

# Southern Arizona Home Builders Association

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## SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL



June 16, 2025

The Honorable Rex Scott Chair, Board of Supervisors Pima County 130 W. Congress Tucson, AZ 85701

RE: 06.17.2025 Meeting Agenda, Item #67, RWRD Fees

Chair Scott,

On behalf of the Southern Arizona Home Builders Association (SAHBA), thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed sewer connection fee increases and the sunset of Section 13.20.250.C.4. We appreciate the staff's outreach and due diligence in engaging our membership on these important matters.

We recognize this is the first proposed sewer rate increase in eight years and understand it reflects long-term infrastructure needs. While the proposed increase from \$4,188 to \$4,701, with 3% annual adjustments—may appear modest, it adds to the cumulative costs affecting housing affordability. The removal of the utility fee discount further limits tools available to support development in areas where infrastructure is lacking, especially in outlying regions.

We appreciate that credits for upsizing or deepening sewer lines will remain available when requested by RWRD. To that end, we encourage the County to:

- Continue working with the development community to provide flexibility through service agreements;
- Explore ways to retain or revise the discount program to support systemwide improvements;
- Consider alternative mechanisms for cost-sharing in areas with constrained infrastructure.

We look forward to continuing our partnership to advance both infrastructure priorities and housing access for Pima County residents. Thank you!

BT Lyons

Brendan Lyons, MPA
Director of Government Affairs
Southern Arizona Home Builders Association