

AUG 03 2005

Received

1 Aug, 2005

Sir,

From 15 of us at coffee
on the morning,

you dont need a P.H.D to
see that either the Fort or City
much stop this now before we
do run out of water.

Wish I had the money to
take them to court sir.

Thanks for yesterday
David Shepherd
AS

PS: Not the Fort Sir, only
the County + City, are chambers
money, money + more money they
know the Fort will not close,

*You can see the County + City down the Fort Huachuca to here to stay and or
not afraid of the B.R.A. any longer in this round of flames. Thanks*

SUNDAY JULY 31, 2005

*Either the Fort or the City much
and back are*

WATCHING THE SAN PEDRO RIVER

HERALD/REVIEW A9

Numbers show Sierra Vista issuing more home permits

These people living in a different world? I guess

BY BILL HESS
HERALD/REVIEW

SIERRA VISTA -- One wonders, if Shakespeare was alive today and he was writing about local development issues if his great soliloquy in Hamlet would start "To grow, or not to grow: that is the question."

Some environmentalist would say not to grow. By growing, they say, the San Pedro River would no longer be.

Others believe growth is not only inevitable, but desirable, and growth and being are not mutually exclusive.

For people such as Dr. Robin Silver, chairman of the Biological Diversity Center's board and a long-

time critic of growth in the Sierra Vista Subwatershed, development should be stopped immediately.

Sierra Vista Community Development Director Jim Herrewig said that if all the undeveloped properties were to suddenly be built 20,175 houses could go up based on the city's current ordinances. The number includes homes being built on state trust lands within the Sierra Vista city limits, but only if a developer was successful in obtaining the property.

Since Jan. 1, 1999, through the end of June, 3,104 building permits for single-family and manufactured homes have been issued, Herrewig said.

During the past few years, the average housing permits issued have been about 450 a year.

Based on the figures he provided, in 2004, 718 permits were issued. In 2003, 628 given out. In 2002, there were 408 provided. In 2001, the city's total was 311. In 2000, 315 were issued, and 309 were issued in 1999.

For the first six months of this year, 420 housing permits have been issued.

Sierra Vista is working with Castle and Cooke on a development proposal that could eventually put up about 8,500 housing roofs.

Mark Apel, senior planner with the Cochise County Planning and Zoning Department, said 1,989 resi-

dential permits have been issued since Jan. 1, 1999, through June 30 of this year.

For the 6½-year period, 29 new housing permits were issued in Bigbee. Figures for Huachuca City and Tombstone were unavailable.

Bob Strain, Sierra Vista mayor pro tem and chairman of the Upper San Pedro Partnership, said he understands people's concerns when it comes to water use that could have a detrimental impact on the San Pedro River.

The city and the county departments involved in planning and zoning are working together to find more ways to write water conservation ordinances, he said.

The partnership's Technical Committee experts are looking into the most recent problems with water flow in the river, especially the recent lack of water flow by the Charleston gauge, Strain said.

Agreeing "it's time we do something," he said he disagrees with people who believe Sierra Vista is over built.

Those who want more water conservation are going to have to convince others so "the political bodies know they have support," Strain said.

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