

The Open Space Alliance of Central Yavapai County (OSA) supports Yes for Streets. Open space and roads have been connected in the City of Prescott since May 2000 when voters approved the extension of the 1% sales tax through December 2015, with the use of proceeds expanded to include acquisition of open space. The voter approved "resolution caps the amount of additional 1 percent sales tax revenue available to acquire open space at \$40.7 million and dedicates the balance collected through 2015 to road improvements." The City Council has annually budgeted funds that has led to purchases through 2009 that account for approximately 37% of the \$40.7 million cap. OSA supports separating roads and open space in 2016 for two reasons. First, the 2000 vote provided a start in protecting our unique natural landscape, but did not address the need for management funds. Second, resolution of the funding uncertainty in dealing with the State Trust Lands of Badger "P" Mountain and Glassford Hill is a question that needs to be answered if we are to conserve the landscape. And for open space purchases to continue, it will require adequate funding.

Adequate funding is also needed for costs associated with the construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of City streets as part of maintaining public places for the benefit of all citizens. The need to address the Streets funding problems is immediate, and the long-term goal of conserving irreplaceable natural areas can both be addressed by supporting the current question with an affirmative vote. It is important for all citizens to step forward, be responsible, and do what is best for the City. Vote Yes for Streets on the September 1 primary election ballot.

Thomas L. Pettit
President

Ashley Fine
Treasurer
