

# Appeals of Dedication, Exactions or Zoning Regulations



## Rights of Property Owner

In addition to the other rights granted to you by the U.S. and Arizona Constitution, federal and state law and city ordinances or regulations, you are hereby notified of your right to appeal the following City actions relating to your property:

- 1) Any dedication of exaction which is required of you by an administrative agency or official of the city as a condition of granting approval of your request to use, improve or develop your real property. This appeal right does not apply to a dedication or exaction required as part of a city legislative act (for example a zoning ordinance) when an administrative agency or official has no discretion to determine the dedication or exaction.
- 2) The adoption or amendment of a zoning regulation that creates a taking of property in violations of Arizona and federal court decision.

## Appeal Procedure

The appeal must be in writing and specify the City action appealed and the date final action was taken, and must be filed with or mailed to the hearing officer designated by the city within 30 days after the final action is taken

- No fee will be charged for filing
- The city Attorney's Office will review the appeal for compliance with the above requirements, and will notify you if your appeal does not comply
- Eligible appeals will be forwarded to the hearing officer, and a hearing will be scheduled within 30 days of receipt by the hearing officer of your request. Ten days notice will be given to you of the date, time and place of the hearing unless you indicate that less notice is acceptable to you.
- The City will submit a takings impact report to the hearing officer.
- In an appeal from a dedication or exaction, the City will bear the burden of proving that the dedication or exaction to be imposed on your property bears an essential nexus between the requirement and a legitimate governmental interest and that the proposed dedication or exaction is roughly proportional to the impact of the use, improvement or development you proposed.
- In an appeal from the adoption or amendment of a zoning regulation, the City will bear the burden of proving that any dedication of exaction requirement in the zoning regulation is roughly proportional to the impact of the proposed use, improvement, or development, and that the zoning regulation does not create a taking of property in violation of Arizona and federal court cases.
- The hearing officer must render his decision within five working days after the appeal is heard.
- The hearing officer can modify or delete a dedication or exaction or, in the case of an appeal from a zoning regulation, transmit a recommendation to the City Council.
- If you are dissatisfied with the decision of the hearing officer, you may file a complaint for a trial nevo with the Superior Court within 30 days of the hearing officer's decision.

For questions, you may contact:

City's Attorney's Office  
3939 Drinkwater Blvd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251  
480-312-2405

Address your appeal to:

Hearing Officer, C/O City Clerk  
3939 Drinkwater Blvd  
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Please be aware that City Staff cannot give you legal advice. You may wish, but are not required, to hire an attorney to represent you in an appeal.

## Planning and Development Services

7447 E. Indian School Road, Suite 105, Scottsdale, AZ 85251 ♦ [www.ScottsdaleAZ.gov](http://www.ScottsdaleAZ.gov)

**Owner Certification  
Acknowledging Receipt  
Of  
Notice Of Right To Appeal  
Exactions And Dedications**

I hereby certify that I am the owner of property located at:

7515 and 7521 E. 1st Street

(address where development approval, building permits, or city required improvements and dedications are being required)

and hereby certify that I have received a notice that explains my right to appeal all exactions and/or dedications required by the City of Scottsdale as part of my property development on the parcel listed in the above address.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Property Owner

11/28/23

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **Requirements for Submitting Evidence of Title to the City of Scottsdale Planning Department**



The City of Scottsdale planning department requires applicants for various zoning applications, building permits and other approvals to provide evidence of land ownership. Unless city staff directs otherwise, the required evidence shall be a title insurance commitment meeting the following requirements:

1. The applicant shall instruct the title insurance company to prepare a normal title insurance commitment.
2. The title commitment must cover the whole project site, just as if the city were a commercial real estate developer who was going to buy the whole site from whoever owns it today.
3. The title insurance commitment must be in the same form and have the same wording that the title insurer usually uses when a sophisticated real estate purchaser is buying land from a sophisticated seller. For example, it must not have any extra notes, disclaimers or other language that is not in a normal title insurance commitment for a straightforward land purchase.
4. The City of Scottsdale must be listed as the proposed insured.
5. The proposed insurance amount must be a reasonable estimate of the actual dollar value of the whole site. (The price for the most recent arms-length sale of the whole site is usually an acceptable amount.)
6. The Schedule B requirements must call for:
  - a. A deed from the current owner to the city.
  - b. Releases of all liens, as if the city were going to pay cash for the land and not assume any liens or take subject to any liens.
  - c. Termination of all leases. (Leases with 24 or fewer months remaining in their term may be listed in the Schedule B exceptions instead.)
  - d. Any other specific payments or specific document recordings that the title insurer would normally call for (such as payment of delinquent property taxes).
7. The Schedule B exceptions must show any other specific title matters that may exist.
8. Title companies sometimes state in their title commitments that they will update the title search before issuing a title insurance policy. That's o.k. if the language is clear that the update will only include new title documents that are recorded after the title commitment date. For example, it is o.k. to have wording that says: "Additional items may be added based on new documents recorded before closing." But there must not be vague wording such as this: "Check with title examiner for additional items before closing."
9. The title search date on the title commitment must be less than 30 days old.
10. Both "standard coverage" and "extended coverage" title commitments are acceptable. (The title information on an extended coverage commitment must be identical to the title information that would be on a standard coverage commitment. The only difference is that the Schedule B requirements for an "extended coverage" commitment will call for a survey and will allow the title company to add Schedule B exceptions or requirements for any problems the survey reveals.)
11. There is no need to open an escrow to make a routine dedication. The city will record the dedication directly without sending it through the title company. Often, the city will not actually buy the title insurance described in the commitment or require the applicant to buy it. But, if the city decides to do it (or require the applicant to do it), then the city or the applicant will follow up with the title insurer to pay the insurance premium and satisfy the Schedule B requirements so that the title insurer will issue the policy.
12. The applicant shall inform city staff in writing of any and all title changes that occur after the title commitment is issued.
13. The city reserves the right for city staff to require additional evidence of title, including but not limited to an extended title insurance policy in favor of the city.