



MEMORANDUM

Date: February 1, 2022

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

From: Jan Leshner 
Acting County Administrator

Re: **Pima County Historical Commission Update**

This memo provides an update on County staff efforts to create a Pima County Historical Commission separate from the City of Tucson in order for each jurisdiction to retain their Certified Local Government in Historic Preservation (CLG) status authorized by the National Historic Preservation Act through the National Park Service.

We continue to follow the general steps outlined in the [December 3, 2021 update](#) to the Board of Supervisors on the formation of a Pima County Historical Commission, and still anticipate the two historical commissions will be created by May 2022. The following summarizes the work undertaken during December 2021 and currently underway.

1. County staff continue to meet with counterpart City staff to ensure the two jurisdictions proceed in parallel to the extent possible with the intention of meeting the May 2022 separation date.
2. Ongoing progress updates are provided monthly to the current joint Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission.
3. County staff have completed a Code audit where likely Code changes will be necessary. Based on this audit, the necessary Code revisions will be separated into two phases – Phase 1 creation of a Pima County Historical Commission; and Phase 2 ancillary Code updates, such as overlay rezoning process, whether to include maps, review process for modifications to historic zoned properties, removing regulations that pertain to historic districts now annexed into the City, and other revisions that are not specifically germane to Commission establishment.

Moving ahead with the Phase 1 Code revisions first allows sufficient time for stakeholder review and scheduling of public meetings before the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Board of Supervisors in order to meet the May 2022 establishment date for the Commission. Work on the Phase 2 Code revisions will continue to be advanced, but will be brought forward for approval at a later date.

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors

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4. Office of Sustainability and Conservation and Development Services Department staff are currently drafting revised and new code sections to Title 18, Chapters 18.63 and 18.99 that accomplish Phase 1 establishment of the Pima County Historical Commission.
5. Staff anticipate a draft code text amendment will be completed in February and available for stakeholder review in March 2022.

JL/dym

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
Francisco Garcia, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,
Health and Community Services
Carla Blackwell, Director, Development Services Department
Linda Mayro, Director, Office of Sustainability and Conservation