



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
OF THE  
PIMA COUNTY  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**



Notice is hereby given to the Members of the Pima County Board of Supervisors and to the general public that the **Pima County Parks and Recreation Commission** will hold a meeting, open to the public on **Friday, April 1, 2011, at 9:00 a.m.** pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02 in the **Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation first floor conference room, 3500 West River Road, Tucson, Arizona (877-6000).**

NOTE: As of the posting date of March 30, 2011, no executive session item has been placed on the regular agenda. However, this is subject to an addendum.

Public comment will be taken. Members of the Pima County Parks and Recreation Commission will attend either in person or by telephone conference call. The Commission will discuss and may take action on the following agenda items.

**AGENDA**

(The order of the agenda may be changed to accommodate public comment.)

- A. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL
- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- C. CONSENT AGENDA: For consideration and approval
  - 1. Action: Approval of March 11, 2011 Minutes
- D. COMMISSION DISCUSSION/ACTION REQUEST
  - 1. Update Presentation: *Corazon de los Tres Rios del Norte Project* (Suzanne Shields, Director, Regional Flood Control District)
  - 2. Update Presentation: Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail in Pima County (Roger Anyon, Project Manager, Office of Sustainability and Conservation)
  - 3. Bond Update: (Nicole Fyffe, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator)
    - a. Future bond election planning process
    - b. Bond Advisory Committee Appointments
    - c. Re-evaluation of current parks bond projects

4. Update Presentation: Urban Loop Trail and Loop Links  
(Nancy Cole, Project Manager, Project Management Office)
5. Naming/Renaming Parks, Facilities, and Open Space Procedure  
(Joe Barr/Peter Chesson)

Proposed revisions to the procedure will be presented to the commission for review and possible action.

6. BAJA/Canoa Preserves Softball Complex (Greg Hagen/Charles Catino)
7. Action: Proposed Adjustments to Archery Hunting Closure in Tucson Mountain Park

The Commission will be provided with a presentation on the cooperative effort of the Arizona Game and Fish Department and NRPR to review and augment the current archery hunting closures in Tucson Mountain Park.

Staff recommends that the Commission make a motion to approve the modified Tucson Mountain Park archery hunting closures as presented and the corresponding park rule changes. The package will be sent to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

8. Relocation of Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings in May, June, and July 2011 (Joe Barr)
9. Commissioner's Report (Announcement of Past and Future Events)
  - a. Beat Cancer Boot Camp (Anita Kellman)

E. DIVISION UPDATE REPORTS: Division Managers will report their recent activities related to the Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department. This item will be informational only and action on these items is not requested, but may be pursued subject to the Commission's direction. If further discussion is necessary, those items requiring discussion may be placed on a future Commission meeting agenda.

1. Development (Carlo DiPilato – No Report)
2. GeoMedia (Joy Mehulka – No Report)
3. Natural Resources (Kerry Baldwin)

- a. Open Space Land Acquisition:

A donation is being process of 18 acres adjacent to Tucson Mountain Park up near the towers on the ridge of the Mountains.

The final transfer of approximately 11,000 acres of State grazing leases for Sopori Ranch has been processed.

Pima County is monitoring activity on reopening efforts on a mine adjacent to our Oracle ridge Mine property on the back side of the Catalina Mountains. The county will issue a Right-of-entry to do initial biological survey work. Prior to county ownership, the Oracle Ridge properties had both a haul road and pipelines for tailings from the mine crossing the property. Future discussions will determine if such uses will be allowed in the future

b. Open Space Resource Management

**Solar conversion for the A7 ranch residences is complete. System is on line and total project cost is approximately \$170,000 (more than \$50,000 under original estimates).**

Pima County has helped develop a \$775,000 grant proposal to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation on grasslands and pronghorn habitat enhancements in southeastern AZ. Pima County has put up \$500,000 of in kind match based on acquisition of Sands and Clyne ranches for the project.

Over 100 Weedwacker volunteers spent over 470 hours last month on projects coordinated by Weedwacker volunteer coordinator Marilyn Hanson.

Drought conditions are setting in across the ranches again.

Wildlife use is being monitored at two new year-round waters on ranches as warm season begins.

Staff has been doing systematic surveys of county lands for bat habitat and other unique biological features as baseline monitoring activity.

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Additional ongoing enhancement projects, planning and survey work on the ranches include:

- Semi-annual range monitoring scheduling for 2011
- Additional review of water use efficiency on A7 Ranch irrigated pastures ongoing with NRCS and recommendations for improved irrigation system design and use patterns. A proposal for cooperative management has been submitted by adjacent landowner to cost share plantings and irrigation costs.
- Post and cable barriers were reinstalled in Davidson Canyon to limit illegal OHV use on Bar V Ranch.
- Planning for a \$75,000 watershed restoration project in Altar Valley next winter are underway using grant funds.
- Generated project scope and cost estimated for USFGW Partners in Wildlife grant proposal for \$40,000. Received notice of cooperative wildlife water project on Hayhook ranch with Arizona Game and Fish was funded by habitat Partnership program for FY 11/12.
- Monthly water quality samples and use recordings were completed on open space property wells

c. Invasive Species/Buflegrass

NRPR is waiting word on a \$3.4 million dollar grant to FEMA for buffelgrass control efforts at Tucson International Airport and the County complex of Mission Road. Grant is in final review process in Washington and passed out of the Arizona review as number 2 rated project.

Pima County supported a grant proposal of US Forest Service for BG control project along Catalina Highway presented to the Forest Service local Resources Advisory Committee.

Planning for the summer 2011 control season is underway. Reduced funding in NRPR base budgets will mean fewer acres and miles of road will be possible to treat without an infusion of external funding. Current estimates in reductions are in the neighborhood of 40%.

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d. Environmental Education-

Over the past winter the EE group held 9 presentations at TMP campground for public. Over 150 participants attended the sessions. They also did 4 star gazing events at Ironwood campground.

The program via parklands Foundation received a donation in honor of Ellen Susan Pinnas of two custom exhibit cases to display artifacts from excavations at Agua Caliente Park and Whiptail site in the AC Park Ranch house.

e. NR Parks-

The Agua Caliente spring is currently at about 26 gallons per minute. Water is temporarily getting back to pond two through the Pond one over flow system. As part of the ongoing water management in pond one, invasive cattails were burned back in mid February to reduce their volume and transpiration during in coming summer months.

NRPR hosted a second public Open House March 25th on proposed changes to the archery hunting closure areas in Tucson Mountain Park. Arizona Game and Fish and NRPR have been working on a proposal to update closure areas based on local resident concerns and to minimize current and future conflicts between hunters and adjacent property owners. The current proposal integrates public comments from an earlier Open House and concerns expressed by the University of Arizona and National Park Service. That proposal will be presented to the Park Commission this month.

Tucson Mountain Park hosted another seven educational groups during the past month as well as hosting the 600 plus riders of the Tucson Bike Classic on McCain Loop.

#### **4. Operations (George Kuck)**

- a. Flowing Wells Park-Kory Laos Memorial BMX Facility: Scott Laos and his volunteers along with Granite Construction volunteered their services over the weekend of March 19 and 20 starting construction of the dirt BMX tracks.
- b. George Mehl Family Foothills Park: The new CIP park improvements were dedicated on March 19 at the opening ceremony for the Canyon View Little League. Supervisors Ann Day and Ray Carroll were present along with County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry.
- c. The LDS Church volunteered to undertake landscaping and site clean-up at the main office park on March 19 and had over 100 volunteers; on Saturday, March 26, over 20 volunteers helped at Denny Dunn Park.

## 5. Planning (Steve Anderson)

- a. Arizona Trail: Pima County's 30-mile segment of the Arizona Trail is nearing completion. It is anticipated that the project will be completed after the final scheduled volunteer effort executes the trail section north of Cienega Creek.
- b. Harrison Greenway: The Harrison Greenway is making excellent progress in its effort to fill in for the Houghton Greenway as the eastern leg of the Urban Loop. The trail's plan will be submitted for review by the County Administrator in about four to six weeks.
- c. Davidson Canyon-Gaze Zimmerman Trailhead: The redesign of the trail is nearing completion. The scope include: a rock wall with the new name of the trailhead; an area where the names of the January 8, 2011 victims will be recognized; and a special memorial area for Gabe Zimmerman. The trailhead project should be completed by November 1, 2011, with a formal dedication ceremony shortly thereafter.

## 6. Recreation (Joe Barr – No Report)

### F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)

### H. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Members of the Commission may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on today's agenda. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, responding to any criticism, or scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

### G. ADJOURNMENT

**Posted this 30th day of March, 2011.**

Pima County does not discriminate based on a disability regarding admission to public meetings. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation (such as large print agenda material) by contacting Gregoria Tucker or Ann Khambholja at 877-6000. Requests should be made at least 24 hours in advance to allow time to arrange the accommodation.