

(Revisions – Rick Price)

October 18, 2017

Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors  
130 W Congress Street  
Tucson, AZ 85701

**RE: Request for Board of Supervisors to Identify Adequate Funding for Road Repair Needs**

Dear Honorable Chair and Members,

The 13-member Pima County Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) was formed by the Board of Supervisors to, among other things, provide a recommendation to the Board on the prioritization of road repairs using the approximately \$19.5 million from the recently enacted road property tax. The TAC has met five times since August 1, 2017 to receive information from the Pima County Department of Transportation and representatives from the other jurisdiction's in our region, and to gather input from the public. The TAC has reviewed road prioritization proposals from the Town of Oro Valley, Town of Sahuarita, the City of South Tucson, and has approved them for recommendation to the Board. Proposals from the Town of Marana and the City of Tucson are pending approval from the TAC.

In addition to these presentations, the TAC has received information from County staff on the condition of roads in the unincorporated area, various prioritization methodologies and a staff recommended approach for selecting roads to repair. At the September 26, 2017 TAC meeting, the Committee provided direction of the prioritization approach for unincorporated local roads. The direction included using the staff proposed methodology of focusing on roads with a Pavement Surface Evaluation Rating of 5 (Poor) and prioritizing them based on traffic volume, with an allowance for subsequent committee member adjustments to include roads with other ratings such as Failed. A final TAC road prioritization recommendation will be submitted for Board consideration in December.

At the same meeting, the TAC received a presentation by County staff indicating the total cost to bring all arterial, collector and local roads in the unincorporated area up to a Fair condition exceeded \$300 million. The TAC was also informed that when combined with the road repair needs to the City of Tucson, the total cost exceeds \$1 billion. The presentation included a summary of various potential funding options outlined in the County Administrator's September 19, 2017 correspondence to the Pima County Sales Tax Advisory committee.

Many of these options have the potential to generate significantly more revenue annually for road repair than the recently enacted road property tax.

Based on this information, the ensuing TAC discussion focused heavily on the short comings of applying approximately \$20 Million per year, if approved as part of the annual budget, to address a regional road repair problem that exceeds \$1 billion.

The TAC unanimously supported the position that the current property tax approach is severely inadequate to repair roads within any reasonable period. As such, the TAC voted to send this letter strongly urging the Board of Supervisors to take action to explore all possible road repair funding options and to unanimously enact funding solutions that will fully meet the identified needs in a reasonable time period. All input received by neighborhood associations, HOA's and citizens uniformly complain about road conditions and something must be done as soon as possible to realistically resolve the issue of Pima County's failing and failed roads.

This request is respectfully submitted for your consideration and action.

Sincerely,