

**The Bentley Plan  
For The Future Of Desert Hot Springs  
Part 2 of 3**

**QUALITY OF LIFE** – I have lived here 32-years and I love Desert Hot Springs with all my heart. I am personally committed to protecting our natural resources. I support appropriate commercial development, as well as more parks, hiking trails, bike paths, and open space. We should promote wholesome family activities and public events for the people of Desert Hot Springs. Neighbor meeting neighbor builds a sense of community between individuals and enhances our quality of life.



Our community needs to be integrated and well planned from the start. I will never compromise the quality of life of the people of Desert Hot Springs. I recently opposed the City Manager Rick Daniels who advocates putting a prison in our community. This is selling out our community. To have a prison in our community amounts to throwing in the towel on the bright future of everyone here who dreams for success. Game over. Property values would instantly plummet. We can see the many costs not just to us but also to our children. We would be permanently marked. Always to be known as “Desert Hot Springs, the place with the prison”. We can do better than that. You deserve better than that.

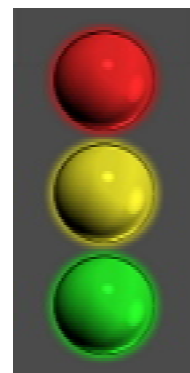
I have not seen the City Manager promoting his plan for a prison in Desert Hot Springs since I spoke out against it a few months ago. I believe it is obvious that he intends to shove this down the throats of the people of Desert Hot Springs after the election. By speaking out I put a stop to it until after the election. When I spoke out I told him that he can make fun of me by saying “not in my back yard” if he wants. I told him that when it comes to a prison in Desert Hot Springs “Not in my back yard, I’m not afraid to say it. Not in my back yard”.

There are a lot of people hurting in my town. As for myself, I focus on the fundamental dignity and humanity of people rather than the indignity and inhumanity of human suffering. I firmly believe in the inner strength of the individual. I believe in the absolute right and responsibility of self-determination, to carve out your own future. Kindness should guide our every action; neighbor helping neighbor. But, neighbor helping neighbor should never be forced. We, as individuals, should be the one to decide whether and to whom we will give help. Only you can know if you have enough to give.

The Desert Hot Springs where I grew up was and is a place of generous people who don't have a lot to give. This is the reality. Some of the most generous people in Desert Hot Springs don't have enough for themselves. But they see someone they can help, and it makes them feel good to give and really make a difference. When we respond to actual needs we make the most of our little resources. I believe that only you can decide if you have enough to give. I believe that you can decide best where your resources will do the most good. Only you can decide what real world problems are important to you. You decide what makes you happy.

**IMPROVE PUBLIC SAFETY** – Our public safety problems are a direct result of corruption on the City Council. The City Council has been borrowing and wasting tens of millions of dollars on corrupt land deals, handing their buddies your money and creating a \$3 Million a year hole in the city budget even after the recent 40% tax increase.

My hometown, Desert Hot Springs, used to be a quiet, peaceful community. The developers brought us many big town problems and to this day refuse to pay their way. With the help of corrupt City Council Members, over just the past few years they created the dense population of very low income and extremely low



income people in our city through their get rich quick “redevelopment” schemes. The city’s Redevelopment Agency continues to borrow tens of millions of dollars more, each time obligating the city to develop more very low income and extremely low income housing.

An important feature of redevelopment funds is that they can’t be used for public safety. The law prohibits this use. In spite of this I have heard City Manager Rick Daniels, Yvonne Parks, Scott Matas, Hank Hohenstein, Mary Stephens, Al Schmidt, and their buddies assert falsely many times that redevelopment funds can be used for public safety. This is another deliberate lie. A lie that is not hard to fact check if you are interested. This is well known flim-flam to anyone who knows about California Redevelopment Law.

Traditional, proven police techniques should always be used. Visible police patrols, fast response times, thorough investigation and follow up are among the basic areas we can improve immediately with no additional tax money. I suggest focusing on the basics of policing because it provides the foundation upon which we can build specific solutions to our unique problems. Desert Hot Springs is like other cities, but is unique in many ways. If we build a foundation of traditional, proven police techniques, adapting them to our situation we can build an atmosphere of safety without making visitors and the good people of Desert Hot Springs feel like they are under siege with constant crime and police activity that never abates. Desert Hot Springs must create a comfortable atmosphere if we are to live up to our potential. It is essential. I can’t overstate how important it is. We need a safe Desert Hot Springs. You deserve the piece of mind for which you have paid. You deserve a safe Desert Hot Springs.



Police, fire, animal control, code enforcement, emergency medical response, emergency planning and management are issues of the highest priority. I am a strong supporter of high quality hospital facilities with top-notch care – we deserve it. Stop the dumping of sexual predators and other violent criminals in our community. We have more than our share and that is unacceptable to me.

For many years I have been calling for appropriate traffic controls on Hacienda at Tamar, and Palm Drive at Vista Montana. Since I have been calling for traffic controls at these specific locations one young girl was struck and killed by a hit and run driver about 100 yards past where the traffic control should be on Palm Drive; more recently a man was struck on Hacienda at Tamar by a car driven by an intoxicated man driving with a suspended driver’s license, going 70 mph, who crossed the yellow line to strike the victim. It was not random chance that I identified these two spots as particularly dangerous. Elections have consequences. These are serious issues that should be carefully considered. There are no disposable people.

Your issues are my priorities. Sidewalks save lives. Stop speeders and deadly street racing. I have supported more sidewalks and streetlights where people want them for many years.

I have received numerous Certificates of Achievement from the Department of Homeland Security (Leadership, Emergency Planning, Emergency Management, etc.) It is important that we keep an up to date emergency plan.

Public safety is the key to a brighter future. We should give the police what they need to do the job. With safe streets our brightest future becomes possible. Together we can make our town a safer place to grow a family. Making Desert Hot Springs a place where you can feel safe anywhere anytime.

**NEW BUSINESSES & JOBS** – By focusing on the traditional responsibilities of city government, starting with public safety, we will create an atmosphere where people are willing to invest in our city because potential customers will feel comfortable visiting or moving here. If we don’t attend to these responsibilities people will not invest in our city because people



will find places to invest where the local government has attended to its responsibilities. Increasing public safety with more police patrols and a more visible police presence will improve our opportunities to attract needed commercial development.

Only when the traditional responsibilities of government are being handled well should we have a discussion of whether it is wise to expand government in new ways. Focusing on the basics is not viewed as glamorous, but it is essential to success. Stability is good for business.

Desert Hot Springs is "The Spa City". Our town should be a place where nice people from all over the world come to enjoy all we have to offer. Happy visitors feel satisfied with what they get for their dollar. They are so happy that they gladly leave their dollars here. They leave a lot of those dollars here. They are so happy that they go home and tell their friends how they feel so very welcome in Desert Hot Springs. How they feel almost at home here. They tell everyone that they want to come back and they do. Their friends are so inspired to come to Desert Hot Springs that they come and tell their friends, and so on, and so on...

This is a chain reaction that we can spark through public/private partnerships; working together to make Desert Hot Springs a place people want to come to spend some of their hard earned cash because they get real value here. We have incomparable air, water, and views. Let's get together and make this town really attractive to our visitors. None of us can do it alone. Make no mistake about it. It will take hard work. But sharing the load makes it easier for all, and promotes a sense that our part counts, and that our efforts will really amount to something.

Bentley means business. We should market and promote our wonderful city internationally, as I have done with my business [www.ILoveDHS.com](http://www.ILoveDHS.com) Apparel & Gifts, where I sell items promoting Desert Hot Springs internationally as a health spa and resort destination, with upbeat design that celebrates our city and promotes Desert Hot Springs pride.

Matas and Parks voted to increase the new business license fee by 478%. We should roll back the business license fee increase to promote the seeds of entrepreneurship and small business that lead to real economic development, from the bottom up. After all, every business that has ever been, started as the vision of a single individual.

Attending to the traditional responsibilities of government promotes real economic development. In the process we should be respectful of the current businesses in Desert Hot Springs. A stable fair playing field for business is best. Our local business people have served us well and probably know better how to be successful here. It makes more sense to an investor to back a proven winner. Therefore, I believe that the City Council should let the local businesses and investors know that we won't suddenly pull the rug out from under our local businesses.