

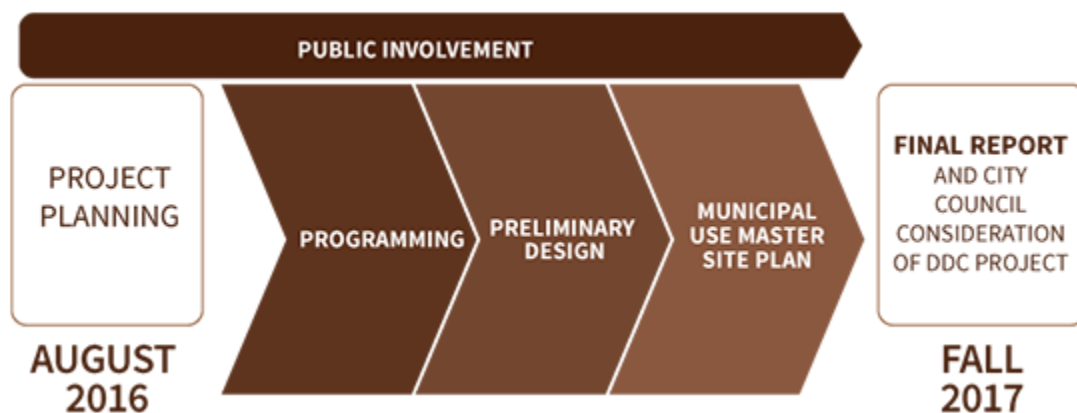


## DDC Process Update

The Desert Discovery Center Project Team has been working through the summer to bring on key consultants and move the study from the planning phase into the programming phase. The team is on track to present initial concepts to the community in late November.

This planning and evaluation will be complete in August 2017. Upon completion, it will be up to the City Council to determine if they want to move forward with the project.

## DDC Evaluation Process



For the next several months, the team will concentrate on what the DDC experience could be and what elements it could include. Once this is well defined, the evaluation will move to preliminary design, which will result in preliminary plans for the buildings and the site – these are key steps in arriving at an accurate cost estimate.

Here is a snap shot of what's been happening over the last few months:

- Desert Discovery Center Scottsdale hired [Thinc Design](#) to create conceptual exhibits and educational programs that would be central elements of the proposed center. This work is a cornerstone of the evaluation process – once it is clear what sorts of things could happen at the center, conceptual designs and layouts to support that programming can take shape. After interviewing five of the 18 firms that applied, DDCS chose Thinc because of its sustainability ethic and expertise in community collaboration; the firm is best known for designing the 9-11 Memorial experience in New York City.
- The City of Scottsdale hired [Swaback Partners](#) as the project architects. They will head up preliminary design and help determine the look and profile of the proposed facility. Initial work is under way, including a traffic analysis by Kimley-Horn & Associates. The team is led by John Sather who is using the feedback gathered from the initial planning phase to begin formulating initial design parameters.
- The DDCS has nearly met its required private-sector fund-raising commitment thanks in part to a

successful summer Nature Film Festival as well as several significant grants and many donations.

## COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS & PUBLIC OUTREACH

Various public and stakeholder meetings to present ideas and gather comments have been held throughout 2016. These documents contain the feedback gathered during that process:

- Comments collected at meetings April 26, May 2, May 10, May 11, Aug. 8, Aug. 9, Aug. 10 and Aug. 11  
[DDC Community Meetings Survey DRAFT Summary](#) (pdf)
- Comments collected at the April 20 meeting  
[DDC April 20 Meeting Survey DRAFT Summary](#) (pdf)
- Comments collected at the April 21 meeting  
[DDC April 21 Meeting Survey DRAFT Summary](#) (pdf)
- Comments collected via an online feedback form in conjunction with April 20 and 21 meetings  
[DDC Online Survey DRAFT Summary](#) (pdf)

Additionally, a Municipal Use Master Site Plan process was initiated Jan. 11, to amend the current site plan for a Desert Discovery Center element at the Gateway Trailhead. The majority of this process is anticipated to take place in 2017.

For more information please email [info@scottsdaledesertcenter.com](mailto:info@scottsdaledesertcenter.com) or visit the project website at [ScottsdaleAZ.gov](http://ScottsdaleAZ.gov), search "DDC".

