January 14, 2014

Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee

Background

My January 7, 2014 Board of Supervisors Memorandum regarding formation of the Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee included the following recommended mission statement:

To assist the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department in reviewing and making recommendations to the County Administrator and the Board of Supervisors regarding all public/private partnership proposals for the conservation, restoration, expansion and development of Canoa Ranch put forward by foundations and other organizations. In addition, the Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee will work collaboratively to acquire funds and promote future bond funding for the implementation of the Canoa Ranch Master Plan.

Use of the word “promote” with regard to future bond funding could be construed to mean the Committee might engage in activities that are legally prohibited. The purpose of this memorandum is recommend the mission statement be amended to replace “promote” with “plan” to more appropriately articulate the mission of the Committee.

My revised recommendations below include the new proposed mission statement with the single revision discussed above. No other changes were made to the recommendations.

Recommendation

I recommend the Board of Supervisors approve and direct the following actions with respect to Canoa Ranch:

1. Formation of the Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee that will, upon formation, replace the Canoa Ranch Community Trust and Oversight Committee.

2. Adoption of the following mission statement for the Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee:

To assist the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department in reviewing and making recommendations to the County Administrator and the Board of Supervisors regarding all public/private partnership proposals for the conservation, restoration, expansion and development of Canoa Ranch put forward by foundations and other organizations. In addition, the Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee will work collaboratively to acquire funds and plan future bond funding for the implementation of the Canoa Ranch Master Plan.
3. Approval of the Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee organizational structure as follows:

Seven members: five appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one appointed by the County Administrator, and one appointed by the Tohono O'odham Nation. Each member shall be appointed for a term of four years and shall not serve more than two consecutive terms.

4. Direction to the County Administrator to formalize a management team of County staff from Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation; Regional Flood Control District; the Office of Sustainability and Conservation; and Facilities Management to provide technical, management and administrative support to the CRCC to ensure the open space, watershed and cultural resource values are protected, interpreted and appropriately managed in the implementation of the Master Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

C. H. Huckleberry
County Administrator

CHH/mjk – January 8, 2014

c: John Bernal, Deputy County Administrator for Public Works
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