



MEMORANDUM

Date: August 8, 2022

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner 
County Administrator

Re: **Water Working Group**

Water scarcity and degradation is and shall continue to be a significant challenge in Pima County. The Board of Supervisors – our policymakers – will be addressing numerous issues related to storage, conveyance, cost and treatment infrastructure. Our job as staff is to provide policy and procedural recommendations for their consideration. To develop a strategic plan for the Board’s review and possible action and to ensure there is a knowledge group of County employees to whom water related issues can be directed with confidence, I am establishing a Water Working Group (WWG) composed of representatives from across the County. This is not intended to replace or detract from the Growing Water Smart team. How the two groups may work together or combine efforts will be determined as the WWG begins to meet.

Initial members of the Water Working Group shall be:

- Carla Blackwell
- Kathy Chavez
- Carmine DeBonis, Jr.
- Barbara Escobar
- Jackson Jenkins
- Lisa Josker
- Yves Khawam, Convener
- Linda Mayro
- Victor Pereira
- Suzanne Shields

Dr. Khawam will serve as the Convener of the WWG and Mr. DeBonis, Jr. will provide necessary coordination with the Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator’s Office.

The first task of the Group will be to:

- Identify and recommend any other County employees who should be added to the WWG;
- Prepare a work plan or outline; and
- Formalize a meeting schedule.

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Please contact Dr. Khawam at Yves.Khawam@pima.gov if you or members of your staff would like to be made aware of the WWG's deliberations and/or attend WWG meetings.

JKL/anc

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator and Chief Medical Officer
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Yves Khawam, PhD, Senior Advisor
Monica Perez, Chief of Staff, County Administrator's Office
Carla Blackwell, Director, Development Services
Barbara Escobar, Director, Environmental Quality
Jackson Jenkins, Director, Regional Wastewater Reclamation
Lisa Josker, Director, Facilities Management
Linda Mayro, Director, Office of Sustainability and Conservation
Victor Pereira, Director, Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation
Suzanne Shields, Director, Regional Flood Control District
Kathy Chavez, Water Policy Manager, Office of Sustainability and Conservation