



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
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C.H. HUCKELBERRY
County Administrator

February 16, 2017

Mr. Michael Racy
Racy Associates, Inc.
535 W. Burton Drive
Tucson, Arizona 85704

Re: **Senate Bill (SB) 1149 Related to "Community Engagement" Districts**

Dear Mr. Racy:

As you know, approximately 10 years ago, the Arizona Legislature approved legislation intended to attract more Major League Baseball (MLB) teams from Florida for Spring Training. The unintended consequence of this legislation created incentives for the Arizona Diamondbacks, Chicago White Sox and Colorado Rockies to relocate from Spring Training facilities in Pima County to facilities in the Phoenix Metro area or Maricopa County. This legislation effectively killed MLB Spring Training in Pima County, something that had been a fixture of the community since the 1950s.

The Kino Sports Complex (KSC) was specifically built for the Chicago White Sox and the Arizona Diamondbacks. The County's Stadium District also contributed significant sums to the remodeling and expansion of Hi-Corbett Field for the Colorado Rockies. We have now begun to recover from these losses of nearly a decade ago. Today, KSC hosts professional Korean and Mexican baseball leagues for Spring Training and National Collegiate Athletic Association Division 2 Baseball Spring Training camps. In addition, the facilities are home to professional Major League Soccer activities. The KSC is proposed to be expanded south of Interstate 10 (I-10) with the development of a major soccer complex to complement the baseball complex north of I-10. The cost of this facility is approximately \$55 million and will become a major attractor for professional and amateur sporting events in the Southwest.

Because of this and the unintended consequence of previous legislation that caused Pima County to lose our three MLB Spring Training teams to Maricopa County, I ask that you pursue SB 1149 to ensure it would make the KSC facilities eligible for inclusion in a Community Engagement District. Our circumstances may be different from those in the

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Phoenix Metro area or Maricopa County and may require modification to fit our specific circumstances. This seems to be an opportunity to help our community offset the unintended harm resulting from previous legislation regarding MLB Spring Training.

Attached for your information and use is a conceptual site plan, as well as project renderings, illustrating the extent of proposed capital improvements south of I-10 and the KSC that would qualify as a Community Engagement District.

Sincerely,



C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

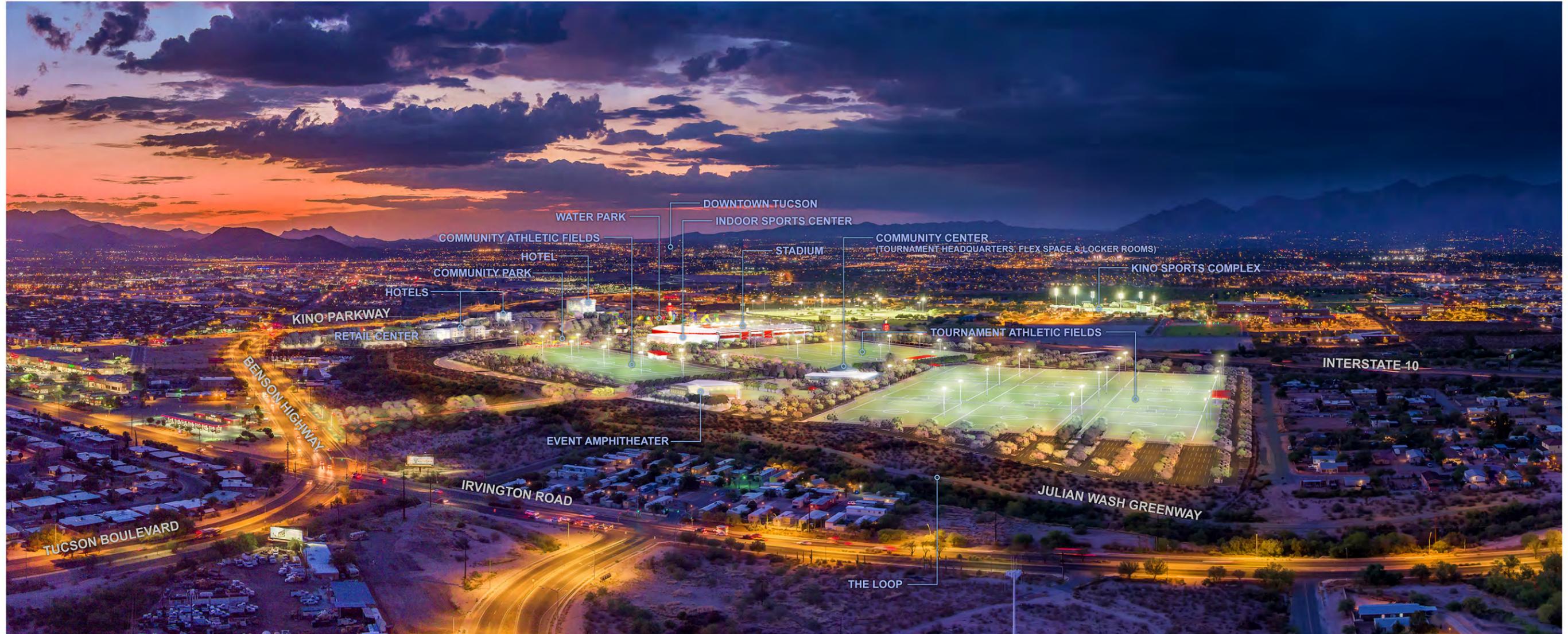
CHH/anc

Attachments

c: The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors







KINO SOUTH



LEGEND

- PROJECT BOUNDARY
- THE LOOP MULTI-USE PATH
- OWNERSHIP BOUNDARY

KEY

- 1 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 12,000 SF
- 2 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 8,000 SF
- 3 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 20,000 SF
- 4 DRIVE-THRU RESTAURANT: 5,000 SF
- 5 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 5,000 SF
- 6 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 16,000 SF
- 7 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 5,000 SF
- 8 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 5,000 SF
- 9 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 5,000 SF
- 10 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 5,000 SF
- 11 DRIVE-THRU RESTAURANT: 5,000 SF
- 12 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 16,000 SF
- 13 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 24,000 SF
- 14 RETAIL/RESTAURANT: 12,000 SF
- 15 HOSPITALITY: 80,000 SF (110 ROOMS, 4 STORIES)
- 16 HOSPITALITY: 70,000 SF (130 ROOMS, 6 STORIES)
- 17 HOSPITALITY: 165,000 SF (260 ROOMS, 7 STORIES)
- 18 WATER PARK: APPROX 10 ACRES
- 19 SCOREBOARD TERRACE AND JUMBOTRON
- 20 STADIUM: 10,000 SEATS
- 21 STADIUM PLAZA
- 22 EVENT DAY VENDER KIOSKS
- 23 EVENT PROMENADE
- 24 TAILGATING LAWN
- 25 INDOOR SPORTS CENTER: 50,000 SF
- 26 COMMUNITY PARK (SPLASH PAD AND PLAY GROUNDS)
- 27 PARK RAMADA
- 28 PARK BATHROOM
- 29 COMMUNITY ATHLETIC FIELDS (ARTIFICIAL TURF)
- 30 TOURNAMENT ATHLETIC FIELDS (NATURAL TURF)
- 31 PASEO DEPORTIVO
- 32 TOURNAMENT BATHROOMS AND PATIOS
- 33 COMMUNITY CENTER (FLEX SPACE AND LOCKER ROOMS)
- 34 AWARDS PLAZA
- 35 EVENT AMPHITHEATER: 5,000 CAPACITY
- 36 THE LOOP (MULT-USE PATH)
- 37 MAINTENANCE FACILITY AND YARD: 1 ACRE