



July 3, 2013

Fountain of the Sun Residents
540 South 80th Street
Mesa, AZ 85208

Re: Possible Southern Entrance

Dear Friends,

Recent events have created an opportunity for you as a community to act to acquire a property on the south end of your community, which currently is used for RV storage. In our discussions with the FOS safety committee the idea of making roadway changes and adding a southern entrance with security gate into your community has come up. Acquiring this property would make that possible. Several years ago we worked with your safety committee to make changes to the west side gate at Pueblo and Sossaman. Those changes have enhanced our ability to provide you the emergency services that are needed, in a timelier manner. Specifically by changing the gate structure and adding a strobe activated feature to the gate, thereby allowing easier and faster access for fire department vehicles, our response times into the west side and some of the southern sections of your community were reduced by as much as two minutes.

As you are probably aware, when medical emergencies such as heart attack, stroke and cardiac arrest occur, time is our most precious commodity. The same is true for fire emergencies. Every minute of delay to access and apply extinguishing agents to a fire allows that fire to grow exponentially. Every year we have new and enhanced technologies and training that are developed with the goal of saving lives and property. Our firefighters train and practice extensively to hone their skills for maximum efficiency and effectiveness. The one thing that works against us year after year is time.

You have the opportunity to help us cut down that time factor. While the existing gate changes have helped, we still encounter extended response times to the east side and much of the south side of your community. If there were an access gate on the southern side, off of Southern Avenue, we could reduce the response time to a huge portion of your community by a significant amount of time. It is with this goal in mind that we are in full support of adding a south gate to your community. We ask you to consider voting to approve the purchase of the land necessary and approve the plan to add the gates on the south side. We are very proud of the collaborative efforts of the past to enhance safety in your community. We are committed to doing everything we can to provide you the protections you deserve and we are hopeful that you and your neighbors will once again help give us the tools necessary to improve the safety in your community.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Talty
Captain E209A
Mesa Fire and Medical Department