

429.9 Pima County Neighborhood Reinvestment Program

Purpose

The purpose of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Program is to foster healthy communities throughout Pima County. "A community is only as healthy as its most stressed neighborhood, and likewise, a neighborhood is only as healthy as its most vulnerable resident." Consequently, it is believed that reinvesting in the most stressed neighborhoods with new community amenities, and public infrastructure will have immediate benefits for their residents and will reduce the negative social impacts - poverty, crime, violence, and drug and alcohol abuse – characteristic of stressed areas. All residents of the greater community will benefit from a healthier social environment and reduced costs for protection.

Implementation Procedures and Principles

1. The 2015 Reinvestment program shall expand upon the 2004 program by funding programs in high stress areas in the urban core and stress areas in the suburban fringe as well as the rural areas.
2. For the 2015 Neighborhood Reinvestment program, the funding limit shall be set at \$500,000 per neighborhood project and \$750,000 for community buildings. Many projects will require a smaller grant and the program will encourage small projects initiated by the neighborhoods. The program will encourage leveraging County bond funds with other revenues to accomplish projects. The average cost of 2004 Neighborhood Reinvestment projects was \$341,528, not including matching funds from participating jurisdictions. Based on post survey information from the neighborhoods that received 2004 bond funds, additional infrastructure improvements would be beneficial.
3. The Neighborhood Reinvestment Program shall continue to be neighborhood or community driven, with projects originating with residents acting in concert to achieve community goals. Reinvestment Program staff will work closely on implementation with local jurisdictions, but all applications shall be submitted by the benefitting neighborhood directly and on its own behalf.
4. The Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee will continue in place, to guide implementation of the neighborhood reinvestment program. Projects will be evaluated by the Oversight Committee, which will forward recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The Board has final authority for approving grants.
5. The Board of Supervisors shall continue to appoint members of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Oversight Committee, one appointee per Supervisor.
6. Participating jurisdictions must designate a staff person at the senior management level, preferably in the manager's office, to be responsible for departmental and legal review of Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA), and IGA approvals by the governing body.
7. IGAs with participating jurisdictions must require projects to be completed within two years of the execution of the IGA.

Specific Program Details

Location: Stressed neighborhoods and communities in Pima County. Stress is determined by a combination of sources and factors including but not limited to City of Tucson Neighborhood Stress Map and Pima County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Target Areas.

Scope: Small scale capital improvement projects developed in stressed neighborhoods and communities throughout Pima County, including but not limited to street lights, sidewalks, park improvements, community centers, speed humps, and traffic mitigation devices. Unlike other bond projects with specific earmarks for identified projects, the bond funds support the Neighborhood Reinvestment program, with established criteria for eligible projects and a process for project selection.

Benefits: The Neighborhood Reinvestment program pursues two goals: physical revitalization of public infrastructure in stressed communities and empowerment of area residents. There are at least 35 identified stressed neighborhoods and communities in Pima County which have not yet applied for Neighborhood Reinvestment funding. Many of these neighborhoods and communities are in the unincorporated portion of Pima County, which were not eligible for 1997 Neighborhood Reinvestment funding. In addition, every one of the 56 2004 Neighborhood Reinvestment bond recipient neighborhoods has asked when they can submit a second proposal for additional infrastructure improvements, describing erosion of streets, parks, and other public amenities, in addition to absence of recreational facilities, street lighting, and accessible sidewalks.

Total Cost Estimate: \$25,000,000

Bond Funding Estimate: \$25,000,000

Other Funding Estimate: None identified at this time. However, as each project is developed by neighborhood residents, it is incumbent upon the residents to identify other sources of funds for larger scale projects. The 1997 and 2004 Neighborhood Reinvestment projects have obtained supplemental funding from Pima County CDBG, State Department of Transportation Enhancement grants, City of Tucson CDBG, and Tucson Back to Basics grants. The 1997 and 2004 Neighborhood Reinvestment projects leveraged \$15.7 million of other funding.

Total Cost Estimate by Major Task: Planning and design at \$5,000,000, construction at \$20,000,000

Implementation Periods: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Project Schedule by Major Task: Per project average - planning and design at 12 months, construction at 12-18 months after project approval by the Board of Supervisors

Project Manager: A project coordinator from Pima County is responsible for the overall management of each project approved by the Board of Supervisors, including but not limited to establishing intergovernmental agreements with each participating jurisdiction. The project design and construction management is determined in consultation with the participating jurisdiction. It is anticipated that projects will be developed in the City of Tucson, the City of South Tucson, the Town of Marana and unincorporated Pima County.

Operator: Pima County and participating jurisdictions

Future Operating and Maintenance Costs: Estimates of operating and maintenance costs per project cannot be determined until projects are proposed, as the project type significantly impacts the operating and maintenance costs.

Regional Benefits: Neighborhood Reinvestment projects benefit neighborhoods and communities throughout incorporated and unincorporated Pima County. While individual projects are specific to an identified community, the overall program is based on a regional approach and the improvement in the quality of life throughout the urban, suburban and rural areas of Pima County.