



Input eyed on airpark plan update

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SCOTTSDALE - The city is getting ready to update its Greater Airpark Community Area Plan, defining the looks and land uses of the city's key employment center.

Scottsdale officials especially want to hear from businesses as the city plans how to better mix retail, residential and light industrial uses, advance planning director John Lusardi told the Scottsdale Area Chamber of Commerce's First Friday Airpark Breakfast.

"It's an exciting time for you in the community . . . to say what you want in the Airpark," Lusardi told about 80 [business owners](#) and leaders.

The update, the first since 2001, comes as many older buildings in the Airpark are being targeted for redevelopment, including controversial calls to allow taller buildings, and as retail stores creep into what was originally an area of light manufacturing.

Scottsdale also wants to retain the Airpark's economic health and reputation as a hub of high-paying jobs at thousands of businesses.

With nearly 50,000 employees, the Airpark is one of Arizona's largest employment centers.

Planning will kick off in May with public workshops aimed at setting a vision for the airpark. After the workshops, focus groups will zero in on topics such as transportation and green building.

Arizona State University's School of Design will help with the update, using its Decision Theater three-dimensional modeling program to show how buildings in the Airpark might change under new policies.