MEMORANDUM

Date: January 25, 2021

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

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

Re: Submission of Vaccination Plan and Funding to the State of Arizona

On Saturday, January 16, 2021, we were notified by email that the County was eligible for
funding associated with the COVID-19 vaccination process. We submitted our plan and
funding request on Friday, January 22, 2020 in the attached letter addressed to Arizona
Department of Health Services Chief Immunization Program, Dana Goodloe (Attachment 1).
The full plan is available if you desire, it covers (41) pages.

On Thursday, January 21, 2020 the Executive Director of the County Supervisors
Association, Craig Sullivan, arranged a virtual meeting with Mr. Ben Blink Policy Advisor and
Christina Corieri, Senior Policy Advisor to the Governor. I indicated our vaccination sites had
been operational since January 15, 2021 and that we have been incurring costs without any
assurance of reimbursement. The Governor’s Health Policy Advisor indicated that the County
would not be eligible for reimbursement for past expenditures, only those going forward after
a vaccination plan was approved. I questioned whether such was accurate and if so,
requested a copy of appropriate federal policy guidance that would conform with the second
federal Coronavirus funding passed by Congress as Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021.
I have yet to receive any clarification from my request.

As you can see, the cost to Pima County is expected to significantly exceed the funding
proposed by the State and we will pursue additional funding as we gave no desire to reduce
our vaccination capacity.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: Jan Lesher, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,
Health and Community Services
January 22, 2021

Dana Goodloe
Chief, Immunization Program Office
Arizona Department of Health Services
150 North 18th Ave Suite 120
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Pima County COVID-19 Vaccine Capacity and Throughput Acceleration Proposal

Dear Ms. Goodloe:

Enclosed please find the Pima County COVID-19 Vaccine Capacity and Throughput Acceleration Proposal, submitted in response to your email dated January 16, 2021. (Attachment 1) Our Accelerated Plan will cost a minimum of $14 million to as much as $21 million, significantly more than the maximum $7,120,440 allocation. We recognize that a successful, wide-ranging, and most importantly, rapid COVID-19 vaccination effort is the single most vital step to ending this pandemic. We are grateful the CDC and AzDHS are making this funding available for counties, and if awarded it will allow our local vaccination plans to accelerate rapidly.

As requested, we are submitting our plan identifying local and regional partners, anticipated vaccine throughput, and a budget narrative (Attachment 2) identifying the expenditures Pima County projects to incur.

After the first week of operation, which began on January 15, 2021, Pima County controlled vaccine throughput will be approximately 5,000 doses per day. This will increase to 10,000 within the next two weeks and under the most aggressive accelerated plan, we project a peak daily throughput of 15,000 doses per day. We have estimated 750,000 individuals need to be vaccinated in Pima County and we have vaccinated 50,000 at this time. This leaves 700,000 individuals to be vaccinated. As of today, if we were to vaccinate 15,000 people per day, we would be finished with all phases by March 10, 2021. If we were able to vaccinate 10,000 people per day, we would be finished with all phases by April 2, 2021.
In accordance with the potential award for Pima County, we would request additional funding to support our acceleration plan. The plus-65 population of Pima County is 19.8 percent of our population and justifies an increased award.

We applaud the State for setting up two 24/7 drive thru vaccination sites in Maricopa County at State expense. To date, we have incurred the costs to set up our vaccination sites to be in a position to quickly increase vaccination capacity.

If the State is unable to increase our allocation, we will pursue federal funding through our Congressional delegation. If this is unsuccessful, we will ask our Board of Supervisors to make up any shortfall in funding through the County General Fund or reduce our vaccine capacity to that funded by the State.

Thank you again for the chance to respond to this opportunity. My staff and I are available to answer any questions you may have on this or any other COVID-19 vaccination related topic.

Sincerely,

C.H. Huckleberry
County Administrator

Enclosures

c:  Jan Lesher, Chief Deputy County Administrator
    Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer, Health and Community Services
    Terry Cullen, MD, MS, Public Health Director, Pima County Health Department
    Shane Clark, Director, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
    Spencer Graves, Program Manager, Public Health Emergency Preparedness