

Sports facility in Fiesta district? We can only hope

The recently proposed plan to turn the Fiesta District - the area along Southern Avenue between Dobson and [Alma School](#)

roads - into a sports facility with mid-sized venues would be a godsend for the AIA.

Some of the current venues used to host tournaments or [state championship games](#) are simply too big. One example: Monday's girls' basketball game between Xavier and St. Mary's was played before a few hundred fans - and thousands of empty seats - at [Wells Fargo Arena](#). As you might imagine, the atmosphere was lacking.

That's why the Fiesta District plan is so appealing. Imagine tonight's boys' game between Mesa and Mesa Mountain View in a 5,000 seat indoor arena. It would be noisy and crowded and everything a [basketball](#) building should be.

And a 15,000-20,000 seat outdoor stadium would be perfect for state championship football games rather than the cavernous University of Phoenix stadium.

Will it happen? I wouldn't count on it. Such a plan requires a lot of money, money the city of Mesa doesn't have.

But if a shovel ever does hit the ground, [high school sports](#)

in the Valley will be the better for it.

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