

Good morning everyone,

Reminder: see <http://www.lowell.edu/local-updates> for the latest documents as well as the text of all the previous biweekly updates.

### **Section 17 & Astronomy Discovery Center**

Normally I would sent this week's update this coming Wednesday, but I needed to send it early to make sure you know about our agenda item on the City Council meeting tomorrow, Tuesday, February 2. The link is here:

[http://cityweb.flagstaffaz.gov/agendaquick/agenda\\_publish.cfm?id=&mt=ALL&get\\_month=1&get\\_year=2021&dsp=ag&seq=1208](http://cityweb.flagstaffaz.gov/agendaquick/agenda_publish.cfm?id=&mt=ALL&get_month=1&get_year=2021&dsp=ag&seq=1208)

I, our Trustee Lowell Putnam, and our consultant Bob Holmes will be giving Council an overview of the section and the proposed legislation in an updated version of the neighborhood meeting presentation from last fall. We have still not developed or submitted any language for a revised bill, as we expect our discussion with Council to inform some of it. The meeting starts virtually at 3:00 PM and we are item 10C.

### **Lowell operational status**

- No change while we wait for Covid numbers to come down and hope that the variants don't take off in another big wave.
- We've had increasingly rowdy snowplay at the Mars Hill overlook and on our property, as well as sledders and snowboarders careening past traffic down the road itself when it is sufficiently icy. Yesterday was especially chaotic, and the situation became dangerous when one of our staff asked sledders to leave our residences' yards and the trespassers became hostile. Beginning this week, we will engage Southwest Protective Services to maintain a presence at the overlook starting at 9:00 AM on Saturdays and Sundays until the snow melts. They will permit recreational enjoyment of the view, but snowplay and excessive crowding will not be allowed.

I hope everyone has a good week.

Jeff Hall  
Director  
Lowell Observatory