

COGS Candidate Questionnaire

Instructions: Please fill out the information requested and return it by **May 4, 2022 midnight** via email to: info@cogsaz.net Upon receipt of your completed questionnaire, you will be contacted to schedule an appointment for an interview with the COGS Board of Directors..

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.	DEMOGRAPHICS	
1.a.	Name	Kathy Littlefield
1.b.	Address	8926 E. Sheena Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85260
1.c.	Phone	602-568-5248
1.d.	Years living in Scottsdale	66
1.e.	When did you register to vote in Scottsdale? Have you failed to vote in any Scottsdale or General Election since you registered?	Originally when I turned 21. I have voted in every Scottsdale election and general election since we moved back to Scottsdale 38 years ago.
1.f.	Have you been elected or appointed to City positions including City Task Forces, Boards, Committees or Commissions? If so, please list.	I have twice been elected to Scottsdale City Council and am currently running for a third and final term.
1.g.	Please list any Civic Activities or organizations you belong to.	Various political party groups, Daughters of the American Revolution, Mayflower Society, Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War.
1.h.	Education/Training	BA from ASU in Business Education
1.i.	Current Occupation or Pre-Retirement	Treasurer, NetXpert Systems, Inc. dba FlightSkills City Councilwoman, City of Scottsdale
1.j.	Other personal information that you would like to share:	Happily married for 52 years, 2 children and 1 grandchild
2.	CAMPAIGN INFORMATION	
2.a.	Address	8926 E. Sheena Dr., Scottsdale, AZ 85260
2.b.	Phone	(602) 568-5248 (cell)
2.c.	Fax	
2.d.	Web-site address**<i>important</i>*	https://kathylittlefield.com
2.e.	E-Mail address	kathy@kathylittlefield.com
2.f.	Endorsements	America PAC Scottsdale Firefighters

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3.	Why have you decided to become a candidate for City Council?	I have served on the Council for 7 years. I have a track record of listening to and working for the citizens of Scottsdale. I believe overdevelopment is a root cause of many of the problems we face in Scottsdale which I why I oppose it. I also would like to continue my efforts to keep for our citizens the high quality of life they moved here to enjoy.
4.a	Identify 3 major issues facing the Council.	Overdevelopment Whether to put a ballot question before the public regarding a new Preserve tax for maintenance of our Preserve Working with staff to help find solutions for the homeless issue in Scottsdale
4.b	Identify 3 major issues facing the City.	Development Water Public Safety
5.	If elected, what would you like to accomplish?	I would continue fighting for the rights of citizens to protect their neighborhoods and quality of life against intrusive development. I would continue to work with public safety to ensure the safety of Scottsdale citizens in their homes and in their workplaces. I would try to help find answers to homelessness problems our city faces.
6.	Are there matters that may come before the City Council in which you would have a Conflict of Interest? If yes, what would the conflicting issues be?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
7.	Identify citizen/city processes that you believe need to be:	
7.a.	Created	We need a construction mitigation ordinance to protect local shops and galleries from the negative impacts of the massive projects being approved by the City Council majority.
7.b.	Improved	More streamlined ways to collect and organize citizen input on city issues and more timely distribution of that input to Council. We also need to expand the perimeter inside which citizen notification is required from the current ridiculously low 750 feet!
7.c.	Reduced	None

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7.d.	Eliminated	None
8.	Please state your position and/or action on the following zoning and land use issues:	
8.a	<p>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?</p>	<p>I oppose them. These kinds of changes would make zoning irrelevant and open the door to across-the-board destruction of low-scale residential neighborhoods. They violate the very basis of the relationship between government and citizens. Government at all levels is supposed to represent the citizens – those who elected them to office. I do not believe that kind of dictatorial government is what any of our citizens vote for or desire.</p>
8b	<p>Typically, zoning entitlements are granted based on a promise to build to a specified development plan, with defined stipulations, that presumably provides specific Public Benefit. 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>Do you support Conditional Zoning approvals that have time limits for construction to begin and/or unless an amended project, the approved zoning would revert back to the original zoning?</p>	<p>Absolutely. If the zoning of a property is changed based on a specific development plan, with defined stipulations (including any public benefit specified), that is the plan that should run with the zoning. If the property is sold, the new owner should be held to the terms of the plan that activated the zoning change or the zoning should return to the original zoning. Up zonings should also be time limited.</p>
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>What is your opinion of this type of open-ended provision?</p> <p>Scottsdale Fashion Square contributes about \$13 million and 7% of the sales tax collected in Scottsdale.</p> <p>What are your recommendations to maintain its viability and tax revenue stream?</p>	<p>No developer should be granted such open-ended approvals, they should be required to justify every request to the City Council. If they are really that important to Scottsdale's economy, they should have no problem making that case.</p>

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8.d	<p>In “The Outpost” project, rezoning case, Rural land was rezoned to commercial adjacent to residential large- lot Rural lands, against staff recommendations, breaking with a longstanding policy prohibiting such rezoning.</p> <p>What will be your position on similar future rezoning case?</p>	<p>I was against the rezoning at the time (although not on Council) and would be against it today if it were presented to Council. And I would be against it in the future.</p>
8.e.	<p>What is your position on the prompt and precise enforcement of the conditions and stipulations prescribed in a Conditional Use Permit?</p> <p>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?</p>	<p>I believe the conditions and stipulations that were agreed upon as part of the granting of a Conditional Use Permit need to be enforced. If they are not being complied with, it would be my position that the CUP was not in compliance and therefore should be revoked.</p>
8.f.	<p>Should the city government have any role in the increased housing costs that are resulting in essential city workers and young families not being able to live within city limit</p> <p>How would you describe the effects upon the city with the addition of numerous multi-family apartment complexes citywide and the rezoning of single-family parcels into multi-family parcels?</p>	<p>The supply of homes is being reduced by STR and corporate buyers squeezing families out of the housing market. Developers want to build apartments where they can gain both a high rent and capital appreciation. Single family homes and condos which allow for the capital accumulation of wealth for the individuals and families are not being built. As the price of homes and the rental rates for apartments go up, fewer people can afford them. Eventually the market will correct, but it is a painful process. I believe we need to develop available land in accordance with our current zoning and protect our current residential subdivisions and HOAs. If we don't, our residential areas will be changed forever and our citizens' lifestyle will decline.</p>
8.g.	<p>Would you support a designated Entertainment District with its own unique Noise and Event Ordinances?</p>	<p>No, we should not do anything that allows the current “bar district” to be an even bigger annoyance to the surrounding neighbors than it already is. Nor we should do anything that allows the current “bar district” to be even more of a drag on city services than it already is.</p>

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8.h.	In your opinion will the new city Short Term Rental controls and fines improve the neighborhood experience?	They will help. The fact that several STR owners in Scottsdale complained about the controls is, to me at least, a positive sign that they are working. They won't solve all the issues, of course, but I believe they help. The number of complaints from citizens that I receive has decreased since they have been put in place. A step in the right direction.
8i	Should all new projects be required to meet Green Building standards or offered bonuses (i.e. increased height or density or other amended standards)?	We should not have to compromise our standards to bribe developers to do what is right. If we want buildings that meet Green Building standards, we should write those standards into our codes and make them required across the board.
8.j	Up-zoning increases the intensity of land use and density. Under what conditions do you support Up-zoning?	If it involves the health and safety of our citizens, I tend to look more favorably on it. For example, hospitals often ask for additional height. The hospital that wants to build within the State Land (Banner) wants some additional height – I believe up to 66' on a part of it - as well as a helicopter landing pad. I look much more favorably on that than on the Optima apartment buildings request between Mayo Blvd and the 101 that wants to go as high as twelve stories. That request has nothing to do with the health and safety of our citizens or about enhancing Scottsdale's special character and high quality of life.

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>Should the city council determine if citizens want to complete the Preserve and if so how to pay for it?</p> <p>If not, how do you propose utilizing the remaining and future dedicated Preserve funds?</p>	<p>Some of the original land for the Preserve is no longer available for acquisition. Of the lands that have yet to come to auction by the State Land Trust, there are some pieces that would be nice to bid for, but they would be extremely expensive - off Pima with a cliff overlooking Preserve land is one such property. However, I'm not sure the citizens have an appetite to increase their taxes buy more land at the moment. If we want to explore that, we should identify the exact land we would be interested in purchasing and take a public poll consisting of as many residents as possible to gage their interest. I'm not even sure they will vote for a request for a sales tax to maintain what we already have – something Council is currently studying.</p> <p>I would have to study the terms and conditions of the current bonds, but if possible, I would like to dedicate any remaining bond funds (after payment of all associated debt) toward Preserve maintenance.</p>
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10.	Please state your position on city council Homeless policy and the current COS programs.	Homelessness is one area where we are making some progress due the very fine staff in our social services department. I work closely with Greg Bestgen to ensure he knows he has my support in assisting those folks in Scottsdale who need a helping hand. Some of the services we contract with also work with other local agencies so we can compound our effectiveness – some would be Community Bridges (food, shelter, vouchers), Phoenix Rescue Mission to help people find shelters and, if possible, permanent housing – we also work with them on their Brick By Brick program where folks can earn \$60 per day; also we work with Day Relief Center to help provide food and shelter for those in need.
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10.a	<p>What is your vision for the city?</p> <p>What should Scottsdale look like in 10, 20, or 30 years from now?</p>	<p>My vision is to support and allow Scottsdale to grow and develop while maintaining our special rural, western character. That would include wide, open spaces for viewing our magnificent sunsets, mountains, and desert landscapes. It would also include maintaining our Preserve in its natural condition, including both plants and animals. I do not want us to “grow” out of what we are and become just another urban sprawl city.</p>
10.b	<p>What is your position on the merchants’ proposed Construction Mitigation Plan ordinance that requires downtown projects to park their supplies and employee vehicles off public streets?</p>	<p>I was the Councilmember who proposed that the City Council enact such an ordinance and I support it 100%.</p>
11.	<p>Please state your position and/or</p>	<p>action on the following finance issues:</p>
11.a	<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>At the April 26th, 2022, city council meeting the Fiscal Report by the city treasurer outlined current financial status. What is your opinion on the current financial sustainability of our city?</p>	<p>We are in better financial shape than I thought possible this time last year. We have money to pay all our bills, cash in the bank, and a rather large savings. We also just voted last night to approve the sale of our “40 acres” up by WestWorld for a price that will pay us back both the principal and interest on the bonds we used to pay for them. (around \$40+ Million). Also, business is picking up (although there are still many concerns on supply chain stoppages and available people to hire). We also have the Super Bowl coming up which will bring in additional tourism dollars.</p> <p>My only concern at the moment is that some of our “income” came from government grants. I do not believe we should count on those continuing beyond a year or maybe two, and I don’t think they should play a prominent part in our budget calculations into the future.</p>
11.b	<p>Do you support using taxpayer funds to subsidize or enter private-public partnerships for private sector investments such as buildings, stadiums, promoted events, etc.?</p>	<p>While I would not propose cancelling our current arrangements, I would also not support the city entering into more such arrangements.</p>
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>Are you for or against continuing this practice and why?</p>	<p>The Cultural Council operates the City’s Performing Arts Center and other cultural arts venues and programs. The Chairman and all employees are paid a portion of their salaries by the City’s contract with them. The same holds true with Experience Scottsdale who designs and operates much of our advertising as a destination for tourists and others. While both individuals seem competent, these contracts should routinely be put out to bid if for no other reason to keep current on the marketplace they each work in and what the competition is. We do Scottsdale a disservice by not doing that.</p>
12.	<p>Please state your position and/or</p>	<p>action on the following transportation questions:</p>

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12.a.	<p>The Transportation Master Plan was approved by city council at the April hearing. What decisions in that document would you encourage to change in the future?</p>	<p>I voted against this Plan. I did not like the narrowing of our streets to provide wider bike lanes. I did not like the idea of one lane on Scottsdale Rd. being taken up as a dedicated BRT lane (going from the Transit Station at Thunderbird & Scottsdale Rd. to Chandler. I also did not like the idea of making openings in our fences so people could stroll through private property in the name of connectivity, especially at night. Finally, the plan did not contain adequate safety precautions for either the bus stops, the bike lanes, or the walking paths through private property. Basically, public safety was not adequately addressed in many areas of the plan.</p>
12.b.	<p>Within the Downtown area, the city has approved under-parked projects by charging in-lieu parking fees at the last rate approx. \$13,000/space which is under current value of \$50K to \$60K to construct.</p> <p>This fund was to be used to build public parking facilities in the future. Staff reported that funds have been used for non-garage funding and is too small an amount for land purchase or garage construction.</p> <p>How do you propose to deal with Downtown parking issues and the use of in-lieu parking fees?</p>	<p>I think in-lieu parking fees were a scam from the very beginning. While some parking has been built, most of it was not paid for by the in-lieu fees. When I tried to get a listing of the funding sources, monies paid into the fund, and the parking built, it took weeks to even find a partial hand-written spreadsheet detailing any of it. Downtown merchants need to stand strong when developers want to take spaces for their projects by reducing or moving any in-lieu spaces that business owners paid for and were told would be "open" to the public for customer or owner use.</p>
13.	<p>Please state your position and/or</p>	<p>action on the following questions:</p>
13.a.	<p>What steps would improve Public Safety to reduce impaired driver/pedestrian traffic deaths in our downtown?</p>	<p>Close the 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. Additionally, the COS Audit 2021 for that department summarized sub-standard performances.</p> <p>How would you improve this situation?</p>	<p>As the Chair of the Audit Committee I was very involved in this audit. Code Enforcement is an area that is currently undergoing a shift in both staff and structure. The main issue was that Code had too many chiefs and not enough Indians. So, the Auditor suggested fewer supervisors and more inspectors. We also now have a new Code Enforcement Director in Code. Our overall goal is for the department to complete more inspections each year and to verify the inspections led to improved performance.</p>

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Please email your completed questionnaire **by May 4, 2022 midnight** to: info@cogsaz.net

ALL completed candidate's questionnaires will be posted on the COGS website at www.cogsaz.net

Thank you for taking your valuable time to complete this questionnaire.

The COGS - Coalition of Greater Scottsdale—Board of Directors

Andrew Scheck, Jim Davis, Howard Myers, Marilyn Atkinson, Chris Schaffner, Stan Morganstern, Copper Phillips and Sonnie Kirtley