



March 4, 2015

**CITY OF
TUCSON**
OFFICE OF THE
CITY MANAGER

Mr. Lawrence Hecker
Chair, Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
Pima County
130 W. Congress, 10th Floor
Tucson, AZ 85701-1317

**RE: City of Tucson Response to Bond Advisory Cochairs and County
Administrator February 5, 2015 Bond Package Recommendation**

Dear Mr. Hecker:

On March 2, 2015, the City of Tucson Bond Project Advisory Committee (BPAC) provided the attached letter to the Mayor and Council. At the March 3, 2015 Mayor and Council meeting, the Mayor and Council moved and approved BPAC's letter with the exception that the funding for the Dunbar School Restoration project be restored. Also, please note that the Buffalo Soldiers Memorial was mistakenly not included in the list of projects in the BPAC's letter.

Sincerely,

Martha M. Durkin
City Manager

Enclosure: Bond Project Advisory Committee March 2, 2015 Letter to Mayor and Council

MD/mp

C: Honorable Mayor and Council Members, City of Tucson
Mike Rankin, City Attorney
Kelly Gottschalk, Deputy City Manager
Albert Elias, Assistant City Manager
Nicole Ewing Gavin, Program Director, Office of Integrated Planning
Lynne Birkinbine, Administrator, Office of Integrated Planning

March 3, 2015

Honorable Mayor and Council
P.O. Box 27210
Tucson, Arizona 85726-7210

To the Honorable Mayor and Council:

We have reviewed the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee Chairs and the County Administrator's (PCBAC Chairs and CA) bond package recommendation of **\$86,880,000** for 31 City-submitted projects. Of the 31 projects, the PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended the same amount of funding as our Committee for 14 projects, eliminated funding for 4 projects, and reduced funding for 10 projects (three projects - were previously eliminated by the PCBAC):

- Same funding as our Committee – 14 projects
- Eliminated funding – 4 projects: **we accept the eliminations**
 - N-41 Public Safety Training Academy - Judgmental Firearms Training Facility
 - N-42 Public Safety Training Academy - Multi-purpose Training Facility
 - N-43 Public Safety Training Academy - Driver Training Facility
 - PR-44 Oury Park Festival Area
- Reduced funding – 11 projects: **we accept the reductions for 7 projects, and voted to restore all of the funding for 3 projects, and are recommending deletion of 1 additional project for a total increase of \$14,178,500, which brings our recommended bond package total to \$101,058,500.**

Accept reductions - 7 projects

PR-34 Urban Greenways City of Tucson/City of South Tucson
N-13 Reid Park Zoo African Expansion Phase 2
PR-220 Adaptive Recreation Center Expansion
PR-267 Sentinel Peak – A Mountain Improvement Project
PR-18 El Pueblo Center Improvements
PR-35 Sports Fields and Lighting
N-57 Fort Lowell Park Improvements

Restore all funding – 3 projects

N-21 Downtown Community Theaters and Historic Cultural Landscape
N-37 South 12th Avenue Cultural and Culinary Corridor
PR-5 Jacobs Park Recreation Center

BPAC recommended deletion – 1 project

HP-126 – Dunbar School Rehabilitation

Additional detailed information is provided below.

*Projects for which PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended **reduced** funding, and BPAC **voted to restore all funding** (3 projects)*

N-21 Downtown Community Theaters and Historic Cultural Landscape - #2 ranked

\$28,000,000 BPAC submitted

\$18,500,000 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended

\$28,000,000 BPAC recommendation to restore full funding

\$ 9,500,000 increase

Rationale: In November 2013, the Urban Land Institute affirmed that corporations and individuals seeking to relocate, choose cities with an active and walkable downtown area and a vibrant arts community. A revitalized Tucson Convention Center (TCC) campus will provide incentive for business expansion, relocation and job growth.

This project is regional in scope. The proposed improvements are considered essential to the downtown revitalization and regional tourism efforts. The project has significant leverage to date with over \$10M placed in TCC arena and the \$196M modern streetcar system adjacent to the site. Future leverage opportunities could come from individuals, corporations, and civic entities wishing to advance the community and the arts.

Because of its diverse features - performance venues, public open space, historic restoration, Modernist heritage - this project will have direct economic impact to the City and the County. Improved patron amenities, technological and acoustic improvements, and an inviting landscape will offer a total patron experience leading to increased bookings and ticket sales.

Additional economic impact will come from direct patron spending, hospitality and sales tax revenues and increased downtown property valuations. This project will further strengthen Tucson and Pima County's position as a competitive convention destination.

N-37 South 12th Avenue Cultural and Culinary Corridor - #6 ranked

\$3,178,500 BPAC submitted

\$1,000,000 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended

\$3,178,500 BPAC recommendation to restore full funding

\$2,178,500 increase

Rationale: This economic development project, which will include signage designating the commercial district along the corridor, sidewalk and related pedestrian amenities, bicycle safety improvements, landscaping, and lighting, will build upon the County's \$9 million 12th Avenue Community Revitalization Project (1997) and spur further private investment in this commercial district that celebrates the region's distinctive Mexican American heritage. Proposed improvements will increase cultural and culinary tourism, and improve conditions for tens of thousands of pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and motorists who use the corridor every day.

PR-5 Jacobs Park Recreation Center - #14 ranked

\$4,000,000 BPAC submitted

\$ 0 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended

\$4,000,000 BPAC recommendation to restore full funding

\$4,000,000 increase

Rationale: The recreation center will help meet the local community's recreational needs in this high stress area.

*Projects for which PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended **reduced** funding, and BPAC accepts the reductions (7 projects)*

PR-35 Sports Fields and Lighting - #1 ranked

\$11,200,000 (City portion) BPAC submitted, \$17.6M total with County portion

\$7,680,000 (City portion) PCBAC Chair and CA recommended. \$12M total with County portion – **reduction accepted by BPAC**

\$5,615,000 reduction

PR-35 Urban Greenways City of Tucson/City of South Tucson - #3 ranked

\$15,000,000 BPAC submitted

\$ 8,500,000 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended – **reduction accepted by BPAC**

\$ 6,500,000 reduction

N-13 Reid Park Zoo African Expansion Phase 2 - #4 ranked

\$10,000,000 PCBAC recommended

\$ 8,000,000 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended - **reduction accepted by BPAC**

\$ 2,000,000 reduction

Rationale: Tucson Zoological Society indicated they can work with the proposed cut

PR-220 Adaptive Recreation Center Expansion - #7 ranked

\$12,000,000 BPAC submitted

\$ 6,000,000 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended - **reduction accepted by BPAC**

\$ 6,000,000 reduction

PR-267 Sentinel Peak – A Mountain Improvement Project - #13 ranked

\$2,500,000 BPAC submitted

\$1,500,000 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended - **reduction accepted by BPAC**

\$1,000,000 reduction

PR-18 El Pueblo Center Improvements - #17 ranked

\$2,500,000 BPAC submitted

\$2,000,000 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended - **reduction accepted by BPAC**

\$ 500,000 reduction

N-57 Fort Lowell Park Improvements – not ranked

\$5,000,000 BPAC submitted

\$2,000,000 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended - **reduction accepted by BPAC**

\$3,000,000 reduction

*Projects for which PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended **eliminated** funding, and BPAC accepts the eliminations and deletes an additional project (5 projects)*

N-41 Public Safety Training Academy - Judgmental Firearms Training Facility - #8 ranked

\$4,100,000 BPAC submitted

\$ 0 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended - **elimination accepted by BPAC**

N-42 Public Safety Training Academy - Multi-purpose Training Facility - #10 ranked

\$11,700,000 BPAC submitted

\$ 0 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended - **elimination accepted by BPAC**

N-43 Public Safety Training Academy - Driver Training Facility - #12 ranked

\$3,000,000 BPAC submitted

\$ 0 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended - **elimination accepted by BPAC**

PR-44 Oury Park Festival Area - #27 ranked

\$1,500,000 BPAC submitted

\$ 0 PCBAC Chairs and CA recommended - **elimination accepted by BPAC**

HP-126 Dunbar School Rehabilitation - #29 ranked

\$1,500,000 - **BPAC recommendation to eliminate lowest currently ranked project to reallocate funding**

Please find our final ranked project list and recommendation in Attachment A.

After months of due care and diligence, we believe this package serves the best interest of the citizens of both the City of Tucson and Pima County. We urge your support for the critically needed 2015 County bond proposal.

Sincerely,



Liz Rangel
Bond Project Advisory Committee Chair

Attachment A
Final Ranked List and BPAC Recommendation:

1. PR-35 Sports Fields & Lighting - \$7.68M
 2. N-21 Downtown Community Theaters and Historic Cultural Landscape - \$28M
 3. PR-34 Urban Greenways - \$8.5M
 4. N-13 Reid Park Zoo African Expansion Phase 2 - \$8M
 5. ~~N-16 Historic Miracle Mile—\$2M, project removed by PCBAC~~
 6. N-37 South 12th Avenue Cultural & Culinary Corridor - \$3,178,500
 7. PR-220 Adaptive Recreation Center Expansion - \$6M
 8. ~~N-41 Public Safety Training Academy: Judgmental Firearms Training Facility—\$4.1M, project removed by PCBAC Chairs and CA~~
 9. PR-20 Reid Park Improvements - \$2M
 10. ~~N-42 Public Safety Training Academy: Multi-Purpose Training Facility—\$11.7M, project removed by PCBAC Chairs and CA~~
 11. ~~N-17 Sunshine Mile Commercial District—\$2M, project removed by PCBAC~~
 12. ~~N-43 Public Safety Training Academy: Driver Training Facility—\$3M, project removed by PCBAC Chairs and CA~~
 13. PR-267 Sentinel Peak – A Mountain Park Improvements - \$1.5M
 14. PR-5 Jacobs Park Recreation Center - \$4M
 15. PR-46 Kennedy Park Improvements/ Expansion - \$2.5M
 16. N-24 Murrieta Park Improvements - \$5M
 17. PR-18 El Pueblo Center Improvements - \$2M
 18. N-55 Jesse Owens Improvements - \$1M
 19. PR-4 Udall Park Expansion - \$4M
 20. PR-42 Quincie Douglas Center Expansion - \$1M
 21. PR-11 Clements Senior Center Expansion - \$4.5M
 22. PR-14 Silverlake Park Expansion - \$2.3M
 23. PR-29 Purple Heart Park - \$1.5M
 24. N-22 Temple of Music and Art Rehabilitation - \$900,000
 25. PR-28 Lincoln Park Improvements - \$1.5M
 26. PR-19 Freedom Center Expansion and Pool Improvements - \$2.5M
 27. ~~PR-44 Oury Park Cultural Festival Area—\$1.5M, project removed by PCBAC Chairs and CA~~
 28. PR-201 Oury Pool Renovation - \$1.5M
 29. ~~HP-126 Dunbar School Rehabilitation—\$1.5M, project removed by BPAC~~
 30. ~~HP-128 Performing Arts Center Rehabilitation—\$1M, project removed by PCBAC~~
- Not ranked: N-57 Fort Lowell Park Improvements - \$2M

Total \$101,058,500