



## TOWN MANAGER DEPARTMENT

August 21, 2015

Mr. Chuck Huckelberry  
County Administrator  
130 E. Congress, Floor 10  
Tucson, AZ 85701

RE: End of Fiscal Year Report to the Pima County Board of Supervisors and Bond Advisory Committee

Dear Mr. Huckelberry:

Referencing your recent letter of August 14, 2015 and the request for the Town of Sahuarita Pima County Bond Projects Report to be submitted for review by the Pima County Bond Advisory Committee Meeting on September 11, 2015 and the Board of Supervisors is the enclosed requested report on the Bike Lane Project.

I have also enclosed the final report on the Open Space Acquisition Project as there were Town Council, Bond Committee and Board of Supervisors actions that occurred between our last report and today with respect to finalizing that project.

Project # CR4.42 included right-of-way acquisition for and construction of bicycle lanes on both the eastbound and westbound sides of Sahuarita Road. This project was completed in two phases. Phase I from Interstate 19 to La Villita Road was completed in 2011. Phase II from La Villita Road to the current Town limits (approximately Country Club Road) is substantially complete.

Questions on either project update can be directed to the staff person responsible for the oversight of each project. Their contact information is provided at the end of each report.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Kelly Udall", is written over the typed name.

L. Kelly Udall  
Town Manager

Enclosure

Cc: Sheila Bowen, Town Engineer/Public Works Director  
Debbie Summers, Parks & Recreation Director  
Nicole Fyffe, Executive Assistant to the County Administrator

**Project # CR4.42 – Bicycle Lane on Sahuarita Road @ \$1,500,000**

1. **CIP Status:** The scope of this project is included within the Town’s CIP under the Sahuarita Road project (#03-019A). The total Town budget of \$1,462,500.00 is the Maximum Allocated Amount, based on the Bond Ordinance allocation of \$ 1,500,000 minus 2.5% which shall be retained by the County to recover a portion of the County’s administrative costs.
2. **Scope and Benefits of the Project:** Right-of-way acquisition for and construction of bicycle lanes on both the eastbound and westbound sides of Sahuarita Road, which is a popular cycling route in southern Arizona. Because Sahuarita Road is one of the main east/west thoroughfares in the Town and is adjacent to the Sahuarita school campuses and the Town Hall Complex, it experiences very heavy traffic demand on a daily basis. Sahuarita Road is also part of a popular bicycling loop that runs through southern Pima County around the perimeter of Tucson and is utilized by cyclists from around the County. Development of bicycle lanes will greatly improve the safety and circulation element of this roadway.
3. **Jurisdiction’s Actions to Implement the Project:** The Town has designed and constructed the Sahuarita Road Bicycle Lane Project in conjunction with the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) defined Sahuarita Road Improvement Project. Due to the scale of the RTA defined project, the Town separated the Sahuarita Road Project into two phases. Sahuarita Road Phase I includes improvements from Interstate 19 to La Villita Road, while Sahuarita Road Phase II includes improvements from La Villita Road to the current Town limits (approximately Country Club Road). Construction on the Phase I portion of Sahuarita Road improvements, including bicycle lanes, started in September of 2009 and was completed in January 2011. The Phase II portion of the project has been delivered using a Construction Manager at-Risk (CMAR) process. The Phase II improvements, west of Nogales Highway, started construction in May 2012 and are substantially complete. Construction on Phase II improvements, east of Nogales Highway, started in January 2014 and has been substantially completed.
4. **Status of Intergovernmental Agreements:** There is an existing, fully executed intergovernmental agreement between the Town and Pima County. To date, the Town has requested \$1,462,496.39 in reimbursements for the overall Sahuarita Road bike lane project.
5. **Unresolved Issues:** There are no unresolved issues.

Department Staff responsible for the monitoring of  
this project:

**Mo El-Ali, P.E.**

*Assistant Town Engineer*

*Department of Public Works*

Please direct inquires and questions to Mr. El-Ali at  
(520) 344-7100 or [melali@sahuaritaaz.gov](mailto:melali@sahuaritaaz.gov) .

September 2015

## Project OS1.19 - Santa Cruz River Open Space @ \$1,500,000

**1. CIP Status:** The County acquired the open space properties. The Town did not incur capital expenditures for this project and therefore, it was not included within the most current CIP.

**2. Scope and Benefits of the Project:** In 2004 voters authorized the sale of \$1.5 million in general obligation bonds for the acquisition of natural open space along the Santa Cruz River within the Town of Sahuarita. In July 2014, the County did acquire 290 acres of State Trust land within the Town along the Santa Cruz River, surrounding the Green Valley Wastewater Reclamation Facility. The purchase was funded with Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department Obligations as the purpose was largely to provide a State required buffer around the wastewater facility. Much of the acreage located west of the facility along the west bank of the Santa Cruz River is located within the erosion hazard setback and will remain undisturbed natural open space. The County intends to locate the historic Anza Trail within this property along the west bank, and the Town has expressed interest in constructing a small trailhead within this property along the west bank; both of which are allowable uses under the wastewater buffer requirements, and would have been allowable uses even if open space bond funding had funded the acquisition.

**3. Jurisdiction's Actions to Implement the Project:** After much effort, the Town and County were unable to expend the entire \$1.5 million in bond funding originally authorized for the purchase of open space along the Santa Cruz River within the Town. The land along the river is owned by only a few landowners. The open space around the Wastewater facility was funded with sewer revenues, the primary purpose of the purchase was to meet State buffer requirements. But the majority of the land will remain as natural open space and will provide a site for future construction of low impact recreational facilities like the Anza Trail and trailhead. The Town Council held a Public Hearing March 23, 2015 and voted to approve a Bond ordinance amendment that would mark this bond project complete based on the 2014 purchase. This also included termination of the IGA between the Town and County. The remaining funds have been reallocated back to the County through the County's process for Bond ordinance amendments.

**4. Status of Intergovernmental Agreements:** The fully executed intergovernmental agreement between the Town and Pima County is no longer be in effect as the Sahuarita Town Council and Pima County Board of Supervisors have successfully amended the Bond Ordinance, which included approval by the Bond Advisory Committee on March 13, 2015 and the Board of Supervisors on April 7, 2015.

**5. Unresolved Issues:** There are no unresolved issues.



Department Staff responsible for the monitoring of this project: **Parks & Recreation-Director, Debbie Summers**. Please direct inquiries and questions to Ms. Summers at 520-822-8894 or [dsummers@sahuaritaaz.gov](mailto:dsummers@sahuaritaaz.gov).