

## **Developmental Impact Group (DIG)**

**Betsy Levenson**

*January 2008*

No man is an island – and neither are homeowners associations. We are all affected by what goes on around us: Commercial and residential development, municipal and county long-range planning initiatives, tax issues, and news related to area schools, to name just a few. More importantly, these events and issues have the potential to affect all residents of SaddleBrooke, both HOA #1 and HOA #2 equally.

To this end, “DIG” (Developmental Impact Group), a sub-committee of HOA #1’s Long-Range Planning committee (LRPC), is expanding its role to more actively and systematically monitor external issues, developments, and events. DIG members will be working together to identify key areas of impact and to better communicate these to the LRPC, our Board of Directors, and our residents. In addition, we have reached out to HOA #2’s leadership, inviting them to join together with us in this effort. Their response has been very positive, and we look forward to good news in the future about our hoped-for collaboration.

The DIG work plan for the coming year includes the following:

- Targeted assignments.
- Kay Galligan: Oro Valley planning process; residential and commercial development in the area
- Tommy Tucker: Greater Catalina/Golder Ranch Village Council (past president; currently Treasurer)
- Chris Crum: Pinal County Comprehensive Plan
- Jack Jeffery Regional mapping of growth areas
- Pat Kotten: Oracle School District
- Betsy Levenson: Cross-HOA communication and collaboration

Speakers’ Series:

- Experts on timely topics, for committee members
- Presentations at HOA meetings (watch for announcement of April program)

Articles/updates in *The Communicator* and on the HOA’s web sites:

- January: Betsy Levenson
- February: Kay Galligan
- March: Chris Crum
- April: Pat Kotten

The LRPC’s vision for DIG is to develop and expand capacity, so that we will be able to stay ahead of the curve, anticipating and preparing for changes that affect our community, and build

systems that will enable us to communicate the necessary information to our Boards and residents in a timely fashion.

Monitoring the external environment is by its nature a time-consuming and never-ending process. The extent to which we will be successful is to a great degree dependent on our ability to recruit interested residents to join us, as well as our ability to effect meaningful collaboration with HOA #2 – an initiative that is underway.

We are now reaching out to all residents, asking for help with work that is interesting, fun, and very necessary. DIG has a need for all types of “DIGgers” – people who wish to track web site information, attend meetings, correspond with officials, scan periodicals, or simply help organize things. Also, software skills (e.g., Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, PhotoShop, etc.) for specific tasks are always welcome. Those interested should contact any of the following:

- Kay Galligan 825-5497
- Jack Jeffery 818-6700
- Betsy Levenson 818-3058