

1. Broad Demonstrated Support by Public: All recreation activities need a physical facility. Pima Prickly Park (PPP) is located at Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation headquarters, located at 3500 West River Road, Tucson, Arizona. PPP is a naturalized passive retreat that allows the user to take a walk in the desert in an urban setting while learning about the vegetation in the Sonoran Desert and other arid species. Items that make a park succeed include attendance, activity and a sense of shared ownership. Pima County and Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society are partners in this park and have events planned to promote the park and educate the public. This nine-acre park is also home to many wildlife species. The grand opening of the park was held in September 2012 and was well attended.
2. Has Regional Public Benefit: This park provides educational opportunities and training for teachers and hands-on workshops for students and the general public, providing information about historic roles and current that various native plant species served in the lives of Native Americans and early settlers, and contemporary populations living in the Sonoran Desert. People can also gain an appreciation and understanding of the limitations and potentials of arid lands. Pima Prickly Park provides a place to observe the many different types of cacti in the Sonoran Desert and other arid lands.
3. Partnerships: Partners in this project include the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society (TCSS) and other educational organizations. TCSS has a 15 year operating agreement with Pima County for Pima Prickly Park and has made numerous improvements to the site in addition to hosting an annual plant sale and educational forum at this site.
4. Other Funding Sources or Matches: It is expected that other educational and environmental groups will participate in public demonstrations, research and education of this desert botanical garden facility.
5. Education and Workforce Training: TCSS's objective is to develop the park so that they can demonstrate gardens and related facilities to highlight the environmental, social and economic values of Opuntoids and arid land adapted plants in the greater Tucson, Arizona area.
6. Impact on Operating and Maintenance Costs for Governments and Commitment to Fund These Ongoing Costs: Operating and maintenance costs shall be absorbed by NRPR staff in association with the maintenance of the adjacent Dan Felix Memorial Park.
7. Advances Board Adopted Principles of Sustainability and Conservation: Pima Prickly Park will promote opuntoids, such as prickly pears and their relatives that are an important plants which have been or are used for food by humans, many animals and host insect species, as landscape plants and to help prevent soil erosion, or be used for medicinal and cosmetic purpose. This park will also link to The Loop via Camino del Tierra.
8. Previously Authorized Large-scale Bond Projects or Programs that are Now Short of Funding: Not applicable.
9. Phasing of Large Projects: The site of the Pima Prickly Park and Pima County Natural Resource, Parks and Recreation facilities occupy the entire parcel thus expansion is not anticipated but amenities can be added.

10. Project or Program is a Capital Improvement, Not a Repair or Maintenance Project: This project is adding facilities to the existing park with funding not intended for maintenance. The program is for restrooms, landscape improvements, and outreach signage/outdoor educational area to serve the patrons who visit the park that opened in fall 2012.