

Pine Flats Property Owners Association

January 11, 2021

Oak Creek Canyon Traffic Matters

Marcie Ellis

251 Lower Indian Gardens

Sedona, AZ 86336

Committee Members,

For many years, the property owners of Pine Flats community have enjoyed the beauty and wonders of Oak Creek Canyon. Our association is believed to be the oldest established group for property owners in the state of Arizona. And generations of families have spent countless days over the years in this scenic and wonderful gem of the southwest. Pine Flats has become more than just a collection of cabins and homes. It is a community of friends and families that take great pride and joy in being part of the Red Rock area of Sedona.

Just as we all take pride in maintaining our homes and facilities within Pine Flats, we also care dearly about the overall condition of Oak Creek Canyon and the scenic highway 89A. We strive to do our part to keep the fire danger low by clearing away ground debris and dead trees. We make sure our trash is properly collected, and we encourage careful monitoring of septic systems and pet waste to protect Oak Creek.

In recent years, we have seen an increase in the number of visitors who are using the northern end of the canyon for recreation. Much of this is probably due to the closing of areas near Slide Rock and further south that were used for roadside parking. People are now driving further north to gain access to the creek. This has caused more traffic, congestion, and safety problems along the highway. It has also led to more trash and human waste ending up in Oak Creek. We now have people who are parking near Page Springs campground, crossing the creek, and hiking up to homes in our Pine Flats division. Despite posting No Trespassing signs, people continue to move onto private property.

The members of Pine Flats Property Owners Association strongly support any efforts by your committee to encourage a capacity study be done for Sedona and Oak Creek Canyon. We feel there is a strong possibility that without future controls and new guidelines for use of the canyon, we will see it continue to be "loved to death".

Regards,

Clark Root

Executive Director, PFPOA