

October 14, 2014

Chair Lawrence M. Hecker, Jr.  
and Members of the Bond Advisory Committee  
c/o Deseret Romero  
County Administrator's Office  
130 West Congress, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Chair Hecker:

"To understand the story of Canoa is to understand the story of Southern Arizona," the Canoa Ranch Master Plan proclaims. Located along a dry stretch of the Santa Cruz River between the riparian oases of Tubac and San Xavier del Bac, Canoa has provided water from shallow wells to thirsty travelers for millennia. The name itself comes from the Spanish term for water trough---a hollowed-out log holding water that Hispanic pioneers used for both livestock and people as they rode north or south along the Santa Cruz Valley.

Juan Bautista de Anza's expedition stopped at Canoa on their way to California. Canoa Ranch itself occupies the southern half of the San Ignacio de la Canoa land grant, the first in Hispanic Arizona issued to the Ortiz brothers in 1821. The Manning family turned Canoa into the headquarters of a 500,000-acre showcase ranch in the first half of the twentieth century. The historic buildings of that headquarters have been stabilized and partially restored with funds approved by voters in the 1997 and 2004 bond programs. Pima County is already leading tours of this historic and natural treasure.

Much more work needs to be done, however, to implement the Canoa Ranch Master Plan and turn Canoa Ranch headquarters into a developed heritage area that attracts more members of the public to the site. That heritage area will interpret the entire human history of the Santa Cruz Valley from pre-Columbian times to the present, with a special emphasis on stockraising. The proposed bond project---Canoa Ranch New Museum/Orientation Center and Other Improvements---would provide \$18 million to: 1) construct a new 20,000-square foot museum/orientation center/gift shop building with a conference/event center, 2) restore portions of the historic canal, pond, and irrigation system, and 2) rehabilitate the remaining historic structures and complete all necessary infrastructure, design, and environmental studies.



Once completed, Canoa Ranch will be a jewel in the necklace of interpretive sites that will turn the Santa Cruz Valley into a national and international heritage- and ecotourism destination. Those sites already include: Tumacácori National Historical Park, Tubac Presidio State Park, Mission San Xavier del Bac, Mission Gardens, and Tucson Presidio, all of them linked by the Anza Trail. Canoa will be another link in that chain, providing an overview of Archaic, Hohokam, O'odham, Hispanic, and Anglo water use---and O'odham, Hispanic, and Anglo ranching---for the Santa Cruz Valley and Southern Arizona. With vision and foresight, Pima County and its partners will be able to transform its investment in Canoa and these other sites into a vibrant corridor of natural and heritage tourism that supports restaurants, bed-and-breakfasts, agriculture and a growing local food movement, and other forms of sustainable economic development that provide jobs while preserving the heritage and natural environment of the Santa Cruz Valley.

I therefore urge you and the other members of Pima County's Bond Advisory Committee to recommend that Canoa Ranch be included in the proposed 2015 bond package. My fellow committee members and I would also like to invite you to tour Canoa Ranch at your convenience. It is a very special place in a region we all love, and deserves your support.

Best,



Thomas E. Sheridan, Ph.D., Chair  
Pima County Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee

Research Anthropologist and Professor of Anthropology  
The Southwest Center and School of Anthropology

Community Representative, Altar Valley Conservation Alliance



# Santa Cruz Valley

HERITAGE ALLIANCE

October 11, 2014

Chair Lawrence M. Hecker, Jr.  
and Members of the Bond Advisory Committee  
c/o

Deseret Romero  
Pima County Administrator's Office  
130 W. Congress, 10th Fl.  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Chair Hecker:

As the President of the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance, I wish to let you know of our support for the Canoa Ranch bond project. The Heritage Alliance deals with a cultural corridor that stretches from Nogales to Marana in the Santa Cruz River watershed, and Canoa Ranch is one of the most important of the cultural attractions in that corridor.

"To understand the story of Canoa is to understand the story of Southern Arizona," the Canoa Ranch Master Plan proclaims. This Master Plan is a comprehensive document that has guided work at Canoa so far, and will guide the completion of this worthy cultural resource project.

The historic buildings of that headquarters have been stabilized and partially restored with funds approved by voters in the 1997 and 2004 bond programs. Much more work needs to be done, however, to implement the Canoa Ranch Master Plan and turn Canoa Ranch headquarters into a developed heritage area open to the public. That heritage area will interpret the entire human history of the Santa Cruz Valley from pre-Columbian times to the present, with a special emphasis on stockraising.

The proposed bond project---Canoa Ranch New Museum/Orientation Center and Other Improvements---would provide \$18 million to: 1) construct a new 20,000-square foot museum/orientation center/gift shop building with a conference/event center, 2) restore portions of the historic canal, pond, and irrigation system, and 3) rehabilitate the remaining historic structures and complete all necessary infrastructure, design, and environmental studies.

I also wish to point out that Pima County Bond funds are the only source of funding that can be obtained in an amount sufficient to complete this type of important public project. There just are not other funds available to address this type of work.

I therefore urge you and the other members of Pima County's Bond Advisory Committee to recommend that Canoa Ranch be included in the proposed 2015 bond package.

Sincerely,

Marty McCune, President  
Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance

## Nicole Fyffe

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**From:** Frank Hamilton <frankwhamilton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 19, 2014 5:57 AM  
**To:** bondinfo  
**Subject:** County Courthouse Project

I am strongly in favor of including the renovation of the county courthouse and plaza on the 2015 bond. This project would be a vital centerpiece of a rejuvenation downtown Tucson.

Thank you for your consideration.

Frank Hamilton

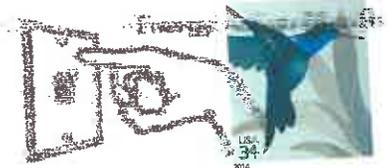
ATTN: Pima County Bond Advisory Comm,  
Re: Bond Hearing, Oct. 24, 8:00 AM  
on the Temple of Music + Art  
From: Alexandra Todd, Ph.D.  
4114 E. Calle El Centro  
Tucson, AZ 85711  
520-332-2298

Please make it possible for  
bonds to be assigned to this  
project, The Temple of Music + Art  
is an historic treasure!! Thank you

W RETREAT & SPA - VIEQUES ISLAND  
EXPLORE WHOTELS.COM

PHOENIX AZ 852

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The Temple of  
MUSIC + ART IS  
IMPORTANT TO TUCSON  
PLEASE INCLUDE IT  
for funding in  
your next bond  
allocation.

John Green  
Tucson AZ

Bond Advisory Com.  
c/o Admin. Office  
130 W. CONGRESS  
10th Fl.  
TUCSON AZ 85745

