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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: October 15, 2020

To: Carmine DeBonis, Jr.  
Deputy County Administrator  
for Public Works

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CHH", is written over the printed name "C.H. Huckelberry".

Re: **October 7, 2020 Letter of Gratitude and Commendation from the Green Valley Council**

Attached is an October 7, 2020 letter from the Green Valley Council regarding various park properties in the Green Valley area. They highlight three parks, the Historic Canoa Ranch, the Canoa Hills Trails Park and the park at Canoa Preserve. They speak highly of the development and implementation of these park facilities and commend the staff both the Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department and the Regional Flood Control District. These parks are obviously important to the Green Valley community but are also representative of the values of our entire parks system.

The Historic Canoa Ranch is on the path to not only becoming a Pima County treasure but one for the West, representing adaptive reuse of historic ranches originally operated as traditional economic activities in the State of Arizona that are now transformed into an active recreational asset.

The conversion of the Canoa Hills Trails from a golf course to a natural open space park is the first successful conversion of such a facility in the State of Arizona. Given the changing demographics and recreation desires of the public, it is likely there will be future golf course transitions. The Canoa Hills Trails park provides the blueprint for such successful conversions.

Please thank both Directors and their respective staffs for their efforts that have led to the development of these public parks and attractions in Pima County.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors  
Yves Khawam, PhD, Assistant County Administrator for Public Works

Chuck Huckleberry  
Administrator, Pima County

OCT13 2:24PM

Steve Christy  
District 4 Supervisor

October 7, 2020

Gentlemen:

This is a letter of gratitude, commendation and thanks.

We are grateful to live in a community that values quality of life and respects the sometimes delicate interaction between man and environment. We are grateful that over the past 19 years Pima County has acquired and initiated the development and restoration of the 5000 acre Canoa Park System.

Vision becomes reality when talented and dedicated individuals work toward a common goal. The GVC Foundation, Inc. and its management group, The Friends of the Canoa Parks wish to commend and acknowledge Directors Chris Cawein, Suzanne's Shields, their respective staffs, and Matt Smogor, Superintendent of the Canoa Parks for their part in the development of these incomparable resources.

It is important for you and the Pima County Board of Supervisors to know that our Green Valley residents value these three Parks. The primary users of Canoa Preserve, BAJA (Born Again Jocks Association) earlier this year raised their portion of the funding necessary to build a third softball diamond. Between 50-70 vehicles daily park at the Canoa Hills Trails to utilize the walking paths. This does not include the many residents of surrounding HOAs who access the park directly. Even with the March closure of the historic building compound due to the pandemic, over 75000 vehicles have entered Historic Canoa Ranch during the past 11 months. Visitors enjoy walking the beautifully maintained pathways that meander around the lake and through the new cienega and pollinator garden. Our local birding enthusiasts share sightings on social media of the species spotted at the Ranch.

Finally, Debbie and I wish to personally thank you both and the Board of Supervisors for listening to the collective "voice" of our Green Valley community. We thank you for our extraordinary natural resource walking park, athletic fields and the Historic Ranch complex. Be assured, our Green Valley community accepts it's part in the development and stewardship of the Canoa Park System.

Respectfully,

Don Weaver



GVC Foundation President

Debbie Kenyon



Vice President