



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

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C.H. HUCKELBERRY
County Administrator

May 2, 2019

Gilbert Orrantia, Director
State of Arizona Department of Homeland Security
1700 West Washington Street, Suite 210
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: **Federal Fiscal Year 2018 Operation Stonegarden Grant for Pima County**

Dear Mr. Orrantia:

I would like to thank you for attending the last Arizona Border Counties Coalition (ABCC) meeting to discuss the Operation Stonegarden (OPSG) grant process and certain modifications that may be made regarding reimbursement of county costs associated with accepting such a grant. The members of the ABCC appreciate your efforts in communication and transparency.

The Pima County Board of Supervisors will consider the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2018 OPSG grant on May 7, 2019. I will communicate their acceptance, rejection or request for modification of the grant after the meeting.

I suggest that, when considering the OPSG grant in FFY 2019, the various Boards of Supervisors and County Managers/Administrators be notified of the grant formulation process. Unfortunately, in past OPSG grant development County Board of Supervisors were considered an afterthought, only presented a grant after it had been formulated with federal agencies such as the US Border Patrol and County law enforcement Sheriffs. It would be beneficial if the various Boards of Supervisors as well as County management had some input during the initial formulation of the grant process thereby eliminating the need to request modification or reformulation of a specific grant for an authorized purpose.

It is likely the 2019 grant formulation process is nearing initiation and we are hopeful this process will include both reimbursement of indirect costs as a standard feature and a component of humanitarian aid where the aid can be processed through the counties of our State to the various local, faith-based nonprofit communities who are on the frontlines of

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delivering such aid related directly to US Border Patrol and US Immigration and Customs Enforcement apprehension and release of asylum seekers.

I know that the Pima County Board of Supervisors and the Boards of the ABCC very much appreciate your open dialog, communication and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

CHH/anc

c: The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
The Honorable Mark Napier, Pima County Sheriff
Jan Leshner, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Teresa Bravo, Economic Development International Coordinator