



## Bulletin from Mayor Elaine Scruggs

On November 28, 2006 the City Council will hear and vote on three requests for amendments to our Glendale General Plan. With these important matters coming forward, it is a good time to review the fundamentals of our General Plan which was approved by Glendale voters in 2002.



The General Plan is the official policy basis of the City Council to guide the private and public development of the community. It is a statement of what you expect your city to become. The General Plan consists of a Land Use Map and nineteen different “elements” such as the Land Use Element, the Housing Element or the Redevelopment Element. It is required by “Growing Smarter Plus” legislation established in 2000 by the State of Arizona to guide municipal planning and growth management of all Arizona cities. It is adopted by Council resolution and must be updated at least every ten years.

The General Plan does not change zoning for a property, but any new land use request must be consistent with the General Plan. Any action that is not consistent with the General Plan would require a General Plan Amendment. Property owners, the City Council or the Planning Commission may initiate amendment requests.

There are two types of General Plan Amendments, major and minor. A major amendment is a revision to the General Plan text or Land Use Map that has far reaching consequences on the use of land areas, development demand on available infrastructure and/or substantially alters property owners’ rights for achieving residential density or development intensity. A minor plan amendment is any other change to the plan or map that does not meet the criteria for a major amendment.

State statute allows major amendments to the General Plan once per year. The Planning Commission holds two or more public hearings on the major amendment at different locations. A two-thirds vote by the City Council is then required to approve a major amendment. A major amendment to the General Plan does not constitute a zoning change. As stated above, on November 28 the City Council will hear and vote on four requests for major amendments to our General Plan.

You can access a copy of the [General Plan](#) and the [Land Use Map](#) on the

City's website at [www.glendaleaz.com](http://www.glendaleaz.com). If you have questions or want to obtain more information about the General Plan, please call our Planning Department at (623) 930-2800 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday.

*Thank you taking the time to read my "Glendale Bulletins". Please contact me at (623) 930-2260 or [mayorscruggs@glendaleaz.com](mailto:mayorscruggs@glendaleaz.com), if you have any comments or questions. I strive to provide the most timely information and best possible service to you, the citizens of Glendale. I sincerely appreciate your feedback.*

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