

PIMA COUNTY BOND ELECTIONS 1974 - 2006

PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS COMPLETED

Pima County has a long successful history of voter-approved bond authorizations for the construction of capital improvements, such as parks and recreational facilities, community centers, libraries, justice and law enforcement facilities, roads, museums, flood control improvements, neighborhood reinvestment projects, public health clinics, land acquisition, affordable housing, and sewer treatment facilities. These projects serve all communities and are located throughout the region.

Since 1974, voters in Pima County have approved 12 separate bond proposals in countywide elections. A total of 54 bond proposition questions have been approved, with only four not approved. In the last 41 years, a total of \$2.06 billion in General Obligation, Highway User Revenue Funds and Sewer Revenue bonds have been approved.

Below are brief information and project highlights for each voter-approved bond authorization.

1974

General Obligation Bonds	TOTAL \$63,210,000
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Voters approved a total of \$63.2 million in bonds for public safety and justice facilities, street and bridge improvements, parks and public health facilities. Highlights of the 1974 bond program include:

- Construction and opening of the Kino Community Hospital, now the Banner-University Medical Center – South Campus facility.
- Development of the downtown Superior Courts building.
- Acquisition of land for Catalina State Park and expansion of Tucson Mountain Park.
- Development of three regional parks – Arthur Pack Regional Park, Drachman – Agua Caliente Regional Park, and Southeast Regional Park/Fairgrounds.

1979

General Obligation Bonds	\$48,210,000
Flood Control District Bonds	\$20,600,000
Sewer Revenue Bonds	\$12,900,000
TOTAL	\$81,710,000

Voters approved a total of \$81.7 million in bond funds for flood control improvements, correctional facilities, transportation corridors, highway safety and sewer improvements. Highlights of the 1979 bond program include:

- Construction of 7 major bridges and related flood control improvements following 3 presidentially-declared flood disasters between 1977 and 1978.
- Construction of the Oro Valley flood control levee, which removed the Town from the Cañada del Oro (CDO) Floodplain.
- Local matching funds for the development of the Kolb Road and Palo Verde Corridors, leveraging approximately \$150 million in federal and state transportation funds.
- Completion of 15 traffic safety projects that included safety improvements at various intersections or roadway segments, drainage improvements and safety studies.

1980

General Obligation Bonds	\$60,000,000
Sewer Revenue Bonds	\$12,900,000
TOTAL	\$72,900,000

Voters approved a total of \$72.9 million in bond funds for transportation and sewer improvements. Highlights of the 1980 bond program include:

- Improvements to 19 miles of major arterial highway segments to increase highway capacity and all-weather access, including: Tanque Verde, Sunrise Drive, Ina Road, Ajo Way, Mission Road, Valencia Road, La Cañada Drive, Swan Road, Orange Grove, Ruthrauff Road, Sabino Canyon.

- Completion of 41 traffic safety projects at high hazard segments and intersections, railroad crossing improvements, paving and bike paths.

1982

General Obligation Bonds	\$9,100,000
Sewer Revenue Bonds	\$10,000,000
TOTAL	\$19,100,000

Voters approved \$19.1 million in bond funds for solid waste disposal and sewer projects. Project highlights included:

- Investigation and mitigation of groundwater contamination in the vicinity of the El Camino del Cerro Landfill and development of the landfill environmental studies program.
- Design and development of the first lined landfill in the State of Arizona.

1984

General Obligation Bonds	TOTAL \$63,800,000
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Following the devastating 1983 flood, voters authorized \$63.8 million in bond funds to repair damaged infrastructure and reduce future flood damage. Flood control improvements under the 1984 bond program included the:

- Repair and replacement of 13 bridges, 15 bank stabilization projects along Santa Cruz River, Rillito River and Tanque Verde and Pantano confluence; purchase and relocation of hundreds of severely flood-damaged residential properties; and purchase of floodprone lands to prevent future damage.

1985

General Obligation Bonds	\$5,000,000
Sewer Revenue Bonds	\$10,000,000
TOTAL	\$15,000,000

Voters approved a total of \$15 million in bond funds for highway safety and sewer projects. Projects included:

- Completion of 24 traffic safety projects that included safety improvements at various intersection locations.

1986

General Obligation Bonds	\$165,400,000
Sewer Revenue Bonds	\$54,000,000
TOTAL \$219,400,000	

Voters approved a total of \$219.4 million in bond funds for transportation, parks, public safety facilities, land acquisition, flood control, libraries and other public facilities. Project highlights under the 1986 bond program include:

- Land acquisitions that established the Cienega Creek Natural Preserve, which spans nearly 4,000 acres along a 12-mile long reach of Cienega Creek; Colossal Cave Mountain Park; and Tortolita Mountain Park.
- Bank stabilization along major portions of the Santa Cruz River.
- 3 new libraries.
- Jail expansion and new Sheriff Administration building.
- Development and improvements of 26 miles of arterial roadways, including River Road, Skyline, Irvington Road, Stone Avenue and others.
- Development or expansion of 19 regional/district parks, including Anamax District Park, Agua Caliente Regional Park and Mehl-Foothills District Park; 15 neighborhood parks and school sites.

1997

General Obligation Bonds	\$256,980,000
Sewer Revenue Bonds	\$105,000,000
Highway User Revenue Fund Bonds	\$350,000,000
TOTAL \$711,980,000	

Voters approved a total of \$711.9 million in bond funds for public safety facilities, parks, land acquisition, flood control improvements and court facilities. Project highlights under the 1997 bond program include:

- Construction of 5 new pools and substantial upgrades to a fifth existing pool, 8 new community centers, educational center or visitor centers and upgrades to two existing community centers, 11 regional parks had either initial development or additional phased work built, neighborhood park development at 16 different sites, including 22 fields, lighting for 18 fields, five picnic/recreational areas and ADA access to fields.
- Construction of the Lower Santa Cruz Flood Control Levee along a 7.4 mile reach of the northern bank of the Santa Cruz River from Avra Valley Road to Sanders Road. The levee removed a significant portion of the Town of Marana from the regulatory FEMA floodplain.
- Facility improvements and upgrades to the Southeast Regional Shooting Range, Tucson Mountain Park, Colossal Cave Mountain Park, Tucson Children's Museum, and Agua Caliente Park.
- Construction of 9 miles of linear river park, along with trailheads, pedestrian bridges and other amenities; expansion of several trails, including CAP trail, Tortolita Mountain Park, Anza Trail, Arizona Trail and Fantasy Island.
- Land acquisitions that significantly expanded Tucson Mountain Park and established the historic Canoa Ranch.
- Construction and improvement of over 60 miles of major roadway projects.
- Completion of over 80 traffic safety improvement projects consisting of intersection and roadway improvements.

2004

General Obligation Bonds	\$582,250,000
Sewer Revenue Bonds	\$150,000,000
TOTAL \$732,250,000	

Voters approved a total of \$732.3 million in bond funds for land conservation, public health and safety facilities, parks, flood control improvements and sewer system improvements. Project highlights include:

- Designed and implemented a county-wide, state of the art, interoperable public safety radio network as well as an emergency communications and operations center; the radio network benefits 55 public safety agencies within Pima County; it is shared with multiple federal and state agencies – permitting real time interoperable communication for the first time in Pima County; provided funding for the upgrade of the City of Tucson's emergency communications center.
- A new Downtown Court Complex and Public Service Center, providing all Justice Court functions at one location for the first time in 18 years.
- Construction of the new Herbert K. Abrams Public Health Center.
- The new Wheeler Taft Abbett Marana Library, remodel of the Wilmot library, and major expansions to the Oro Valley and Eckstrom Columbus libraries.
- 25 new sports fields; lighting of 34 sports fields; 19 new playgrounds; 5 new community centers; 3 new skateboard parks and 2 new dog parks.
- Significant expansion of The Loop, including 18 new trailheads and 38 miles of new multi-use paths and trails, and the acquisition of almost 300 acres for a future regional park and community facilities development in the Vail area.
- The purchase of 52 properties totaling 47,000 acres, expanding regional parklands and conservation areas, providing 20 years of mitigation for future development, and increasing recreational access via seven new trailheads and 77 miles of new trails.
- Acquisition of 461 acres of land in the vicinity of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base to prevent urban encroachment on the base and its operations.
- Rehabilitation of 23 historic buildings, eight new miles of the historic Anza Trail along with three new trailheads and acquisition of four priority archaeological sites.
- Construction of 2.7 miles of new soil cement bank protection along the Santa Cruz River in the Town of Marana and City of Tucson.
- Development of 9 miles of new river parks and associated multi-use pathways along major water courses, 6 pedestrian bridges, and 400 acres of environmental restoration.
- Provided local urban drainage improvements funding for City of Tucson, City of South Tucson, Tohono O'odham Nation and Pascua Yaqui Tribe lands that drain into Black Wash.

2006

General Obligation Bonds	TOTAL \$54,000,000
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Voters approved \$54 million in bond funds for much needed behavioral health facilities. The key projects under the 2006 bond program included:

- Development of the new psychiatric inpatient hospital and expanded emergency department as well as the new psychiatric urgent care center (Crisis Response Center). Both facilities compliment and expand on the existing psychiatric services located at the Banner-University Medical Center South Campus.



More information on each bond project completed since 1997 is available through an interactive online map at www.pima.gov/bonds. Voters approved a bond in 2014 for a new Animal Care Facility. That project is not yet completed. There were two separate elections in 1997.