

In looking for an access, the water tank road beyond Mayan Drive in North Heights was considered. Then an open space opposite the Desert Canyon intersection with Sunridge Canyon Drive was studied. In both these cases the neighborhood home owner associations rejected such activity on the basis of protecting local neighborhoods from trailhead traffic. With one last effort, the Conservancy and Councilman Ed Kehe met with Jeremy Hall, President of MCO Properties, Inc. to review a possible route that would require permission from MCO since it involved building the trail across Adero Canyon property to reach a Preserve boundary. Mr. Hall agreed to consider the plan, and helped to define the trail layout. A group from Town Staff, MCO, and Sonoran Conservancy worked together to draft a package that recognizes the temporary nature of this route, minimizes any permanent land disturbance, provides protection of private property by fencing the trail, and creating a license agreement between the Town and MCO that satisfies both party concerns regarding liability.

EASY Trail Completed

During the Spring, SC Trailblazers teamed up with NWS, Inc. (A commercial nature trail builder contracted by the Town of Fountain Hills). The objective was to rough cut a new trail that eventually will provide access to Verde Valley views for all with limited mobility or needing a wheelchair. NWS widened our existing foot path over the lower section of the Town Overlook trail and then curved around the mountain. Trailblazers removed dozer debris and completed final grading. Shown below are before and after views .



Before

After

All these programs require volunteers and continuing support from "Friends". To explain further, the Conservancy is a non-profit organization. Such an organization does not have "members" but operates on the financial and physical support of "Friends" and volunteers.

Our current balance is \$5,107. Expenses during the past three months were \$1,726. to support 20 volunteer guides and trailblazers prepare for full time access, Newsletter mailings, an inclinometer, other trailbuilding tools, legal fees and graphic packets to Town Council to identify and map the access plan.

Our web site offers full details on special guided hikes and training programs for those who are interested in volunteering. Also, look for a 12 minute video showing views from all the walking trails.

Visit www.scfh.org.

----- Be a friend Today ! -----

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Street _____ P. O. Box# _____

Town _____, State ____ Zip _____

I wish to support the Sonoran Conservancy in it's many Preservation/Conservation programs.
This contribution is fully tax deductible.

Make checks payable to: Sonoran Conservancy of Fountain Hills

Please mail to: SCFH P.O. BOX 17722 Fountain Hills AZ 85269 7722