

Department: County Administrator's Office – Conservation Bond Program

Date: 8/11/06

2008 Bond Election Proposed Projects Template**Priority:** A**Project Name:** Habitat Protection Priorities & Associated Lands**Location:** Numerous eligible properties throughout eastern Pima County.

Scope: Purchase for conservation as many of the eligible properties within this category as possible with the funds available. The Habitat Protection Priorities were developed in 2003 in order to identify the most biologically important lands to protect first under Pima County's Multi-Species Conservation Plan and Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan. The Habitat Protection Priorities were updated in 2006 to reflect information not available in 2003, and to delete properties that were purchased by Pima County since 2003, and to delete properties that were developed since 2003. The lands identified as Habitat Protection Priorities include a wide range of invaluable natural areas critical to the survival of numerous vulnerable plants and animals in Pima County, and critical to the protection of water quality and flood prevention for residents of Pima County. The types of properties range from large working ranches containing high quality semi-desert grasslands, to small properties containing important riparian areas.

NOT ALL ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES WILL BE ACQUIRED: The number of properties within the Habitat Protection Priorities is in excess of the number that can be purchased with the proposed bond fund allocation. Pima County acquired x acres within these Habitat Protection Priorities with 2004 bond funds. The 2008 bond program will enable Pima County to continue efforts to acquire more of these invaluable natural areas.

Benefits: Acquiring these properties will expand Pima County's reserve of natural open spaces, protecting scenic views, recreational opportunities, biological and cultural resources, and natural floodplain functions. In addition, Pima County is applying for an incidental take permit under Section 10(1)(a)(B) of the federal Endangered Species Act. Under this permit, conserving these natural areas will ensure that public and private development projects can continue in areas suitable for development.

Costs: \$2.6 billion**Bond Funding:** \$213,750,000**Other Funding:** Federal and State Grants**Fiscal Year Project Start and Finish Date:** FY2009-2019**Project Management Jurisdiction:** Pima County

Future Operating and Maintenance Costs: Based on the average cost to operate and maintain the existing natural open space parks system of Pima County, it is anticipated that future operations and maintenance will cost approximately \$60 per year per acre of added natural open space.

Regional Benefits: The eligible properties are located throughout eastern Pima County and within other jurisdictions.

Supervisor District of Project Location: ALL

For Internal Use only:

Specific County Administrator Contemporary Issue being addressed with expenditure:

Department: County Administrator's Office – Conservation Bond Program
Date: 10/5/06

2008 Bond Election Proposed Projects Template

Priority: A

Project Name: Community Open Space

Location: Numerous eligible properties throughout eastern Pima County

Scope: Purchase for conservation as many of the eligible properties within this category as possible with the funds available. Many of the eligible properties were proposed for conservation by members of the public, conservation organizations, or neighborhood associations. The following property areas are eligible, and will be further defined by parcel code and map:

- A-Mountain
- Camino de Oeste
- Catalina State Park Expansion (State Trust land)
- Catalina Conservation Easements
- Colossal Cave Mountain Park Expansion (State Trust land and private land)
- Dos Picos
- Double XX Ranch
- Gerlich Property
- Green Valley West Desert Preserve (State Trust land)
- Kelly Ranch
- Los Morteros
- Loving J Ranch Santa Cruz
- Mt. Lemmon
- Northern Altar Valley
- Painted Hills
- Rosemont Ranch
- Sabino Canyon
- Saguaro National Park East Expansion
- Saguaro National Park West Expansion
- Tortolita Mountain Park Expansion (State Trust land)
- Tucson Mountain Park Expansion (State Trust land)
- Tumamoc Hill (State Trust land)

NOT ALL ELIGIBLE PROPERTIES WILL BE ACQUIRED: The number of Community Open Space properties identified is in excess of the number that can be purchased with the proposed bond fund allocation. This provides the necessary flexibility during the property acquisition process. Some of these properties are eligible for purchase under the 2004 bond program, but are proposed for the 2008 bond program because the number of properties exceeds the remaining 2004 bond funds available.

Benefits: Acquiring these properties will expand Pima County's reserve of natural open spaces, protecting scenic views, recreational opportunities, biological and cultural resources, and natural floodplain functions. In addition, Pima County is applying for an incidental take permit under Section 10(1)(a)(B) of the federal Endangered

Species Act. Under this permit, conserving these natural areas will ensure that public and private development projects can continue in areas suitable for development.

Costs: \$196,000,000

Bond Funding: \$71,250,000

Other Funding: Federal and State Grants

Fiscal Year Project Start and Finish Date: FY2009-2019

Project Management Jurisdiction: Pima County

Future Operating and Maintenance Costs: Based on the average cost to operate and maintain the existing natural open space parks system of Pima County, it is anticipated that future operations and maintenance will cost approximately \$60 per year per acre of added natural open space.

Regional Benefits: The eligible properties are located throughout eastern Pima County and within other jurisdictions.

Supervisor District of Project Location: ALL

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Specific County Administrator Contemporary Issue being addressed with expenditure: