

PROYECTO DE DECLARACIÓN DE IMPACTO AMBIENTAL DE NIVEL 1 DE LA INTERESTATAL I-11 Y EVALUACIÓN PRELIMINAR DE LA SECCIÓN 4(f) (PROYECTO DE EIS DE NIVEL 1), de Nogales a Wickenburg

FORMULARIO DE COMENTARIOS

Gracias por participar en el proceso de comentarios públicos sobre el proyecto de declaración de impacto ambiental de nivel 1 de la I-11.

El Departamento de Transporte de Arizona (ADOT) y la Administración de Autopistas Federales (FHWA) invitan a todas las partes interesadas a enviar sus comentarios sobre cualquier aspecto del proyecto de ElS de nivel 1. ADOT y FHWA tendrán en cuenta todos los comentarios al preparar la versión final de ElS de nivel 1, que incluirá las respuestas a todos los comentarios recibidos durante el periodo de comentarios sobre el proyecto de ElS de nivel 1 e identificarán una alternativa preferida (una alternativa a favor de la construcción o la alternativa en contra de la construcción).

Al enviar sus comentarios, sea lo más específico posible y proporcione detalles sobre sus inquietudes y recomendaciones.

A ADOT y FHWA les resulta útil recibir comentarios sobre:

- •æualquier alternativa o medida de mitigación que usted apoye o no apoye, y por qué;
- æl análisis del impacto ambiental y el rendimiento de las alternativas;
- la información que cree que está incompleta o es incorrect

Escriba sus comentarios en letra de imprenta a continuación. Los comentarios se deben recibir o sellar antes del 8 de julio de 2019.

I oppose 100% bringing I-11 so close to Vista Royale & Mothie Ranch.
There are no businesses once you leave How un and connect to
Hoy 93. This makes No sense! The original plan of 4-5 miles away
Som Vista Royale was not an issue. Our economy thrives because
OF our LOCATION & beauty + Lots OF State land. Prople move to our
town Sorpeace + quiet. Homes that are built close to or abutting
State land has added Value. Homeo at Vista Royale are priced
at \$500K and up because of the location. most people would
not purchase a home located right next to a Sissurary. Maybe in
the city but NOT in Wickenburg. The Town of Wickenburg recently
have recorded their original agreement with ADOT. Hive wo +
HWY 'H would be perfect for I-11 and save us taxpayers
Law's OF Dollars. I believe till univid Ale De an easy use for Drug
Trafferors. Please Do Not Ruin our wonderful town &
Información de contacto (opcional) (Didon't have this in English)
Nombre Juliantos + Characteristas Correo Electrónico IIDE Palestate Cyahoon
Dirección Po Popo 1163
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CONTACTO

o a Idouglas@azdot.gov. Las solicitudes deben presentarse lo antes posible para permitir que el Estado tenga la oportunidad de disponer las medidas necesarias.

CORREO POSTAL: Equipo del estudio de la EIS de nivel 1 de la I-11 • a/c Comunicaciones de ADOT • 1655 W. Jackson Street, Mail Drop 126F • Phoenix, AZ 85007 CORREO ELECTRÓNICO: i-11ADOTStudy@hdrinc.com | TELÉFONO: 1-844-544-8049 (línea gratuita/bilingüe) | SITIO WEB: i11study.com/Arizona



如需中文文件请致电 1-844-544-8049



I-11 DRAFT TIER 1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND PRELIMINARY SECTION 4(f) EVALUATION (DRAFT TIER 1 EIS)

Nogales to Wickenburg

COMMENT FORM

Thank you for participating in the I-11 Draft Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement public comment process.

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) encourage all interested parties to submit comments on any aspect of the Draft Tier 1 EIS. ADOT and FHWA will consider all comments in preparing the Final Tier 1 EIS, which will include responses to all comments received during the Draft Tier 1 EIS comment period, and will identify a Preferred Alternative (either a Build Alternative or the No Bulld Alternative).

When submitting comments, please be as specific as possible and provide details on your concerns and recommendations.

It is helpful to ADOT and FHWA to receive comments on:

- Any alternative or mitigation measure yousupport or oppose and why
- The analysis of environmental impacts and performance of alternatives
- Information you believe is incomplete or incorrect

Please print your comments below. Comments must be received or postmarked by July 8, 2019.
I owned a home on Chestrut St. in Chikerelong - When your (Apot)
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consideration the peoples wishes that have wild and
engoy our homethere
Contact Information (optional)
Name when Custa Email DINESIM 65@ D May Com
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City 21675 W. Late Creek R Vista Poyal State 172 ZIP 85358
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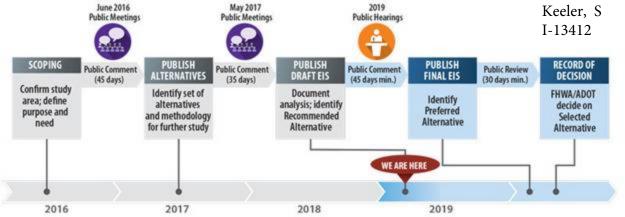
有关中文信息, 请致电 1-844-544-8049.

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PIMA COUNTY NATURAL RESOURCES, PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

TUCSON MOUNTAIN PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN

MAY 2008

PREPARED BY:

MCGANN & ASSOCIATES INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS
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1.0 Purpose of this Document:

The purpose of this document is to present a plan that identifies management objectives, that articulates policies, and that lists specific actions that will be taken related to the management of Tucson Mountain Park.

1.1 Related Documents:

This document was one of two that were prepared as part of the management plan project. A "Background Report" was also prepared. The "Background Report," dated November 2007, provides a comprehensive summary of the existing conditions, resources, and features of the Park. It includes information related to:

- The history of the park
- Conditions surrounding the park
- The park's physical resources
- The park's biological resources
- The park's cultural resources
- The park's visual resources
- Developed public use facilities within the park
- The park's trail system
- Leased facilities within the park
- The existing park infrastructure
- Current public use
- Current park staffing

By reference, the "Background Report" is made an integral part of this Management Plan. Copies of the "Background Report" are on file at the offices of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department. A digital version of the "Background Report" is also available on the Pima County website. (www.pima.gov/nrpr/places/tucs_mtpk/TMP_Mgmt_Plan_Bkgd_Rpt_Nov07.pdf).

1.2 The Planning Process

This Management Plan was prepared with input from various stakeholders and members of the public. Public input was solicited at a series of public open houses. The first of these open houses was conducted on October 17, 2007. At this event, participants were asked to provide input related to existing conditions at Tucson Mountain Park and how they might be changed to enhance resource conservation and public use. Written comments were received and evaluated.

The initial public open house was followed-up with an on-line survey. Survey questions were designed to elicit comments related to the public's perception of facilities at the park, the condition of the park resources, and current public use of the park. Though not a scientifically valid sample, respondents did provide useful information related to these important issues.

A second public open house was conducted on February 28, 2008. At this meeting key elements of the proposed Management Plan were presented. Written comments were received and evaluated. This public input received is reflected in this Management Plan.

Input was also solicited from other resource management agencies and Pima County Departments. Two workshops were conducted, one on July 27, 2007, and the other on February 21, 2008. Agencies represented at these workshops included: the Arizona Game and Fish Department, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service (Saguaro National Park), the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Tohono O'Odham Nation. Pima County Departments represented at these workshops included the Department of Transportation, the Development Services Department, the Office of Economic Development and Tourism, and the Sheriff's Department.

1.3 Data Collection

A variety of techniques were utilized to collect data related to the park's resources and the public's use of the park. These included:

- Literature reviews
- General field reconnaissance
- Review of maps and files as provided by the Pima County Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Department
- Review of current leases and other agreements
- Review of Tucson Mountain Park related information from the Pima County Natural Resource, Parks, and Recreation Department files
- Review of revenue data from park facilities that assess user fees
- Personal communications with current and retired park staff
- Vehicle counts on park roads at entrances to the park
- Vehicle counts at the entrances to the developed trailheads
- Observational surveys of users at trailheads and overlooks
- Mapping of trails using global positioning system (GPS) equipment
- Trail user counts using electronic counting equipment

The efforts of the many individuals, departments, and agencies that participated in this process through the provision of valuable information is acknowledged.

2.1 The Park Site:

Tucson Mountain Park is a 37 square mile natural resource park located in Pima County, Arizona. The site encompasses much of the southern portion of the Tucson Mountain range and portions of the alluvial area to the west. (See Figures 2-A and 2-B).

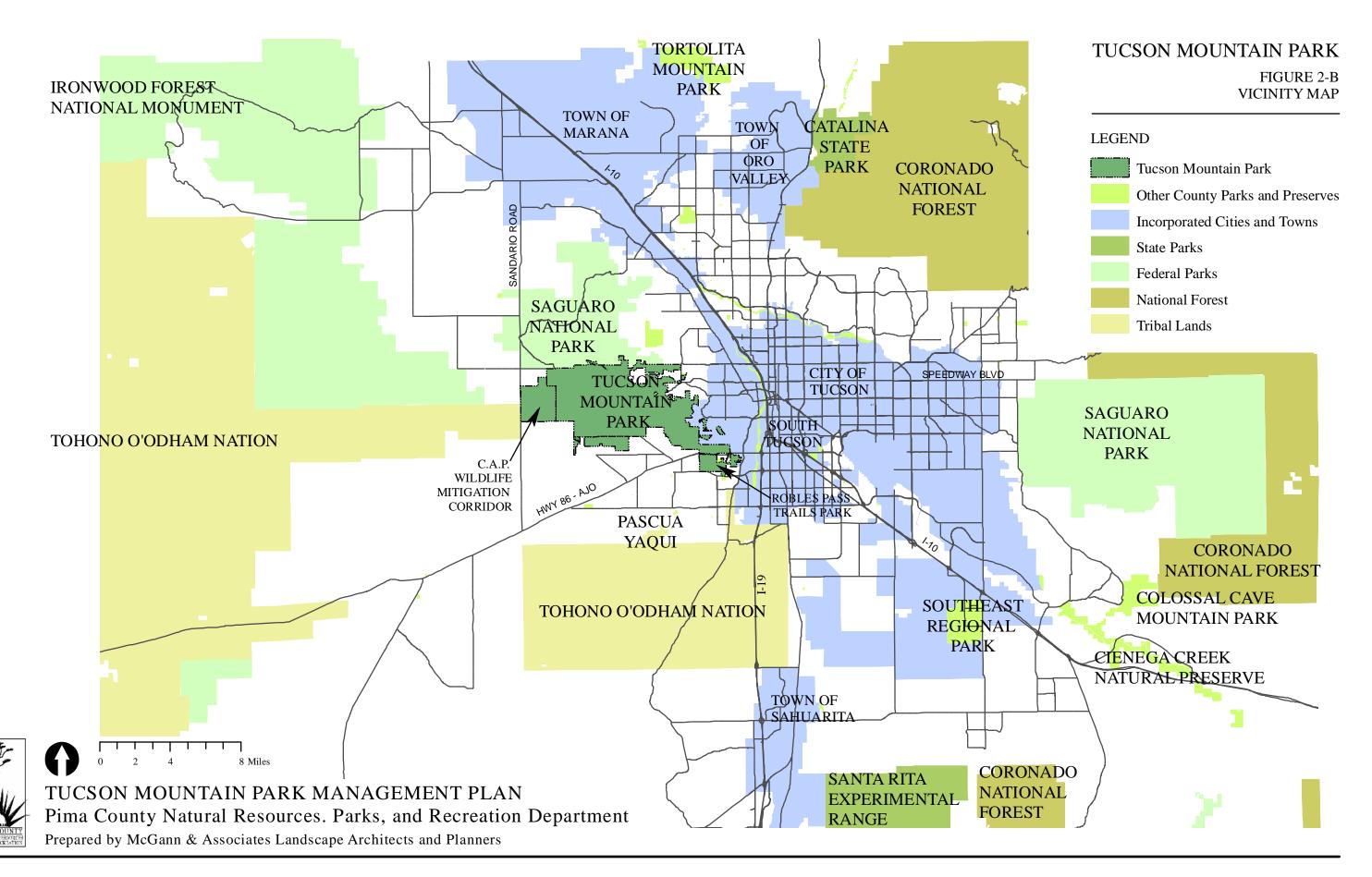
There are several distinct areas that are collectively managed as Tucson Mountain Park. These include:

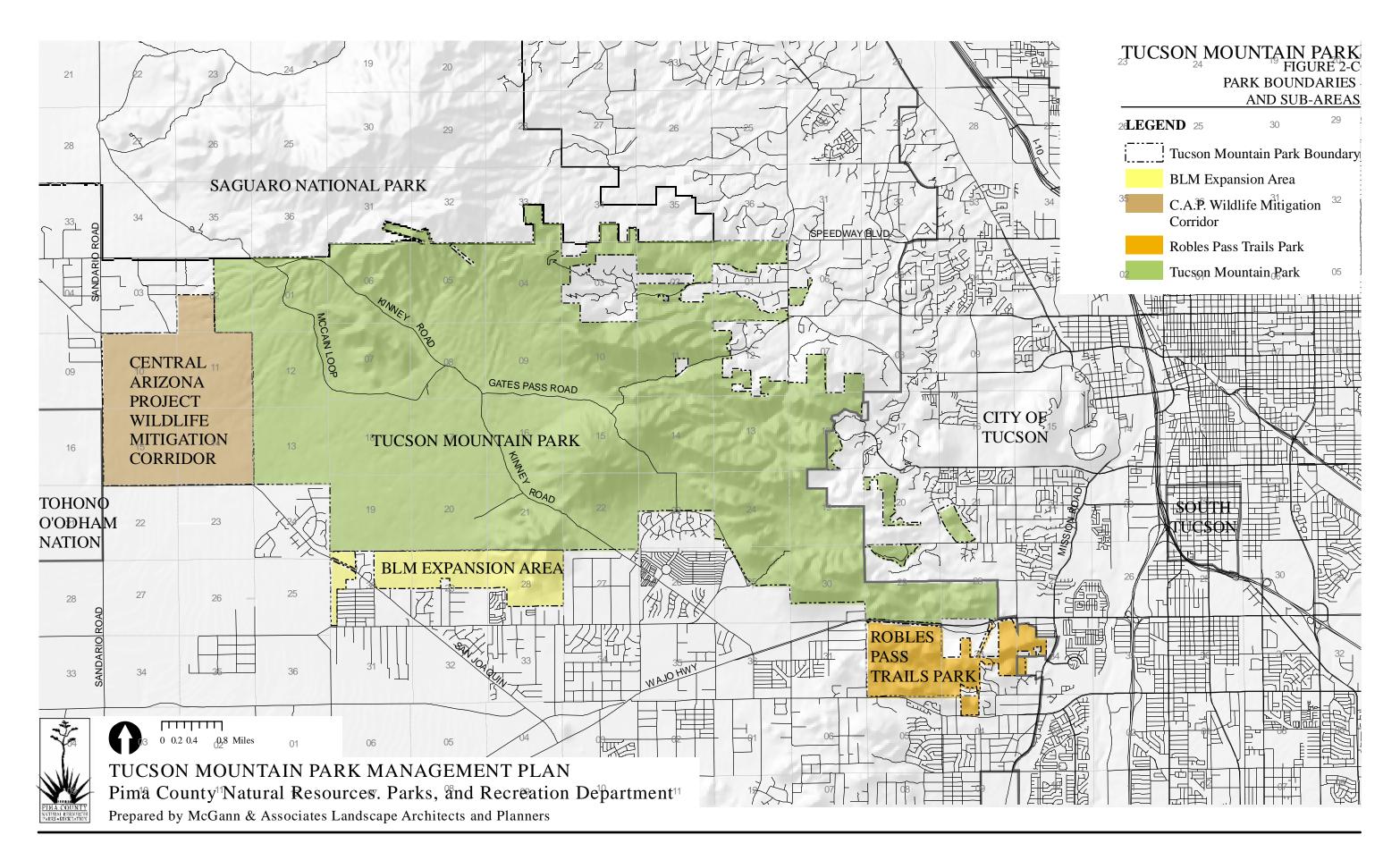
- 1. Lands historically included in Tucson Mountain Park
- 2. The Central Arizona Project (CAP) Wildlife Mitigation Corridor
- 3. The Robles Pass Trails Park
- 4. The BLM Expansion Area

These sub-areas of the park are illustrated in Figure 2-C.



Figure 2-A: Location Map





2.2 Park History:

The park was established in 1929 when 29,988 acres of federal land in the Tucson Mountains were withdrawn from mining and homesteading at the request of U.S. Senator Carl Hayden. Pima County leased these lands in 1930 and 1931 at an annual rental rate of three cents (\$0.03) per acre and established Tucson Mountain Park. At the time, Tucson Mountain Park was the largest county park in the nation.

In 1932, the Pima County Board of Supervisors appointed a five-member commission to assist the Board with the administration of the park. These individuals were T.D. Mallory of the Tucson Natural History Society, L.B. Hart of the Tucson Protective Game Association, Stanley Kitt of the Tucson Chamber of Commerce, Dr. E.P. Mathewson and C.B. Brown representing the public atlarge. Under the direction of the commission, the park was managed to conserve the resources of the site and to provide opportunities for outdoor recreation in a natural setting. Nearly 80 years later, the park continues to be operated for these important public purposes.

During the 1930's and 1940's various projects were undertaken within the park as part of program implemented by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the Works Projects Administration (WPA), and the Emergency Conservation Work Program (ECWP). These projects resulted in park buildings and other facilities, some of which are still present within Tucson Mountain Park.

In 1937, a Master Plan was prepared for the park under the direction of the National Park Service. This master plan called for the construction of several picnic areas that would serve as destinations for day trips to the park. The Master Plan also shows the Pima County Preventorium, a public health facility for individuals who had been diagnosed with tuberculosis. This facility was subsequently redeveloped and became the Gilbert Ray Campground that continues to operate today.

In 1959, the United States Department of the Interior issued a Public Land Order, that would have reversed the 1929 withdrawal and reopened 7,600 acres of land within the Tucson Mountains to mining entry. This action was met with intense local opposition spearheaded by the Pima County Board of Supervisors. Their efforts resulted in a rescinding of the order and led to a series of legislative proposals to address the long-term status of the park lands. These proposal culminated in a November 15, 1961 proclamation by President John F. Kennedy that transferred 15,360 acres of land to the National Park Service and the establishment of the Tucson Mountain Unit of Saguaro National Park. The remaining park lands were incrementally patented by Pima County under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act to become the Tucson Mountain Park that exists today.

2.3 The Park Setting:

Tucson Mountain Park is located within the rapidly growing Tucson metropolitan area. When the park was established in 1929, the population of Tucson was approximately 32,506 and the urbanized portion of the city covered a few square miles east of the mountain range. Today, the population of the metropolitan area has grown to over 1,000,000 people and urban development extends around the mountain range.

In the 1970's, 80's and 90's, most of the growth was east of the Tucson Mountain Range. It was characterized by medium to low-density residential development in the Tucson Mountain foothills. It also included the Starr Pass Resort which includes a hotel and golf course adjacent to the park.

Recent years have seen a significant amount of growth in areas southwest and west of Tucson Mountain Park and this growth pattern is anticipated to continue and will include residential, commercial and other land uses. The scope of this anticipated growth resulted in Pima County initiating an area-wide planning effort, the Southwest Infrastructure Plan. The goal of the plan is to outline a strategy for the development of the infrastructure and public services needed to support the anticipated growth.

Urban growth west and southwest of the park is significant in that it will impact the visual resources and unique vistas that have become a distinguishing feature of Tucson Mountain Park. It will also result in higher volumes of automobile traffic on the park's roads not generated by, or related to, facilities within the Park.

2.4 Physical Resources of the Park:

Tucson Mountain Park encompasses much of the southern half of the Tucson Mountain Range. The highest peak in the park is Golden Gate Peak, elevation 4,288 feet. The several other peaks that form the ridge line of that range, Tower Peak, Bushmaster Peak, Bren Peak, and Cat Mountain are above, or near, the 4,000 ft. elevation. Collectively, these peaks and ridges create a dramatic and colorful backdrop for the Tucson metropolitan area.

There are three distinct geological zones within the park; the steep mountain peaks, the foothill areas, and the flat alluvial zones. The mountain peaks are characterized by Rhyolite, an igneous, volcanic (extrusive) formation with shallow soil cover. The foothills are characterized by Andesite, and other rock formations with variable soil cover. The flatter areas in the western half of the park are characterized by alluvial deposits of gravel, sand, silt, and clay.

Anklam - Pantano - Chimenea soils predominate in the mountainous and foothill areas. These are shallow, well-drained soils. Pinaleno - Nickel - Palos Verdes soils predominate in the flatter western portion of the site. These soil types are well-drained and very deep alluvial soils.

2. Overview of Existing Conditions

There are a number of small caves within the park. Also present are numerous small mine shafts and excavations.

As a mountain ridge, the Park drains both east to the Santa Cruz River and west to the Brawley Wash / Black-Wash drainage system. Numerous washes originate and flow out of the park. Because the washes are located near the uppermost elevations of their watersheds, they are not major watercourses. They are, however, important in that they create biological corridors that connect the park with other natural resource and habitat areas.

2.5 Biological (Vegetative) Resources of the Park:

Tucson Mountain Park contains a range of Sonoran Desert vegetative communities. These vegetative communities shift in an elevational gradient from creosote flats on the basin floor to bajadas with palo verde and saguaro cacti to ridges with other vegetative associations.

As classified in the "Biotic Communities of the Southwestern United States and Northwestern Mexico," (Brown, 1994) the following vegetative communities are present within Tucson Mountain Park.

Arizona Upland - Palo Verde Mixed Cacti Community:

This vegetative community is the most prevalent in the park, encompassing approximately 90% of the park area. Predominant overstory species include foothills palo verde (*Parkinsonia microphylla*), blue palo verde (*Parkinsonia floridum*), ironwood (*Olneya tesota*), ocotillo (*Fouquieria splendens*), and saguaro (*Carnegiea gigantea*). Understory species include triangle-leaf bursage (*Ambrosia deltoidea*), brittlebush (*Encelia farinosa*), and jojoba (*Simmondsia chinensis*).

Mixed Scrub *Parkinsonia microphylla - Olneya tesota* Mixed Scrub Association:

This community occurs within the palo verde - mixed cacti matrix and consists of stands of ironwood (Olneya tesota). Ironwood stands are identified as a "special element" in the Pima County Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan.

Lower Colorado River Series - Creosote - Bursage Community:

This community occurs in the lowest elevation, westernmost portions of the park. Predominant species are creosote (*Larrea tridentata*) and triangle-leaf bursage (*Ambrosia deltoidea*).

Semidesert Grassland Community:

Small patches of this community occur in the upper elevations of the park. Characteristic species include Arizona cottontop (*Digitaria californica*), Green sprangletop (*Leptochloa dubia*), Plains lovegrass (*Eragrostis intermidia*), and gramma grasses (*Bouteloua* spp.).

2. Overview of Existing Conditions

Sonoran Riparian Scrubland (*Prosopis velutina* mixed scrub series) Community: This community occurs along canyon bottoms and washes creating relatively dense, lush vegetation. Overstory species include velvet mesquite (*Prosopis velutina*), and blue palo verde (*Parkinsonia floridum*). Understory species include wolfberry (Lycium spp.), desert hackberry (Celtis pallida), white-thorn acacia (*Acacia constricta*), and catclaw acacia (*Acacia greggii*).

Sacaton Scrub Series (Sporobolis wrightii Association) Community:

This plant community occurs in a very limited area of the park along the San Juan Wash. Representative species include Sacaton (*Sporobolis wrightii*), seep willow (*Baccharis salicifolia*), graythorn (*Ziziphus obtusifolia*), white-thorn acacia (*Acacia constricta*), and catclaw acacia (*Acacia greggii*).

Simmodsia chinensis - Mixed Scrub Association:

This community occurs in small patches on isolated north and east facing slopes in middle portions of the range. Jojoba (*Simmondsia chinensis*) is the predominant species in this community.

Two Pima County Priority Vulnerable Species are known to occur, or may occur, within Tucson Mountain Park. The Tumamoc globeberry (*Tumamoca macdougalii*) is known to be present within the park. The Pima pineapple cactus (*Coryphantha scherri var. robustispina*) has not been observed, but could potentially exist within the creosote flats in the southwestern portion of the site.

Over 100 invasive, non-native plant species have been observed within Tucson Mountain Park. These include species such as fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*) introduced to the area for use in constructed landscapes. Also present are introduced range species such as buffelgrass (*Pennisetum ciliare*). Buffelgrass is a fire-prone grass introduced from the African savannah that grows in dense stands and crowds out native plants. It can provide the fuel needed for frequent and destructive fires.

2.6 Biological (Wildlife) Resources of the Park:

Tucson Mountain Park supports a wide range of wildlife including large mammals, small mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. It would be possible for a visitor to the park to observe in the course of a single day large mammals (deer, coyote, javelina), small mammals (pack rats, mice, and bats), birds (hawks, owls, and songbirds), and reptiles (desert tortoise, Gila monsters, and rattlesnakes).

The presence of the Tucson Mountain Unit of Saguaro National Park adjacent to the site results in a 64 square mile area that can support diverse populations of various wildlife species. At the same time, urban growth in areas surrounding the park is effectively creating an island with restricted connections to other natural resource parks and preserves. The maintenance of viable linkages between the park and other preserved natural resource areas will be important to the long term success of certain wildlife populations currently present within the Park.

Several Pima County Priority Vulnerable Species are known to occur or may occur within Tucson Mountain Park. Bird species that may be present include the rufous-winged sparrow (*Aimophilia carpalis*), the western burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*), Swainson's hawk (*Buteo swainsonii*), the cactus ferruginous pygmy owl (*Glaucdium brasilianum cactorum*). Abert's towhee (*Pipilo aberti*), and Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii*).

A priority vulnerable reptile species that is known to occur within the park is the Sonoran desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*). Mammal species from this list that are know to occur or that potentially occur within Tucson Mountain Park include the Mexican long-tongued bat (*Choeronycteris mexicana*), the pale Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii pallescens*), the lesser long-nosed bat (*Leptonycteris curasoae yerbabuenae*), the California leaf-nosed bat (*Macrotus californicus*), Merriam's mouse (*Peromyscus merriami*), and the Arizona shrew (*Sorex arizonae*).

Tucson Mountain Park is also an important element of Pima County's Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan (SDCP). The plan identifies the park as a multipleuse area within the County's Conservation Land System (CLS). Linkages between the park and other natural resource parks and preserves have been identified as important wildlife corridors.

2.7 Cultural Resources within the Park:

Tucson Mountain Park is located on the western side of the Santa Cruz River. Native populations have lived in the area for thousands of years and utilized the resources of the Tucson Mountains. Rock art sites, artifact scatters, quarries, and rock features (piles, circles, and linear features) are evidence of this prehistoric use.

Also present within Tucson Mountain Park are historic features that were constructed more recently. These include various structures, homesteads, ranches, ranch related features, mines, roads, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) sites, and Works Progress Administration (WPA) sites.

A total of 48 prehistoric and historic cultural resource sites have been recorded within Tucson Mountain Park. The full extent of the Park's prehistoric and historic features, however, is not known because only 25% of the land area within the current boundary of the park has been surveyed. Additionally, the quality of some of the early surveys is unknown, and the results of these early surveys have not been checked to confirm the status of the cultural resources.

2.8 Visual Resources of the Park:

The Sonoran Desert is a unique and particularly beautiful environment. It is characterized by dramatic landforms, unusual plants, and visual elements that are found in no other location on earth. It's iconic images, in many ways, define Tucson, Pima County and much of southern Arizona. Tucson Mountain Park is a repository of these unique features and iconic images. Collectively, they make the park a popular destination for visitors from the community, from across the United States, and from countries around the globe.

2. Overview of Existing Conditions

Some of the features that contribute to the visual quality of Tucson Mountain Park are:

- 1. Landforms (mountain peaks, ridges, cliffs, and outcrops)
- 2. Plant communities (saguaro forests, ironwood forests, riparian woodlands)
- 3. Specimen plants (saguaro, ocotillo, and prickly-pear)
- 4. Spaces of various scales (broad valleys, narrow canyons, winding arroyos)
- 5. Atmospheric / light conditions (summer monsoon season sunsets)
- 6. Rural / natural character (narrow roads, vegetation to the edge of pavement)
- 7. Limited development (very few, low profile buildings)
- 8. Facilities constructed with natural materials (stone walls, stone buildings)

All of these features contribute to the visual quality of Tucson Mountain Park.

An additional feature of Tucson Mountain Park's visual resources is its visual prominence. The peaks and upper elevations of the park are visible from throughout the Tucson basin. More than 1,000,000 area residents can potentially view portions of Tucson Mountain Park each day as they travel to and from various destinations within the metropolitan area.

While the park is generally undeveloped, there are a few existing features within and adjacent to the site that diminish the visual quality of Tucson Mountain Park. These include developed in-holdings, overhead utility lines, foothill residential developments, and communication towers. Some of these conditions can be eliminated over time, while others will likely continue for the foreseeable future.

Of greater concern is the scope of urban development surrounding the park, particularly to the west and southwest. Urban development is becoming a much more prominent feature of the landscape as viewed from the Gates Pass Overlook and other upper elevation sites within the park. Observing the region's spectacular sunsets from the Gates Pass Overlook has long been a popular activity. It is estimated that more than 200,000 people visit the overlook each year. Until recently, the view from the vantage point west of the overlook was of largely undisturbed natural desert. More and more the view is of residential subdivisions and rural homesteads.

2.9 Developed Public Use Facilities:

There are developed sites within the park that offer opportunities for public recreation. (See Figure 7-D). An overview of the scope and conditions of these public use facilities is as follows:

Gilbert Ray Campground:

The campground includes 130 RV spaces each with a 30 amp electrical hook-up, three tent spaces, three educational ramadas, picnic ramadas, centrally located rest room buildings, a dump station, and a registration building. The campground provides a unique opportunity for camping in a Sonoran Desert setting.

The electrical distribution system is in fair condition but the 30 amp services at the RV sites need to be upgraded to the current industry standard of 50 amp. Improvements to the water distribution system and sanitary sewage system are also required. The campground registration building is in poor condition and in need of replacement.

Juan Santa Cruz Picnic Area:

The Juan Santa Cruz picnic area consists of a paved drive with pull-outs, picnic tables, three ramadas, and a restroom building. The ramadas are constructed of native stone and are of a style that is similar to many of the original CCC buildings constructed within the park. They are, however, in poor condition and in need of major renovation. The restroom building is only a few years old and is in good condition. The Juan Santa Cruz picnic area is adjacent to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. There have been preliminary discussions between the Museum and Pima County related to the possible expansion of the museum into the area currently occupied by Juan Santa Cruz picnic area. Detailed plans for the possible expansion of the museum have not been finalized.

Brown Mountain Picnic Area:

The Brown Mountain Picnic Area consists of a paved drive with pull-outs, two ramadas, and picnic tables. There are no restrooms at this site. The existing ramadas are in fair condition but in need of some renovation.

Ironwood Picnic Area:

The Picnic Area consists of a paved drive with pull-outs, four ramadas, picnic tables and two restroom buildings. The existing ramadas are in fair condition but need some renovation. The restroom buildings have vault toilets without water service and are in generally good condition.

Archery Range:

The Archery Range consists of a practice range with targets at distances of 20 to 70 yards. There are also three roving target or trail courses. Other improvements at the site include an unpaved access road, and unpaved parking lot, a large ramada, and a restroom building with potable water service. The ramada structure and the restroom building are in need of renovation.

Rifle and Pistol Range:

The range is a bermed facility with shooting distances between 5 and 100 yards. A safety fan, 300 yards beyond the containment berm has been established, fenced, and signed in accordance with applicable standards. The noise levels emanating from the facility are monitored and are below the threshold decibel

level for facilities of this type as established by Arizona state statutes.

Other improvements at the rifle and pistol range include an unpaved entry drive, an unpaved parking lot, a large ramada, a small office building, and a vault toilet without water.

Gates Pass Overlook:

The Gates Pass Overlook is a very popular park facility and is considered a premier vantage point for viewing spectacular desert sunsets. Improvements at the site include a paved entry drive, paved parking lots, accessible walkways, viewing areas, a restored look-out building, and a restroom with vault toilets and no water, and interpretive displays.

G-3 Overlook:

The G-3 Overlook consists of a small, paved parking lot, a viewing area, and a few benches. The facility is sometimes used as an alternative overlook when the Gates Pass facility is full. The G-3 Overlook also serves as a trail access point.

2.10 The Park Trail System:

In addition to developed sites, Tucson Mountain Park contains an extensive, multiple-use, non-motorized trail system. (See Figure 8-A). The park's trail system is used by an estimated 150,000 visitors per year.

The popularity of the trail system has not been without consequence. Users of the trail system have not only used the trails developed by the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department, they have developed new trails without authorization. Of the 100 miles of trails present within the park, only 62 miles have been evaluated by the Department and made a part of the park's official trail system. The remaining 38 miles of trail are wildcat trails.

Many of these wildcat trails are of poor quality, some extend into sensitive resource areas, and others are unnecessary duplications of parallel trails. The Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department has begun the process of reviewing these wildcat trails with the intent of closing and revegetating those trails that are of poor quality or that are found to be detrimental to the park's natural and cultural resources.

2.11 Park Trailheads:

As an adjunct to this trail system, there are several developed trailheads that provide for safe and legal public access to the park site. These trailheads are as follows:

Starr Pass Trailhead:

The Starr Pass Trailhead consists of a paved parking lot with 45 spaces and an area large enough to maneuver and park a truck with an equestrian trailer. The paving of the access road and various other improvements are needed.

36th Street Trailhead:

The 36th Street Trailhead consists of a paved parking lot with approximately 20 parking spaces. The entry drive is equipped with a gate that can be closed to prevent vehicular access at night.

Camino de Oeste Trailhead:

This recently renovated trailhead consists of an unpaved entry drive and a small unpaved parking lot. Expansion of the lot is not planned due to the constraints of land ownership and topography.

King Canyon Trailhead:

The King Canyon Trailhead consists of an unpaved trailhead that is internal to Tucson Mountain Park. It provides access to certain trails, most of which are located within Saguaro National Park. It is proposed that this trailhead be closed and that a replacement trailhead be constructed in the vicinity of the existing site. The proposed relocation will enhance traffic safety at the point of entry from Kinney Road.

Mile Wide Trailhead:

The Mile Wide Trailhead was constructed to serve the CAP Trail, but it proximity to Tucson Mountain Park allows for its occasional use by park visitors. It consists of a paved parking lot with adequate space for the parking of a truck with equestrian trailer.

J.W. Marriott Resort Hotel Walk-In Entry:

Located near the hotel, this walk-in entry allows hotels guests and others to enter the park on-foot.

Tucson Estates Walk-In Entry:

This walk-in entry is located north of the Tucson Estates subdivision. It provides for pedestrian and bicycle access to the park's trail system but does not include any motor vehicle parking spaces.

Sarasota Trailhead (Planned):

The planned Sarasota Trailhead is located near the Tucson Estates subdivision and consists of two separate sites. The Sarasota (North) Trailhead will include parking spaces for standard automobiles. The Sarasota (South) Trailhead will include access drives and parking spaces for truck / equestrian trailer rigs.

Explorer Trailhead (Planned):

The proposed Explorer Trailhead is located near Kennedy Park, a City of Tucson active recreation park. When developed, this trailhead will include a parking lot for both automobiles and trucks with equestrian trailers.

2.12 Park Roads:

Two principal public roads are present within Tucson Mountain Park. Gates Pass Road provides public access from the City of Tucson and other

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communities to the east. Kinney Road bisects the park and provides a north-south route through the park. These park roads are maintained by the Pima County Department of Transportation.

The volume of traffic on Gates Pass Road and Kinney Road has increased significantly during the past decade. Current traffic volumes, and traffic volumes recorded ten years ago at the same location are as follows.

Gates Pass Road at East Entry to Park:

2007 ADT

•	2007 AD1 4,400 venicles
•	1997 ADT
•	Percent Change
Kinn	ney Road at South Entry to Park:
•	2007 ADT
•	1997 ADT

Kinney Road at North Entry to Park:

•	2007 ADT	2,900 Vehicles
•	1997 ADT	2,200 Vehicles
•	Percent Change	+ 32%

Some of this traffic is being generated by visitors to the park but an estimated 45% of the overall traffic volume is not park related. In-park traffic that is not generated by facilities within Tucson Mountain Park consists of trips that use the park roads to get to and from destinations that are outside the park.

2.13 Utility Systems:

Utility systems have been constructed to serve the developments within the park. The Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department (PCNRPR) operates a water system consisting of a well, water storage reservoirs, pump stations, and pipelines. This system provides water to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Old Tucson, the Gilbert Ray Campground, the Archery Range, and the Juan Santa Cruz Picnic Area.

There is no sanitary sewage collection system within the park. Sewage disposal at the various facilities within Tucson Mountain Park is addressed with on-site collection, treatment, and disposal facilities.

Commercial electric power is provided to the site by the Trico Electric Cooperative. Overhead power lines extend power to the ASDM, Old Tucson, the Gilbert Ray Campground, and a few other park facilities. Overhead power lines also extend through the park to the communication towers on Tower Peak.

Qwest provides telephone service to the park with an underground system that follows the Kinney Road corridor.

2.14 Leased Facilities within the Park:

There are three leased facilities within the park, the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Old Tucson Studios, and Sonoran Arthropods Studies Inc.

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum:

Established in 1952, the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum (ASDM) is a world renown facility with exhibits and programs that present and interpret the natural and cultural resources of the Sonoran Desert. It is located on 95 acres of land near the northern boundary of Tucson Mountain Park. The Museum's collections include:

- 106 mammals of 31 taxa
- 241 birds of 72 taxa
- 361 reptiles of 86 taxa
- 122 amphibians of 234 taxa
- 840 arthropods of 78 taxa
- 40,000 plant specimens representing 1,300 species
- 14,095 gem, mineral, and fossil specimens

The Museum attracts approximately 445,000 visitors each year. It's mission to preserve, protect, and interpret the unique resources of the Sonoran Desert makes it a compatible use within Tucson Mountain Park.

The current lease agreement between Pima County and the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum extends through 2028. A key provision of these lease requires Pima County to supply a specified volume of water to the site each year.

Old Tucson Studios:

Old Tucson Studios was established in 1939 and used for several decades as a movie production facility that took advantage of the park's spectacular natural setting. The facility occupies a 180 acre site near the intersection of Gates Pass Road and Kinney Road. Much of the original facility was destroyed in a fire in 1995. The facilities were rebuilt shortly thereafter, but as an old western town theme park.

Old Tucson sponsors several events each year and attracts approximately 230,000 visitors annually. The current lease between Pima County and Old Tucson extends through 2023. Pima County is required by the lease agreement to provide a specified volume of potable water to the Old Tucson Studio site.

Sonoran Arthropods Studies Inc. (SASI):

The Sonoran Arthropods Studies Inc. (SASI) occupies a group of small buildings near the center of the park. The organization conducts research related to Sonoran Desert arthropods and sponsors a limited number of public outreach

programs. The number of participants in these programs is limited to a few hundred per year. The current lease between Pima County and SASI extends through 2009.

2.15 Public Use of Tucson Mountain Park:

It is estimated that 2,500,000 people visit or drive through Tucson Mountain Park annually. Of this total, approximately 1,400,000 enter the park to visit or use park facilities. The balance use the park's road system to travel from off-site points of origin to off-site destinations.

The approximate number of visitors traveling to various park destinations is as follows:

Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum	445,000 per year
Old Tucson Studios	230,000 per year
Other Pima County operated Facilities and Trails	725,000 per year

An approximate breakdown of the 725,000 individuals who visit Pima County-operated park facilities or who travel to the park to work or volunteer at the leased facilities is as follows:

Overlooks and Pull-Out Users
Hikers and Trail Runners
Mountain Bicyclists
Overnight Campers (Gilbert Ray Campground) 34,000 per year
Road Bicyclists
Picnickers
Rifle / Pistol Range Users 5,000 per year
Equestrians
Archery Range Users
Hunters (Archery only)
S.A.S.I. Program Participants
Leased Facility Employees and Volunteers 18,000 per year

2.16 Park Administration and Staffing:

Park operations and management are currently coordinated by the PCNRPR Department's Natural Resource Park Superintendent. He is supported by a Park Manager.

On-site staff consists of five full-time employees and seasonal employees that are the equivalent of one full-time employee. These employees are responsible for operating and maintaining the facilities and infrastructure associated with the park's developed sites. Volunteers also make up part of the workforce.

2. Overview of Existing Conditions

The Department's off-site shops and trades support staff are resources that are used from time to time to operate and maintain Tucson Mountain Park. A unit of the Pima County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement within the park.

At the present time, there are no park staff members specifically assigned to resource management / monitoring or back-country patrol.

3. Biological Resource Management

3.1 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of preserving and enhancing the biological resources of the park as a healthy, discrete Sonoran Desert ecosystem and as part of Pima County's overall conservation land system.

3.2 Policies Related to Biological Resource Management:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Support actions by Pima County, other jurisdictions, and resource management agencies that maintain, enhance, and expand biological connections between Tucson Mountain Park and other natural resource areas, parks, and preserves.
- Accommodate a wide range of public uses within Tucson Mountain Park
 while concurrently restricting activities, participation levels, and use areas
 so as to prevent the long-term degradation of the park's biological resources.
- Utilize sites at or near the perimeter of the park for moderate and high intensity recreational activities and to use these perimeter sites to buffer the park's core area from adjacent urban development.
- Operate and manage the park as required to comply with federal, state, and local mandates related to the protection of special status plant and animal species.
- Conduct park-specific biological resource monitoring as outlined herein and as recommended by broader Pima County Ecological Monitoring Program (EMP).
- Support the development and implementation of programs and projects intended to eliminate invasive, non-native, noxious species from the park and to revegetate and restore previously disturbed park areas to a natural condition.
- Support programs and projects that will reduce or mitigate the negative impacts of urban development surrounding Tucson Mountain Park on the park's biological resources.

3.3 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to the management of Tucson Mountain Park's biological resources are planned.

- Implement the site / species specific biological resource monitoring program as outlined herein.
- Participate in the implementation of those elements of the overall Pima County Ecological Monitoring Program (EPM) that relate to Tucson Mountain Park.

- Conduct an annual resource management workshop with representatives of the Arizona Game and Fish Department, Saguaro National Park, the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, and other resource management agencies to coordinate resource conservation and management activities.
- Conduct field assessments of all unauthorized trails within the park and make a determination as to which of these trails will be retained and which of the trails will be eliminated from the park's trail system.
- Conduct an on-going program to close and revegetate social / wildcat trails that are to be eliminated from the park's trail system.
- Construct the new trails proposed for the Robles Pass Trails Park and other perimeter areas to reduce demand for trails within the park's core area.
- Conduct periodic reconnaissance surveys and prepare maps that identify the presence, scope, and location of non-native and invasive species populations.
- Continue to support the Sonoran Desert Weed Wackers and other volunteer organizations with training, equipment, and logistical support as needed to conduct invasive species removal programs within Tucson Mountain Park.
- Repair existing fences and install new fences as required to minimize trespass and illegal off-highway vehicle (OHV) operation within the park.
- Work with the Pima County Department of Transportation to develop and implement strategies for mitigating the impacts of motor vehicle traffic within the park that is not related to park visitation.
- Construct the traffic calming, traffic safety improvements along Kinney Road and Gates Pass Road as recommended by this Management Plan.
- Work with the Pima County Development Services Department to review
 development proposals associated with lands adjacent to or near the park to
 evaluate their compatibility with, or impacts on, the park's biological resources.
- Work with the Pima County Development Services Department to review
 development proposals within Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan (SDCP)
 designated corridors that connect Tucson Mountain Park with other natural
 areas and evaluate the need for dedicated natural open-space corridors
 within the proposed developments.

- Install gates on the entries to caves and mine shafts as needed to protect bat roosts and to eliminate potential hazards to the safety of wildlife and park users.
- Fill-in or modify mine shafts that do not have habitat value and that create a potential hazard to wildlife and park users.
- Maintain the wildlife watering guzzlers and minimize the public's use of park areas that are in the vicinity of these features.
- Continue to work with the Pima County Sheriff's Department to enforce State Statutes, Pima County Ordinances, and Pima County park rules related to:
 - The collection and release of plants and animals within the park
 - The protection of Tucson Mountain Park's natural resources
 - The prohibition related to domestic animals / pets within the park
 - Archery hunting and the use of firearms within the park
- Amend the existing Pima County park rules to require that trail users remain on designated trails or obtain a permit for off-trail activities.

3.4 Framework for Biological Resource Monitoring:

It is recommended that a biological resource monitoring program be implemented at Tucson Mountain Park to assist in the on-going management of park resources and to contribute to the overall Pima County Ecological Monitoring Program (EPM). It is recommended that the Tucson Mountain Park monitoring program include the following elements.

- Site Specific Monitoring
- Species Specific Monitoring
- Landscape Level Monitoring
- Collaborative Monitoring Efforts

The activities associated with each of these elements are described below.

SITE SPECIFIC MONITORING:		
Activity:	Repeat Photography	
Frequency:	Annual	
Description:	Activity involves photographing specific sites within the park to document changes over time. Site should include high activity zones near public use areas, restored / revegetated areas, invasive species eradication sites, and similar areas. UTM coordinates for photo sites should be recorded and used for repeat photography. File to be established at NRP&R Department to allow for periodic review / comparison of photos taken from the same location.	
Adaptive Response:	Sites where the degradation of resources is observed to be added to priority list for restoration. If appropriate, public use restrictions or the closure of the subject area may be implemented.	
Activity:	Inspection of Special Habitat Features	
Frequency:	Annual	
Description:	Activity involves field reconnaissance to check the condition of special habitat features such as wildlife guzzlers and bat caves. Human disturbance and/or other modifications to these sites to be recorded.	
Adaptive Response:	Sites where the degradation of resources is observed to be added to a priority list for restoration and/or other remedial work. If appropriate, public use restrictions or the closures of the subject area may be implemented.	
Activity:	Inspection of Invasive Species Eradication Sites	
Frequency:	Annual	
Description:	Activity involves field reconnaissance and the inspection of a sample set of sites where invasive species have been removed from the site to determine if additional eradication work is needed.	
Adaptive Response:	Areas where stands of invasive species have reestablished shall be added to list of priority sites for on-going eradication work.	

SPECIES SPE	SPECIES SPECIFIC MONITORING	
Activity:	Monitoring of Indicator Plant and Wildlife Species	
Frequency:	Periodic (at 1 to 10 year intervals, as appropriate)	
Description:	Activity involves periodic studies to document changes in the population and/or health of plant and wildlife species in the park. Species recommended for monitoring are the saguaro cactus and the desert tortoise. Monitoring of saguaro to follow protocols established for on-going saguaro monitoring program at Saguaro National Park (Turner and Funicelli 2000). Protocols for monitoring of desert tortoise to be established by the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department in conjunction with the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AGFD) and/or others.	
Adaptive Response:	If significant changes in population are observed, initial response shall be an attempt to isolate and identify cause (or causes) of change. If human caused, appropriate changes in public use rules and regulations will be identified and implemented.	
Activity:	Monitoring of Pima County Priority Vulnerable Species	
Frequency:	As identified by Pima County Ecological Monitoring Program (EPM)	
Description:	Activity involves the on-going monitoring and/or implementation of special studies related to Pima County Priority Vulnerable Species and/or other special status species as may be identified by the Pima County Ecological Monitoring Program.	
Adaptive Response:	Response to findings to be as identified by the Pima County Ecological Monitoring Program and as coordinated with, and approved by, the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department.	

LANDSCAPE LEVEL MONITORING	
Activity:	Invasive Species Mapping
Frequency:	Annual Updates
Description:	Activity involves field reconnaissance and the mapping of park areas that have become infested with buffelgrass. Maps to be created in digital format for incorporation into the Pima County GIS database. The mapping of other invasive species should also be conducted, as appropriate.
Adaptive Response:	Maps to be used to establish priorities for eradication work and to document changes in the range of invasive species over time. Maps also to be used in conjunction with on-going field work related to the eradication effort.
Activity:	Establishment / Survey of Vegetative Conditions Within Designated Plots and/or Transects
Frequency:	Periodic (at 1 to 10 year intervals, as appropriate)
Description:	Representative plots and/or transects to be identified and marked (with permanent field markings and the recording of the coordinates associated plot / transect limits). Once established, the monitoring of annual and perennial plants to be conducted at appropriate intervals. The use of protocols currently being used at Saguaro National Park is recommended.
Adaptive Response:	To be identified as changes and trends are observed over time.
Activity:	Comprehensive Flora and Vertebrate Fauna Inventory
Frequency:	To be developed over a period of several years
Description:	Activity involves the compilation of a comprehensive inventory of flora and vertebrate fauna in park as baseline data. Work should be modeled on the repeatable study designs and standardized field methods utilized by the Plant and Vertebrate Inventory of Saguaro National Park, Tucson Mountain District (Powell et. al. 1996). Floral inventory work should specifically target areas within the park that were not well documented in the Annotated Flora and Vegetation of the Tucson Mountains (Rondeau et. al. 1996)

COLLABORATIVE MONITORING EFFORTS	
Activity:	Inter-Agency Monitoring Workshop
Frequency:	Annual
Description:	Activity involves an annual workshop to review new monitoring activities, on-going efforts, and specific project results related to the biological resources of the park, the Tucson Mountains, and adjacent areas. Potential participants include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Game and Fish Department, the Desert Laboratory at Tumamoc Hill, the University of Arizona, and Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum.
OTHER MONITORING RELATED ACTIVITIES	
Activity:	Establishment and Operation of Weather Station
Frequency:	Operation of weather station to be on-going
Description:	It is recommended that a weather station be constructed and maintained at the proposed new Visitor Contact Station. The data collected at this station to be used in conjunction with the results from other monitoring activities to identify potential relationships between weather conditions (drought, temperature extremes, etc.) and the observed condition of the park's biological resources.

3.5 Funding and Staffing Needed for Biological Resource Monitoring:

The assignment of new staff to Tucson Mountain Park, as recommended herein, and the appropriation of needed funds will be essential to the implementation of the monitoring program outlined above. The Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department will engage in monitoring activities at intervals and frequencies that can be supported by available staff and project / program funding.

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Turner, D.S., and C.S. Funicelli. 2000. Ten-year resurvey of epidermal browning and population structure of saguaro cactus (*Carnegiea gigantea*) in Saguaro National Park, Arizona. Technical Report No. 69, U.S. Geological Survey, Sonoran Desert Field Station, Tucson, AZ. 29 pp.

4. Cultural Resource Management

4.1 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of preserving, protecting, and where appropriate interpreting the cultural resources present within Tucson Mountain Park.

4.2 Policies Related to Cultural Resource Management:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Operate and manage the park as required to comply with all federal, state, and local mandates related to the protection of cultural resources.
- Encourage and support on-going research by qualified professionals related to archaeological sites and historic properties within Tucson Mountain Park.
- Conduct cultural resource surveys in conjunction with future park development and improvement projects.
- Support the development and implementation of educational and interpretive programs related to the park's cultural, biological and physical resources.
- Periodically monitor known cultural resource sites to determine their condition.

4.3 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to the management of Tucson Mountain Park's cultural resources are planned.

- Conduct a park-wide cultural resource sample survey to establish priorities for subsequent, more detailed surveys.
- Conduct cultural resource surveys along the park's authorized trail corridors and make adjustments to the trail system when conflicts with cultural resources are identified.
- Conduct cultural resource surveys in conjunction with all new park development projects and design these projects in a manner that protects the subject resources.
- Collaborate with the Pima County Cultural Resources Office and others as required to establish and implement a monitoring program utilizing trained volunteers from the Arizona Site Steward Program.
- Assist the Pima County Cultural Resources Office with an evaluation of the CCC and WPA era structures within the park (and within the Tucson Mountain Unit of Saguaro National Park) to determine if these resources are eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic Landscape.

4.4 Scope of Proposed Sample Survey

It is recommended that the scope of the cultural resources sample survey include the following.

- Examination of previously recorded sites to determine and document their current condition.
- Re-recording of known sites (where appropriate) to update the site descriptions based on observed field conditions and contemporary standards for documenting the subject resource.
- A general examination of areas proposed for new development, such as the proposed Visitor Contact Station site.
- Examination of trail segments within and near known sites to evaluate the potential impact of trail use on the subject cultural resources.
- Identification of park areas not previously surveyed with physical features and conditions likely to support cultural resource sites, and an examination of some of these areas.
- Recommendations for follow-up, phased, targeted cultural resource survey work, as appropriate.

5.1 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of protecting and enhancing the visual resources associated with Tucson Mountain Park including views internal to the park, off-site vistas as seen from prominent vantage points inside the park, and views of the park from external vantage points in the region.

5.2 Policies Related to Visual Resource Management:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Protect the natural landforms, vegetation, and other features of Tucson Mountain Park that contribute to the visual quality of the site.
- Construct new park facilities and improve existing park facilities in a manner that minimizes the visual impact of the subject development when viewed from on-site and off-site vantage points.
- Actively oppose the construction of above-ground utility lines, communication towers, highways, large structures, and infrastructure improvements within, or in the vicinity of, the site that will diminish the visual resources associated with Tucson Mountain Park.
- Consider visual resource protection when evaluating potential land acquisitions and park expansion.

5.3 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to the management of Tucson Mountain Park's visual resources are planned.

- Actively participate in the review of feasibility studies, alignment studies, and other documents related to new pipelines, transmission lines, and regional infrastructure improvements proposed for areas within or near Tucson Mountain Park to determine their potential impact on the visual resources of the park.
- Work with the Pima County Development Services Department to review the plans for proposed new developments in the vicinity of the park to determine their impact on the visual resources of Tucson Mountain Park.
- Design and construct new or renovated park facilities in a manner that protects and enhances the visual resources associated with Tucson Mountain Park.
- Periodically implement clean-up, restoration, and revegetation projects as may be needed to restore the visual quality of disturbed sites within Tucson Mountain Park.

6.1 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of preserving, without degradation, the soils, geologic features, and water resources present within Tucson Mountain Park.

6.2 Policies Related to Physical Resource Management:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Develop and use the park site in a manner that conserves the soil resources present on the site and that minimizes soil erosion.
- Develop and use the park site in a manner that preserves the natural character of the geologic formations and surface rock features present within the park.
- Operate the park in a manner that protects surface water quality, natural surface water drainage patterns, and opportunities for ground water recharge within the park.
- Prohibit the removal of minerals from the ground surface and the subsurface mining of minerals within the park.
- Actively participate in the review of all proposals related to mineral extraction on lands adjacent, or in close proximity, to the park site.
- Require that all new facilities, roadways, utilities, and infrastructure improvements constructed within the park be designed in a manner that will prevent visible excavations, large fill slopes, and exposed rock cut-slopes.
- Actively participate in the review of development proposals for areas adjacent or near the site to determine their potential impact on the physical resources of Tucson Mountain Park.

6.3 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to the management of Tucson Mountain Park's physical resources are planned.

 Review all new construction and park development projects relative to their potential impact on the park's physical resources and require that these impacts be minimized and/or mitigated.

7.1 Introduction:

The picnic areas, shooting ranges, and overlooks within Tucson Mountain Park get extensive public use. Facilities at some of these sites date back more than half a century. Others were constructed more recently. All continue to be valuable recreational resources for the community.

Improvements of some type and scope are needed at most of the existing public use facilities within the park. These improvements are necessary to bring the facilities up to reasonable contemporary standards and to meet applicable codes, statutes, and other regulations.

Missing from Tucson Mountain Park is a central facility where visitors can get information about the park, where they can make contact with a park employee, and where they can report observed violations of park rules and regulations. A small Visitor Contact Station is planned to correct this existing deficiency.

7.2 Management Objective:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of providing the public with developed facilities that accommodate a range of uses and activities that are appropriate for the park's natural resource setting, that are safe, and that can be conducted without degradation of the park's biological, cultural, visual, or physical resources.

7.3 Policies Related to Public Use:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Provide and maintain trails, picnic areas, overlooks, roadside pull-outs, and other recreational facilities within Tucson Mountain Park that are available for public use without fee.
- Provide and maintain certain developed facilities within the park, including but not limited to: a campground, a shooting range, and an archery range, that are available for public use upon payment of a designated user fee.
- Consider and allow under certain circumstances the use of the park for special events and activities provided that such events and activities do not result in damage to the park's resources, do not create unsafe conditions, do not preclude or hinder normal park operations, and that do not unduly restrict general public use of the park, as determined by the Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department. A user fee shall be charged for approved special events and activities.
- Prohibit all public use of the park for activities that may result in damage to
 the park's resources, that may create unsafe conditions, that may preclude or
 hinder normal park operations, or that may unduly restrict general public
 use of the park, as determined by the Natural Resources, Parks, and
 Recreation Department.

7.4 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to the public's use of Tucson Mountain Park are planned.

- Construction of a new Visitor Contact Station where park users can; obtain
 information related to park facilities, obtain information related to park rules
 and regulations, and where users can report observed violations and/or
 hazardous conditions to Park staff.
- Operate, maintain, and construct as-needed improvements to the existing system of picnic areas, overlooks, roadside pull-outs and other recreational facilities that are available for public use free-of-charge. (Proposed improvements shall be as outlined herein).
- Continue to operate, maintain, and construct as-needed improvements to the campground, shooting range, archery range, and other park facilities that are available to the public on a fee-for-use basis. (Proposed improvements shall be as outlined herein).
- Continue to utilize the special activity / event application form that, when completed, provides the Department with sufficient information related to scope, character, and potential impacts of proposed special activity or event.
- Conduct reviews of all special activity and event proposals based on the various provisions of this Management Plan and issue a timely decision of approval or denial in response to each proposal.
- Collaborate with the Pima County Sheriff's Department to enforce all Pima
 County park system rules and regulations and all Tucson Mountain Park site
 specific rules and regulations as they relate to the public's use of the park.
- Periodically update the rules and regulations pertaining to the public's use
 of the park as deemed necessary and appropriate by the Natural Resources,
 Parks, and Recreation Department and the Pima County Parks Commission.

7.5 New Visitor Contact Station:

It is proposed that a new Visitor Contact Station be constructed at a site near the intersection of Kinney Road and McCain Loop Road. This facility is needed to provide a location where park users can; obtain information related to park facilities, obtain information related to park use rules and regulations, and report observed violations and/or hazardous conditions to park staff.

The proposed Visitor Contact Station will also create a location where interpretive and educational programs can be conducted and/or staged. These programs may be developed and conducted by Pima County staff but may also be presented in partnership with the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and/or Saguaro National Park.

The proposed Visitor Center is intended to complement and work in concert with existing facilities and on-going programs at the Desert Museum and at the Saguaro National Park Red Hills Visitor Center.

Recommended Improvements:

SITE DEVELOPMENT	
Modify Kinney Road / McCain Loop Road intersection as traffic calming measure and to provide access to Visitor Contact Station	
Construct paved entry drive and parking lot	
BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	
Construct new Visitor Contact Station as illustrated in Figure 7-A	
Construct new interpretive / educational plaza as illustrated in Figure 7-A	
UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
Extend water service to new Visitor Contact Station	
Construct septic system for Visitor Contact Station wastewater treatment	
Extend electrical service to new Visitor Contact Station	
Extend telephone service to new Visitor Contact Station	
OTHER IMPROVEMENTS	
Construct interpretive trail originating at Visitor Contact Station	

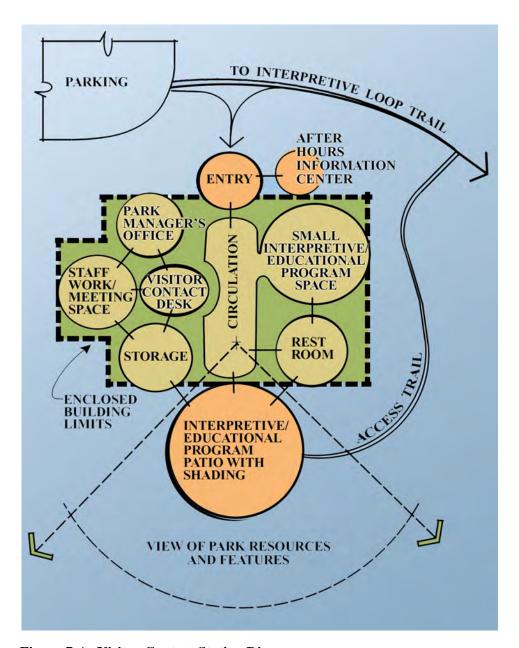


Figure 7-A: Visitor Contact Station Diagram

7.6 Gilbert Ray Campground:

The Gilbert Ray Campground continues to be a valued recreational resource that provides users with an opportunity to camp in a natural Sonoran Desert setting. It also complements the facilities at the Tucson Mountain Unit of Saguaro National Park which does not have a campground.

Recommended Improvements:

SI	SITE DEVELOPMENT	
	Seal cracks and slurry-seal campground roads	
	Construct islands in registration building parking lot to provide screening and organize traffic circulation and vehicle parking	
BU	JILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	
Х	Replace existing Registration Building w/ new structure. See Figure 7-B.	
	Repair, renovate, or replace each of 4 ramadas at Camp Host Area.	
	Restore CCC era Generator Building as interpretive site	
	Make as-needed repairs to restroom near Registration Building	
	Make as-needed repairs to restroom buildings in A-Loop and C-Loop	
	Remove old restroom building	
UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE		
	Replace potable water distribution system	
	Make as-needed repairs to dump station and sewage lagoon as required to maintain compliance with ADEQ and other applicable standards	
	Replace overhead electrical line to camp host area with an underground service	
	Replace electrical distribution system and install new 50A electrical pedestals at all RV sites	
ОТ	THER IMPROVEMENTS	
	Relocate tent sites to be further away from road	
х	Construct new campground entry monument sign	
	Construct screen wall to enclose dumpster in C-Loop	
	Install concrete slab at all A-Loop and C-Loop Picnic Tables	

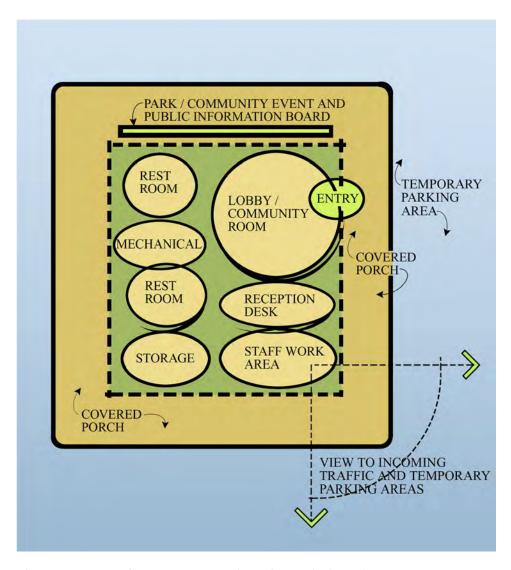


Figure 7-B: New Campground Registration Building Diagram

7.7 Juan Santa Cruz Picnic Area:

The Juan Santa Cruz Picnic Area is extensively used, in part due to its proximity to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. Many visitors to the museum plan a picnic as part of their trip but picnicking is not allowed within the museum grounds. The Juan Santa Cruz Picnic Area is a convenient and desirable alternative location for this activity. Included at this site are ramadas and picnic tables that were developed in the 1960's and are now half a century old.

This picnic facility is located in an area where future Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum expansion might occur. If the museum does expand into this site, it is essential that a comparable picnic area be constructed in the immediate vicinity. The salvage and reconstruction of the existing ramada structures should be part of the relocation project.

Recommended Improvements:

Sľ	SITE DEVELOPMENT	
	Seal cracks and slurry seal picnic area drive and parking areas	
BU	BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	
	Preserve rock work, reconstruct Ramada No. 1 with new roof structure, new roof deck, and new floor slab.	
	Preserve rock work, reconstruct Ramada No. 2 with new roof structure, new roof deck, and new floor slab.	
	Preserve rock work, reconstruct Ramada No. 3 with new roof structure, new roof deck, and new floor slab.	
	Make as-needed repairs to restroom building	
UT	UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
	Connect water system to new main in Kinney Road. Renovate on-site water distribution system as-needed.	
O	THER IMPROVEMENTS	
x	Construct new Picnic Area Monument Sign at entry	
X	Install new Park Rules and Regulations sign with Trail Map	
	Repair and/or replace picnic tables No. 1 through No. 6 and related improvements as-needed	
X	Make provisions to handicapped access to picnic sites / tables	

7.8 Brown Mountain Picnic Area:

The Brown Mountain Picnic Area consists of a drive that parallels Kinney Road with pull-out parking spaces and picnic sites. The picnic sites include picnic tables and a ramada. The ramada structures were constructed by Youth Conservation Corps crews in 1976. There are no restrooms at the Brown Mountain Picnic Area.

Recommended Improvements:

SI	SITE DEVELOPMENT	
	Seal cracks and slurry seal picnic area drive and parking areas	
BU	JILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	
	Add new floor slab. Repair rock work, make as-needed structural repairs, replace asphalt felt roof with new metal roof deck at Ramada No. 1	
	Add new floor slab. Repair rock work, make as-needed structural repairs, replace asphalt felt roof with new metal roof deck at Ramada No. 2	
	Add new floor slab. Repair rock work, make as-needed structural repairs, replace asphalt felt roof with new metal roof deck at Ramada No. 3	
UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE		
	Provide water line stub-out in new irrigation main in Kinney Road for potential future use at picnic area	
O	THER IMPROVEMENTS	
X	Construct new Picnic Area Monument Sign at entry	
X	Install new Park Rules and Regulations sign with Trail Map	
X	Make provisions for handicapped access to picnic sites / tables	

x Indicates high priority improvement.

<u>Note</u>: New restroom building not recommended for Brown Mountain Picnic Area due to the small number of picnic sites and its proximity to the proposed Visitor Contact Station which will have public restrooms. These restrooms will be open during hours when picnic area is typically in use.

7.9 Ironwood Picnic Area:

The location of the Ironwood Picnic Area, close to Old Tucson Studios and close to the southern entrance to the park, make it a popular day-use facility. The picnic area has two restroom buildings with vault toilets. There is no existing water service to this site. The ramadas at this site were constructed by Youth Conservation Corps crews in 1978.

Recommended Improvements:

SIT	SITE DEVELOPMENT		
	Seal cracks and slurry seal picnic area drive and parking areas		
BU	VILDINGS AND STRUCTURES		
	Make as-needed structural and roof repairs and add new floor slab at Ramada No. 1		
	Make as-needed structural and roof repairs and add new floor slab at Ramada No. 2		
	Make as-needed structural and roof repairs and add new floor slab at Ramada No. 3		
	Make as-needed structural and roof repairs and add new floor slab at Ramada No. 4		
	Make as-needed repairs to restroom buildings 1 and 2		
UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE			
	Extend water service to site terminating in the vicinity of the restroom buildings. Construct exterior hand-wash sinks at each rest room. (Retrofitting of existing restroom fixtures not proposed)		
ГО	THER IMPROVEMENTS		
Х	Construct new Picnic Area Monument Sign at entry		
Х	Install new Park Rules and Regulations sign with Trail Map		
	Repair and/or replace picnic tables No. 1 through No. 7 and related improvements as-needed		
X	Make provisions to handicapped access to picnic sites / tables		

7.10 Archery Range:

The Archery Range is a self-pay facility operated by the Pima County NRP&R Department, Recreation Division, Shooting Sports Section. Facilities at this site include a range with targets at 20 to 70 yards and three roving or trail courses. A large shooting ramada and a restroom building with water and electricity are present on the site. There are two additional small ramadas. Access to the site is via an unpaved road. There is also a large unpaved parking lot.

Recommended Improvements:

SI	SITE DEVELOPMENT	
	Pave entry drive to parking lot	
	Pave portions of the cleared area as a parking lot. Mark designated spaces and drives. Revegetate perimeter areas not used for parking.	
BU	JILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	
	Make as-needed structural and roof repairs to large shooting ramada	
	Make as-needed structural repairs, replace roof deck, and install metal roof at small ramadas 1 and 2	
	Make as-needed repairs to restroom building roof. Make as needed repairs to restroom mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems. Repair stone veneer at exterior of restroom building.	
UT	TILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
	Connect water system to new water main in Kinney Road and renovate on-site water distribution system, as-needed	
ОТ	THER IMPROVEMENTS	
X	Construct new Archery Range Monument Sign at entry.	
X	Install new Park Rules and Regulations Sign with Trail Map	
	Redevelop roving courses. Provide new signs and miscellaneous improvements associated with each course.	
X	Install fence or markers at perimeter of site to warn off-trail hikers, equestrians, and/or mountain bicyclists	

x Indicates high priority improvement.

<u>Note</u>: Construction of additional multi-purpose ramada at this site should be considered. These ramadas could be reserved for approved activities when range is closed. The existing restrooms would serve small groups using these multipurpose ramadas.

7.11 Rifle and Pistol Range:

The Rifle and Pistol Range is a staffed facility operated by the Pima County NRP&R Department, Recreation Division, Shooting Sports Section. Fees are collected for use of the range. Facilities at this site include a bermed shooting range, a large shooting ramada, small vault toilet building, and a small office / storage building. There are no water or electrical services to the site. Access to the site is via an unpaved road. There is also a small unpaved parking lot.

Recommended Improvements:

SI	SITE DEVELOPMENT	
	Pave entry drive to parking lot	
	Pave the parking lot. Mark designated spaces and drives.	
BU	JILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	
	Make as-needed structural and roof repairs to large shooting ramada	
	Construct a new restroom, office, storage building as a single structure or separate structure based on additional site planning.	
UT	TILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
	Extend water system to site and new restroom building	
	Construct on-site septic system for wastewater disposal	
	Extend electrical service to site and to new on-site buildings	
ГО	THER IMPROVEMENTS	
X	Construct new Rifle - Pistol Range Monument Sign at entry.	
x	Install new Park Rules and Regulations Sign	
X	Repair and/or install fence and markers at perimeter of safety fan to warn off-trail hikers, equestrians, and/or mountain bicyclists	
X	Make provisions for handicapped access to range site / facilities	

7.12 Gates Pass Overlook:

The Gates Pass Overlook is one of the most popular destinations in the park. It is used extensively by both local residents and visitors to the community. Facilities at the overlook include a primary parking lot, a lower overflow parking lot, a restroom building, an accessible overlook area, a restored look-out building, and fixed interpretive displays.

Recommended Improvements:

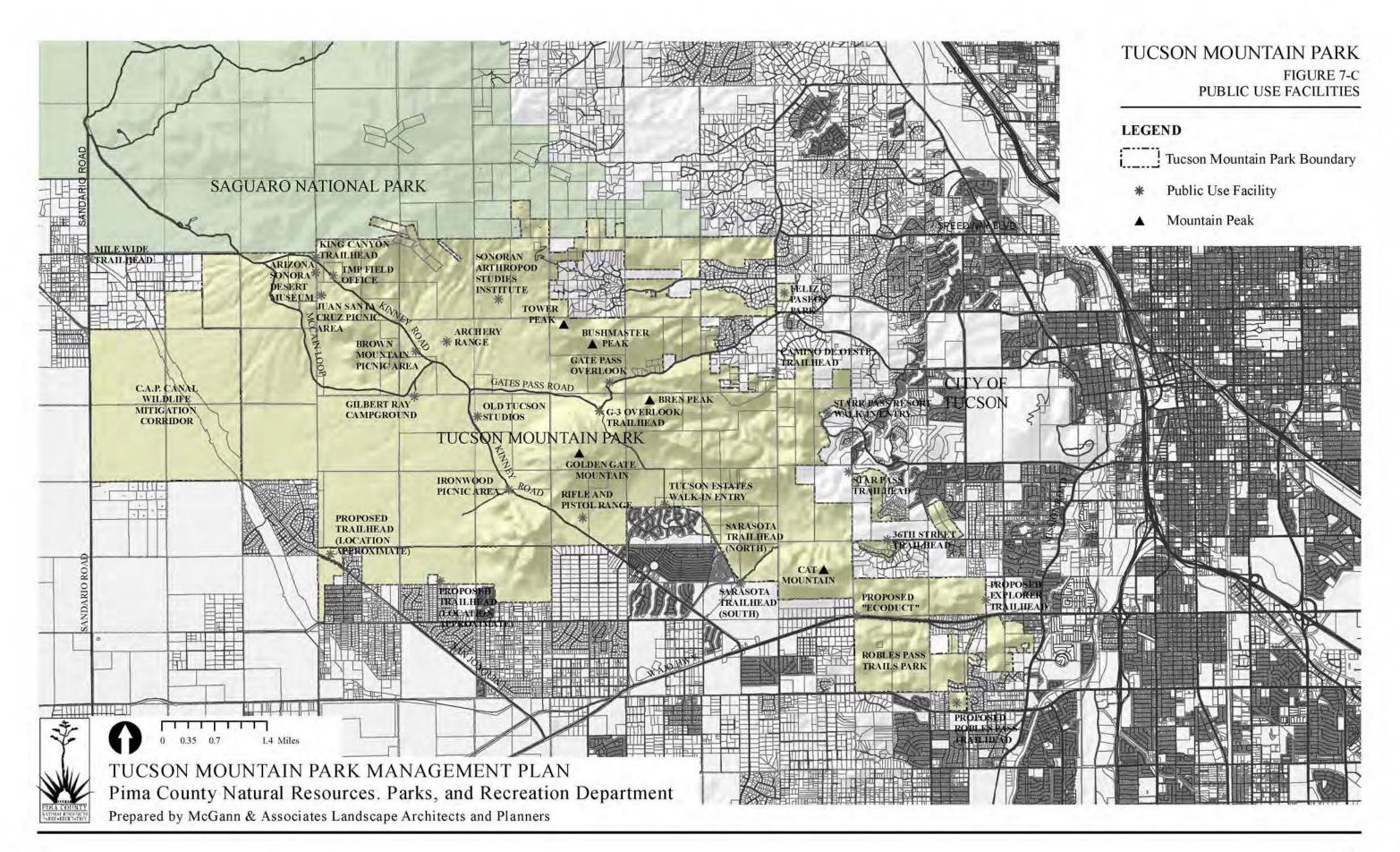
SI	SITE DEVELOPMENT	
	Seal cracks, slurry seal drives and parking areas, and re-stripe parking areas as-needed.	
X	Install self-closing (solar powered) gate at entry to site.	
BU	JILDINGS AND STRUCTURES	
	Make as-need repairs to restroom building, look-out building, and overlook ramada.	
UT	TILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE	
	(Note: There are no utility services to this site and none are planned)	
ГО	THER IMPROVEMENTS	
X	Construct new Overlook Monument Sign at entry	
X	Install new Park Rules and Regulations sign with Trail Map	
Х	Construct accessible trail to remote overlook to provide handicapped accessible viewing opportunity separated from parking lot (and to minimize off-trail pedestrian travel on hillsides). Trail was proposed as part of the 1999 renovation of the overlook but deleted from the scope of the project due to budget constraints.	

7.13 G-3 Overlook:

The G-3 Overlook, located on the west side of Gates Pass Road is a popular location for viewing sunsets and taking photographs of the park. Facilities at the overlook include a small paved parking lot, short segments of paved walkway, and a few benches. The popularity and high-level of use at this site warrant the reconstruction and reconfiguration of this overlook.

Recommended Improvements:

SI	SITE DEVELOPMENT		
Х	Reconstruct entry and parking lot with a single entry / exit drive, with designated (striped) parking spaces, with a handicapped accessible parking space, and with an accessible walkway to a viewing area.		
BU	JILDINGS AND STRUCTURES		
	(Note: There are no buildings at this site and none are planned)		
UT	TILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE		
	(Note: There are no utility services to this site and none are planned)		
Ol	THER IMPROVEMENTS		
X	Construct new Overlook Monument Sign at entry		
X	Install new Park Rules and Regulations sign with Trail Map		
	Construct small, accessible viewing area with interpretive signs. Due to topography in this area, small retaining walls may be necessary. Retaining walls and other site features should be constructed of native stone to match the existing facilities at the Gates Pass Overlook.		



8.1 Introduction

The trail system within Tucson Mountain Park is a valued and extensively utilized recreational amenity consisting of more than 60 miles of single-track trail. It is estimated that more than 150,000 visitors use the park's trail system annually.

A significant issue associated with the Tucson Mountain Park trail system is the construction of new social or wildcat trails by individuals without authorization by the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department. In recent years, this activity has resulted in the construction of more than 40 miles of unauthorized trails. There is a need to evaluate and, in some instances, eliminate these unauthorized trails.

8.2 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of providing a safe trail system with opportunities for hiking, trail running, mountain bicycling, horseback riding, and similar activities. The trail system will be developed, operated, and maintained in a manner that protects the physical, biological, cultural, and visual resources of the site.

8.3 Policies Related to Tucson Mountain Park Trails:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Provide safe and legal access to the Tucson Mountain Park trail system at designated trailheads, entry points, and developed park facilities.
- Prohibit access to the park's trail system from adjacent properties through private gates.
- Prohibit the construction of new trails and/or the modification of existing trails, except as may be approved by the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department.
- Accommodate hiking, trail running, mountain bicycling, equestrian use, and similar non-motorized uses on all trails within the park. (Closure of specific segments of individual trails to one or more uses may be considered and implemented if deemed necessary by the Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department for resource protection and/or public safety).
- Prohibit the use of off-highway vehicles (OHV's) and all other motorized vehicles on the park's trails, except as may be needed for maintenance, search-and-rescue operations, and/or law enforcement activities.
- Require that trail users remain on designated trails, except as may be authorized on a case-by-case basis through the issuance of an off-trail activity permit.

8.4 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to the development and operation of the Tucson Mountain Park Trail System are planned.

- Improvement of and development of existing trailheads and designated trailhead sites as outlined herein.
- Construction of two new trailheads or public access points to provide public access to the BLM Expansion Site portion of Tucson Mountain Park.
- Closure and restoration of the existing King Canyon Trailhead and construction of a new King Canyon Trailhead in a nearby location where vehicular access and traffic safety will be enhanced.
- Periodic inspection of all authorized trails, identification of trail deficiencies, and implementation of as-needed remedial work.
- Phased inspection of all unauthorized trails and issuance of a final determination as to whether each of these unauthorized trails should be retained or eliminated.
- Closure of trails to be eliminated including the posting of a closure notice at access points to the subject trail and the phased revegetation / restoration of the trail corridor.
- Preparation, printing, and distribution of trail maps that identify authorized trails and trailheads within the park.
- Posting of the official trail map on the Pima County website with accompanying information related to trail use rules and regulations.
- Installation of informational signs at trailheads and access points that identify authorized trails and applicable rules and regulations.
- Installation of trail identification markers at intervals along each authorized trail
- Development of a detailed trail plan for the Robles Pass Trails Park portion of Tucson Mountain Park.
- Phased construction of the Robles Park trail system.
- Development of a process for reviewing requests for off-trail activities and for the issuance of off-trail use permits.

8.5 Recommended Trailhead Improvements (Existing Trailheads):

The following improvements to existing trailheads are recommended.

ST	ARR PASS TRAILHEAD
X	Pave Clearwell Road from Starr Pass Boulevard to trailhead. Work to be implemented in conjunction with the City of Tucson Department of Transportation
X	Install directional sign at the intersection of Starr Pass Boulevard and Clearwell Road
	Restore / revegetate disturbed areas at the perimeter of the trailhead parking lot
X	Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations
36	h STREET TRAILHEAD
	Restore / revegetate disturbed areas at the perimeter of the trailhead parking lot
	Install directional sign at the intersection of 36 th Street and La Cholla Boulevard
X	Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations
CA	AMINO DE OESTE TRAILHEAD
	Pave (unpaved portion of) Camino de Oeste and parking lot. Work to be implemented in conjunction with the City of Tucson Department of Transportation
	Install directional sign at the intersection of Camino de Oeste and Gates Pass Road
	Restore / revegetate disturbed areas at the perimeter of the trailhead parking lot
X	Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations
KI	NG CANYON TRAILHEAD
	Construct new trailhead with paved entry drive and parking lot at new (nearby) site as needed to improve traffic safety.
	Construct new Trailhead Monument Sign at intersection of new entry drive and Kinney Road

X	Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations	
MI	MILE WIDE TRAILHEAD	
	Construct new Trailhead monument sign at intersection of new entry drive and Sandario Road	
X	Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations	
SA	RASOTA TRAILHEAD	
	Install directional sign at the intersection of Kinney Road and Sarasota Boulevard	
	Construct new Trailhead Monument Sign at entry to trailhead	
X	Install sign(s) with trail map and summary of park rules and regulations	
J.V	V. MARRIOTT WALK-IN ENTRY	
X	Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations (at terminus of Bowen Trail and Hidden Canyon Trail and hotel access drive)	
TU	TUCSON ESTATES WALK-IN ENTRY	
X	Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations	
X	Modify gates to accommodate pedestrian, equestrian, and mountain bicycle access while restricting OHV access	

8.6 New Trailhead Development:

EX	EXPLORER TRAILHEAD (FUTURE)		
	Construct new trailhead with paved entry drive and parking lot. Trailhead to have access from La Cholla Boulevard. Trailhead to be configured to accommodate pick-up truck with equestrian trailers		
	Construct new fencing and gates as required to control motor-vehicle access to and circulation through site and to restrict OHV access to park		
	Construct new Trailhead monument sign at entry to trailhead		
	Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations		

LEAD FLOWER AVENUE TRAILHEAD (FUTURE) Construct new trailhead with paved entry drive and parking lot. Trailhead to be constructed in the vicinity of Lead Flower Avenue and Banks Elementary School. (Actual location to be as selected by PCNRPR upon completion of field reconnaissance and other appropriate studies) Install directional sign at the intersection of Bopp Road and Lead Flower Avenue (or other appropriate off-site location) Construct new Trailhead Monument Sign at entry to trailhead Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations SAN JOAQUIN TRAILHEAD (FUTURE) Construct new trailhead with paved entry drive and parking lot. Trailhead to be constructed on the north side of San Joaquin Road west of Purple Sky Trail. (Actual location to be as selected by the PCNRPR upon completion of field reconnaissance and other appropriate studies) Construct new Trailhead Monument Sign at entry to trailhead Install sign(s) with trail map and park rules / regulations IRONWOOD TRAILHEAD (FUTURE) Construct a small trailhead with parking spaces for truck / horse trailer parking northwest of the intersection of Kinney Road and the Ironwood Picnic Area entry drive.

8.7 Trail System Improvements:

The following improvements to the existing trail system are proposed.

GENERAL TRAIL SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS				
X	Install trail identification markers at intervals along all authorized park trails			
х	Install sign(s) trail maps at trailheads			
х	Install sign(s) with park rules and regulations at trailheads			

Construct a small trailhead with parking spaces for truck / horse trailer parking at the intersection of McCain Loop Road and the (unpaved /

x Indicates high priority improvement

WELL ROAD TRAILHEAD (FUTURE)

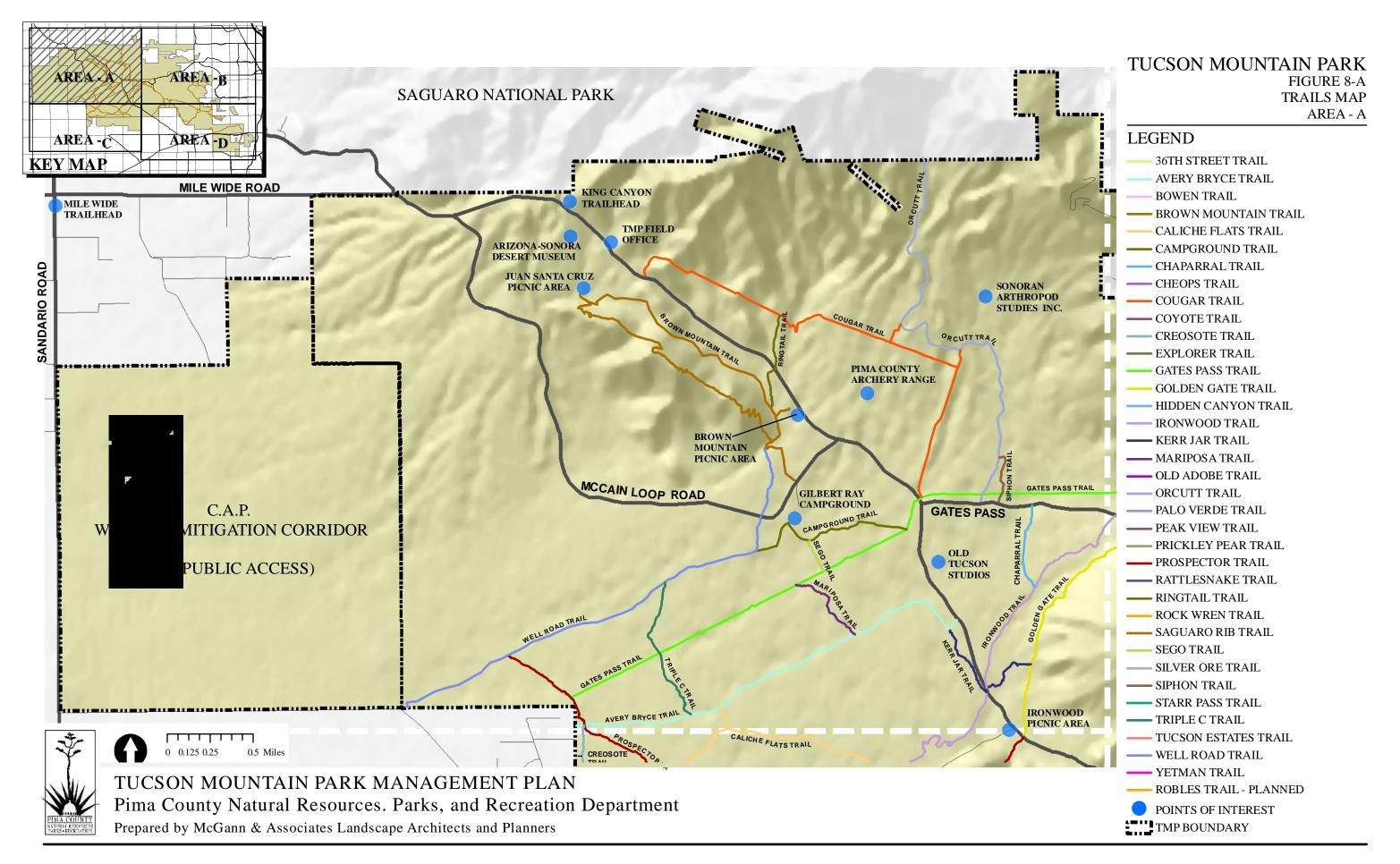
controlled access) Well Road.

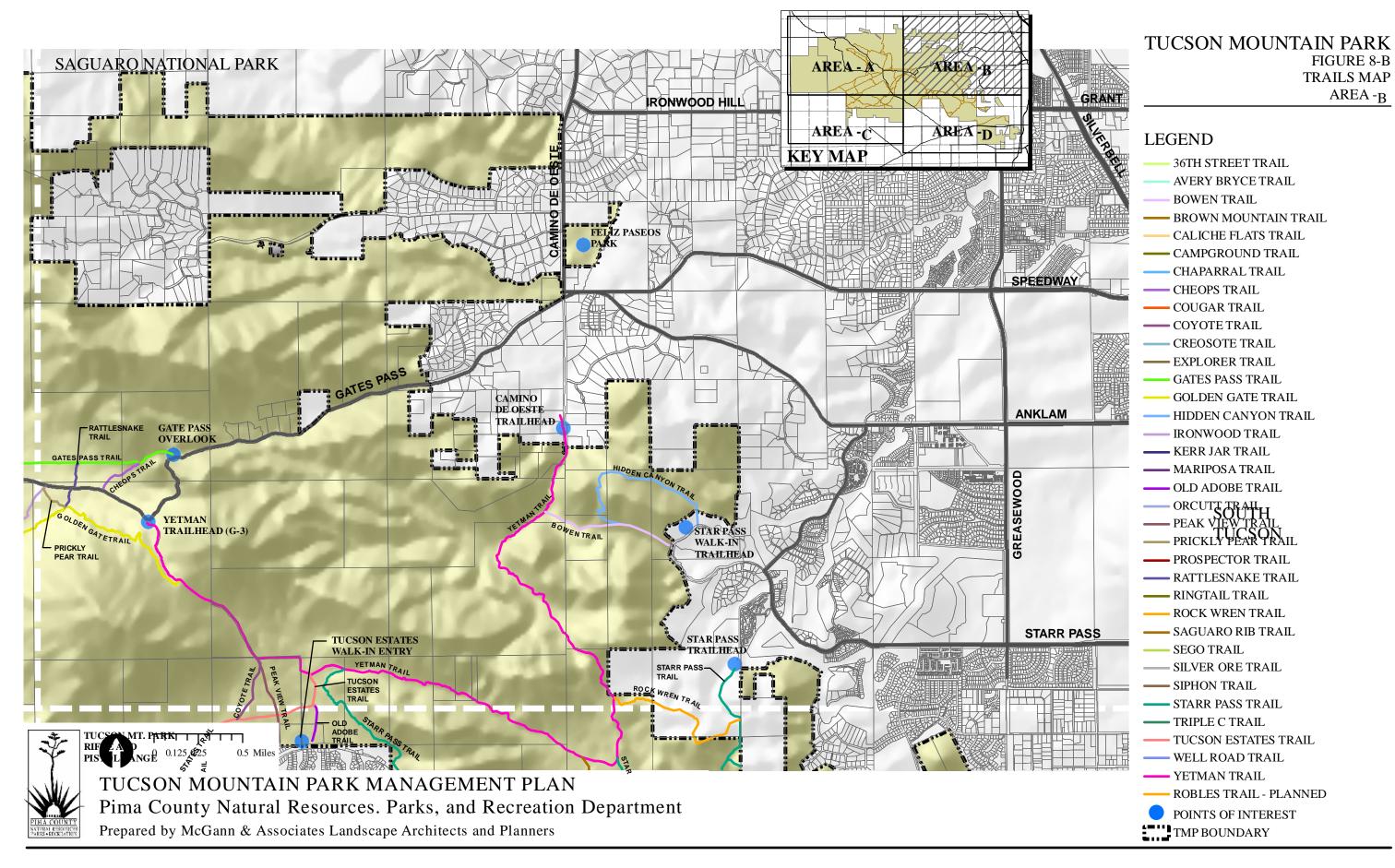
36 th STREET TRAIL					
Perform general trail maintenance					
AVERY BRYCE TRAIL					
Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
BOWEN TRAIL					
x Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
BROWN MOUNTAIN TRAIL					
x Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
CALICHE FLATS TRAIL					
Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
CAMPGROUND TRAIL					
Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)					
Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
CHAPARRAL TRAIL					
Realign portions of trail (near pull-out G-3)					
Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
CHEOPS TRAIL					
Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)					
Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
COUGAR TRAIL					
Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing (near Gates Pass Road)					
Realign portions of trail (near powerline)					
x Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
COYOTE TRAIL					
Perform general trail maintenance					

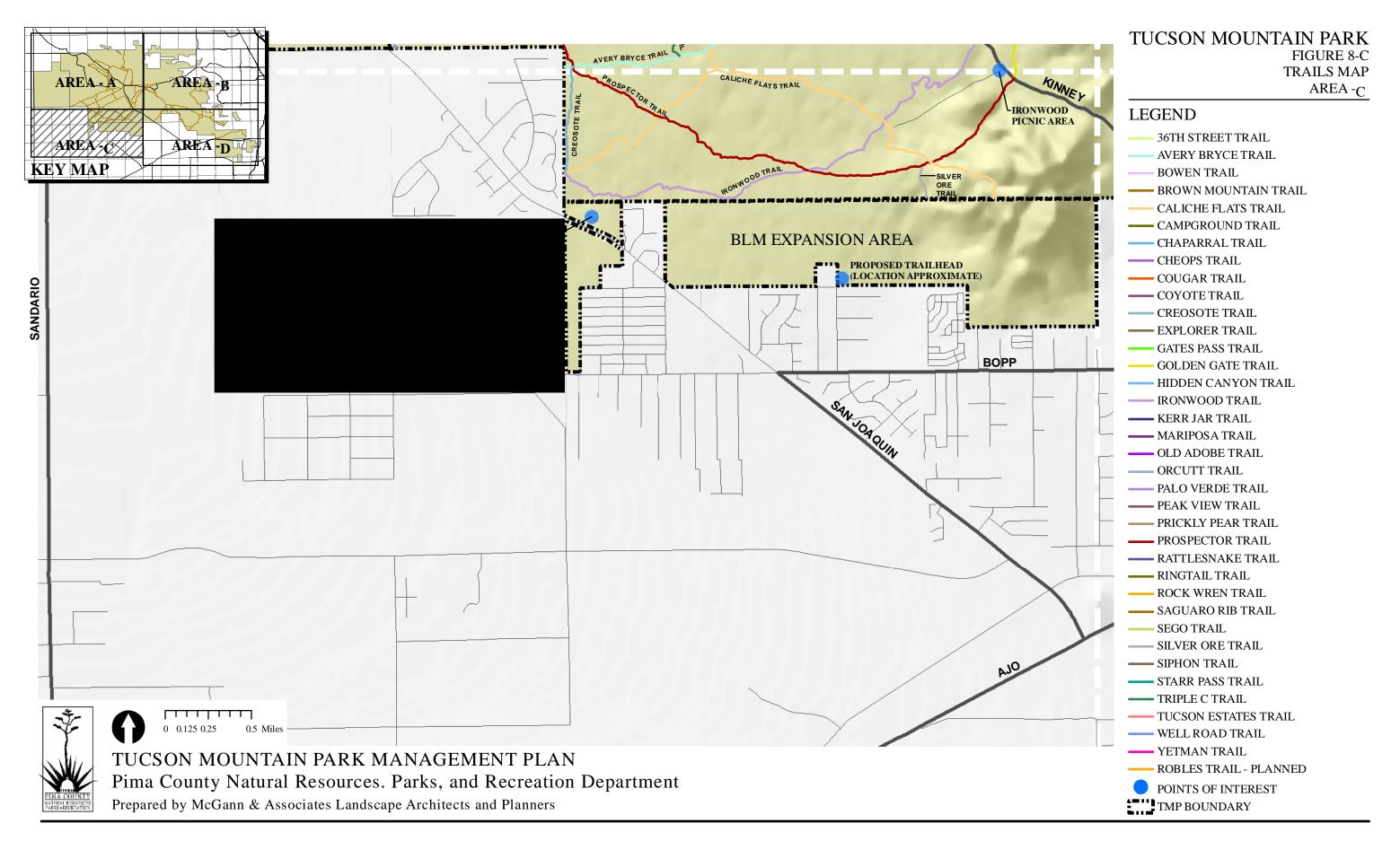
CREOSOTE TRAIL Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor EXPLORER TRAIL Realign portions of trail (along powerline) Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation GATES PASS TRAIL Realign portions of trail (as-needed to reduce erosion) Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation GOLDEN GATE TRAIL x Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation				
Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor EXPLORER TRAIL Realign portions of trail (along powerline) Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation GATES PASS TRAIL Realign portions of trail (as-needed to reduce erosion) Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation GOLDEN GATE TRAIL x Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation				
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Dunna viagotation or mod to museida cofa tuail comiden				
x Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor				
HIDDEN CANYON TRAIL				
Perform general trail maintenance				
IRONWOOD TRAIL				
x Realign portions of trail (in vicinity of Ironwood Wash)				
x Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation				
KERR JAR TRAIL				
Stabilize and/or reconstruct wash crossings				
Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor				
MARIPOSA TRAIL				
Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)				
OLD ADOBE TRAIL				
Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)				

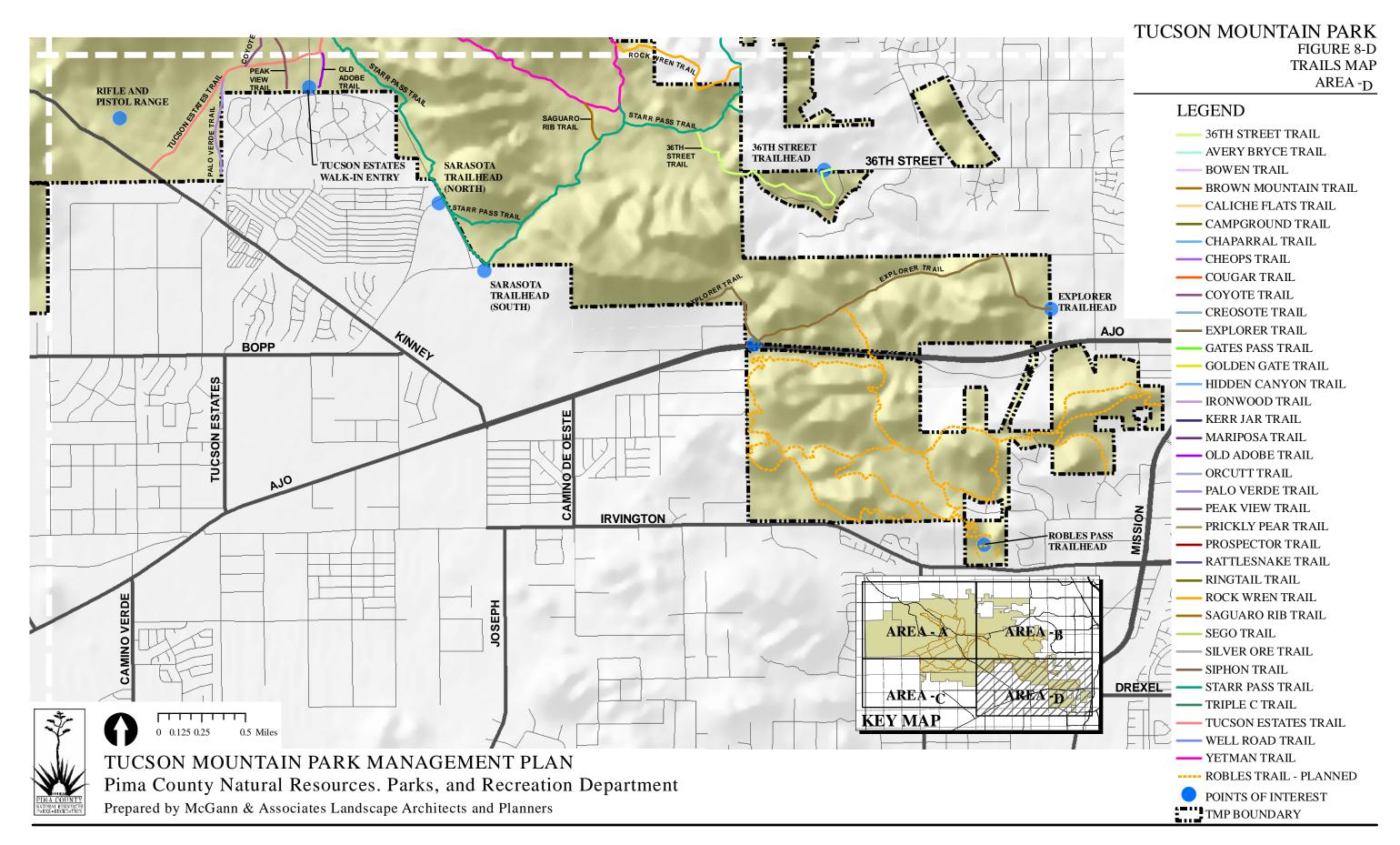
ORCUTT TRAIL						
	Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)					
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
	Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor					
PA	PALO VERDE TRAIL					
	Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)					
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
	Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor					
PEAK VIEW TRAIL						
X	Realign portions of trail					
X	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
	Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor					
PRICKLY PEAR TRAIL						
	Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)					
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
	Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor					
PROSPECTOR TRAIL						
	Realign portions of trail					
	Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)					
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
	Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor					
RA	RATTLESNAKE TRAIL					
	Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)					
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
RINGTAIL TRAIL						
X	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					

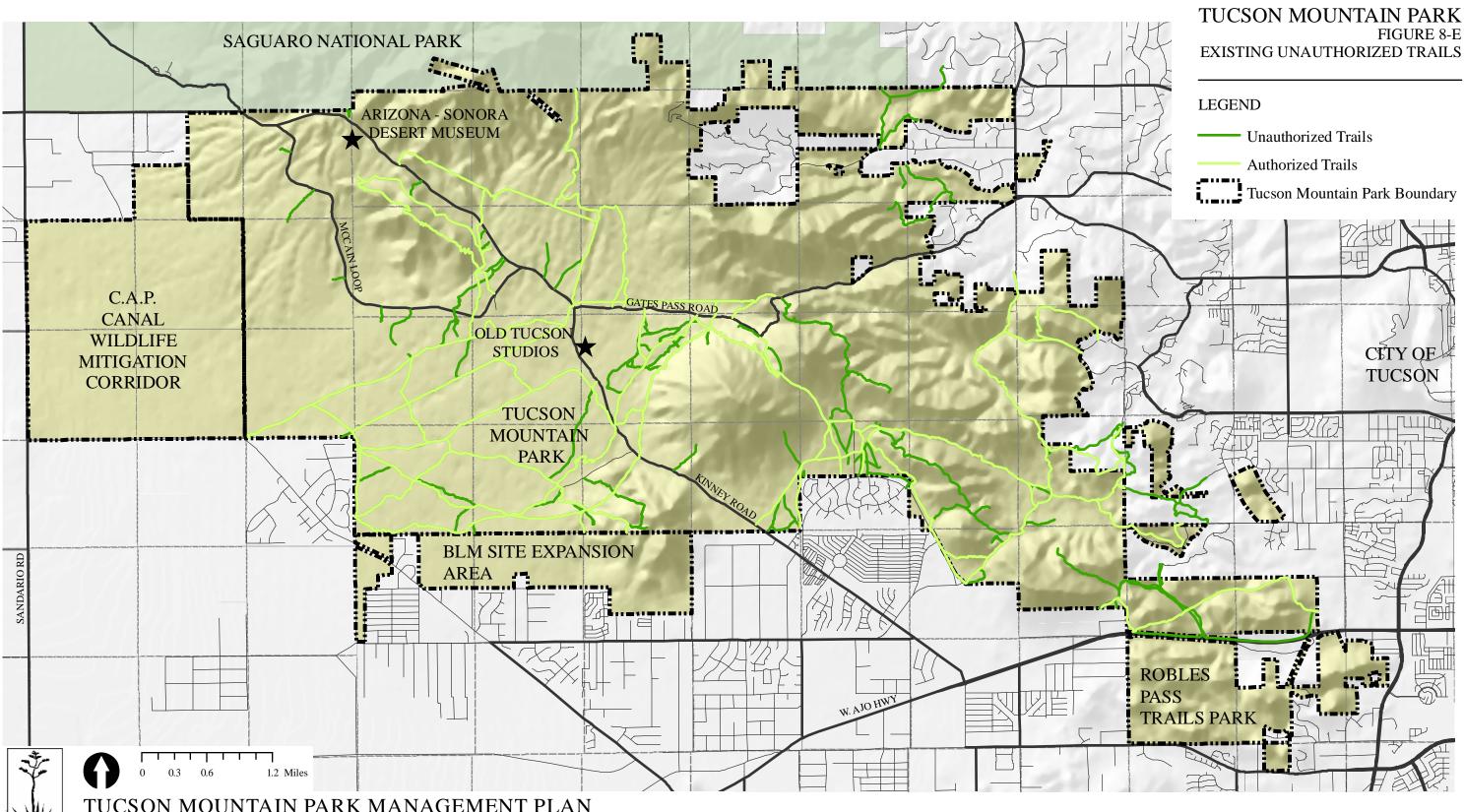
ROCK WREN TRAIL						
	Perform general trail maintenance					
SAGUARO RIB TRAIL						
	Perform general trail maintenance					
SEC	SEGO TRAIL					
x	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
SILVER ORE TRAIL						
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
SIPHON TRAIL						
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
STA	ARR PASS TRAIL					
	Realign portions of trail					
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
TRIPLE C TRAIL						
X	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
TUCSON ESTATES TRAIL						
X	Relocate and/or reconstruct wash crossing(s)					
X	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
	Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor					
WELL ROAD TRAIL						
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
YETMAN TRAIL						
	Realign portions of trail (to eliminate trail within wash bottom)					
	Stabilize, repair, revegetate areas with erosion / trail-side degradation					
	Prune vegetation as-need to provide safe trail corridor					











TUCSON MOUNTAIN PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN
Pima County Natural Resources. Parks, and Recreation Department
Prepared by McGann & Associates Landscape Architects and Planners

9.1 Introduction:

Gates Pass Road and Kinney Road are the primary roadways within Tucson Mountain Park. Both are paved, two-lane roadways. McCain Loop Road is a secondary paved road. Gates Pass Road and Kinney Road carry a substantial volume of motor vehicle traffic and the volume of traffic has increased dramatically in recent years. Current traffic volumes and traffic volumes at the same locations from ten years ago are as follows:

Location	1997 ADT	2007 ADT	Change
Gates Pass Road at east Entry to Park	2,400 / Day	4,400 / Day	+ 75%
Kinney Road at south Entry to Park	1,400 / Day	3,800 / Day	+ 171%
Kinney Road at north Entry to Park	2,200 / Day	2,900 / Day	+ 32%

There are a few unpaved roads within the park. These include the road connecting the well and the Gilbert Ray Campground and the access road the Sonoran Arthropods Studies Inc. Both of these roads are gated and not open for public use.

9.2 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of providing a basic system of roads within the park as needed to provide for public, staff, and emergency access to park facilities. The park will also be managed with the objective of minimizing the volume of motor vehicle traffic in the park that is not generated by park facilities.

9.3 Policies Related to Park Roads:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Retain Gates Pass Road, Kinney Road, and McCain Loop Road as part of the Pima County roadway system, maintained by the Pima County Department of Transportation.
- Continue to maintain park roads without a paved or cleared shoulder so as to discourage on-street parking and encourage the use of designated roadside pull-outs.
- Prohibit the construction of new public roadways within the park, exclusive of new or improved access drives to proposed and/or existing park facilities.
- Discourage motor vehicle traffic on park roads that is not specifically generated by visitation at park facilities.
- Allow bicycle traffic on all paved park roads consistent with applicable state and county rules and regulations.

9.4 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to the maintenance and operation of park roads are planned:

- Adoption (in collaboration with the Pima County Department of Transportation) of a standard Mountain Park and Preserve roadway crosssection for all public roads within the Natural Resource Park System. (See Figure 9-A).
- Maintenance and enforcement (by the Pima County Sheriff's Department) of the 35 mile per hour speed limit on park roads.
- Construction of entry monuments at each roadway entrance to the park to clearly convey to motorists that they are entering Tucson Mountain Park.
- Construction of traffic calming improvements at appropriate locations along Gates Pass Road and Kinney Road. Traffic calming improvements to include median islands, speed tables, intersection configuration changes, traffic control modifications, and similar elements. (See Figure 9-B).
- Assessment of the need for multiple northbound and southbound traffic lanes
 on Kinney Road in the vicinity of Old Tucson and the possible reduction in
 pavement width and/or the number of traffic lanes, as appropriate.
- Collaboration with the Pima County Department of Transportation as needed to develop alternate routes for commuter traffic around, rather than through, the park. One alternate route to be investigated is a connection between Sandario Road and San Joaquin Road. (See Figure 9-B).

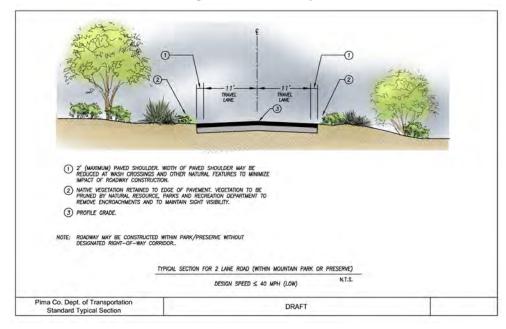
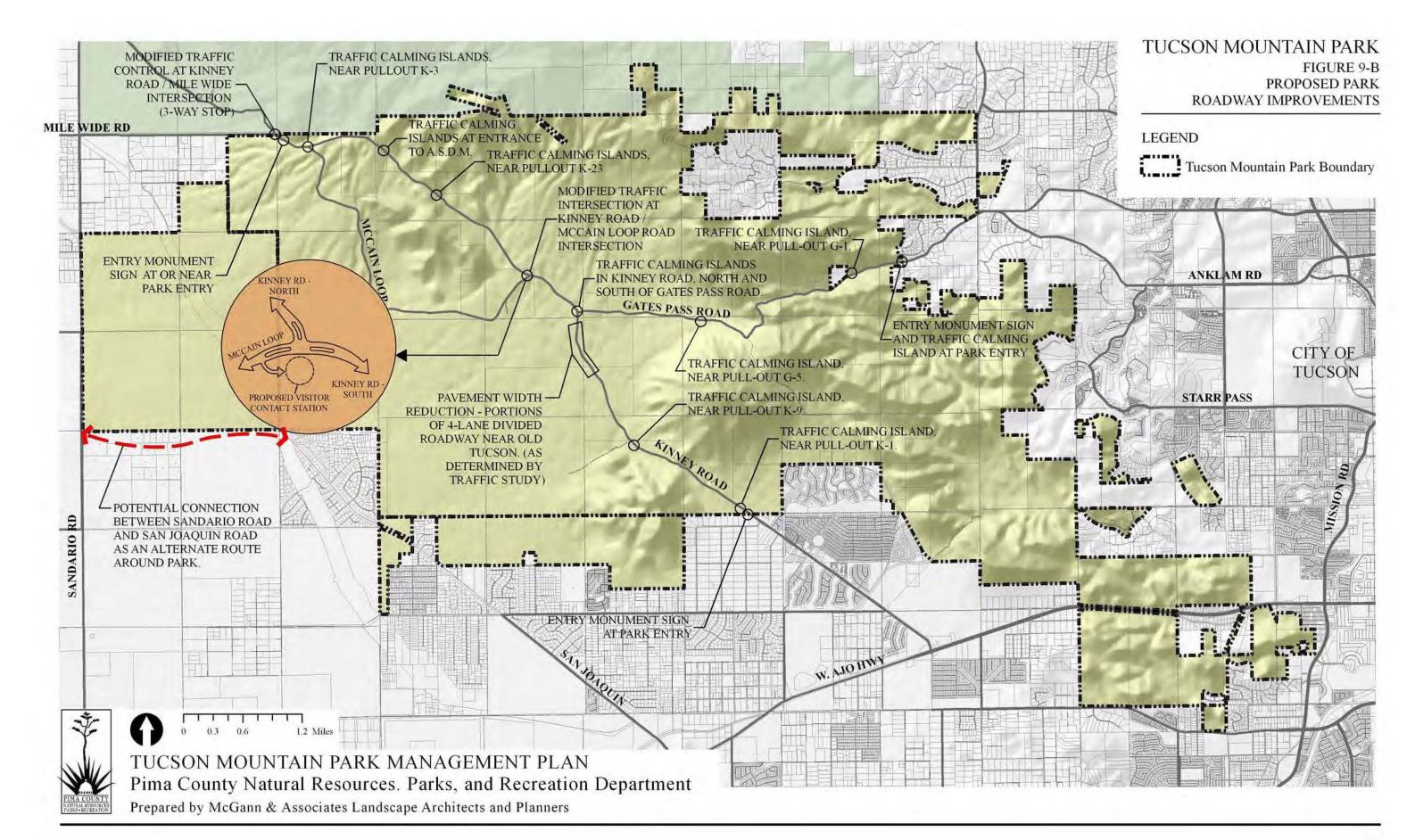


Figure 9-A: Proposed Cross-Section for Mountain Park and Preserve Roadways



10. Park Infrastructure / Operations and Maintenance Facilities

10.1 Introduction:

The utility systems within Tucson Mountain Park include a water system that is operated and maintained by the Pima County Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Department. Also present are an overhead electrical distribution system that is operated by the Trico Electric Cooperative and underground phone lines that are operated by Qwest. These utilities are essential to the operation of the leased facilities within the park (Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and Old Tucson Studios) and essential to the operation of many of the public use facilities operated by Pima County.

In addition to utility systems, there is an operations and maintenance facility located near the entrance to the Gilbert Ray Campground. This walled / fenced compound includes a small workshop building, water storage reservoirs, booster pumps, and outdoor storage areas. Shipping containers are currently being used for the storage of materials and small equipment.

There is also a building located near the entrance to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum that is currently being used as a field office for park personnel and volunteers. This stone structure is a renovated residence that does not meet current accessibility requirements.

10.2 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of providing reliable utility services to the facilities within the Park and with the objective of providing adequate facilities for the operation and maintenance of park improvements.

10.3 Policies Related to Park Infrastructure and Park Operations and Maintenance:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Meet its contractual obligation to provide potable water to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and to Old Tucson Studios while working cooperatively with all impacted parties and stakeholders to minimize consumptive water use in the park.
- Work cooperatively with the public utility companies who have facilities in the park to allow these utility companies to perform routine maintenance (and periodic replacement) of the existing utility lines in a manner that minimizes the impact on park resources.
- To prohibit the use of Tucson Mountain Park lands for the construction and operation of utility transmission and distribution lines that are not essential to the operation of park facilities.
- To advocate for and/or require that existing overhead utility lines be installed underground when they are upgraded or replaced, if the undergrounding work can be accomplished in a manner that is not detrimental to the park's resources.

10. Park Infrastructure / Operations and Maintenance Facilities

- Provide on-site facilities as-needed for the operation and maintenance of park infrastructure and public use facilities.
- To continue to utilize the resources of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department's central shops, mechanics, and technicians to supplement staff assigned to Tucson Mountain Park.

10.4 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to park infrastructure and park operations and maintenance facilities are planned.

- Make repairs and improvements to the park's potable water well, pumping system, and storage reservoirs as recommended by the 2008 Water System Study prepared by Psomas Engineering.
- Replace the existing water pipeline(s) extending from the water storage / pumping facilities at the Gilbert Ray Campground to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and to Old Tucson Studios as recommended by the 2008 Water System Study prepared by Psomas Engineering.
- Extend water service to the Rifle / Pistol Range.
- Extend water service to the proposed Visitor Contact Station.
- Provide stub-outs (on the new water main) at the Brown Mountain and Ironwood Picnic Areas for potential future use at these locations.
- Collaborate with the Trico Electrical Cooperative to develop a plan for the replacement of the existing power poles and the upgrading of the existing electrical lines in the park, including the identification of access routes for this work and for the future maintenance activities.
- Construct a new operations and maintenance (O&M) building within the
 existing O&M compound with adequate space for repair shops, materials
 storage, and equipment storage. Building to include a loading dock, an
 office for staff, a meeting room for volunteers, and accessible restrooms.
 Building height and exterior finishes to be selected to minimize impact on
 the park's visual resources.
- Revegetate areas at the perimeter of the O&M compound to screen facility from adjacent public use areas and roads.
- Maintain the existing field office building (without improvements needed to make the building accessible per current standards) as an auxiliary park building.

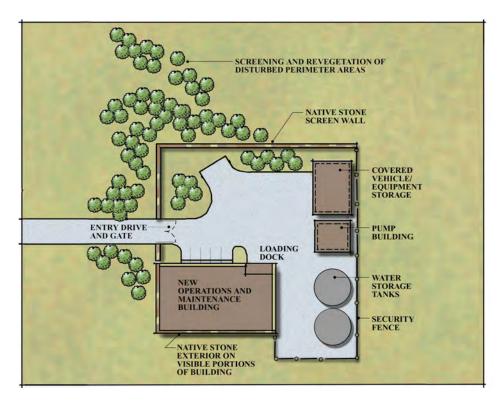


Figure 10-A: Conceptual Site Plan Park Operations and Maintenance Center

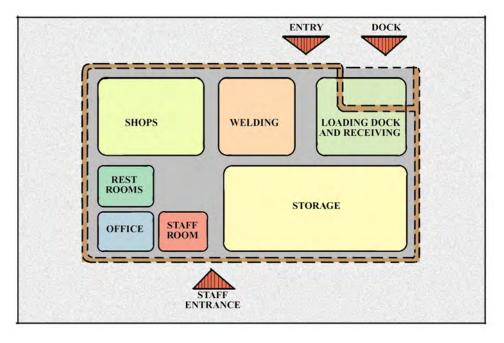


Figure 10-B: Diagram of Proposed Operations and Maintenance Building

11.1 Introduction:

Over a period of many decades, various signs have been installed within Tucson Mountain Park. These signs were constructed using various materials, forms, and graphic formats. The resulting sign system lacks continuity and fails to convey information to the public in a unified and consistent manner.

11.2 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of providing a comprehensive sign system that provides information needed by the public and that clearly communicates to park visitors that they are within a unique natural resource park.

11.3 Policies Related to Park Signs:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Provide a comprehensive system of signs within Tucson Mountain Park as needed to identify the park, the park's public use facilities, and applicable rules and regulations for park use.
- Prohibit the installation of temporary event signs, commercial signs, or other signs not directly related to the park, its facilities, and/or leased properties.

11.4 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to signs within Tucson Mountain Park are planned.

- Use of a standard logo and typeface in conjunction with all new park signs. (Graphic standards to be as developed by PCNRPR for the overall County park system).
- Construction of entry monument signs at the Gates Pass Road entry and at the north and south Kinney Road entrances to the park.
- Construction of a standard facility identification sign at the entrances to all public use facilities within the park.
- Installation of kiosks at all trailheads and overlooks with replaceable sign panels for park rules and regulations and for trail / facility maps.
- Installation of standard facility identification and directional signs within public use areas, as-appropriate.
- Installation of off-site directional signs at key locations near trailheads and park entrances.
- Installation of trail identification markers at trail intersections and at ½ mile intervals along all authorized trails.

11.5 Preliminary List of Required Signs:

ENTRY MONUMENT SIGNS Gates Pass Road Entrance Kinney Road South Entrance Kinney Road North Entrance
Kinney Road South Entrance
Kinney Road North Entrance
PUBLIC USE FACILITY ENTRY / IDENTIFICATION SIGNS
New Visitor Contract Station
Gilbert Ray Campground
Juan Santa Cruz Picnic Area
Brown Mountain Picnic Area
Ironwood Picnic Area
Gates Pass Overlook
G-3 Overlook
Archery Range
Rifle / Pistol Range
Starr Pass Trailhead
36 th Street Trailhead
Camino de Oeste Trailhead
King Canyon Trailhead
Sarasota Trailhead
Future Trailheads (Explorer and two BLM sites)
PARK RULES AND TRAIL / FACILITY MAP KIOSKS
Starr Pass Trailhead
36 th Street Trailhead
Camino de Oeste Trailhead
King Canyon Trailhead
Sarasota Trailhead
Starr Pass / J.W. Marriott Walk-in Entry
Tucson Estates Walk-In Entries (2 locations)

Gates Pass Overlook
G-3 Overlook
Archery Range
Rifle / Pistol Range
Roadside pull-out G-1 near east park entrance
Roadside pull-out K-1 near south park entrance
Roadside pull-out K-31 near north park entrance
Future Trailheads (Explorer and two BLM sites)
FACILITY IDENTIFICATION / DIRECTIONAL SIGNS (TYPICAL LOCATIONS)
Various locations within new Visitor Contact Station site.
All picnic area ramadas
All restroom buildings
Various locations in Gilbert Ray Campground (registration building, campground loops, dump station, etc.)
Various locations within Archery Range and Rifle / Pistol Range
OFF-SITE DIRECTIONAL SIGNS (IDENTIFYING ROUTE TO PARK ENTRY AND/OR TRAILHEAD)
Speedway Boulevard at Greasewood
Sandario Road at Mile Wide Road (2)
Kinney Road at Bopp Road
Starr Pass Boulevard and Clearwell Road (2)
36 th Street and la Cholla Boulevard (2)
Camino de Oeste and Gates Pass Road (2)
Kinney Road near entrance to King Canyon Trailhead (2)
(Future) La Cholla Boulevard near proposed Explorer Trailhead
(Future) Bopp Road at Lead Flower Avenue
(Future) San Joaquin Road east and west of proposed trailhead (2)
TRAIL IDENTIFICATION MARKERS
At all beginning of all trails and at ½ mile intervals (+/- 150 Total)

12.1 Introduction:

The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum (ASDM) leases 95 acres of land within Tucson Mountain Park near the park's northern boundary. On this property the museum operates a zoo, a natural history museum, and botanical garden. The facilities on this site were constructed by, and are operated and maintained by the museum. Pima County is responsible for providing up to 42 acre feet of water to the site each year for irrigation, fire protection, and domestic uses. The current lease between Pima County and the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum extends through 2028.

Old Tucson Studios leases 180 acres of park land near the intersection of Kinney Road and Gates Pass Road and operates a theme park with the features of an old western town. Equestrian trail rides and special events, such as a seasonal Halloween show, are also conducted at the site. The facilities at the site were constructed by, and are operated and maintained by, Old Tucson Studios. Pima County is responsible for providing up to 18 acre feet of water to the site each year for fire protection and domestic uses. The current lease between Pima County and Old Tucson Studios extends through 2023.

The Sonoran Arthopods Studies Inc. (SASI) leases a group of small buildings near the center of the park and uses these buildings as laboratory, office, and meeting space. The current lease between Pima County and SASI extends through 2009.

12.2 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of maintaining existing opportunities and creating new opportunities for recreation, resource conservation, environmental education, resource interpretation, and scientific research through partnerships with entities that operate facilities on leased lands within Tucson Mountain Park.

12.3 Policies Related to Leased Facilities:

It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Work in partnership with the operators of leased facilities in Tucson Mountain Park to provide local residents and visitors to Pima County with appropriate opportunities for recreation, education, and resource interpretation.
- Review each lease prior to its current expiration date to determine if renewal is in the best interest of Pima County and to identify amendments to the lease that will better serve the interests of Pima County, Tucson Mountain Park, the Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department, and the lessee.

12.4 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to the leased facilities within Tucson Mountain Park are planned.

- Continue to provide utility and other specified services to the leased facilities within the park.
- Repair and/or replace the existing water distribution system as required to provide potable water to the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum and Old Tucson in accordance with current lease agreements.
- Collaborate with the Pima County Department of Economic Development and Tourism and the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum to develop a strategic plan that addresses issues of mutual interest that are not included in the provisions of the current lease. These issues include, but are not limited to, facility expansion, water delivery, water conservation, and interpretive / educational programs.
- Collaborate with the Pima County Department of Economic Development and Tourism and Old Tucson Studios to develop a strategic plan that addresses issues of mutual interest that are not included in the provisions of the current lease. These issues include, but are not limited to, water delivery, water conservation, and restoration of areas outside the leased property that have been disturbed by equestrian trail rides and other activities.
- Review and evaluate the research and educational programs currently being conducted by the Sonoran Arthropods Studies Inc. at the park to determine if an extension of the current lease, with or without additional provisions, is in the best interest of Pima County.

13.1 Introduction:

Urban development is occurring on lands surrounding Tucson Mountain Park. Most of the surrounding land is privately owned and many of the adjacent parcels have been subdivided. As a result of these conditions, there is limited opportunity for large-scale land acquisition and park expansion. These conditions notwithstanding, expansion of the park should be considered and pursued where feasible and where it will enhance the Department's ability to effectively manage and protect the park's resources.

13.2 Management Objectives:

Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of acquiring new lands and expanding the park in locations where such expansion will improve recreational opportunities available to the public, enhance the Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department's resource management capabilities, and provide / maintain biological corridors.

13.3 Policies Related to Park Expansion:

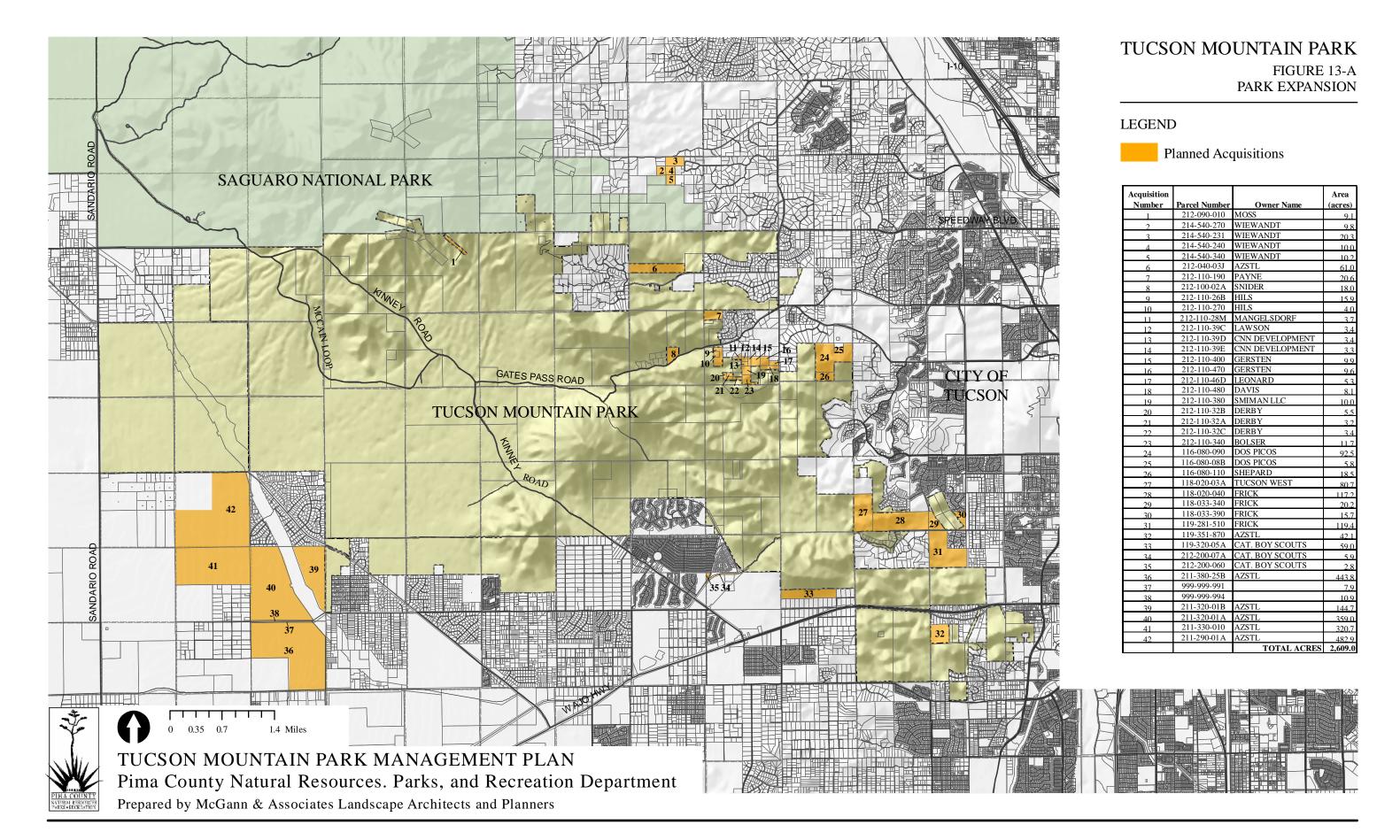
It shall be the policy of the Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department to:

- Attempt to eliminate private in-holdings within the park boundaries through the purchase of the subject lands from willing sellers at purchase prices that are deemed reasonable and appropriate by the Pima County Board of Supervisors.
- Attempt to acquire adjacent and nearby public lands, including but not limited to State Trust Lands, where such acquisitions will enhance opportunities for public recreation and/or facilitate resource conservation and management.
- Attempt to acquire certain adjacent and nearby private lands where such acquisitions will enhance opportunities for public recreation and/or facilitate resource conservation and management.

13.4 Planned Actions:

The following actions related to the acquisition of new land and the expansion of the park are planned.

- Monitor the status of in-holdings and enter into discussions with willing sellers when appropriate.
- Initiate discussions with the State Land Department related to the purchase or long-term lease of the Trust Lands identified herein. (See Figure 13-A)
- Actively pursue the phased acquisition of adjacent private lands as identified herein. (See Figure 13-A)



14.1 Introduction:

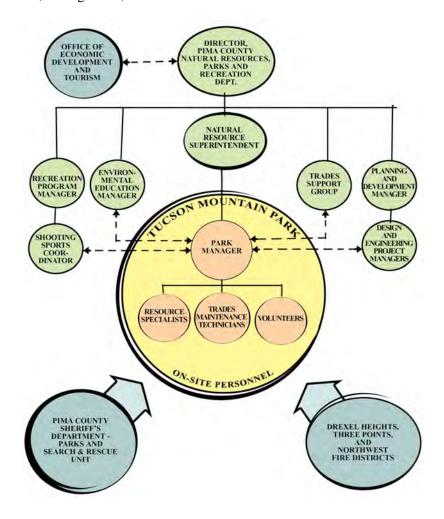
The management of Tucson Mountain Park has historically been coordinated by an on-site Park Manager with the support of both on-site and off-site personnel. It is recommended that this basic approach be retained with some modifications.

The most significant change proposed is the addition of new Resource Management Specialist positions. These new staff members will be responsible for monitoring, maintaining, repairing, and restoring back-country areas, trail corridors, and special habitat features within Tucson Mountain Park. The construction of approximately 70 miles of trails by park users over the past decade, without the consent of the Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department is evidence of the need for the new Resource Management Specialist positions.

The need for additional staff is critical. With the employment of staff as proposed, Tucson Mountain Park will have approximately one maintenance / resource specialist for every 2,600 acres of park. By comparison the City of Phoenix Parks Department has one maintenance staff person for every 1,137 acres of mountain park.

14.2 Park Staff Organization Chart:

Provided below is a chart outlining the organization of staff responsible for the operation, management, and maintenance of Tucson Mountain Park.



14.3 Park Staff and Responsibilities:

NATURAL RESOURCE SUPERINTENDENT (Off-Site)

Responsible for overall management of Tucson Mountain Park and other mountain parks, natural resource parks, open-space, and ranch properties.

PARK MANAGER (On-Site)

Responsible for all day-to-day operations of the park. Supervises on-site staff of Trades Maintenance Technicians, Resource Management Specialists, and Volunteers. Coordinates with Environmental Education Manager and Recreation Program / Shooting Sports Manager.

TRADES MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS (4 Total - On-Site)

Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the park water system, picnic areas, overlooks, trailheads, and campground. Assist with the maintenance of shooting range facilities. Report to the Park Manager.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS (4 Total - On-Site)

Responsible for monitoring user activities and site conditions along trail corridors, in back-country areas, and in special habitat areas (such as wildlife guzzlers, bat caves, etc.). Responsible for making as-needed repairs to trails. Assist with periodic resource monitoring programs. Report to Park Manager.

VOLUNTEERS (On-Site)

Consist of camp hosts, campground volunteers, and participants in other volunteer programs. Assist with various maintenance, monitoring, and non-native plant removal programs. Report to the Park Manager or designee.

RECREATION PROGRAM MANAGER / SHOOTING SPORTS COORDINATOR (Off-Site)

Responsible for operation, management, and maintenance of all facilities at the Rifle / Pistol Range and at the Archery Range, exclusive of trash removal. Coordinate all activities with the Park Manager.

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER (Off-Site)

Responsible for the development and presentation of all environmental education and interpretive programs offered at Tucson Mountain Park. Coordinates all park related activities with the Park Manager.

14. Park Administration and Staffing

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGER AND PLANNING / DESIGN PROJECT MANAGERS (Off-Site)

Assist with the planning and design of new and/or renovated public facilities within the park. Coordinate as-needed with the Park Manager on all Tucson Mountain Park projects.

TRADES SUPPORT GROUP (Off-Site)

Provide on and as-needed basis, trades personnel, specialized equipment, and other resources needed to make major repairs to park facilities and infrastructure improvements. Are temporarily assigned to the park at the request of the Park Manager and coordinate all activities with the Park Manager.

PIMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - PARKS AND SEARCH-&-RESCUE UNIT

Provide law enforcement within Tucson Mountain Park. Conduct regular patrols as scheduled by the Sheriff's Department. Respond to incidents as requested by Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation Department personnel and/or the public.

DREXEL HEIGHTS FIRE DISTRICT, THREE-POINTS FIRE DISTRICT, AND NORTHWEST FIRE DISTRICT

Respond to emergencies, vehicle and/or structure fires, and wildland fires as-needed. Responses made individually or by multiple fire districts in accordance with mutual aid protocols.

PIMA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

Responsible for oversight of lease agreements between Pima County and the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and Old Tucson. Coordinates activities with the Natural Resource Manager and the Park Manager.

The Friends of Tucson Mountain Park Friendsoftmp@yahoo.com Facebook, Friends of Tucson Mountain Park

December 19, 2019

I-11 Tier 1 EIS Study Team c/o ADOT Communications 1655 W. Jackson Street Mail Drop 126F Phoenix, AZ 85007

RE: Concerning the proposed Interstate 11 Recommended Corridor Alternative, please add my voice to those who are thanking you for extending the comment period.

The Tucson Mountain Park Management Plan, May 2008 (Master Plan) places a special value on protecting the park's physical setting, and seeks to protect the park's biological and visual resources. The proposed I11 Recommended Corridor Alternative passes through rural Avra Valley within five miles of Tucson Mountain Park.

Please consider the following elements of the Master Plan before choosing the Recommended Corridor Alternative:

Tucson Mountain Park Management Plan, May 2008 Section 2.3, The Park Setting

 "Urban growth west and southwest of the park is significant in that it will impact the visual resources and unique vistas that have become a distinguishing feature of Tucson Mountain Park. It will also result in higher volumes of automobile traffic on the park's roads not generated by, or related to, facilities within the Park"

Section 2.6, Biological Resources of the Park

"The presence of the Tucson Mountain Unit of Saguaro National Park adjacent to the site results in a 64 square mile area that can support diverse populations of various wildlife species. At the same time, urban growth in areas surrounding the park is effectively creating an island with restricted connections to other natural resource parks and preserves. The maintenance of viable linkages between the park and other preserved natural resource areas will be important to the long term success of certain wildlife populations currently present within the Park."

Section 2.8, Visual Resources of the Park

- "Some of the features that contribute to the visual quality of Tucson Mountain Park are:
 - 1. Landforms (mountain peaks, ridges, cliffs, and outcrops)
 - 2. Plant communities (saguaro forests, ironwood forests, riparian woodlands)
 - 3. Specimen plants (saguaro, ocotillo, and prickly-pear)

- 4. Spaces of various scales (broad valleys, narrow canyons, winding arroyos)
- 5. Atmospheric / light conditions (summer monsoon season sunsets)
- 6. Rural / natural character (narrow roads, vegetation to the edge of pavement)
- 7. Limited development (very few, low profile buildings)
- 8. Facilities constructed with natural materials (stone walls, stone buildings) All of these features contribute to the visual quality of Tucson Mountain Park."
- "Of greater concern is the scope of urban development surrounding the park, particularly to the west and southwest. Urban development is becoming a much more prominent feature of the landscape as viewed from the Gates Pass Overlook and other upper elevation sites within the park. Observing the region's spectacular sunsets from the Gates Pass Overlook has long been a popular activity. It is estimated that more than 200,000 people visit the overlook each year. Until recently, the view from the vantage point west of the overlook was of largely undisturbed natural desert. More and more the view is of residential subdivisions and rural homesteads."

Section 3.1, Management Objectives

• "Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of preserving and enhancing the biological resources of the park as a healthy, discrete Sonoran Desert ecosystem and as part of Pima County's overall conservation land system."

Section 3.2, Policies Related to Biological Resource Management

- "Support actions by Pima County, other jurisdictions, and resource management agencies that maintain, enhance, and expand biological connections between Tucson Mountain Park and other natural resource areas, parks, and preserves."
- "Support programs and projects that will reduce or mitigate the negative impacts of urban development surrounding Tucson Mountain Park on the park's biological resources."

Section 3.3, Planned Actions

- "Work with the Pima County Department of Transportation to develop and implement strategies for mitigating the impacts of motor vehicle traffic within the park that is not related to park visitation."
- "Work with the Pima County Development Services Department to review development proposals associated with lands adjacent to or near the park to evaluate their compatibility with, or impacts on, the park's biological resources."
- "Work with the Pima County Development Services Department to review development proposals within Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan (SDCP) designated corridors that connect Tucson Mountain Park with other natural areas and evaluate the need for dedicated natural open-space corridors within the proposed developments."

Section 5.1, Visual Resource Management Objectives

• "Tucson Mountain Park will be managed with the objective of protecting and enhancing the visual resources associated with Tucson Mountain Park including views internal to the park, off-site vistas as seen from prominent vantage points inside the park, and views of the park from external vantage points in the region."

Section 5.2, Policies Related to Visual Resource Management

• "Actively oppose the construction of above-ground utility lines, communication towers, highways, large structures, and infrastructure improvements within, or in the vicinity of, the site that will diminish the visual resources associated with Tucson Mountain Park."

Section 5.3, Planned Actions

- "Actively participate in the review of feasibility studies, alignment studies, and other documents related to new pipelines, transmission lines, and regional infrastructure improvements proposed for areas within or near Tucson Mountain Park to determine their potential impact on the visual resources of the park."
- "Work with the Pima County Development Services Department to review the plans for proposed new developments in the vicinity of the park to determine their impact on the visual resources of Tucson Mountain Park."

Section 6.2, Policies Related to Physical Resource Management

• "Actively participate in the review of development proposals for areas adjacent or near the site to determine their potential impact on the physical resources of Tucson Mountain Park."

In my informed opinion, the Recommended Corridor Alternative will have an unacceptable adverse impact on the visual and biological resources of Tucson Mountain Park. Please add my voice to those who are urging you to choose the Interstate 10 route through Tucson.

Thank you,
Curt Larson
The Friends of Tucson Mountain Park

Estrella Mountain Ranch Developers, LLC ("EMRD") 5090 N. 40th Street, Suite 210 Phoenix, Arizona 85018

July 11, 2019

Via U.S. Mail and Hand Delivery

Mr. Jay Van Echo Project Manager Interstate 11 Alternatives Analysis / Tier I EIS Arizona Department of Transportation ("ADOT") 1655 W Jackson St., Mail Drop 126F Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Newland Real Estate Group, LLC ("Newland") and EMRD Clarifications to Comments on the Interstate 11 Recommended Alignment in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

Dear Mr. Van Echo,

Thank you for the opportunity presented to the stakeholders and community members to provide input on ADOT's Recommended Alternative for the future Interstate 11 corridor through Central Arizona, as well as the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The recent Public Meetings were very helpful in expanding the understanding of the direction that this project has taken, and I would like to complement you on their success.

For the purpose of continuity, please refer to my letter to you from June 2nd, 2017 (Appendix F) on behalf of Estrella Mountain Ranch Developers, LLC (EMRD) regarding its 22,000-acre Estrella master planned community putting on record our strong preference for the I-11 alignment alternatives 'M' and 'N' as shown on the Central Section Maps during the early 2017 Agency Coordination and Public Information Meetings.

We have now reviewed the DEIS in great detail and looked at the location of the 2000' corridor alignment through the Estrella Master Planned Community, as illustrated in the Recommended Alternative, and compared it to the future Loop 303 corridor alignment in the City of Goodyear 2025 General Plan: Land Use and Transportation Plan. Appendix A illustrates the I-11 Recommended Alternative in relation to the City of Goodyear Transportation Plan.

It is understood that at the Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) level, the focus is on identifying a broad 2000' wide general corridor alignment where the future I-11 facility could be built, and therefore the exact location of the facility within the 2000' corridor has not been determined at this time. However, in this specific case of Estrella Master Planned Community, more specific location of the I-11 corridor is needed due to the existing planning in place (Estrella Master Plan and City of Goodyear Transportation Plan), and ongoing platting and subdivision construction.

Mr. Jay Van Echo July 11, 2019

Re: Newland and EMRD (Estrella) Clarifications Comments on the Interstate 11 Recommended Alignment in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

As illustrated in Appendix A, the I-11 Recommended Alignment in many places does not coincide with the SR 303L South alignment, as adopted in the City of Goodyear 2025 General Plan. Between Ray Road and Germann Road, the recommended alignment is only less than a half-mile to the east of the SR 303L alignment, but goes up to half-mile west between Germann Road and the future Hassayampa Freeway. This change in locally adopted alignment of the freeway would significantly impact the planned activity centers and residential neighborhoods, some of which already exist.

The master plan for Estrella was developed in the early 2,000s with the assumption that the future SR 303L South would traverse through the Estrella community. The key theme of the strategic development plan for the community identified four activity centers within the community, with the future freeway corridor providing access to these centers of business and commerce. The freeway corridor would provide opportunities for local and regional economic development. The Estrella Strategic Development Plan is attached to this letter (Appendix B) for your reference. The master plan for Estrella was developed in coordination with the City of Goodyear, and the City bought into the concept of connected activity centers when it adopted the Estrella master plan into its General Plan document.

The City of Goodyear 2025 General Plan, in its future Land Use and Transportation Plan, identified the SR 303L/I-11 corridor as a major transportation artery through the city, and through the Estrella Mountain Ranch Development. The Land Use and Transportation Plan (see attached Appendix C) identified a generally north-south freeway alignment and a generally east-west freeway alignment for the SR 303L corridor. The City of Goodyear envisions the Estrella master planned community playing a critical role in the growth of the City by providing a compatible mix of land uses that foster a quality community; providing an integrated lifestyle with residential neighborhoods, commercial activity centers, and a variety of trails, open space, and recreational activities; and ensuring that a good mix of land uses and zoning will ensure a stable revenue stream in the future.

The I-8/I-10 Hidden Valley Transportation Framework Study conducted by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) also identified the future SR 303L South freeway corridor as part of the Recommended Framework (Appendix D). In addition, the Interstate 10/Hassayampa Valley Transportation Framework Study also called for the SR 303L South Extension (Appendix E).

As mentioned in our earlier letters to ADOT, the City of Goodyear and EMRD and Newland have made significant investments in our community's future by planning for development around a future interstate highway/freeway corridor. As mentioned before, the four existing and proposed economic activity centers within the Estrella master planned community would be strongly supported and enhanced by the access and substantial mobility capacity provided by a future SR 303L South extension/I-11 trade corridor. These freeway corridors are the backbone of regional economic development envisioned within Estrella and city of Goodyear.

Mr. Jay Van Echo July 11, 2019

Re: Newland and EMRD (Estrella) Clarifications Comments on the Interstate 11 Recommended Alignment in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

With this letter, Estrella Mountain Ranch Developers, LLC (EMRD) and Newland would like to reiterate our commitment to the future I-11 corridor and record our strong request to ADOT to refine the I-11 Recommended Alignment to follow the centerline of the SR 303L alignment through Estrella, as shown in the City of Goodyear Transportation Plan.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding Newland Communities' position on this very important project.

Thank you.

William Olson

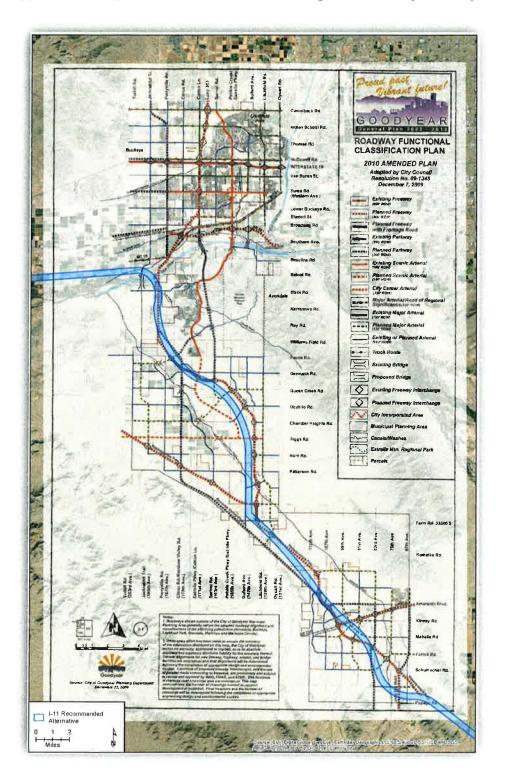
Vice President of Newland Real Estate Group, LLC Development Manager

CC: Via Electronic Mail

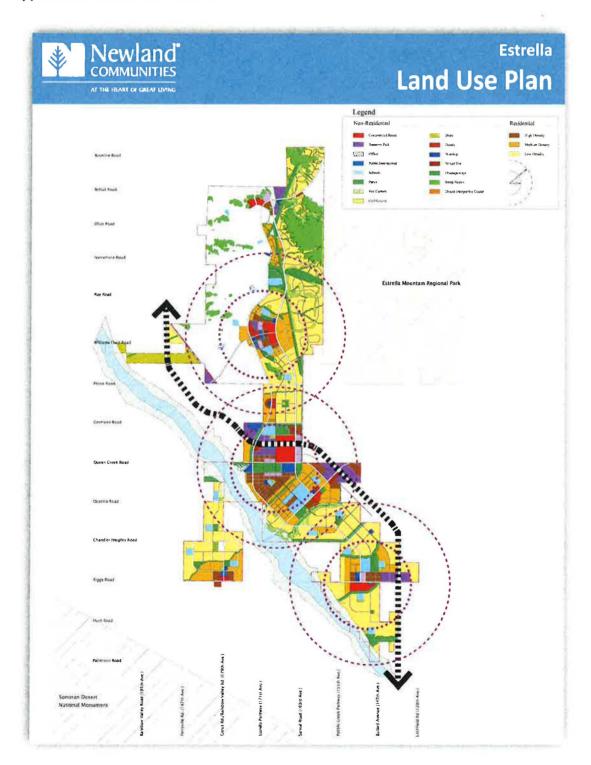
Julie Arendall
City Manager
City of Goodyear
190 North Litchfield Road
Goodyear, AZ 85338

Rebecca Zook City Engineer City of Goodyear 190 North Litchfield Road Goodyear, AZ 85338

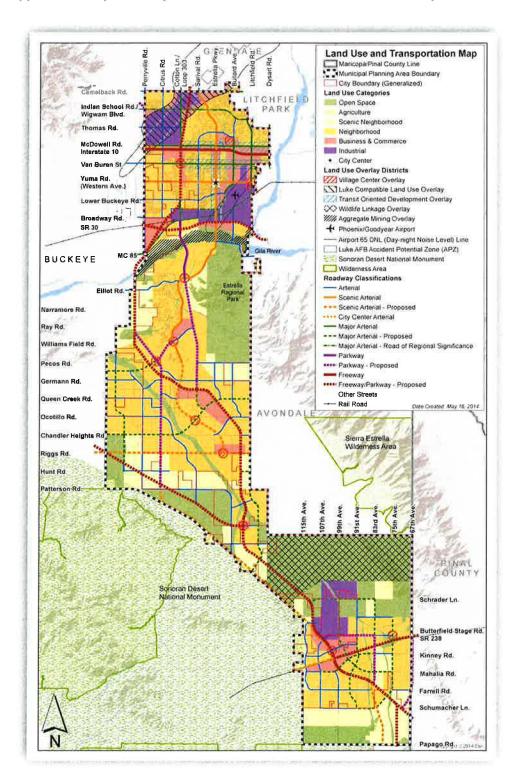
Appendix A: Comparison of I-11 Recommended Alignment and City of Goodyear Transportation Plan



Appendix B: Estrella Land Use Plan

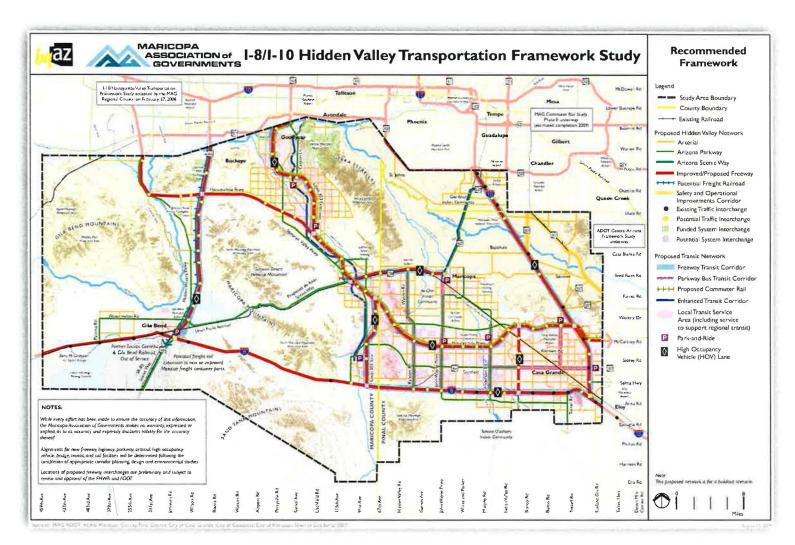


Appendix C: City of Goodyear 2025 General Plan - Land Use and Transportation Plan

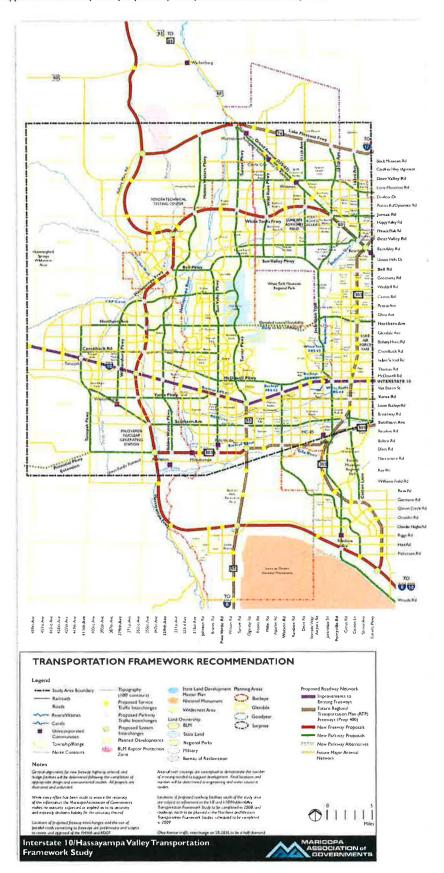


Mr. Jay Van Echo July 11, 2019

Appendix D: MAG I-8/I-10 Hidden Valley Transportation Framework Study - 2009



Appendix E: MAG I-10/Hassayampa Valley Transportation Framework Study - 2008



Appendix F: Newland Letter to Jay Van Echo/ADOT dated June 2nd, 2017

ATTACHED TO THIS PAGE

Estrella Mountain Ranch Developers, LLC 5090 N. 40th Street, Suite 210 Phoenix, Arizona 85018

June 2, 2017

Sent Via: U.S. Mail and Electronic Mail

Mr. Jay Van Echo
Project Manager
Interstate 11 Tier I EIS Study Team
Arizona Department of Transportation Communications
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Estrella Mountain Ranch Developers, LLC (Estrella) - Comments on the Alternative Routes Being Considered for Interstate 11

Dear Mr. Van Echo,

Thank you for the opportunity presented to the stakeholders and community members to provide input on the various corridor route alternatives being considered by ADOT for the future Interstate 11 corridor through Central Arizona. I had the pleasure of attending the Agency Coordination Meeting in Avondale on Tuesday, May 16, 2017 where I was able to look at the various project graphics. Please accept my complements on the excellent and informative Agency Coordination Meeting, your slide presentation, and the very informative and user-friendly display graphics.

Through this letter, on behalf of Newland Real Estate Group, LLC, as Development Manager for Estrella Mountain Ranch Developers, LLC, I would like to put on record our strong preference for the I-11 alignment alternatives 'M' and 'N' as shown on the Central Section Maps during the recent Agency Coordination and Public Information Meetings.

As you know, Estrella Mountain Ranch Developers, LLC (through its subsidiaries) owns approximately 20,000 acres of combined land (called "Estrella") just west of the Estrella Mountains in the west valley of the Phoenix Metropolitan Area. Estrella was originally named Estrella Mountain Ranch when it was initially planned and development was initiated in 1985, but the name has subsequently been shortened to Estrella for ease in marketing purposes. Estrella is a master planned community located within City of Goodyear, AZ and is uniquely situated in a broad valley between several prominent natural features, including the Gila River, the Sierra Estrella Mountains, and the Sonoran Desert National Monument.

Estrella accounts for roughly 32 square miles of the City of Goodyear (roughly 20% of land area within the City of Goodyear), and is located just south of I-10, and in close proximity to the I-10/SR 303L Systems Interchange. At build-out, Estrella is expected to provide a total of approximately 51,000 residential units (approximately 144,000 residents [using an average household size of 2.82; Source: Estrella Strategic Plan – December 31, 2006]) and is anticipated to create 51,644 jobs. At present, Estrella is home to approximately 14,000 residents. Estrella is anticipated to help in realizing the City's vision for a resilient and diversified economy by providing an opportunity for

locally based employment and economic opportunity, and serve as a home to an educated and healthy workforce. Estrella master planned community provides a well-connected roadway network, and aims to provide an efficient multimodal transit system and options for other modes of travel. As you can imagine, the development potential of the Estrella community is directly linked to the future SR 303L South Extension and Interstate 11 Trade Corridor going through this area.

The master plan for Estrella was developed in the early 2,000's with the assumption that the future SR 303L South would cross the Gila River and remain west of the Estrella community and then traverse to the east through Estrella between the Germann Road and Queen Creek Road alignments. The key theme of the strategic development plan for the community identified four activity centers within the community, with the future freeway corridor providing access to these centers of business and commerce. The freeway corridor would provide opportunities for local and regional economic development. The Estrella Strategic Development Plan is attached to this letter (Appendix A) for your reference. The master plan for Estrella was developed in coordination with the City of Goodyear, and the City bought into the concept of connected activity centers when it adopted the Estrella master plan into its General Plan document.

The City of Goodyear 2025 General Plan, in its future Land Use and Transportation Plan, identified the SR 303L/I-11 corridor as a major transportation artery through the city, and through the Estrella Mountain Ranch Development. The Land Use and Transportation Plan (see attached Appendix B) identified a generally north-south freeway alignment, which corresponds with the I-11 alternative alignment "N". Additionally, a generally east-west freeway alignment is also shown in the General Plan that corresponds to the I-11 alternative alignment "M". The City of Goodyear envisions the Estrella master planned community playing a critical role in the growth of the City by providing a compatible mix of land uses that foster a quality community; providing an integrated lifestyle with residential neighborhoods, commercial activity centers, and a variety of trails, open space, and recreational activities; and ensuring that a good mix of land uses and zoning will ensure a stable revenue stream in the future.

The I-8/I-10 Hidden Valley Transportation Framework Study conducted by the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) also identified the future SR 303L South freeway corridor (alignment "N") and the future Hassayampa Freeway (alignment "M") as part of the Recommended Framework (Appendix C). In addition, the Interstate 10/Hassayampa Valley Transportation Framework Study also called for the SR 303L South Extension (Appendix D).

The City of Goodyear and Estrella Mountain Ranch Developers, LLC have made significant investments in our community's future by planning for development around a future interstate highway/freeway corridor. As mentioned before, the four existing and proposed economic activity centers within the Estrella master planned community would be strongly supported and enhanced by the access and substantial mobility capacity provided by a future SR 303L South extension/I-11 trade corridor. These freeway

corridors are the backbone of regional economic development envisioned within Estrella and city of Goodyear.

Should ADOT's Alternative Selection Report process for the I-11 Corridor result in the selection of alignments "M" and/or "N" as a result of technical analysis and public input, Newland Communities would be willing to discuss opportunities for dedication of right-of-way for the corridor where it crosses the Estrella master planned community.

Please feel free to contact me at (602) 468-0800 if you have any questions or concerns regarding Newland Real Estate Group, LLC and Estrella Mountain Ranch Developers, LLCs position on this very important project.

Thank you.



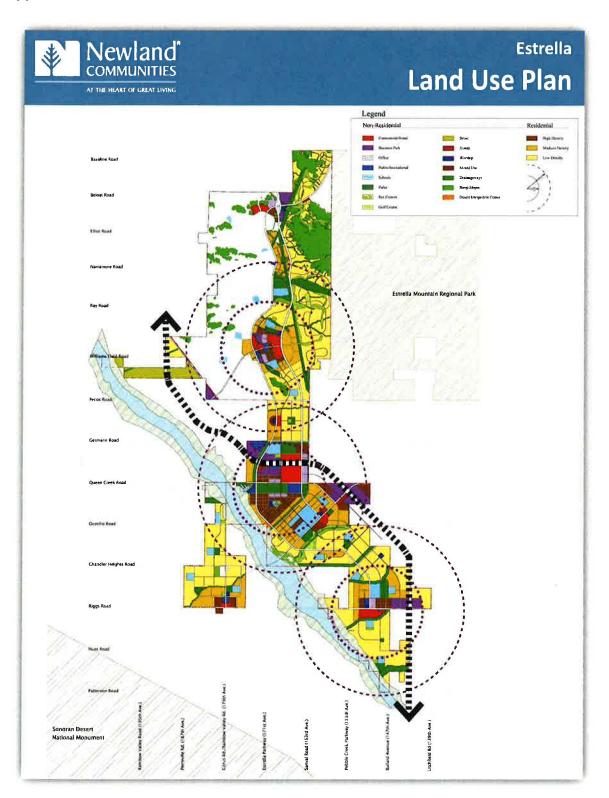
William Olson Vice President of Newland Real Estate Group, LLC Development Manager

cc: Interstate 11 Tier I EIS Study Team c/o ADOT Communications 1655 W. Jackson St., Mail drop 126F Phoenix, AZ 85007

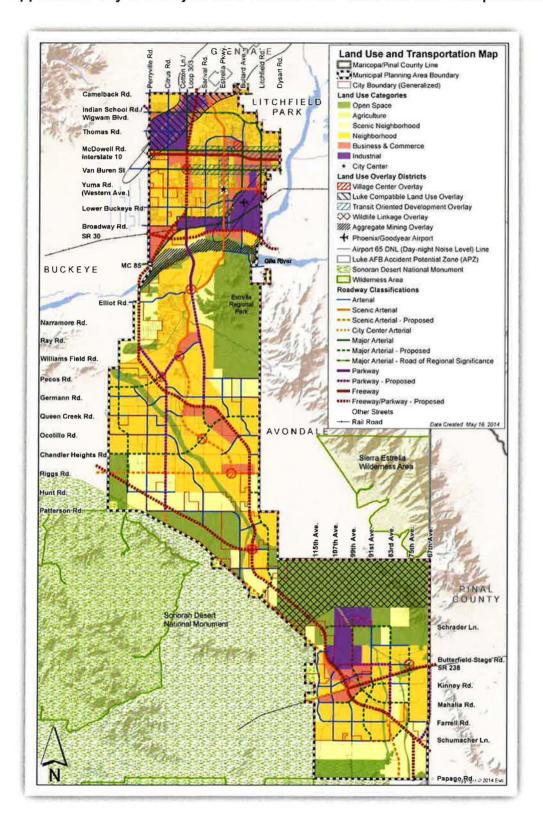
> Mr. Brain Dalke, CEcD City Manager City of Goodyear 190 North Litchfield Road Goodyear, AZ 85338

Mr. Christopher Baker, AICP, MBA Development Services Director Development Services Department City of Goodyear, Arizona 14455 W. Van Buren Street Suite D101 Goodyear, Arizona 85338

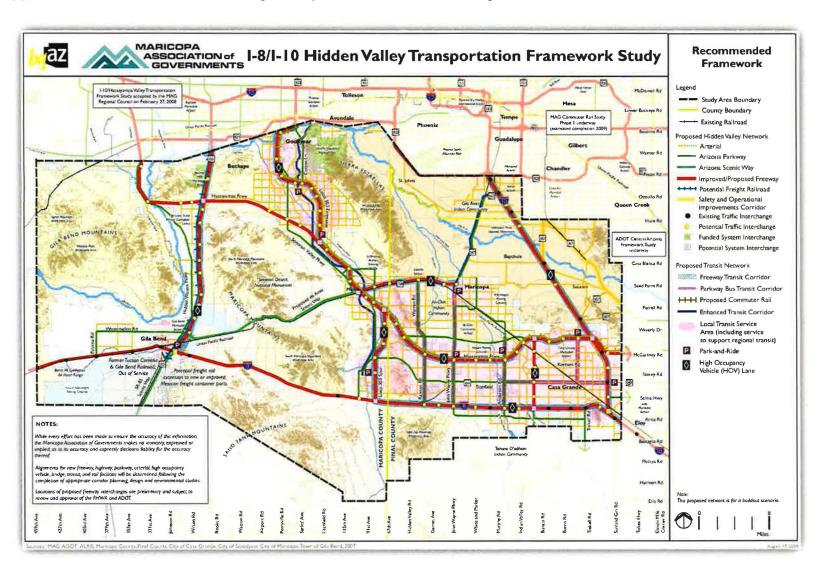
Appendix A: Estrella Land Use Plan



Appendix B: City of Goodyear 2025 General Plan - Land Use and Transportation Plan



Appendix C: MAG I-8/I-10 Hidden Valley Transportation Framework Study - 2009



Appendix D: MAG I-10/Hassayampa Valley Transportation Framework Study - 2008





Alternative Interstate 11 Corridor From Wickenburg to Mexico Border



Prepared by:
Sanjeev Ramchandra, M.Ed.
sanjeev_ramchandra@yahoo.com
June 2016

Updated: December 2017



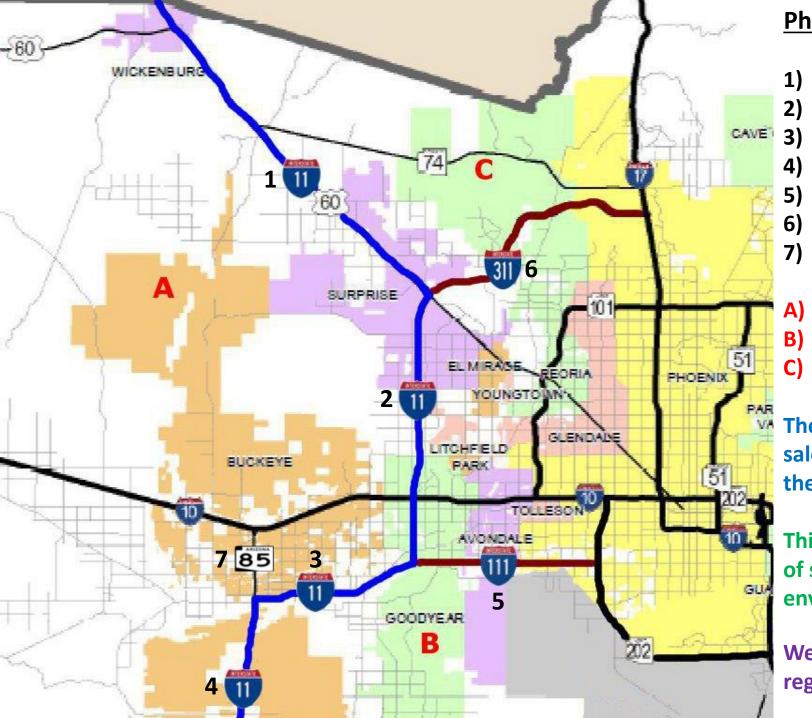
Ramchandra, S

-7889

To Las Vegas 191 89 70 19 **To Rocky Point**

Summary / Overview of Proposed I-11 Corridor

- I-11 still replaces the existing US 93 corridor but a new corridor south of Wickenburg is proposed.
- I-11 corridor uses existing highway contours with <u>no</u> urban sprawl and <u>no</u> new desert destruction.
- I-11 provides quicker and safer travel to Lukeville border crossing and subsequently to Rocky Point.
- I-11 between I-10 and I-8 becomes a southern bypass around Phoenix for I-10 through traffic.
- I-11 is an alternate to I-19 for some truck traffic and reduces congestion from Nogales to Tucson.
- I-11 generates additional sales tax revenues from vacationers for state and local governments in AZ.



Phoenix West Valley I-11 Corridor (see map)

- 1) I-11 shares US 60 from Wickenburg to L303.
- 2) I-11 replaces Loop 303 from US 60 to SR 30.
- 3) I-11 replaces SR 30 from Loop 303 to SR 85.
- 4) I-11 replaces SR 85 from SR 30 to Gila Bend.
- 5) I-111 replaces SR 30 from Loop 303 to L202.
- 6) I-311 replaces Loop 303 from US 60 to I-17.
- 7) SR 85 freeway segment links I-10 and I-11.
- A) DO NOT put I-11 west of White Tank Mtns.
- B) DO NOT extend Loop 303 south of SR 30.
- C) DO NOT convert SR 74 into a freeway.

The above reallocations plus the transportation sales tax results in Maricopa County paying for the I-11 freeway from Wickenburg to Gila Bend.

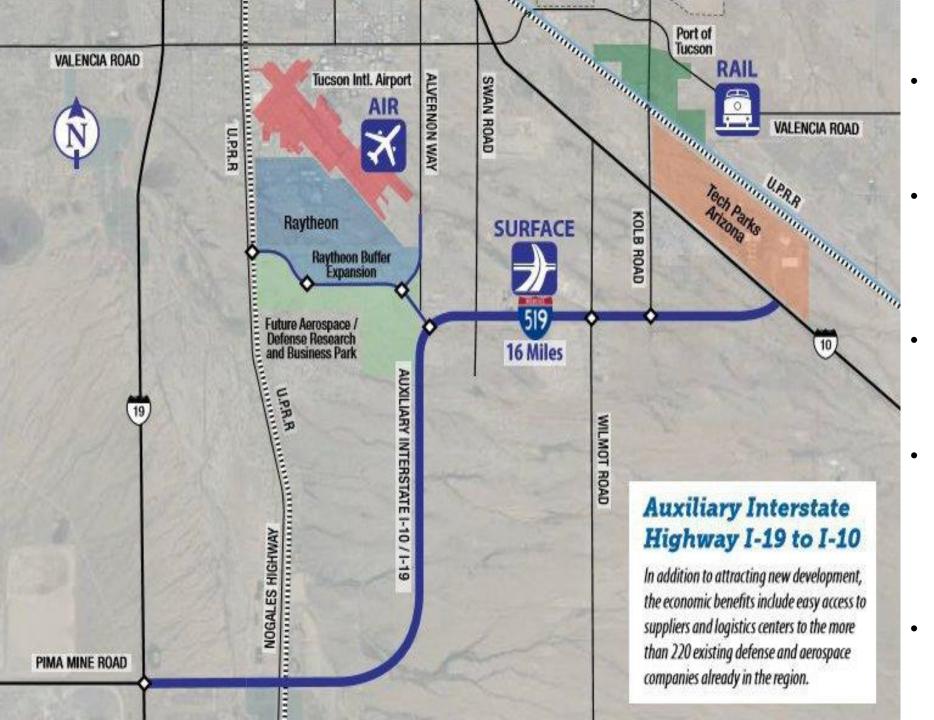
This new I-11 corridor provides better utilization of sparsely populated freeways while saving the environment from construction of new corridors.

West Valley cities embrace the I-11 <u>brand</u> as its regional identity and for the auxiliary freeways.



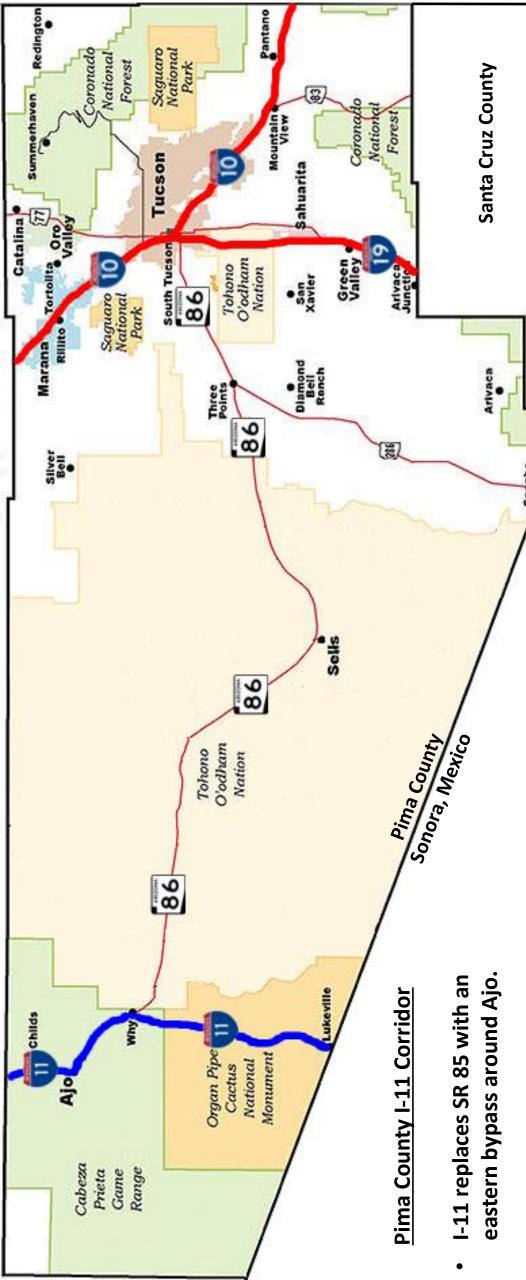
Central Arizona I-11 Corridor

- I-11 replaces SR 85 and connects directly with I-8 near Gila Bend.
- Gila Bend serves as a gateway between I-11 and Pinal County with I-8 being the main linkage.
- I-10 west traffic to Los Angeles and Las Vegas can take I-8 and I-11 to bypass the Phoenix area.
- I-11 is an alternative to I-19 for travel between Hermosillo and Phoenix, Las Vegas, Los Angeles.
- I-11 does not enter Pinal County but a new North-South freeway is still planned for Pinal County.



Tucson Metropolitan Region

- No western bypass between I-19 and I-10 through the Avra Valley.
- I-10 widened in Tucson west of I-19 and also widened from 4 to 6lanes in Gila River Reservation.
- I-19 widened from 4 to 6 lanes between Tucson and Nogales.
- An auxiliary freeway connecting I-19 to I-10 provides faster travel between Nogales & New Mexico. (See map on the left for details).
- Tucson embraces the I-19 brand for its auxiliary interstate label.



Pima County and Tohono O'odham Nation jointly finance the widening of

I-11 bypasses both Nogales and Tucson to the west.

National Forest

Coronado

- SR 86 into a four-lane, divided highway with a northern bypass around Sells.
- Lukeville border station is expanded to accommodate increased vehicle traffic.



South of the Border Connectivity (Refer to map for colored arrows)

- Arrow: Common travel corridor from Guaymas and Mexico City.
- Arrow: Nogales is the dominant border crossing and offers direct access to Tucson & Pinal County.
- Arrow: A path to western border crossings for access to Gila Bend, Yuma, and Southern California.
- Arrow: Sonoyta is a secondary crossing from Hermosillo to reach Phoenix and Las Vegas. It also is a suitable alternative to Mexicali to reach Los Angeles. Sonoyta is the gateway from AZ to Rocky Point.
- Arrow: Yuma traffic crosses at San Luis; San Diego traffic may otherwise enter Baja California.

Las Vegas Tourists

- Visitors from around the world travel to Las Vegas as a vacation and entertainment destination. However, Las Vegas is missing an ocean and a beach; there is no substitute for an oceanic beach.
- Many Vegas tourists take day trips to the Grand Canyon; another day trip can occur to the beach. Rocky Point, informally known as Arizona's Beach can be shared with Vegas as Las Vegas' Beach.
- Rocky Point is further away but it has less congestion, cheaper prices, and warmer waters versus Southern CA and it bundles well within a Vegas vacation; SoCal is viewed as a separate vacation.
- A caravan of rental cars, chartered buses, and personal vehicles traveling between Las Vegas and Rocky Point provides sales tax opportunities such as eating at a restaurant or shopping at a mall.
- The accumulation of sales tax revenue can be significant for local, county, and state governments. Adding a side trip to nearby AZ locations within a Rocky Point day trip provides multiplier effects.



- **Arizona Tourism** Arizona has many natural wonders, including Sedona and the Grand Canyon that tourists visit in a day trip. Likewise, these tourists can make another day trip to visit Rocky Point.
- An extra vacation day (or a repeat vacation) to Rocky Point creates multiplier effects to the AZ economy resulting in longer hotel stays and greater spending at stores, restaurants, etc.
- However, these economic benefits are not fully realized unless roadway improvements are made. Interstate 11 reduces travel time, increases safety, and serves as a direct connector.
- Increasing tourism to Sonora (including Rocky Point) strengthens the symbiotic relationship between Arizona and Sonora and through reciprocity, Sonora increases its trade to Arizona.
- I-11 between Mexico and Gila Bend carries some freight traffic and offers congestion relief from I-19 & I-10 while I-11 in the West Valley has access to manufacturing and distribution.



It's raining dollars in the Arizona Desert from out-of-state visitors and tourists.



Alternative to Interstate 11 in Pinal County

North-South state highway in Western Pinal County between Loop 202 and Interstate 8

Passing through these communities:
Gila River Reservation
Ak-Chin Reservation
City of Maricopa
Casa Grande

Prepared by:
Sanjeev Ramchandra, M.Ed.
sanjeev_ramchandra@yahoo.com
February 2020

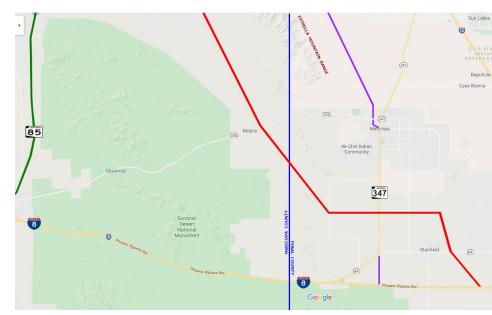


Why is Interstate 11 unnecessary through Pinal County?

- *I-11 is better suited to replace SR 85 as a direct connector to Rocky Point, Mexico.*Rocky Point is not in the direction of Pinal County when coming from the northwest.
 Click here to download slides of an I-11 corridor from Wickenburg to Mexico Border.
- There already exists a "Phoenix Bypass Route" labeled as Interstate 8 and SR 85. This bypass route is under-utilized and has space for more traffic volume. Trucks in Pinal County can use the existing I-8 freeway to connect to I-11 / SR 85 in Gila Bend.
- The path is in the opposite direction that Pinal County residents need to travel. Western Pinal County residents do not want to go around the western side of the Estrella Mountain Range through Goodyear. Instead, they want to go around the eastern side of these mountains through Laveen to access the West Valley region.
- Construction costs and opportunity costs are too expensive with little benefit. A new highway west of the Estrella Range is a boondoggle attracting little traffic. Using a toll road will divert vehicles onto other highways (I-10, Loop 202, SR 85). Money should be spent on highway corridors that many people will want to use.

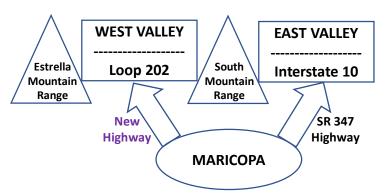
Solution:

A north-south state highway that enters the mountain pass in between the Estrella Mountain Range and the South Mountain Range to access the Phoenix West Valley.

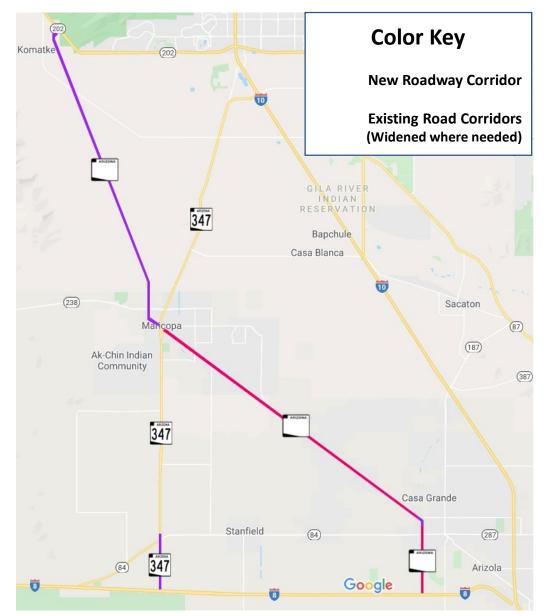


The blue vertical line is the boundary between Maricopa County and Pinal County. The green path is SR 85. The red path describes ADOT's approximate I-11 corridor.

Remove the red path and replace it with the green and purple paths shown above. I-11 replaces SR 85 highway while the purple paths become north-south highways.



The New Highway offers Maricopa a choice between two highways that reach the Phoenix Valley while reducing congestion on SR 347.



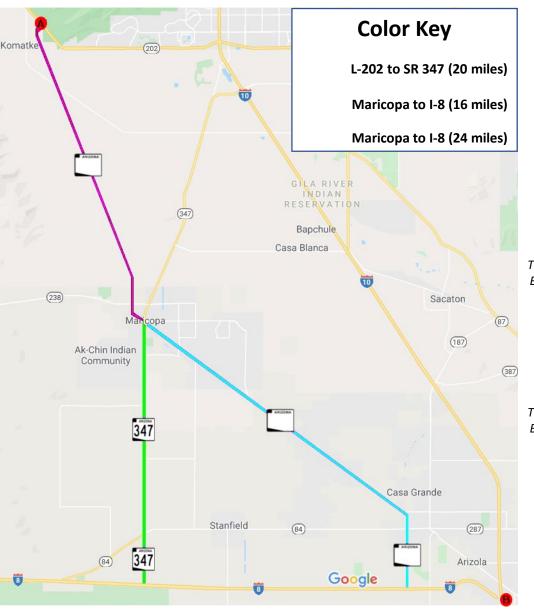
Two North-South State Highway Corridors in Western Pinal County

Unnumbered state highway: Maricopa County length = 6 miles; Gila River Reservation length = 17 miles.

Pinal County length = 38 miles; Corridor length (Loop 202 to I-8) = 44 miles.

SR 347 is widened ½ mile north of SR 84 and is extended 3 miles south of SR 84 with an interchange at I-8.

SR 347 is a four-lane divided highway corridor containing 32 miles distance between I-10 and Interstate 8.



Path Analysis (Tucson – Phoenix)

Both paths going through Maricopa are acceptable routes between the I-8 / I-10 junction and Laveen when driving between Tucson and the West Valley of Phoenix, if reaching top speed is not important. Each path limits reverse movement and has a total length that is comparable to using I-10 + Loop 202. Casa Grande and Maricopa will attract travelers looking for commercial delivery and leisure spending.

North-South Highway Paths (Loop 202 to I-8)

All Paths begin at Point A and finish at Interstate 8. (Refer to the map)

Total distance between Points A & B using this path plus Interstate 8

= 58 miles

only (44 miles)

Total distance between Points A &

B using this path plus Interstate 8

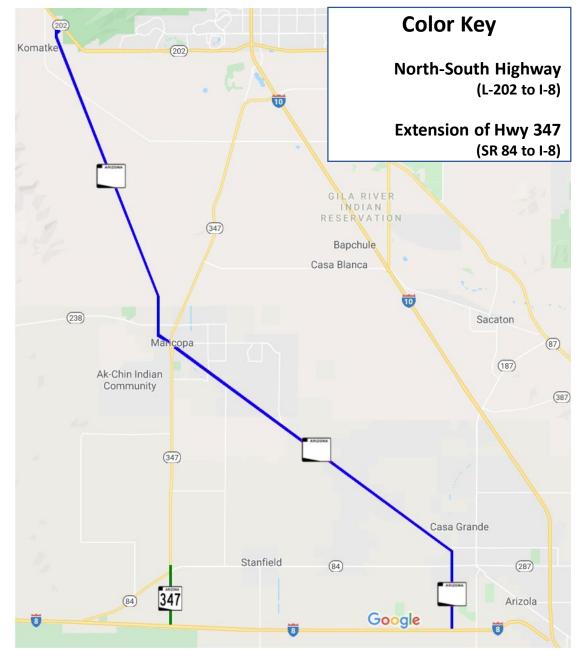
= 50 miles

202 (49.5 miles)

Distance between Point A &

Point B using this path only

= 49.5 miles



The new highway passes through the Gila River Reservation with bridges across the Gila River.
This north-south highway connects to Loop 202 at Vee Quiva and to I-8 at a modern Thornton Road interchange while using both the Maricopa-Casa Grande Hwy and Thornton Rd corridors.

Overview

Western Pinal County does <u>not</u> need a I-11 freeway; it needs reliable north-south highways that connect to high-demand regions in the Phoenix Valley.

The recent completion of Loop 202 and the SR 347 railroad overpass offers momentum and justification for implementing these north-south corridors.

The Pinal County RTA Plan is amended to add this new state highway which brings commuters into the Valley while decreasing congestion on Hwy 347.

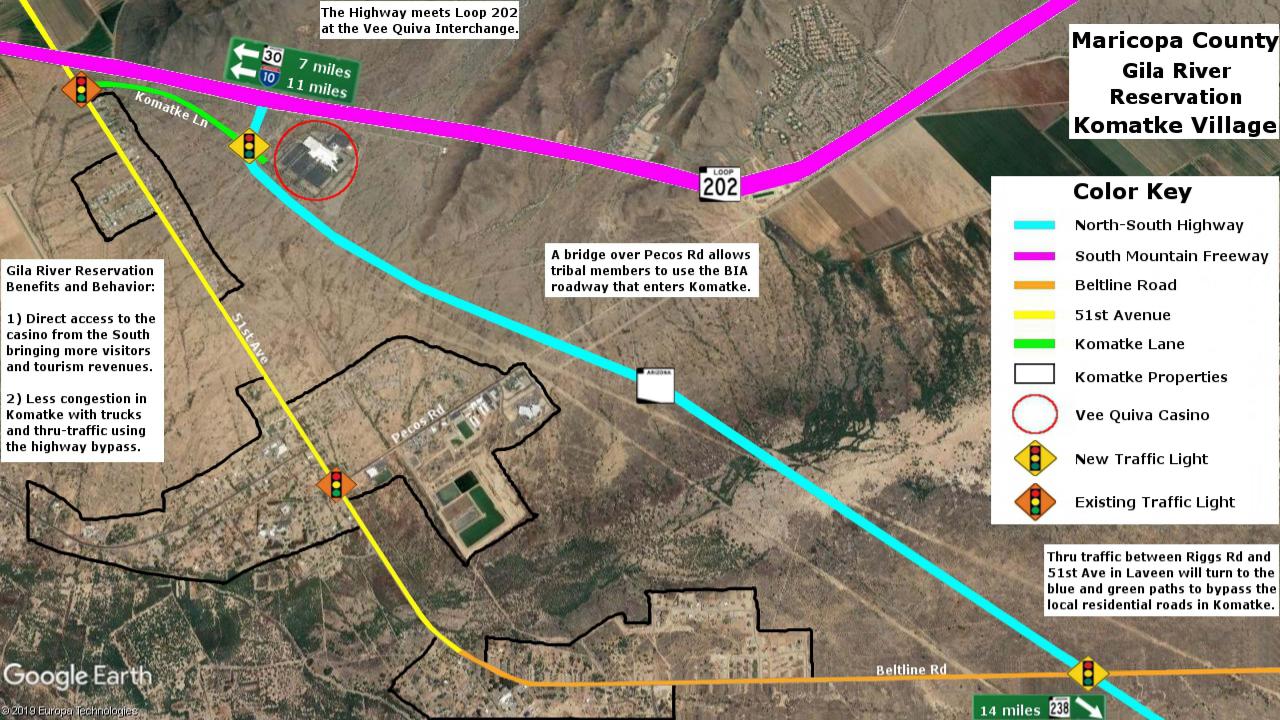
This north-south highway is <u>not</u> a freeway; it is a four-lane divided highway (six-lanes within parts of Maricopa) with limited traffic lights and curb cuts.

The new highways provide direct connections to Loop 202, SR 238, and I-8 while increasing both economic development across Western Pinal County and infill development in the urbanized core of Maricopa and Casa Grande.

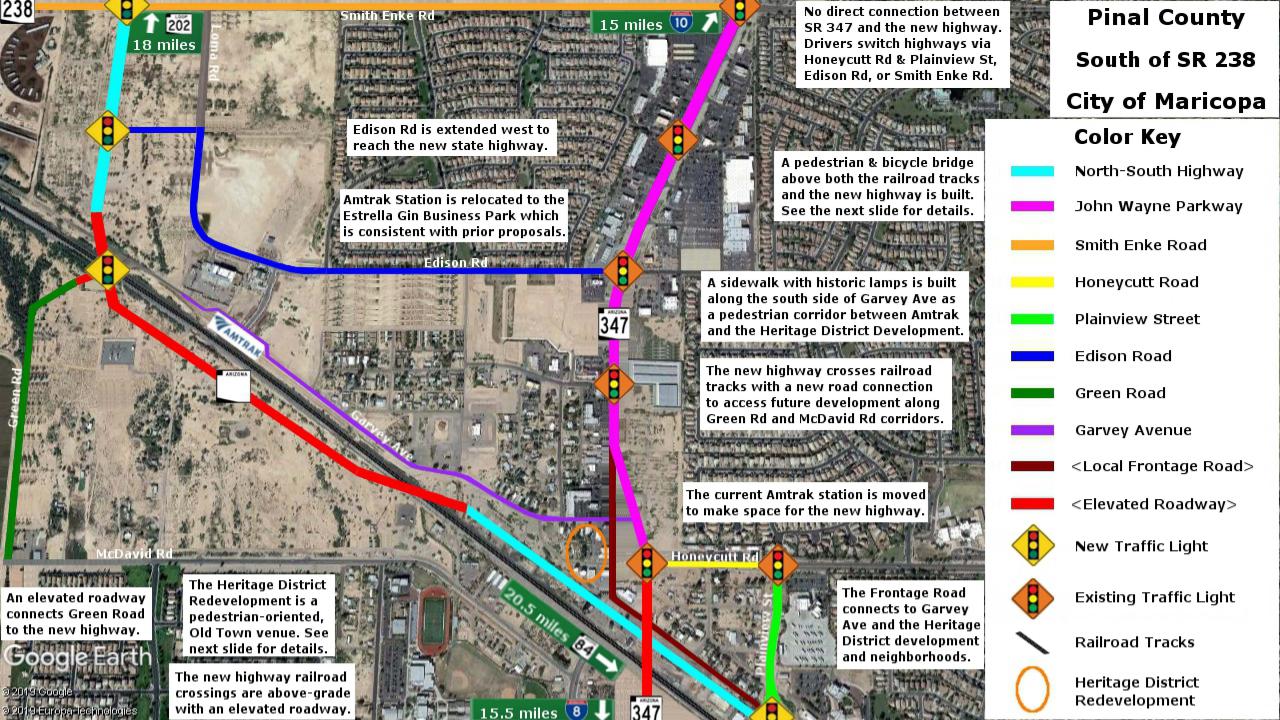
Out-of-city and out-of-county travelers generate new sales tax revenues for Maricopa, Casa Grande, and Pinal County governments after they use these highways to make purchases before reaching Phoenix, Tucson, or San Diego.

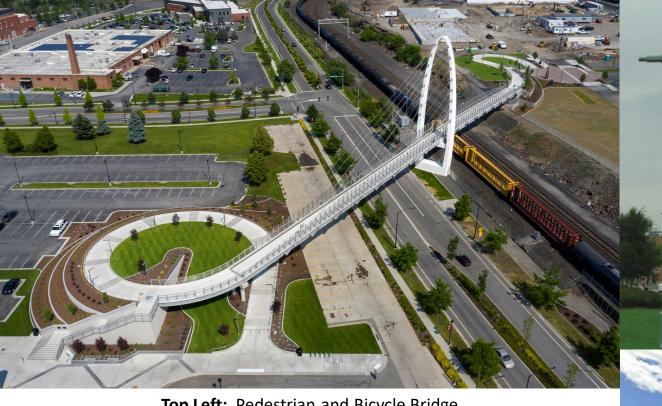
The Ak-Chin and Gila River tribes benefit from greater tourism revenues at their entertainment venues when customers use the new highways to visit.

The next five slides use satellite images to illustrate the new state highway within the urbanized parts of Komatke Village, Maricopa, and Casa Grande.









Top Left: Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge

A bridge crosses a divided highway and railroad tracks that run parallel. A signature ped/bike bridge is built west of the new Hwy 347 overpass nearby to Maricopa High School and Heritage District Redevelopment.

Top Center: Pedestrian Sidewalk Lamps

A sidewalk with historic lamps is built on the south side of Garvey Ave between relocated Amtrak station and Heritage District Development.

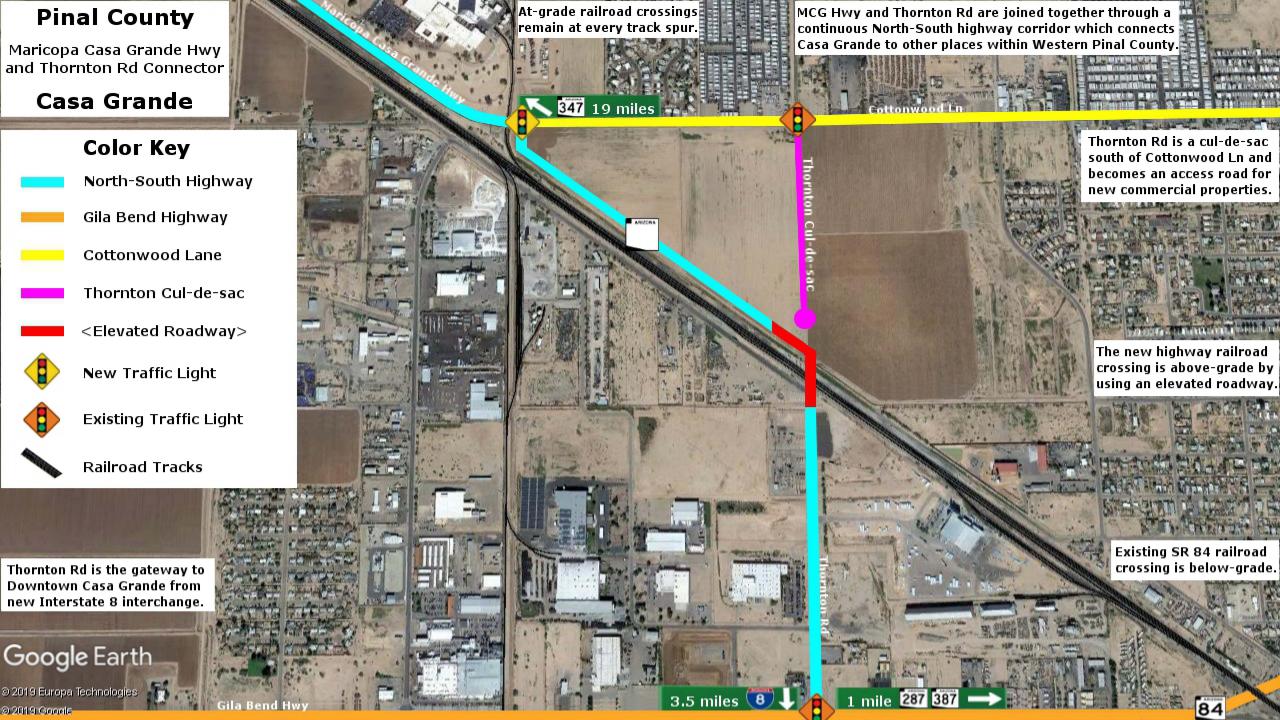
Top Right: Heritage District Redevelopment

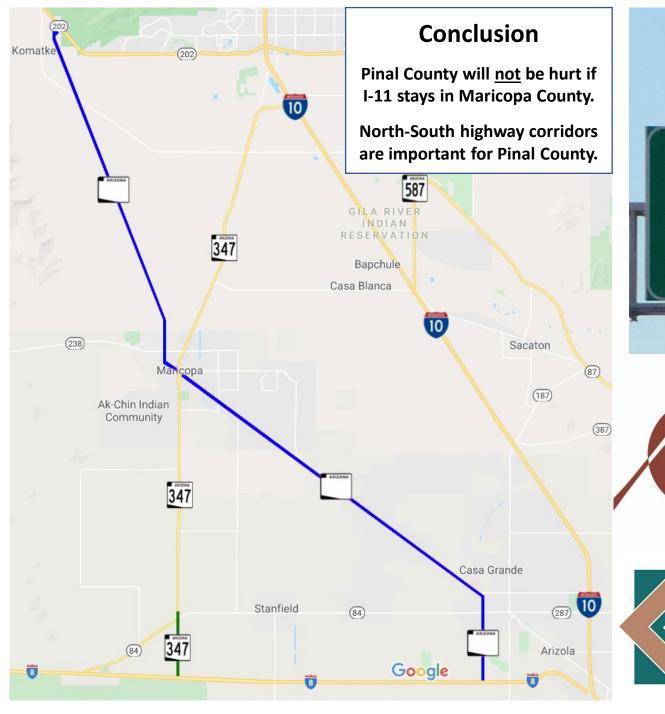
A pedestrian-oriented, Old Town venue can come from a commercial redevelopment zoning south of Garvey Ave and west of Old Hwy 347.

Bottom Right: New Highway Underpass

The existing roadway and its underpass contains the Frontage Road. The new highway & underpass is built to the left at the yellow crane.

















EXIT 172









ARIZONA



Alternative Interstate 11 Corridor From Wickenburg to Mexico Border



Prepared by:
Sanjeev Ramchandra, M.Ed.
sanjeev_ramchandra@yahoo.com
June 2016

Updated: December 2017

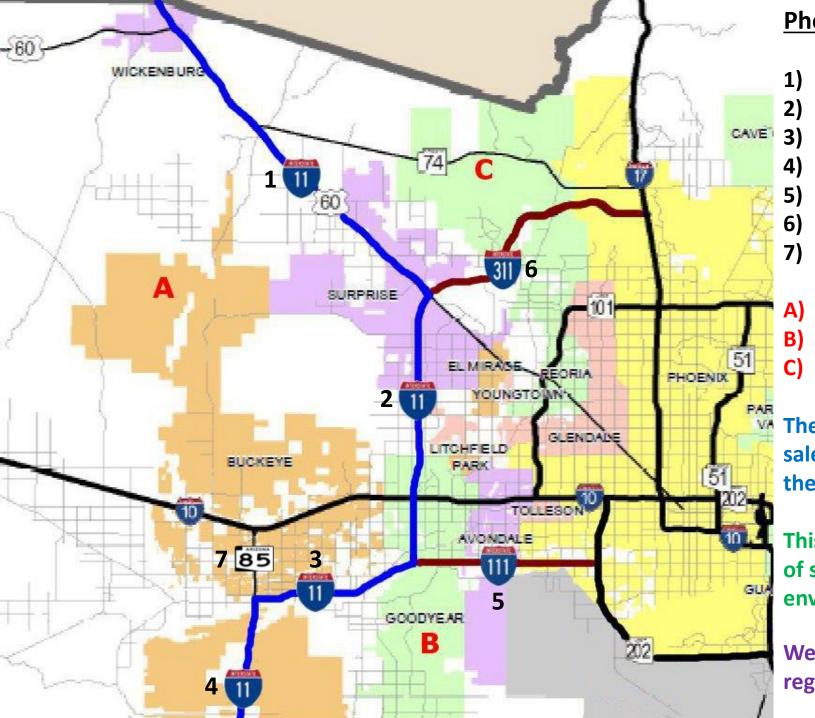


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To Las Vegas 191 89 70 19 **To Rocky Point**

Summary / Overview of Proposed I-11 Corridor

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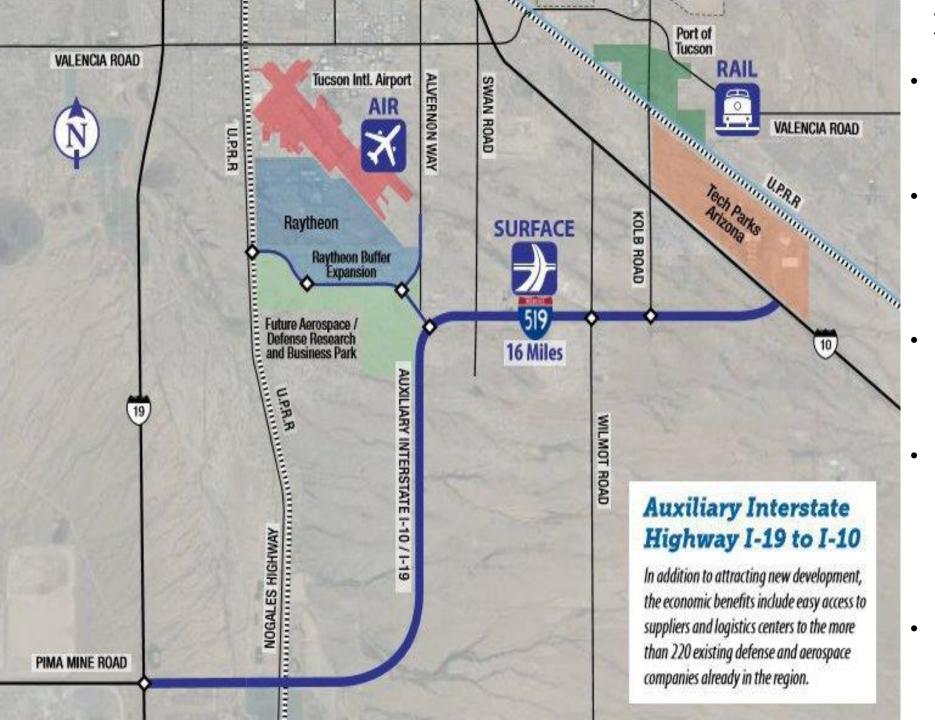
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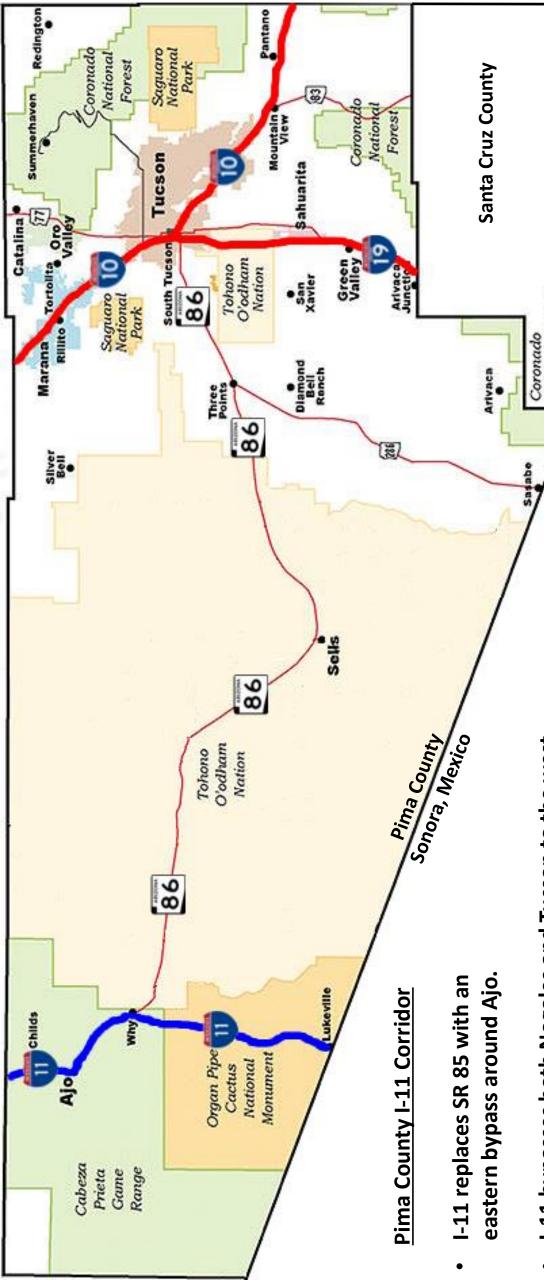
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- An auxiliary freeway connecting I-19 to I-10 provides faster travel between Nogales & New Mexico. (See map on the left for details).
- Tucson embraces the I-19 brand for its auxiliary interstate label.



SR 86 into a four-lane, divided highway with a northern bypass around Sells. Pima County and Tohono O'odham Nation jointly finance the widening of

I-11 bypasses both Nogales and Tucson to the west.

National Forest

Lukeville border station is expanded to accommodate increased vehicle traffic.

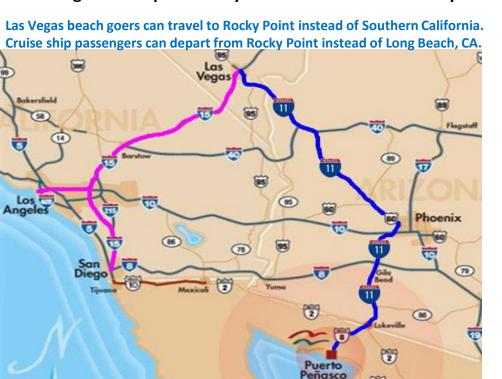


South of the Border Connectivity (Refer to map for colored arrows)

- Arrow: Common travel corridor from Guaymas and Mexico City.
- Arrow: Nogales is the dominant border crossing and offers direct access to Tucson & Pinal County.
- Arrow: A path to western border crossings for access to Gila Bend, Yuma, and Southern California.
- Arrow: Sonoyta is a secondary crossing from Hermosillo to reach Phoenix and Las Vegas. It also is a suitable alternative to Mexicali to reach Los Angeles. Sonoyta is the gateway from AZ to Rocky Point.
- Arrow: Yuma traffic crosses at San Luis; San Diego traffic may otherwise enter Baja California.

Las Vegas Tourists

- Visitors from around the world travel to Las Vegas as a vacation and entertainment destination.
 However, Las Vegas is missing an ocean and a beach; there is no substitute for an oceanic beach.
- Many Vegas tourists take day trips to the Grand Canyon; another day trip can occur to the beach. Rocky Point, informally known as *Arizona's Beach* can be shared with Vegas as *Las Vegas' Beach*.
- Rocky Point is further away but it has less congestion, cheaper prices, and warmer waters versus Southern CA and it bundles well within a Vegas vacation; SoCal is viewed as a separate vacation.
- A caravan of rental cars, chartered buses, and personal vehicles traveling between Las Vegas and Rocky Point provides sales tax opportunities such as eating at a restaurant or shopping at a mall.
- The accumulation of sales tax revenue can be significant for local, county, and state governments. Adding a side trip to nearby AZ locations within a Rocky Point day trip provides multiplier effects.

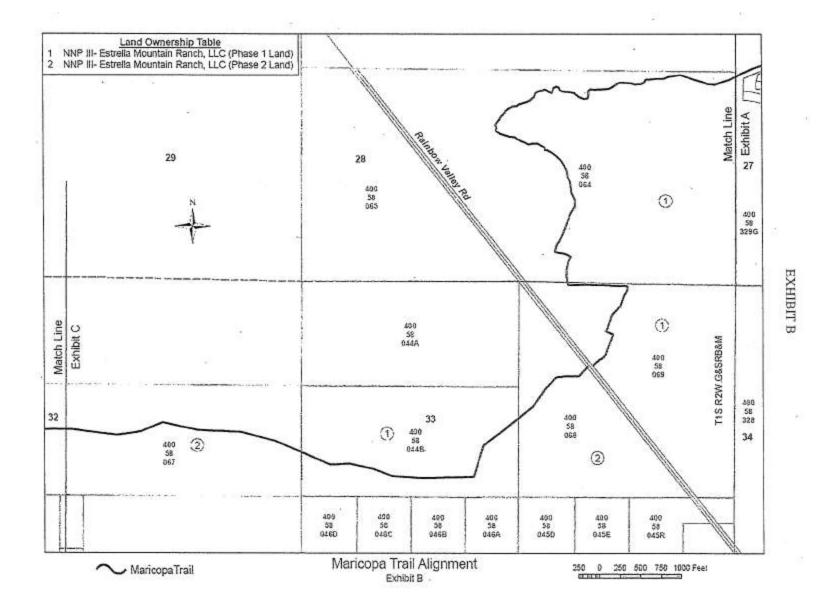


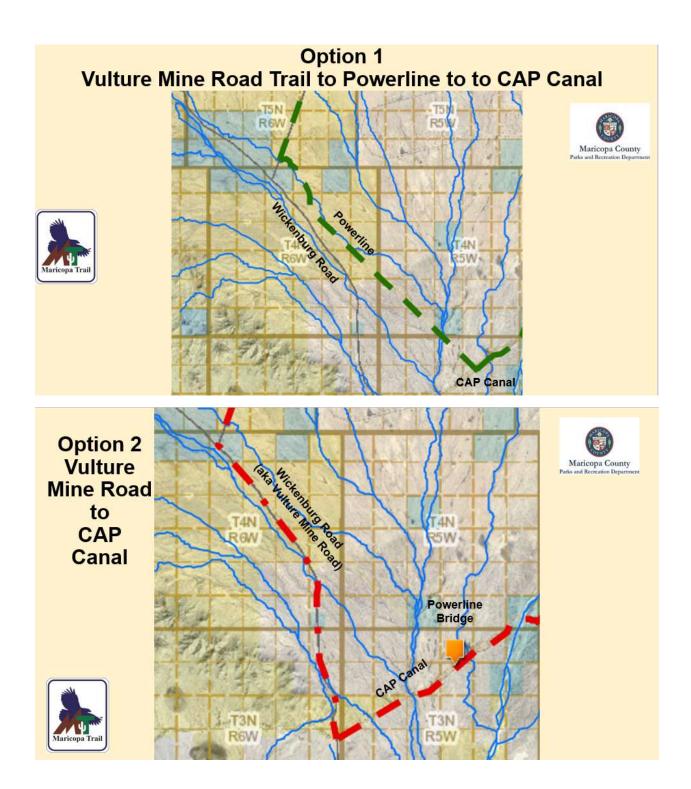
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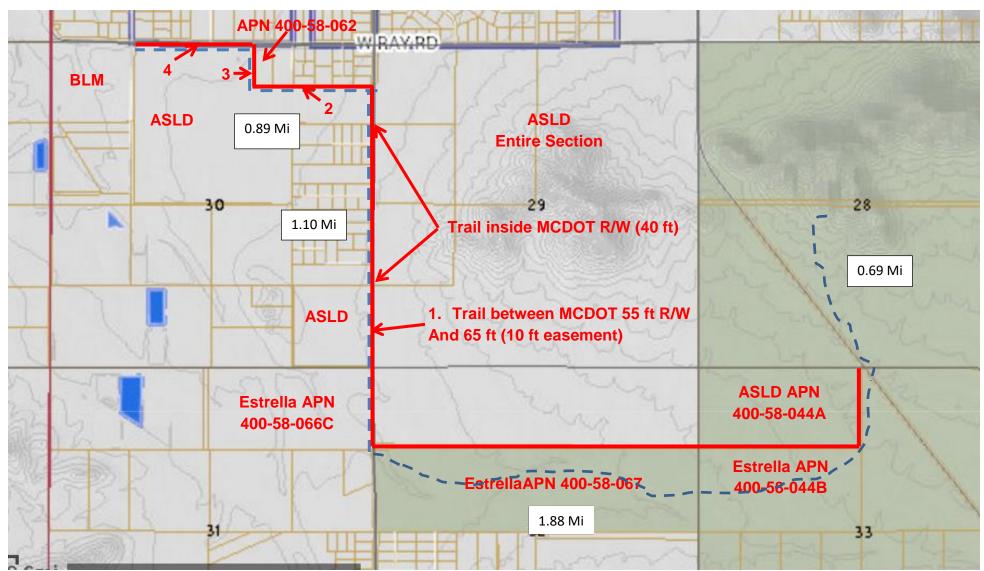
- Arizona has many natural wonders, including Sedona and the Grand Canyon that tourists visit in a day trip. Likewise, these tourists can make another day trip to visit Rocky Point.
- An extra vacation day (or a repeat vacation) to Rocky Point creates multiplier effects to the AZ economy resulting in longer hotel stays and greater spending at stores, restaurants, etc.
- However, these economic benefits are not fully realized unless roadway improvements are made. Interstate 11 reduces travel time, increases safety, and serves as a direct connector.
- Increasing tourism to Sonora (including Rocky Point) strengthens the symbiotic relationship between Arizona and Sonora and through reciprocity, Sonora increases its trade to Arizona.
- I-11 between Mexico and Gila Bend carries some freight traffic and offers congestion relief from I-19 & I-10 while I-11 in the West Valley has access to manufacturing and distribution.











- 1. See description above
- 2. North 10 ft of aliquot part.
- 3. East 10 ft of aliquot part
- 4. North 10 feet of aliquot part.
- 5. Total distance new trails = 4.56 Mi

11:40 ₹

••III LTE

Stoddard, J I-13863

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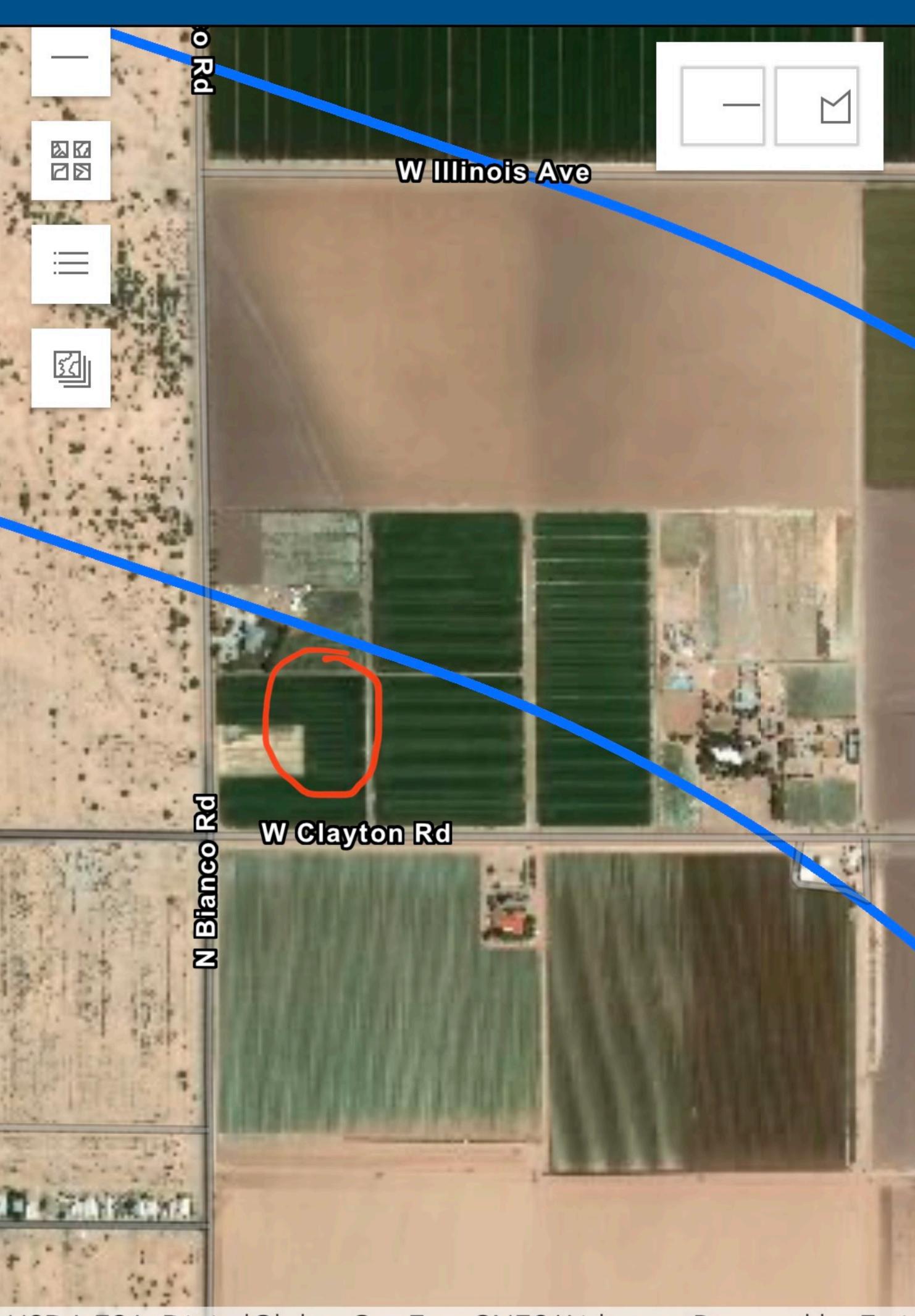
i11-viewer.hdrgateway.com





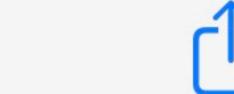


I-11 Alternatives



USDA FSA, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, CNES/Airbu... Powered by Esri









Mr. Anthony Casselman Arizona Dept. of Transportation MD140A RM 192 206 S. 17th Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85007

March 3, 2020

Dear Anthony,

Please review the enclosed routing petition on I-11 which was circulated to Wickenburg business owners. These signatures represented over 80% of the store front business owners at the time it was signed. Today the additional business owners would bring this support higher.

After these signatures were collected, the petition was presented to the Town of Wickenburg, Arizona Department of Transportation and other interested parties.

The business signatures on this petition represent a substantial majority of the town of Wickenburg business income that supports the town of Wickenburg's annual financial budget in order to keep the town a healthy viable community.

Cordially

Wickenburg Business and Property Owners of Wickenburg

PageI

Explanation:

We as Citizens, tax payers, property owners, business owners and residents are very concerned about the future of Wickenburg, its tax base and our livelihoods that will be very negatively affected should the proposed I-11 be routed 7-10 miles west of Wickenburg.

We are asking the Mayor and town council to become actively involved with the Governor, MAG, ADOT and any other party involved in the planning and routing of this proposed freeway.

We are asking that the Town send immediate notification to MAG, the Governor's office, ADOT, the transportation and trade corridor commission, etc that Wickenburg STRONGLY requests the routing of the proposed I-11 be such that it connects into the current US-60 / CANAMEX corridor south of Wickenburg and allows the traffic flow of I-11 to come in to Wickenburg using the current US 60 / 93 route.

PRO'S OF REQUESTED ROUTE:

- Continue the traffic and commerce thru Wickenburg and existing Highway businesses.
- Keeps the doors open for over ### existing highway businesses that employ roughly ## people.
- Most Common Sense Route! Shortest, Least Expensive, least environmentally destructive, least destructive to existing businesses and town of Wickenburg.
- Uses the already designated CANAMEX corridor and Highway.
- Requires new construction of only approx 15 miles of freeway as opposed to the roughly 45 miles of new Hwy construction thru the pristine Vulture Mt. desert area.
- * Predicted to save taxpayers over \$350,000,000 in costs when compared to the alternative route that runs west of Wickenburg. * NEW estimates 1, Billiam doll Ars +1/1/20
 - Much easier to construct. Very easy to widen the roundabout, widen the existing roads and could also create a "Hassayampa Scenic Route"
 - Preserves the Scenic, treasured and environmentally sensitive Vulture Mountain area and desert west of Wickenburg.
 - KEEPS WICKENBURG ALIVE AND HEALTHY!!!

COMMON SENSE ROUTE:

Cross over 1-10 and on to the current and virtually unused **EXISTING** "Sun Valley Parkway" for approx 13 miles north until it turns east. At that point, create roughly 15 miles of new highway north to US 60 and tie into the US 60 just south of the Morristown Overpass. Then join and expand the US 60 /93 route as it flows NW into Wickenburg. Widen the road, widen the roundabout, and continue NW on the 93

Signatures on pages 17- 8 OF Attacked Signature pages.

Petition summary and background	Recommend to ADOT a route for the new I-11 that will SAVE WICKENBURG from an assured Economic Disaster and ensure traffic flow thru Wickenburg and give a savings of over \$350,000,000 to taxpayers by using and modifying the existing 15 miles of the "Sun Valley Parkway" and then head north to Grand Avenue and enter Wickenburg on the existing US-60. Thus allowing the traffic for I-11 to come thru Wickenburg and not bypass the city by approx 10 miles West which would cripple the towns economy and close numerous businesses.
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	Printed Name	Signature	Address	Gomment 4 n	Date -
Scramors	holi sopa	But 1.	1185 W WICKED BURE WAY	SCREAMERS	11. 16.12
	JESTEJWing	Herry Wing	Wickenbers The	San Wickenburg	11/14/2012
Copposite	THOMAS FUCILI	Daynes Tol	1120 N. Tagua St	Copper-State Cycles	11/10/12
CYCLEST-	DAVID A. WADDELL	A A ladelell	1130 N. TEGYER ST.	COAPER STATE CYCLES	11/6/12
100	Ginny Lowe	Luny Frome	580 W LU Jehensing 1 Gry	Down needs Sight	11-16-12
	-OME Choven	(Lon May)	1510 Kells Rd 85558	Lets Be Progessie	ulicha
	RaySchuck		Chx 21120	Keep in four	1/6/18
Ace	G. Brent Mc Kern	en St. Breat to les	80 W. la 6 ma Sokta Dr.	0 0	11/16/12
	George DILLARD -	Land.	P.O. BUX 1796 MR12	Down From	11/9/12
	Harvey Hickman	Hawy Hickory	1425 Brounner LA	Down Town	W19/12

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Comment	. Date
DAMES M. MAS	se Imm	400N MURINOSIA		11-15-12
Redi Mix		1 276 D From 16 60 11	Respondent Backon	
Randi Gay	T Reusly Iru,	1 Box 21177 Wic	k Az	11-15-12
Loyella Johnson	in houlle Colman	PORo 20878 Window	by 4 Lets Save our	Town 11-19-12
Sharley Dhine	Dride, while	P.C. Box 106 3 Cox	85 100	11-15 12
3 SPEAN GLORIA LANDERDON	abraba Josephin			2 Town 11-15-12
Phyllis Underdo	1 1 10	286 N FRONTIER L	Dieterbyag	11-15-12
Dave Cox	is the	P. 0 Box 32		RIVER 11-16.2
Timothy Zobel	I had all	1 430 N. Maripus	and the state of t	11-16-12
Hory Corps	Jan Al	150 trans 853	_ / /	robel 11/29/12
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traffic in town.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Comment	Date
KARENZ LANDOTANA	Karen Lamortage	RIATA SADVES 70 E A MOHE ST	IF TRAFFIC GOES AWAY SO DOES BUSINESS	6/7/13
Cathy-Hznetrick	Co 1720 trich	Sweet Somethings SOF Aprile St	I agree Alives gowns	4-7-13
Avt Wouvison	Coloni	90 E Avache	Less cost + nou trafic	4/7/13
Roger Fornoff	1 coges tomety	36 E. Yavapa:	Save Local Buginess	6-7-13
Julia A. House'	Haciena a Have	20 E Vacapai	Keep our single	6-7-13
LE MONTEL COREN	Par Good	211 N FRUITIELS	Ree Physical Small	
MARQUESITE SAYLOR	Marquertysya	24 N FRENTIER ST		6-712
Other HARIZIEK	Washing ?	167 N Frontin St		6-7-1=
WESTERNAMORY CHEXCLOUPS	1/1/1	144 N. FROTIERST		6-7-17
	W Kond Klongton	1895 Mountain View Dr	Neal to Keep Weekenburg alive	1
Cyathra L. Laga Ru	Cything	34 North Ciago Crecis, Was		6/7/13

Sacial	Recommend to ADOT a route for the new I-11 that will SAVE WICKENBURG from an assured Economic Disaster and ensure traffic flow thru Wickenburg and give a savings of over \$350,000,000 to taxpayers by using and modifying the existing 15 miles of the "Sun Valley Parkway" and then head north to Grand Avenue and enter Wickenburg on the existing US-60. Thus allowing the traffic for I-11 to come thru Wickenburg and not bypass the city by approx 10 miles West which would cripple the towns economy and close numerous businesses.
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BUSTNESS				
Printed Name	Signature J	Address	Comment	Date
Rany's Aolo	Alle Sadel	980 Wickenburg	Keep traffic hers	6-11-20
GOLDEN EHGLE HYDRALLICS	allen Jonesen			6-11-15
THE TREASURG	Buce 7-	960 w wickensury way	HELP BERINSS	6-#15
My Decigners	Ohnson	162 & Wickenburg Way	Help Bearnes	6-6-13
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HOG TROUGH ETHERS NYHART	KA D		Kerp Wickmany Alivis	
CHRIS NYHART	This wells	BOOK WICKIEDBURG - 94		6/11/13
PADER J'S	Jolann Zempher	247 E. Wickenburg way	Keep Wickenburg Alive	6/11/13
Berbiaus Bullery	the grant	247 E. Wickenburg Way	Help Small business "	6/11/13
Moreerlowing	Mule Wals, igni	893 W. Wickenburg Way 893 W. Wickenburg Way	Keep the traffic	6-12-13
Hitordable like	-50	893 W. Wic Kunlowy Way	Keep the Trust ic	6-12-13

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Comment	Date
Ince Around Bookshot	Justica Soutas	893 W. Wickenburg Way	Heep traffic in wickenburg for our businesses!	6/12/13
Docaine Monne	Dollar al Cont	PO Box 580 W. clanburgh		6-12-13
The Pony 2nd Hard S		893W Wickenburg liky	+ increase Salas Tax Revone	6/12/13
7 Ranchero	de La	683 W. W. Wenburg way	Keep wickenbury on the	06/12/13 6/12/13
Wickenbury PRITT	the life	703W. Wickenburg Way		
Haiz Safari Salon	Motomon	581 W. Wikenburg Way	mylemap & open	le 12 13
Kosewood Kanen	Sally Killosun - Manager	DIT W. WILEY HALFO VVO	J Wishiess Washins	nd 6/12
Travelllasters	Salyman	515 W. Widenburg Wy 25300		6/12/13
Sign Works	y Sala	515 W. Wickenburg hay, 85340	I .	6/12/13
	Emily Bedown	338 Widerpugl	Í.	6/12/13

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Printetl Name	Signature	Address	Comment	Date
ERI-Casso	ma le Con	TESTIC PSY LARD	Pe buter	6/7/20
E como cos	7	ZIZE WIKEB, C.		6/7/2
DHA_MEDICAL	Welly Band.	108 N. Fronte Street	- WHA medical	6/7/2
who perges	3 Nac	168 N. Frontier Etreet	Other Site Massage	6/1/13
Ranicho 7 Rostu	IN T.D. Kate	IIIE Wickorbug Way	la and the control of	11-13-13
Horshoe CA	se fanice	207 E. Wickenbogu	We need TRASIC	6-13-1
2012 Hugget R	otewart Brown	222 E. Wickenburge	NOCH BUSINESS	6-13
Trades 5:	Lames Zempher	247 E. Wickenburg W	Need Business	6-13-1
AZTEX RV	Tom Stat	401- E Wickenburg Way	Need BUSIN-95	613-13
DANIELS FRESH I	ERKY GENZALEZ	- 412 E WILKENSURG WAY	Need busiNESS	6-13-1
SUBWay	6 FF 34	412 E Wickensus Way	Need Bus, ness	6-13-1

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Comment	Date
Beloians Orient	Rucs VinBa	70 N. Valeiten		1/12/13
Wised Industries	11/11	SIS W. Chesburgerry St. 10.	<u> </u>	4/12/13
VICTARY WADOLE		134-2 THOROM		6./12/12.
wickenburg NAPA		457. wickenburg way	support us	6/12/1
BC Leep Tomes	Asky Bellingthy	255 Wide burg Day	7.	6/3/13
What Plumbing	Allo Billengelly	Doing Business in Dick 45.	ed /	4/13/13
Ray & Entrophoras	1	790 Constillator Bl wickyte		6/13/13
Kle Tile	Weth Feggs	790 Coust Major Poly		40/13
Pancho Carita	atly Bellighty	RADONO CHSITAS Rd		10/13/13
Thes Cak stree	Wi von	442 E. Wickabay Way		6/13/13
under ground Video inspection	Deliaun Wester	18425 Moon light Mesh		6-13-

Petition to SAVE WICKENBURG FROM ECONOMIC DISTASTER

background	Recommend to ADOT a route for the new I-11 that will SAVE WICKENBURG from an assured Economic Disaster and ensure traffic flow thru Wickenburg and give a savings of over \$350,000,000 to taxpayers by using and modifying the existing 15 miles of the "Sun Valley Parkway" and then head north to Grand Avenue and enter Wickenburg on the existing US-60. Thus allowing the traffic for I-11 to come thru Wickenburg and not bypass the city by approx 10 miles West which would cripple the towns economy and close numerous businesses.
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Susivess Printed Name	Signature	Address		Date
Realter		472 E. Wickenburg Wa	y	
OG BRATCHER	BHOWTERE)	472 C. Wichenburg Wa Wichenburg AL 8539	ic	6/13/13
restier	Joseice Rothweid	Wichenburg AZ 85390		2/13/13
DeVRIES CLISTOM Coachworks	Parificale	126 N. Washinston	Wek.	2/13/1
neations In Thread	BBLOOKS	DOT W Wickenter by 80	- flite	2/13/15
hoice Autoclass	ma	917 YARUI DORD WICKENBURG AZ 853	90	2 -13-13
Paria Lara	11	Alco 2051 W. Wickenburg Wickenburg AZ 85	uay 390	8-13-1
vired Industries	Muli Oliver	83 N Grant St Wickenburg Az 853		6/13/13
ASE. HET BALBAL EXE	Det Bull -	36963 & Rincom RI	?	6/13/13
STOTE TOWING	Robin Stat	443 W. WICHEN BH	'R6	6/13/1
Silven Majn Plaza	Langa Park	901 W. Wicksubur	way will	1/13/13
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			226 Total	
			232 714	11

Petition to SAVE WICKENBURG FROM ECONOMIC DISTASTER

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Comment	Date
1/CLH ABOUR	Suan Studener	901 W. Wick. Way	-0-	6-13-13
l a si	9 Stephani Marshe	The same of the sa		6-14-13
Linda: Collectibles	Leon Terald	260 E. Wickenburg Way	NA	6-14-13
ANTIQUES + ARTES	ANS Bith Sallant	278 E. Wickenburg Wh	4	6-14-13
TwinWheels Cati	Ione Whitney	278 E. Wickenburg Way 172 E Wickenburg Wh	my- need Busines	16-14
Price BANER		447 W. WICKENBURGE	need people here	6-15
	111000	500 W Wickenburg Way	, ,	6-14
WICHENBURG BUILDERS		610 S. JACKSON	MORG BUSINESS	6-14
Sizzling Work	Venus Liang	621 W Wickenburg way	noted more bresiness intas	6-14-221
Satellite	200280 Kong	605W WICKENDING WAY		6-14-13
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Jones for Christe Dodge	BAD	555 E WICK LING	Keep The Judgice	6-144

Petition to SAVE WICKENBURG FROM ECONOMIC DISTASTER

Petition summary and background	miles of the "Sun Valley Par Thus allowing the traffic for	Ite for the new I-11 that will SAVE WICKE and give a savings of over \$350,000,000 kway" and then head north to Grand Ave I-11 to come thru Wickenburg and not b and close numerous businesses.	U to taxpayers by using and modifying	the existing 15
Action petitioned for	STATE STRONG RECOMMENDATE	oncerned citizens who urge our leaders at DN AND REQUEST regarding the future roof of Wickenburg, but instead uses the existing	Hite of the proposed I-11 Highway to a	nouse that it
Printed Name	Signature	Address	Comment	Data
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WICKENBURG FEEL	TEF HANNA	107 S. Tegnar St		6/14/3
FRAMMY LIZARDS	a anay Donnell	162 E. Wichenburg -	need see the helder cano	+6.14.13
Tran westquer	Patricia VAN Par	WE WILLEN bung	Need araffir I was der	6/14/13
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Paradise Rentals	-11/1	1265 Windly Hill	Heart for Wichenburg would be infavor of I	
Spanders L	Policy	30382 WHWY 60 89	WE want traffic	6-11-13

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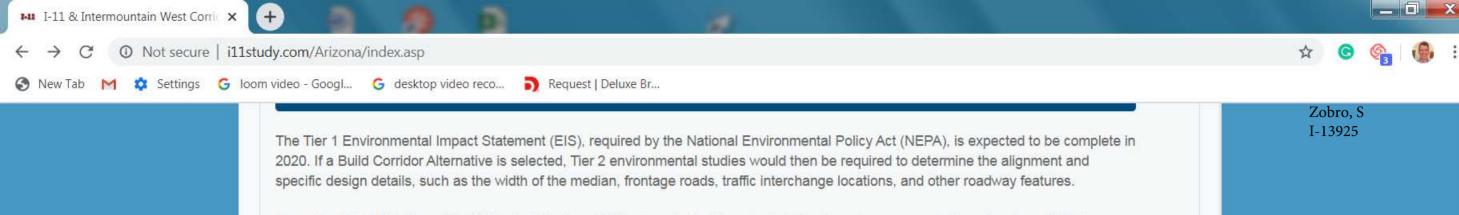
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Currently all but 39 miles of the 200-mile drive from Wickenburg to the Nevada state line have been upgraded to a four-lane divided highway to improve traffic flow, support the movement of freight and enhance safety through this heavily traveled area. The entire northern segment of US 93 from Kingman to the Nevada state line (mileposts 1 to 68) is now a four-lane divided highway following the completion of a \$71 million project in 2010.

I-11 has been identified as a critical piece of multimodal infrastructure that would support and connect the economies of Arizona and Nevada. It also could be connected to a larger north-south transportation corridor, linking Mexico and Canada. I-11 is intended to provide a high-priority, access-controlled transportation corridor that has the potential to enhance the movement of people and freight, and facilitate regional connectivity, trade, communications and technology in an ever-evolving global marketplace.

Project Purpose and Need

The Purpose and Need Statement is a fundamental part of the NEPA process, providing the basis for identifying, evaluating and screening corridor alternatives. It will be one of the key components in determining and identifying a Selected Corridor Alternative for I-11. The Purpose and Need is based on key transportation-related problems and issues identified in the previous studies and through agency and public input received during the scoping process.

Project Purpose

The purpose of the project is to:

- Provide a high-priority, access-controlled, north-south transportation corridor
- · Support improved regional mobility for people, goods, and homeland security
- Connect major metropolitan areas and markets with Mexico and Canada
- Enhance access to the high-capacity transportation network to support economic vitality

Project Need

The need for this project results from the following issues and opportunities:















