

Additional Comments/Letters
May 2014

PLAZA SAN AGUSTIN

15 Calle Conquista
Tucson, Arizona 85716
520-881-4530

May 5, 2014

Larry Hecker, Chairman
County Bond Committee
Hecker & Muehlebach, PLLC
405 W. Franklin
Tucson, Az 85701

Dear Larry,

We are preparing presentations for the City Bond Advisory Committee meeting on May 21 and the County Bond Committee Hearing on June 20, in the hope that the bond package will include funding to acquire and secure the land to make possible a future public plaza, Plaza San Agustin.

We have received endorsements from a wide range of sources in the community. We will submit a complete package of the materials to the Committee as the hearings approach. But we wanted to draw your attention to a small sample of them at this time. We are enclosing letters from:

- Bishop Kicanas
- Congressman Raul Grijalva
- Jim Gresham, the late Tucson architect

We hope you will take the opportunity to review them.

Thank you in advance,



Jean-Paul Bierny
jpbierny@yahoo.com



Chris Tanz
christanz@post.harvard.edu

On behalf of the Plaza San Agustin, LLC



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DIOCESE OF TUCSON

❖ BISHOP MORENO PASTORAL CENTER ❖
111 SOUTH CHURCH AVENUE
P.O. Box 31 • Tucson, Arizona 85702-0031
520-838-2500 • Fax: 520-838-2590 • www.diocesetucson.org

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

April 30, 2014

Larry Hecker, Chair
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee

Dear Larry:

Downtown is coming back to life. It is heartwarming to see the resurgence in activity and what we can accomplish when we come together as a community. Now that we have momentum, we need to set our sights on other projects that continue to foster a sense of community-building that express the spirit of Tucson.

I was recently graced by a presentation given by Jean-Paul Bierny and Chris Tanz on the Plaza San Agustin project. As you aware, this project has been in the planning stages for some time. Revisiting their proposal only convinced me that we, as a community, need to take the next steps to make this project a reality.

The timing of the revival of this project couldn't be more perfect. We are now in the middle of our own study to look at ways to enhance Cathedral Square. We have hired architects Richard Fe Tom and Kegan Tom of The Architecture Company to perform a comprehensive study and develop a master plan of Cathedral Square. They attended the Plaza San Agustin presentation and were thoroughly impressed with the project. United in a common vision, I am committing to working in conjunction with Mr. Bierny and Ms. Tanz in creating an integrated plan that will result in a south downtown district that includes Plaza San Agustin, Tucson Convention Center, Museum of Contemporary Art, and Cathedral Square.

As a long-standing member of the downtown community, I am soliciting your commitment to Plaza San Agustin by including it in the upcoming Pima County Bond Election. Projects like this improve quality of community and quality of life for all. I believe that the residents of Pima County will easily comprehend the benefits that this project brings to Tucson and Pima County and give their full support to the project. It is evident that Downtown is coming back to life and we all must to do what we can to nurture its growth.

Sincerely,

Most Rev. Gerald F. Kicanas, D.D.
Bishop of Tucson



RAÚL M. GRIJALVA
UNITED STATES CONGRESSMAN

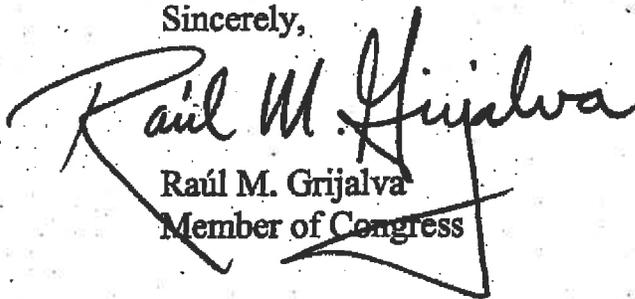
March 24, 2005

As a city rich with cultural diversity and historical tradition, Tucson would benefit strongly from a centerpiece for celebration and public activity. The Plaza San Agustin is a beautiful addition to the downtown area, unifying the people of Tucson as a focal point of urban life. The plaza brightens our neighborhoods and instills a sense of civic pride in the populace it serves.

Reminiscent of the European Renaissance with architectural brilliance reflecting our Hispanic ties, this plaza embraces the legacy of our city and the greater Southwest. Acting as a forum for public interaction and cultural awareness, the Plaza San Agustin showcases a variety of activities that celebrate the history of our city, past and present.

I wholeheartedly support the Plaza and everything it offers, believing it will benefit the entire city. It is only with the selflessness and encouragement of Tucson's citizens and community volunteers that the Plaza San Agustin can continue to enhance our vibrant downtown. I look forward to a bright future for the Plaza San Agustin and all of Tucson. Please contact Ruben Reyes, District Director, at (520) 622-6788 with relevant questions.

Sincerely,



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

James A. Gresham, FAIA
3654 North Cactus Boulevard
Tucson, AZ 85716
520.795.0871(o)
520.975.0202(c)
jagresham@gmail.com

June 18, 2011

Plaza San Agustin LLC
Jean-Paul Bierny and Chris Tanz
15 Calle Conquista
Tucson, AZ 85716

Dear Chris and Jean-Paul:

It is with the greatest pleasure that I am writing to you regarding your project for Plaza San Agustin. The project is elegantly conceived and singularly appropriate to Tucson's downtown. Many changes have occurred in the downtown for the fifty or so years that I have been an observer. Much of the original flavor and character has been lost, but not to the extent that a project like Plaza San Agustin can't, in large measure, restore.

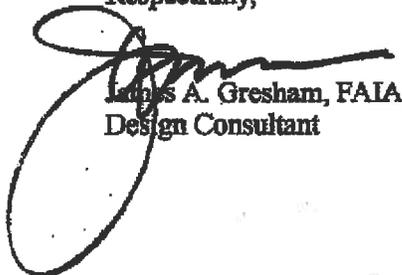
The idea of "church and plaza" is of singular historic importance to the Southwest and Mexico. The imagery of church and plaza is iconic and not at all alien to Tucson's architectural past, particularly regarding the original St. Augustine Cathedral and the Plaza de la Mesilla. With this in mind, and with due regard to Tucson's present urban scene, I find the San Agustin project to have a great sense of appropriateness toward making Tucson a more vibrant place which possesses an architectural tradition that can be a model for much future development.

Furthermore, the Plaza fulfills the goal of Rio Nuevo to bring life back to Tucson's center. For many years I have felt that the City should get behind a significant Rio Nuevo project and "Make it happen"!

Plaza San Agustin is the right kind of size, the right kind of use, the right kind of architecture and in the right location for the city to pursue as an exemplar for future projects. Furthermore the project offers the opportunity to have it constructed in two phases with the second phase being that portion south of Corral Street.

Initiative and investment is going to be required to get the downtown moving again. This project is ideal to achieve that goal. In partnership with the city, you and your associates have, in this project, an excellent opportunity to provide that leadership.

Respectfully,



James A. Gresham, FAIA
Design Consultant



Southern Section

southernsectionboard@gmail.com

Board of Directors

May 12, 2014

Director

Jennifer Donofrio
City of Tucson

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University of Arizona

Student Liaison

Sarah Meggison

Chairman and Members

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Pima County Administrator's Office
130 W Congress Street
Tucson AZ 85701

Subject: Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Bond Proposal

CC: Chuck Huckelberry, Pima County Administrator

On behalf of the Arizona Planning Association Southern Section Board, it is my pleasure to write a letter in support for the Living Streets Alliance Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Bond Program.

Everyone walks- and improving the walkability of this region benefits us all; from healthier waist lines to raises in housing values, and benefits to the environment. Making our region more walkable may also reduce the number of unnecessary deaths and injuries caused by people walking in vehicular lanes where no sidewalk exists or crossing streets.

The Arizona Planning Association Southern Section board feels strongly that supporting the Pedestrian Safety and Comfort bond is the best investment Pima County can make for the future of its residents. We want walking to be safe and comfortable in Pima County.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Donofrio

Orlanthis Henderson

Artemio Hoyos, AICP

Katharine Hardy

Anna Casadei, AICP

Jenna Reilly

Sarah Meggison

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 9:14 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 08:31 AM Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 8:31 AM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 08:31 AM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 08:31 AM was submitted by Guest on 5/14/2014 8:31:17 AM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
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First Name	Richard
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Last Name	Jones
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Email	joneslaw@cox.net
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Address	898 w. calle de los higos
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City	Tucson
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State	AZ
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Zipcode	85745
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Message Subject	Living Street Alliance proposal
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As a pedestrian commuter and downtown resident, I fully support the proposal by the LSA. Traffic and walkers do not easily mix. I believe that our community should

Comment	emphasize walking and biking in the urban core while simultaneously discouraging auto traffic. The future belongs to alternatives to cars and walking is the easiest alternative to support.
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Response requested	No
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Thank you, Pima County, Arizona

**Chairman and Members
Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
c/o Pima County Administrator's Office
130 We. Congress Street
Tucson, AZ 85701**

**Subject: Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Bond Proposal
CC: Chuck Huckleberry, Pima County Administrator**

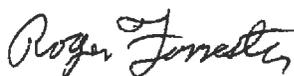
14 May 2014

As Chair of the Senior Impact Coalition of United Way of Tucson & Southern Arizona, I submit this letter of support for the Living Streets Alliance Pedestrian Safety & Comfort Bond Proposal.

The proposal aligns with the core goals of healthy and independent seniors. Safe and attractive walkways can increase physical and mental health, decrease social isolation, and offer access to transportation alternatives that can be economical for seniors of many ages and incomes. The economic and environmental values contained within the proposal elements are critical to the future our community.

Please vote in support of this proposal.

Sincerely,



**Roger Forrester, Chair
Senior Impact Coalition
United Way of Tucson & Southern Arizona**

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:00 PM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 11:54 AM Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:55 AM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 11:54 AM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 11:54 AM was submitted by Guest on 5/14/2014 11:54:34 AM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
First Name	Eileen
Last Name	DeBellis
Email	mcmillanst@q.com
Address	1221 W MCMILLAN ST
City	TUCSON
State	AZ
Zipcode	85705

Message Subject Bonds for Flowing Wells Neighborhoods

Please consider the Flowing Wells Neighborhood (Flowing Wells and Roger) in the next bond election. We have seen improvements to roads (Wetmore and Flowing Wells, La Canada and River, River Rd, and Oracle)and businesses all around us, only to emphasize the dire need for improvements in our specific area. Our neighborhoods are aging and growing we need side-walks, cross-walks, street lights and speed humps desperately to protect our neighbors especially our children and handicapped. We have approximately 7

Comment bus stops in our area,that I know of, and possibly more, I am not familiar with Amphi School stops. I have seen people in wheelchairs travel the middle of the street because there are no sidewalks. We also have 3 schools in the area with another being built to open this fall. We seem to be the forgotten zone because we border between the county and the city. Please strongly consider us for the upcoming bond election and funds. The Flowing Well neighbors would love to be able to take pride in where we live again. Thanks for giving us a voice finally.

Response requested No

Referred_Page <http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=8b2eb474fcd3f35e645278145&id=ff1804081c&e=b190dff86>

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:00 PM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 11:39 AM Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 11:40 AM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 11:39 AM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 11:39 AM was submitted by Guest on 5/14/2014 11:39:51 AM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
First Name	Erin
Last Name	Lockley
Email	elockley@email.arizona.edu
Address	210 E 2nd St #4
City	Tucson
State	AZ
Zipcode	85705

Message Subject Pedestrian Bond Proposal

Comment Dear Committee Members, Please support the Pedestrian Bond Proposal as presented by the Living Streets Alliance. Tucson's pedestrian friendliness was a huge factor in my choosing to come to graduate school here. I appreciate being able to get most places I need to go by either walking or taking SunTran. Most of the time I do feel safe doing so, but there is definitely still room for improvement. This investment would not only benefit Tucson's current residents but could also encourage economic development. Thank you!

Response requested No

Referred Page <http://www.livingstreetsalliance.org/2014/05/take-a-stand-for-pedestrian-safety/>

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 9:29 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:01 PM Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 6:01 PM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:01 PM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:01 PM was submitted by Guest on 5/13/2014 6:01:27 PM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
First Name	Cora
Last Name	Crecelius
Email	corac@email.arizona.edu
Address	2146 E Hawthorne
City	Tucson
State	AZ
Zipcode	85719

Message Subject Living Streets Alliance proposal

Comment As a student here since 2009, I know first-hand how much improvement is needed to enhance pedestrian safety. Please take this proposal regarding pedestrian improvements in our region seriously at once.

Response requested No

Referred Page <https://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=63512>

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 9:29 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:19 PM Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 6:20 PM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:19 PM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:19 PM was submitted by Guest on 5/13/2014 6:19:33 PM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
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First Name	Loraine
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Last Name	Zagula
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Email	loraineza@gmail.com
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Address	1613 E. Adelaide Dr.
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City	Tucson
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State	AZ
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Zipcode	85719
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Message Subject	LSA bond Proposal
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Comment	I urge you to support the Living Streets Alliance bond proposal to fund pedestrian infrastructure improvements. The proposal received the 2nd highest ranking in its category in the on line bond survey. It is a collaborative vision for the future of pedestrian safety, comfort, and quality of life that is desperately needed in our region. Thank you. Loraine Zagula
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Response requested	No
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Thank you, Pima County, Arizona

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 9:29 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:39 PM Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 6:39 PM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:39 PM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:39 PM was submitted by Guest on 5/13/2014 6:39:28 PM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
First Name	William
Last Name	Zaffer
Email	bzaffer@hotmail.com
Address	3638 Kopak
City	Tucson
State	AZ
Zipcode	85719

Message Subject funds for pedestrians

Comment Bond Advisory Committee: With the new bond coming out some funds should be allocated in certain areas for bikes and pedestrians.

Response requested Yes

Referred_Page <https://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=63512>

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 9:29 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:50 PM Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 6:50 PM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:50 PM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 06:50 PM was submitted by Guest on 5/13/2014 6:50:16 PM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
First Name	Angela
Last Name	Armijo
Email	armijo.angela.2010@gmail.com
Address	
City	
State	AZ
Zipcode	

Message Subject Pedestrian Bond Proposal: Living Streets Alliance

Comment I am recent Masters in Public Health graduate at the University of Arizona, and also a pedestrian. Tucson is a city set to be a LEADER in pedestrian safety. Below is a post I wrote for my Introduction to Planning course on pedestrian safety in Tucson. 16+ deaths is UNACCEPTABLE, and we need the proper infrastructure for pedestrians to be safe. I encourage you to explore this blog that further accentuates the critical nature of this funding for Living Streets Alliance. This infrastructure is NECESSARY to increase individuals willingness to walk around Tucson, which can help to increase physical activity as well as promote economic activity within small businesses in Tucson. Here is my post: I recently had a driver do it right. I was running along Campbell Ave., about to cross the intersection of the entrance to the University Medical Center. I slowed to approach the intersection, the driver and I made eye contact, and she waved me across. In my [personal] opinion, all of these steps need to happen. Both slow to yield, eye contact occurs, a decision is made, and the cross happens. Without one of these steps, the action becomes dangerous. This has not been common practice recently in Tucson. Tucson police reports show that up to 109 traffic accidents have involved pedestrians so far in 2013. Sixteen pedestrians have died so far in 2013, including a 7-year old boy. Two pedestrians have died in the past two days. That's a 150% increase over 2012. A large amount of these accidents have occurred a high-traffic street, such as Speedway Blvd., with plenty of crosswalks and pedestrian hawk-lights. There are 115 reported pedestrian light-up crosswalks in Tucson. This isn't old news, either. In an October 2011 news

posting, 13 pedestrians had died as a result of a traffic accident. The issue here oftentimes isn't the lack of crossing infrastructure in many of the locations of these accidents, it is absolutely environmental factors and driver and pedestrian awareness and education. Distracted driving, pedestrians "jaywalking," and a lack of lighting produce an environment asking for accidents. In a place that includes many high-traffic, high-speed streets surrounding the university area, it makes pedestrians incredibly vulnerable. In an effort to address these tragic, preventable deaths, Tucson has formed the Pedestrian Advisory Committee to find a solution, which just met for the first time in September. Organizations like Living Streets Alliance are engaging politicians in their "I Walk. I Ride. I Vote." campaign to make this issue a number one priority, and have publicly posted which politicians have responded to their survey. With an upcoming election, this needs to be a critical issue. Tucson has done a lot of things right in terms of pedestrian and bike safety, but allowing these statistics to continue year after year is absolutely unacceptable and needs to be addressed through both urban design and intensive educational campaigns for both drivers and pedestrians.

Response requested No

Referred_Page <http://www.livingstreetsalliance.org/2014/05/take-a-stand-for-pedestrian-safety/>

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 9:28 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 08:51 PM (1) Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 8:52 PM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 08:51 PM (1) Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-13 08:51 PM (1) was submitted by Guest on 5/13/2014 8:51:37 PM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
First Name	Paul
Last Name	Blowers
Email	blowers.paul.85719@gmail.com
Address	
City	Tucson
State	AZ
Zipcode	85716

Message Subject Being a Pedestrian and Bicyclist in Tucson

Hello, I'm not able to make the meeting coming up about the issues I care about but this note is to convey my worries, which are two. I'm worried about the number of pedestrian deaths in Tucson. I'm almost always on a bike or walking and the fact that there are many areas of roads/intersections that are very unfriendly to those not in cars. The interchange by aviation highway and Campbell. The intersection of Alvernon with Aviation Highway. There is no real safe viable route to bike from near campus to the airport, which is one thing that I would like to see. The other issue is the consideration of widening Broadway. There seems to be no need to widen Broadway from what I see as I bike back and forth, and in the few times I'm in a car. The bottlenecks do not occur from Alvernon east for holding up traffic, but occur out at Swan and even farther east. I never have to wait more than one light cycle to get through even those congested areas. Leave the vibrant commercial district along Broadway intact and invest the monies in other areas where there can be a benefit since I don't see one accruing there, Paul

Response requested No

Referred Page <https://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=63512>

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 9:28 AM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 05:25 AM Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 5:25 AM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 05:25 AM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 05:25 AM was submitted by Guest on 5/14/2014 5:25:09 AM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
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First Name	Lois
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Last Name	Rose
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Email	lois.rose55@yahoo.com
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Address	16476 S. Tumbleweed Springs Ct
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City	Vail
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State	AZ
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Zipcode	85641
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Message Subject	street safety
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Comment	<p>My concern is with the physical safety of walkers and bikers in Tucson. Far too many pedestrians die here on the streets. There must be ways to make the streets safer for walkers. Our lives have become organized around cars and interstates and streets. I am sure the Europeans would have some tips for us in this regard. We would not have to start from zero knowledge.</p>
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Response requested	No
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Thank you, Pima County, Arizona



PIMA COUNCIL ON AGING
Advocacy, Action, Assistance

Area Agency on Aging – a nonprofit organization since 1967

May 14, 2014

Pima County Bond Advisory Committee
Chairman and Members
c/o Pima County Administrator's Office
130 W. Congress
Tucson, AZ 85701

Re: Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Bond Proposal

Dear Chairman and Members,

We are writing to you today in support of a major pedestrian funding initiative proposed by Living Streets Alliance in the next Pima County Bond. The Pima County Council on Aging advocates for the well-being and independence in the lives of older adults in Pima County, and accessibility to a safe and comfortable walking environment is central to this mission. Older adults are major stakeholders in the pedestrian environment, given that they comprise a substantial proportion of citizens who do not drive. As the share of the Pima County population that is over 65 increases to over 20% by 2030, a growing number of residents will experience mobility limitations and other disabilities that affect their transportation choices. Tragically, while more are likely to be a pedestrian, older adults are also often killed or incapacitated in a pedestrian crash. The Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Bond Program thus addresses both the concerns and priorities of our older population.

There are several aspects of this Bond proposal that merit support. One of these is the availability to fund projects across all Pima County jurisdictions, as well as the flexibility of the projects based on the needs of the community. A safe, shady and accessible pedestrian network allows seniors to engage in the community and engage in an enjoyable form of exercise, which contributes to a higher quality of life among our older population. We also are pleased by the emphasis of this bond proposal on connecting neighborhoods to community destinations and particularly among low-income residents. Community facilities are often located in and around neighborhoods and attractive and safe routes would increase access and use of these resources. The incorporation of transit and bus stops as a pedestrian destination is also an important feature. We also support the idea of using pedestrian infrastructure to support local business. Seniors are also consumers and better able to participate in the local economy when they can arrive to a business on foot.

We are pleased to express our support for the \$25 million Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Bond and look forward to these opportunities for pedestrian improvements across our region being awarded and funded.

Sincerely,

W. Mark Clark
President & CEO





May 8, 2014

Pima County Bond Committee
Chairman and Members
130 W. Congress
Tucson, AZ 85701

Dear Chairman and Members,

We are writing in recommendation of the Living Streets Alliance pedestrian infrastructure bond proposal. The City of Tucson Pedestrian Advisory Committee convened our first meeting in September of 2013 at the behest of Mayor Rothschild, at least partially in response to a staggering number of pedestrian deaths in the city in the past year. The PAC represents all six city wards, as well as constituencies exceptionally impacted by the walking environment that include youth, the elderly, and the disabled. The PAC has developed an overall mission: ***to identify and set priorities in policies, programs, and projects to create a complete pedestrian environment for Tucson.***

As PAC members engage in a process of refining our goals under this mission, we are increasingly aware that the major constraint to creating pedestrian infrastructure is a distinct and equitable funding stream for pedestrian projects. Overall, pedestrian funding makes up less than 2% of transportation **despite the fact that everyone is a pedestrian**, and one-third of our community cannot or does not drive and thus relies upon walking as a major form of transportation. This bond proposal fits well with the vision of the PAC to increase funding, and would allow jurisdictions to identify and pursue priorities for their communities, and the resulting projects would create both a vision and a roadmap for the future.

Projects that fall under the scope of pedestrian infrastructure include a variety of approaches to meet the needs of diverse community. These include: 1) Improved connectivity created by safe crossings between neighborhoods and in reaching adjacent amenities using tools such as high visibility crosswalks, curb extensions, crossing refuges, ADA compliant curb ramps and on-ramp pedestrian signals; 2) continuous well-maintained sidewalks of adequate width; 3) Streetscape improvements that make walking both comfortable and attractive; 4) Traffic calming techniques such as road diets, corner bulbouts, traffic circles, and planted medians that create quieter, local roadways; 5) Routes to destinations close to home and work, such as local businesses, libraries, parks and community centers; and 6) Green infrastructure that creates a pleasant microclimate using parkways, rain gardens and street trees.

The bond proposal was popular among residents who responded to the county-wide survey. This may reflect the sheer numbers of people potentially impacted by the bond, as well as the multiple benefits of an improved walking environment such as reduced traffic congestion, improved health outcomes, increased access to community resources, improved air and water quality and a curbed heat island effect. The PAC members view this bond proposal as an important step that provides further momentum to city and regional leaders interested in developing Tucson as a vibrant, attractive and economically viable environment for youth, young professionals, businesses, and older residents seeking economic security and quality of life.

Recognizing the number and importance of the many projects being proposed to the Pima Bond Advisory Committee (BAC) and the competing and diverse needs of our community, the CoT PAC members strongly and respectfully urge the BAC to support this Pedestrian Safety and Comfort Bond Program for the benefit of all County residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maia Ingram".

Maia Ingram, Pedestrian Advisory Committee Chair
(520) 275-6369 – maiai@email.arizona.edu

Deseret Romero

From: Nicole Fyffe
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 12:06 PM
To: Deseret Romero
Subject: FW: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 10:24 AM Submission Notification

From: notification@pima.gov [mailto:notification@pima.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 14, 2014 10:24 AM
To: Nicole Fyffe
Subject: Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 10:24 AM Submission Notification

Bond Advisory Committee Feedback 2014-05-14 10:24 AM was submitted by Guest on 5/14/2014 10:24:26 AM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
First Name	Shari
Last Name	Popen
Email	director@skyislands.org
Address	
City	
State	AZ
Zipcode	

Message Subject Pedestrian safety proposal

Comment I support the pedestrian safety proposal being submitted by the Living Streets Alliance. I cannot attend the meeting on Friday, but if I could I would stand up for people in our community who walk and bike. I am the director of a high school in Tucson and many of our students are walkers. They are routinely at risk because we, as a community, do not sufficient protect our fellow pedestrians, especially the young and elderly. Please find a way to strengthen pedestrian safety for all of us who either choose to walk or walk by necessity. Thank you. Shari Popen

Response requested No
Referred_Page

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona



Memo To: Chair and Members of the Bond Advisory Committee

From: Judy Clinco, Co-Chair, ELDER Alliance *JJC*

Date: 14 May 2014

RE: Support for Living Streets Alliance Pedestrian Safety & Comfort Bond Program Proposal

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of the ELDER Alliance, a collaboration of local agencies and community members that seeks to create aging friendly communities and services throughout Pima County that are responsive to the voices and perspectives of older adults. Our participating partners include the City of Tucson, Jewish Family & Children's Services of Southern Arizona, Imagine Greater Tucson, Independent Transportation Network of Greater Tucson, Interfaith Community Services, Our Family, Pima County Health Department, Pima Council on Aging, United Way of Tucson & Southern Arizona, and the University of Arizona Center on Aging. We receive funding support from the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona and the Knisely Family Foundation.

We share many values of sustainable community development with the Living Streets Alliance. The elements of the proposed bond program for Pedestrian Safety & Comfort reflect the lessons learned about the needs and wishes for positive aging in several local neighborhoods and communities with whom we have worked.

We urge you to vote in favor of this proposal.