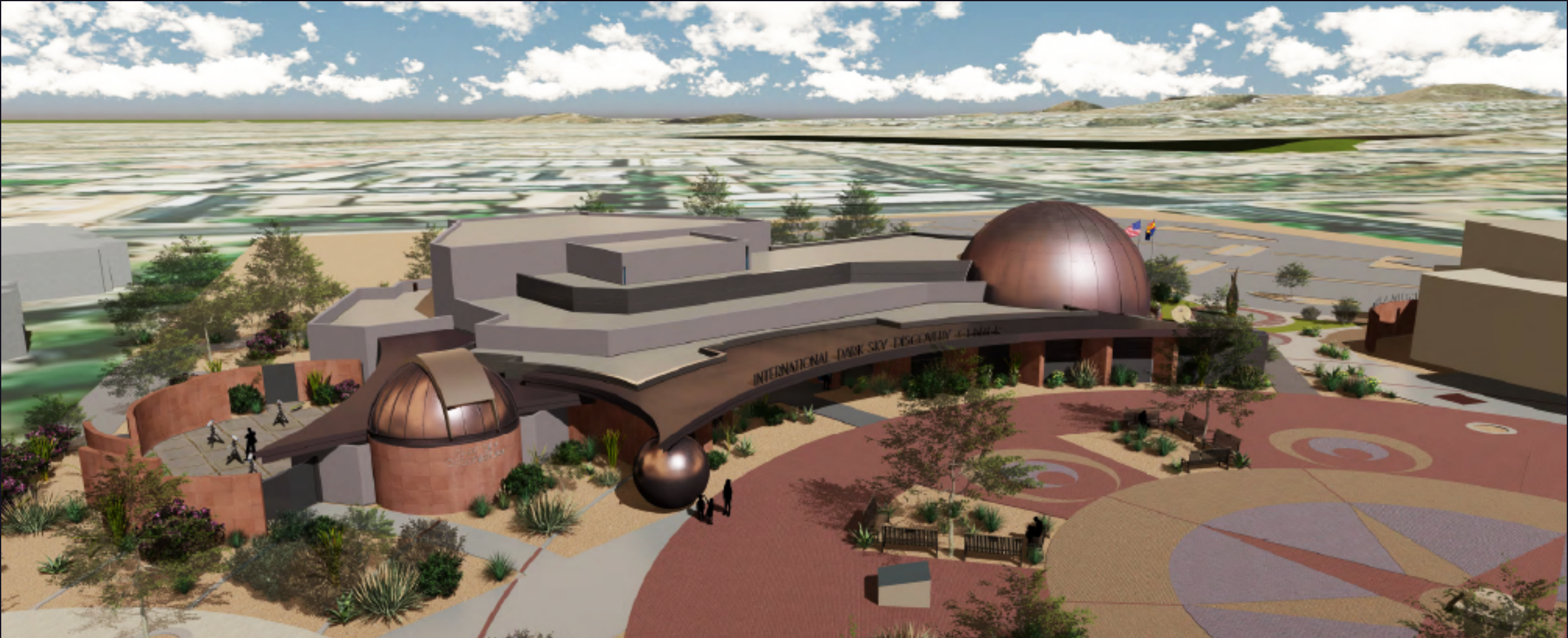


INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY DISCOVERY CENTER



IDSDC Overview & Highlights

- 23,000 ft² first-of-its-kind STEM facility, and located in the Town's Civic Center complex
 - Dark Sky Observatory
 - Hyperspace Planetarium
 - Inspiration Theater
 - Night Sky Exhibit Hall
 - Einstein Exploration Station
- Partnership opportunities with ASU, community colleges and high schools
- Wide range of uses: lectures, research, tours, star parties, receptions, etc.
- Designed by Swaback, Phase I built by McCarthy, Phase II pending

Key Historical Dates

2015 – Fountain Hills Dark Sky Association formed

2016 – Town Council unanimously approved updated lighting ordinance

2017 – Fulfilled DSI requirements for dark sky designation

January 8, 2018 – Fountain Hills recognized as the world's 17th Dark Sky Community

2019 – IDSDC Board formed

2022 – Town approved site plan and elevations

April 8, 2024 – IDSDC groundbreaking ceremony

July 8, 2024 – McCarthy begins construction

July 11, 2025 – McCarthy completed Phase I



Current Status & Next Steps

Fundraising

- \$28MM of \$30MM raised

Phase II Construction (2/3 of interior)

- Swaback Design Completion – Jan. 2026
- McCarthy bidding process – Jan/Feb 2026
- Phase 2 construction to start in March or April
- Anticipated build time: ~ 6 months
- Anticipated opening: Q4 2026

