



PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
3950 S. COUNTRY CLUB, STE 100 • TUCSON AZ 85714-2056

January 10, 2014

The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors
130 W. Congress, Eleventh Floor
Tucson, Arizona 85701

Re: Request for the Pima Animal Care Center Improvement Bond Proposal to be presented to the voters in 2014

Dear Chairman and Members:

The Board of Health is aware of the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee's recommendation that all Bond Proposals not go to the voters until November 2015, at the earliest. This recommendation is particularly discouraging as it relates to the Pima County Animal Care Center. As you are aware, the Pima Animal Care Center (PACC) is experiencing ongoing overcrowding; additionally the recent (November 15, 2013) *Review of Animal Care Services in Six Cities/Counties* report from the Office of the Assistant County Administrator for Health annotates that Pima County residents have the highest demand for shelter services of all the responding agencies in the report. Furthermore, delaying the vote on the PACC improvement proposal would delay construction well into 2016, with a new Animal Care Center potentially not opening until sometime in 2017.

We understand there is sound underlying economic logic for the recommendation to delay; however, if the \$22 million PACC proposal would be considered individually, separated out from a hefty package of over half a billion dollars in proposals, then the PACC proposal becomes considerably more economically palatable. Additionally, the 2013 Pima County Bond Preference Survey indicates an overwhelmingly positive response for the PACC improvements proposal.

At our December 2013 meeting, the Board of Health passed a motion requesting the Board of Supervisors place the Pima County Animal Care Center Improvements proposal before the voters in 2014, in light of the aforementioned ongoing overcrowding and *Review of Animal Care Services in Six Cities/Counties* report. The motion carried unanimously by members present.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul R. Horwitz", is written over a horizontal line.

Paul R. Horwitz, M.D.
President

cc: Members, Pima County Board of Health
Mr. C. H. Huckelberry, County Administrator
Jan Leshner, Deputy County Administrator for Medical and Health Services
Francisco García, Director, Health Department
Chairman and Members, Bond Advisory Committee