

PUBLIC NOTICE:
MINOR GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND PLANNED AREA DEVELOPMENT

Project: Sunrise Ranch

Proposal: Case # GPA25-03: A request by Gammage and Burnham, on behalf of Dozerland, LLC, for approval of a minor general plan amendment to redesignate ±12.94 gross acres of an overall 150.86-acre site from Medium Density Residential (MDR) to High Density Residential (HDR) to support a higher density of housing types located 0.5-miles west of the NWC of Green Rd. and SR 238.

Case # PAD25-04: A request by Gammage and Burnham, on behalf of Dozerland, LLC, for approval of a Planned Area Development to rezone 150.86-acres from Industrial (CI-2) to Sunrise Ranch PAD to support a variety of owner-occupied housing types located 0.5-miles west of the NWC of Green Road and SR238.

Neighborhood Meeting

Thursday, February 19, 2026

6:00 PM

Maricopa Library and Cultural Center

18160 N Maya Angelou Dr.

Maricopa AZ, 85138

Maple Room

Planning and Zoning Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2026

6:00 PM

City Hall

39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

Maricopa, AZ 85138

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

6:00 PM

City Hall

39700 W. Civic Center Plaza

Maricopa, AZ 85138

Supporting Documents:

GPA25-03 Narrative

PAD25-04 Narrative

For questions or comments: Please contact case planner, LaRee Mason at 520-316-6928 or via email at

LaRee.Mason@maricopa-az.gov

AFFIDAVIT OF SIGN POSTING

The undersigned Applicant has complied with the City of Maricopa's sign posting requirements, located at the West of NWC AZ-238 & Moonlight Dr, in the City of Maricopa, on 01/30/26.

See attached photo exhibit.

For applicant:

Gammage & Burnham

Dynamite Signs

Sign Company Name

Meghan Liggett

Sign Company Representative

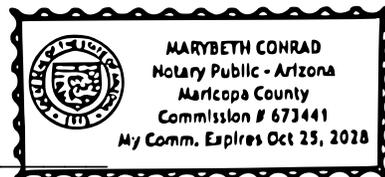
Subscribed and sworn to be on 01/30/26 by Meghan Liggett.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I Hereto set my hand and official seal.

Marybeth Conrad

Notary Public

My Commission expires: 10-25-28



MINOR GENERAL PLAN & ZONING

CITY OF MARICOPA- PLANNING DIVISION

Proposal: Case #'s GPA25-03 & PAD25-04 – A Minor General Plan Amendment of Approx. 12.94 Gross Acres from Medium Density Residential (“MDR”) to High Density Residential (“HDR”) and a Rezoning from Industrial Zone (“CI-2”) to Planned Area Development (“PAD”) on Approx. 150.86 Gross Acres located north of West Smith-Enke Road and east of Green Road to allow for a Planned Single-Family / High Density Residential Development.

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Date: February 19, 2026
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Location: Maricopa Library & Cultural Center
18160 N. Maya Angelou Drive
Maricopa, AZ 85138
Maple Room

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION (PUBLIC HEARING)

Date: March 9, 2026
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza
Maricopa, AZ 85138

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: April 7, 2026
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Location: City Hall Council Chambers
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza
Maricopa, AZ 85138

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THIS CASE, CONTACT CASE PLANNER:

LaRee Mason 520-316-6928

Email: LaRee.Mason@maricopa-az.gov

Posting Date: January 30, 2026

January 30, 2026 at 9:08 AM
+33.073213,-112.080614
47762-47892 SR-238
Maricopa AZ 85139

MINOR GENERAL PLAN & ZONING

CITY OF MARICOPA- PLANNING DIVISION

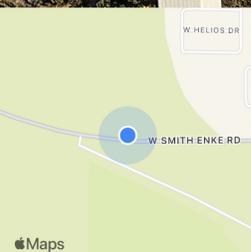
Proposal: Case #'s GPA25-03 & PAD25-04 – A Minor General Plan Amendment of Approx. 12.94 Gross Acres from Medium Density Residential (“MDR”) to High Density Residential (“HDR”) and a Rezoning from Industrial Zone (“CI-2”) to Planned Area Development (“PAD”) on Approx. 150.86 Gross Acres located north of West Smith-Enke Road and east of Green Road to allow for a Planned Single-Family / High Density Residential Development.



NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING	PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION (PUBLIC HEARING)	CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Date: February 19, 2026 Time: 6:00 P.M. Location: Maricopa Library & Cultural Center 18160 N. Maya Angelou Drive Maricopa, AZ 85138 *Maple Room*	Date: March 9, 2026 Time: 6:00 P.M. Location: City Hall Council Chambers 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138	Date: April 7, 2026 Time: 6:00 P.M. Location: City Hall Council Chambers 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING THIS CASE, CONTACT CASE PLANNER:
LaRee Mason 520-316-6928 Email: LaRee.Mason@maricopa-az.gov

Posting Date: January 30, 2026



January 30, 2026 at 8:46 AM
+33.072514, -112.075799
W Smith Enke Rd
Maricopa AZ 85139

GAMMAGE & BURNHAM, PLC

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

40 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE

20TH FLOOR

PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85004

Notification Letter

February 2, 2026

RE: Cases: GPA25-03 & PAD25-04 – A Minor General Plan Amendment and Planned Area Development (“PAD”) – Sunrise Ranch PAD.

Dear Neighbor,

Two (2) applications have been filed with the City of Maricopa by Gammage & Burnham for a Minor General Plan Amendment on approx. 12.94 gross acres and a Planned Area Development (“PAD”) Rezoning on approx. 150.86 gross acres on a property located north of West Smith-Enke Road and east of Green Road (the “Property”). The City case numbers are: GPA25-03 & PAD25-04. These cases will allow for a well-planned single-family / high density (i.e., approx. 12.94 gross acres) residential development compatible with the area’s existing development pattern (i.e., the Moonlight community under construction) as well as providing additional housing opportunities. (**See Attached:** Project Vicinity Map, Minor General Plan Map, Conceptual Land Use Map, & Conceptual Landscape Plan) The proposed PAD, called Sunrise Ranch, will allow for minor amended development standards to accommodate the housing proposed and to address the significant drainage impediments in the area as well as to provide a well-designed street system/subdivision for future homes. We should note that a preliminary plat has been submitted (Case: SUB25-07) to the City Staff for their review in conjunction with these two (2) requests for context/circulation/technical reviews. The preliminary plat is an administrative item that will be approved after these cases are approved by the City Council.

According to the Pinal County Assessors records, you are a property owner within 600-feet of the Property under consideration. To better inform you of the public meetings scheduled for this matter, this notice is being sent to you via first class mail. The following are the current public meetings/hearings being held (i.e., Neighborhood Meeting, etc.) regarding this proposed development. **Additional mailings may occur pending any changes to dates below.**

Neighborhood Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 19, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Address: Maricopa Library & Cultural Center
18160 N. Maya Angelou Drive Maricopa, AZ 85138

Maple Room

*** Spanish-speaking and ASL interpreters shall be provided at the neighborhood meeting, if requested prior to the meeting scheduled. ***

Planning and Zoning Commission Hearing

Date: March 9, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Address: 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138

City Council Hearing

Date: April 7, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Address: 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138

If you wish to provide input on this matter, you may attend each public meeting or submit written comments before the public meeting. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please feel free to contact Dennis M. Newcombe with Gammage & Burnham, P.L.C., at: (602) 256-4446 or via email at: dnewcombe@gblaw.com – **or** – LaRee Mason at the City of Maricopa Planning and Zoning Division at: (520) 316- 6928 or via email at: LaRee.Mason@maricopa-az.gov.

Formal input is accepted in written form to the City of Maricopa Development Services Department, Planning and Zoning Division, Attn: LaRee Mason at 39700 West Civic Center Plaza, Maricopa, Arizona 85138 or emailed to: LaRee.Mason@maricopa-az.gov with the subject: Sunrise Ranch Minor GPA & PAD Rezone (Reference cases: GPA25-03 & PAD25-04).

Please note that City Council holds a work session prior to the aforementioned Council meeting time. As the work session meeting time varies, please contact the City Clerk at: (520) 316-6970 or visit the City of Maricopa website at www.maricopa-az.gov for information on the specific time that the work session will be held. Kindly address additional questions or comments to the City of Maricopa Planning Department at (520) 568-9098.

Again, if you are unable to attend the meeting or have questions regarding the development proposal, please feel free to contact me at **(602) 256-4446** or dnewcombe@gblaw.com.

Very truly yours,

GAMMAGE AND BURNHAM, PLC

Dennis M. Newcombe

Dennis M. Newcombe
Senior Land Use Planner

Attachments: As stated

****Esta información se puede proporcionar en español a pedido, por favor comuníquese con Rodolfo Lopez, 520-316-6986 para la información.****

Vicinity Map



**AK-CHIN SOUTHERN
DUNES GOLF CLUB**

**ELARA AT
MOONLIGHT BY
LANDSEA HOMES**

**PROJECT SITE
(±150.86 ACRES)**

N GREEN RD

**COBBLESTONE
FARMS
SUBDIVISION**

347

238

W SR 238

W SMITH ENKE RD

N JOHN WAYNE PKWY

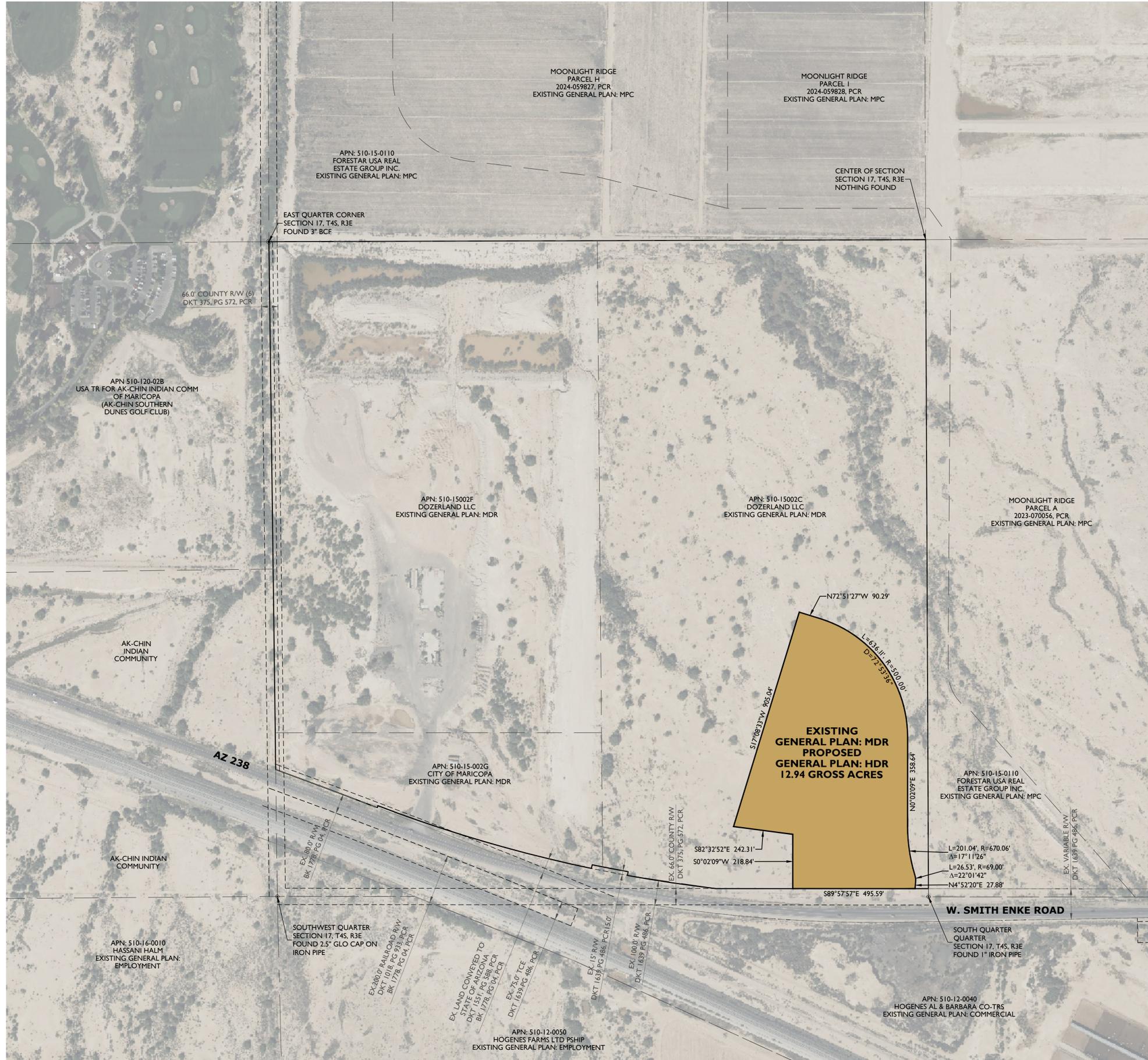
**FLATZ 520
APT COMPLEX**

**ACACIA
CROSSINGS**

**THE VILLAGES
AT RANCHO EL
DORADO**

21-0943 - Sunrise Ranch

Dec 17, 2025 4:52pm S:\Projects\2021\21-0943\Planning\Drawings\Entitlements\21-0943 - GP01.dwg jjuarez

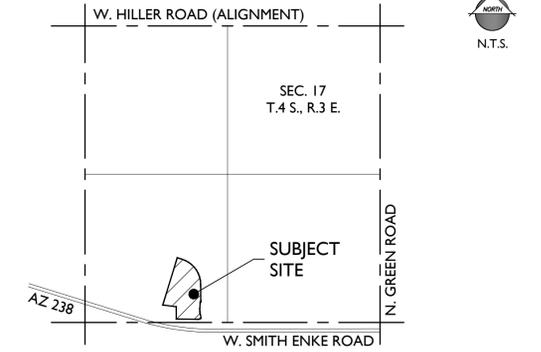


GENERAL PLAN EXHIBIT FOR SUNRISE RANCH

A PORTION OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 17, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE GILA AND SALT RIVER MERIDIAN CITY OF MARICOPA, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA

VICINITY MAP

N.T.S.



PROJECT TEAM

PROPERTY OWNER/DEVELOPER:
DOZERLAND, LLC
2525 E CAMELBACK RD, SUITE 210
PHOENIX, AZ 85016
TEL: (480) 479-2142
CONTACT: BRIAN ROSELLA

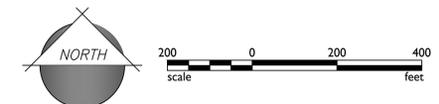
ENGINEERING & PLANNING:
EPS GROUP, INC.
1130 N ALMA SCHOOL RD., SUITE 120
MESA, AZ 85201
TEL: (480)-503-2250
CONTACT: DAVID HUGHES

LEGAL COUNSEL:

GAMMAGE & BURNHAM, P.L.C.
2525 E CAMELBACK RD, SUITE 210
PHOENIX, AZ 85016
TEL: (602) 256-4446
CONTACT: ASHLEY Z. MARSH & DENNIS M. NEWCOMBE

PROJECT INFORMATION

A.P.N.:	510-15-002C (PORTION OF)
EXISTING LAND USE:	VACANT/ UNDEVELOPED
EXISTING GENERAL PLAN:	MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (MDR)
PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN:	HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (HDR)
EXISTING ZONING:	CI-2
PROPOSED ZONING:	PAD
GROSS AREA:	12.94 ACRES



Project: Sunrise Ranch
City of Maricopa, Arizona
General Plan Exhibit

Revisions:
MARCH 28, 2025 - 1ST SUBMITTAL
DECEMBER 17, 2025 - 2ND SUBMITTAL



Designer: JH
Drawn by: JAJ

Preliminary
Not For
Construction
Or
Recording

Job No.
21-0943

GPOI

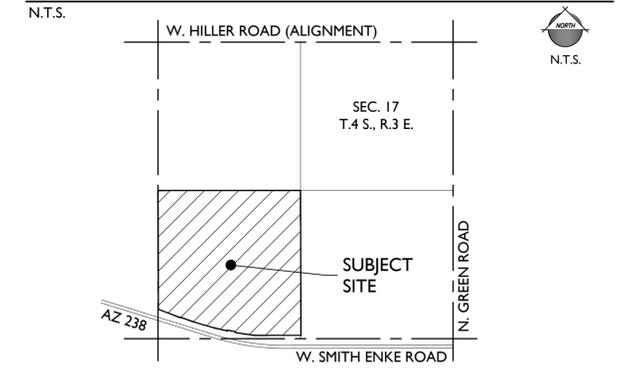
Sheet No.
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of 1



CONCEPTUAL LAND USE PLAN FOR SUNRISE RANCH

A PORTION OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 17, TOWNSHIP 4 SOUTH, RANGE 3 EAST OF THE GILA AND SALT RIVER MERIDIAN CITY OF MARICOPA, PINAL COUNTY, ARIZONA

VICINITY MAP



PROJECT TEAM

PROPERTY OWNER/DEVELOPER:
DOZERLAND, LLC
2525 E CAMELBACK RD, SUITE 210
PHOENIX, AZ 85016
TEL: (480) 479-2142
CONTACT: BRIAN ROSELLA

ENGINEERING & PLANNING:
EPS GROUP, INC.
1130 N ALMA SCHOOL RD., SUITE 120
MESA, AZ 85201
TEL: (480) 503-2250
CONTACT: CHANDRA MCCARTY, PE / DAVID HUGHES

LEGAL COUNSEL:
GAMMAGE & BURNHAM, P.L.C.
2525 E CAMELBACK RD, SUITE 210
PHOENIX, AZ 85016
TEL: (602) 256-4446
CONTACT: ASHLEY Z. MARSH

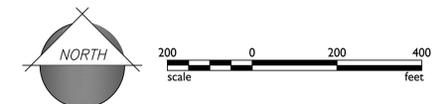
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT:
EPS GROUP, INC.
1130 N ALMA SCHOOL RD., SUITE 120
MESA, AZ 85201
TEL: (480) 503-2250
CONTACT: ALIZA SABIN, RLA

PROJECT INFORMATION

A.P.N.:	510-15-002C (PORTION OF)
EXISTING LAND USE:	VACANT/ UNDEVELOPED
EXISTING GENERAL PLAN:	MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (MDR)
PROPOSED GENERAL PLAN:	HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (HDR)
EXISTING ZONING:	CI-2
PROPOSED ZONING:	PAD
GROSS AREA:	150.86 ACRES

LEGEND

- PAD BOUNDARY
- PARCEL BOUNDARY
- SR 238 / SMITH ENKE ROAD (BY OTHERS)
- COMMUNITY ENTRANCE ROAD (LOCAL ROAD)
- EMERGENCY ACCESS ROAD
- DRAINAGE CHANNEL
- HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL PARCEL
- 40' x 115' PARCEL
- 45' x 115' PARCEL
- 50' x 120' PARCEL
- 60' x 120' PARCEL



1130 N Alma School Road
Suite 120
Mesa, AZ 85201
T: 480.503.2250 | F: 480.503.2258
www.epsgroupinc.com



Sunrise Ranch
City of Maricopa, Arizona
Conceptual Land Use Plan

Project:

Revisions:
MARCH 28, 2025 - 1ST SUBMITTAL
DECEMBER 17, 2025 - 2ND SUBMITTAL



Designer: JH
Drawn by: JAJ

Preliminary
Not For
Construction
Or
Recording

Job No.
21-0943

LPOI

Sheet No.
1
of 1

DRAINAGE CORRIDOR
- MULTI-USE TRAIL
- FITNESS STATIONS

DOG PARK
- LARGE DOG &
SMALL DOG AREAS
- ACTIVE TURF AREAS
- SHADED SEATING
- LIGHTING
- WATER STATION
- DOGI-POTS

INTERNAL OPEN SPACE / TRAIL CORRIDOR
- TRAIL CONNECTION WITHIN COMMUNITY AND TO PARKS
- SHADE TREES
- SEATING NODES
- LIGHTING

LEGEND

MONUMENTS

✳ ENTRY MONUMENT

TURF / INERT MATERIALS

	Cynodon dactylon 'Midiron' Midiron Sod
	Planting Area Decomposed Granite Color: Carmel 1/2" Screened, 2" Depth, Min. OAE
	Drainage Channel Native To Be Verified During Final Design
	Drainage Channel Rip Rap Refer to Civil To Be Verified During Final Design



SHADED PLAY STRUCTURE



HALF BASKETBALL COURT



PARK BBQS



ARTIFICIAL TURF GAME LAWN



RAMADA WITH PICNIC TABLE



PET WATER STATION



DOG PARK



FITNESS STATIONS



PASEO TRAIL



PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
NOTE: IMAGES SHOWN FOR DESIGN INTENT ONLY

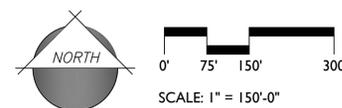
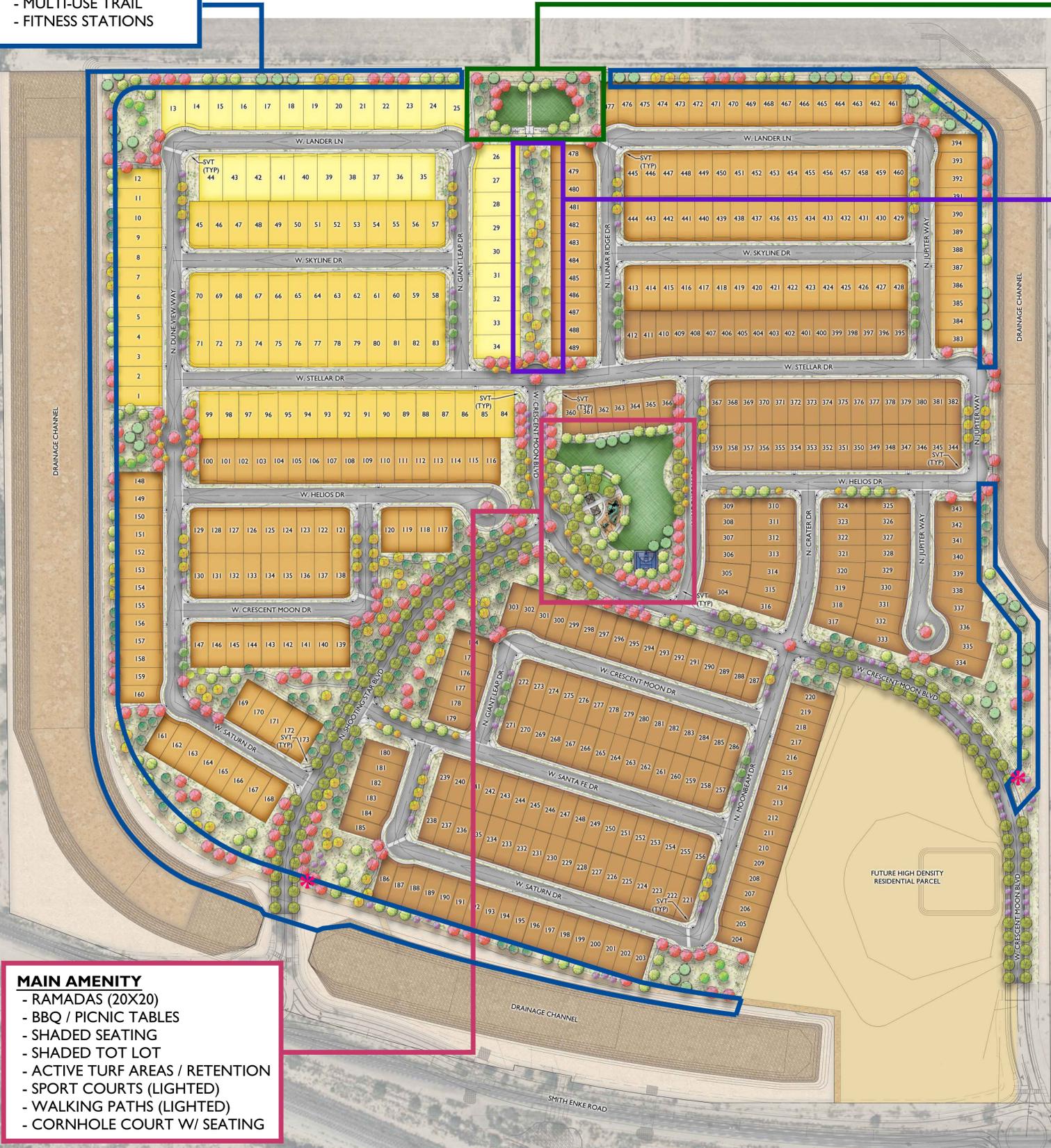


ACTIVE TURF



MULTI-USE TRAIL

MAIN AMENITY
- RAMADAS (20X20)
- BBQ / PICNIC TABLES
- SHADED SEATING
- SHADED TOT LOT
- ACTIVE TURF AREAS / RETENTION
- SPORT COURTS (LIGHTED)
- WALKING PATHS (LIGHTED)
- CORNHOLE COURT W/ SEATING



MINOR GENERAL PLAN & ZONING

City of Maricopa – Planning Division

Proposal: Case #'s GPA25-03 & PAD25-04 – A Minor General Plan Amendment of Approx. 12.94 Gross Acres from Medium Density Residential (“MDR”) to High Density Residential (“HDR”) and a Rezoning from Industrial Zone (“CI-2”) to Planned Area Development (“PAD”) on Approx. 150.86 Gross Acres located north of West Smith-Enke Road and east of Green Road to allow for a Planned Single-Family / High Density Residential Development.

<p><u>NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING</u> February 19, 2026; 6:00 p.m. Maricopa Library & Cultural Center 18160 N. Maya Angelou Drive Maricopa, AZ 85138 *Maple Room*</p>	<p><u>PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION</u> (PUBLIC HEARING) March 9, 2026; 6:00 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138</p>	<p><u>CITY COUNCIL MEETING</u> April 7, 2026; 6:00 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138</p>
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**FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS
REGARDING THIS CASE,
CONTACT CASE PLANNER:
LaRee Mason
520-316-6928
Email: LaRee.Mason@maricopa-az.gov**



Posting Date: February 3, 2026

4'

**NEWSPAPER NOTICE
NOTICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING, PUBLIC HEARING
AND PUBLIC MEETING**

GPA25-03 & PAD25-04 – A Minor General Plan Amendment
& Planned Area Development (“PAD”) Rezoning.

Neighborhood Meeting

February 19, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
Maricopa Library & Cultural Center
18160 N. Maya Angelou Drive Maricopa, AZ 85138
Maple Room

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting

(PUBLIC HEARING)

March 9, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
City Hall – Council Chambers
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza
Maricopa, AZ 85138

City Council Meeting

April 7, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
City Hall – Council Chambers
39700 W. Civic Center Plaza
Maricopa, AZ 85138

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT at the above listed meeting, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held at the above stated date, time, and location. The purpose is to receive public comments on the following request prior to approval.

Two (2) applications have been filed with the City of Maricopa by Gammage & Burnham, P.L.C. for a Minor General Plan Amendment on approx. 12.94 gross acres and a Planned Area Development (“PAD”) Rezoning on approx. 150.86 gross acres on a property located north of West Smith-Enke Road and east of Green Road. The City case numbers are: GPA25-03 & PAD25-04. These cases will allow for a well-planned single-family / high density (i.e., approx. 12.94 gross acres) residential development compatible with the area’s existing development pattern (i.e., the Moonlight community under construction) as well as providing additional housing opportunities. The proposed PAD, called Sunrise Ranch, will allow for minor amended development standards to accommodate the housing proposed and to address the significant drainage impediments in the area as well as to provide a well-designed street system/subdivision for future homes. A preliminary plat has been submitted (Case: SUB25-07) to the City Staff for their review in conjunction with these two (2) requests for context/circulation/technical reviews. The preliminary plat is an administrative item.

Anyone wishing to appear and make comment is encouraged to attend. Written comments are welcome and if received prior to the meeting, will be included in the record. All comments or appeals should be sent in a written form to the Planning and Zoning Division, Attn: LaRee Mason at 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza, Maricopa, AZ 85238. You may also contact LaRee Mason at: (520) 316- 6928 or via email at: LaRee.Mason@maricopa-az.gov. Please include name, address, telephone number and signature. For questions, contact the Planning and Zoning Division at (520) 568-9098.

Dated: February 3, 2026 / February 20, 2026
Published in the Casa Grande Dispatch / Maricopa Monitor

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

State of New Jersey, County of Camden, ss:

Yuade Moore, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That (s)he is a duly authorized signatory of Column Software, PBC, duly authorized agent of Casa Grande Dispatch, a newspaper published at Casa Grande, Pinal County, Arizona, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday of each week; that a notice, a full, true and complete printed copy of which is hereunto attached, was printed in the regular edition of said newspaper, and not in a supplement thereto, for 1 issues. The publications thereof having been on the following dates:

PUBLICATION DATES:

Feb. 3, 2026

NOTICE ID: V5R3cWVyuDTvxItTglw

NOTICE NAME: Sunrise Ranch [GPA25-03 / PAD25-04]

(Signed) Yuade Moore

SHARONN E THOMAS-POPE
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
My Commission Expires January 23, 2027

VERIFICATION

State of New Jersey
County of Camden

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me on this: 02/04/2026

SM S. R. Poe

Notary Public
Notarized remotely online using communication technology via Proof.

NEWSPAPER NOTICE
NOTICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING, PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC MEETING
GPA25-03 & PAD25-04 - A Minor General Plan Amendment & Planned Area Development ("PAD") Rezoning, Neighborhood Meeting
February 19, 2026 @ 6:00 PM Maricopa Library & Cultural Center 18160 N. Maya Angelou Drive Maricopa, AZ 85138 *Maple Room*
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (PUBLIC HEARING)
March 9, 2026 @ 6:00 PM City Hall Council Chambers 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138
City Council Meeting April 7, 2026 @ 6:00 PM City Hall - Council Chambers 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138
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Underground Railroad event at Leading Edge

By **KENNY QUAYLE**
Staff Writer

MARICOPA — As part of Black History Month, students at Leading Edge Academy put on an interactive performance of what it was like for people going through the Underground Railroad to escape slavery.

The event, called “Back to the Future: Herstory in Motion” kicked off Feb. 12 with drama and music performances, an art show, poetry, keynote speaker Ashley M. Anderson, and more. Attendees were then led outside where a guide waited with a lantern, taking them through a variety of classrooms where they would have to confront the different realities of escaping slavery and participate in various exercises.

From deciding who to trust and who to even making sure you sing the right lyrics to guide others to freedom through song, the exercises mirrored real-life situations runaway enslaved peoples had to face.

According to Leading Edge Academy Assistant Principal Tamara Washington,



Howard Waggoner/PinalCentral
Leading Edge students present their research as part of the school's Underground Railroad event Feb. 12 in Maricopa.

this year's event was the fourth of its kind held annually. The purpose of holding such an event is reportedly to immerse people into the experience of the Underground

— Leading Edge, Page 25

Last Pumas

Continued from Page 1

to experience the school the way she did.

“The version that I’ve always known ... that’s not going to be known to other people in the future,” Portillo said. “You reflect and reminisce on a lot of things, but then the reality is that everything’s changing.”

Senior Jordan Hope, who returned to Sequoia Pathway after attending another school, said, “It made me kind of sad, because this is where I started.”

“When I came back last year, I was, like, ‘Dang, the school is not what it used to be.’ But we’re making the best out of it,” he said. “I don’t know what brought me back — I just feel like this was home to me.”

Mahiai said she considered transferring when all of her friends left at the start of high school but chose to stay. Other students said the school’s small size has been central to their experience: the campus is community, family.

Academic guidance counselor Marissa Bandin, who is also one of the school’s senior class and student council advisors, agreed.

“That’s the one thing that’s still consistent, even with the admin turnover and staff turnover and students leaving,” she said. “We are a family.”

Student body president Mariah Zavala transferred to Sequoia Pathway from a larger school in Fresno, California, during her sophomore year. Having close relationships with teachers convinced her to stay, she said.

“All (of) the teachers ... have a personal connection with each student,” she said. “You won’t get that in any other school.”

Senior Callie Losbe said she will miss those connections, even as relationships inevitably shift after graduation. Still, some are lasting.

“I get to have people who are always there for me,” she said.

Rumors about the school’s closure circulated for months before the official announcement, creating uncertainty on campus, Zavala said.

“It is really sad that a lot of people are leaving,” she said. “It’s (also) really tough to try to do things when people just don’t feel that excited anymore because it’s shutting down.” Still, she said, students are determined to “go out with a bang.”

For some upperclassmen, the news prompted major decisions. Junior Journe Sansaver began exploring early graduation immediately after learning it might be an option, knowing that the school was closing.

“When they officially announced it, even though I was following the news, it still hit me,” he said. “Out of everywhere I’ve been, (Sequoia Pathway) has definitely been my favorite school. None of the other schools (I’ve been to) really did what this school has done for me.”

While other graduating juniors are averaging two to three additional classes, Sansaver is currently taking four online courses in addition to his regular schedule to meet graduation requirements by early May. If he completes all 22 required credits, he will graduate with the seniors.

Bandin said she has never seen so many juniors attempt early graduation. Last year, one junior graduated early. This year, multiple students approached her.

“I constantly had kids come and say, ‘What about me?’” she said. “They didn’t want to go have a senior year and graduate not a Puma.”

She said those attempting it have a strong work ethic, putting in hours outside of school — evenings, weekends, even school breaks — to ensure they finish on time.

Zavala credited Bandin with helping students stay focused.

“She (has) helped a lot of people,” Zavala said. “Not only in school, but in life.”

As the final months pass, longtime traditions will take place one last time — the senior trip, the Senior-Kinder Walk around campus and the graduation ceremony in the decorated gym. This year’s gowns will reflect the occasion. While graduates in past years all wore purple, boys will wear purple and girls will wear white.

Students are planning senior events, open to juniors this year, with added energy, determined to make lasting memories.

“(It’s) my last year,” Losbe said. “I’m going to just have fun while I can.”

To all students, not just the seniors, Zavala’s message is simple: Do as much as you can, together. “I just want everyone to have fun, no stress,” she said.

Although another school will be moving into the building, students say Sequoia Pathway will last long after they leave.

“They may put in a new ceiling (and) a new floor,” Sansaver said. “The murals will be painted over ... (but they’ll still) be there — just under a new coat of paint.”

“Deep down,” he said, “it will always be Sequoia Pathway.”

Erica Little is a Report for America corps member covering education solutions in Pinal County. Her position is made possible through funding from Report for America and the Arizona Local News Foundation’s Arizona Community Collaborative Fund.

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Public Notices

NEWSPAPER NOTICE
NOTICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING, PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC MEETING
GPA25-03 & PAD25-04 - A Minor General Plan Amendment and Planned Area Development (“PAD”) Rezoning.
Neighborhood Meeting
February 19, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
Maricopa Library & Cultural Center
18160 N. Maya Angelou Drive
Maricopa, AZ 85138 *Maple Room*
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (PUBLIC HEARING)
March 9, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
City Hall Council Chambers 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138
City Council Meeting April 7, 2026 @ 6:00 PM
City Hall - Council Chambers 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza Maricopa, AZ 85138
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT at the above listed meeting, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held at the above stated date, time, and location. The purpose is to receive public comments on the following

Public Notices

request prior to approval.
Two (2) applications have been filed with the City of Maricopa by Gammage & Burnham, P.L.C. for a Minor General Plan Amendment on approx. 12.94 gross acres and a Planned Area Development (“PAD”) Rezoning on approx. 150.86 gross acres on a property located north of West Smith-Enke Road and east of Green Road. The City case numbers are: GPA25-03 & PAD25-04. These cases will allow for a well-planned single-family / high density (i.e., approx. 12.94 gross acres) residential development compatible with the area’s existing development pattern (i.e., the Moonlight community under construction) as well as providing additional housing opportunities. The proposed PAD, called Sunrise Ranch, will allow for minor amended development standards to accommodate the housing proposed and to address the significant drainage impediments in the area as well as to provide a well-designed

street system/subdivision for future homes. A preliminary plat has been submitted (Case: SUB25-07) to the City Staff for their review in conjunction with these two (2) requests for context/circulation/technical reviews. The preliminary plat is an administrative item. Anyone wishing to appear and make comment is encouraged to attend. Written comments are welcome and if received prior to the meeting, will be included in the record. All comments or appeals should be sent in a written form to the Planning and Zoning Division, Attn: LaRee Mason at 39700 W. Civic Center Plaza, Maricopa, AZ 85238. You may also contact LaRee Mason at: (520) 316-6928 or via email at: LaRee.Mason@maricopa-az.gov. Please include name, address, telephone number and signature. For questions, contact the Planning and Zoning Division at (520) 568-9098. Dated: January 29, 2026
No. of publications: 1: date of publication: Feb 20, 2026

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