

My name is Amber Fields and I am Chairman of Save the Dells. I'm here to deliver Save the Dells official comments.

You're here to vote on Arizona Eco Developments Development Agreement and Annexation.

This is a historic day.

For five years now, I've contributed thousands of unpaid hours meeting and working with my fellow committee members, city officials, people in the community and Jason Gisi all with the goal of protecting the heart of the Granite Dells from development.

This is the culminating moment for the work that so many dedicated people have invested.

On May 24, 2018, Save the Dells Chairman Joe Trudeau gave a speech at Mile High Middle School, where he introduced the 5 big things that it would take to get to this point.

One. The Land. The Dells. We all love them.

Two. The community. We have spoken, loud and clear.

Three. A crisis. AED's proposal was a crisis for Prescott.

Four. Political Will. This has been tough at times, but our shared commitment to this outcome has got us to places we never thought possible. There has been an evolution in city governance. One that must continue.

Five. It would take a generous landowner. Jason Gisi told me personally that AED bought their 15,000 acres JUST for the Point of Rocks. But after these years of debate, and sometimes all out war, those acres are destined to be owned by all of us, the people of Prescott.

While Save the Dells has not been able to get all our desired safeguards into the DA, we're happy to say that we feel like we have achieved our main conservation goal.

We proposed saving 500 acres. We're looking at saving 473.7 acres. We've come a long ways.

But, we were not able to save the 1,000-year-old Native American pit houses in the South Parcel. That's a big reason why we've come in short of the 500 acres.

We encourage the city and the developer to continue the conversation about protecting this cultural site. This too is a piece of Prescott's history, we should honor the indigenous people who came before us, and who still live here, and we should protect just ten more acres to honor our shared heritage.

And there are other concerns we have with the DA that we were not able to resolve. But you know what, that's compromise. The developer also did not get everything he would have liked.

But we appear to have language in the DA sufficient to ensure we will save the 473.7 acres as public natural open space for all to love and enjoy.

At the end of the day, and after many years of hard work, Save the Dells encourages city council to vote **yes** on the AED Development Agreement and annexation.

This is our best shot to save this land.

I want to thank to the city for involving Save the Dells in the negotiations. We fought hard for a seat at the table, and we got it.

I'd also like to thank AED for their commitment in this DA to protect their part of the Granite Dells as Natural Open Space.

But most of all, I'd like to thank everyone in this community that stood with Save the Dells in our fight to protect this land.

Thousands of people took time to ***make their voice heard***.

This is democracy in action, and this movement will continue to usher in a new era for Prescott that we can be proud of. Honoring our past, honoring the land, and honoring future generations.

For people, for wildlife, and for community.

Thank you.