



INFORMATION:

Gina Kaegi, Director of Marketing, gina@carefree.org, 480-488-3686

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MAYOR CONTINUES TO ADDRESS WATER ISSUES FOR ALL CAREFREE RESIDENTS

CAREFREE, Ariz., (May 18, 2018) – In recognition of the long-term importance of water to Carefree, two years ago Carefree Mayor Peterson assembled a task force to analyze the water service and water availability for all Carefree residents and commercial customers to assure that all were receiving water service to support a high quality of life into the long-term future. Headed up by Mayor Peterson, the Carefree Water Committee included Carefree vice Mayor John Crane, Carefree Council member Stephen Hatcher, Carefree Water Company General Manager Greg Crossman and Carefree P & Z Vice Chairman Tom Cross. This committee has been working and meeting regularly, analyzing data and meeting with the Central Arizona Project (the source of most Carefree water) to chart the path to the most appropriate water future for Carefree.

Approximately 80% of Carefree homes and businesses today receive water and water service from the Carefree Water Company system. The remaining 20+%, over 500 homes and the retailers, Lowe's and CVS Pharmacy, on the west side of Carefree are serviced by the Cave Creek Water Company. These homes and businesses are referred to as being in the "Carefree Service Area" of the Cave Creek Water System. These homes and businesses in the Carefree Service Area have been identified by the Carefree Water Committee as an area not consistent with the Town's long-term goals for its residents. These Carefree homes and businesses have questionable service today and uncertain water service and availability in the future.

To identify the water infrastructure currently utilized in the Carefree Service Area, Carefree recently commissioned an intensive study by an outside engineering firm that specializes in these types of assignments. This study is well underway and the Carefree Water Committee Meets with them regularly. "The interests of the affected Carefree residents are our main priority, and once this study is completed we will take action in concert with the findings," Mayor Peterson shares.

In the meantime, Mayor Peterson, whose experience in working with utilities includes a twelve year battle to close the Carefree Wastewater Treatment Plant, a project that went all the way to the Arizona Supreme Court for resolution. This closure will save Carefree residents between \$2.5 to \$3 million dollars.

Mayor Peterson, the Carefree Water Committee and the Town of Carefree will be hosting two comprehensive discussions about water service in the Carefree Service Area. These meeting will be held in the new Carefree Town Council Chambers at 33 Easy Street at 5:00 PM on Tuesday,

June 26th and Monday, July 9th. If neither of these dates is convenient, the Mayor, members of the Carefree Water Committee and the Town are prepared to meet with residents individually or in groups.

Contact Town Hall at 480-488-3686 to set-up a meeting or if you have any questions.
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