



February 28, 2018

RE: MICHAEL CROW SETS THE RECORD STRAIGHT

The process of making Desert EDGE a reality has been successful because of a team of innovative and committed people who share the vision of creating a project that is uniquely Scottsdale.

There is no more prestigious partner in this endeavor than Arizona State University. ASU's involvement in the project is deeply appreciated by Desert EDGE Advocates.

Recently, ASU President Michael Crow reiterated the university's commitment to participating in Desert EDGE because he thought it was important to set the record straight.

The following are excerpts from his email sent to the City Council.

"In July 2016, Desert Discovery Center Scottsdale issued the plan it was contracted to provide to the City of Scottsdale. The document envisions a project that could achieve two distinct and interwoven goals: a project that is extraordinarily responsive to local conditions and local interest but also of national and international significance. The DDCS concluded that in addition to the anticipated visitor services, exhibits and educational programs, the project should also include a research component that would allow visitors to witness the process of discovery on a first-hand basis, something that could distinguish the project from a conventional interpretative center.

"It is for this purpose that ASU is involved in the project, something we are uniquely qualified to deliver."

In conclusion, Dr. Crow added:

"ASU is not asking the City of Scottsdale or the Scottsdale community to design or build facilities exclusively on our behalf. We are responding to a request for high-quality programming and research within the proposed Desert EDGE project to which we are prepared to dedicate resources at the appropriate time."

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Our mailing address is:

Desert Edge Advocates
#260
7349 North Via Paseo del Sur #515
Scottsdale, Az 85258

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