Public Comments
November 12, 2014
Deseret Romero

From: Kandi Young <Kandi.Young@tucsonaz.gov>  
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2014 1:37 PM  
To: Deseret Romero; Nicole Fyffe  
Subject: Sahuarita Pool & Rec Center - Public Input

As a resident of Sahuarita since 2005, I've seen the community grow substantially. I wanted to submit my comments in support of the new pool and recreation center being located at the Sahuarita Town Center. This location is central to many who live in the community, ensuring convenience for residents.

Additionally, the placement of these facilities at the Town Center will allow expansion of needed facilities in other locations in the future.

Thank you.

Kamara Young  
14382 S. Via Gualda  
Sahuarita, AZ 85629
November 6, 2014

Lawrence M. Hecker, Jr.
Chairman of the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
130 W. Congress Street, 10th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

RE: November 7, 2014 Bond Advisory Committee Meeting
Historic, Cultural, and Natural Area Conservation Projects for the 2015 Bond Election
Project N20: Buffelgrass Removal, Public Safety, and Parkland Restoration

Dear Chairman Hecker:

The Tucson Airport Authority (TAA) hereby declares support for the proposed Buffelgrass Removal, Public Safety, and Parkland Restoration Project being considered by the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee for inclusion in the 2015 Bond Election.

In 2012, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded the Pima County office of Emergency Management a three-year, $3.4 million grant for buffelgrass mitigation at the Tucson International Airport (TIA) and the Pima County Mission Road Complex (PCMRC). In awarding the grant, FEMA acknowledged the threat highly flammable buffelgrass poses to public safety and critical community infrastructures.

Although the FEMA grant addresses buffelgrass mitigation at TIA and PCMRC, the vast majority of Pima County land continues to be impacted by non-native, fast-growing, and highly flammable buffelgrass. Funding of the Buffelgrass Removal, Public Safety, and Parkland Restoration Project could restore an estimated 10,000 acres of Pima County land and facilitate building of firebreaks to minimize the catastrophic threat buffelgrass induced wildfires pose to homes, businesses, and the unique plants and animals that make Pima County a world class outdoor attraction.

TAA is committed to buffelgrass mitigation and encourages the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee to take advantage of this opportunity to support buffelgrass mitigation in Pima County.

Sincerely,

Bonnie A. Allin, A.A.E.
President/CEO

Cc: Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator
    Nicole Fyffe, Committee Coordinator
November 4, 2014

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

Dear Chair Hecker:

I am writing in support of the Altar Wash Restoration Project (AWRP). This $1.5 million project is crucial to the restoration of the vast uplands in the Altar Valley and beyond. Without this project aimed at the Altar Wash, restoration and maintenance of the extensive upland drainages is not possible over the long term. The watershed level approach to promoting healthy working landscapes that the Altar Valley Conservation Association has implemented requires County investment in the AWRP. Pima County has made an enormous investment in the Altar Valley, purchasing Rancho Seco, Diamond Bell Ranch, the 98 Ranch, and Buckelew Farms with open space bond funds. Your support for this project will help secure the sustainability of these landscapes.

Sincerely,

George Ruyle, Professor and Extension Specialist
Marley Endowed Chair for Sustainable Rangeland Stewardship
November 6, 2014

Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Deseret Romero
Pima County Administrator’s Office, 10th Floor
130 West Congress
Tucson, AZ 85701

Re: Support for Six Potential Bond-Funded Projects

Archaeology Southwest is a Tucson-based nonprofit organization whose mission is to explore and protect the places of our past. We have over 1,000 members across the nation and the world. Half of our members are from Arizona and roughly one-third reside in Pima County. I write to offer enthusiastic support from Archaeology Southwest and its members for six of the proposed bond projects under the Historic, Cultural and Natural Area Conservation Projects under consideration for a possible 2015 bond election.

The creative approaches to the preservation and interpretation of priority cultural resources that Pima County has pursued for more than two decades is strongly supported by the members of Archaeology Southwest. This region is particularly well-known for the recent discoveries that establish over four millennia of agricultural history here in the Tucson Basin. Our community places high value on celebrating and protecting its rich heritage.

Of particular value is the diversity of our regional heritage. There is a strong cultural lineage from the prehistoric Hohokam archaeology to the Tohono O’odham community of today. Several of the cultural resources under consideration for protection and interpretation through bond initiatives represent that Hohokam heritage. Therefore, Archaeology Southwest supports the following:

- HP103 Archaeological Site Acquisitions: Marana Mounds and/or Cocoraque Butte
- HP108 Site Interpretation/Preservation of County-Owned Cultural Resources Sites

The ranching and early military history of this region is also rich and diverse. The continued investment in Steam Pump Ranch and Historic Fort Lowell is essential so that the public use and appreciation of these special places can expand. Archaeology Southwest currently partners with the Oro Valley Historical Society and the Town of Oro Valley in a public outreach program at Steam Pump Ranch that is focused on the Hohokam and earlier residents of the greater Oro Valley area. Archaeology Southwest strongly supports the following:

- HP111 Steam Pump Ranch
- HP107 Repair and Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings on County-Owned Ranches
- HP115 Historic Fort Lowell Park Master Plan Implementation
Deseret Romero

From: Terry Majewski <tmajewski@rjrm.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 3:02 PM
To: bondinfo; Nicole Fyffe
Cc: Linda Mayro; Jonathan Mabry
Subject: Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission Support for Historic and Cultural Projects for Possible 2015 Bond Election

Importance: High

Dear Nicole,

Sorry, again, for the late notice, but I wanted to convey the Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission’s (TPCHC’s) support for historic and cultural projects for possible inclusion in the 2015 bond election as well as some additional comments. The commission is aware of the criteria for project inclusion that the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee has developed and certainly appreciates the intense efforts that have been made to develop suitable projects, review them thoroughly and fairly, etc. We are supportive of the projects that County Administrator Huckelberry has recommended for inclusion in the bond election (and the amounts):

HP103 Archeological Site Acquisitions: Marana Mounds and/or Cocoraque Butte
HP111 Steam Pump Ranch
HP125 Ajo Curley School Gym, Town Plaza, and Other Historic Buildings
HP107 Repair and Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings on County-Owned Ranches
HP108 Site Interpretation/Preservation of County-Owned Cultural Resources Sites
HP115 Historic Fort Lowell Master Plan Improvements (but see below)
HP126 Dunbar School Rehabilitation
HP128 Performing Arts Center Rehabilitation
N15 Mission San Xavier East Tower and Façade Restoration

However, we have concerns about one of the projects that was recommended (HP115) and two projects that were not recommended by him – HP109 and N16/N17.

Regarding HP115 (Historic Fort Lowell), Mr. Huckelberry recommended he original $5 million for the project, but did not recommend the additional $5 million requested by the Tucson City Council. He noted that the necessary planning and substantiated costs estimates needed to justify the additional $5 million could not be completed within the timeframe of the Bond Committee’s deliberations. It was unclear how much time would be needed to provide this information and whether the Bond Committee could delay its final determination on this project and the associated amount until this information could be obtained. The TPCHC, however, strongly supports this project, as considerable community funds have been expended, and it is time that it was adequately funded and completed. Whatever the amount turns out to be, we urge the City and County to continue their close collaboration on the project to ensure its success.

Regarding HP109, Historic Vail Area Historic Sites... we are disappointed that Mr. Huckelberry did not recommend this project. The citizens of Vail have been working very hard to raise awareness of the historical and cultural significance of their community and the surrounding area, and we request that you ask for a debrief regarding the statement by Mr. Huckelberry that “the owners appear unwilling to convey the
necessary easements.” What County efforts have been undertaken to work with the residents of Vail to obtain these easements? We understand the issue of spending public funds on privately-owned parcels, but we urge the County to continue to work with Vail residents to assist them in their preservation efforts, even if this help cannot come through bond funding.

Finally, regarding N16, Historic Miracle Mile/Oracle Revitalization Corridor, and N17, Sunshine Mile – Modernist Corridor Historic Façade Rehabilitation Program... the TPCHC is also disappointed that these projects, which deal with Pima County’s more recent history, are considered unimportant, by both Mr. Huckelberry and many members of the Bond Committee. Façade rehabilitation is a known driver for revitalization of historic downtowns and urban corridors (it should not be considered solely as “streetscaping”), and the County should take interest in and responsibility for cultural properties in both rural and urban areas. There is considerable public support for these projects, and we are interested in learning more about why the projects were ranked so low in the Bond Committee’s and Mr. Huckelberry’s estimation. We will review Mr. Huckelberry’s September 10 Memorandum to the Committee for more details (if a copy is available), but would ask that the County and City collaborate somehow on these two important projects even if they are not recommended for bond funding.

Thank you for taking the time to pass these comments on to the Bond Committee, the Board of Supervisors, and the County Administrator.

Regards.

Teresita Majewski, Ph.D., RPA, FSA
Chair, Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission
Bond Advisory Committee  
Pima County Administrator's Office, 10th Floor  
130 West Congress,  
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Pima County Bond Advisory Committee

I am writing today to express my support for the preservation of the ancient Marana Mound Complex as expressed in the 2015 Bond No. HP-103: Marana Mound Site Acquisition proposal.

As a beginning archaeology student I had the good fortune to work at the Marana Mound site, under the supervision of Paul and Suzane Fish and the Arizona State Museum. As someone who helped to map and study every square meter of the site, I can attest to the amazing nature of the site itself. The past is made tangible by the objects left by the ancients, now deposited by erosion on the desert floor. The buried remains of an entire small town from the thirteenth century lie almost completely undisturbed beneath the ground. The desert itself is a bit overgrazed, but otherwise pristine.

After I graduated, I went on in my career to work with communities across the southwest in interpreting the evidence of nearby ancient places. The ancients preferred to live in the same types of places we live in today, and it is very common for major sites to be close to, or buried by new communities. Some communities have had amazing success with archaeological preservation as a tool for civic tourism and economic development. From this perspective, the Marana Mound has tremendous potential, not just for future research but for public involvement and public interpretation.

Preserving places of the past is a gift we can provide future generations. Setting this place aside for our future would be a wise and responsible act by Pima County.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Douglas Gann, PhD
Jerry B. Howard, Ph.D.
3302 N. Salida del Sol
Chandler, Arizona 85224

Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Deseret Romero
County Administrator’s Office, 10th Floor
130 West Congress,
Tucson, AZ 85701

Re: Support for 2015 Bond No. HP-103: Marana Mound Site Acquisition

Dear Committee,

I am writing to urge you to include the acquisition of the Marana Mound in the upcoming bond election.

There have been periods in my career as an archaeologist when I have had to watch as the traces of our past have been destroyed as modern development spreads across Arizona. Typically, the story that these places can tell, stories of the struggles and triumphs of people who lived long ago, are gone forever as is our ability for further archaeological research is dramatically reduced.

In some cases archaeologists have been able to recover what they could of the information contained in these sites but despite our best efforts and current analytical tools, information is lost. I have often wished, as new scientific methods become available, that I could return to sites we have excavated to learn even more. But the sites are typically gone buried beneath new freeways or developments.

In the early 1980s I led an effort to save one of the great Hohokam mounds, Mesa Grande, from the bulldozers and to preserve the site for future generations. Through this effort the site became a major point of pride for the neighborhood. A neighborhood coalition came together to work toward opening the site as an educational and recreational resource. They also came to the realization that it would be a heritage tourism site,
bringing much needed tourism dollars to their community. The site was opened to the public in January 2012 and is a thriving facility, bringing in tourists and school classes. Most of the 1 million dollar development was funded by grants and we were just awarded an $89,000.00 grant from the Gila River Community to expand our facilities, our educational outreach and to sponsor visits by Title 1 schools.

With the development of Mesa Grande, I have seen up close what this means to a community. It is the places of our shared past that give a community a distinct character and pulls the residents together. And, instead of being buried under yet another development or freeway, lost to science and learning, the site continues to tell its story. It speaks it to the community, to visitors from outside and to the scientists and students that work there. Our archaeological field school through Mesa Community College inspires students to go into careers in science and provides an exciting place to train future scholars.

You have a similar opportunity to develop a very special and important place, the Marana Mound. I urge you to consider the many community based and educational activities that can result from acquiring the site. Our experience saving Mesa Grande has been an amazing journey for our community. I am confident that, in saving the scientific treasure in your backyard, you will also share in such a journey, preserving an irreplaceable resource where we can continue to learn about an amazing group of people who lived here long ago.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jerry B. Howard
November 6, 2014

Bond Advisory Committee
  c/o Deseret Romero
County Administrator’s Office, 10th Floor
130 West Congress,
Tucson, AZ 85701

Re: Support for 2015 Bond No. HP-103: Marana Mound Site Acquisition

Dear Committee,

The Marana Mound site is one of the best preserved sites of its kind—a platform mound that functioned as the political and social center of a large region. The Pima County Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan has classified the Marana Mound site as a high priority for protection. It is currently being threatened by encroaching urban development and by destruction from all terrain vehicles. It is only a matter of time before it becomes a target for looters and before development begins to swallow up this crucial site.

The Marana Mound site, one of the earliest built in the Tucson area, provides unique opportunities for study, and researchers from the University of Arizona have begun to map the site and to study its role in the larger community. Its potential for future research is unparalleled in the Tucson Basin.

Because of this site’s unique role in the prehistory of this region, its excellent preservation, its importance to archaeological research, its high priority status in the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan, and its importance to the O’odham in the heritage of the region’s prehistoric peoples, I cannot think of a site more worthy or more in need of acquisition by the Pima County bond plan. As former Cultural Resources Manager for the Town of Marana, I truly believe that this is the only way to assure the future protection of this crucial resource.

Sincerely,

Susan Benaron
Archaeologist/editor
Deseret Romero

From: notification@pima.gov
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 11:16 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-11-06 11:15 AM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-11-06 11:15 AM was submitted by Guest on 11/6/2014 11:15:37 AM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name
First Name Dr William
Last Name Fawcett
Email fawcett.william@yahoo.com
Address 6713 E Latham St
City Scottsdale
State AZ
Zipcode 85257

Message Subject 2015 Bond HP-103 Marana Mound site acquisition
I am contacting you in support of efforts by Pima County to acquire the very very important Marana Mound Complex. Investigations at this Hohokam site dramatically changed our understanding of the Hohokam & especially ancient landuse in areas of southern Arizona away from major rivers. Intact archaeological sites of this importance are exceedingly rare (actually unique) and deserve special protection in order to preserve them for future generations of citizens to experience, as well as provide opportunities for additional archaeological investigations incorporating innovations in method and theory to increase our understanding of people.

Response requested Yes
Referred_Page http://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/2014/11/02/mpm/

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona
Dear Committee, The Archaeological Conservancy is a national non-profit organization dedicated to the acquisition and protection of archaeological sites located on private land. We have been very active in Arizona, acquiring 29 archaeological preserves over the past 30 years. Many of those preserves are in Pima County. The Marana Mound is one of Arizona's premier archaeological assets. Its size and land values have made it impossible for us to acquire, although we have made attempts to purchase the mound a number of years ago. We urge the county to acquire this important site to preserve it for posterity. We would be happy to assist in any way we can to make the acquisition a reality. James Walker - SW Regional Director - The Archaeological Conservancy

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona
November 6, 2014

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair
130 W Congress St., 10th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Bond Advisory Committee,

Watershed Management Group (WMG) is writing to urge the BAC to fully fund open space in the 2015 bond package and keep the $120 million currently allocated.

A fully-funded open space bond package is essential to protect land crucial to our watershed health and long-term water sustainability. Many of the eligible properties for purchase are areas of shallow groundwater, where groundwater is less than 50 feet below the surface. These areas are the gems of our watershed, where groundwater pumping has dried up many of our rivers, creeks, wetlands, and springs. The shallow groundwater areas are crucial for both people and wildlife, and are essential watershed resources, that should be carefully protected and enhanced over time.

WMG works closely with community members throughout Pima County, teaching hundreds of people every year how to manage and conserve our water and soil resources through hands-on workshops. Much of our work is focused on urban properties, where motivated individuals are installing water-harvesting landscapes, rain tanks, greywater systems, composting toilets, native habitat gardens, and street trees. These practices benefit them individually, but more importantly they are working as part of a larger movement to restore our watershed and be part of a healthy desert community. Please help us connect the hard work of so many Pima County residents with this larger effort of open space preservation.

WMG is working to protect and restore our shallow groundwater areas as part of a fifty year program to bring flows back to our rivers and restore related riparian habitat. Strategic open space protection is a key piece to this visionary goal and to long-term health and vitality of the communities in Pima County.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Lisa Shipek, Executive Director
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee  
130 W Congress St., 10th Floor  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
Attn: Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair

November 6, 2014

Dear Bond Advisory Committee,

The Community Water Coalition (CWC) is writing to urge the Bond Advisory Committee to fully fund open space in the 2015 bond package and maintain the current allocation of $120 million.

Development, and related well drilling, along the urban fringe has led to heavy impacts to water resources in these areas. Many of the properties eligible for purchase with open space bonds are in these areas of shallow groundwater, where groundwater is less than 50 feet below the surface. These areas support a vast majority of our riparian habitat and provide a defining character for the Tucson Basin. Failing to fully-fund the open space bond package will endanger land that is crucial to our watershed health and a secure water future.

CWC works closely with community leaders throughout Pima County to promote conservation and restoration of our precious water resources and the lands that support this resource. We believe in a vision of southern Arizona as a model community for sustainable water use. CWC understands that the long-term health and prosperity of human populations is dependent upon healthy watersheds and ecosystems. Protecting open space is a vital component of achieving this goal, and we urge you to show strong leadership by voting to fully fund the 2015 open space bond package.

Sincerely,

Ed Verburg  
Chair

Lisa Shipek  
Treasurer

Leona Davis  
Secretary

Ed Verburg  
Lisa Shipek  
Leona Davis

Community Water Coalition, c/o Watershed Management Group, 1137 N. Dodge Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85716  
www.communitywatercoalition.org
Attn: Larry Hecker, Chair
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee

With your meeting tomorrow to discuss the Pima County Bond Allocation for Open Spaces I strongly urge you to allocate the maximum $120 million dollars and not reduce the amount. A fully funded bond package in 2015 is critical to preserve and protect vital habitat and open spaces to prevent any future development. With development increasing everywhere in Pima County the limited number of remaining eligible open spaces need to be preserved for now and one hundred years from now for wildlife and people.

Second only to our Pima County water supply our open space is our most valuable asset. Open space maintains a diverse and high quality of life which is so important for public recreation and wildlife protection. With Pima County being an international magnet for tourism, millions of dollars are spent every year in the local business community. The preservation of open space in our Sonoran Desert in Pima County for hikers, bicyclists, and other visitors will contribute to continued economic growth from tourism that we desperately need!

Take action and vote for the maximum 2015 bond allocation for eligible open spaces. It is the right thing to do and will be a great legacy for all future generations in Pima County.

Sincerely,

Theodore Forsberg
5098 N Via Gelsomino
Tucson, AZ 85750
Dear Bond Advisory Committee,

I am writing to urge you to fully fund Pima County bonds for Open Space. The value of our natural resources is huge, and protecting our resources and Open Space benefits the environment, our citizens and our economic diversity. We know that Open Space - think parks, wildlife, scenic vistas - attracts new businesses and is a benefit to the health of our existing citizens.

Please think long term, invest in our future and for future generations, and fully fund open space bonds.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Jay Liggett
5752 E Finisterra
Tucson, AZ 85750
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
ATTN: Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair
130 W Congress St., 10th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

I am writing to advocate that the maximum amount of the 2015 bond package be allocated for purchase of Open Space in Pima County. Years before my move to Arizona, I read about the widely acclaimed, nationally recognized Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan and its subsequent incorporation into Pima County's land use plan. To achieve the goals of the Maeveen Marie Behan Conservation Lands System, adequate bond funding is required to purchase properties. I moved to Tucson in 2007 in part because of this enlightened vision to purchase land to preserve the Sonoran desert's unique flora and fauna, its cultural heritage, and provide for quality recreation.

Voters in the past have supported bonds for Open Space. It enriches the quality of peoples' lives, provides movement corridors for our desert wildlife, and generates millions of dollars of economic benefits to the County through tourism. Open Space becomes more and more valuable as Tucson/Pima County's population continues to grow and new housing developments, tearing up the desert, are springing up everywhere I look.

So please consider allocating the maximum amount of the bond package for land acquisition. There are so many critical properties in the County that deserve protection.

Sincerely,
Pam Negri
5098 N Via Gelsomino
Tucson AZ 85750
Deseret Romero

From: mary@wellingtonfarm.com
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 11:18 AM
To: bondinfo
Subject: open space bond issue

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair

Please allocate generous funds to open space which is critical to the quality of life here in Pima County.

We have a fragile desert ecosystem which must be protected from development and urban sprawl.

The economic benefit of open space is enormous. Look at the Saguaro National Park, East and West, with the visitor dollars brought in.

We must look long range for the well being of all life here - plant, animal and human.

We must not sacrifice our future well being for short term profit by developers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Mary Wellington
8682 N. Morning View Dr.
Tucson, AZ 85704

520-219-0246
Dear Mr. Hecker,

My husband and I are voting citizens of Tucson (residing at 5480 W. Sharpshooter Ct., Tucson, AZ 85743) and would like you to know that we very much SUPPORT OPEN SPACE for wildlife and want corridors for their natural movements to be preserved. Please consider how the beautiful Tucson area is complimented by our wildlife. Our community has many examples of how we humans successfully live together in harmony with our rich and diverse animal life. We should be proud of our respectful embrace of the animals that live here. Our children are taught to respect and appreciate our natural world and often we do a good job compromising our lifestyle and life's choices to make space for everybody (animal and non-animal) to have a chance at a good life. Please continue in that tradition of balancing human with animal needs and think about the consequences of your votes.

Sincerely yours, Diana Chapin-Tsai and Leon Tsai
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair

I urge the bond committee to propose a fully-funded open space bond for the next election.

As a lifelong Arizonan, I have seen plenty of choice land gobbled up by our inevitable growth. Open space supports a high quality of life and provides opportunities for recreation, which has drawn many residents to our county and preserves that attractiveness for future generations.

Open space also preserves our historic and aesthetic heritage and protects unique Sonoran Desert plant and animal species. It also is a balance to continuing development, offsetting to some extent governmental development policies that encourage sprawl. Paradoxically, preserving prime open space makes those areas which are developed more valuable, both because of their proximity to desirable open space and also because more limited supply of developed property presses prices upward.

Open space is good economics in many other ways as well. According to statistics from the Sierra Club, visitors to Saguaro National Park last year alone contributed $41 million to the local economy. Preserving high quality open space supports the county's tourism industry, which is one cornerstone of our local economy.

Pima County voters have repeatedly supported open space initiatives, knowing that public lands will best maintain the beauty and lifestyle they have chosen in living here. Past bond issues have done a tremendous job in further that goal, but there is still more that needs to be done.

A fully-funded bond issue likely will cost taxpayers less for a year than a single mont's gym membership, while providing far-ranging benefits for preservation, recreation and habitat well beyond any gym. Time is not in our favor in protecting Pima County's open space, so a fully-funded bond issue in 2015 would be more effective and less costly than doing something later.

I encourage your committee to act boldly at the Nov. 7 meeting and develop a bond issue that will be best for Pima County residents for years to come.

C. Forrest Davis, EA
Tucson, AZ
To:
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair
130 W. Congress, 10th floor
Tucson, Arizona 85701

These comments pertain to the Open Space bonds under consideration for the upcoming bond election. I strongly support setting aside the full $120 million dollars for Open Space bonds.

I am an Arizona native and a long-time Pima County resident. Our state features some of the most beautiful and ecologically important areas in the nation. For this reason, we have a responsibility to be good stewards, protecting what is precious. We are at a watershed moment, similar to the late 19th century when far-sighted individuals proposed protecting Yosemite as the nation's first national park. The men and women who worked to set aside land, mountains, waterfalls, forests and habitat in the Yosemite area were thinking ahead. That is what we must do as well.

For the future is unpredictable, but we know that land in the west is always attractive to people who wish to exploit the land for economic purposes. Once the land is degraded, the watershed polluted, and erosion accelerated, there is no turning back the clock. Already we have issues with old mines near Patagonia, AZ, leaching chemicals into streams and watersheds during the recent heavy rains in September 2014. By protecting Open Space we also protect critical water resources.

Temperature records continue to be broken in Arizona. We have more days over 100 degrees and more extreme heat. Climate scientists predict the Southwest will continue to heat up in the coming years. Protecting Open Space represents a cost-effective climate change mitigation strategy. Soils and biomass absorb carbon from the atmosphere. Tucson needs a large Open Space buffer zone to help offset the rise in temperatures.

There is economic value in Open Space. Southern Arizona attracts hikers, photographers, artists, cyclists, birders, heritage tourists, eco-tourists, campers and others who come here to experience nature and view wildlife. Outdoor recreation is a multi-billion dollar industry and growing. All of those visitors eat at local restaurants, stay at local hotels or B& Bs, shop at local vendors. Once a visitor comes to Southern Arizona, she or he generally returns again.

Protected Open Space also has intrinsic value. Indigenous people understand this well. We need places where the wind in the trees is the only sound, and where wild creatures roam freely.

We have a chance to leave a legacy for the future that demonstrates we understand what is precious.

Thank you.

Melanie Mizell
Melanie Mizell
Consultant
melaniemizell@gmail.com

PO Box 12106
Tucson, Arizona 85732
(520) 262-0385
Dear Chairman Hecker and Members of the Advisory Committee

I urge a vote in favor of full funding for open space in the 2015 Bond proposal.

Pima County is blessed and distinguished from any other place by its distinctive and diverse landscape, and its plants and wildlife.

Pima County has enjoyed an increasing economic impact both from visitors who want to experience the unique setting and lifestyle and from new residents who want to move here and build new houses or buy existing ones.

For existing residents, access to open space provides spectacular opportunities for recreation. For visitors and residents, it is an unmatched setting for physical and emotional renewal.

My wife and I moved here over 25 years ago, and have had ample chances to leave for better economic opportunities. I am convinced that without the large vistas and beauty of the Sonoran Desert that surround us, we would have gone elsewhere. Let's keep it open and beautiful.

We are grateful that Pima County has been a leader in protecting its open space and diverse wildlife and hope the committee will continue the proud tradition we enjoy.

Sincerely,

Fred Frelinghuysen
2200 E Calle Lustre
Tucson, AZ 85718

ffreling@gmail.com
Mr. Larry Hecker,
Chair Open Space Bond Committee

Dear Mr. Hecker,

One major contribution to the economy of Tucson often overlooked is that of Open Space which draws millions of tourists. As a lawyer, you are very aware of both sides of the issue so I will not bore you with another reiteration of the facts.

Please support the 2015 Open Space Bond package of at least $120 million. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Virginia Sonett
5745 N. Camino Real
Tucson, Az. 85718
Dear Friends of the Sonoran Desert,

While I am not able to attend your meeting on Friday, Nov. 7, 2014, let it be known that I fully endorse doing anything/everything to support the continued integrity of our precious desert landscape as we proceed on into the future. For myriad reasons it makes sense to protect the unique character of our native ecological system, but we also have such a singular environmental system in southern Arizona that is also a draw for numerous visitors from abroad to come and pay reverence and delight in the wonder of this sublime region. Will they come if it's paved over and/or molested beyond recognition? Is there a monetary value in saving this splendid place in perpetuity? I hesitate to frame the argument in financial terms, but once we have lost this magnificent landscape, what sort of redemption can we expect? People do come again, and again, to visit southern Arizona. With potentially more of it gone and the allure diminished for those who may have sauntered here for inspiration, will we have lost a significant audience that treasures what exists here merely because others sought a more short term profit?

For your contemplation and amusement, I've affixed below (in an attachment) a poem I wrote some time ago about the cautions, revelations, and veneration we should bestow on the land we live in.

Take care!!
Naturally,

Jf

Jefferson J. Stensrud
1621 W. Montenegro Drive (the hamlet of Montenegro)
Pima County, Arizona 85704
Too-Sun, Arid-zone-aaaaahhh
Sonoran Desert
Song of the "Wasteland" Native, Returning

Punctuate my life with cactus thorns and needles
With spine-infested areoles that bite and pierce like beetles
With plants that nail the passer-by with indiscriminate mirth
Vegetation with a vengeance like no other place on earth.

This place they call the desert that helps define my life
I cherish for its hard edge and propensity for strife.
So be it that the herbage is armored with a lance
One's days are more exciting just living with the chance.

Serrated blades of sotol that snare and apprehend
The casual, unwary traveler whose curses know no end.
The ouch of the ocotillo that can antagonize
The unsuspecting ambler; please watch out for your eyes.
The glochids of that spiked bush that prickle, pinch, and poke
Soon bring to your attention that this landscape is no joke.
Porcupines pause in deference to flora so possessed.
The newcomer to the region soon discovers there's no jest.
The Fishhook Mammillaria with flowers so sublime
The novice soon finds out that they can trick you every time.
The daggers of amole, the Spanish bayonet...
Late pupils to the province, oh the wounds they shall beget.
Fearless fangs of buzzworm, the mighty scorpion's sting
The thorn of crucifixion is such a gouging thing.
The talons of acacia that barb and do arrest
The foolish uncouth traveler who will, in time, attest.
The serious noble Cereus, a worthy guardian great
Never to be taken lightly, never to berate.

These things that tear, and grab, and slash, and puncture, and impale
That slit, impinge, and cut like knives, and pierce the precious veil
That penetrate, and perforate, and drill, and stab, and spear
Become a source of terror to those absorbed in fear.

Those who stride so nimbly and gently caress the land
That serves to shelter their presence in the hope they understand
That this arid territory is no leisurely delight
Become the desert's defenders; no yielding serfs to fright.

Thus, yucca swords are nary a threat to those that relish the scene
That comprehend the glorious expanse and know there's nothing mean
That is intent to harm you; to bore, or score, or gore
In that thicket of dense foliage, that's just outside the door.
I revel in reunion with catclaw and mesquite;
A world with such variety, where nothing’s laid down neat.
No poisoned arrow launched by "a vicious Apache child..."
My love is for Canotia and all in life that's wild.
Dear Mr. Larry Hecker,

I'm writing to ask you to please approve the full $120 million in bond funds currently proposed for open spaces in Pima County. Having moved out to Tucson from Ohio five years ago, I immediately fell in love with the Sonoran desert and its public lands. It's an incredibly simple concept – having shared land for people, for wildlife, and for future generations – and yet this setting aside of common ground is endangered in practice throughout our country. Where I grew up in Indiana and Ohio there are now fewer public lands and more urban sprawl for a reason. Decision-makers made a choice in past years to put their money elsewhere.

Getting out in these public lands through hiking, running and camping is what got me started in Tucson as a 25-year-old, and in great part these public lands are what will keep me here (vs. elsewhere) contributing to this town as I raise a family and settle into a career. There's also, as I'm sure you know, a very strong volunteer community in Pima County working on behalf of these open spaces. I think we should do everything we can to promote the health of the desert, its incredible diversity of plants and critters, and this sort of engagement from the community. Since I've been in Tucson, I've spent perhaps 10 weekends doing conservation projects with Sky Island Alliance. I've pulled buffelgrass and cleared trails with a group of sawyers on Mount Lemmon. And I wish my parents, who are now retired in Ohio, could have these same experiences in their next twenty years. But the opportunities just aren't there, because the open spaces aren't there either.

Please – do everything in your power to get this bond through fully intact, so we can give our natural resource experts the full funds they need to do their work raising the quality of life in Pima County.

Sincerely,

Rick Mick
Online Associate
Center for Biological Diversity
Tucson, Arizona
Dear Mr. Hecker and the Bond Advisory Committee,

We are writing to strongly support the inclusion of open space in the 2015 bond package as well as retention of the $120 million allocated for open space. Pima County’s past funding of 78,000 acres needs to be continued through the next funding cycle.

We need more secure open space to continue to provide recreation opportunities for both residents and our economically significant tourists. As Tucson grows, open space helps protect the species in our unique Sonoran Desert and our significant watersheds. We need to encourage infill and not end up a sprawling concrete heat island like Phoenix and LA.

This is only possible if we add significant tracts of open space in the immediate future. Pima County has been a leader in this, for example, the recent addition of Painted Hills to the wildlife corridor and main scenic tourist route between Tucson and the Desert Museum plus the other attractions in and near the park systems. We urge you to continue this commitment by Pima County by the inclusion of funds to purchase more open space in the 2015 bond package.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely, Carolyn Leigh and Ron Perry

4530 West Speedway Blvd.

Tucson, AZ 85745
the open space bond package needs to be funded at no less than $120 million!

Sorry that I cannot be physically there because of my job. Thanks for doing the right thing! Take care, Li

Li (Schmidt)
www.SameDayFamilyMedicine.com
DATE: November 6, 2014

TO: Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair

FROM: Barbara Schuessler

SUBJECT: Open Space Bond Fund Allocation

I am writing to voice my support for the full funding of the open space bond package. I have lived in Tucson/Pima County for more than 40 years and am originally from the Southwest. The Sonoran Desert is a very unique and beautiful area, in particular with the Saguaro and their majestic presence......there is no other place on earth that has Saguaro. I feel very strongly that it is important to maintain the integrity of the desert, its natural waterways and the preservation of the incredible wildlife. It is time to see how important these elements are to our own well being, as well as, the survival of the planet.

I believe this understanding of preserving our natural desert lands with its flora and fauna and abundance of wildlife is the wisest way to not becoming an endangered species ourselves....This is now the time to make this a top priority. To ensure that we will have the harmonious interplay of nature and understanding that we are all connected. We are already seeing climate change and so many species dying from encroachment and not wise planning......I believe, with all my heart, that we need to preserve these open spaces for our own well being, as well as, for generations to come......

We need to be long-sighted and preserve our important biologically rich habitats, with its wildlife and watercourse ways and the interconnected intelligence..... I support open space purchases 100% and request that you vote to fully fund the current allotment of $120 million.

Thank-you,
Barbara Schuessler
Tucson, Arizona
Dear Sir: I urge you to Fully Support your bond program to purchase open space for the citizens of the county. With climate change we need pristine lands more than ever. The lands set aside are good for the economy (tourism) and protects our endangered wildlife. I fully support giving my taxes over to this process. I ask you to please NOT cut the amount planned, and I even ask that you increase the amount. Yours, Timothy Storer
I support the approval of the $120 million bond for open spaces in Pima County for the following reasons:

- Open space supports a high quality of life and provides opportunities for recreation, which is a top attraction for both residents and visitors.
- Open space is good economics. Last year, visitors to Saguaro National Park alone contributed $41 million to the local economy, and in 2011 “watchable wildlife” activities brought in hundreds of millions of dollars to Pima County in retail sales and salaries (tucsonaudubon.org).
- Open space is a lasting investment and protects unique Sonoran Desert plant and animal species.
- Open space is a necessary balance to future development, and protecting more open space around metropolitan Tucson promotes infill development.

I urge you to approve the full amount of the bond.

Thank you,

Eve Shapiro
Deseret Romero

From: Deborah <dvath@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 1:24 PM
To: bondinfo
Subject: Open-space Allocations for County Bond

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair

Please consider allocating the recommended 120 million dollars to open space. It is critical to the quality of life in Pima County.

The economic and educational benefit of open space is enormous. I have taken Tucson students hiking in various open space locations, such as the Sweetwater Preserve and have used this space to describe how well-managed cities/counties can function.

Our fragile desert ecosystem must be protected from development and urban sprawl. We must not sacrifice our future well being for short term profit by developers and businesses.

Sincerely,

Deborah Vath
4421 N Paseo de los Cerritos
Tucson, AZ 85745

520-743-0428
From: victor navarro-sandoval <vicnav20art@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 1:55 PM
To: bondinfo
Subject: open space bond package

bondinfo@pima.gov

I, Victor Navarro, Resident to Tucson. fully support a 2015 open space bond package for no less than $120M."
Thank you for your consideration and attention.

Victor M. Navarro. M.Ed
4314. E. Ocotillo Desert Tr
Tucson AZ 85706
I will unfortunately not be able to come to the meeting this Friday, but I would still like to voice my thoughts about the funding allocation for open space in the 2015 bond election. Preserving open space and natural habitat is important to me as a native and lifelong Tucsonan. I believe this bond package should be at least $120 million.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,
Emilie Brill
Gentlemen/women:

As you know, in a recent survey Tucsonans expressed overwhelming support for protecting open space for the welfare of wildlife and public recreation. Land prices at this time are still relatively low, so it's imperative that we move quickly to purchase the most precious parcels before such opportunities are lost or become too expensive. Remember that in the state of Arizona, property owners with land they are willing to offer the county for preservation as open space are now paying 60% higher taxes. In short, aside from ranch lands and old agriculture plots, our tax laws are encouraging development of many of the most precious open-space parcels.

Please allocate no less than $120M for open space in a 2015 bond election.

With thanks and best wishes,

Thomas
Dear Pima Bond Committee,

Open Space is very important to me for my personal enjoyment as well as for wildlife. I urge you to support it to at least $120M. It benefits the whole community.

Thank You,
Dr. Roy M Emrick
2220 N Norton Ave
Tucson, AZ 85719
Dear Pima County Bond Advisory Committee,

I am writing to voice my support to the Pima County Acquisition Commission request for bond funding approval for the 2015 election. **I am in favor of at least the proposed $120M for open space acquisition and would have preferred the full $285M request by the Commission.** Open Space is critical to southern Arizona’s economy, wildlife, and Sonoran desert conservation. Watchable wildlife brings in millions of dollars to southern Arizona, and our businesses: hotels, lodges, bed and breakfasts, restaurants, and shops, depend on this tourist and resident economy. Around $180M is generated directly from “watchable wildlife” per year (2011 year-based) from the retail sales of the sectors I mention above, and the multiplier effect is around $304M per year in economic impact (based on Tucson Audubon’s 2013 report in conjunction with Southwick Associates economics firm, and Arizona Game and Fish Department, see citation below).

Additionally, open space is needed to fulfill the habitat conservation needs of the Pima County’s obligation under the Habitat Conservation Plan with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in order to obtain an incidental take permit. Our wildlife populations need critical habitat for movement through the landscape in order for their continued persistence through time, especially in the face of on-going development. Development needs mitigation through strategically planned open space acquisition. Thus, for compatible development *and* wildlife/ecosystem conservation, proper open space acquisition and conservation is needed.

Please vote in favor of a funding request in the 2015 election of at least $120M, and preferably the full amount advised by the Pima County Acquisition Commission.

Sincerely, Scott Wilbor
1037 E. Alta Vista St.
Tucson, AZ 85719

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee

c/o Mr Larry Hecker, Chair
130 W Congress St., 10th Floor
Tucson, AZ. 87501

Dear Mr Hecker,

Thank you for considering the further of our unique and beautiful Open space here in Tucson. Not only do we need more open space to counterbalance the rapid development that is occurring in our lovely city to ensure the survival of the many wildlife species that live here, we need to promote infill development to help keep Tucson alive. Many of my family and friends are going to be moving out west to a warmer climate and are considering Tucson. They would like to see more open space and a richer inner city life. Preservation of our beautiful Sonoran Desert can do both now and in the future.

Thank you for your time,
Leslie Sellgren
Tucson AZ
TO: Pima County Bond Advisory Committee  
c/o Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair  
130 W Congress St., 10th Floor  
Tucson, AZ 85701  

RE: 2015 Open Space Bond Package  

Dear Mr. Larry Hecker and Members of the BAC,  

I strongly urge you to fully fund open space in the next bond package, allocating no less than $120 million.  

Pima County has many needs for bond funds, but open space should be one of our highest priorities. I am a native Pima County resident and a wildlife biologist. I know the value of open space, and choose to purchase my home adjacent to the Arthur Pack Regional Park and Macveen Behan Desert Sanctuary. I love to wake up to the call of Harris’s hawks, and meeting desert tortoises on my walks.  

My experience and my training shows me the vital importance of open space to any community - especially a community facing growing water, population and economic challenges. We need to protect open space in order to help address these challenges.  

Open space protects watersheds and groundwater filtration, reducing run-off and erosion, and securing our precious water resources.  

Open space supports a high quality of life and provides opportunities for recreation, which is a top attraction for both residents and visitors.  

Open space is good economics. Last year, visitors to Saguaro National Park alone contributed $41 million to the local economy, and in 2011 “watchable wildlife” activities brought in hundreds of millions of dollars to Pima County in retail sales and salaries (including my own).  

Open space is a lasting investment and protects unique Sonoran Desert plant and animal species. Pima County can boast jaguars, ocelots, Mexican free-tailed bats, coati, elegant trogon, javalina, hawks, tortoises, and myriad of other species that are special and unique to this region. These species are valuable in of themselves as watchable wildlife, but their presence is also a testament to the quality of clean air, clean water and open space we have.  

Open space is a necessary balance to future development, and protecting more open space around metropolitan Tucson promotes infill development, and also protects property values and scenic views.  

Open space is a nearby solution to nature deficit disorder, which affects children and adults alike.
I want to live in a County with ample open space, for all of these benefits, and more. Please vote to fully fund open space tomorrow.

Thank you,
Jessica Moreno

Jessica A. Moreno
Wildlife Linkages Program Coordinator

jessica@skyislandalliance.org
www.skyislandalliance.org
520.624.7080 x21
300 E. University, Suite 270 // Tucson, AZ 85705
PO Box 41165 // Tucson, AZ 85717

Protect, Connect and Restore our Sky Island Region!
Become a Member • Volunteer • Sign up for E-news • Wildlife Tracking

"...the choice is not between wild places and people; it is between a rich or impoverished existence for man."
— Thomas Lovejoy
Overbuilding is affecting older homes. As our water table decreases older homes are starting to show severe cracks in walls and foundations. Please save our precious habitats too.
Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee

130 West Congress St., 10th Floor

Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Mr. Hecker and Committee Members,

This letter is in support of the proposed open space bond package. Funding for open space is important to enable land purchases to ensure that the integrity of the Sonoran Desert environment remains and to contribute to the conservation of important plant and animal habitats. Improving wildlife linkages among our area mountain ranges is critical.

Open space helps support our quality of life in addition to providing recreation opportunities that are important to both residents and visitors. It is particularly needed in areas surrounding a large metropolitan area such as Tucson.

I support sufficient funding for additional open space such as the Tortolita Mountain expansion and other proposed open space areas near Tucson is included in the bond package.

Pat Spoerl
Oro Valley
Nov 6, 2014

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
130 W. Congress St., 10th floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Pima County Bond Advisory Committee,

I strongly support protecting natural areas and open space and urge you to fully fund the open space bond.

Open spaces are vital for our communities and for our way of life. They are crucial for our economy and are one of the primary draws for both tourists and for Pima County residents. Many people who have already moved into Pima County did so because of the wealth of wild lands in the nearby vicinity.

Open space also provides outstanding recreational opportunities, which further bolsters our economy. Last year, visitors to Saguaro National Park alone contributed $41 million to the local economy. Wildlife watching activities bring in hundreds of millions of dollars to Pima County in retail sales.

In addition, wild open areas are vital for the wildlife that call our state home. These areas not only provide important habitat but also allow for movement among areas. This is becoming increasingly important as development continues to expand into our wild lands.

Purchasing and protecting open spaces provides a way to help balance future development with the needs of people and wildlife. Small investments today lead to huge benefits today and tomorrow.

Please stand up for our county by fully funding the open space bond.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lois Jordan
9161 E Walnut Tree Dr
Tucson, AZ 85749-9639
Deseret Romero

From: Merrill Collett <merrillcollett@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 4:35 PM
To: bondinfo
Subject: 2015 bond package

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair
130 W Congress St., 10th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Chairman Hecker,

I would like to strongly encourage the committee to approve the $120 million proposed for open space purchases in the 2015 bond package. As urban sprawl consumes more and more of our wonderful Sonoran Desert, open space preservation is vital to retaining the quality of life that attracts visitors to Tucson and maintains a healthy environment for its human and wild residents. Open space is good business. Open space is an investment that endures, delivering an immeasurable return for future generations. Please think in the longterm and vote for more open space.

Respectfully,

Merrill Collett
P.O. Box 85453
Tucson, AZ 85754
Deseret Romero

From: notification@pima.gov
Sent: Friday, November 07, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-11-07 10:49 AM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-11-07 10:49 AM was submitted by Guest on 11/7/2014 10:49:38 AM (GMT-7:00) US/Arizona

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Message Subject: 2015 Bond No. HP-103: Marana Mound Site Acquisition.

As an archaeologists who did my training in Arizona and has worked at the Marana Mound Archaeological site, I encourage the Bond Advisory Committee to include the purchase of the Marana Mound site in its 2015 Bond Initiative. The Marana Mound site is an extremely important archaeological site in the need of long-term preservation. The work of Drs. Paul and Suzanne Fish over the last couple of decades has demonstrated the presence of an unprecedented archaeological sites, which includes a large earthen mound surrounded by 40 adobe compounds. At its peak the site likely the residence for more than 1000 indigenous people. Based on the impressive nature of the site and the meticulous work of the Fishes, this site features prominently in the archaeology of the American Southwest. In particular, further work at the site would provide invaluable cultural and scientific knowledge to the citizens of Arizona and the larger scientific community. As you know this portion of Pima County is undergoing rapid development, and without adequate protection the mound site could be damaged or completely lost. While the purchase of the property would, of course, represent a significant investment on the part of the County it would be a fantastic investment for the county and assure protection of this important site for the future.

Response requested: Yes

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona
Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-11-07 10:21 AM was submitted by Guest on 11/7/2014 10:21:50 AM (GMT-07:00) US/Airizona

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Message Subject: Support for 2015 Bond No. HP-103: Marana Mound Site Acquisition

The Marana Mound Site is one of the largest prehistoric towns in southern Arizona. It has been studied for over 20 years but its potential to shed light on Native American life before Columbus continues to be rich. It's location leaves it prey to surrounding land development. It is one of the only remaining large mound sites in So. Az. -- most have already been lost to 20th century development. It is therefore a very high priority for acquisition through the bond issue and I ask your support for this. Sincerely, Beth Grindell, Ph.D. Archaeologist Immediate past director, Arizona State Museum

Response requested: No

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona
Dear Committee, We would like to very strongly urge you to support Bond No. HP-103. The Marana Mound site is one of the largest and most significant prehistoric sites in southern Arizona. Perhaps most importantly, it is one of only a few Hohokam sites remaining in the Tucson area where the entire site is still well preserved due to the lack of farming and construction. Archaeologists from the University of Arizona have produced a map of the site and conducted initial test excavations, but most of the site remains pristine. The Marana Mound site was occupied from A.D. 1200 to 1250 and contains a central communal area with an undisturbed earthen platform mound, a form of monumental architecture found at only the largest and most important sites in the prehistoric Hohokam region. Approximately 40 residential adobe compounds surrounding the central community area, each containing 10 to 20 adobe rooms. Most of the residential compounds have not been investigated by archaeologists and have the potential to provide a wealth of new information on prehistoric Hohokam behavior. Numerous graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Arizona and other institutions have learned archaeological methods at the site and it has been the subject of at least a dozen Ph.D. dissertations and M.A. theses. Even with all of this research, much remains to be learned, and given its undisturbed nature, another dozen or so dissertations and theses could easily be written. The Pima County Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan identifies the Marana Mound site as a high priority for protection because of its unique preservation. Urban development is now unfortunately encroaching on this site with San Lucas Estates already along the southern side. For these reasons, we strongly urge you to provide the site with protection by voting for the bond acquisition plan. Sincerely, Mark D. Elson, Ph.D. Deborah L. Swartz 2855 W. Tippecanoe Trl. Tucson, AZ 85745

Response requested Yes

Referred Page http://webmail.desert.com/a/webmail.php?wsid=f8b2de5ffca006c995935ff277b810fba4839e5c

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona
Deseret Romero

From: notification@pima.gov
Sent: Friday, November 07, 2014 4:02 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-11-07 04:02 AM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-11-07 04:02 AM was submitted by Guest on 11/7/2014 4:02:11 AM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name
  First Name John
  Last Name Ravesloot
  Email johnrav84@gmail.com
  Address 12250 N. Copper Spring Trail
            Oro Valley
            State AZ
            Zipcode 85755

Message Subject 2015 Bond No. HP-103: Marana Mound Site Acquisition

Comment Bond Advisory Committee: I am writing in support of including the Marana Mound site in the 2015 Bond acquisition plan. Sincerely, John C. Ravesloot

Response requested No
  Referred _Page

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona
November 5, 2014

Dear Pima County Bond Advisory Committee,

In 2007 and 2008 the Vail community rallied to place the 1908 Vail Store and Post Office on the 2008 Bond. Hundreds of letters were written and residents attended many Bond Committee meetings. You heard and responded. HP-109 had the power to initiate great things for our 134 year old community—the easement and rehabilitation of the 1908 Vail Store and Post Office would have ensured its continued existence, and along with the Shrine of Santa Rita in the Desert the area between the tracks could have been the nucleus for a Vail historic district.

In the great scheme of things HP-109 is a line item to Pima County, but to Vail, it brought the hope that our past would inspire our future. We have so many stores to sell and only one Territorial era building to tell them. We understand that the Bond Committee’s hands are tied and that you are faced with making the only decision you can based upon established criteria.

We want to go on record that the Vail Preservation Society has made every effort to purchase the building thereby making it possible for Pima County to work with us. We have offered $100,000 for half an acre that includes the historic building. The owner, Mr. Fred Wang, understanding the significance of the building has held the community hostage with an asking price of $650,000.

In March 2014 six fourth and fifth graders from Acacia Elementary contacted us to donate the $213. they had raised by making colorful rubber band bracelets and selling them to save their town’s oldest building. This effort was solely their own, they expressed that it was important to them to know that they were part of a community with a past and that they were connected to that. The building is the visual connection for them. To fail them and the many other community members who have dedicated time and expertise to this effort is beyond words.

Sometimes, despite the best efforts of those involved, circumstances beyond our control dictate the outcomes of preservation efforts. Such is the case in Vail related to the 1908 Vail Store and Post Office, Vail’s sole remaining pre-statehood building. The Vail Preservation Society and the greater Vail community truly appreciate the past support of Pima County’s Office of Sustainability and Conservation, the County Administrator and Bond Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

J.J. Lamb
Executive Director
Vail Preservation Society

“This [Vail] may be a small place by some standards, but to us who live here, it’s the center of the world.”
1934-1973 Vail Postmistress Mary Jane Warner
Dear Bond Advisory Committee members:

I have been a resident of Tucson for the past 32 years, and have come to greatly appreciate the wonderful Sonoran desert that we live in. I am writing in strong support of allocating the full $120 million proposed for open space purchases in the bond package currently being considered. Open space purchases such as those being considered along the San Pedro riparian corridor, the Tortolita mountain park expansion and others will be of great value in many ways. The protection of vital habitat will not only benefit wildlife, but will also provide economic benefits to Tucson by attracting tourists who spend many millions locally each year while pursuing “watchable wildlife activities”. Protection of more open space in the area also provides great benefits to local residents, who can pursue recreational activities such as hiking without travelling great distances from home. The natural areas surrounding Tucson are a huge part of what makes Tucson a wonderful place to live, and the more that these areas can be preserved while encouraging growth by infilling within the boundaries of Tucson, the longer Tucson can remain special.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Kelly

1834 N Sidney Pl

Tucson, AZ 85712
I am writing to express my support for a substantial Open Space Bond proposition in the upcoming election. I note that the animal shelter proposition passed with a large majority, so it seems that local voters are not averse to spending substantial sums at this time.

Open space is a lasting investment and protects unique Sonoran Desert plant and animal species. Urban sprawl is a huge problem in Tucson and Pima County. Protecting more open space around metropolitan Tucson will help promote infill development and help provide necessary balance to future development. Open space supports a high quality of life and provides opportunities for recreation, which is a top attraction for both residents and visitors, and is good for the local economy.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely

Steve Foley
5150 N Montezuma Trail
Tucson, AZ 85750
Deseret Romero

From: Madeline Jane Ryder <mryder@email.arizona.edu>
Sent: Friday, November 07, 2014 11:29 AM
To: bondinfo
Subject: Fund Open Space Bond at $120 million

Hello,

I am a registered voter in Pima County and want to see the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee fund Open Space at the proposed $120 million for 2015. This land is necessary to ensure the health of both the regional environment and all of the local economies that rely on it. Greater open space will also provide health benefits and numerous ecosystem services (flood control, clean air and water, recreational opportunities). Please fund Open Space for the full $120 million, or more.

Madeline Ryder

--
UA Compost Cats Sales & Marketing Head
B.S. Natural Resources (Conservation Biology), B.A. Environmental Studies, French minor
School of Natural Resources and the Environment, School of Geography
Cell: (520) 239-6239
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair
130 W Congress St., 10th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

My name is David Finkelstein and my family and I live at 720 S 2nd Ave in Tucson. We are strong supporters of open-space preservation. The reason we live in Tucson is the access for hiking and birding on public lands. Future bonds are a great way to acquire these lands. They give all residents a chance to express their views.

Thank you for your continuing support of land preservation bonds,

David Finkelstein
Davidfinkelstein110@yahoo.com
Dear Committee members,

I urge you to support the Conservation Acquisition Commission's recommendation that $285 million be allocated for open space in the upcoming 2015 bond election.

This amount represents a reasonable balance for the more than $2.8 billion worth of land actually eligible for purchase.

Tucsonans and visitors greatly value Natural Sonoran desert areas and the recreational opportunities they provide. Space makes residents healthier by providing recreational opportunities. It promotes clean air, and water and is great for our local economy.

Thank you for your support. I am not in town or I would absolutely be there in person!

Diana Rhoades
520.982.4178
The open space bond package needs to be funded at $120 million at the least.
We support open space; once it is gone it is gone.
Pima County needs to be recognized as open space supporters.
Thank you

Beuv showalter
4138 E. Wilds Rd
Catalina, AZ 85739
bevshowalter@comcast.net
1. Open space is good economics. Last year, visitors to Saguaro National Park alone contributed $41 million to the local economy, and in 2011 "watchable wildlife" activities brought in hundreds of millions of dollars to Pima County in retail sales and salaries.

Sent from my iPhone
Nov 7, 2014

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
130 W. Congress St., 10th floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Pima County Bond Advisory Committee,

I strongly support protecting natural areas and open space and urge you to fully fund the open space bond.

Open spaces are vital for our communities and for our way of life. They are crucial for our economy and are one of the primary draws for both tourists and for Pima County residents. Many people who have already moved into Pima County did so because of the wealth of wild lands in the nearby vicinity.

Open space also provides outstanding recreational opportunities, which further bolsters our economy. Last year, visitors to Saguaro National Park alone contributed $41 million to the local economy. Wildlife watching activities bring in hundreds of millions of dollars to Pima County in retail sales.

In addition, wild open areas are vital for the wildlife that call our state home. These areas not only provide important habitat but also allow for movement among areas. This is becoming increasingly important as development continues to expand into our wild lands.

Purchasing and protecting open spaces provides a way to help balance future development with the needs of people and wildlife. Small investments today lead to huge benefits today and tomorrow.

Please stand up for our county by fully funding the open space bond.
Thank you! Our investment is important today and for future generations.

Sincerely,

Mr. Keith Koster
3409 N Mountain Ave
Tucson, AZ 85719-1923
(520) 696-1612
Members of the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee,

I urge you not to reduce the amount of bond funding for open space purchase by Pima County.

I moved here from New England and have seen there how public lands acquired years ago have now become islands of wildness in the middle of development. To me, it is essential that Pima County give its future citizens this gift of open space.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert Capetta
3207 E Almartin St
Tucson AZ 85716
Nov 7, 2014

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
130 W. Congress St., 10th floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Pima County Bond Advisory Committee,

I strongly support protecting natural areas and open space and urge you to fully fund the open space bond.

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Purchasing and protecting open spaces provides a way to help balance future development with the needs of people and wildlife. Small investments today lead to huge benefits today and tomorrow.

Please stand up for our county by fully funding the open space bond.
Thank you!

Sincerely,

Ms. Alexandra Wymetal
4960 W Calle Don Antonio
Tucson, AZ 85757-1409
(520) 979-4387
Dear Pima County Advisory Committee,

I am writing to encourage you all to fund the maximum amount (at LEAST $120,000,000.00) for the 2015 Open Space bond. It is never the wrong thing to do to fund Open Space. America’s national parks have been called America’s best idea. What would New York City be without Central Park? And, here in Tucson, what would we do without our mountain and national parks, especially in the summer!

No one has ever complained after land has been protected!

Humans will always err on the side of development, but you all have the opportunity to give Pima County a long-lasting gift that no one will ever think was a mistake. Beautiful scenery and intact ecosystems enhance the health and quality of life of not only Tucson’s residents, but everyone who comes here. Please think about this, and your responsibility to this region, and give humanity a gift.

Please fund the Open Space bond at the maximum amount.

Thank you,

Natasha Kline
Dear Bond Committee Members,

We urge you to value our magnificent area and its wild and open spaces as much as the general population living here and enjoying it every day. The bond package must be at a level no lower than $120 million to preserve and protect our irreplaceable desert heritage.
We hope you can see this clearly and move on the appropriate bond package.

Thanking you in advance for your insightful decision on a bond package of at least $120 million we are,

Kathie and Alan Schroeder
13990 N Dust Devil Dr
85739

Sent from my iPad
Hello Bond Decision Makers~

Please vote for the full and complete amount to protect our valuable open spaces. These open spaces provide a long-term legacy of financial income to our community, whereas development brings large short-term income that is quickly overshadowed by the loss of our open spaces and the amenities that they provide. Voters have repeatedly shown that they want open space to be purchased and protected, so please heed the will of the constituents and keep up Pima County's exceptional open space program.

With Thanks,

Andy Bennett
4231 E Ware Rd
Tucson, AZ
85711
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee,

I strongly support the Open Space Bond Package in 2015 for no less than $120 m.

Sincerely,

Susan Oyler
Dear Sirs:

Open space is important to me and my family. It is one of the reasons we live in Tucson rather than farther north. It provides opportunities for recreation, it is wise economics with more money brought into Pima County than many other resources.

The monies allocated should be honored and increased as Tucson's population increases. Do the right thing for all of us.

Thank you,

Dr. Robert H. Zimmerman
Tucson
Bond to be voted on at meeting on Nov. 7, 2014.

I strongly favor the acquisition of land for Open Space. It is essential that we acquire this land and preserve it, and the fauna and flora that it supports, for perpetuity, so that future generations will be able to see and enjoy the land in its natural state. I do NOT believe that the $120 million figure should be reduced.

Fergus Graham
To: Mr. Larry Hecker and the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
From: Susan Lovejoy, Concerned Citizen
Date: 11/6/2014

Although, I will be unable to attend the BAC meeting on 11/7/14, I wish my vote to be heard. I am in full support of open space and a new fully-funded bond package in 2015 to protect important biologically-rich habitat that otherwise would get developed.

1. Open space supports a high quality of life and provides opportunities for recreation, which is a top attraction for both residents and visitors.
2. Open space is good economics. Last year, visitors to Saguaro National Park alone contributed $41 million to the local economy, and in 2011 "watchable wildlife" activities brought in hundreds of millions of dollars to Pima County in retail sales and salaries.
3. Open space is a lasting investment and protects unique Sonoran Desert plant and animal species.
4. Open space is a necessary balance to future development, and protecting more open space around metropolitan Tucson promotes infill development.

Respectfully,

Susan Lovejoy
4040 W Potvin Ln
Tucson, AZ 85742
Dear Committee,

The Marana Platform Mound site is a significant cultural and historical resource recognized and valued by numerous Native American communities, archaeological researchers, and other interested parties. It is an honor that such a place exists in Pima County, for the benefit of our already culturally rich and diverse social identity, and in an atmosphere where our leaders, policy-makers, and community members understand and cherish the role history plays in our contemporary social fabric. Preservation through bond acquisition of this unique site will contribute to a greater understanding of the past, and foster a greater respect for the Sonoran Desert and the breadth of people who live here. Thank You.

Response requested No

Referred_Page

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona
Laura Markowitz
4481 N Cerritos Drive
Tucson, AZ 85745

November 11, 2014

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
Mr. Larry Hecker, Chair
130 W Congress St., 10th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Mr. Hecker:

I am writing to voice my strong support of a bond package of $120 million (or more) to purchase lands that will support habitat, wildlife connectivity and biodiversity in Pima County. I believe that if we practice good stewardship now it will benefit the health, economy and sustainability of our lovely Sonoran Desert for generations to come. Some believe that preserving open spaces constrains development and suppresses our local economy, but I believe the opposite is true. Without open spaces, our community and property values decline. People want to invest in Tucson because we still have pristine open spaces that attract native fauna and flora. Let's preserve it and expand our open spaces to make sure the human footprint doesn't stamp out the very thing that makes Pima County special.

Thank you for your attention.

With best wishes,

Laura Markowitz
Dear Pima County Bond Committee,

Please Support the Sunshine Mid-Century District Corridor bond item.

Not only is Broadway Boulevard an important corridor and gateway to downtown Tucson, it is also a Mid-Century Marvel. This corridor is in desperate need of reinvestment.

I support Broadway because:

- It deserves city/county support as a local economic driver.
- There is more to Tucson than downtown.

Thank you.

NAME: Camillus Farina
ADDRESS: 1355 E. Granite (Las Abuelas
Tucson, Arizona 85701-1317

Pima County Bond Committee
Pima County Governmental Center
130 West Congress Street
Tucson, Arizona 85701-1317