

# AGENDA MATERIAL

DATE 2-7-23 ITEM NO. RA 48

Aliza Barraza

**From:** notification@pima.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 6, 2023 2:40 PM  
**To:** COB\_mail  
**Subject:** Clerk of the Board Feedback Form 2023-02-06 02:39 PM Submission Notification

**Clerk of the Board Feedback Form 2023-02-06 02:39 PM** was submitted by Guest on 2/6/2023 2:39:57 PM (GMT-07:00) US/Arizona

Name	Value
First Name	Necoe
Last Name	Otto-Parkinson
Email	[REDACTED]
Address	4739 E. Camp Lowell Drive
City	TUCSON
State	AZ
Zipcode	85712
Phone	5209715578

FOR INFORMATION OF BOARD

**Message Subject** Letter to Be Read at the 2/7/23 Board Meeting - Letter in Support of Free Parks

Hello Board Members. I am writing to you and the other board members about the proposed user fee at Pima County Parks. I am in support of free parks available to all and in opposition to a user fee. Both of my children play soccer with the FC Tucson soccer club and we frequent the parks regularly. Not only do my children, but we all benefit immensely from these accessible, free resources. Just as we have public schools and libraries, I believe we should have free parks and open spaces so that all of the county residents and visitors can be healthy physically and mentally. I can't imagine the disparity that could result from charging people to use the park, creating further inequity between the haves and have nots. This is short-sighted thinking. Exercise helps the body and mind. If fewer people were able to use the park, there may be further increases in the obesity and drug epidemics. When there are safe public spaces and positive pursuits available for young people, there is less likelihood that juveniles will engage in delinquent acts.

**Comment**

Furthermore, attracting incoming professionals to want to relocate to southern Arizona requires that there is a high quality of life and attractions that would appeal to them as potential residents. Parks and natural resources are a huge draw that bring in money and new talent. Rather than decrease resources for the building and maintenance of fields and parks, I would advocate for an increase as the fields are currently in poor shape with many divots on the field that pose an injury risk. Maybe there could be an increase in the county tax on gaming, liquor, cigarettes and marijuana dispensaries to help offset the costs to keep our parks free and open to all. Thank you for your time reading this and for your commitment to our community. Sincerely, Necoe Otto-Parkinson, Ph.D. Licensed Psychologist Former ADJC Corrections Officer and Head of the Mental Health Department at Catalina Mountain School Pima County Resident and Parent of a 5th and 7th grader

**Response requested** Yes

**Referred\_Page** <https://webcms.pima.gov/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=235182>

Thank you, Pima County, Arizona