates for Mayor. I am running to give voters a resident-friendly alternative for Mayor who will lead Scottsdale to grow and evolve in a way that preserves our special character and high quality of life.</p>
4.a	Identify 3 major issues facing the Council.	Budget, protecting Scottsdale's special character and high quality of life, and protecting the Preserve from development.
4.b	Identify 3 major issues facing the City.	Budget, protecting Scottsdale's special character and high quality of life, and protecting the Preserve from development.

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5.	<p>If elected, what would you like to accomplish?</p>	<p>The 2020 campaign for Mayor is like no other in the history of Scottsdale. While protecting Scottsdale's special character and high quality of life will continue to be big issues, fiscal responsibility will be on every voter's mind. The overriding issue will be who is best qualified to lead Scottsdale forward through the turbulent times ahead.</p> <p>I am that candidate. I was elected to the Scottsdale City Council three times. As Chairman of Scottsdale's City Council Budget Subcommittee and a member of Scottsdale's Economic Development Subcommittee, I have the knowledge and experience in municipal finance our next Mayor absolutely must have. In addition to my time as a manager for several large corporations, I also founded and ran a successful Scottsdale-based computer company, so I know how business works. And, as a two-tour Vietnam combat veteran, I know about persevering in tough times.</p> <p>Belts will need to be tightened for the foreseeable future, and that means setting priorities. When the tax dollars are flowing freely it is easy to make sure everybody gets a slice of the pie. Real leadership that is willing to say "no" when necessary will be needed in Scottsdale's future.</p> <p>Scottsdale's special character and high quality of life are still important issues, not just for our citizens but for our tourism industry which will need help to recover after the lockdown ends. 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.</p> <p>Scottsdale needs a Mayor who can hit the ground running, can make the tough decisions, and who will lead rather than wait for other cities to set the pace.</p>
6.	<p>Are there matters that may come before the City Council in which you would have a Conflict of Interest?</p> <p>If yes, what would the conflicting issues be?</p>	<p>X No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>
7.	<p><b>Identify citizen/city processes that you believe need to be:</b></p>	<p>The rules we have are fine but they need to be enforced. The current City Council majority often ignores city processes in order to help their campaign contributors.</p>
7.a.	<p>Created</p>	

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No.	Question	Response
7.b.	Improved	
7.c.	Reduced	
7.d.	Eliminated	
8.	<b>Please state your position and/or action on the following zoning and land use issues:</b>	
8.a	<b>What is your position on citywide rezoning requests, text amendments, and General Plan Amendments that significantly change land use or increase height and/or density, especially in proximity to low-scale residential neighborhoods?</b>	I oppose them.
8b	<p>Typically, zoning entitlements are granted based on a promise to build to a specified development plan, with defined stipulations, that presumably provides some benefit to the city. Once granted, if the property is sold, the new owner does not have to build what was originally promised in exchange for the entitlements.</p> <p><b>Would you support conditioning zoning change approvals on building exactly what was promised, and if it wasn't, the zoning would revert back to the original restrictions?</b></p> <p><b>If not, how would you hold the property owner, and any subsequent owners, to the plan promised in order to get the change?</b></p>	I have always supported conditional zoning. In fact, When Tony Nelssen was on the City Council with me he and I tried to get that proposal on the Council agenda but got no support from the rest of the Councilmembers.

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8.c	<p>Recently, Scottsdale Fashion Square redevelopment was granted significant increases in height, without the location(s) for the height increase being identified.</p> <p><b>What is your opinion of this type of open-ended provision?</b></p> <p>Scottsdale Fashion Square contributes about \$13 million and 7% of the sales tax collected in Scottsdale.</p> <p><b>What are your recommendations to maintain SFS's viability and tax revenue stream?</b></p>	<p>I oppose open-ended zoning concessions in general and I opposed this case in particular. <a href="https://www.azcentral.com/story/opinion/op-ed/laurieroberts/2016/02/10/roberts-scottsdale-should-stand-tall-and-reject-blanket-high-rise-request/80197296/">https://www.azcentral.com/story/opinion/op-ed/laurieroberts/2016/02/10/roberts-scottsdale-should-stand-tall-and-reject-blanket-high-rise-request/80197296/</a></p> <p>SFS can remain viable without contributing to the decline of Scottsdale's special character and high quality of life.</p>
8.d	<p>In "The Outpost" project, rezoning case, rural land was rezoned to commercial adjacent to resident large lot rural lands, against staff recommendations, breaking with a longstanding policy prohibiting such rezoning.</p> <p><b>What impact do you believe this action had and will on similar future rezoning cases?</b></p>	<p>This was a terrible decision and it sets a bad precedent for similar future rezoning cases.</p>
8.e.	<p><b>What is your position on the prompt and precise enforcement of the conditions and stipulations prescribed in a Conditional Use Permit?</b></p> <p><b>What is your position on the revocation of a Conditional Use Permit whose holder was not in compliance with all major CUP conditions and stipulations that negatively impact neighbors?</b></p>	<p>Support wholeheartedly.</p> <p>Support revocation.</p>

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8.f.	<p>Identify any impacts (good and bad) upon the city with the addition of numerous multi-family/apartment complexes citywide and the continued rezoning of single-family parcels into multi-family parcels.</p> <p><b>How do you think the changing demographics of our residents will impact future demand for housing types?</b></p> <p><b>How will it impact what you believe the majority of residents want their city to be?</b></p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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; <b><i>unbridled development doesn't pay; it costs.</i></b></p> <p>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!</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>When millennials and gen-xers decide to start families they want what their parents and grandparents wanted, single family homes with a yard and a dog!</p>
8.g.	<p><b>Would you support a designated Entertainment District with its own unique Noise and Event Ordinances?</b></p> <p><b>What should be done to protect adjacent neighborhoods?</b></p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>Strict enforcement of noise and other ordinances regulating nuisances.</p>
8.h.	<p>Scottsdale is currently reviewing the existing noise ordinance. <b>What changes, if any, would you recommend to the existing allowable noise levels and ordinance?</b></p>	<p>Lower noise levels, better enforcement.</p>

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8.i	<p>Currently, all rural land parcels, regardless of size are in a single category of "Rural", allowing a five-acre zoning to be rezoned to one-acre parcels with only a <b>Minor General Plan Amendment (simply majority of council needed)</b>.</p> <p><b>Do you support a change to the General Plan Update to create the 2 Rural zoning categories-</b></p> <p><b>1] parcels of 1 to less than 5 acres</b></p> <p><b>2] parcels of 5 acres or more,</b></p> <p><b>requiring a MAJOR General Plan Amendment and super majority vote to subdivide a 5 acre or greater parcel? Why or why not?</b></p>	<p>Yes. Rural neighborhoods are a big part of Scottsdale's special character and high quality of life and they need to be protected.</p>
9.	<p>There are not enough Preserve tax funds remaining to allow acquisition of all the remaining land within the voter approved McDowell Sonoran Preserve Boundary.</p> <p><b>Should the city council determine if citizens want to complete the Preserve and if so how to pay for it?</b></p> <p><b>If not, how do you propose utilizing the remaining and future dedicated Preserve funds?</b></p>	<p>Yes, although now is not the time to be asking our citizens for more tax \$.</p> <p>Any remaining funds should be used for maintenance of the Preserve or, failing that, returned to the taxpayers. They should <b>not</b> be diverted to non-Preserve uses!</p>
10.	<b>Please state your position and/or action on the General Plan:</b>	
10.a	<p><b>What is your vision for the city?</b></p> <p><b>What should Scottsdale look like in 10, 20, or 30 years from now?</b></p>	<p>I believe the job of the Mayor and City Council is to implement the citizen's vision for Scottsdale, not to substitute their own vision. And the voters have officially told us their vision by approving Scottsdale's General Plan at the ballot box.</p>
10.b	<p><b>How should the city grow to remain desirable and become and remain sustainable?</b></p>	<p>The voter-approved General Plan, if followed, would have allowed Scottsdale to grow and evolve while maintaining our special character and high quality of life. Sadly the current City Council majority, including my two major opponents in the race for Mayor, have routinely approved development that is incompatible with this General Plan and have refused to put a resident-friendly update to this plan on the ballot for the voters to consider. As Mayor I would make putting a resident-friendly General Plan update before the voters one of my highest priorities.</p>
10.c	<p>Scottsdale voters have not approved an updated General Plan since 2001.</p> <p><b>Why do you believe the prior updates have failed?</b></p>	<p>The last GP update presented to the voters was too developer-friendly which is why we organized (successfully) to defeat it.</p>

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10.d	<p>The city council, in a study session, shelved the Citizens' Task Force 2012-2014 draft update and did not submit it to the voters.</p> <p>They approved the 2001 GP plus the required AZ state elements without a public vote to be used during a new draft 2035 attempt.</p> <p>In 2020 one member from specific city council-appointed boards and commissions were selected for a <b>General Plan Review Committee</b> who are meeting online.</p> <p><b>What recommendation do you have for the success of this 2035 final draft? What do you project will be its weaknesses?</b></p>	<p>The City Council did not submit it to the voters because it was too resident-friendly. The only way you will see a resident-friendly GP update on the ballot is if you get a resident-friendly majority on the City Council.</p> <p>We need to scrap the current General Plan Review Committee and start over with a new committee made up of knowledgeable residents who have no financial ties to the development community.</p>
11.	<p><b>Please state your position and/or action on the following finance issues:</b></p>	

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<p>11.a</p>	<p>The COVID-19 pandemic has taken a severe toll on Scottsdale's finances, businesses, and tourism industry. While an exact dollar figure is not yet available, we know it is in the millions.</p> <p><b>What ideas do you have to:</b></p> <p><b>1] restructure the city budget with respect to budget cuts or other financial stop gaps?</b></p> <p><b>2] revive our economy, business, and tourism amidst pandemic fears?</b></p> <p><b>3] support small businesses as they struggle to re-open?</b></p> <p><b>4] create a sustainable budget?</b></p>	<p>In the short term the biggest challenge for Scottsdale city government will be to survive a radical drop in revenues. Our city has always thrived as a world-class tourism destination and as a net importer of shoppers. Unfortunately, both revenue sources are significantly reduced and will continue to be down for a long time.</p> <p>Clearly cuts in city spending will need to be made. The answer in the past has always been to make just enough cuts to survive the temporary crisis and then return to spending-as-usual. Even worse, the coping measures often involved across-the-board cuts which diminish both worthy and unworthy programs in an effort to please everybody and to avoid saying "no" to some politically favored special interests. Bad policy!</p> <p>Since I was first elected to the City Council in 2002 I have advocated for a radical, topdown overhaul of Scottsdale's spending priorities. If I am elected Mayor here is how I would make that happen:</p> <p>The most important function of city government is public safety. That means police, fire and ambulance need to be fully funded and staffed. If we can't keep our citizens safe, then city government has no reason to exist.</p> <p>The next priority is public health - water, sewer, and waste disposal. Fortunately, in Scottsdale these are enterprise funds which means they pay for themselves through user fees. However, the city must make sure these monies are wisely spent in order to avoid raising fees paid by our citizens during an economic downturn. Code Enforcement, which is funded from our General Fund, is also a tool for protecting public health and needs to be fully funded.</p> <p>The next priority is transportation infrastructure. Bad roads and bridges and traffic congestion discourage tourists and diminish the overall economy.</p> <p>In Scottsdale tourism development has a dedicated funding source, the voter-approved bed tax. We need to ensure that money is being spent as effectively and efficiently as possible. We need to reduce the overhead (such as executive salaries) at Experience Scottsdale, the group the city contracts with for managing tourism development. In fact, we need to take a hard look at the entire contract with Experience Scottsdale to make sure we are getting full value for our bed tax dollars.</p> <p>Once you get beyond these critical functions everything else is lower priority and should not be funded unless it can be paid for out of current revenues. We should definitely not be dipping into any reserve funds unless it is necessary to fully fund public safety, public health or transportation infrastructure.</p> <p>The Preserve is a top priority but it has dedicated funding source for land acquisition and maintenance so it doesn't impact the city's General Fund. Plus, most of the maintenance required on the trails is performed at no cost to the city by the dedicated volunteers of the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy!</p> <p>Schools are a top priority, but they are not funded by the city; the school district boards have their own separate budgets funded by property taxes and money from the state.</p> <p>Two other changes need to be made to the way the city does business. First, we should never have any no-bid contracts, period. Elimination of</p>
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		<p>competition is a sure-fire way for the taxpayers to over-pay for products and services. Second, we need to remove the exception that allows the city in some circumstances to sell city-owned property without an open auction. Again, elimination of competition guarantees taxpayers will not receive full value for public assets.</p> <p>On the revenue side we need to proactively anticipate how the pandemic will impact our tourism and shopping revenue streams in the long term. More online shopping means lower sales tax collections and less retail development. Many of our biggest tourist events, such as the auto auctions, golf tournaments and equestrian events currently produce large crowds. Will people still want to gather in large crowds and risk getting sick? No doubt the smart people who run these events will put as much of their content as possible online, but that will mean less sales and bed tax revenue to the city.</p> <p>Development will also be greatly impacted. The current practice of not requiring big developments to pay for their impacts on Scottsdale's infrastructure (which left us with \$800M in unfunded infrastructure needs last year) clearly has to stop. More people working from home means less demand for office space. And the risks of contracting the virus will make dense residential development less attractive to potential occupants.</p> <p>With bold action and out-of-the-box thinking we can go beyond merely surviving this pandemic-induced economic downturn - we can emerge better equipped to make our city finances more robust and sustainable, now and into the future. My training and experience in business and municipal finance, plus my willingness to stand up to special interests, make me the candidate for Mayor who is best prepared to make that happen.</p>
11.b	<p><b>Do you support using taxpayer funds to subsidize or enter private-public partnerships for private sector investments such as buildings, stadiums, promoted events, etc.?</b></p>	No no no, especially now!
11.c	<p>At present, the City has awarded multimillion-dollar contracts to the Scottsdale Cultural Council and Experience Scottsdale without going through a bid process.</p> <p><b>Are you for or against continuing this practice and why?</b></p>	I am against <b>all</b> no-bid city contracts, including the contracts with Scottsdale Cultural Council and Experience Scottsdale.
12.	<p><b>Please state your position and/or action on the following transportation questions:</b></p>	

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No.	Question	Response
12.a	<p><b>What solutions would you have for the current traffic congestion problems occurring throughout the City (types of mass transit, traffic control devices, etc.)?</b></p>	<p>Stop upzoning for more density all over the city. Make developers pay the full costs for the impacts of their projects on city infrastructure.</p>
12.b	<p>Within the Downtown area, the city has charged in-lieu parking fees when a developer had not provided enough real parking spaces. These phantom spaces have been used repeatedly instead of actual parking availability. It was generally assumed these fees would be used at some point to build a parking facility. However, that apparently was not the case, as the city cannot account for these funds as they were not placed into a separate budget line or fund.</p> <p><b>How do you propose to deal with Downtown parking issues and the use of in-lieu parking fees?</b></p>	<p>When I was on the City Council I consistently opposed the in-lieu parking program (which I called the Phantom parking program) primarily because of lack of transparency as to where the money actually went. We should scrap the in-lieu parking program, build the Downtown parking garage the voters approved in the last bond election and then update and upgrade the amount of parking we require all developments in Downtown to provide.</p>
13.	<p><b>Please state your position and/or action on the following questions:</b></p>	
13.a	<p><b>What steps would improve Public Safety to reduce impaired driver/pedestrian traffic deaths in our downtown?</b></p>	<p>Our police do a good job of enforcing the DUI laws but it would help if we would stop creating lots of impaired drivers in our bar district.</p>
13.b	<p>Residents citywide have expressed concern about the lack of responsiveness or fine enforcements by of the Code Enforcement department.</p> <p><b>How would you improve this situation?</b> The fish rots from the head, if voters elect a City Council majority that values strict code enforcement the Code Enforcement department will respond accordingly.</p>	
13.c	<p><b>Do you believe that the mindset of your supporters and contributors is representative of Scottsdale residents' values and vision?</b></p> <p><b>If so, why?</b></p> <p><b>If not, why?</b></p>	<p>Yes. In the last three years the voters of Scottsdale have organized to protect the Preserve from commercial development, elected citizen-friendly City Council candidates by unprecedented margins and successfully fought unbridled overdevelopment in Downtown. I am proud to have been a part of those efforts.</p> <p>All of this activism makes it clear Scottsdale citizens want a change from the current policy of toxic overdevelopment pursued by our current City Council majority, including by my major opponents for Mayor.</p>
14.	<p><b>Identify city services that you believe need to be:</b></p>	

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No.	Question	Response
14.a	Created	None
14.b	Improved	Code enforcement
14.c	Reduced	None
14.d	Eliminated	Cultural Council subsidy
15	<b>Identify city revenue sources that should be:</b>	
15.a	Created	None
15.b	Increased	Development fees
15.c	Reduced	None at this time
15.d	Eliminated	None at this time
16.	Is there anything in your background that you would not like publicized on the front page of local newspapers?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please explain)
17.	Additional Comments:	I was the only candidate for Mayor who supported Proposition 420. In fact, I was the only candidate for Mayor who even signed the petition to get Proposition 420 on the ballot. And I was one of only two candidates for Mayor who supported the Southbridge 2 referendum.

Signature Bob Littlefield Date 5/4/2020

Please type your name for your electronic signature.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration of each response.

Please email your completed questionnaire by May 4, 2020 to: [cogspc1@gmail.com](mailto:cogspc1@gmail.com)

**ALL completed candidate's questionnaires will be posted on the COGS website at [www.cogsaz.net](http://www.cogsaz.net)**