



Board of Supervisors Memorandum

December 4, 2018

Partnership Certification Agreement National Park Service

In October 1775, the Juan Bautista de Anza Expedition passed through what is now Pima County, following the Santa Cruz River as it traveled northward from Tubac towards the Gila River. Under the command of Captain Juan Bautista de Anza of the Spanish Imperial Army, the Expedition traveled over 1200 miles from Tubac to San Francisco, following the Santa Cruz and Gila Rivers to the Colorado River at Yuma from where they crossed into interior California. The colonizing Expedition was charged with establishing an overland route from northern Sonora to the missions of California, and establishing a settlement and Presidio on the southern side of the Golden Gate. In June 1776, the colonists arrived at the Golden Gate and began construction of the Presidio and settlement, the foundation of what is now the city of San Francisco.

The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, which runs through Pima County for some 70 miles along the Santa Cruz River, commemorates the route of this significant expedition.

Background

The Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail was established by an Act of the United States Congress in 1992 (Public Law 102-461). In 1996, the National Park Service completed a Comprehensive Management and Use Plan and Environmental Impact statement that provided the framework and guidelines for trail development. With the Congressional designation and Park Service Plan in place, Pima County included the establishment of the Anza National Historic Trail in its 1997 Historic Preservation bond program, which was subsequently approved by voters.

In addition, Pima County saw the opportunity provided by the National Park Service and a segment of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail was identified as an element of the Eastern Pima County Trail System Master Plan, which was approved by the Board of Supervisors in February 1998. Following this, the Master Plan for the Pima County Segment of the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, prepared by McGann and Associates for the County in collaboration with the National Park Service, was approved by the Board of Supervisors in December 2002 (BOS Resolution 2002-331). The National Park Service extended gratitude to the County for its work and noted that this Master Plan was the first such plan of its kind for any County along the 1200 mile trail through Arizona and California, and that the Plan would serve as a model for other counties to emulate.

Pima County voters approved bond funding for the Anza Trail in both the 1997 and 2004 bond elections for a total of \$4.5 million. These bond funds have resulted in the establishment of easements and rights of way for the construction of nearly 50 miles of Trail; a trailhead, and two shade ramadas on the County's Canoa Ranch; five additional

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trailheads - one in Green Valley (Abrego) , one in Sahuarita (Llano Grande) one in Tucson (Tuquison), one in Marana (La Puerta del Azotado), and one in northern unincorporated Pima County (Oit Pars) as well as interpretive signage at all these trailheads that include the known campsites of the 1775 Anza Expedition plus additional locations; and other improvements such as bridges, gates and protective fencing.

In addition, a Board of Supervisors approved Anza Trail Auto Route was established and signage was installed as an additional way of bringing the public's attention to the Anza Expedition. Bond funds were used as match for State Heritage, Transportation Enhancement, and National Park service grants that totaled over \$560,000. Additionally, the County Anza Trail project has been helped immensely by private donations of easements by Farmers Investment Company, a donation of land by Robson Properties in Sahuarita, and exchanges with the City of Tucson and 5KG properties for easements in northern unincorporated Pima County.

In all, 47 miles of Anza trail have been made available for public use along with trailheads and interpretive signage, and Anza Trail Auto Route signage has been placed along Mission and Silverbell Roads.

Benefits

The Anza Trail is available for public use. Use of the Trail is non-motorized and is available to pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians, each of which are important constituencies within the County. Use of the trail will promote health, recreational, and educational benefits to the public. The trail also adds to non-motorized connectivity within the County thus helping to achieve the County's sustainability goals. Use of the trail by heritage tourists will have a net positive economic impact to the County.

Recommendation

Certification of the Anza Trail in Pima County by the National Park Service is recognition that this County constructed trail meets national standards. Through the acknowledgement of Pima County's Anza Trail on National Park Service websites and other information sharing technologies, the segment of the Anza Trail in Pima County will be widely promoted. I recommend the County enter into the no-cost Partnership Certification Agreement with the National Park Service for the Juan Baustista de Anza National Historic Trail.

Sincerely,



C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

CHH/mp – November 19, 2018

c: Linda Mayro, Director, Sustainability and Conservation