

Ahwatukee group opens battle over freeway path

Residents urged to give time,
money to oppose Loop 202 leg

By J. CRAIG ANDERSON

FRONT PAGE

TRIBUNE

Opponents of a planned freeway in Ahwatukee Foothills urged hundreds of residents to give time and money to their cause Saturday.

The grass-roots organization Protecting Arizona's Resources and Children used its first public meeting to recruit volunteers and collect donations for an anticipated lawsuit to stop the South Mountain Freeway leg of Loop 202 from passing along the community's southern edge.

"It's not a spectator sport," the group's founder and president Melanie Pai told a packed audience at the Pecos Community Center. "We'll need the support of the community to effect change."

Pai asked attendees to donate \$100 each or \$250 per family to pay for the group's lawyer, environmental experts and other costs associated with fighting the freeway's proposed alignment.
